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Gen. Felix H. Robertson Camp 129
Waco, TX



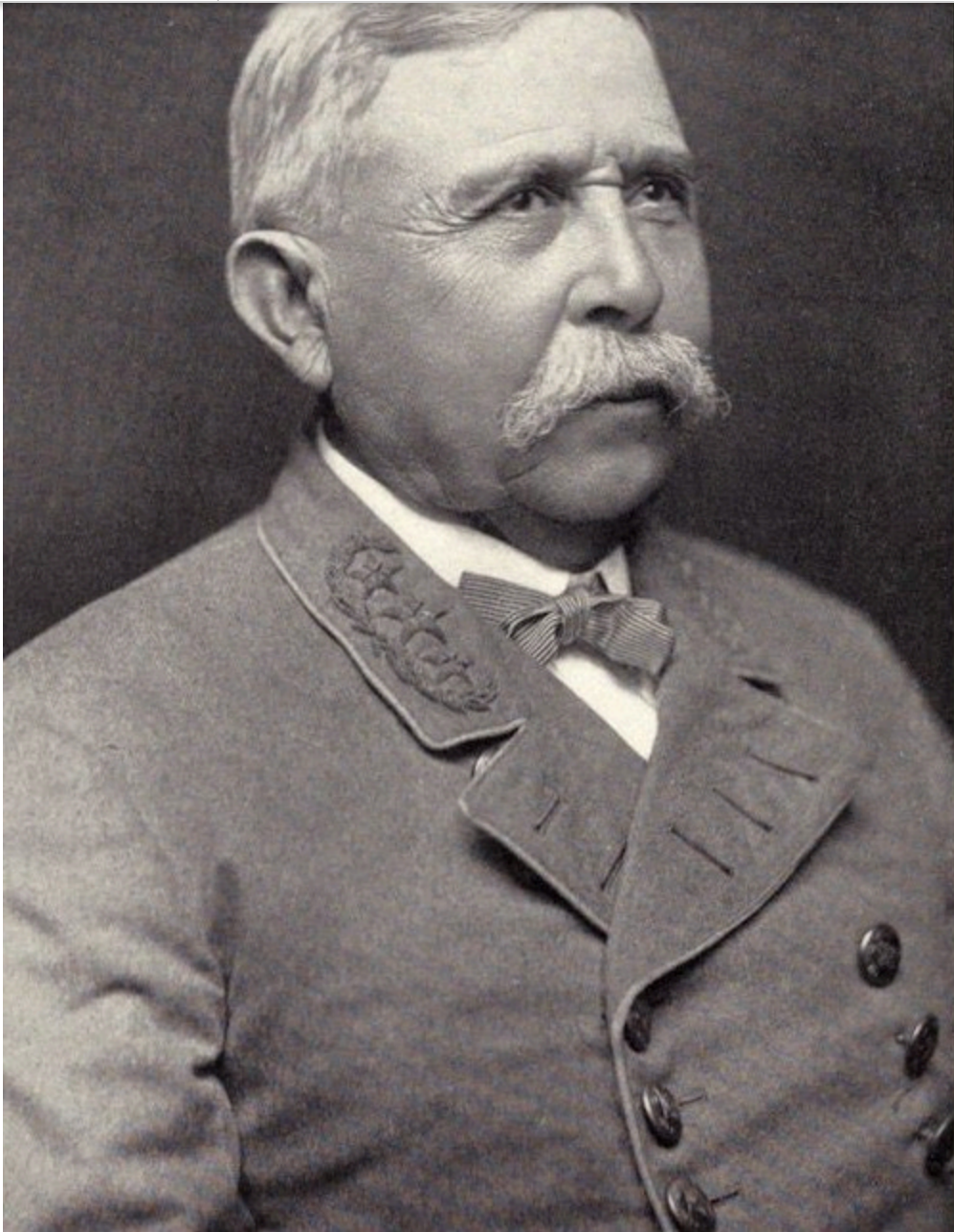
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July 2024 Newsletter

"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

Well, well, well, another month gone! Y'all ready for the normal Texas weather? Can you imagine being in wool or wool mix clothing and engaged in battle? Can you imagine running across that field in Gettysburg while round after round and grapeshot whizzed by? You probably forgot how hot it was, but man, the heat added to the stress! Let us not forget how them soldiers lived, fought, and died. Let us always honor them by our loyalty and deeds!

