



DCV TRAVELLER

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

www.DCVTX.org

Summer 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:
Steve Lucas



Ladies and Gentlemen of the DCV,
I bring you all warm greetings. As I write this it is well over 90 degrees in North Texas with the current heat index in Denton at 106 degrees, supercell thunderstorms were all around and tornado warnings were coming and going all last night. In other words, the situation is normal in this part of the country. I pray that all of you are safe and not affected negatively by the weather or any other calamity that would put you or your family in jeopardy. If danger strikes, please remember that your DCV family is close by and willing to help. Please reach out and we will be there for you.

With the regular session of the Texas Legislature having come to an end, we have again dodged an attempt to do away with Confederate Heroes Day as a legal holiday in Texas. The attempt to end the holiday died in committee. Thanks to all who contacted their Texas legislator to voice their opposition to ending this holiday. As mentioned in the last issue of The Traveller, The United States military bases are being renamed as we speak. Fort Hood has fallen, as has Forts Bragg, Benning, Polk and others. We can't have a U.S. military base named after an Episcopal Bishop such as Leonidas Polk, after all!

I guess now ***all will be right with the world***. First, it was the flags. If those darned Confederate flags could just be eliminated, such as the Georgia and Mississippi flags, ***all would be right with the world***. Then it was the statues. If those darned Confederate statues could just be eliminated, the ones at the Southern courthouses (all paid for with private funds), ***all would be right with the world***. Then it was the other Confederate statues. If those darned Confederate statues in places other than courthouses...those to people like Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis and Stonewall Jackson and others...you know the ones, could be eliminated, yeah – like those ones on Monument Avenue in Richmond, Lee Park in Dallas, TX, and elsewhere all over America, ***all would be right with the world***. Then it was the statues and markers to the slave holders, but apparently just the white, famous, slave holders. (I reckon they just figured they'd forget about all those women, black, Native American, and other slave holders. That would just complicate things.) If those statues and markers could be eliminated, ***all would be right with the world***. Then it was the founding fathers, because they were mostly slave holders and colonialists... and if their very memory could be eliminated, ***all would be right with the world***. And by the way, all of this should be done with as much violence and insurrection as possible and such violence and insurrection is right and proper because...well because..."we" say so. Now there is a great effort underway to do away with the great Confederate Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery,

designed by Virginia Military Institute/Confederate Veteran Moses Ezekiel, who is buried at its base. I guess they figure that if only it could be eliminated, **all would be right with the world.**

Does anyone besides me see a pattern here? What do you think they will fight to remove next?

Perhaps it will be the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution. Perhaps the Liberty Bell will have to be hidden away. Perhaps Colonial Williamsburg should be closed down.

(Shhhhhh...slavery is depicted there by actual black people...) Maybe, they figure, if they can just go that one more step, **all will be right with the world.** After all, who is going to stop them?

I have read several articles in the last two days where on the game show "**Jeopardy**" on June 12, (just a few days ago), the host read the following clue to the contestants and asked them to fill in the blank; "**Our Father, which art in Heaven, _____ be thy name.**" None of the contestants buzzed in. None even attempted an answer. Social media was shocked. Even admitted atheists were stunned that none of these supposed "above average intelligence" contestants would even venture an answer. I will make no judgments on anybody's religious upbringing or presume to judge anyone's religious choice, but you would think that at least one out of three (the number of contestants on the show) would be well versed enough in common culture to have at least made an educated guess. Nope...crickets. Take that little tidbit of information for what it may be worth.

OK! Lucas, you exclaim! You have ranted like a lunatic for three paragraphs. What's your point? My point is this, my very good friends. We must all do what we can. There can be no shirkers here. Not every one of us is a reenactor. Not every one of us is a historian. Not every one of us is a writer or a researcher. Not every one of us is a public speaker. Not all of us have the physical ability to get out and attend meetings of a city council or county commission or historical commission. Not all of us have the talents or resources of the computer technology available today (your library is a great resource and available to help, by the way). But we all have one thing in common...we are descendants of Confederate Veterans. They are our family members are we are all proud of our family members.

