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Gen. Felix H. Robertson Camp 129
Waco, TX



February 2025 Newsletter



SCV Texas Division Commander Michael Hurley speaking at the Lee Jackson Banquet held at Poppa Rollos in Waco on January 14, 2025.

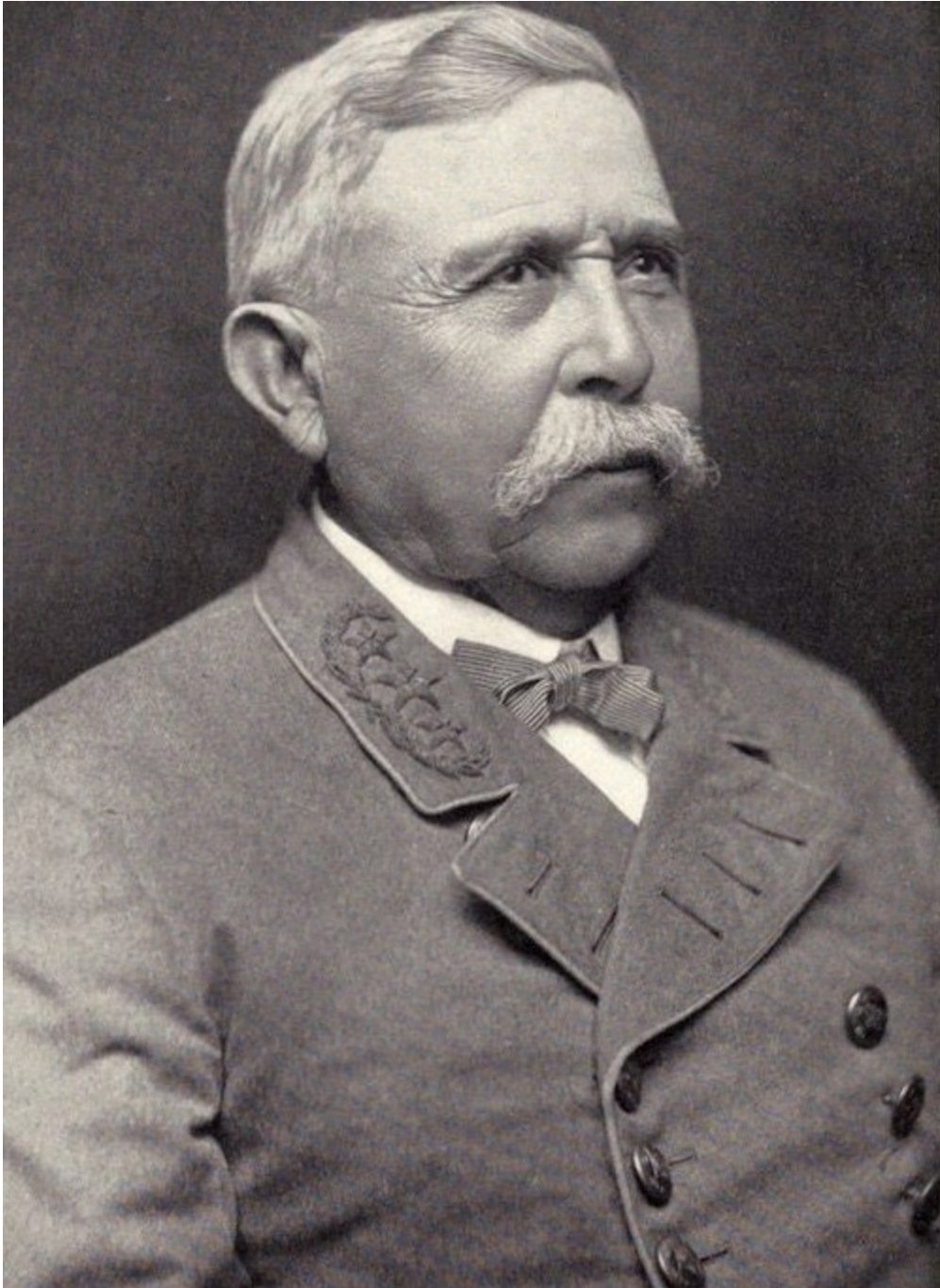
Photo credit: Brad Halliday



Pictures from the Veterans Day Parade, November 2024. The photo on the left shows General Felix H. Robertson, Camp #129, members Joseph Kale, Steve Canuteson, Cary Bogan, David Kale, and Bobby Fears, along with members from the Brenham Camp, #992. The photo on the right shows Robertson camp member Markham Dossett riding with Terry's Texas Rangers.

for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

Lt. Gen. Stephen D. Lee



Pictured above is the namesake of our Great Camp, Brig. Gen. Felix Huston Robertson. Much can be said about this great general in his service during and after the war in Texas. He was the only general who was a native-born Texan. Not only that, but he and his father, Jerome Bonaparte Robertson, were the only other father-

and practice law, while also being inspirational in the area to stand up against the Yankee invasion known as Reconstruction. He passed away on April 20, 1928, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Waco. He left behind one last legacy as being the last surviving Confederate General.



Commander's Comments

by Bobby Fears

Alright, alright, alright! Another one down and....11 more to go!

Last month's Lee-Jackson dinner was a hoot; it turned out well. We'll have to do it again!

Mr. Trump and his administration are making the news! Don't forget the other side is not happy at all. And on a familiar note, their misdirected miscreants will ramp up their frustration, i.e., all the fun and not-so-well-intentioned activities. Stay vigilant!!

Will the President change the military bases' names back? Remains to be seen. I'm for it (aren't we all!)! Honestly, if he'll get the reconciliation monument put back, I'd be happy.

