

# Confederate Gazette

## Belton Parade Participation

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 participated in the annual Belton 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade for the six-



no reports of any negative comments. Frequent applause would often come from the crowd as the Camp's

teen straight year. Associate Camp member Tom Hughes coordinated the parade effort this year.

Eleven Camp members, Rose members, or friends of the Camp either marched or rode on the float in the parade.

The float was warmly greeted by parade watchers with



*Top: Float in the parade; Above: Gordon Mobley carries the 3<sup>rd</sup> National flag.*

float would pass by.

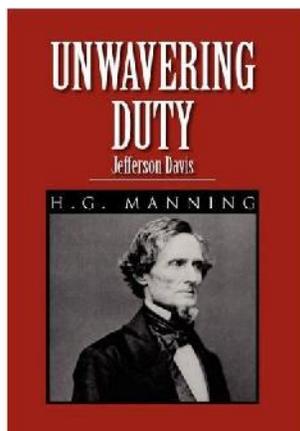
Participating this year were: Linda Wooley, James Kinnear (who pulled Kelton Haney's trailer), Tom Hughes, Bill Brown, Gordon Mobley, James Burleson, Angie Burleson, Jane Pitts (a Gatesville UDC member), Joyce Jones, Jimmy Dossey, and Darlene Dossey.

## Camp Member Publishes Book

Former Texas Division Commander and Camp #1250 member, Greg Manning has published a new book entitled, Unwavering Duty: Jefferson Davis.

The book was self-published in May, and is a mixture of non-fiction and fiction. It tells the true story of President Davis and with the final days of the Confederate government as Jefferson Davis and his cabinet members are forced to retreat

from Richmond. It then follows the Confederate Presi-



*Book Cover of Manning's new book*

dent through the surrender

of the armies of General Lee and Johnston, the federal pursuit culminating in his capture and incarceration at Fortress Monroe.

From this point the book switches to fiction. Rather than pardon Davis the Federal government tries him for treason.

Manning said he wrote the book because it was time, "The book is my personal way of honoring our ancestors

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# CONFEDERATE PROFILE

## "Texas Jack"



**John B. "Texas Jack" Omohundro, Jr.**

**"Texas Jack" served as a scout and courier for J.E.B. Stuart**

He was better known as a cowboy than a Confederate soldier, earning the nick name "Texas Jack," based on his many western frontier exploits.

John Burwell Omohundro, Jr. was born on July 26, 1846, to J. B. and Catherine Baker Omohundro at Pleasure Hill, near Palmyra, Virginia. Some accounts have his middle name as Baker, his mother's maiden name. He was the fourth of twelve children and received his early education in Virginia. Some accounts have John coming to Texas alone as a very young teenager.

When the War Between the States began John was back home in Virginia and offered his services to the Confederate Army. At age 14 he was too young to be formally accepted into Confederate service, but was apparently used as a courier. His older brother Orville was a lieutenant in JEB Stuart's cavalry, and John worked as a

courier for Stuart.

In early 1864 John, now 17, was able to be formally enlisted into the Confederate Army. He continued to serve as a courier and a scout for Stuart. He is often called the "Boy Scout of the Confederacy." He also may have served as a spy for Stuart, crossing into Union lines in civilian clothes.

Some historians claim that on May 11, 1864 at Yellow Tavern, Virginia, John had just delivered a message to Stuart, after which Stuart was shot, acting on the information given to him by John. Stuart would die in Richmond the next day. John remained in Confederate service until Robert E. Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia in April of 1865.

Post war John may have spent some time in Florida, before he returned to Texas. In Texas he worked cattle, and it is said he became an excellent horseman and very good with a gun. He

participated in several cattle drives moving cattle eastward into the South, where beef was in very short supply after the war. In Tennessee the townspeople ask John where he was from and he told them, "Texas." When they asked his name he told them "Jack," so they started calling him "Texas Jack," and the nickname stuck for the rest of his life.

In 1869 John moved to Nebraska where he became a U.S. Army scout. There he teamed up with William "Buffalo Bill" Cody to scout for the army, occasionally skirmish with hostile Indians, and they also provided hunting guide services. In 1872 John and Cody opened a stage presentation in Chicago called *The Scouts of the Prairie*. Reviewers of the day described John as physically impressive with a magnetic personality. John was one of the very first perform-

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## Death of J.E.B. Stuart

Some scholars say that Gen. J.E.B Stuart was shot immediately after acting on information given him by John "Texas Jack" Omohundro,

On May 11, 1864 at Yellow Tavern, Virginia, Confederate cavalry general J.E.B. Stuart was shot by a through and through ball in the stomach area. He

immediately called for his physician and second in command to come to him.

He was taken by ambulance to Richmond to the home of his brother-in-law. Word was sent to his wife to come quickly, but she was delayed.