Please make sure your own family members know their family relationship ties to their Confederate family members and how everyone is connected. Show them why they should be as proud as you are. If possible, follow those lines further back to the American Revolution, and bring those lines forward through the Spanish American War, WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, etc., all the way to the present. Preserve impeccable records for the children of today to have so that when they get old enough to become interested, they won't have to dig for proofs the way we have had to dig. Give them this great gift of the past – for the future. They are already dependent on the internet and cracking an actual "dead tree" source, what we call a "book" is not something they are likely to do. In 10 years they will never have heard of Fort Hood or Fort Bragg. Those will be foreign terms to the next generation. If you don't preserve those words for them and tell them that their great-grandfather served there – and show them where it is – they will not be interested. Those places will have been wiped from the map and there will be no reason for them to know they were ever there. The memories of Monument Avenue will be so far in the past 10 years from now that they will have never heard of them, because the importance of that Avenue no longer exists and will never more be taught. Plus, there will be no more reenactments to attend. They will be very politically incorrect. The word Confederate will be wiped out and there will be no more Confederate flags to fly. Please do not let part your family be extinguished. Please do not let OUR family be extinguished. I shudder to think what will happen when the last of the Greatest Generation is gone and can no longer defend what they saw and did. I can only be glad that my beloved parents won't be around to see it.

If we can put up monuments, markers, etc., we should do so. If we can preserve existing markers, monuments, buildings, etc., we should do so for as long as we are able. We should commit ourselves to passing along how vitally important it is that the generations after us do the same, not just for the Confederates we hold so dear, but for the others as well – from the Founders forward. Our President ended a speech today with the words; "God save the Queen, man." Draw from that what you will.

I thank each of you for what you continue to do for our Cause and for what you will do in the future.

To paraphrase:

May the good Lord bless you and keep you. May He make his face to shine down upon you and be gracious unto you. May He lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. And may He continue to bless our old Southland forever.

Steve Lucas

DCV Board President

Having to do with Confederate History Month and Confederate State Holidays

On the heels of the last issue of the DCV TRAVELLER came April. 2023 marked the 24th anniversary of Texas Senate Resolution 526 when the Texas Senate resolved on March 30, 1999 that April is Confederate History and Heritage month in Texas.



TEXAS SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 526

WHEREAS, April is the month in which the Confederate States of America began and ended a four-year struggle for states' rights, individual freedom, and local government control; and

WHEREAS, The State of Texas declared herself to be a free and independent state and subsequently joined the Confederate States of America of which it was a member state from 1861 until 1865; and

WHEREAS, The battlefields, monuments, museums, and other historical sites to be found in Texas allow our citizens and visitors to remember, study, and appreciate the men and women of that unique time in the history of Texas and the nation; and

WHEREAS, The flag of the State of Texas was carried by Texas Confederate soldiers in every major battle of the War Between the States and the state contributed over 115,000 soldiers and sailors to the service of the Confederate States of America; and

WHEREAS, During the period of reconciliation, Texas Confederate veterans became instrumental in the continued development of our state and local governments and our institutions of higher learning; and

WHEREAS, We honor our past and draw from it the courage, strength, and wisdom to go forward into the future together as Texans and Americans; and

WHEREAS, The State of Texas has long recognized her Confederate history and the leaders who made sacrifices on behalf of the Confederate cause; and

WHEREAS, The Texans who served in the War Between the States are memorialized in almost every county in the state, and many cities and counties in the State of Texas bear the name of Confederate veterans; and

WHEREAS, It is important for all Texans to reflect upon our state's past and to respect the devotion of her Confederate leaders, soldiers, and citizens to the cause of Southern liberty; and

WHEREAS, In years since the war, the morally abhorrent practice of slavery has in the minds of many Texans become the prime motivation of Southern soldiers, despite the fact that 98 percent of Texas Confederate soldiers never owned a slave and never fought to defend slavery; and

