



DCV TRAVELLER

**DESCENDANTS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
A TEXAS BASED ASSOCIATION WITH CHAPTERS IN TEXAS AND SOUTH CAROLINA**

www.DCVTX.org

Spring 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Jerry Don Boydston

I would like to thank the members of the DCV Board of Directors for the confidence shown to me by my election as Board President for the coming year. I do not take this responsibility lightly. It is truly an honor to serve and I promise to do my best to further the aims and goals of our organization. With that said, I challenge each member and friend of the Descendants of Confederate Veterans to renew their efforts to do whatever is possible to protect and preserve our proud Southern Heritage.

The past two years have been very difficult for our organization. We have witnessed all-out attacks on anything and everything remotely connected to the Confederacy, manifested by the removal and relocation of statuary, renaming buildings, streets, etc. which have borne Confederate names for generations, and a hostile editorial environment in the media. I am extremely grateful to President Ayers for what he has done during this time. He has been front and center in Austin where much of the Texas controversy has erupted, giving an articulate and reasoned voice to what we believe and why we believe it. He has made a big difference in the debate and merits our gratitude.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE cont:

I am convinced now more than ever that we need to find new and better arguments to advance our point of view. The old ones are simply not working any longer and we must have a change in tactics. In the coming months I will be expanding on these thoughts by offering new ideas to combat the slow erosion of our rightful place in American history and the outrageous attacks on our Southern Heritage.

In closing, we have lost a stalwart and Founding Member, Barney Hilburn. This affects those of us in the East Texas Chapter more than a little Talking about Barney as a person, as a fellow human being, could take up an entire newsletter. I would like to narrow things down and relate what he taught me about the DCV: this organization is not about me or any other member; it is about those who came before us and proffered such immense sacrifice. I am reminded of how the Chinese worship their ancestors with such reverence. The soldiers and sailors, of course, but also the families of our relatives and their friends' relatives are those we honor and revere. Thanks Barney, I will never forget these things.

J.D.

2018 DCV Annual Reunion Waco, Texas

February 17, 2018

Members of the DCV gathered in Waco for the 12th annual reunion. The day began at 9:00 a.m. with a business meeting of all members. President Ayers read the DCV Treasurers report submitted by Samuel Bennett. The balance at Edward Jones according to the most recent statement of January 26, 2018 is: \$4312.79.

Membership Chairman Carl Hedges Jr. reported he received two life membership applications for the Board's consideration. Capitol Chapter President Steve von Roeder gave a report on the chapters' annual Robert E. Lee birthday ceremony at the State Capitol. Thank you to Texas State Senator Donna Campbell who graciously agreed to sponsor this annual event. Also approving the event was the State Preservation Board and the Department of Public Safety Capitol Police.

East Texas Chapter member J.D. Boydston gave an update on the progress of placing a DCV Cemetery Marker listing Confederate Veterans buried at the East Mountain Cemetery. The cemetery is located very near the town of Longview, Texas. The chapter has gained approval from the cemetery board to place the marker and funds to pay for the marker have been raised by the chapter. A dedication ceremony is being planned this spring. Once the date has been established all members will be notified in a special announcement.



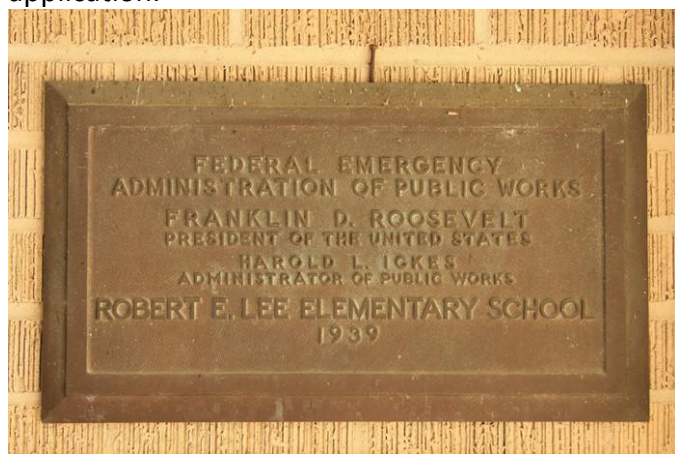
The Senior Center was just the right size and price

