

Confederate Gazette

Virginia Flagger To Speak

By Michael E. Belcher

Our December / Christmas party meeting will be held on Friday evening, December 12th at Oscar Store, located at Little Elm Creek and Farm Road 3117, (8133 Oscar Spur), about six miles east of Temple. A social hour begins at 6:00 PM with the meeting starting at 7:00 PM.

The meal will be \$14.00 per person and served buffet style. Our guest speaker will be Ms. Susan Hathaway from the Virginia Flaggers organization.

Born and raised in Highland Springs, a small suburb just

east of Richmond, Susan grew up in the shadows of the Seven Days Battlefields,



Susan Hathaway

and as the daughter of a relic hunter and War Be-

tween the States enthusiast, was raised to honor and respect her Southern Heritage. She is the Great-Great Granddaughter of four Confederate Veterans, all of whom served from and for Virginia. A graduate of Highland Springs High School, she received a Bachelor's of Science in Education from Virginia Commonwealth University in Education, and is currently employed at an architecture and design firm in Richmond.

In the fall of 2011, she helped organize the VA Flaggers, who have gained

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Lee-Jackson Dinner Set

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250's 27th annual Lee-Jackson Dinner will be held on January 17, 2015 at the Gober Party House located at 1516 West Ave H Street in Temple.

The event will begin with a social time at 6:30 PM followed by a dinner at 7:00 PM. The speaker for the event will be Jeffrey D. Murrah.

rah., Murrah is the author of *None But Texans, A History of Terry's Texas Rangers*.



Jeffrey D. Murrah
He will have his book availa-

ble for sale at the dinner.

This annual event honors Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson who both have birthdays in January.

The Camp has held a special January dinner, since the camp was founded in 1988. Beginning in 1999 it was renamed the Lee-Jackson dinner.



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White Camp #1250

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Rebel From Waco



**Joseph
Warren
Speight**

**Speight formed the
15th Texas**

He formed a regiment made up of Central Texas men to serve the Confederate cause. He was elected the regiments' colonel and the unit became the 15th Texas Infantry.

Joseph Warren Speight was born May 31, 1825, in Green County, North Carolina. His father, Jesse Speight was a member of the U.S. Congress from North Carolina and after the family moved to Mississippi, when young Joseph was 12 years old his father became a U.S. Senator from that state.

Young Speight received home schooling in Mississippi and was admitted to the Mississippi bar at age 20 and he began to practice law in Aberdeen. As a young man Speight became a Mason and became the grand master of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Mississippi at the young age of 27.

In the fall of 1853 Speight moved to Waco, Texas and engaged in farming and survey-

ing. He was very active in the Waco community, the Masons, and the Baptist church. He joined the First Baptist Church in Waco, becoming a deacon in 1857 and the superintendent of Sunday School.

After war broke out in 1861 Speight would form an infantry regiment in Waco the next spring. He was commissioned a colonel and his unit became the 15th Texas Infantry, made up of recruits from Central Texas. After training in East Texas the unit would move into to Arkansas in the fall of 1862 to be part of Horace Randal's brigade under Brigadier General Henry McCulloch. In December they joined Major General Thomas Hindman's army in western Arkansas.

In January 1863 Speight received command of a brigade that also included four dismounted Texas cavalry regiments. The brigade marched from Fort Smith through snow to the Red River in February. In

April orders sent the regiment and the brigade to Gen. Richard Taylor in Louisiana. Speight saw action at the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill in Louisiana and he was wounded at Pleasant Hill. Following his wounding he resigned his commission in 1864.

He returned to the Waco area where he resumed his agricultural interests. Post war he was one of the leaders to get the Waco Suspension Bridge built, the first bridge across the Brazos River.

He remained very active with the Baptist Church and served as the president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas in 1871 and 1872. He was involved with Waco University serving on its board as chair and was instrumental in getting Baylor moved from Independence to Waco. Waco University eventually merged into Baylor.

He was married twice, first to

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Speight & Baylor University

Joseph W. Speight's land in Waco was basically located at the core of what is now Baylor University. Speight owned a number of tracts of land which is at the heart of the university.

As Waco was trying to attract Baylor to relocate from Independence the town put togeth-

er a land package of 23 acres which included Speight's tracts of land. Apparently Speight conveyed the land first to the city and then the city donated the land to the university in 1886.

It is not certain that Speight had a residence on the land he

owned., although a Waco newspaper article stated that "Speight lived where historic Old Main and Burleson Halls are now located."

The first buildings on the new Baylor campus, Old Main and George Burleson Halls, were completed in 1887.

November Camp Meeting

By Michael E. Belcher

Compatriot Steve Wooley representing the Camp Officer Selection Committee presented a proposed slate of officers for the coming year. They are Michael E. Belcher for Camp Commander; James "Al" Harris for 1st Lieutenant Commander; Terry M. Tyler for 2nd Lieutenant Commander; and Mason W. DuBose for Color Sergeant. Michael Belcher will also continue to handle the duties of Camp Adjutant. There were no other nominations made from the floor.