This month we will hear about bigfoot! Bigfoot Wallace that is! Mr. John Dickey will enlighten us about this amazing man whom made history in more than one place.

I'll close out with some modified lyrics that hopefully y'all will appreciate:

Ode to Reconstruction

If I say I no longer love the Gray,
It would be a lie
I've tried my best to assimilate,
But now, I'd rather die

You try to tell me that how I feel,
Is hurtful and so wrong
You treat me as an ugly beast,
And tell me my ideas don't belong

Don't tell me what to do
Don't tell me what to say
Don't tell me to step aside
Don't tell me to accept your lies
Don't tell me how to live my life

If I now said I believe,
Would you leave me alone?
Or would you mold me,
Into your perfect little clone?

Or would you whisper behind my back,
And turn away from me?
You are a sickness in society,

Don't tell me that I don't see
What you're doing to our society
Don't tell me I'm wrong
Or I don't understand
Your idea of reconstruction
Is so out of hand.

Something different, something to think about. I heard this song and tweaked the lyrics. Let me know your thoughts at the meeting, see y'all there!
DEO VINDICE!!!

Lt. Commander's Comments

by Markham Dossett

As we celebrate the 4th of July holiday, let us not forget our CONFEDERATE Ancestors who fought valiantly at Gettysburg and Vicksburg on this day in the 1860s. They fought for state rights and freedom in the war for Southern Independence.

Many of their forefathers fought in the first war for independence from 1768 to 1784.

As SCV members we still fight for independence to honor the bravery and sacrifice of our forefathers who were Confederate soldiers and sailors.

FORWARD THE COLORS,

Markham B. Dossett

2nd Lt. Commander's Comments

by John Dickey

Greetings Compatriots!

As I write this newsletter, I am sitting in the comfort of my home with the cool breeze from the air conditioning going full blast. Then I think back to 160 years

Today we would not last an hour out there and would be wanting to go home. It's just too hard to imagine how they could endure those conditions day in and day out, and even the nights are uncomfortable this time of year.

We need to remember how hard those men fought!

On a lighter note, all renewals have been mailed out, and if you have yet to receive yours, please let me know at the meeting on Tuesday. So far, we have received 18 renewals, two mail returns, and one notice of not registering this year. Two have moved out of state, and one death has been reported—John Burns.

I am looking forward to giving the presentation at this meeting. The topic will be THE TEXAS RANGERS AND WILLIAM A.A. "BIG FOOT" WALLACE. There are many stories about this Ranger, who is considered a "Texas Folk Hero."

Respectfully,
John Dickey
2nd LC/Adjutant
Gen Felix H. Robertson Camp 129
Waco, TX 76708



Book Reviews

by Cary Bogan

"Petersburg to Appomattox: The End of the War in Virginia", edited by Caroline Janney, published by The University of North Carolina Press. This book is a volume in the "Military Campaigns of the Civil War" series, which brings together various authors writing about the war in Virginia. This book covers the period from the fall of Petersburg to the surrender at Appomattox. All the essays in this volume are good and deal with topics usually overlooked in general histories. The essays in this volume include Grant's Leadership during the Appomattox Campaign; Morale in Hood's Texas Brigade during the final winter of the war; Reasons for the Confederate defeat at Five Forks; General Sheridan's Leadership of the Army of the Potomac's Cavalry; Lee, Breckinridge, and Campbell as Peacemakers in 1865; The loss of Confederate

in his memoirs; and African American reaction to Lee's surrender. As shown by the subject matter, these are all worth reading.

