

[View this email in your browser](#)



Gen. Felix H. Robertson Camp 129
Waco, TX



January 2025 Newsletter

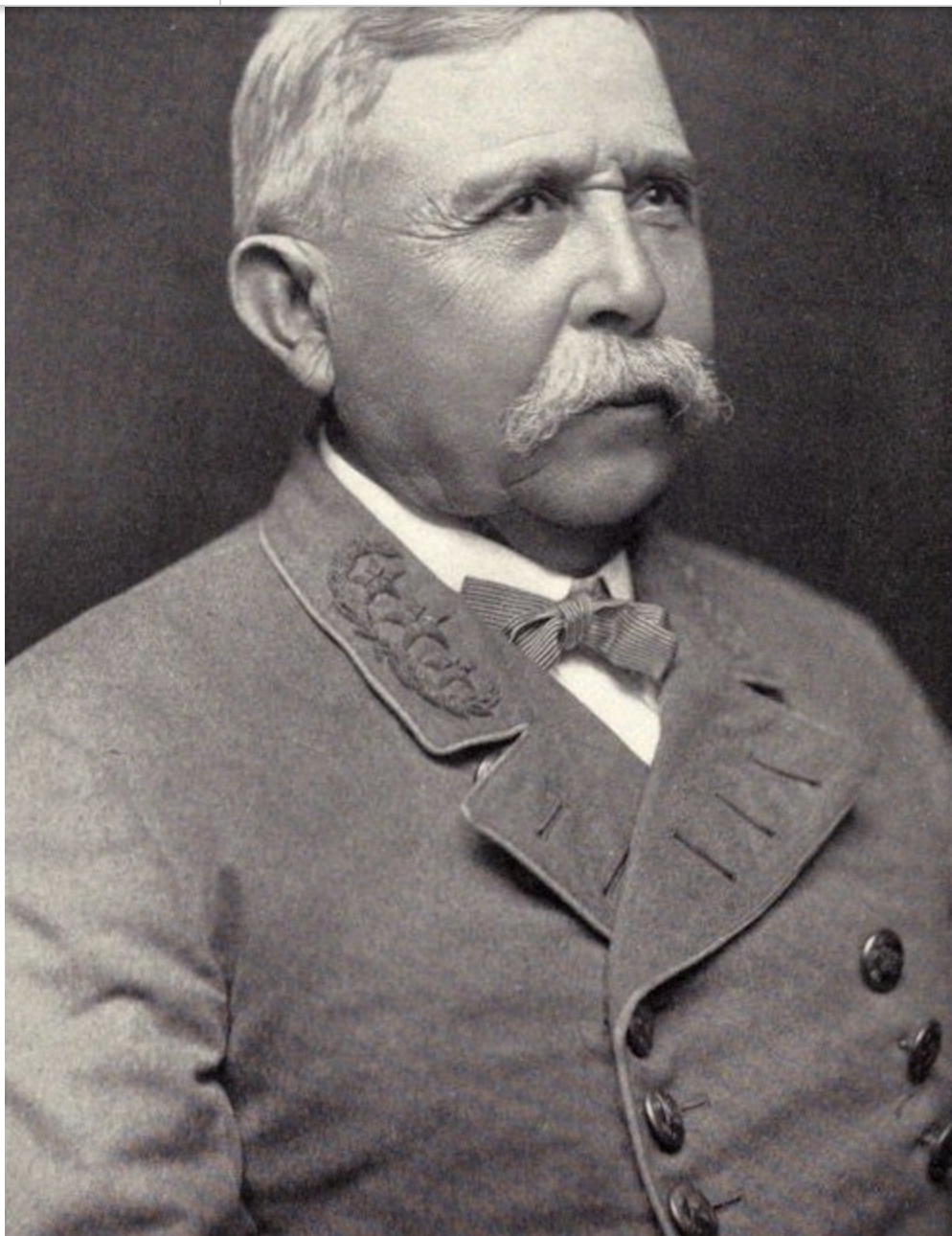
Important Dates:

January 14--Lee-Jackson Banquet and Camp Meeting, Poppa Rollo's in the Outback (the building behind the restaurant). If possible, RSVP to scvwaco@gmail.com. Invite your friends and family! We hope to see you there.

January 19--Confederate Heroes Day--A Texas State Holiday!

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause 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-son generals on either side of the war besides Gen. Robert E. Lee and his sons. After the war, Robertson chose Waco as his permanent home. He began to study 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.



by Bobby Fears

Hello, Howdy do, and a shout out to our Confederate ancestors and veterans!

All right, January is a big month for us! First Confederate Heroes Day is coming up, and TXDIV Commander Hurley has decreed that the 17th to the 20th will be cemetery cleanup, repair, and flag local Confederate graves. We'll discuss our plans at the meeting, and Commander Hurley will conveniently be the guest speaker! He'll be installing new (kind of!) officers. Joe Walker will entertain us with Southern songs, too! And a silent auction! So don't miss us on the 14th for our Lee-Jackson dinner. We will meet in the "outback" building behind the main building.

Additional events coming up in January is the DEC meeting on the 4th, which I won't be able to attend. So, if anyone would like to attend, by all means, proceed. The 25th is Temple camp's Lee-Jackson dinner, which is always a good time. February 23/24th is the Oglesby rattlesnake roundup. So, plenty to keep us busy!

Guys, I look forward to seeing all of you and "come alive for '25!"

DEO VINDICE!!!

