

# Confederate Gazette

## Camp To Host Division Reunion

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 will host the 117<sup>th</sup> Reunion of the Texas Division, sons of Confederate Veterans. The event will be held Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.

Most of the events will be held at the Mayborn Civic and Convention Center in north Temple. The designated Reunion hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn, across from Scott & White Hospital.

Registration for the Reunion will begin at the Hilton on Friday in the hotel lobby beginning at 2:00 PM until 9:00 PM.

A Division Memorial Service will be held at the South

Belton Cemetery from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM.

Following the Memorial Service a Cocktail get-together will be held in the Grand Ball room of the Hilton. That event will be from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM and a ticket is required.

Reunion registration will resume at 7:00 AM on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at the Mayborn Center. Opening ceremonies will commence at 8:30 AM. The first Texas Division business session, which is open only to SCV members, will run from 9:00 AM until 11:45 AM in Hall B.

The TSOCR will hold their meeting in Meeting Rooms 1 & 3 at the same time as the

first business session is running.

The Texas Division Awards Luncheon will be held in the Main Ballroom from Noon until 1:30 PM. A ticket is required for this event.

A Ladies Tea will be held from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM in Meeting Room 3.

The second Texas Division business session, open only to SCV members, will be from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM in Hall 3.

Brigade meetings will be held from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM in various rooms.

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## Reenactment Cancelled

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual Battle of Temple Junction scheduled for May 15<sup>th</sup> through May 17<sup>th</sup> had to be scrubbed due to heavy rains just prior to the event. Holly Leiferman, of the Temple Parks and Leisure Department announced with great regret that the event was cancelled on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

The grounds were simply way too wet to sustain reen-

actors, vendors, spectators, and spectator parking. There was concern that cars would be stuck in the mud and the damage that could be done to the Texas Early Day Tractor & Engine Assoc. Show Grounds, site of the event.

About 500 school aged children were scheduled to be at the reenactment on Fri-

day, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Although it didn't rain on May 15<sup>th</sup> and May 16<sup>th</sup> it did on the Sunday of the event, May 17<sup>th</sup>.

Temple Parks and Leisure said in a Media Release, "We want our spectators to have an enjoyable experience and we hope to see everybody next year." The event has already been set for next year on May 20-22, 2016.



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White Camp #1250

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# CONFEDERATE PROFILE

## *Bell County Confederate*



**Elijah Sterling Clack Robertson**

**Robertson was born in Tennessee**

**H**is plantation home is still standing in Salado and is a fine example of an antebellum plantation. It was built by Elijah Sterling Clack Robertson, lawyer and soldier, son of empresario, Sterling Clack Robertson. Robertson's grandfather, was one of the earliest settlers of what would become Tennessee, had gone on to fight the Indian allies of the British in the American Revolution. His father, Sterling Clack Robertson, had served under General Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812 and with Sam Houston at San Jacinto. In time, young Sterling would show his military competence as well.

Elijah Sterling Clack Robertson was born in Giles County, Tennessee, on August 23, 1820. At age 12 he left his home in Nashville, and rode on horseback, accompanied by his father, to Texas (which was then part of Mexico), and entered school in San Antonio. This is where he

learned to read and speak Spanish. Robertson spent two years back in Tennessee attending Jackson College. When he returned to Texas he worked for the Republic of Texas in various capacities. President Sam Houston commissioned Robertson as a colonel in the militia of the Republic of Texas.

According to friends, as an adult he was, "a man of fine physique, of great determination, keen foresight, genial and courteous and generous to a fault." He was ambidextrous and, when writing reports, would switch from his right to his left hand to the dismay of his friends. In 1839, Robertson became acting Postmaster General. A year later he was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the Texas Militia, and he took part in campaigns against the Mexicans and Indians.

When Mexican forces invaded Texas again in 1842, Robertson became a captain and marched

to the Rio Grande in the Somervelle expedition. Not yet 24, he was commissioned a colonel in the militia in 1844, and he was admitted to the Bar in 1845. Rated as one of the richest men in Texas in 1850, in 1853 he moved his family to what was then called Salado Springs.

By 1848 Robertson had been appointed as the translator of Spanish deeds in the General Land Office in Austin. He began building his plantation home in 1854 near Salado and he supervised every aspect of its construction. He moved in with his wife and five children in 1860. His family grew to include a total of twelve children.

In 1858 he was elected chief justice of Bell County. Governor Sam Houston appointed him as a brigadier general of Texas state troops in 1860. He was a delegate to the Secession Convention in 1861 and he signed the seces-

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## Robertson Plantation

Bell County is home to one of the few surviving antebellum plantations in Texas. The Robertson Plantation, located just south of Salado, was built between 1856 and 1860. It stands as one of the best-preserved antebellum plantation complexes of the era.

In the middle of what the Colonel described as a wilderness, he oversaw the construction process in its entirety.