"Spartan Band: Burnett's 13th Texas Cavalry in the Civil War", by Thomas Reid, published by the University of North Texas Press. This is a history of the 13th Texas Cavalry (Dismounted), which served in Waul's Brigade in Walker's Division in the Department of the Trans-Mississippi. Also in Waul's Brigade were the 8th Texas Infantry, the 18th Texas Infantry, the 22d Texas Infantry, and the 4th Texas Battery. The 13th was organized as cavalry but was dismounted early in the war because of the logistical problems of supporting so much cavalry. The 13th participated in numerous operations in Louisiana and Arkansas, the most prominent of which were the Battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill in the Red River Campaigns. A notable thing about the 13th was this. The regiment lost 146 dead from all causes during the war. Of these, 11 were Killed in Action, 3 Died of Wounds, 2 died of unknown causes, 1 soldiers drowned, 1 soldier was murdered, for a total of 18. The rest, 128 in number, died of disease, a pretty staggering total. That is 87.6 percent. At least in the Trans-Mississippi Department, combat was not the biggest hazard. This is an excellent history of a less well-known Southern unit.

"Texas after the Civil War: The Struggle of Reconstruction", by Carl H. Moneyhon, published by Texas A&M University Press. This is a book I purchased on a trip to the Texas Civil War Museum last year when everyone thought that the museum was closing. This is a look at Texas after the war focusing on the period up to 1876, with a concluding chapter that takes the story up to 1900. This book is a useful look at postwar Texas covering, among other things, politics, the extreme violence that characterized the period, and the economic development that took place. This book is highly recommended.

"The Maps of First Bull Run: An Atlas of the First Bull Run (Manassas) Campaign, including the Battle of Ball's Bluff, June—October 1861", by Bradley M. Gottfried, published by Savas Beatie. This book, like the Chickamauga volume, is an excellent blow by blow account of First Manassas, ideally, to be used in conjunction with a major history of the battle. This book would also be ideal for a driving excursion to the battlefield park. Highly recommended!

"Voices of the Civil War: First Manassas", by the Editors of Time-Life Books,

square shaped, well illustrated books in a series. With concise introductory material at the beginning of each section, the bulk of the books consist of passages written by participants of the events, often with a photo of the writer. The maps are the same ones used in the Civil War series published in the 1980s by Time-Life Books. This First Manassas volume has an introductory look at the opening of the war in the Virginia Theater.

“Voices of the Civil War: Shiloh”, by the Editors of Time-Life Books, published by Time-Life Books. The same information in the previous entry also applies to this one. It should also be noted that the first two volumes both had specially prepared maps of the battlefields located just after the Table of Contents. This books are highly recommended.

“The Texas Revolution: Texian Volunteer Versus Mexican Soldier”, by Ron Field, published by Osprey Publishing. This is a volume in the Osprey “Combat” series, a format that looks at how opposing combatants were prepared, equipped and trained, and then looks at three engagements between them. The three battles in this book are the Alamo, Coleto Creek, and San Jacinto. There are lots of specially prepared maps, diagrams, and two excellent color battle scenes. This is a great book for the Texas history buff.

“South Africa 1880-1902: Boer Guerilla Versus British Mounted Soldier”, by Ian Knight, published by Osprey Publishing. This book is also a volume in the Osprey “Combat” Series. This book is for somebody who has an interest in South African history, or, perhaps, has seen the movie “Breaker Morant”.

“Tanks in Operation Bagration: The Demolition of Army Group Center”, by Steven J. Zaloga, published by Osprey Publishing. This book is an overview of the tanks used on both sides during the Soviet offensive (code named Operation Bagration) during the summer of 1944, at the same time as the Battle of Normandy. As a result of concerted deception measures the Soviets achieved strategic surprise and destroyed around thirty German divisions. It was the greatest German defeat of World War II.

“Homegrown: Timothy McVeigh and the Rise of Right-Wing Extremism”, by Jeffrey Toobin, published by Simon & Schuster. In April, my son and I ran the Oklahoma City Memorial Half Marathon and visited the Oklahoma City Bombing Museum at the location of the Murrah Federal Building. The museum

McVeigh on...Rush Limbaugh and his fans. Ho ho. It is interesting that he waited until after Limbaugh was gone to put this out. This book is highly NOT recommended.

Upcoming Events!

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