

Confederate Gazette

13th Preservation Seminar

The 13th and final Texas Civil War Preservation Seminar will be held at Hill College in Hillsboro on Saturday, November 18, 2006. The topic of this year's event is "To the Brink of Victory, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville." The event is jointly sponsored by The Austin Civil War Roundtable, the Baylor-Waco Civil War Roundtable, and Hill College's Simpson History Complex.

There will be four speakers at this years event. Jeff Wert, author of General James Longstreet and a Brotherhood of Valor, will speak on "The Crucibles of the Army of the Potomac: Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville." Frank O'Reilly, National Park Service historian at the Stonewall Jackson Shrine and author of

Stonewall Jackson at Fredericksburg, will speak on "Winter War on the Rappahannock: Fredericksburg," Robert K. Krick, former Chief Historian at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park and author of Stonewall Jackson at Cedar Mountain and Lee's Colonels, will speak on "Chancellorsville: Lee's Greatest Victory," Ed Bearss, former Chief Historian for the National Park Service, will speak on "What did it all mean: Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville Stonewall, and 200 Acres of Hallowed Ground?" The seminar will end with a panel discussion of all the speakers, moderated by Austin Civil War Round Table founder Dan Laney.

Immediately after lunch the Texas Star Award will be pre-

sented to Peggy Fox honoring her for her five decades of work at the Confederate Research Center and the Simpson History Center.

The seminar will kick off at 10:00 AM with greetings by the new Director of the Simpson History Complex, John Versluis, and will conclude with the panel discussion at about 4:00 PM.

Cost for the event is \$50 per person and a patron attendance is available for \$125 which entitles one to a Speakers Breakfast, beginning at 8:30 Am, a Patron's lunch, a CD copy of the seminar , and special seating.

All funds raised will go for battlefield preservation to save

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Camp Stores Raises Funds Finds Recruits

The Camp Store was set up during the four day run of the Central Texas State Fair, which was held at the Expo Center in Belton the first weekend in September.

The store sold over \$1,670 worth of merchandise, which was a record for the store.

In addition to the lofty sales the Camp took the names of 24

people who were interested in joining the Camp.

In addition to the sales and recruits, the Camp store produced very positive good will. Those working the store received lots of positive comments. One Fort Hood soldier told John Perry that if he thought he could get away with it he would put a Confederate Battleflag bumper sticker on

his tank. He settled on a small Confederate flag to carry with him as he was due to ship out for Iraq in the near future.

The store is a wonderful way of raising funds and promoting our Confederate heritage. There are a number of upcoming events in which you can participate. Help the camp and promote a positive image for us by volunteering.



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

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White Camp #1250

*Best
Newsletter
- 2006 -
Texas Division*

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

"Killer Bee"



Hamilton Pringle Bee

**Bee saves
over a
million
dollars
worth of
goods for
the
Confederacy**

His younger brother uttered the name that helped make Stonewall Jackson a legend, but Hamilton Bee was a dedicated Confederate and a fearless fighter, aptly nicknamed himself, "The Killer Bee."

Hamilton Pringle Bee was born in Charleston, South Carolina on July 22, 1822. At age 15, in 1837, Bee moved to Texas along with his parents. Texas was still an independent republic and Bee's father became the republic's Secretary of State.

Bee's year and a half younger brother was Bernard E. Bee. Bernard would receive an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy in the early 1840's, in spite of being a resident of the Republic of Texas. Bernard received an "at large" appointment and graduated from West Point in 1845. Bernard would later gain notoriety as the man who labeled Thomas J. Jackson, "Stonewall," at the battle of First Manassas (Bull Run). Bernard was also killed at that battle.

Like his father, Hamilton Bee had an interest in politics. At the young age of 17, Bee served as the secretary of the commission for establishing boundaries between the United States and the Republic of Texas in 1839.

After Texas entered the Union in 1845, Bee volunteered for mili-

tary service during the Mexican War. He served initially as a private, a member of Ben McCulloch's First Regiment, Texas Mounted Rifles. In 1846 he transferred, as a second lieutenant, to Mirabeau B. Lamar's independent company of Texas cavalry.

Bee volunteered for a second tour of duty in 1847. He eventually was elected first lieutenant of Lamar's Company, part



Note signed by Bee as Texas' Acting Comptroller

of Col. Peter Hansborough Bell's (for whom Bell County is named) Regiment, "The Texas Volunteers."

Following the Mexican War, Bee served as the secretary of the first Texas Senate, and also worked in the State Comptroller's office. Bee then moved to Laredo, where the yearn for political life continued to call. In 1849, he was persuaded to run for the Texas legislature as a Democrat.