President Ayers gave an update on the DCV sponsored project to obtain a State of Texas Historical Marker for Robert E. Lee elementary school in Austin, Texas. The school was renamed Russel Lee in 2016. The DCV Board had previously approved the historical marker project contingent

2018 DCV Annual Reunion Waco, Texas cont.

on the name Robert E. Lee being included on the marker and the marker being placed in the public right-of-way at a location selected by the DCV.

The Travis County Historical Commission approved the application but could not guarantee that an agreement with the city of Austin providing an easement in the public right-of-way could be reached prior to the payment becoming due. Unable to meet the requirement set by the DCV Board of Directors the application was withdrawn. No funds were expended prior to withdrawal of the application.



The fate of this plaque of the now "former" Robert E. Lee Elementary School is still not known. As conveyed in President Boydston's message to the members, our compatriot, our friend, DCV founding board member Barney Hilburn entered eternal life with our Father in Heaven twelve days prior to the annual meeting. President Ayers asked founding member Steve Lucas to speak about the traditional flag presentation to Barney's widow Kay at the end of the memorial service. It is by Board approval upon the passing of a DCV founding member, and if approved by the widow or next of kin a folded DCV Flag will be presented in his honor and memory. In addition, because Barney so loved his state of Texas Kay was also presented with a folded State of Texas flag that was flown over the state Capitol in Austin in the days following Barney's passing. Steve spoke eloquently about Barney's passion and dedication to the DCV and his Confederate heritage. Barney was instrumental in the original design process of the DCV flag. It was very important to Barney the finished product met his strict design standard.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD RECIPIENTS

DCV Presidents have the discretion to present the "President's Award" to members in recognition for outstanding achievements that contribute to the success of the DCV. This year President Ayers selected five recipients.



Steve Lucas for outstanding performance serving as DCV Special Officer Parliamentarian.



Carl Hedges Jr. for outstanding performance serving as DCV Special Officer Registrar.



Steve von Roeder for outstanding performance serving as DCV Special Officer DCV Chaplain.

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PRESIDENT'S AWARD RECIPIENTS cont:



Miss Amy Hilburn for outstanding dedication and performance leading the DCV Members recite pledges to the flags.



Samuel Bennett for outstanding performance serving as DCV Treasurer.



CONGRATULATIONS ALL! WELL DESERVED!

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2018 DCV Annual Reunion Waco, Texas cont.

Due to expiring terms of board member Todd Smith and the passing of board member Barney Hilburn elections were held to fill those vacancies. Michael Dunagan and Samuel Bennett were elected to the Board of Directors by the members present.

The 2018 Annual Reunion business meeting concluded with all in attendance observing two minutes of silent reflection to the memory of Barney Hilburn as a beautiful instrumental rendition of *DIXIE* played in the background.



A break in the action for refreshments
Michael Dunagan, Steve Lucas, J.D. Boydston,
Debbie Boydston, Steve von Roeder, Todd Smith



Steve von Roeder, Debbie Boydston, Liz Hedges, Carl Hedges,
Todd Smith, Michael Dunagan, J.D. Boydston, Steve Lucas,
Terry Ayers.

Special thanks to “not pictured” Lyn von Roeder for taking all of the photos during the meeting.

2018 DCV Annual Reunion Waco, Texas cont.

Following the adjournment of the regular business meeting the Board of Directors convened to elect officers for 2018.

2018 DCV Board of Directors

President: Jerry Don Boydston
Vice President: Terry Hedrick
Secretary/Treasurer: Samuel Bennett
Membership Chairman: Carl Hedges Jr.
Board member: Terry Ayers
Board member: Michael Dunagan
Board member: Steve von Roeder

The Board of Directors meeting was adjourned just in time to make tracks to Waco’s world famous George’s Restaurant.



