

Confederate Gazette

Confederate Symbols Under Attack

A national frenzy has emerged over destroying all things Confederate since the horrific church shooting deaths of nine African-Americans in Charleston, South Carolina on June 17th.

Spurred on by the left leaning national media the call for removal of the Confederate Battleflag, followed by removing statues and other Confederate memorials has gone unabated.

The first to go was the Battleflag next to a memorial on the South Carolina state capitol grounds in Columbia. Next were Confederate flags

on the Alabama capitol grounds. National retailers such as Wal-Mart, Sears, Google, e-Bay and others pulled all items that dis-



Flag comes down in Columbia, SC

played a Battleflag. Warner Brothers will no longer license *Dukes of Hazzard* items that display a Battleflag. Cable channel's

TV Land cancelled the showing of reruns of the *Dukes of Hazzard* series.

The two US Senators from Mississippi have spoken against the current Mississippi state flag which incorporates a Confederate Battleflag.

In Memphis, the city Council has voted to remove the grave of Confederate General Nathan B. Forrest from city property.

There have been various reports across the country of people attacked while publicly displaying a Battleflag. In one tragic event, Confederate flag supporter
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Camp Marches in Belton 4th of July Parade

For the 20th consecutive year the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 marched in the annual Belton 4th of July parade.

The 2015 parade followed the events in Charleston, SC and the anti-Confederate hysteria that has followed that event.

In spite of the national senti-



Color guard marches in Belton on July 4th

ment, the folks in Central Texas seemed to honor and respect the various Confederate flags.

Cheers were heard and many stood as the Confederate flags passed by. Only one person was heard to utter a negative remark.



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

www.scvtemple.com

Michael E. Belcher
Camp Commander
4424 Blue Ridge Dr.
Belton, TX 76513-4905

John C. Perry
Newsletter Editor
P.O. Box 794
Salado, TX 76571

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White Camp #1250

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Texas Color Bearer



George A. Branard

Branard saw action at the Battle of Sharpsburg

He was a native born Texan whose valor at Gettysburg was awe inspiring.

George A. Branard was born in Galveston on January 5, 1843. Very little is known about Branard's early life. He apparently worked as a mechanic in Galveston until August 1, 1861, when he enlisted as a private, at age 18, in the Lone Star Rifles. His company was assigned to the 1st Texas Regiment, Company L, under Captain A. C. McKeen, and Colonel Louis T. Wigfall.

After arriving in Virginia, Branard was assigned to the color guard corps of the regiment. At the Battle of Eltham's Landing, part of the Peninsula Campaign in May of 1862 Branard got his first opportunity to carry the colors in battle when the unit's color sergeant was wounded. In fighting the next day, Branard, still carrying the colors and was well out in front of his regiment. Someone

called out to him to fall back. Although Branard had been nicked on the head by a passing bullet, he shouted that he would be "Damned if I'll fall back," and remained with his regiment's colors until the engagement was finished. Following his bravery he was promoted to corporal.

Branard was in the thick of the fighting at the Cornfield during the Battle of Sharpsburg (Antietam) on September 17, 1862. There the 1st Texas was in some of the most desperate fighting of the war. Outnumbered they were forced to withdraw and lost their regimental flag in the process. The 1st Texas, advancing the farthest of any unit in the brigade, suffered a casualty rate of 82% of the 226 men engaged in the battle.

In time for the Battle of Gettysburg in July of 1863, Branard was now the color sergeant of the 1st Texas. It was here that Branard earned fame for his

actions. There are a number of different accounts about Branard's actions at Gettysburg and separating fact from fiction is not easy, but regardless of which account is correct Branard certainly made his mark at Gettysburg.

The 1st Texas was part of John Bell Hood's Texas Brigade. The 1st Texas along with the 4th Texas, 5th Texas, and 3rd Arkansas advanced on what came to be known as the Devil's Den on July 2, 1863 at Gettysburg. They distinguished themselves in taking Devil's Den despite being greatly outnumbered by Federal troops and having suffered heavy casualties.

As the color bearer of the 1st Texas, Branard was quick to advance the regimental colors in spite of murderous fire. He seemed to be in a race with the color bearer of the 15th Georgia to see who could advance the colors the furthest. Branard won, but it almost cost him his

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Branard at Gettysburg

As the 1st Texas Infantry Regiment on July 2, 1863 launched an attack on the Union position at Gettysburg, George Branard was leading his regiment.

As color bearer Branard was racing ahead with his regimental flag which was a modified version of the Texas state flag.

He seemed to be in a race with a member of the 15th Georgia Infantry who was advancing with his regiment's flag. Both men were in the no mans land between the advancing Confederates and the Union lines.

Branard won the race and was able to plant his flag, under a

hail of bullets. An artillery shell burst directly in front of him and he was severely wounded. Some accounts say he was knocked unconscious, but other accounts say he picked himself up and continued his charge. He would partially recover from his wounds.

