

CONFEDERATE GAZETTE



Confederate Gazette

*Is a monthly publication
of the Major Robert M.
White Camp #1250
Sons of Confederate
Veterans
Temple, Texas*

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33rd Annual Event Set For Hill College

CONFEDERATE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM ON APRIL 1ST

The 33rd Annual Confederate History Symposium will be held at Hill College in Hillsboro on Saturday April 1, 2006. This years event will focus on the life of Robert E. Lee.

Scheduled to speak are Dr. James Pohl from Texas State University, who will speak on "Lee's Early Years 1807-1829," Dr. Richard McClaslin from the University of North Texas, who will speak on "Lee's U.S. Army Years 1829-1861," Dr. Steven Woodworth from Texas Christian University, who will speak

on "War Between the States Years," and Brad Johnson a Camp #1250 Honorary Member, who will speak on "The Final Years."

Also scheduled to appear are Joe Walker of Waco and Greg Hector of Austin who will perform a selection of "Southern Solider Songs," and the Hill College Brass Band, led by Phillip Lowe, who will do a "Medley of Confederate Aires." The 9th Texas Infantry will also have a living history display and the firing of a 6

lb. cannon.

The event will kick off at 9:00 AM with a welcome and overview from Dr. W. R. Auveshine, Dean of the Harold B. Simpson History Complex at the college. There are expected to be a number of book vendors and t sutlers at the event.

Cost of the event is \$25. Lunch at the college's cafeteria is also available for \$5. Contact the symposium at P.O. Box 619, Hillsboro, TX 76645 for registration or for additional information.

Trump Gives \$25k To Beauvoir

Donald Trump, real estate mogul and star of the hit TV show, "The Apprentice," donated \$25,000 toward the restoration of Beauvoir, the Biloxi, Mississippi estate where Confederate President Jefferson Davis lived his final years, John French of Long Beach, Mississippi, a member of the Beauvoir board, said on February 21st.

French, who is involved in raising money to restore the Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential

Library in Biloxi, said Beauvoir has been identified by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as a property that should be preserved. The main house was heavily damaged by Hurricane Katrina, but was left standing.

"There are so many out there who are able to help," he said, but "never in my wildest dreams did I imagine Mr. Trump had an interest in historic properties. It makes it a little bit more special," French said.

The check from the millionaire businessman arrived "out of the blue," said Patrick Hotard, executive director of Beauvoir, which is owned by the non-profit Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

The hurricane ripped off the 153-year-old mansion's front and side porches and caused part of the roof to cave in. While the library's first floor was gutted by the tidal surge, the upstairs

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE DEDICATED TEXAN

From his service in trying to reinforce the Alamo, to serving as a scout in the Mexican War, to his Confederate service, to his public service works after the war few have served Texas

He probably provided more service, in either a military or official government positions, to Texas than any other person. His service began with his participation in the Texas War of Independence in 1835, including an attempt to reach the Alamo, and ending his service as the superintendent of the Confederate Soldier's Home in 1898.

William Polk Hardeman was born in Hardeman County, Tennessee, which was named after his grandfather, on November 4, 1816 the son of Thomas Jones Hardeman and Mary Polk Hardeman. William was known to his family and friends as "Gotch." His father was an officer in the War of 1812 and served in both the Republic of Texas legislature and the State of Texas legislature. His mother was an aunt of U.S. President James K. Polk.

Before he came to Texas in the fall of 1835 William Hardeman attended the University of Nashville for about a year. He first moved to Matagorda County, Texas as an 18 year-old, with a large group of Hardeman family members. He became quickly involved with the Texas revolution movement and participated in the Battle of Gonzales on October 2, 1835.

In December of 1835 Gotch helped bring a can-

non to San Antonio to help defend the city from the Mexican Army. In March of 1836 he and his brother led a small unit attempting to reinforce the Alamo to Col. William Travis' call for aid. They were spared from death at the Alamo when they were cut off by

led by Gen. Rafael Vásquez in March of 1842, and he joined the Somervell expedition against Mexico in late 1842.

After Texas became a state and war broke out between Mexico and the U.S., Hardeman enlisted as a private serving in Ben McCulloch's Texas Mounted Rangers. He served primarily as a scout during the war doing reconnaissance ahead of Zachary Taylor's main invading force.

After the Mexican War, Hardeman went home to a farm in Guadalupe County. In 1848 he married his late uncle's widow, Rebecca Wilson and had two children with her. She died in 1854 and Hardeman married Ann Hamilton in 1857 having five more children. According to the 1860 Census Hardeman was well to do with real property worth \$25,005 and personal property worth \$39,410 including 31 slaves.

As secession talk began in Texas, after the election of Abraham Lincoln, Hardeman supported Texas leaving the Union. He served as a delegate to the state's secession convention voting in favor of secession. Upon returning home he organized a cavalry unit in Guadalupe County, which would later become Company A of the 4th Texas Cavalry.

When war broke out Hardeman and his men

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William Polk Hardeman

Mexican pickets near Gonzales. Illness prevented his further participation in the war, but he continued to serve Texas after the war was over.