Michael Dunagan, Steve Lucas, Steve von Roeder



Carl Hedges, Liz Hedges, Debbie Boydston, J.D. Boydston

Unfortunately just as we were getting our drinks waiting for the food to be served Todd Smith received a call informing him his son Jacob (also a DCV Member) had been involved in a vehicle accident 160 miles away in Shiner, Texas. Naturally Todd left right away. He reported later Jacob was not seriously injured but did require medical treatment for scrapes and bruises. All were relieved and thankful Jacob was okay.

2018 DCV Annual Reunion Waco, Texas cont.

Next on the agenda was a visit to Oakwood Cemetery to pay respect at the grave of Confederate Brigadier General Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Texas Ranger, namesake of Sul Ross State University, United States Senator, Governor of Texas, and President of Texas A&M University.



As Carl Hedges and Steve von Roeder looked on, Steve Lucas placed a wreath adorned with cotton bolls on the grave of Brigadier General Lawrence Sullivan "Sul" Ross.



Handsome couple J.D. and Debbie Boydston



Terry Ayers, Carl Hedges, Steve von Roeder, Debbie Boydston, J.D. Boydston, Steve Lucas

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2018 DCV Annual Reunion Waco, Texas cont.

As a light rain was falling and the day getting shorter folks begin to head home. Two hardy souls, meaning our wives weren't with us finished the day with a visit to the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum.



Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum
God Bless Texas



Steve Lucas with a portrait of Confederate Brigadier General Lawrence Sullivan "Sul" Ross



Steve Lucas with my gun collection that is currently on loan to the museum..... I can only dream!

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COMMEMORATING ROBERT E. LEE'S BIRTHDAY

The Capitol Chapter annually celebrates the birthday of Robert E. Lee with a ceremony at the monument for Hood's Texas Brigade on the east lawn of the Texas State Capitol in Austin. This year the chapter celebrated General Lee's 211th birthday. There was a threat of rain with possible thunderstorms keeping many visitors away. Rain or shine the ceremony goes on. After posting colors Capitol Chapter Chaplain Gillis Bartles gave the invocation. Each member present read out loud a summary of many of Lee's greatest accomplishments during his life on Earth. The program ended with a benediction, the firing of muskets, and the singing of Dixie.

Special thanks to President von Roeder for maintaining an excellent relationship with the State Preservation Board who controls all activities on the capitol grounds. No new restrictions were placed on their ceremony in spite of the negative publicity across the nation in the past year.



Hood's Texas Brigade Monument
Chaplain Gillis Bartles & Steve von Roeder

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COMMEMORATING ROBERT E. LEE'S BIRTHDAY



What's wrong with this picture? See next picture!



Terry Ayers (center) is on the mend from left shoulder surgery. In order to fire his musket he used his 1862 CS Richmond with fixed bayonet to rest the barrel on when firing. On left is Gillis Bartles. On right is Steve von Roeder

DCV President J. D. Boydston recently submitted an op-ed piece for the Longview News-Journal. His excellent commentary was picked up by the Associated Press and published by many news organizations across the nation. Below is his commentary as published. At the end of the commentary is a direct link to the editorial.

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Southern Secession cannot be equated to treason

By Don Boyd

There was no legal impediment to the secession of the Southern states in 1860-61 when they voted to secede from the Union. There is absolutely nothing written about secession in the U.S. Constitution — period. When the legislatures of the various states voted to leave the Union, they each followed a democratic and legal process to do so. Texas actually put the question up to a vote of the general populace, not leaving it exclusively to the state Legislature to make such a momentous decision.

Had the Confederacy been successful in the war, secession as a valid option for any state would be a fact of life today. Because the Union prevailed, one could state that the question of secession was answered by that result; secession is not legal today by statute, backed up by force of arms. Today the only avenue for a state to leave the Union would be by an act of Congress allowing secession with the permission of the other states. But we are not talking about today, we are talking about 1860 and 1861.