We don't know who designed the home or who the craftsmen were, but they were indeed well trained or skilled. The home shows evidence of their skill in

the creation of the mantels, millwork, doors, and cabinets

This fine old Greek revival mansion contains 22 rooms and is still owned by Robertson descendants. Robertson and his wife accumulated approximately 90,000 acres in Central

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# May Camp Meeting

By Michael E. Belcher

Our guest speaker was Ms. Holly Leiferman of the Temple Parks and Leisure Services Department. She gave us an update on the final plans and preparations for the Camps and City of Temple's co-sponsored event, The Battle of Temple Junction. Holly outlined some event changes and additions to the program, and she signed up more volunteers for the event from among the Camp's membership.

She also passed out wristbands to volunteers for free access to the event. She offered concerns for the predicted bad weather, and possible event cancellation due to the large volume of rain we have been receiving. The event site is becoming super saturated with water and was not very safe and usable. She announced that a weather cancelation decision would be made Thursday at noon.

Business conducted at the meeting included the following: Compatriots James "Al" Harris and Terry Tyler attended the public hearing on Texas House

Bill 1242 last month at the Texas State Capitol in Austin, representing Camp 1250. The bill appears to have died in the House.

Compatriot James "Al" Harris will contact the Belton Chamber of Commerce and get us registered for the Belton 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.

We received planning updates on Reunion registrations; the Ladies Tea event; and the Memorial Ceremony to be held at the South Belton Cemetery.

It was decided to allow the Camp delegates to make the voting decisions on this year's proposed amendments to the Texas Division Constitution.

It was decided to send 40 Confederate Flags to Turnersville for the Cemetery over Memorial Day weekend.

Compatriot Wooley made a motion to send \$100.00 to the Florida Flagger project, which was approved by a unanimous vote.

Compatriot Ralph Snyder presented a motion to send \$100.00 to the Orange County Confederate Flag Memorial

project on Interstate 10, and this was passed by a unanimous vote. A new member was approved for membership in a unanimous vote. He is William Price of Harker Heights, Texas.

## Robertson Plantation

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Texas along with many slaves. The stone slave quarters are



*Robertson Plantation Home in Salado*

still intact to the west of the plantation house. These surviving slave quarters housed the house servants.

We don't know who designed the home or who the craftsmen were, but they were indeed well trained.

**Robertson Plantation was built between 1856-1860.**

## Camp Schedule

### June 5-7, 2015

Texas Division Reunion: Mayborn Center, Temple, Texas

### June 9, 2015

Camp's Regular Meeting, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall, Temple, TX, 7:00 PM. Speaker: Mary Duty who will speak on how the Civil War is taught in

public schools.

### July 4, 2015

Camp to participate in the annual Belton 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.

### July 11, 2015

Camp's Quarterly Dinner Meeting, at location to be deter-



mined, 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBD.

### August 11, 2015

Camp's Regular Meeting 7:00 PM.

**Next Camp Meeting:  
June 9<sup>th</sup>  
Cotton Patch Café  
6:00 PM Social  
7:00 PM Meeting**

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Next Meeting:  
June 9th  
Cotton Patch Cafe  
6:00 PM-Social  
7:00 PM-Meeting

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## Heroes Day Saved!

**By: Johnnie Holley,**  
*Texas Division Commander*

It appears at this time that both bills to change Confederate Hero's Day have died. I want to thank all of you who wrote letters and made phone calls on this issue.

Special thanks go to all who made the trip to Austin to speak at the hearing on the House bill. I feel they were overwhelmed by the turn out and the quality of the speakers. Several Senators dropped by the hearing and this may have been why the Senate bill never came to a hearing. This proves what we can do if we work

together to protect our Heritage.

We have been monitoring the Jefferson Davis Statue question in Austin. This presents a special problem since it is on a college campus which restricts our access.

The news media reports that nothing is going to go forward on this issue until the new UT administration comes on board. There have been articles in the news against the removal. The statue was marked with paint but the UT maintenance personnel cleaned it the next day. We will hear more of this and must be prepared to respond in an appropriate manner.

## Camp Hosts Division Reunion

*(Continued from page 1)*

A reception will be held beginning at 6:00 PM in the Main Ballroom.

The annual Texas Division Dinner and Ball, entitled Southern Breeze through Spanish Moss, will be held from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM in the Main Ballroom.

On Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> the only event planned is the Texas Division's Executive Council meeting which will be held from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Trinity Ballroom.

The Camp hosted the Reunion in 2005 and in 1993, both at the Mayborn.

## *Elijah Sterling Clack Robertson*

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sion ordinance. During the War Between the States Robertson accepted a position to serve without pay as volunteer *aide de camp* in the grade of captain on the staff of Gen. Henry McCulloch, a longtime friend and comrade in arms in campaigns against Indians and Mexicans. He

served in that capacity until wars end.

Post war Robertson worked his land and was involved in educational efforts including being a key organizer of Salado College. He died in Salado on October 8, 1879 and was buried in the Robertson family cemetery.