



# The Belo Herald

January 2007

Jan 4: 7:00 pm

## **Back Country Bar-B-Q**

Greenville Ave, 1/2 block N of Park Lane  
Dallas, TX

As promised, a short bio of our Camp namesake, Col. A.H. Belo, one of the pioneers of Dallas, and founder of the Dallas Morning News and the Belo media empire:

Alfred Horatio Belo was born of Moravian parentage at Salem, N. C., May 27, 1839. His boyhood and youth were spent in his native State. He had just completed his education when the great war began. When North Carolina passed the ordinance withdrawing from the Union he volunteered for active service in the Confederate army and was elected to the captaincy of the first company from his native county (Forsyth). He served with distinction during the operations in Virginia, earning a colonel's rank. He was twice severely wounded at Gettysburg in 1863, and again the following June at Cold Harbor.

Col. Belo, then a major, was conspicuous for gallantry in the famous charge at Gettysburg, in which 15,000 men from Hill's and Longstreet's corps marched steadily against the storm of canister shot, shell, and bullets. He received his second wound in the final assault and was in earshot of Gen. Armistead when he leaped the stone wall waving his sword with his hat on it, shouting, "Give them cold steel, boys!" as he fell mortally wounded. Gen. Hancock was in command at that immediate point of the assault. In his report to Gen. Meade, Gen. Hancock says : "*I have never seen a more formidable attack. The enemy must have been short of ammunition, as I was shot with a ten-penny nail.*" Col. Belo's regiment, although it had suffered severely from the two days' fighting, was in the final charge and reached the extreme point of the Confederate advance on that fatal day.

Col. Belo's wounds were scarcely healed when his command formed a part of the line at the Federal slaughter in the second battle of Cold Harbor. It was when Gen. Grant ordered an assault by the entire army that Col. Belo was wounded for the third time. Col. Belo refused to be sent to the rear with the other wounded, followed the Stars and Bars, and was with Lee at Appomattox.

After the surrender and a short sojourn at the homestead in North Carolina, Col. Belo determined to seek a home in the Southwest. Responding to a business call he returned to Virginia and from thence rode on horseback to Texas, reaching the field of his usefulness in June, 1865, still suffering from the wounds he had received the year before in the battle of Cold Harbor. In August of that year he became connected with the Galveston News, of which Mr. W. Richardson was owner, and later bought an interest in the paper. Col. Belo had no journalistic experience but developed aptitude for the details of newspaper management. In 1875, after the death of Mr. Richardson, Col. Belo bought the interest of the heirs of his deceased partner, surrounded himself with able and enthusiastic lieutenants and up to his death controlled the editorial and business management of the News.

In 1881 Col. Belo formed a stock company authorized by its charter to publish newspapers at Galveston and "*such other points in the State of Texas as the company might select.*" The large income of the Galveston News made possible a wide extension of its well-developed system of collecting news. The News conceived the new and bold idea of duplicating its issue simultaneously at Dallas. Other journalists probably thought of the possibility of publishing

simultaneously at widely separated cities duplicates of the same newspaper, thus securing two points of distribution instead of one, but no one had ventured to try the experiment. Another advance step in journalism taken by Colonel Belo is newspaper home buildings. The office of the Galveston News was the pioneer, the office of the New York Herald was next, and the home of the Dallas News followed. They are specially built to accommodate the various departments of the newspaper.

Col. Belo married the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Ennis at Galveston June 30, 1868. Mr. Ennis was prominent among the pioneer merchants of Texas, and he was prominently connected with the building of railroads in this State. The city of Ennis in Ellis County was named for him.

Col. Belo died in Asheville, NC, on April 19, 1901.

### Camp flag

At the December meeting, our new Camp flag was presented, and will be in the care of our new Quartermaster, Paul Hamilton, who also designed the flag. Our thanks to Paul for his efforts.



## Other news:

- You are well aware by now that former President Gerald Ford passed away recently. You may not know that, during his term, he signed into law an Act by the U.S. Congress that restored the citizenship of Gen. Robert E. Lee. At the signing, Ford said

*“General Lee's character has been an example to succeeding generations, making the restoration of his citizenship an event in which every American can take pride.”*

- Our sincere condolences are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Tim Barnes on the recent loss of their son.
- The University of Texas, under the leadership of a new carpetbagger President, is once again trying to remove from the campus several statues of Texas Confederate heroes that have been there for many years. Besides the fact that this is against a state law (engineered by the Texas Division), they are overlooking the fact that several prominent buildings on the campus, and a lot of money, were donated by Confederate veteran George Washington Littlefield, **and it is attached to those statues**. Some of his descendants, SCV members, are prepared to take them to court over this issue, and the compensation could be in the millions of dollars. They are slow learners.

Come at 6:30, eat barbeque, fellowship! Door prizes! You must be present to win!

### **The Belo Herald**

*Newsletter of the*

*Col. A. H. Belo Camp #49*

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