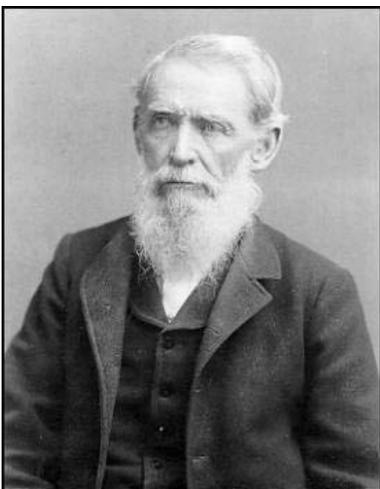
Hardeman spent several years as a Texas Ranger on the Indian frontier, part of the time with famous Texan, Deaf Smith. He participated in numerous Indian battles, often against the Comanches, participated in the Córdoba campaign in east Texas, engaged in harassment of invading Mexican forces

General William Polk Hardeman

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became part of Henry H. Sibley's New Mexico Brigade and moved west in an effort to secure New Mexico for the Confederacy. On February 21, 1862 Hardeman was part of a Confederate cavalry charge that broke the Union line. He was wounded twice, but not severely, in that fight. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in March and helped defend Albuquerque from the Federals in April.

After Sibley withdrew the 4th Texas Cavalry was assigned to the Texas coast under William R. Scurry. When Scurry was promoted to brigadier general



Gen. Hardeman in his senior years

Hardeman was given command of the 4th Texas and promoted to a full colonel.

Shortly after his promotion Hardeman and his regiment were ordered to help the Confederates recapture Galveston. They were then ordered to Louisiana and fought in a number of battles under Major General Richard Taylor in 1863.

While in Louisiana Hardeman was given command of an the old Sibley brigade. He and his brigade were ordered back to Texas in December of 1863 before being sent back to Louisiana in March of 1864. They again served under Taylor, this time during the Red River

Campaign.

Hardeman and his men fought at the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill in April of 1864. At Pleasant Hill Hardeman's brigade help prevent the Federals from outflanking the Confederate left line. In a battle report by Brigadier General Mosby Parsons expressed his thanks to, "Colonel Hardeman and his gallant band of Texans for their heroic effort to

prevent the enemy from flanking my right."

Hardeman's gallant service earned praise from both Richard Taylor and Kirby Smith. In October of 1864 Hardeman

was recommended for promotion to brigadier general, and Smith called Hardeman one of the "best brigade commanders in the Trans-Mississippi."

In October of 1864 Hardeman and his brigade were sent to Arkansas to aid in Sterling Price's raid into Missouri. President Jefferson Davis approved Hardeman's promotion in December and it was confirmed by the Confederate Congress in March of 1865.

Wars end found Hardeman and his men back in Texas. In February of 1865 they had been

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Camp Schedule

March 4, 2006

Confederate Flag Day ceremonies, Bell Co. Courthouse, Belton, TX, 8:00 AM

March 14, 2006

Camp's monthly meeting at the Cotton Patch Cafe in Temple Mall, 7:00 PM. Speaker: Penny Jones, "A History of Beauvoir."

March 17-19, 2006

Beaumont Ranch Reenactment, Grandview, TX, 8:00 a.m. We would like to have our camp store at this event to raise funds for the camp. Volunteers are needed! Contact George Ballentine for more details on the weekend for volunteers.

April 1, 2006

Highway 93 Clean-up The State of Texas has designated this "Texas Trash Off" day, so we have to do our cleanup on this day. Meet at McDonald's on I-35 in Belton at 7:30 a.m., or at the cleanup site at 8:00 a.m.

April 1, 2006

Camp's Quarterly Dinner Meeting, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, Temple, TX, 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBA

April 2, 2006

Confederate History Month activities in Belton, TX, details to follow.

April 21-23, 2006

Confederate Reunion Grounds Reenactment, Mexia, TX camp store at this event, volunteers are needed, contact George Ballentine

Next Camp

Meeting:

March 14th

7:00 P.M. at

Cotton Patch Café

Temple, TX

Speaker:

Penny Jones

"A History of

Beauvoir"

Confederate Profile

(Continued from page 3)

sent to Hempstead, Texas to forage for food for both the men and their horses. The war ended while they were back home.

Hardeman was unwilling to take the Union oath of allegiance, so with 15 other Confederate officers, eluding Union Gen. Philip H. Sheridan and his cavalry he escaped into Mexico. In Mexico he briefly served as a battalion commander in Maximilian's army and briefly attempted to establish a colony of Confederate sympathizers near Guadalajara.



Gen. Hardeman's grave at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin

By 1866 Hardeman was ready to come home. He returned home to find much of his personal wealth gone. He tried farming and even set up an unsuccessful partnership set up to drive Texas longhorns to northern markets.

He spent the rest of his life in public service, holding appointments under every governor of Texas during the last quarter of the 19th century. For Texas he served as inspector of railroads, superintendent of public buildings and grounds, and superintendent of the Texas Confederate Home. He was also one of the founders of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas (now Texas A&M University).

He died of Bright's disease (kidney disease) on April 8, 1898 in Austin.

Donation To Beauvoir

(Continued from page 1)

archives were not damaged.

Most of the contents of the house and library have been retrieved and are now in safe storage.

Katrina destroyed the library pavilion, where Davis wrote his memoirs. It also leveled the Confederate Soldiers' Museum and all the other buildings on the Beauvoir property.

Built in 1852, Beauvoir was Davis' retirement home until his death in 1889. It's a National Historic Landmark and Gulf Coast tourist attraction. Davis served as the Confederate States of America's only president from 1861 to 1865. Before that, he was a U.S. senator from Mississippi from 1847 to 1851 and 1857 to 1861 and the U.S. secretary of war from 1853 to 1857.

Beauvoir Program

Penny Jones will present the March Camp program on Beauvoir. She will speak on "The History of Beauvoir, Jefferson Davis' Home." The meeting will be March 14th at 7:00 PM at the Cotton Patch Café in the Temple Mall.

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Next Meeting:
March 14th
Cotton Patch Cafe
Temple
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