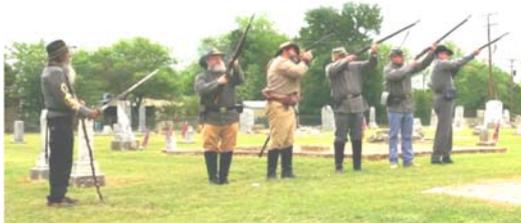


Confederate Gazette

Confederate History Month

April is traditionally celebrated as Confederate History Month in the South, and the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 will formally celebrate Confederate History Month on April 9th with ceremonies at South Belton Cemetery followed by a flag raising at the Confederate statue on the Bell County Courthouse square. The ceremonies will begin at 4:00 PM. The Camp will hold its quarterly dinner meeting at the Ratibor Grill at 6:00 PM on the same day.

Although Confederate Memorial Day is a holiday in most Southern states, the tradition of having a Confederate History Month is not uniform,



Gun salute at last year's ceremonies. (photo by Linda Wooley)

but does occur in some states. State governments or chief executives who have regularly declared Confederate History Month. Seven Southern states have observed the month in recent

years including, Alabama, Florida (since 2007), Georgia (by proclamation since 1995, by legislative authority since 2009, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, (since 1999) and Virginia (1994-2002, 2010).

In Texas, the month was proclaimed by a Texas state legislative resolution #526 done in 1999. Camp member John C. Perry was the Texas Division Commander at the time and calls the securing of the resolution one of the highlights of his tenure in office.

Austin ISD Drops Robt. E Lee School Name

For the past 77 years the elementary school located just a few blocks from the University of Texas at Austin campus has been named Robert E. Lee, honoring the Confederate general. On March 28th the Austin ISD school board trustees voted to strip the school of the Lee name. The vote was 8 in favor of

changing the name, none



Robert E. Lee Elementary School, Austin (Photo from Austin ISD)

opposed and there was one abstention. The Austin ISD

will solicit community input on a new school name. Input can be made through April 15th.

The Texas Division was active in attempting to resist the name change and the school board heard arguments both in favor and against the name change. In the end the Austin ISD bowed to political correctness.



Major
Robert M. White
Camp #1250
Sons of Confederate
Veterans
Temple, Texas

www.scvtemple.com

Terry Tyler
Camp Commander
3103 North 60th Street
Killeen, TX 76543

John C. Perry
Newsletter Editor
P.O. Box 794
Salado, TX 76571

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White Camp #1250

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Rebel Raider



**John Hunt
Morgan**

**Originally part of the
2nd Kentucky Cavalry
Also known as
Morgan's Raiders**

For a while in 1862 he terrorized Yankees in Indiana and Ohio only to be captured and thrown in an Ohio penitentiary only to escape shortly after his incarceration.

John Hunt Morgan was born June 1, 1825 in Huntsville, Alabama, the eldest of 10 children of Calvin and Henrietta Hunt Morgan. His mother was the daughter of one of the wealthiest west of the Allegheny Mountains. At a young age his family settled on one of the Hunt farms near Lexington, Kentucky. There Morgan, like many Southern boys learned to ride a horse and became proficient with firearms. He was both home schooled and attended local schools. In 1842 he enrolled in Transylvania College and studied there until 1844 when he was expelled for challenging another student to the forbidden practice of dueling.

In 1846 he joined a volunteer cavalry regiment during the

Mexican-American War. He later was elected a 1st lieutenant and fought at the Battle of Buena Vista during the war. He married Rebecca Gratz Bruce in 1847 and they had one child who died during childbirth. His wife's family was well to do and Morgan was involved in multiple businesses including a hemp factory and a clothing manufacturer.

In 1857 he organized the "Lexington Rifles," a local militia company. He opposed secession but when Confederate troops fired on Fort Sumter he flew a Confederate flag atop his factory. In July of 1861 his wife passed away and in September Morgan offered his militia unit to the Confederate Army. Morgan was sworn in as a captain in the Confederate Army.

Morgan unit would become part of the 2nd Kentucky Cavalry Regiment, which was later known as "Morgan's Raiders." In April of 1862 he was promoted to colonel in the 2nd Ken-

tucky Cavalry. He and his men performed well at the Battle of Shiloh just two days after his promotion. He was promoted to brigadier general in December of 1862.

In Tennessee Morgan met 18-year-old Martha "Mattie" Ready and in December the couple was married. Confederate president Jefferson Davis attended the wedding which was performed by General Leonidas Polk, who was an Episcopalian minister, and in attendance were Confederate Generals Bragg, Hardee, Cheatham, and Breckinridge.

Morgan became a master of behind the line raids on Union supply lines attempting to keep Union forces bottlenecked in Nashville. In June of 1863 with nearly 2,500 cavalry troops Morgan planned a major raid into Kentucky. Although he had orders not to cross over the Ohio River he did so crossing into Indiana and then into Ohio.

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Was Morgan Killed?

Most historians agree that John Hunt Morgan was killed in cold blood when he surrendered to Federal troops on September 4, 1864 in in Greenville, Tennessee. Or was he?

Some believe that in all the confusion of Confederates trying to escape Yankees as they closed in, Morgan put on

the wrong coat and although wounded managed to escape. The man killed by Union soldiers was one of Morgan's staff.

The account claims that Morgan managed to be nursed back to health by a woman who he later married. They lived in Kansas and Missouri where his wife died. The alleged Morgan re-

married and practiced medicine in Oklahoma. He was known as John Hunt Cole.

On his death bed in 1899 he admitted to his son that he was actually John Hunt Morgan and never told anyone so as not to bring dishonor to the woman's family that he was married to when wounded in 1864.