WHEREAS, Politically correct revisionists would have Texas children believe that their Confederate ancestors fought for slavery when in fact most Texans joined the Confederate armed forces to defend their homes, their families, and their proud heritage as Texans; and

WHEREAS, Confederate Memorial Day in April is a time for all Texans to honor those men and women who died for Texas, and also all the Texans who came afterward and benefitted from their legacy of honor and devotion to our state; now, therefore, be it **RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 76th Legislature, hereby recognize April as Confederate History and Heritage Month in the State of Texas and encourage all Texas schools and citizens to join in efforts to become more knowledgeable of the role of the Confederate States of America in the history of our country.

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 30, 1999

James Michael "Mike" Jackson
President of the Senate
76TH Legislative Session

Having to do with Confederate History Month and Confederate State Holidays

Also in Texas by law “Confederate Heroes Day”, January 19th is a state holiday. When the Texas legislature was established in 1846, travel was difficult so like many other states the body would only be in session every two years. Today, all but Texas, Montana, Nevada and North Dakota have switched to every year.

In 2017 Confederate Heroes Day became a target for lawmakers to introduce legislation to change the wording defining the holiday. Texas State Representative Helen Giddings from Dallas sponsored a Bill that would change the meaning of the holiday and the date it would be observed.



The law in place: *“The 19th of January, Confederate Heroes Day in honor of Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, and other Confederate Heroes.”* The Bill’s text: *“Replace Confederate Heroes Day with Civil War Remembrance Day the second Monday in May to honor the men and women who served during the Civil War.”*

As expected the local media did its best to help promote the Bill. The Bill failed to get a public hearing and died in committee.

That started the ball rolling not just to redefine the holiday, but to completely abolish Confederate Heroes Day in Texas.

When the legislature came back in session in 2019 Houston Representative Jarvis Johnson introduced legislation that was more straight forward.

Representative Johnson’s Bill would remove the wording *“The 19th of January, Confederate Heroes Day in honor of Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, and other Confederate Heroes”*. It would simply no longer be a state of Texas holiday.

During that session the Bill did get a public hearing in the State Affairs Committee.

Having to do with Confederate History cont.



Jarvis Johnson

Texas State Representative District 136

Few people stayed to testify in favor or against due to the hearing being part of a marathon hearing on several Bills lasting 14 hours. His Bill was not heard until 2:00 a.m. Representative Johnson brought several individuals to the hearing to speak in favor of the Bill. There were only two, myself included that spoke in opposition.

The Bill subsequently died in committee without a vote to advance it.

That did not deter Representative Johnson from introducing the exact same Bill in the 2021 session. Again in that session, the Bill died in the State Affairs committee. That time without a public hearing or a vote to advance it.

Being a two time loser did Representative Johnson give up? Of course not. In fact, just prior to the just completed 2023 session Representative Johnson held a news conference promoting the same Bill. It was carried by multiple major media outlets including the NBC affiliate KXAN in Austin. The Texas Tribune contacted the DCV following the news conference seeking a comment. The DCV politely responded the DCV was aware of his Bill and have no further comment. To view the “low lights” of the news conference carried by the insanely woke Austin media click the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S1PXQ2yZXuY>

In the just completed 2023 session Representative Johnson’s Bill failed for the third time. For four sessions in a row a Bill to change or abolish a pro Confederate law has failed.

Having to do with Confederate History cont.

The DCV is thankful for everyone who responded to the call to contact Chairman Todd Hunter and members of the Texas House State Affairs Committee to voice opposition to HB 51.



It certainly would be appropriate to contact House State Affairs Committee Chairman Hunter thanking him for not supporting the divisive HB 51.

<https://house.texas.gov/members/member-page/?district=32>

The Texas legislature will convene again in 2025. We can almost guarantee there will be legislation filled again to abolish Confederate Heroes Day. The DCV and its members MUST maintain the will to fight it, to defeat it...