Lt. Commander's Comments

by Markham Dossett

As we start the New Year and prepare for JAN 19 ROBERT E. LEE's birthday, we should reexamine his legacy. I have read and urge all of you to purchase and read "THE MAXIMS of ROBERT E. LEE for Young Gentlemen" Edited by Richard G. Williams. Printed in 2002, this short book (122 pages) reinforces my view that GEN LEE was one of the finest men ever produced by America. His deep faith and sense of decency surpasses 95% of those who came after him and reflect the superior education and training of all those who influenced him. I was so impressed by this book that I bought copies for both of my sons and gave another five copies to friends to give to their sons. Not only is the book full of quotes and observations by the General, it has one chapter dedicated to quotes from people who knew LEE well and commented of his many qualities. As we go forward into 2025, let us all pledge to be Christian gentlemen like GEN LEE and to FORWARD the COLORS for our Brave ancestors who fought

“Study hard, be always be a gentleman, live cleanly, and remember God.”
ROBERT E. LEE

2nd Lt. Commander's Comments

by John Dickey

Greetings Compatriots!

Welcome to 2025 and a new beginning! And if you were in Scotland, you would be preparing for the HOGMANAY... the week-long celebration of the start of the new year!

However, as members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, we begin a new year by studying and celebrating our Confederate Ancestors. I recently discovered a TV network that provides an unbiased presentation of the American Civil War and many famous battles.

Looking for accurate historical stories and battles of the War Between the States and other historic military battles, I strongly recommend you check out the HISTORY HIT NETWORK. It is included with my DISH subscription but is offered as a relatively low subscription of \$60.00/yr. Several war reenactments are featured, such as the battles at the Wilderness, which were filmed in actual locations. Thousands of re-enactors are used, giving these battles a much more realistic account of the various battles and a complete, thorough background of the battles as they unfold. However, there is no regular schedule for those shows, so you need to dig through their broadcasts to find them. However, they do have battle reenactments from various wars, and they, too, are very realistic and accurate.

Make your plans to attend the Lee/Jackson banquet, and wear your uniforms!



Book Reviews

by Cary Bogan

“Planting the Flag in Texas: The Campaigns of Major General Nathaniel P. Banks in the West”, by Stephen A. Dupree, published by Texas A&M University

There are books that cover the Battle of Galveston, or the Battle of Sabine Pass, or the Red River Expedition, but this is the only one I know of that hits all of them. When Union General Banks was not supporting the Vicksburg Campaign, he was trying to get into Texas. The reasons are complex, ranging from procuring cotton to warning off the French in Mexico, but the Lincoln administration clearly wanted the U.S. flag flying back in the Lone Star State. There were five distinct invasions of Texas. The First was the seizure of Galveston with its subsequent recapture by Confederate forces at the beginning of 1863. The Second was the disastrous, for the Yankees, anyway, attempt to capture Sabine Pass in September 1863. The Third was a Union attempt to advance into Texas through southern Louisiana, roughly along the route of current Interstate 10, which came to grief in November 1863 at the bloody little Battle of Bayou Bourbeau. The Fourth was the Federal effort to seize coastal positions in the area from Brownsville up to the Coastal Bend around Corpus Christi. Though some coastal areas were lost, no great advantage was gained because it was not possible to advance into the Texas interior. The Fifth was the biggest, the Red River Campaign to use the aforementioned river to capture the Confederate headquarters at Shreveport and enter Texas that way. It was an embarrassing failure. While the South ultimately lost the war Texas at least kept the Northern invaders out of the state. This is a great book.

“Lieutenant General James Longstreet: Innovative Military Strategist”, by F. Gregory Toretta, published by Casemate Books. This book is not a biography of General Longstreet, but is an effort to examine his views on how the war should have been fought, in light of the changing military technology of the time and the North’s vast material and manpower advantage. This book concentrates on the period of May, 1863, to May, 1864. This is the period which begins with the Gettysburg Campaign, goes through the Chickamauga and East Tennessee Campaigns, and concludes with his wounding at the Battle of the Wilderness. One thing is for sure: as an infantryman, James Longstreet could handle large bodies of men, well. His attacks at Second Manassas, the second day at Gettysburg, and at the Wilderness were among the better conducted attacks in the war. This book is worth reading.

“Thirteen Months in Dixie or, the Adventures of a Federal Prisoner in Texas, Including the Red River Campaign, Imprisonment at Camp Ford, and Escape Overland to Liberated Shreveport, 1864-1865”, by W.F. Oscar Federhen,

went through many varied experiences during his time in Texas, as noted in the subtitle of the book. It should also be noted that for a period, he rode with the Quantrell outlaw gang while they were wintering in Texas.

“Why the Confederacy Lost”, edited by Gabor S. Boritt, published by Oxford University Press. As the title suggests, this book is a compilation of five essays on why the South was defeated in the WBTS. The five topics are: Internal causes versus External causes; Military Strategy; the quality of Generalship; the Perseverance of the Soldiers; and the use of Black Soldiers.

“Gone to Texas: A History of the Lone Star State”, by Randolph B. Campbell, published by Oxford University Press. This book is a big comprehensive look at the history of the Lone Star State through the prism of all of the different groups of people who have lived and moved here. This book includes a great deal of economic data which is interesting to read.

Essential Histories: The Korean War 1950-1953”, by Carter Malkasian, published by Osprey Publishing. This book is a brief, concise overview of the Korean War, which is recommended for readers who are not familiar with the subject.

“American Midnight: The Great War, A Violent Peace, and Democracy's Forgotten Crisis”, by Adam Hochschild, published by Mariner Books. This book is an interesting look at the U.S. home front during World War One. It examines the extreme measures taken to clamp down on opposition to the war and the attacks on anybody perceived to be insufficiently patriotic.

Upcoming Events!

[Share](#)[Forward](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