So, this month's talk will be presented by yours truly and it will be Part 2 on the Kansas-Missouri theater. Know about Order #11? You will. The scary thing is, if it happened once... hopefully, it won't happen again.

See you there!

DEO VINDICE!!!

Lt. Commander's Comments

by Markham B.Dossett

We have one more month of winter in Central Texas. Let's prepare to clean up and mow our sacred sites around Waco. We have Fletcher cemetery, IH 35 monument, and 2 miles of Highway 77 to get spruce up. It does no good to have our flags flying high if the surrounding grounds are not in tip-top shape. I learned in Catholic school that "Many hands do light work." Please let Commander Fears or me know you can help, even if it is just an hour. Our BATTLE FLAGS and highway project are our face to the community. Better yet, bring a friend and get them interested in honoring the Bravery and Sacrifice of our gallant ancestors.

2nd Lt. Commander's Comments

by John Dickey

Greetings Compatriots!

As we all know, the recent presidential election and campaign were highly unusual and unique. But let us go back 165 years to the 1860 presidential election. It is still considered to be the most unusual election, to say the least.

The Republican and Democrat parties were in a state of total confusion regarding the selection of their candidates for President. The Democrats had 4 or 5 candidates, while the Republicans had 8 or 9 candidates depending upon what area of the country the candidates were living.

The Republican candidate that had gained favor was William Seward, but he was included on a final list of 7 men, all of whom were seeking endorsement by the media! However, the Republicans were being led by a faction comprised of young men between the ages of 21 and 30; they were a strongly organized group growing in popularity throughout the Northern states.

The Wide Awakes began to take control of that young age group and were so organized to the point that they were issued uniforms, flags and, banners, and torches for all their nightly meetings, which quickly became a local area parade. When it came time for election day, the Wide Awakes gained popularity in over 25 states, with their full support for the quirky senator from Springfield, Illinois – Abraham Lincoln. On election day, Lincoln was clearly not the “leader of the pack”; instead, he was relegated to 3rd or 4th spot on the list.

As the day progressed, the Wide Awakes began a unified and very public push toward those members of the Electoral College extolling their candidate, Abraham Lincoln.

Finally, after four rounds of voting, Lincoln emerged as the winner, with only 39% of the popular vote!

Once Lincoln was in the White House, many of the young Wide Awakes were given Presidential appointments as gratitude for their support!



Book Reviews

by Cary Bogan

“The Campaigns of Walker’s Division”, by Joseph P. Blessington, published by Copano Bay Press. This book is a reprint of the memoirs of a soldier in Walker’s Greyhound Division, which served in the Trans-Mississippi Theater. This division was the only division sized unit to be composed of troops from one state, Texas, in either army in the WBTS. The division was formed fairly late in

participated in a number of campaigns in southern Louisiana, Arkansas, the vicinity of Vicksburg, and the Red River Campaign. They were known for their long, and sometimes tedious marches, which is where the “Greyhound” nickname came from. Mr. Blessington was with the unit the entire period of its existence, and was an excellent amateur historian. He gives numerous anecdotes of day to day life, and even faithfully records the daily march distances; usually the unit marched 16-18 miles a day. He writes well, and with some wit. The division was camped around Hempstead and Navasota when word was received that Lee had surrendered. At that point the unit self-disbanded, the men went home appropriating such military supplies as they could carry. This book is a great memoir.

“The Gettysburg Nobody Knows”, by Gabor S. Boritt, published by Oxford University Press. This book is a collection of Gettysburg themed essays written by historians after a session of the Civil War Institute (CTI) at Gettysburg College. These are nine good essays on varied topics such as: The Common Soldier; Gettysburg and Joshua Chamberlain; Richard S. Ewell’s actions in the battle ; James Longstreet at Gettysburg; J.E.B. Stuart’s action during the campaign; Pickett’s Charge; A social historian looks at Gettysburg; Lee’s Grand Strategy during the campaign; and, finally, the Cultural meanings of the battle.

“Unlike Anything Ever Floated: The Monitor and Virginia and the Battle Hampton Roads, March 8-9, 1862, by Dwight Sturtevant Hughes, published by Savas Beatie. This is another volume in the Emerging Civil War Series. Like all of the previous books in this series it is well illustrated, supplied with excellent maps, provides an excellent travel guide to the surrounding area, and is an excellent, concise, historical narrative. It spends particular time on the engineering aspects of both ships, which I found very interesting.

“The Maps of Spotsylvania Through Cold Harbor”, by Bradley M. Gottfried, published by Savas Beatie. This book is a part of Savas Beatie’s Civil War Atlas Series. These are excellent battlefield atlases organized in map sets for particular parts of the battle or campaign. The maps are detailed, down to regiments and brigades, and are easy to understand at a glance. The format of the book is text on the left page with numbers keyed to the map on the right page. This book is a must for WBTS battle fanatics.

“All That Can Be Expected: The Battle of Camden and the British High Tide in

The Battle of Camden was one of the worst defeats suffered by the Patriots in the war; it took place in South Carolina after the Fall of Charleston to the British. The defeat destroyed the one Patriot army in the South and resulted in George Washington appointing Nathaniel Greene to the command of the new Southern army.

“America in the Air War”, by Edward Jablonski and the Editors of Time-Life Books, published by Time-Life Books. This book is a volume in the Time-Life Series of books called The Epic of Flight. It covers, in a very brief format, the involvement of the United States Air Force in the Second World War.

“War at the End of the World: Douglas MacArthur and the Forgotten Fight for New Guinea, 1942-1945”, by James P. Duffy, published by New American Library. This was an excellent, though not overly complicated look at the World War II fighting in New Guinea. This was of particular interest to me because my great-uncle, Colon Childress of Grand Saline, Texas, was in the 167th Infantry Regiment of the 31st Division.

Upcoming Events!



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