States that commemorate/observe/celebrate Confederate history/heritage month/Confederate Memorial Day/Confederate birthdays by legal statute or proclamation.



Alabama

Confederate History Month: April
Confederate Memorial Day: Fourth Monday in April.
Robert E. Lee, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday: Third Monday in January.
Jefferson Davis' birthday: First Monday in June.



Arkansas

Confederate Flag Day: Saturday
Immediately preceding Easter Sunday



Florida

Confederate History Month: April
Robert E. Lee's birthday: January 19th
Confederate Memorial Day: April 26th
Jefferson Davis' Birthday: June 3rd

States that commemorate/observe/celebrate cont.



Georgia

Confederate History Month: April

Confederate Memorial Day: Fourth Monday in April



Mississippi

Politics continue to play a role in Mississippi. Although publically Martin Luther King Jr. gets top billing in the media, Mississippi's State Holidays Statute reads "The third Monday of January (Robert E. Lee's birthday and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday) is declared to be a state holiday"

Mississippi also observes "Confederate Memorial Day" on the last Monday in April and "National Memorial Day and Jefferson Davis' birthday" on the last Monday in May. Mississippi also officially observes April as Confederate Heritage Month.



Louisiana

Confederate History Month: April

States that commemorate/observe/celebrate cont.



North Carolina

Confederate Memorial Day: May 10th



South Carolina

Confederate Memorial Day: May 10th



Tennessee

Confederate History Month: April

States that commemorate/observe/celebrate



Texas

Confederate History Month: April
Confederate Heroes Day: January 19th



Virginia

Confederate History Month: April

Member Activities

In celebration and observance of Confederate History month Capitol Chapter members Lyn and husband Steve von Roeder participated in a ceremony sponsored by Lyn's UDC L.A. Turner Chapter 2618, Bastrop, Texas.



DCV Member Lyn von Roeder back row, far right with her faithful companion "Gracie"

Continued Top of Page

Member Activities cont.

Twenty-five Confederate graves including several from the Battle of Pleasant Hill that served in the 4th Texas Cavalry, same unit as Steve's ancestors.



Steve & Lyn von Roeder

In addition to placing flags on the Confederate graves Lyn von Roeder enlightened the attendees with a fascinating program on Confederate tea pots.



Elkington Confederate States Navy silver plated tea pot. Elkington hallmarks making this correct period on bottom with Charleston CSN stamps.

This example recently up for auction in Florida was valued at \$300-\$500



Red Rock Cemetery

Continued Next Page

Member Activities cont.

Capitol Chapter member Dr. Samuel Bennett on a trip to the middle of West Texas took in a bit of early Texas Confederate history in that far reaching outpost Fort Davis. It's interesting to note that on October 23, 1854 General Persifor F. Smith, in command of the Department of Texas, issued the order officially establishing Fort Davis. Smith, who had personally selected the site, named it in honor of then U.S. Secretary of War, Jefferson Davis. Jeff Davis County, Texas where Fort Davis is located wasn't founded until 1887, and also named for Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

Photos submitted by Sam Bennett



Inscription

Old Fort Davis
CSA

Confederate supply point and frontier outpost on great military road from San Antonio to El Paso 1861-62. After surrendered by U. S. Army, occupied by detachment 22nd Texas Mounted Rifles. Apaches ambushed patrol from fort under Lt. Mays in Big Bend area August 1861. Used by Texas Confederate troops en route to and from New Mexico-Arizona campaign to stop flow of Gold to North and gain access to Pacific. Two cannons buried nearby on return have never been found. Occupied briefly California Union Cavalry, August 1862.

A memorial to Texans who served the Confederacy.
Erected by the State of Texas 1963

Member Activities cont.



Inscription

Confederate President
(1808-1889)

Friend of Texas, visited first as officer Mexican war 1847. As Secretary of War in 1855 built up frontier forts to open west Texas to settlers. Camels imported for patrols, hauling.

