

# Confederate Gazette

## Gazette & Camp Begin 30<sup>th</sup> Year

June 2017 marks the beginning of the 30<sup>th</sup> year of both the Robert M. White Camp #1250 and the *Confederate Gazette*.

The first issue of the *Gazette*, in June of 1988, was a two-page announcement of the intention to restart a SCV Camp in Temple. The *Gazette* was trying to get people to attend a Camp organizational meeting at the home of John C. Perry in Temple.

Perry has been the editor of the *Gazette* since its inception. The *Gazette* was first published on an Apple Macintosh 512K. According to Perry, the Macintosh was relatively new then, and "had a whooping 512K memory, but no hard drive." "I had to switch back and forth with various floppy disks," Perry explained.

A program that came with the Macintosh, McDraw, was used

to layout the publication and to draw the graphics. Perry used the Macintosh computer from June of 1988 until April of 1990. There were 20 issues of the



### NEW SCV CAMP TO FORM !

*New Camp Planned for Temple*

**What is the SCV?**  
The SCV stands for the Sons of Confederate Veterans. It was formed in 1896 in Richmond, Virginia. Today it has camps all across the nation.

Today the SCV is a general, historical, educational, recreational, non-political, and non-sectarian organization. It is concerned that the original of the War Between the States are accurately written.

To be eligible for membership one must be either a direct or collateral descendant of one who served honorably in either the Confederate Army or Navy.

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*Volume 1, Number 1 of the Confederate Gazette*

*Gazette* published on the Macintosh, the issues started out with just two pages.

The *Gazette* moved to an IBM compatible personal computer in 1990. With a near doubling of memory to one megabyte, a "huge" 40-megabyte hard disk

drive, and a 286 twenty-five megahertz processor, it was, "a technological leap," according to Perry. The layout was done on a software package called Finesse. "It (Finesse) was a software package designed for putting together publications, and it was quite good, and way ahead of its time," Perry said. "For the first time we had spell check and that was a great relief," according to Perry.

In the second issue using the new software the first scanned graphics appeared. Perry said, "I borrowed a scanner at work and was able to scan graphics, photographs, etc., into the *Gazette*." The typical issue had 4 to 8 pages. Finesse was used to produce 37 issues of the newsletter.

The *Gazette's* format changed again in October of 1993. Perry

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

[www.scvtemple.com](http://www.scvtemple.com)



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Camp #1250

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## Monuments Come Down in NOLA

The ultimate in political correctness occurred in New Orleans in May. The city removed four monuments, Liberty Place and statues which honored, Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, and P.G.T. Beauregard.

Upon the removal of the last monument, the Lee statue, the mayor of New Orleans, Mitch



*Head on Lee's statue laying in a New Orleans junk yard after its removal.*

Landrieu, said the following, "To literally put the Confederacy on a pedestal in our most prominent places of honor is an inaccurate recitation of our full past. It is an affront to our present, and it and we are better for it. Surely, we are far enough removed from this dark time to acknowledge that the

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# CONFEDERATE PROFILE

## *Bell County Rebel*



**Elijah  
Robertson**

**Robertson moved to  
Salado in 1853**

**H**is plantation home is still standing in Salado and is a fine example of an antebellum plantation. It was built by Elijah Sterling Clack Robertson, lawyer and soldier, son of empresario, Sterling Clack Robertson. Robertson's grandfather, was one of the earliest settlers of what would become Tennessee, had gone on to fight the Indian allies of the British in the American Revolution. His father, Sterling Clack Robertson, had served under General Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812 and with Sam Houston at San Jacinto. In time, young Sterling would show his military competence as well.

Elijah Robertson was born in Giles County, Tennessee, on August 23, 1820. At age 12 he left his home in Nashville, and rode on horseback, accompanied by his father, to Texas (which was then part of Mexico), and entered school in San Antonio. There is where he learned to read and speak

Spanish. Robertson spent two years back in Tennessee attending Jackson College. When he returned to Texas he worked for the Republic of Texas in various capacities. President Sam Houston commissioned Robertson as a colonel in the militia of the Republic of Texas.

According to friends, as an adult he was, "a man of fine physique, of great determination, keen foresight, genial and courteous and generous to a fault." He was ambidextrous and, when writing reports, would switch from his right to his left hand to the dismay of his friends. In 1839, Robertson became acting Postmaster General. A year later he was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the Texas Militia, and he took part in campaigns against the Mexicans and Indians.

When Mexican forces invaded Texas again in 1842, Robertson became a captain and marched to the Rio Grande in the Som-

ervelle expedition. Not yet 24, he was commissioned a colonel in the militia in 1844, and he was admitted to the Bar in 1845. Rated as one of the richest men in Texas in 1850, in 1853 he moved his family to what was then called Salado Springs.

By 1848 Robertson had been appointed as the translator of Spanish deeds in the General Land Office in Austin. He began building his plantation home in 1854 near Salado and he supervised every aspect of its construction. He moved in with his wife and five children in 1860. His family grew to include a total of twelve children.

In 1858 he was elected chief justice of Bell County. Governor Sam Houston appointed him as a brigadier general of Texas state troops in 1860. He was a delegate to the Secession Convention in 1861 and he signed the secession ordinance. During the War Between the States

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## Robertson Plantation

Bell County is home to one of the few surviving antebellum plantations in Texas. The Robertson Plantation located just south of Salado, was built between 1856 and 1860. It stands as one of the best-preserved ante-bellum plantation complexes of the era.

In the middle of what Elijah

Robertson described as a wilderness, he oversaw the construction process in its entirety. We don't know who designed the home or who the craftsmen were, but they were indeed well trained or skilled. The home shows evidence of their skill in the creation of the mantels, millwork, doors, and cabinets.

