

Confederate Gazette

NAACP Calls For Statue Removal

The attack on Confederate statues and memorials that has spread across the country has now reached Bell County. The Temple branch of the NAACP is calling for the removal of the 101 year-old Confederate Soldiers statue located on the north west corner of the Bell County courthouse.

Bennie Walsh local NAACP president on September 12th asked County Judge Jon Burrows and two County Commissioners to take into account what is happening nationally and to relocate the Confederate soldiers statue.

Walsh said, in comments to the *Temple Daily Telegram*,

"We're concerned about what's going on around the



Confederate Soldiers Statue at Bell Co. Courthouse (Photo by John C. Perry)

nation, especially with the statues,"

Confederate monuments and

memorials have come down in many parts of the nation. In Texas, statues in honor of Robert E. Lee were removed in both Dallas and San Antonio.

Camp officials, along with local UDC officials met with County Judge Burrows and two County Commissioners on September 18th. Attending for the Camp were Terry Tyler, James Bozeman, and John C. Perry. Attending from the UDC were, Joyce Bateman and Judy Tyler.

County officials were reminded by the group that the statue represents the honor

(Continued on page 3)

Camp Member Awarded National Award

Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 member Buddy Wheat, was awarded the Reverend J. William Jones Christian Service Award from Texas Division Commander David McMahan, during the Division Executive Committee meeting in Gatesville on Saturday, September 9, 2017.



Buddy Wheat accepts award from the Texas Division Commander.

This is a national award

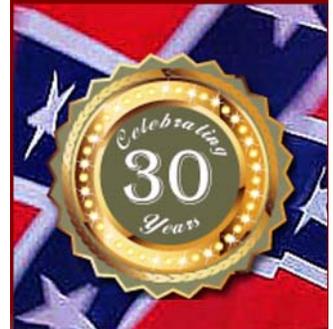
which is awarded to professed Christian SCV members who emulate and perpetuate the orthodox Christian faith demonstrated by the soldiers and citizens of the Confederate States of America.

Compatriot Wheat serves as Camp #1250's Chaplain.



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

www.scvtemple.com



© 2017 Major Robert M. White
Camp #1250

Inside this issue:

Profile: Richard "Dick" Poplar	2
Sussex Light Dragons	2
September Camp Meeting	3
Camp #1250's Calendar	3
Death of Kelton W. Haney	4

CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Served His Country



**Richard "Dick"
Poplar**

**Poplar was captured
and sent to a Union
POW camp**

He was captured at
after the Battle of
Gettysburg, and placed
in a Union POW camp.

He had the opportunity to be released due to his skin color, but chose to be exchanged so he could return to his country.

Richard "Dick" Poplar was born sometime either in 1816 or 1818, likely either in or around Petersburg, Virginia. Very little details are known about Poplar's early life. Prior to the war he worked at the Bollingbrook Hotel, in Petersburg. It was the top hotel in town and attracted the best of Petersburg society.

Poplar handled the hotel's catering service and served as the hotel's banquet chef. He was described as "smartly dressed" in a caterer's white uniform with a military style hat with two tassels.

The first detailed knowledge we have about Poplar was when he becomes a member of Sussex Light Dragoons, a cavalry unit

that was later dismantled and became the Company H, 13th Virginia Cavalry. Poplar was self described as "attached" to the Sussex Light Dragoons, meaning he likely never formally enlisted. He did serve a least for part of the time as a cook and he held the Bollingbrook Hotel rank of private in the Confederate Army.

Poplar was with his unit immediately following the Battle of Gettysburg when he was captured, as the Confederate forces withdrew at the conclusion of the battle.

He spent about 6 months detained at Fort Delaware, but ended up at Point Lookout POW camp in Maryland. He languished there for 14 more months. He had the option of taking a loyalty oath and being released, but he chose not to. Some of the black Union guards gave him a hard time for remaining loyal to the Confederacy. He was a prison yard entrepreneur, as he cooked corn

pones which he sold to his fellow prisoners and northern sutlers.

He was exchanged in March of 1865 and returned home to Petersburg. After the war he returned to work at the Bollingbrook Hotel.

In 1886 he became ill, he was taken in by a member of his old regiment, and was cared for until he passed away. He was buried with full Confederate soldier honors and with pall bearers who include one Confederate general, one colonel, three captains and two privates. He was buried in Petersburg.

The local newspaper described him upon his death, "a Virginian who cast his fortunes with the Confederacy, and endured many months of weary imprisonment rather than desert his friends and comrades in their misfortune. He was an honest, industrious man, highly esteemed by old Confederate friends and comrades."

Sussex Light Dragoons

The Sussex Light Dragoons were formed in January of 1861, originally as part of the Virginia militia. In June of 1862 he was mustered into Confederate service initially in the 1st Virginia Cavalry. Later it would become Company H of the 13th Virginia Cavalry.

The unit would become part of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia and saw considerable action during the war, including Fredericksburg, Brandy Station, Gettysburg, Bristoe, Kelly's Ford, and Mine Run, the Wilderness Campaign, the defense of Petersburg and Rich-

mond, and the Appomattox operations.