His Postmaster-General and personal aide were Texans as were many on general staff

After post-war release from prison, visited state and old soldiers he once had told in wartime "Troops from other states had their reputations to gain, but sons of the Alamo have theirs to maintain.

County named for him in 1887.



Center of town Texas State Highway 118

1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER

The speaker for the April meeting was Brian Gandy, Director of the Darlington County Historical Commission and Museum. His program was on the addition to the present museum and the current state of the construction.



Brian Gandy

1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.



Lots of Windows



Brian showed several photos of the work being done



New decorative lanterns being hung in the lobby



Three large windows installed in the visitors gallery



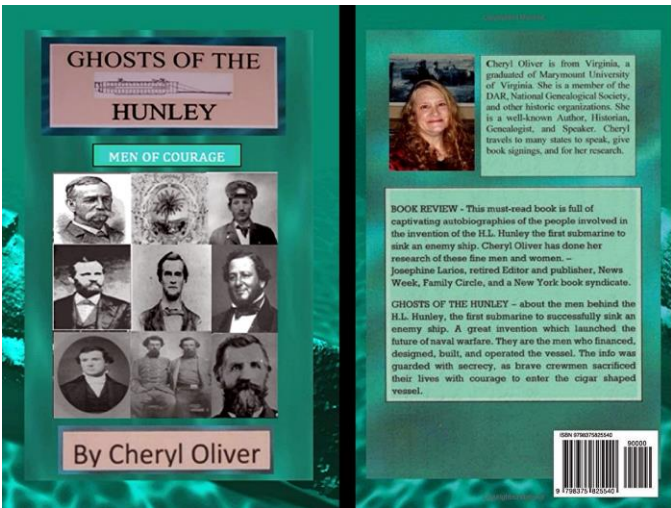
Preparing for paving

For an in-depth look at the expansion project click on this link: <https://dchcblog.net/museum-expansion-project/>

1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.



Cheryl Oliver, author, genealogist, and historian was the speaker at the chapter's May meeting. Her program was about her book series titled Ghosts of the Hunley.



Cheryl Oliver's series of Ghosts of the Hunley can be purchased on Amazon.

1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.



Chapter member Patrick Coxe presented with a certificate of appreciation by Chapter President Ernie Hales on behalf of the Pee Dee Rifles.



A certificate of appreciation was presented to Darlington resident Steve Coker for working 5 days cleaning, cutting and removing overgrown vines and broken limbs from the Brunson Family Cemetery. The cemetery is located across the street from his residence.



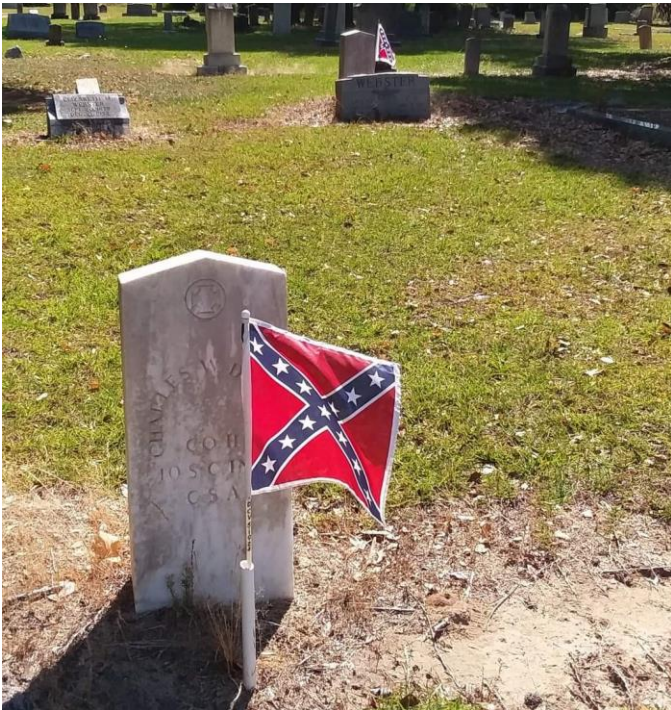
Chapter member Joseph Matheson presented with a certificate of appreciation by Chapter President Ernie Hales on behalf of the Pee Dee Rifles.



