

Confederate Gazette

29th Lee-Jackson Dinner Held

About fifty people attended the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250's 29th annual Lee-Jackson Dinner in Temple on January 14th.

The featured speaker for the event was renowned artist and author Henry Kidd, from Colonial Heights, Virginia. Compatriot Kidd presented a program showing his art and provided historical details on each piece. Mr. Kidd also had some of his art for sale.

New officers were installed

at the event by Brigade Commander Jimmy Dossey.



Brigade Commander Jimmy Dossey swears in new Camp officers.

Installed were Terry M. Tyler Camp Commander; James Edwin Bozeman 1st Lieutenant Commander; Mason W. DuBose 2nd Lieutenant Commander; Michael E. Belcher Camp Adjutant; and Jonathan

Bozeman Color Sergeant.

Past Army of the Trans Mississippi Commander John C. Perry announced the winner of the George Ballentine award, which was presented to James Edwin Bozeman of Temple for his outstanding service and devotion to

the Camp during the last year.

Camp awards were presented by Commander Terry Tyler. A complete list of all the awards and the winners is listed on page three.

Louisville, KY Moves Monument

A 70 foot tall monument to the Confederate soldier has been moved from Louisville, Kentucky to Brandenburg, Kentucky. The monument, which was dedicated on July 30, 1895, is the second largest monument in Kentucky.

The University of Louisville and the City of Louisville spearheaded the politically correct move of the 130 ton monument.



The cost to move the monument was \$400,000 of which \$350,000 was paid for by the University of Louisville and \$50,000 by the city.

Brandenburg openly welcomed the monument which will be placed on the city's revitalized waterfront. Brandenburg plans on having special ceremonies in honor of the monument in the spring.



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White Camp #1250

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

One Man Army



**John "Jack"
W. Hinson**

**Hinson's sons were
executed by men
from the 5th Iowa
Cavalry**

It all started with Yankee atrocities which turned this neutral Tennessee farmer into a one man killing machine of anyone in Union blue.

John W. Hinson, better known as Jack or Old Jack was likely born in North Carolina in July of 1807. As a young man, he moved to Tennessee with his family in about 1830. He was not a large man only about 5 foot 5 inches, overall lean, but with very muscular arms. One 20th century person, who remembered Hinson, said he looked like Popeye.

By 1840 he is listed in the census as head of a household in Stewart County, Tennessee in the northern part of the state. He was married to Elizabeth James, who was born in 1817. Hinson began acquiring land in Stewart County eventually having 1,200 acres. They built a permanent home on their land which they named "Bubbling Springs."

By 1860 Hinson and his wife

had eight of their ten children and had constructed a toll road near his land. As war clouds loomed over the United States, Hinson, although a slave owner, opposed secession. When war broke out one of Hinson's sons, volunteered for Confederate service as a member of the 14th Tennessee Infantry.

By 1862 the war had come close to the Hinson family, with Union troops camping on their land and when Union Brigadier General Ulysses S. Grant arrived in the area in February 1862, the Hinsons hosted Grant at their home. Grant was so pleased with the plantation that he even turned it into his temporary headquarters. Hinson also had contact with Confederate military officials, but overall he intended to remain neutral in the conflict.

After Confederate forces withdrew from northern Tennessee following the surrender of Fort Henry and Fort Donelson, Hinson and his family tried to live

as normal a life as possible under Union occupation. Two of his sons, George and John, had been arrested as spies by Union forces. They apparently were not spies, but had ventured too close as they observed the military action at Fort Donelson. They were detained for a while but then released, likely due to Hinson's relationship with Grant.

In the summer of 1862 Hinson made a rather remarkable decision as he decided to free his slaves. He had approximately 50 slaves and each were granted their legal freedom.

After Confederate forces withdrew different guerilla bands sprang up to harass the Union forces and to seek vengeance on Union wanton violence and theft. The Hinson family, with one son in the Confederate Army, now fighting in the eastern theatre of the war, and two sons having been arrested as

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What Became of Hinson's Rifle?

Jack Hinson's custom made .50 caliber rifle has survived since the war.

After the war was over Hinson gave his famous rifle to Nathan Bedford Forrest, with whom he had developed a high level of respect.

Forrest later gave the Hinson rifle to his adjutant general and friend, Charles Anderson of Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

With no children, Anderson gave it to his brother-in-law, William T. Love. When Mr. Love died in 1916 ownership went to his daughter, Frances Love

Black. The rifle was almost destroyed in a housefire in 1929.