He served in the Texas House, representing the Laredo district, for ten years. In his last two years in the House, 1858-59, he

served as the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

In 1854 he married Mildred Tarver of Alabama. The couple had six children.

When Texas left the Union in 1861, Bee was appointed a brigadier general in the Texas State Militia. By March of 1862, Bee was in Brownsville in command of a small contingent of Confederate troops. He had just been commissioned a brigadier general in

the regular Confederate Army. His main function in Brownsville, however, was more administrative than military. He was told to expedite, in every way possible,

the trade of cotton for munitions from the port near Brownsville. Trade flourished as the Union blockade failed to stop most shipping. Brownsville was simply too far from the main Federal Naval activity to the northeast.

In November of 1863, a Federal infantry force crossed the Gulf of Mexico from New Orleans by steamers and landed at Brazos Santiago, about 24 miles from Brownsville. The force, under command of Union Major General Napoleon Dana, moved quickly to stop the trade activity, under the direction of Bee in Brownsville.

Bee only had a small cavalry detachment to defend Brownsville. Grossly outnumbered, Bee

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Camp Welcomes New Members

Over the last two Camp meetings the Camp has approved the applications of four new members. The Camp is pleased to welcome the following men as members of the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Richard C. DeWees of Copperas Cove. Compatriot DeWees joins under service by his Great Grandfather, Andrew W. Waldron.

Gwenneth Dale Duke of Temple. Compatriot Duke joins under service by his Great Grandfather, John Tyler Duke

Vance A. Hensala of Moody. Compatriot Hensala joins under service by his Great Grandfather Eli Brook.

Timothy Roy Peel of Fort Worth. Compatriot Peel joins under service by his Great Great Grandfather, William Wallace Peel

George Edward Mobley of Belton. Compatriot Mobley joins under service by his Great Great Great Grandfather Eleafer Eldridge Mobley and is the son of Compatriot Gordon Mobley. He is the youngest member of Camp #1250.

Highway Clean-Up: October 28th

Camp #1250 adopted a stretch of Highway 93 (between Temple and Belton) a number of years ago. The Camp agreed to quarterly pick up trash, and an occasional rattlesnake, on the busy highway.

On Saturday morning, October 28th the Camp will again pick up trash. Collection will begin a 8:00 AM, if you are unsure where to start meet at the Belton McDonald's at 7:45 AM.



Committees Formed

At the last Camp meeting the following committees were formed with the chairmen as listed. Each Camp member is asked to pick at least one committee to serve on.

- Camp Store: Dr. Chris Ellis
- Scrapbook: George Johnson
- Newsletter: John Perry
- Graves: Rocky Sprott
- Communications: Steve Wooley
- Awards: James Kinnear

Dues Are Due!



Dues are now due. If you have not already done so, please send in your annual dues.

Annual dues are \$35.00 per person for full members and \$15.00 per person for Associate members.

Please send your dues to:

Richard Sutton
Camp Adjutant
14321 Sutton Loop
Temple, TX 76504

Camp Schedule

October 7, 2006
Camp Store Event: Pioneer Days, Lake Whitney, TX, 8:00 AM

October 10, 2006
Camp's Dinner Meeting, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, Temple, TX, 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBA

October 13-15, 2006
Camp Store Event: Beaumont

Ranch Re-enactment, Grandview, TX, 8:00 AM.

October 20-22, 2006
Camp Store Event: Ogletree Gap Re-enactment, Copperas Cove, TX, 8:00 AM

October 28, 2006
Camp's Adopt-A-Highway Clean-up, Highway 93, 8:00 AM.



November 14, 2006
Camp's Regular Meeting, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, Temple, TX, 7:00 PM. Speaker: Dr. John Montgomery, Topic: "Civil War Medicine."

Dues Paid Last Year Expired 8/31, Please Renew ASAP!

Next Meeting: October 10th Cotton Patch Café Speaker: Past CiC Denne Sweeney

Busy Days in Belton

Killer Bee

(Continued from page 2)

managed to move out approximately \$1 million dollars in military stores, before the Federal forces approached Brownsville. He burned what supplies he could not move and withdrew from Brownsville.

Bee's small cavalry unit became the nucleus of a regiment of cavalry with Bee in command. He was ordered to join Confederate General Richard Taylor's Confederate forces in Louisiana.

Along the Red River in central Louisiana, Federal Major General Nathaniel Banks was leading a large Federal force, with gunboat support, against Taylor's outnumbered men. Bee and his cavalry arrived just in time for a fight at Mansfield, Louisiana. Taylor, with only about 9,000 men, attacked Banks' 20,000 man force on April 8, 1864.

