

# Confederate Gazette

## Reenactment To Move

The sixth annual Battle of Temple Junction will have to change locations in 2014. Last year's site, at the City owned Bend of the River Ranch, will under go environmental testing due to Environmental Protection Agency's classification of the Bend of the River Ranch as a "Brownfield" site, a site which may have the potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminants.

The city is currently negotiating with Texas Early Day Tractor and Engine Association for their show grounds

to relocate the reenactment set for May 16, 17, and 18, 2014. The new location is off



Eberhardt Road in Temple. From I-35 you take the Nugent exit and turn right on

to Eberhardt Road, the Tractor grounds are on the right.

The Bend of the River Ranch location is close to the former Rockwool manufacturing site in Belton and spill over hazardous materials may have reached the Bend of the River Ranch site.

The Rockwool plant site was contaminated by low concentrations of hazardous waste or pollution. It was cleaned up in 2009 at a cost of \$15 million.

Camp #1250 will again co-sponsor the event along with the City of Temple.

## MOC Now Merged With A New Name

As reported in the January issue of the *Confederate Gazette*, the Museum of the Confederacy (MOC) is no more, having merged with the American Civil War Center at Historic Tredegar (ACWC) in Richmond, Va. The new name is the American Civil War Museum (ACWM).

The ACWM is building a new 30,000 square foot building to house its collections next

to the current ACWC location on a 8.9 acre site, part of Richmond's Tredegar Historic Landmark. The new building will cost between \$20 and \$30 million and will take two years to complete.

A recent news release announced the new name and a new tagline for the ACWM of, "Confederacy, Union, Freedom."

The MOC opened in 1896 as the Confederate Museum

then housed in the White House of the Confederacy, which is next door to the current MOC building. The current MOC collection is regarded by many as the most extensive collection of Confederate artifacts in existence.

Many see the merger as a way of the museum moving away from the politically incorrect association with the Confederacy.



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# CONFEDERATE PROFILE

## *Battling Confederate*



**Nicholas William Battle**

**Battle was part of the 30<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry**

**H**is last name said it all, although his exploits on the battlefield weren't well known, he was a battling Confederate from Central Texas.

Nicholas William Battle was born on January 1, 1820, in Warren County, Georgia. He was the son of Thomas and Mary Baker Battle. His father was a well-known Methodist minister and young Nicholas was educated in Monroe County, Georgia. He attended William and Mary College in Virginia where he studied law, graduating in 1842.

Battle did an internship under a judge and was admitted to the Georgia bar in 1844. He began practicing law in Forsyth, Georgia and married the daughter, Mary Ann Cabiniss, of a judge in 1846. About 1850 Battle moved to Texas and settled in Waco. By 1854 he was elected as a District Attorney and then was reelected in 1856. In 1858 he was elected as a District Court

Judge, where he had one well regarded legal ruling. He ruled, in 1859 in *Westbrook vs. Mitchell*, that a free black man's contract to sell himself into slavery was void from the beginning of the contract. His opinion was later upheld by the Texas Supreme Court.

After Texas left the Union and war broke out, Battle resigned his judgeship and volunteered for the Confederate military. He became part of the 30<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry and was elected a Lieutenant Colonel. The 30<sup>th</sup> Texas was also known as the 1<sup>st</sup> Partisan Rangers, and was made up of men mainly from Central Texas. He was assigned to the Indian Department, under Richard Montgomery Gano. Battle would also serve time on the staff of Samuel Bell Maxey where he served as Maxey's Adjutant Inspector General.

Perhaps Battle's most well-known exploit was in the spring of 1864. Gano had ordered 500

handpicked soldiers of the 30<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry under Battle to attack and harass Federal river posts, fortifications, and supply lines around Roseville, Arkansas. On March 29<sup>th</sup>, Battle and his men succeeded in burning 133 bales of government cotton and two gins before Federal soldiers forced them to withdraw. Battle and his men succeeded in keeping the Union forces he engaged from reinforcing Federal troops fighting the rest of the Confederate brigade at Camden and Poison Spring, Arkansas.

Post war Battle returned to Waco and resumed his legal practice. Texas Governor Richard Coke appointed Battle a District Judge in 1874, but the district was abolished by the new State Constitution in 1876.

He and his wife had three sons and one daughter. Battle did some land speculation and donated land for a school and two churches in 1880 resulting

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## 30<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry

They were made up of men from Central Texas. Formed in Waco in the summer of 1862 the 30<sup>th</sup> Texas would also be known as the 1<sup>st</sup> Partisan Rangers.

Colonel Edward J. Gurley organized the unit which would have about 800 men from various Central Texas counties formed

into ten companies.

The unit initially stayed in Texas guarding supply lines and the Texas coast. In 1863 they were ordered to the Indian Territory and became part of Richard Montgomery Gano's brigade. They saw action at the Second Battle of Cabin Creek in 1864 where they successfully cap-

tured or destroyed \$1.5 million worth of Federal supplies.

After Cabin Creek the unit returned to Texas and was under William Henry Parson's brigade. They were ordered to be dismounted, but many men would not give up their horses. They were disbanded near Austin in May of 1865.