This fine old Greek revival mansion contains 22 rooms and is still owned by Robertson descendants. Robertson and his wife accumulated approximately 90,000 acres in Central Texas along with many slaves. The stone slave quarters are still intact to the west of the plantation house. They housed the house servants.

# May Meeting

By Michael E. Belber

Compatriot Weldon G. Cannon, PhD was our guest speaker, who gave us a presentation on Bernard Moore Temple, the namesake of the city of Temple, Texas. Bernard Moore Temple, civil engineer, was born at Berclair Plantation, Spotsylvania County, Virginia, on November 4, 1843, the tenth of twelve children of Benjamin and Lucy (Robinson) Temple. After serving in the Confederate artillery in Virginia and North Carolina, he entered railway engineering as chairman for a Kansas railroad in 1868. While working in Kansas, Nebraska, and eastern Texas, he became an expert engineer under the tutelage of Octave Chanute and Grenville Dodge. In 1875, he settled permanently in Galveston, where he was employed by the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway Company as surveyor.

After being appointed chief engineer in 1878, he supervised construction of 359 miles of track from Arcola to Fort Worth and Lampasas. At a line juncture in Bell County the railway established a new town

in 1881, named after him. From 1884 until 1888 and from 1892 until 1895 Temple worked privately as an engineer in Galveston.

In 1895, the Galveston City Council elected him city engineer for two years, then made him superintendent of waterworks in 1899. Temple was an Episcopalian and a member of the United Confederate Veterans. In 1882, he married Ida May Shipman, daughter of a pioneer Texas businessman and Methodist minister. They were the parents of two children. Temple died on October 5, 1901, in Galveston, and was buried in the Old City Cemetery.

During the business portion of the meeting Past Commander John L. Larson, Jr. and 1st Lt. Commander James Bozeman gave us an update on the Battle of Tomlinson Hill (formerly, the Battle of Temple Junction) event on May 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, east of Lott. They are expecting 100-200 school children on Friday; about 100 re-enactors and 5-6 sutlers participating; and Andy Anderson is expected to nar-

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## 30<sup>th</sup> Year

switched to a Windows based software, Microsoft Publisher.

The Gazette has been published continuously except for an eight-month period. "For a time I was serving as both the Texas Division Commander and the SCV's Chief of Heritage Defense," Perry explained, "and something had to give." Perry discontin-

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## Bell County Rebel

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Robertson accepted a position to serve without pay as volunteer *aide de camp* in the grade of captain on the staff of Gen. Henry McCulloch, a longtime friend and comrade in arms in campaigns against Indians and Mexicans. He served in that capacity until wars end.

Post war Robertson worked his land and was involved in educational efforts including being a key organizer of Salado College. He died in Salado on October 8, 1879 and was buried in the Robertson family cemetery.

**Robertson  
Served as an  
aide de camp to  
Henry  
McCulloch**

## Camp Schedule

### June 13, 2017

Camp's Regular Meeting, 6:00 PM Social and Meeting at 7:00 PM, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. Speaker: 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Commander James Bozeman who will give a recap and the highlights of the Texas Division Reunion.

### July 8, 2017

Camp's Quarterly Dinner Meeting, 6:00 PM Social and Meeting at 7:00 PM, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. Speakers: Larry and Pam Wilhoite, speaking on Texas regimental and company flags used during the war.



### August 8, 2017

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

**Next Camp Meeting:  
June 13<sup>th</sup>  
Cotton Patch Café  
Temple Mall  
6:00 PM Social  
7:00 PM Meeting**

# Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794

Salado, Texas 76571

**Next Meeting:  
June 13th  
Cotton Patch Cafe  
Temple, Texas  
7:00 PM**

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## May Camp Meeting

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rate the battles.

Commander Tyler reported that the Belton Chamber of Commerce will have organizational meetings for the Belton 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade on June 14<sup>th</sup> and June 17<sup>th</sup>. Commander Tyler discussed the Sam Davis Youth Camp, and the cutoff for participant recommendations will be at the next meeting. The sign-up deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup>, and the camp dates are: July 9-16, 2017. Participants must be 12-20 years old, and the cost is \$490 per participant. It will be decided at that time; how many we can send and how much we will pay for them.

Commander Tyler reported that a recommendation had been pro-

posed by Compatriot Ralph Snyder to sponsor radio talk show host Conn Tatum, of on KTEM radio. Compatriot Snyder was not in attendance, so this was tabled until the next meeting.

After a call for delegates that will attend and represent our camp at the 2017 Texas Division SCV Reunion in June, Compatriot Joel Kelley made a motion to allow the delegates to make all voting decisions for the camp at the reunion. Compatriot Gary Brinegar seconded the motion, and it passed by a unanimous vote.

The camp voted to approve a new transfer camp member. He is Fred Adolphus, who is the new Director of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment museum at Fort Hood.

## NOLA Removes Monuments

*(Continued from page 1)*

cause of the Confederacy was wrong. The Confederacy was on



*Lee statue comes down in New Orleans*

the wrong side of history and humanity. It sought to tear apart our nation and subjugate our fellow Americans to slavery. This

is the Orleans' Confederate monuments. It is our acknowledgment that now is the time to take stock of, and then move past, a painful part of our history."

## 30<sup>th</sup> Year

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ued the publication of the *Gazette* from January of 1998 through August of 1998. When no camp member stepped forward to continue the newsletter Perry again resumed publication of the newsletter. Since 1998 Perry has produced the *Gazette* without interruption twelve times a year.

Perry is now looking for someone to take the reins of the *Gazette*. I will finish out this year, but would like to let someone else take over with Volume 31, No. 1.