The attack forced Banks to withdraw to Pleasant Hill. There, the next day, the Confederates hit Banks again, in an effort to finish him off. During the fight Bee led a gallant cavalry charge. By a skillful use of his reserves, Banks was able to fend off the Confederate attack, but still continued to retreat away from the Taylor's army.

About two weeks later, Banks was continuing to retreat with Taylor in pursuit. Bee's cavalry was leading the advance on Banks when they were surprised

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Above: Gordon Mobley mans the Camp Store at the Expo Center part of the Central Texas State Fair, September 1st. The Store produced nearly \$1,700 in sales and 24 people who were inter- est in the Camp.

Below: Richard Sutton at the Camp store in a rare lull between crowds. Sales were brisk on about all the items the store carries. Some of the items for sale completely sold out. (See story on page 1)



The Camp Store Needs Your help!

Contact Lt. Commander Dr. Chris Ellis to Volunteer.

New Cadet Membership Program

At the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) Reunion in August in New Orleans a new membership category was approved. The Cadet membership was established for all males from birth to 12 years of age who are otherwise eligible for SCV membership.

A regular SCV application, with the word Cadet written or printed at the top, will be submitted along with \$10 to International Headquarters (IHQ), completely filled out including the Camp's approval.

The IHQ will enter the young

man in the database, assign him an SCV membership number. All SCV records will be the same as if the cadet was a full SCV member except that his membership status will be

New SCV Membership Category

different. The names of cadet members will not appear on any camp's membership roster, they will not be allowed to count to-

wards the voting strength of the Camp, and the Cadet members will not receive a subscription to the SCV's *Confederate Veteran* magazine.

A new cadet member joining for the year August 1, 2006 through July 31, 2007 will be status CMO6. Once the young man obtains the age of 12, he will then be eligible for full SCV membership.

At that time he can pay his regular dues and his status will be changed to the appropriate fiscal year which will make him a full member.

Cadet Program Allows Boys An Opportunity To Be A Part of the SCV

13th Preservation Seminar

(Continued from page 1) the "Slaughter Pen" at Fredericksburg.

This year's event will be the final one. In the

previous twelve years over \$150,000 has been raised for battle preservation. It has been attended by over 3,000

people.. For ticket information contact the History Center at P.O. Box 619, Hillsboro, TX 76645 or call them at 254-582-2555, extension 391.



The "Gang of Four" Seminar Speakers: from left, Bears, O'Riley, Wert, & Krich

Former CiC to Speak in October

Immediate past SCV Commander-in-Chief Denne Sweney will speak at the October Camp meeting. Past CiC Sweeney is from Ferris, Texas and is also a former Texas Division Commander.

Past CiC Sweney will speak on

"Fortress West Point." He is a graduate of the Military Academy at West Point.

The month of October is normally a dinner month meeting held on a Saturday. At the last Camp meeting the membership agreed to hold the meeting on

the second Tuesday due to numerous weekend conflicts. The event will be held at the Cotton Patch Café at Temple Mall with the program to begin at 7:00 PM. Members and guests will just order off the Cotton Patch menu.



Confederate Gazette

P.O. Box 794

Salado, Texas 76571

Next Meeting:
October 10th
Cotton Patch Cafe
Temple
7:00 PM

Killer Bee

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by a counter attack at the Cane River Crossing (Monett's Ferry). Bee held "good ground," along the river, but the Federals were able to cross the river downstream and set up artillery that rained havoc on Bee and his men. Federal infantry then charged Bee's beleaguered men. Outnumbered and demoralized from the shelling, Bee ordered his men to withdraw. The net effect was to allow Banks' entire army to escape. In the encounter, Bee had two horses shot out from under him and received a facial wound.

Taylor was very upset that Banks had been allowed to escape, and was highly critical of Bee. Taylor said that Bee, at the fight at



Cane River Crossing, "displayed great personal gallantry, but no generalship." Taylor ordered Bee removed from command.

Before the war was over, Bee did return to active service. In February of 1865, he commanded a division of cavalry under General John A. Wharton, and later led an infantry brigade under Samuel Bell Maxey's division.

At the end of the war, Bee felt he could take an oath of allegiance to the United States. He fled to Mexico where he lived until 1876. When he returned to Texas, he resided in San Antonio. He passed away in San Antonio in 1897, at the age of 75. He was buried in the Confederate Cemetery in San Antonio.

Left: Headstone of General Bee's at the Confederate Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas

**Post War
Bee Fled to Mexico
Returning to Texas
in 1876.**