The Suxsex Light Dragoons regiment had 298 men in action in Gettysburg and surrendered on April 9, 1865, with 10 officers and 78 men

September Camp Meeting

By Michael E. Belcher

Charles Oliver, of the General Felix H. Robertson Camp No. 129 of Waco, was the guest speaker at the September camp meeting.

He spoke about Lawrence Sullivan "Sul" Ross. Sul Ross was born in Indiana in 1838, and moved to Texas with his family, when he was about 4 years old. He was raised in the Republic of Texas, and his family were founders of Waco, Texas. He attended Baylor University, and after graduation he joined the Texas Rangers, ultimately making Captain. When Texas succeeded from the United States he joined the Confederate States Army, participating in 135 battles and skirmishes and became one of the youngest Confederate generals.

During the war, he fought with Bedford Forrest, commanding the 6th Texas Cavalry Regiment, and later Phifer's Cavalry Brigade and Ross's Cavalry Brigade. He had several horses shot out from under him. Following the War Between the States, he served as sheriff in

McLennan County, and set about cleaning up the bad guys, from which many legends arose about him. He was elected as a State Senator for two terms, and helped to rewrite the Texas Constitution, making a law that prevented anyone from taking away your land.

He was elected the 19th Texas Governor and served two terms. He later served as the president of Texas A&M University, adding the military program there. He died on January 3, 1898 at the age of 59, and a grand funeral parade was held and he was buried in the Oakwood Cemetery in Waco. It was the only time in Texas history that both the student bodies of Texas A&M and Baylor were reconcile toward each other and participated together in the funeral march.

Business conducted at the meeting included the following: (1) Commander Tyler discussed the possibilities of doing "Toys for Tots" or clothes contributions for our Camp Christmas

(Continued on page 4)

Statue

(Continued from page 1)
and valor of the estimated 1,037 men from Bell County who went to war for their country. County officials seemed to be aware of the overwhelming response from the public for the statue to be left alone.

Judge Burrows indicated that they had not finalized a plan for what to do. Options on the table include a public forum, where the pros and cons of the statue could be discussed, the possibility of adding an interpretative plaque or another statue to the courthouse grounds.

Camp member John C. Perry has publicly responded to the call to take down the statue. He has appeared on local TV and radio, as well as in print and web media. He said, "It seems that those against us base their arguments almost entirely on emotion with supporting material that is very often innuendo, half-truths, or false comparisons. From there some just go to name calling. As one person told

(Continued on page 4)

**SCV and UDC
meet with
County officials**

Camp Schedule

October 14, 2017

Camp's Quarterly Dinner Meeting. Location Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. Speaker: Jonathan Bozeman talking on medical practices during the Civil War

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



January 13, 2018

30th Annual Robert E. Lee Dinner. Additional details to follow.

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

Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794

Salado, Texas 76571

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

▶ Page 4

September Camp Meeting

(Continued from page 3)

Giving project this year. (2) Chaplin Buddy Wheat discussed helping out a family affected by the Hurricane Harvey disaster. Compatriot John L. Larson, Jr. made a motion to give a monetary contribution in the amount of \$200, which was seconded by Color Sergeant Jonathan Bozeman and passed by a unanimous vote of the membership in attendance. This was added to by individual camp members, for a total of \$260. (3) 1st Lt. Commander James Bozeman briefed the membership on current heritage defense events; primarily discussing the defense of our

own Confederate Veteran Memorial statue at the Bell County Courthouse. An Executive Committee emergency meeting will be scheduled to plan for its defense. (4) The Lee-Jackson Dinner was discussed and it was decided to go with Miller's BBQ again for next year.

>>> Statue <<<

(Continued from page 3)

me last week. "All of the extra facts and figures mean nothing to me," that sure makes it hard to have an intellectual discussion."

Perry indicated a new approach is apparently being suggested to move the statue to the South Belton Cemetery, after the NAACP's call to move it to the Bell County Museum was rejected. Perry said such "was unacceptable."

Camp Member Passes

Camp member Kelton Wayne Haney passed away on September 1st. He was born September 11, 1944 in Vernon, Texas to Robert Cole and Inez Elizabeth Haney. He graduated from Lockett High School in 1963.

In 1970 he went to work for Southwestern Bell in Vernon, but transferred to Temple in 1979 as a cable splicer where he worked for more than 30 years before he retired. He was a farmer and rancher the majority of his life, even while working for Southwestern Bell. He loved farming, hunting, fishing, playing dominoes and spending time with his beloved pet and constant companion, Dixie Lee.

Kelton was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Temple. Kelton was a great family man and loving father. All who knew

him will always remember him as a loving son, father, brother, uncle, grandfather and good friend.

He is survived by his children, Donna "Anne" Haney-Kelln of Academy, Bear Haney of Holland,

and Debra Haney of Temple; step-daughter Traci Dee Dodd of McGregor; brother, Milton Haney of Holiday; sister, Angie Haney-Perry of Andrews; twenty grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