July Camp Meeting

By Michael E. Belcher

The Camp had a special meeting at the Ratibor Grill east of Temple. Our guest speaker was Ms. Sally Verrando, who spoke about her Confederate ancestor, Dr. Welborn Barton.

He was born in Greenville, South Carolina in 1821. His family lived on Cherokee land acquired after the American Revolution. They had been loyal to the U.S. during that time, and were Andrew Jackson supporters. They had a large house and entertained lots of dignitaries and travelers. Many important figures spent time with his family, and he attended Medical school at Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky.

Between 1846-47 his family came to the Bastrop area in Texas. Barton Springs was named after his family. When he was 25, his mother passed away, and he had to help with several children that were still minors.

In 1850 he married Miss Adaline Cox who was 15 years old. Ms. Verrando read us a letter about his family's trip to Texas

on a wagon train, on which Dr. Welborn was the leader. They arrived in Williamson County and settled in Burnett County. Dr. Welborn got 527 acres of land on the San Gabriel River next to his fathers land. By the 1860s, he had 4 children and was practicing medicine. He served in the War Between the States, along with six of his brothers. He was discharged after three months because of a leg injury and his age.

After the war he moved to Salado, and built a three-story lime kiln house on Salado Creek, that was finished in 1866, and still stands today. He had 6 children, the first indoor plumbing in Salado, and served as a schoolteacher, mason, and Trustee of Salado College. She was asked lots of questions and the presentation was warmly received by the Camp members that were present.

The meeting was supposed to be a party to celebrate our success in hosting the Texas Division Reunion, however, it turned out to be a very somber occasion. Commander Belcher outlined some of the events

that have happened since the senseless shooting in Charleston, South Carolina. We are under attack from National, State and local legislatures and groups that are taking advantage of the situation in order to eradicate symbols and monuments of our Southern Heritage. Camp members were allowed to speak and express their feelings and concerns for all that is happening, and many found solace in the compassion and companionship of like hearts and minds.

August Meeting

The August meeting of the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 will be held at the Temple Public Library. The meeting will be in the McLane Room which is located on the 3rd floor of the Library.

Food options are to participate in a community style pot luck meal or you have the choice of bringing in outside food.

Dr. Welborn Barton briefly served in CS Army

Camp Schedule

August 11, 2015

Camp's Regular Meeting Social at 6:00 PM and meeting at 7:00 PM, at the Temple Public Library's McLane Room, third floor..

September 8, 2015

Camp's Regular Meeting 7:00 PM, Location and speaker to be

determined.

October 10, 2015

Camp's Quarterly Dinner Meeting 7:00 PM, Location and speaker to be determined.

November 10, 2015

Camp's Regular Meeting 7:00 PM, Location and speaker to be



determined.

December 12, 2015

Camp's Regular Meeting and Christmas Party, 7:00 PM,

**Next Camp Meeting:
August 11th
Temple Public Library
3rd Floor
6:00 PM Social
7:00 PM Meeting**

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P.O. Box 794 Salado, Texas 76571

Next Meeting:
August 11th
Temple Public Library
7:00 PM

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Texas Color Bearer

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life. An artillery shell exploded right in front of him and a fragment struck Branard on the left side of his head. He went down and would later lose his eyesight and hearing on his left side.

He was taken from the field and those that carried him away thought he might be dead. He partially recovered from his wounds in time to see action at Chickamauga in September of 1863 and then in November of 1864 he was wounded again at an engagement near Knoxville, Tennessee.

This wound caused him to lose the use of his left arm. Because

of his multiple wounds Branard was reassigned as a sergeant in the ambulance corps. He remained in ambulance corps until the war ended.

Post war Branard returned to Texas. He married Julia House in 1866 and they had seven children who survived infancy. Branard was very active in the Hood's Texas Brigade Association. In 1895 he was elected secretary of the group and when the office of Secretary and Treasurer were combined in 1905 Branard was named to that post "for life." He died on August 7, 1909 and is buried in Washington Cemetery in Houston.

Confederate Symbols

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Anthony Hervey was killed when his vehicle was run off the road near Oxford, Mississippi. Hervey, who was an African-American, had just attended and had spoken at a pro-Confederate flag rally in Birmingham, Alabama.

NASCAR Chairman Brian France vowed to utterly eliminate the Battleflag from NASCAR races. He called the Battleflag "sickening" and promised aggressive measures to remove it. Unfortunately, well known drivers Dale Earnhardt, Jr. and Jeff Gordon also condemned the flag.

Even the Southern memorial at Stone Mountain, Georgia is being challenged. The Atlanta, Georgia chapter of the NAACP wants the

carving on the side of the mountain which features, Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson and Jefferson Davis, to be removed.

In Texas some students and faculty at the University of Texas in Austin have called for the removal of the statues of Confederate notables on the UT campus. Statues include Jefferson Davis, John Reagan and Albert Sidney Johnston. A committee has been formed to consider the issue of removing the statues. In July UT solicited public comment.. There were over 3,200 comments, many from SCV members. The Texas Division is now calling on Division members to direct comments to UT President, Gregory Fenves.