Whether one likes it or not, whether one agrees with it or not, 11 Southern states successfully and legally left the United States and formed the Confederate States of America. If you believe they had no legitimacy or consider them never to have really left, that does not matter because their short-lived sovereignty grew right out of the barrels of their guns. And if you believe they had no legitimacy why did each of those states have to be "readmitted" to the Union?

Treason may be defined as the offense of acting to overthrow one's government or leaders or a violation of allegiance to one's country. Since the Confederacy was a legitimate political entity of its own right, the term treason is misapplied and misused by those who refuse to accept this simple fact: treason is acting against one's own country. Confederate soldiers and politicians were no longer U.S. citizens.

Southern Session cannot be equated to treason cont.

The only way for them to commit treason would have been to act against the Confederacy. Again, whether you accept this is irrelevant. If you consider them to be U.S. citizens the whole while and never legitimate citizens of anything else, why did they all have to swear out or sign oaths of U.S. citizenship at the conclusion of the war?

Not a single Confederate was ever tried for treason. Not one. President Jefferson Davis probably came closest. He was charged and held for treason but never tried. Why he was never tried? Because Northern politicians knew they were on shaky legal ground and had every reason to believe they would lose the trial because the Supreme Court would rule on the legality of secession.

Secession is not equivalent to treason. Today, those who stubbornly refuse to accept this (as Luis R. Celerier wrote Sept. 23 on this page) love to resort to insults and name calling.

Mr. Celerier rambles on about slavery with statements that are often inaccurate as well as confusing. He appears to worship the Founding Fathers while reviling certain members of the Confederacy. For sure, slave owners and slave traders can be found throughout both groups. I have no idea what he means by "arguments that the Founders owned slaves in 1776 do not justify owning slaves in 1860." I think arguments that the Founders owned slaves in 1776 does not justify owning slaves in 1776 or any other time. I am not going to defend slavery or deny the issue was an underlying cause of the war, inextricably bound to the national economy South (with the cotton trade) and North (with the textile mills). However, one cannot cherry pick among the slave owners and traders as Mr. Celerier has done.

My great-great grandfather fought with the 14th Texas Infantry from 1862 through 1865. He was very young when he enlisted, and he fought in the Battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill in De Soto Parish, Louisiana, as part of the Red River Campaign as well as participating in the Camden, Arkansas, Campaign with Gen. Kirby Smith.

Southern Secession cannot be equated to treason cont.

I am very much offended when anyone calls him a traitor. I am tired of seeing and hearing my revered relatives maligned.

I have only one question for those of a mindset like Mr. Celerier: What would you have had my grandfather do? Should he have skulked away like a common coward or should he have taken up arms against his own family and friends by joining their enemies? He chose to defend his family, his friends, his home and his state by putting his life on the line. He deserves my respect, and he deserves your respect. When we come to the point there is no honor in fighting to defend the things you we cherish and love, we will have lost something worth treasuring. With today's lunacy of open season on all things Confederate sweeping the country caused by some psychopath in South Carolina who murdered innocent people and was pictured holding a Confederate battle flag, we are drawing ever so close.



Don Boydston is a Longview resident.
Link to the Longview News-Journal

https://www.news-journal.com/opinion/forum/boydston-southern-secession-cannot-be-equated-to-treason/article_c44f25e0-bd67-5a61-859c-98b56c4b2651.html

1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter, Darlington, SC

The 1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter continues their fine tradition of bringing in excellent speakers to share their stories and knowledge of the South's Confederate history.



At the chapter meeting in December 2017, Ben Blair, spoke on the murder of his Great Grandfather in Camden, SC. His Great Grandfather was a former Confederate Veteran. Very interesting story that happened after the war.



Larry Jones showing his membership certificates when he joined the DCV in Darlington, SC.



Guidon of the 2nd South Carolina Cavalry

**A FEW THOUGHTS REMEMBERING
BARNEY HILBURN**

November 26, 1934 - February 5, 2018

Pre DCV in another heritage organization I knew of a man mostly by reputation named Barney Hilburn. My first recollection of meeting Barney was at a program sponsored by the UDC at Camp Ben McCulloch in Driftwood, Texas in 2005.



