

# Confederate Gazette

## Camp Marches in 4<sup>th</sup> Parade

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 marched in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Belton for the twenty-second straight year.

The 14 Camp members and friends who were either on the float or marching were greeted with applause from the estimated

25,000 to 30,000 people who gathered to view the

muggy conditions, the parade proceeded through Belton. No negative events occurred as the Camp's float moved through town.

This year was the 97<sup>th</sup> annual Belton 4<sup>th</sup>

of July parade and was the largest yet.



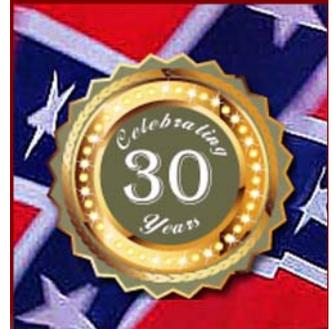
Parade participants pose in front of the Camp's float prior to the parade starting. (Photo by Judy Tyler)

annual parade. Under some very warm and



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Camp #1250

**Inside this issue:**

## Flag Flies In Waco

By Frank Bussey

Sam Davis Youth Camp campers learn valuable lesson in liberty and the First Amendment.

On July 19<sup>th</sup> the Sam Davis Youth Camp took its field trip to Waco. For the past four years we have always dropped the 25 X 40-foot battle flag from the old 1870 Waco Suspension

Bridge and allow for horn blowing and high fives have

the flag over the bridge so our boat tour campers could see it as they passed under the bridge. After furling it we noticed a Waco Park Ranger poking around and figured out someone had

told him about our flagging.

No flag in sight so he soon  
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Flag flies off Waco Suspension Bridge

not aroused any interest. Not this year. We dropped

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# CONFEDERATE PROFILE

## *Coca Cola Inventor*



**John Stith Pemberton**

**Pemberton was wounded in the Battle of Columbus**

**T**his former Confederate soldier was severely wounded in fighting, and due to him seeking ways to lessen his pain from his wound he ended up inventing what would become one of the most consumed and exported drinks of all time.

John Stith Pemberton was born on July 8, 1831 in Knoxville, Georgia, near Macon, Georgia, to James C and Martha Gant Pemberton. He grew up in nearby Rome, Georgia and attended school there. Still in his teens Pemberton studied medicine and pharmacy at Reform Medical College in Macon. After graduating he was a pharmacist in Macon. He met Ann Eliza Lewis, from Columbus, Georgia, who was attending Wesleyan College in Macon, and they married in 1853. The young couple moved to Columbus.

In 1860 Pemberton founded J.S. Pemberton and Company in Columbus for, "manufacturing

all the pharmaceutical and chemical preparations used in the arts and sciences." The company was touted as having \$35,000 worth of "modern" equipment producing various tonics and even perfume.

When the war began Pemberton remained with his business, as Columbus had become an important manufacturing hub for the Confederacy. It wasn't until very late in the war that Federal forces made a move on Columbus. After the Federal victory at the Battle of Nashville in December of 1864, Union Major General James H. Wilson was ordered to march south and destroy Confederate manufacturing in Selma, Alabama and in Columbus. Selma fell on April 2, 1865 and Wilson, after taking Montgomery, Alabama on April 12<sup>th</sup> moved towards Columbus.

Most accounts of Pemberton have him serving as a lieutenant colonel in the Third Cavalry Battalion of the Georgia Home

Guard. On April 16<sup>th</sup>, Easter Sunday, Union forces reached the Alabama side of the Chattahoochee River just opposite Columbus. Wilson had about 13,500 men and the Confederates could only muster about 3,500 men, mostly home guard soldiers and civilians, commanded by Major General Howell Cobb. Most of the fighting took place on the Alabama side of the river near the town of Girard, now part of Phenix City, Alabama.

Pemberton was severely wounded with a saber slash to the chest in fighting to defend a bridge against Iowa cavalry units around 8:00 PM. Confederate forces were forced to retreat and the Union cavalry troops moved into the city before midnight.

Pemberton's wounds were very serious and it was reported that he almost died. During the course of his recovery Pemberton was given morphine. It

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## Last Battle of the War?

What was the last battle of the War Between the States? Most would say today that the Battle of Palmito Ranch, Texas fought on May 13, 1865. Some claim that the Battle of Palmito Ranch was nothing more than a minor skirmish, led by only colonels, and the Battle of

Columbus, fought on April 16, 1865 was truly the last battle of the war. Post war Union veterans of the battle proclaimed that it was the last battle.

Columbus used that argument to try to get the battlefield designated as a national park.

Even the Georgia legislature passed a bill in 1935 saying it was indeed the last battle of the war.

The effort lasted from the 1890s until 1930s when the National Parks Director rejected Columbus' national park request.