He died the next evening before

his wife, Flora, could get there. His last words were, "I am resigned, God's will be done."

Upon learning of the death of Stuart, Robert E. Lee said he could scarcely see or hear his name without beginning to weep, and that Stuart had never brought him any bad information.

## Unwavering Duty

(Continued from page 1) during the sesquicentennial year of the start of the war." It took Manning about a year to write the book.

The book is 384 pages long and is available directly from Manning or on Amazon.com and BarnesandNobles.com. It sells for \$19.95 for softbound and for \$29.95 for hardbound.

Manning will bring books to the next two Camp meetings. In September he will be the Camp's speaker and talk about his book.

His next planned book is called 'Southern Legacy'. Manning said, it "is a book about two north Georgia men going off to war and one of them leaving behind his young wife, the other his sister. The unit in the book is the 23<sup>rd</sup> Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment but I think it could reflect any Southern regiment in the war."

### Book to be Reprinted

Camp member John C. Perry's book Myths & Realities of American Slavery is in the process of being reprinted.

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## "TEXAS JACK"

(Continued from page 2) ers to introduce roping acts to the American stage. In 1873 John and Cody were joined on stage by "Wild Bill" Hickok, another friend Texas Jack had made on the American frontier.

John would divide his time between the stage and leading hunting trips. He took time out to marry one of the actresses he had hired to be in his production, Guiseppina (Josephine) Morlacchi, in 1873. She played an Indian on stage, "Pale Dove," but actually was a native of Italy.

After George Custer's defeat at the Little Big Horn in 1876 John returned west where he served as a correspondent for the *New York Herald* writing dispatches on the Indian wars. He also wrote articles for a popular magazine, *Spirit of the Times*, and became nationally known when he was featured

as a character in several popular dime novels.

John died, after catching pneumonia, at the age of only 33 in 1880 in Leadville, Colorado. His wife never seemed to recover from John's sudden death and

she quit the American stage. She died at the young age of 39 in July of 1886.

Texas Jack's fame continued after his death with more dime novels and in the early 1900s Joel

Chandler Harris, of "Uncle Remus" fame, wrote a series of fiction articles about him for the *Saturday Evening Post* in 1900. In 1980, the Texas Jack Association was formed. It is a group that works to preserve Texas Jack's memory.

In 1994 "Texas Jack" was posthumously elected to the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.



From left: "Buffalo Bill" Cody, Mrs. Omobuncho, and "Texas Jack" Omobuncho.

"Texas Jack" formed Wild West Show with "Buffalo Bill"

## Camp Schedule

### August 9, 2011

Regular Camp Meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. 7:00 PM. Speaker: John C. Perry, author of Myths & Realities of American Slavery.

### Through August 21, 2011

Memories of World War II Exhibit at Bell County Museum in

Belton.

### September 13, 2011

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. 7:00 PM. Speaker: Greg Manning, author of the newly published book Unwavering Duty: Jefferson Davis.



### October 8, 2011

Quarterly Camp Dinner meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBD.

Next Meeting:  
August 9<sup>th</sup>  
Cotton Patch Café  
Temple Mall  
6:00 PM Social  
7:00 PM Meeting

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## One Big Confederate Family Tree

Recent genealogical analysis would indicate that the number of Americans with ancestors who served in the Confederate military is quite large.

Mark Vogl, Texas Division Lieutenant Commander, recently did some research on the potential number of people with Confederate ancestors.

As Vogl said, "The numbers are stunning, but the formula to get them is pretty conservative." Vogl's estimate assumes 500,000 as the number of Confederate veterans who had children. He determined that number by taking half of the actual number of Southerners who served, close to one million. About 300,000 Confederate soldiers

died during the war, but many of them could have had sizable families before the shots at Fort Sum-



ter were fired.

To do the calculation Vogl had to estimate the number of children each veteran had. He estimated six in the first post veteran gen-

eration; from here to the next generation, and so on. As Vogl said, "We are presently in the sixth generation after the war. But, if you only use five generations and the numbers of children per generation as follows, six times five times four times four you come up with 80 million," Vogl said. He also claims, "that the numbers are very conservative, because the numbers were based on half the number of men who fought for the South, and one generation shy of what is living."

As Vogl noted, with 80 million descendants chances are if you had a grand parent born in the South the odds are you are very likely to have a Confederate ancestor in your past.

## Slavery Book Being Reprinted

*(Continued from page 3)*

The book, which was originally published in 2002, has been out of print for about a year. Perry was recently advised by the publisher that they had decided to reprint it for the fifth time, due to renewed demand.

Perry said he was pleased that his publisher had decided to reprint, since he only had a few copies left. The reprint will only be done in paperback.

Perry will be the Camp's speaker at the August meeting and will talk on, "What they didn't teach you about Slavery." He said he should have some books for sale at the meeting.