At Garner Cemetery, Darlington, SC members of the James Chapter cleaned Confederate graves and placed flags in their memory.



1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.



On Confederate Memorial Day flags were placed on the graves of Confederates buried in Casselman Cemetery, Lake City, South Carolina.



A wreath with the W.E. James chapter's namesake was also placed in Casselman Cemetery.

1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.

The June chapter meeting was held at Takis Restaurant, the chapter's regular meeting and eating venue. Guest speaker was friend of the DCV Jeff Dudley.



Jeff Dudley is a Marlborough County historian with ancestors from the county going back several generations. His program was about Robert Blair Campbell, arguably the most interesting and certainly the most traveled politician in the county.

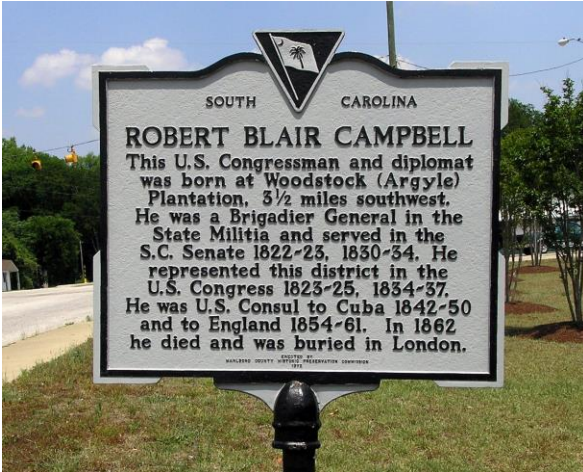


Robert Blair Campbell (1791 – July 12, 1862) This photo taken in London in the Spring of 1862, just months before Blair's passing.

1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.

Robert Campbell's father was a British Soldier with the 71st Highlanders during the Revolutionary War. After the war he settled near present day Blenheim, SC in Marlborough County.

During the War of 1812 Robert's father offered his son an officer's position in the British Army that Robert flatly refused and fought for America. It was after that he begin his illustrious career as a politician and diplomat.



It is interesting to note Robert's first wife was the daughter of Ludwell Lee, 1st cousin of Robert E. Lee. He also has ties to Texas. After surviving an assassination attempt in Cuba Robert moved to San Antonio, Texas and was appointed Commissioner for the United States to aid in settlement of the disputed boundary line between Texas and Mexico on March 16, 1853.

1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.

In a very special moment during the meeting chapter member Heather Heape, daughter of chapter President Ernie Hales was presented with a thoughtful and caring gift.



Heather is currently receiving and responding well to chemo therapy. As of this writing Heather has completed Chemo #5 and excited she only has one left. She has adopted as her new motto Romans 12:12 *"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer asks that all stay joyful, patient and pray."* Amen!




Chapter member Bob Jones leads the applause



The quilt was made by a group of ladies at Chapter member Joseph Matheson's church. The ladies donate their time and quilts to those on their prayer list with serious health issues.

The DCV TRAVELLER is the member's newsletter.
Please submit items of interest that relates
to our Confederate history and heritage to the
DCV TRAVELLER Editor Terry Ayers.
mototerry@sbcglobal.net

The 2023 Fall Edition of the DCV TRAVELLER will
be sent to members September 21, 2023.



Descendants of Confederate Veterans
Texas Association
501 (c) (3)
Non-profit organization

Mission Statement:

To establish and maintain an honorable, non-racist
Southern heritage and history organization
dedicated to perpetuation of the memory and
spirit of the Confederate Soldiers and Sailors who
served their country during the War Between the
States, 1861-1865.

Life Memberships are available

Life Members do not pay
annual association dues
Age 18-59 years \$ 300.00
Age 60-69 years \$ 200.00
Age 70-79 years \$ 100.00
Age 80 + years \$ 50.00

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