# July Camp Meeting

By Michael E. Belber

Larry and Pam Wilhoite of the Oran M. Roberts Camp #178 in Waxahachie, were the guest speakers for our Camp meeting in July, and they spoke on "Texans and Their Confederate Flags." They did a show and tell presentation with several Regimental and Company Flags used during the War Between the States. During the beginning of the war, unit flags were made from silk, and ladies dresses, and later wool and some cotton, as the war went on. The flag designs depended upon the materials that were available and the imagination of their creators. The Wilhoite's made their replica flags as historically accurate to the originals as possible based upon surviving information. They showed examples of six Company flags, three Regimental flags, and one Installation flag, giving the history behind each, and briefly discussing the unit that flew and fought under it. It was a very informative presentation, and well received and enjoyed by the members in attendance.

In business conducted at the

meeting Commander Tyler announced that we would be sponsoring one participant to the Sam Davis Youth Camp this year. He also reported that the Belton 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade went well. He thanked Compatriot Earl Soudelier for providing the trailer for the parade, Compatriot John Ziegeler for helping to get it ready, and everyone who dressed up in period clothing and participated.

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander James Bozeman presented the amendments to the Camp By-Laws that he proposed at the meeting in June. Compatriot Glenn Joel Kelley made a motion to accept the amendments as written, which was seconded by Compatriot Jonathan Bozeman. The amendments were passed by a unanimous vote. Commander Tyler discussed the Bell County Historical Commission's Cemetery Committee, doing restoration work in pioneer cemeteries in Bell County containing Confederate veteran's graves. He proposed that we look at doing work in the McBride Cemetery when

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# Pemberton

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took Pemberton about a year to recover from his wounds, but as a result of his use of morphine, an opium derivative, he became addicted to it, an addiction that lasted for the rest of his life.

One of Pemberton's motivations was to find a way to ease his pain without morphine so he began experimenting with various concoctions. One of his early drinks, which was marketed to the public, was Pemberton's French Wine Coca. It is likely the original formula, what would become Coca Cola, was created in Columbus in his effort to find a new pain killer. In 1870 Pemberton moved his business to Atlanta. His French Wine Coca became extremely popular first in Atlanta and then across the South.

In 1886 the City of Atlanta adopted a local prohibition of alcohol, so Pemberton, went back to one of his original formulas, reconstituted the French Wine Coca by substi-

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**Pemberton  
moves to  
Atlanta in 1870**

## Camp Schedule

### August 8, 2017

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

### September 12, 2017

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

PM, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall.

### October 14, 2017

Camp's Quarterly Dinner Meeting. Location TBD

### November 14, 2017

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



PM, Cotton Patch Café, Temple.

### December 12, 2017

Camp's Regular Meeting, Location Cotton Patch Café, Temple

**Next Camp Meeting:  
August 8<sup>th</sup>  
Cotton Patch Café  
Temple Mall  
6:00 PM Social  
7:00 PM Meeting**

# Confederate Gazette

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**Next Meeting:  
August 8th  
Cotton Patch Cafe  
Temple, Texas  
7:00 PM**

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## Coca Cola Inventor

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tuting sugar syrup for alcohol and renaming the new drink Coca Cola.

With the popularity of Coca Cola in 1887 Pemberton incorporated the Coca Cola Company and let his son Charles run it. Unfortunately, Charles was also addicted to morphine. Within a year Pemberton became ill with stomach cancer. His son persuaded him to sell the Coca Cola Company for only \$550 in 1888. Pemberton died at the age of 57 on August 16, 1888. His body was returned to Columbus, where he was buried in Linwood Cemetery. Last year, Coca Cola had \$11.5 billion in world-wide sales.

## July Camp Meeting

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the weather cools off., which was accepted by camp members.

Commander Tyler also reported that the Texas Division is continuing Rocky Sprott's previous grave registration project, and looking to locating and registering the graves of all Confederate, Union, and able-bodied men from the Civil War era in the state of Texas. Compatriot Milton Lentz raised discussion about replacing the two iron Confederate Southern Crosses of Honor, that were attached to the monument at the Hillcrest Cemetery. After discussion, it was decided to replace them with new replicas, that will be purchased by the camp. Several folks are researching crosses and prices that are available.

## Flag Flies in Waco

*(Continued from page 1)*  
left. After he left we decided to drop the flag over the bridge and see if he returned. We did and he did! He walked up to our kids and politely demanded that they furl the flag "can't display a flag without a permit" he said- I walked up and told him we had a permit - called the First amendment.

"Sir he said you can't fly the American flag without a permit here." I said I doubted that - and told him our flagging was planned to be over shortly with or without a permit.

Another five minutes and we brought the flag up and folded it only to be confronted by an offended snowflake who accused us of racism and "shouting" at the

community. We argued politely so he threw us an F-bomb and left. Some of us then started the walk to our next venue the old Fort House on 5<sup>th</sup> and Webster.

As we left our photographer noticed the snowflake using his phone.

As we walked up Franklin Street we noticed 3-4 cop cars with sirens blowing approaching us. I joked: "Hide everyone - they are after us as flag mobbers!"

They were - they stopped at the Suspension bridge looking for us - snowflake had called in on us. Of course, us flag criminals had flown the coop. Best lesson in liberty and what really confronts us ever taught at the Sam Davis Camp.