Front: Walter "Dusty Rhodes (deceased) Steve von Roeder
Back: Terry Ayers, Glenn Toal, Jim Templin (deceased)
Barney Hilburn (deceased)

That began a friendship of twelve years that I will cherish all the days of my life. I won't pretend to have been a best friend or even a close friend but for sure a good friend. Living in different parts of our large state I would see Barney two, three times a year at most. I will say I made the most out of every opportunity to be his friend. One thing I learned is you can't think of Barney without seeing Barney in your mind. He had that much impact on a person. He could smile and laugh with the best of them and in the next instant drop those bushy eyebrows and cast a glare that would cause your eyebrows to raise. You always knew where you stood with Barney.

Barney had a passion for the DCV. Not being a founding member I wasn't involved in the work required of the founders to successfully get the DCV up and functioning. I do know Barney was in charge of giving the DCV its "looks." It helped that he and his wife Kay operated a business that supplied sports teams and others with uniforms adorned with logos, names, numbers, etc. He and Kay located vendors to produce DCV membership pins and DCV window stickers. Although we jokingly NEVER gave Barney credit or recognition, it was Barney that designed the beautiful DCV logo.

REMEMBERING BARNEY HILBURN cont.

One component of the DCV "look" is the DCV newsletter. Barney volunteered to publish the original DCV newsletter. He was also publishing separate newsletter for the East Texas Chapter.

Barney published the "DCV TODAY" monthly for eight years. At the 2013 mid-year Board meeting Barney revealed he was having some serious health issues and reluctantly asked to pass the newsletter torch. I accepted the task knowing I couldn't equal or best what Barney had created so I asked that I be allowed to change the name to the DCV TRAVELLER and publish it quarterly. Below is the front page of the February 2006 DCV TODAY. The third item Barney reminds the membership it is time to pay dues. In classic Barney style he very politely asks members to please take time "right now" to pay their dues.



1st Annual Reunion
Descendants of Confederate Veterans, a Texas Association
March 4, 2006

John Knox Memorial Banquet Center, Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum - Waco, Texas
Cost is \$15 for members; family and guests will pay \$5.00. Lunch and museum admission is included in fee. Donations will be gratefully accepted and appreciated.
Registration deadline has been extended to February 18, 2006. See page 2 for a registration form.
Some important business is scheduled and your vote is important.
Let's all help this be a really great 1st reunion!

The Confederate Reunion Grounds in Mexia, Texas, Needs Our Help

Go to their web site at: www.confederatereuniongrounds.org to read about, look at, and consider joining. You can download a membership application while on line. Your membership will help preserve this vital ground. Memberships are reasonable, so please consider joining and helping.

If you need a grave marker for a Confederate Veteran's grave...

Go to the following web site to get the necessary forms, and to look at what is available for the Confederate Veteran's grave: www.cem.va.gov/hm.htm Scroll

It's not too late to pay your dues for 2006

If you haven't paid yet, please take time right now, to send your \$16 to

David Whitaker
DCV
P.O. Box 866
Seabrook, TX 77586

Your cooperation in getting this matter closed out will be greatly appreciated.

About 33 DCV and UDC members were present in Austin for Lee's Birthday Celebration on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2006. Those pictured are L to R: Gary Loudermilk, Jim Price, Gillis Bartles, Barney Hilburn, Jim Templin (rear), and Steve von Roeder.