March Meeting

By Michael E. Belcher

Our guest speaker was Bob Chapman, a member of the General Felix H. Robertson Camp #129 of Waco, Texas. Bob gave us a wonderful presentation on "Historic Flags of the Confederacy".

Bob began by informing us that there were many types of Confederate Battle flags, not just the Army of Northern Virginia, St. Andrews cross variety. All were military flags, and most were unit flags. They were used for the formations in battle to align those formations. Most of them were made from a cottage industry of local ladies sewing circles, and very few were industry produced. He showed us several different Confederate flags from all over the South, indicating the tremendous diversity of designs. He maintains a very extensive personal collection of Confederate flag replicas, which he talks about through history lectures around the state and displays on his flagpole at his home.

Additionally, we were shown a couple historic post War vin-

tage revolvers; a Smith & Wesson "Russian" (1874) single action model three chambered in 44 Russian, and a Merwin Hulbert Frontier (1883) double action model three chambered in 44-40 revolver. The presentation was very informative, and well received and enjoyed by the members in attendance.

Business conducted at the meeting included the following items. Past Commander Jimmy Dossey reported that the Camp made \$185 in Camp Store sales at his barbershop last month, and \$934 at the Oglesby Rattlesnake Festival, for a total of \$1,119 in February. Camp Adjutant reported that the Central Texas Area Museum in Salado was having financial troubles due to the Interstate 35 construction and poor attendance at the Salado Highland Games last year. Compatriot Milton Lentz made a motion to contribute \$1,000 to the museum, which was seconded by Steve Wooley, and was passed by a unanimous vote.

The Confederate Memorial Ceremony on Saturday, April

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Rebel Raider

(Continued from page 2)

Although on the raid they captured and paroled nearly 6,000 Union soldiers and damaged some \$10 million worth of property, Morgan lost 750 of his men who were captured at Buffington Island, Ohio, while trying to cross the Ohio River into West Virginia. He and his remaining 350 cavalymen were captured on July 26 at nearby West Point, Ohio. His men were sent to a POW camp but Morgan and his officers were sent as common criminals to the Ohio Penitentiary in Columbus. On November 27, 1863, Morgan and six of the officers escaped by tunneling into the prison yard. They then managed to climb over the prison walls, aided by an improvised rope made by Morgan.

Morgan was able to change into civilian clothing and caught a southbound train. Eventually they were able to cross back into Confederate lines. Although he got a hero's welcome in Richmond, his exploits had been well covered in both Northern and

(Continued on page 4)

Morgan was captured at spent time in the Ohio Penitentiary

Camp Schedule

April 9, 2016

Confederate History Month Ceremonies, beginning at 4:00 PM at the South Belton Cemetery.

April 9, 2016

Camp's Quarterly Dinner Meeting at the Ratibor Grill, located at 10226 FM 2086, east of Tem-

ple. Dinner at 6:00 PM, meeting at 7:00 PM. The guest speaker will be Past Camp Commander Jerry Nelson.

May 10, 2016

Camp's Regular Meeting, 6:00 PM Social and Meeting at 7:00 PM, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall.



June 3-4, 2016

Texas Division Reunion, YO Ranch, Kerrville, TX

Next Camp Meeting:

April 9th

Ratibor Grill

Temple, TX

6:00 PM Social

7:00 PM Meeting

Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794 Salado, Texas 76571

Next Meeting:
April 9th
Ratibor Grill
Temple, Texas
6:00 PM

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March Meeting

(Continued from page 3)
9th will be conducted at the South Belton Cemetery at 4 PM, with a flag and wreath ceremony and brief program, followed immediately by a flag and wreath ceremony at the Bell County Court-house Confederate soldier's monument.

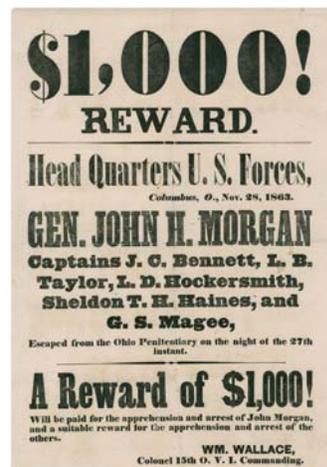
If possible, Confederate color guards and ladies in period costume will be present. The Camp's Quarterly Dinner Meeting will follow at the Ratibor Grill, located at 10226 FM 2086, east of Temple. Dinner will be at 6 PM, and the meeting at 7 PM. The guest speaker will be Past Camp Commander Jerry Nelson.

(Continued from page 3)
Southern newspapers, and his fellow officers were not pleased with the fact that he had violated his orders by crossing the Ohio River and some never fully trusted him again. When he returned to active duty Morgan was placed in command of Confederate forces in eastern Tennessee and southwest Virginia.

In June of 1864, some Confederate soldiers robbed a bank in Mount Sterling, Kentucky stealing about \$72,000. Apparently some of Morgan's men were involved, but there is no evidence that Morgan participated in or condoned the robbery. While working

Rebel Raider

to clear his name, Morgan and some of his men had camped in



Union reward poster for Morgan

Greenville, Tennessee. On the morning of September 4th, Union

troops surrounded the house Morgan was staying in, but he made an effort to escape. When he saw that it was to no avail he dropped his weapon and raised his hands up to surrender. Surrounded by Federal soldiers, some of who were screaming to kill him, one did just that shooting the unarmed and defenseless Morgan in the heart. His personal items were stolen and his body was thrown into a ditch and mutilated by joyous Union soldiers, until later retrieved by Union officers.

Morgan's body was later embalmed returned to Lexington where he was buried in Lexington Cemetery in Lexington, Kentucky.