

# Confederate Gazette

## History Month Events

April is Confederate History Month in Texas and in honor of that Camp #1250 will hold a special event in the South Belton Cemetery just prior to the April Dinner meeting on Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 PM. The memorial ceremonies will mark a commemoration of those who served in the Confederate armed forces.

The Dinner meeting will immediately follow at The Gin Restaurant in downtown Belton. Speaker for the dinner meeting will be the Texas Division's 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander Gary Bray.



*John Larson, Jr. speaks at the Bell County Courthouse during Confederate History Month celebration in 2013. (Photo by John C. Perry)*

Confederate History Month was established by the Texas legislature. The Texas Senate, in 1999 passed resolution number 526 which proclaims that April is Confederate History Month in Texas. It is officially celebrated in Texas as well as in six other Southern states.

Each year Camp #1250 celebrates the month with activities in Belton. Last year the Camp had a ceremony at the Bell County Courthouse by the Confederate statue where John Larson, Jr. spoke and at South Belton Cemetery where Sandra Perry spoke.

## Texas School Book Review

Texans have the opportunity to affect history books in Texas public schools in April.

Proposed new history books which cover the Civil War (Texas and U.S History < 1872) will be available for review at the twenty TEA Service Centers across Texas beginning April 18<sup>th</sup> according to Bill Boyd, commander of the Sul Ross Camp #1457 in Bryan.

The nearest TEA service

center to us is located in Waco, District 12, at 2101 West Loop 340. The books may not be taken from the



Center so you will need to copy or digitally scan those parts of the books that are relevant and take them off site to read, think about, and write a critique. It is recommended that you do not

announce yourself as a SCV member either when you visit a service center or in your critique. If you are a school teacher do announce such.

If the new proposed books are anything like the current ones, they will have a large section, 10 pages or so, on the institution of slavery, 10 pages on how the war was fought, and only a paragraph

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White Camp #1250

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# CONFEDERATE PROFILE

## *Texas Cavalry Commander*



**Sam Houston  
Brooks**

**Brooks Served in  
D.S. Terry's  
Texas Cavalry**

**H**e lived in three states, Tennessee, California and Texas, but he will also be associated with the Lone Star State for his exploits with Texas troops during the war.

Samuel Houston Brooks was born on a plantation in Fayette County, Tennessee, east of Memphis on January 1, 1829. His parents were Samuel Clifford Brooks and Elizabeth C. Hailey. The lure of the 1850's California gold rush caught up with young Brooks and he headed west to seek his fortune.

By 1853 he was the treasurer of San Joaquin County serving until 1854 at the young age of 24. He later found himself in San Francisco where he met Lucy C. Thornton Judge whom he married in 1861. That union would produce three daughters and one son, Samuel Houston Brooks, Jr. Brooks served as California's State Treasurer and Controller from 1860 to

1861. He lost his re-election bid and resigned his position after hostilities broke out between the North and the South.

Brooks returned to Tennessee where he offered his services to the Confederate Army. He enlisted in November of 1862 and served as a cavalry officer under Gen. Benjamin F. Cheatham.

Brooks was wounded at the Battle of Murfreesboro on December 31, 1862 and remained in his Tennessee cavalry unit through the Battle of Chickamauga in September 1863. He was then transferred and given command of the 31<sup>st</sup> Texas Cavalry.

He re-enlisted in November of 1864 and became second in command to a new cavalry regiment being formed by Colonel David Smith Terry in Montgomery County. D.S. Terry's Texas Cavalry, not to be confused with Terry's Texas Rangers, formed by D.S. Terry's

brother Benjamin Franklin Terry.

D.S. Terry's Texas Cavalry was ordered to Calcasieu Pass, Louisiana, and then was active in numerous conflicts in Arkansas. Later the regiment returned to Texas, where it was dismantled and was placed on commissary duty and disbanded in the spring of 1865 in Austin County.

Post war Brooks stayed in Texas and entered the cattle business. He drove 3,600 head of cattle from Texas to California and by 1880 he had moved to California and was a stock broker in San Francisco. He would later serve as the city treasurer in San Francisco. A long time Democrat he was appointed and as a sub United States treasurer in San Francisco by Democratic President, Grover Cleveland.

Brook's wife passed away in 1900 and at the age of 73, in

*(Continued on page 3)*

## The Other Terry's Texas Cavalry

The most famous Texas cavalry unit is likely Terry's Texas Rangers (8<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry). This famous unit was formed in 1861 by Colonel Benjamin Franklin Terry.

In four years this unit fought in over 275 engagements and was perhaps the most effective mounted unit in the western

theatre of the war.

There was another Terry's cavalry unit however. Terry's brother, D.S. Terry formed in 1864 his own unit that was commonly referred to as D.S. Terry's Texas Cavalry.

D.S. served for a while in Terry's Texas Rangers, but when given the opportunity to form

his own regiment he jumped at the chance.. This later cavalry unit did not have anywhere near the success as the original Terry's Texas Rangers.

The D.S. Terry Texas Cavalry unit saw some action in Louisiana and in Arkansas before being dismantled and returned to Texas in 1865..