Mrs. Black left the rifle to her daughter Gene Marie Black McFarlin, with instructions that it eventually go to her grandson, Ben McFarlin of Murfreesboro, who is the current owner.

Lee-Jackson Dinner Photos

Photos: Right, James E. Bozeman accepts George Ballantine Award; Middle left: Lee-Jackson speaker Henry Kidd; Middle right: Silent auction items; Bottom left: Michael E. Belcher hard at work; Bottom middle: Commander Terry Tyler honors Henry Kidd; Bottom right: Attendees gathered at the Gober Party House.

(Photos by John and Sandra Perry)



Camp Holds
29th Annual
Lee-Jackson
Dinner



Lee-Jackson Camp Award Winners

George Ballantine Award

James E. Bozeman

Albert Sidney Johnston Award

Michael E. Belcher

John Bell Hood Award

James Bozeman and Ralph Snyder

Lawrence "Sul" Ross Award

Rick Copp, Herbert Cowan, Tommy Dean, Jimmy Dossey, Mason Dubose, John Larson Jr, Milton Lentz, Michael Moore, John C. Perry, Earl Saudelier, Buddy Wheat and Steve Wooley.



Camp Schedule

February 14, 2017

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

March 14, 2017

Camp's Regular Meeting, 6:00

PM Social and Meeting at 7:00 PM, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. Speaker: TBD

April 8, 2017

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



TBD

May 9, 2017

Camp's Regular Meeting, 6:00 PM Social and Meeting at 7:00 PM,

Next Camp Meeting:
February 14th
Cotton Patch Café
Temple Mall
6:00 PM Social
7:00 PM Meeting

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**Next Meeting:
February 14th
Cotton Patch Cafe
Temple, Texas
7:00 PM**

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One Man Army

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spies, was viewed by Union military forces in the area with some degree of suspicion, despite Hinson's self-proclaimed neutrality.

In the fall of 1862 twenty-two-year-old George and his seventeen-year-old brother John were out on an early morning hunt, to put meat on the table, in the woods not far from their family home. A Union patrol from the 5th Iowa Cavalry spotted the armed boys and arrested them calling them Rebel guerillas. Despite their pleas that they were just hunting, the Federals tied them to a tree, less than a mile from their home. Tied to the tree the boys were executed by the Yankees. The Union patrol leader, a lieu-

tenant, took his sabre and decapitated their heads. Various accounts have the bodies being dragged to nearby Dover for public display, but the grizzliest account has the 5th Iowa Cavalry taking their heads to the Hinson farm and mounting their heads on Hinson's front fence posts.

With the Yankees brutal act, Jack Hinson's neutrality had abruptly come to an end. He quickly decided that he would seek vengeance on all the men involved in the death of his sons, but he knew his Tennessee squirrel rifle would not be enough. He decided to have a gun built for his revenge. He then set about having a percussion cap muzzleloader .50 caliber rifle with 41 inch long octagonal barrel made. The length of the barrel ensured that he could accurately hit targets from half a mile away. The new rifle weighed 17 pounds.

Using a local blacksmith and gunsmith the rifle was made.

Knowing that once he embarked on his revenge his family would become targets of Union reprisal he moved his family away. Using a cave above the Tennessee River as his base, Hinson became a bushwhacker at the age of 57.

There was no question who his first target would be, the Union lieutenant who had beheaded his sons. The man was killed as he rode in front of his cavalry column. The second target was the soldier who placed his son's heads on the family fence posts. Hinson was wise to move his family away as it didn't take long for the Yankees to come looking for Hinson and his family. They burned down the abandoned Hinson plantation.

Although he never enlisted in the

Confederate Army, later in the war Hinson helped Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest in his highly successful attack on the Union supply depot at Johnsonville, Tennessee.

Hinson was never captured. He was aided from time to time by local residents who would hide him from Union patrols.

Hinson notched his gun with each kill, but stopped after 36. It is estimated that before the war was over he had killed between 100 and 130 men.

Post war Hinson felt it was best to keep a very low profile, fearing Union reprisal against him. He and Elizabeth purchased a 294 acre farm near Magnolia and operated a mill. He deeded his Bubbling Springs land to one of his sons. Hinson died of a heart attack at the age of 67 in July of 1874.