

# Confederate Gazette

## Camp Celebrates Lee-Jackson

About 61 people attended the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Lee-Jackson Dinner in Temple on Saturday January 12, 2013.

Those in attendance heard a talk by author Scott Bowden who spoke on "The Temerity of Genius, Robert E. Lee The Foundation of His Popularity and Legend."

Past Division Commander John C. Perry swore in the Camp Officers for 2013:



*Above: New Camp Officers, Jimmy Dossey, James "Al" Harris, Nick Teague and Michael Belcher; Below: Scott Bowden speaks*



Jimmy Dossey, Camp Commander; James "Al" Harris, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander; Nicholas Edward Teague, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander; and Michael Edward Belcher as the Camp Adjutant.

Camp awards for 2012 were also presented, a list of the awards begins on page 3. Also a Silent Auction was held and a raffle for a print was held at the event as a Camp fundraiser.

*Photos by John C. Perry*

## 1<sup>st</sup> National Flies at Courthouse

The Confederacy's First National flag flew in downtown Belton at the Bell County Courthouse on Confederate Heroes Day, January 19, 2013.

Camp members and friends gathered and raised the flag. Camp member Steve Wooley spoke briefly to those assembled.

Confederate Heroes Day is a state holiday in Texas and falls on January 19<sup>th</sup> of



*Al Harris and son raise the 1<sup>st</sup> National flag on Confederate Heroes Day. (Photo by Linda Wooley)*

each year, which coincides with Robert E. Lee's birthday.

The Confederate flag pole at the courthouse is next to the Confederate monument which honors those men from Bell County.

The Camp is allowed to flag the Confederate flag on Confederate Heroes Day, Confederate Flag Day in March, and during Confederate History Month in April of each year.



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# CONFEDERATE PROFILE

## *Mr. Ironworks*



**Joseph Reid  
Anderson**

**Anderson was a West  
Point Graduate**

**A**lthough he only served as an active duty member of the Confederate Army for about a year his contribution to the Confederate war effort was substantial.

Joseph Reid Anderson was born on February 16, 1813 in Botetourt County, Virginia, one of ten children of William Anderson and Anna Thomas Anderson. He was educated locally until he secured an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1832. He was an excellent student at West Point and graduated fourth in his class in 1836.

Upon graduation he served briefly in an artillery unit before he was assigned to the Corp of Engineers. He served in Washington, DC as well as at Fort Monroe in Virginia, and at Fort Pulaski in Georgia. He remained in the army until after he married Sarah Eliza Archer in 1837. Together they

would have 12 children of whom seven survived into adulthood.

He worked as an engineer for the State of Virginia working on various state projects until 1841 when he began working for Tredegar Iron Company in Richmond. Anderson helped turn the fledging company around mainly by securing many government contracts. By 1848 he began a process which enabled him to eventually purchase the iron company.

Anderson was one of the early users of slaves as skilled laborers at Tredegar. When skilled white workers went on strike at his plant Anderson started training slaves to do the work. He quickly learned that they were able to do both skilled and unskilled work. Some of the slaves were owned by the company while other slaves were leased from their owners.

In 1847 Anderson began dabbling in politics with his elec-

tion to the Richmond City Council. He would serve five terms on the council and in 1852 he was elected to a vacant seat in the Virginia House of Delegates, being re-elected in 1853 and 1857. He was defeated for reelection in 1859. Meanwhile his business continued to flourish, benefiting from railroad and other government contracts. By 1860 Tredegar the fourth largest ironworks mill in the United States had about 800 employees.

After Abraham Lincoln was elected president in 1860, Anderson quickly became a leader for Virginia to leave the Union. He also organized 350 of his white employees into the Tredegar Battalion, a home defense unit with Anderson in command. He asked for a commission in the Confederate Army and in September of 1861 was appointed a brigadier general.

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## Tredegar Iron Works

Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond, Virginia was founded in 1836 and named for a Welsh town and ironworks. In 1841 Tredegar hired Joseph R. Anderson as a sales representative and the company took off with many government contracts.

By 1847 Anderson owned the

flourishing company. The company reached its peak during the War for Southern Independence when it had 2,500 employees. Post war the Federal government took over until Anderson regained control of the company in 1867.

Tredegar later cast munitions for the U.S. Army and Navy

during the Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, and the Korean War. After a fire in 1955, the company moved across the James River, where it operated on a smaller scale until the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Ethyl Corporation bought the ironworks site in 1957 and

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# Lincoln Comes to Belton

An exhibit focused on the 16<sup>th</sup> US President entitled, "Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America," opened last month at the Bell County Museum in Belton and runs through March 20<sup>th</sup>.