## March Camp Meeting

By Michael E. Belcher

Judy Tyler, the President of Belton's Sam Houston chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas was our guest speaker, and told us about her GGG grandfather, George Richard Gautier. While living in the Confederate Home, he wrote a book entitled "Harder than Life," in which he relates his adventures in the CSA. He also wrote songs as well. He joined the 14<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry, M.L. Mains commanded, fought and was wounded by a ball in his upper thigh, which caused him pain as an old man. Later he joined the 15<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry, Johnson's Brigade.

He was taken as a prisoner of war at Fort Hindman, at the Battle of Arkansas Post he transferred by railcar to Gratiot Street Prison in St. Louis, Missouri. He related the horrors of the wounded in the POW camp. Then he was sent to City Point, Virginia and paroled. After being paroled he walked back toward Texas, ending up at Vicksburg and later Little Rock. and the Oklahoma Territory. Her presentation was informative, and well received by the Camp mem-

bership and guests in attendance.

A new member was sworn into the Major Robert M. White, Camp No. 1250. He is Gary Kent Brinegar of Belton, Texas, who joined on his Great Grandfather ancestor: William Thomas Brinegar, a Private in Company D, 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Kentucky Cavalry. Cmdr. Jimmy Dossey conducted the ceremony.

It was decided to contribute \$100.00 to the "Wreaths Across America" program to assist with the placement of wreaths on all Confederate soldier graves buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. this year.

Holly Leiferman from the Temple Parks and Leisure gave an update on the Battle of Temple Junction. It will be held at the Temple Tractor Exposition grounds. It should be a bigger event than last year with increased support, with schools and volunteers lining up to participate. There will be more parking available, a stage and additional bleachers, full use of the site including camp fires and uses of horses and black powder weapons.

## Texas School Book Review

(Continued from page 1)

on the issues of states rights, tariff arguments, inter-sectional political rivalry, internal improvement arguments, etc.

This represents an excellent opportunity to highlight many of the issues that we still wrangle over today such as excessive government intrusion, use of tax/tariff money outside the region in which it is collected, etc..

Compatriot Boyd has offered to answer any questions about the book review process. He can be reached at:

docbill72@gmail.com

At work at 979-693-8192, or at home at 979-693-6983.

## Texas Cavalry Commander

(Continued from page 2)

1902, he ran for California's state treasurer, but lost. He was later a treasurer for the City of San Francisco until his health began to fail. Brooks moved to Oakland to live with relatives, dying there on September 10, 1910.

April is the month to review Texas History Books

Next Camp Meeting: April 12<sup>th</sup> The Gin Downtown Belton 6:00 PM

## Camp Schedule

### April 12, 2014

Memorial services at South 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.

### May 13, 2014

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, 7:00 PM. Speaker: Doug Baum of the Texas Camel Corps who will speak on the Army Camel Experiment



### June 6-8, 2014

Texas Division Reunion, Houston

### June 10, 2014

Regular Camp Meeting

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P.O. Box 794 Salado, Texas 76571

Next Meeting:  
April 12th  
The Gin, Belton  
6:00 PM

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## Children Of The Confederacy Monument

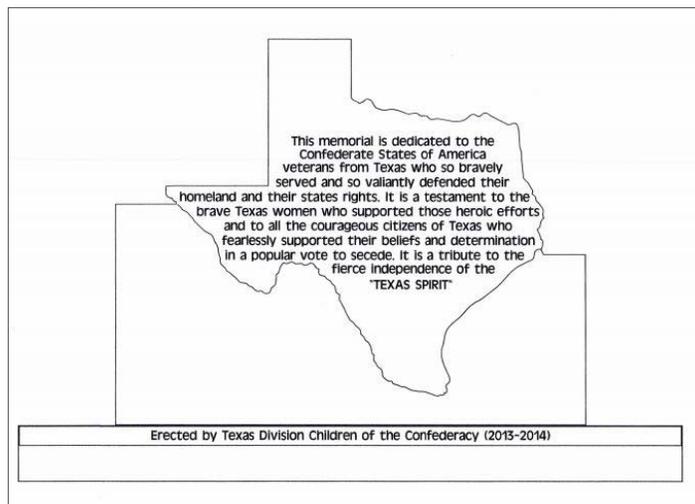
At the March Texas Division Executive Council meeting, Miss Gabby Vasek, President of the Texas Children of the Confederacy, addressed the council and requested funding for their monument. It will be placed in the beautiful Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza in Palestine Texas. The monument is made of black Texas granite and its size will be approximately 4' x 5'.

The Texas Division voted to help fund the project and has challenged every camp to help, as well as individuals in this effort.

Miss Vasek noted that any group that donates \$300.00 or more, will have their name inscribed on the monument. The Children of the Confederacy is estimating

that they need to raise a total of about \$5,000.00 to complete this most important project.

cause it gives us the opportunity to honor our Confederate ancestors in a beautiful monument that



Miss Vasek said, "This project means a lot to the Texas Division Children of the Confederacy be-

testifies to the validity and integrity of those who served the Con-

federate cause from the State of Texas. We feel it is important to make a statement about their courage and beliefs in an effort to resist the current social and political environment that misrepresents the courageous actions of our ancestors."

The front side wording is shown, the backside will read: "The enemy never sees the backs of my Texans!" - General Robert E. Lee, CSA.. The back side will also list the names of the \$300 or more donors.

Please make checks payable to Treasurer, Texas Division Children of the Confederacy and send to Gabby Vasek, 16003 Drifting Rose Circle, Cypress, Texas 77429.