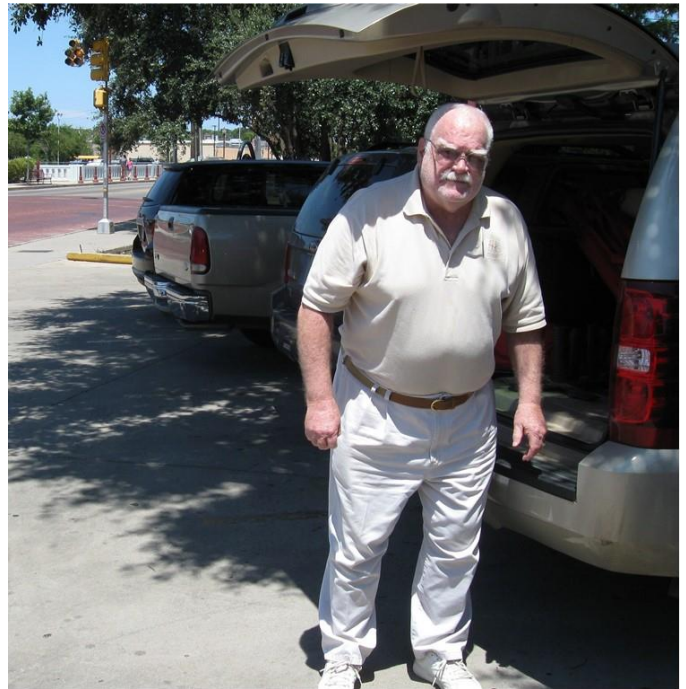
I could write pages of my memories of Barney, but as someone said "A picture is worth a thousand words." Here are a few thousand words from my photo archives. Enjoy... Remember...

Terry Ayers

REMEMBERING BARNEY HILBURN cont.



REMEMBERING BARNEY HILBURN cont.



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IN THEIR OWN WORDS

I belonged to R.E. Graves' Battery, S.B. Buckner's Division at Fort Donelson in February 1862. We arrived at Dover on Tuesday and took position on the hill in rear of the fort.

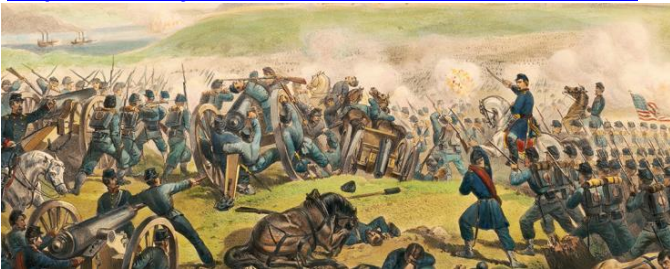
Col. Heiman's Tenth Tennessee supported our left; they were on a V shaped hill and Capt. Maney's Battery was on their left. During the attack on the Fort the shots from the gunboats passed over our battery and struck the V shaped hill. I can see them still in my memory. We remained on the battlefield three days after the surrender.

As we marched on board the steamer to be transported North General Buckner was in the crowd. The Yankee band struck up "Yankee Doodle," and a Federal officer asked General Buckner if it did not remind him of old times, and he replied, "Yes, it also reminds me of an incident that occurred in our camps a few days ago. A soldier was being drummed out of camp for stealing; the band was playing the Rogues March, when he said, "Hold on! Play Yankee Doodle, as half a million rogues march by that tune every day."

J. M. Lynn
Crystal Falls, Texas
January 1897

Link to the "Rogues March"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xt-zFMJUQ0w>



Fort Donelson



****DUES WERE PAYABLE JANUARY 1 ****

If you have not paid please pay now

If you are a member of a Chapter you pay both Association dues and Chapter dues to your Chapter Treasurer. Association dues are \$16 annually. Chapter dues may vary. Your Chapter Treasurer should contact you about submitting your dues.

If you are not a member of a Chapter you are an "At-Large" member and must send your dues to the Association Treasurer. Association Dues are \$16 annually.

Life Members do not pay annual dues to the Association. At Large Members submit your check payable to:

Descendants of Confederate Veterans

Mail to:

**Samuel Bennett
P.O. BOX 160773
Austin, TX 78716**

Life memberships are available

Age 18-59 years \$ 300.00

Age 60-69 years \$ 200.00

Age 70-79 years \$ 100.00

Age 80 + years \$ 50.00

DCV Website

www.DCVTX.org

Visit the DCV on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Descendants-of-Confederate-Veterans/149137755127037>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/1st-Lt-WE-James-Chapter/283117918488368>

The DCV TRAVELLER is published quarterly. Members are encouraged to contribute items of interest to the Editor for publication. The Summer edition will be published June 21, 2018

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