A new member was approved for membership in a unanimous vote. He is James Edwin Bozeman of Temple, Texas.

Compatriot Buddy Wheat made a motion to add an additional \$400.00 contribution to the current \$100.00 for the Virginia Flaggery, that will be presented to Susan Hathaway at the December Camp meeting. The motion was seconded by Compatriot James Harris, and passed by a unanimous vote.

Compatriot Steve Wooley made a motion to spend \$75.00 on a gift for our guest speaker in

December, which was seconded by John Larson, Jr. and passed unanimously.

Compatriot Buddy Wheat made a motion to purchase a Texas "Come and Take It" flag for our December guest speaker as well. This was seconded by Compatriot Ricky Gene Copp, and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Buddy Wheat to donate toys to the First Baptist Church in Troy. Members will bring items to the December meeting. Tammy Bozeman will take the lead on this action. The motion was seconded by John L. Larson, Jr. and the vote passed unanimously.

Camp Adjutant Michael Belcher announced that 67 members renewed their membership this year; we had one transfer to another camp and one deceased member.

Compatriot Michael Moore made some beautiful plaques with Confederate Generals portraits on them. He will donate 5 of them to the camp for the silent auction in January at the Lee/Jackson Dinner.

It was announced that Jeffrey D. Murrah, the author of *None But Texans*, will be the guest speaker in January.

Waco Rebel

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Josephine S. Prewett Speight, who died in 1867 and then to Florence Mary A. Bolton Dackery Speight who died in 1886.



Speight's grave in Waco

Between his two wives Speight had 9 children, including three that lived into the 1950s. He may have lived in Waco where Old Main is now on the Baylor University campus.

Speight died in Waco on April 26, 1888. He was buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Waco along with his two wives.

Speight's land became home to Baylor Univ.

Camp Schedule

December 12, 2014

Camp Christmas Meeting at Oscar Store, which is located at 8133 Oscar Spur, Temple, TX, 6:00 PM Social with the meeting starting at 7:00 PM Special guest speaker: Ms. Susan Hathaway from the Virginia Flaggers organization.

January 17, 2015

27th Annual Lee-Jackson Dinner, Gober Party House 6:30 PM Social with Dinner at 7:00 PM. Speaker: Jeff Murrah, Topic: Secession

February 10 2015

Regular Camp meeting at Cot-



ton Patch Café, Temple Mall, 6:00 PM Social and 7:00 PM. Camp meeting. Speaker to be determined

**Next Camp Meeting:
December 12th
Oscar Store
6:00 PM Social
7:00 PM Meeting**

Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794

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Oscar Store
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War Era Series On Tap

The writer of the popular 1995 movie *Braveheart* has been tapped to write and direct a new TV production about a family that is divided by the Civil War. Randall Wallace, who was born in Tennessee and grew up in Virginia, will co-write and direct the new show called, *Point of Honor*. Carlton Cruse, who wrote the series *Last*, will be Wallace's co-writer.



Randall Wallace

A pilot episode has been ordered by Amazon Prime TV and it could be turned into a series on Amazon. The project was originally pitched to ABC-TV but was not approved. The pilot will be filmed

in Virginia.

Point of Honor is a historical drama about a fictional family from Lynchburg, Virginia who find

their lives and family fractured by the commencement of the Civil War.

Already signed to star in the pilot is Nathan Parsons formerly of *Trueblood* and Luke Beenward of *Ravenswood*.

Wallace also wrote and directed *Heaven Is For Real*. He also wrote the screenplays for the movies *Pearl Harbor* and *We Were Soldiers*. He directed the movie *Secretariat*.

December Meeting

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National attention for their ongoing flagging protest of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, after museum officials forced the removal of Confederate Battle flags from the Confederate Memorial Chapel, as well as their efforts in numerous other heritage defense battles throughout Virginia, and beyond.

She and her husband, Jesse, live in Sandston, and they have two children, both of whom attend Liberty University. She is an active member of Grove Avenue Baptist Church, where she serves in the music ministry.

Directions to the Oscar Store:

From North of Temple: Off I-35 take the Loop 363 exit, #304, and turn left

on Loop. Proceed east on Loop 363. Take a left on Highway 53. Turn right onto FM 3117. Turn left onto Oscar Spur and the Oscar Store is located on your right at 8133 Oscar Spur.

From South of Temple: Off I-35 take the exit for Hwy. 36/Loop 363/US 190. Proceed east on Hwy. 36/Loop 363/US 190. Past Temple, take a left onto FM 3117. Turn right onto Oscar Spur and the Oscar Store is located on your right at 8133 Oscar Spur.

From West of Temple: From Highway 36 head east to Temple. At Loop 363 in Temple, Highway 36 turns right and is part of Loop 363 & US 190. Continue east on Hwy 36/Loop 363/US 190. Past Temple, take a left onto FM 3117. Turn right onto Oscar Spur and the Oscar Store is located on your right at 8133 Oscar Spur.