## February Camp Meeting

By Michael E. Belcher

Camp Compatriot and former member Rocky Jim Sprott spoke briefly, about the Southwest Texas Archives at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. He discussed the Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans Archive agreement that had been reached, for storing the Texas Grave Registration records of all able-bodied men, Confederate and Union soldiers that were born between 1790 and 1851, and buried in Texas. There have been many years of work surveying cemeteries all over the state that has gone into this project, by countless volunteers. This arrangement should insure that the work

will have a protected place where people can come and view these records for years to come. His presentation was informative, and well received by the Camp membership and guests in attendance.

It was announced that Gary Bray, the Texas Division 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander will be the speaker at our meeting on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. That meeting will be held at The Gin restaurant in downtown Belton. The order of business will kick off at 5:00 PM at the South Belton Cemetery with a Confederate Veterans memorial ceremony to be conducted by the camp membership, followed by the meeting at the restaurant location.

### Camp Has Full Slate of Upcoming Events

Camp #1250 has a full slate of events upcoming in the spring.

The March meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> will feature Judy Tyler who will tell us about her Confederate ancestor, Private George Richard Gautier of the 15<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry.

In April, in honor of Confederate History Month in Texas, the Camp will host memorial ser-

vices at the South Belton Cemetery on April 12<sup>th</sup>. That will be followed by the Camp's dinner meeting at The Gin Restaurant in Belton. Speaker that night will be 2<sup>nd</sup> Texas Division Commander Gary Bray.

On May 13<sup>th</sup> the Camp will hear Doug Baum from the Texas Camel Corps, speak on the Army Camel Experiment.

Belton Cemetery, 5:00 PM

#### April 12, 2014

Camp Dinner Meeting at The Gin Restaurant in Belton, 6:00 PM, Social, 7:00 PM meeting. Speaker: Gary Bray, Topic: To Be Determined.

### Camp Schedule

#### March 11, 2014

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, 7:00 PM. Speaker: Judy Tyler  
Topic: PVT George Richard of the 15<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry

#### April 12, 2014

Memorial services at South

### Budgeted for Battlefields

In the 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act, the U.S. Congress included \$8.9 million for the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program.

This program provides Federal matching grants to protect historically significant battlefield land outside current National Park Service land. So far it has been used to protect more than 19,000 acres of hallowed ground in 16 states.

Since Congress first authorized it in 2002, the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program has enjoyed broad, bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

### Battling Confederate

(Continued from page 2)

in a town named after him, Battle, Texas, located near Mart in eastern McLennan County.

In 1885 Battle moved to Seattle to be near one of his sons. His wife died in 1899, but Battle remarried in 1901. He died at 10:00 PM on August 22, 1905 at his home of a "spinal affliction." He is buried in Lake View Cemetery in Seattle.

**\$8.9 million  
allocated for  
battlefield  
purchases in  
2014**



#### May 13, 2014

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, 7:00 PM. Speaker: Doug Baum

**Next Meeting:  
March 11<sup>h</sup>  
Cotton Patch Cafe  
7:00 PM Meeting**

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March 11th

Cotton Patch Cafe  
7:00 PM Meeting

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## New SCV Plates in GA

The Sons of Confederate Veterans in Georgia were able to get a new license plate approved by the state. The major difference in the plate is that a "shadowed" Confederate battle-flag appears in the background and now covers the entire license plate. The previously approved license plate had a much smaller Confederate battleflag.

The new design has created new outrage among some. Southern Christian Leadership Conference

spokesman Maynard Eaton told *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* that the state should not have sanctioned the move. "To display this is reprehensible," Eaton said.

"We don't have license plates saying Black Power."

Georgia is one of nine

states that allow a SCV specialty license plate. In Texas the SCV's request has been rejected. The Texas Division is appealing the denial.

In Georgia the new license plates will cost \$40 of which \$10 goes to the Georgia Division of the SCV.



The new design of the Georgia SCV specialty plate

## Civil War Trust in 2013

The Civil War Trust reported a banner year in saving battlefield land in 2013. It reported that more than 2,700 acres of battlefield land was saved through 47 different transactions at 30 different battlefields in 10 states.

Working with willing landowners and preservation partners, battlefield land was preserved last year at Antietam, Md.; Ball's Bluff, Va.; Bentonville, N.C.; Brandy Station, Va.; Brice's Crossroads, Miss.; Chancellorsville, Va.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; Chickamauga, Ga.

Also in Cedar Mountain, Va.; Cold

Harbor, Va.; Cool Spring, Va.; Deep Bottom, Va.; Fort Donelson, Tenn.; Gettysburg, Pa.; Glendale,

Va.; Harpers Ferry, W.Va.; High Bridge, Va.; Kelly's Ford, Va.; Malvern Hill, Va.; Peeble's Farm, Va.

Also in Perryville, Ky.; Rappahannock Station, Va.; Sailor's Creek, Va.; Second

Manassas Va.; Shepherdstown, W.Va.; South Mountain, Md.; Totopotomoy Creek, Va.; Vicksburg, Miss.; White Oak Road, Va.; and Wilson's Creek, Mo.

Total land saved through the Trust is now 38,500 acres at 122 sites in 10 different states.



**CIVIL WAR TRUST**  
Saving America's Civil War Battlefields  
Civilwar.org