The exhibit covers Lincoln's childhood, his self-education, his careers as a surveyor and lawyer, family life, the Lincoln-Douglas debates, the 1860 presidential election, the Civil War, the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment, the Emancipation Proclamation, his assassination, and other important periods and events in his life.

The exhibits include reproductions, all modeled from origi-



nals in the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. It includes items such as Lincoln's favorite books; his son Tad's toy cannon; the nameplate from his Springfield home; his stovepipe hat, which he used like a briefcase to hold important papers; an axe that Lincoln used to chop wood; the bloody gloves found in Lincoln's pocket the night of his assassination; and much more.

The exhibit was created to mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Lincoln. The exhibit was organized by the Lincoln

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## Mr. Ironworks

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Anderson was in command of Confederate forces at Wilmington, North Carolina, from September of 1861 to March of 1862. He was called back to Virginia and given command of a brigade in Fredericksburg. During the 1862 Peninsula campaign Anderson was placed in command of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade in A.P. Hill's division. He saw action at Mechanicville, Gaines' Mill, and at Frayser's Farm. At Frayser's Farm Anderson was wounded in the face. He resigned from the Confederate Army in July of 1862.

He returned to Richmond and resumed day to day control of Tredegar, which had become a major supplier of armaments to the Confederate government. It produced over a thousand cannons, plating and machinery for Confederate warships, machinery for armories across the South. As business boomed for Tredegar so did its number of workers, hitting a high of 2,500, of which about half were slaves as many of Tredegar's white workers were lost to the Con-

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**Anderson was wounded at Frayser's Farm in 1862.**

## Lee-Jackson Awards

The following Camp awards were given out at the Lee-Jackson Dinner.

Michael Belcher (see photo) received the coveted George Ballentine award for his contri-

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## Camp Schedule

### February 12, 2013

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, 7:00 PM. Speaker: Buddy Wheat from Gatesville

### March 12, 2013

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall,

7:00 PM. Speaker: Joe Walker from Waco

### April 13, 2013

Quarterly dinner meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, 7:00 PM. Speaker: To be determined



### May 14, 2013

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, 7:00 PM. Speaker: To be determined

**Next Meeting:  
February 12<sup>th</sup>  
Cotton Patch Cafe  
6:00 PM Social  
7:00 PM Meeting**

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**Next Meeting:  
February 12th  
Cotton Patch Cafe  
6:00 PM Meal  
7:00 PM Meeting**

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## Camp Awards

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Contributions to the Camp in 2012.

Other awards went to: Albert Sidney Johnston Award, Jimmy Dossey; John Bell Hood Award, John C. Perry and Mike Belcher; Lawrence "Sul" Ross Award, Ralph Snyder, John Larson Jr., Kelton Haney, Mike Miller, Nick Teague, Buddy Wheat, Al Harris, John Larson III, Earl Soudelier, Tom Hughes, Bob Chapman, Joe Walker, and Herb Cowan. Darlene Dossey was also honored for her help with the Camp Store.

## Lincoln In Belton

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Presidential Library and Museum. Belton is the last stop on the exhibit tour before it returns to Illinois.

## Tredegar

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restored the surviving buildings in the 1970s.

In 2006 the eight acre site in downtown Richmond became the "American Civil War Center at Historic Tredegar," where they have a political correct oriented mission, "to learn about the Civil War-its causes, its course, and its legacies. It is a place where the people who decided America's future tell their stories. Here, all of the main stories, Union, Confederate, and African American, get significant space together for the first time," as outlined on their website.



*Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond, Va.*

## Mr. Ironworks

*(Continued from page 3)*

Confederate Army.

As Richmond was falling Anderson hired armed men to protect his iron works. He also worked hard

at Tredegar but Anderson using all the influence he could, both North and South, was able to regain control in 1867. By the early 1870s the plant was again doing well, doubled the factory's prewar capacity, and having 1,200 employees, both black and white.

Anderson returned to politics, serving in the House of Delegates in 1874 and 1875 and again from 1877 to 1879. He was also very active in Richmond, being active in the Chamber of Commerce and the Richmond City Council.

While on a trip to New Hampshire Anderson became ill and passed away on September 7, 1892. He was buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond.

to gain Union support and was pardoned by President Andrew Johnson in September of 1865. The Federal government confis-