



# DCV TODAY

## Descendants of Confederate Veterans

A Texas Based Association, with groups meeting near your location.

OCTOBER, 2012

Ladies and Gentlemen of the DCV,

Not long ago I was doing some “straightening up” at home, trying to impose some semblance of order on a spare room. Now sometimes this consists of nothing more than moving stuff from one place to another within the room, but that day I was getting immersed much deeper in the process of rearrangement, even sorting through old magazines and books. I happened to come across several issues of magazines published by a particular heritage group I used to belong to. Those issues had come out just about the time I had decided not to continue my membership and during the time when the formation of the DCV was seriously being discussed by our founders.

I sat down with several issues and decided to read a few of the editorials. The first was on the subject of the burial of the remains of those brave Confederate sailors who had such a profound impact on the history of naval warfare while sacrificing their lives aboard the CSS Hunley. The editor complained about the fact that the United

States flag was to be at the head of the funeral procession in the streets of Charleston, South Carolina, and he complained in the strongest of terms. He talked about what an affront it would be to those Confederate sailors to suffer the indignity of having the flag they had fought against placed at the head of their funeral procession. He also declared that he personally would have no part in any of it. As one who believes in complete freedom of expression, with no exceptions, I did not find the comments to be treasonous or seditious, but I did judge them to be crude and horribly unpatriotic.

I picked up another magazine and began reading another editorial. This time the editor was railing against a statue of President Lincoln which was proposed to be erected in Richmond, Virginia. Evidently, a few days after the city had fallen, President Lincoln and his young son Todd had visited there, and a statue of the two had been proposed and was about to become a reality. The editor protested in the most strident of tones. Again, I must defend the writer on the grounds of free speech even

though I personally found it to be totally reprehensible and asinine. I closed the magazine and put them all away. I had enough.

I had trouble getting the words and ideas out of my mind. Finally I came to the same conclusions I had come to years before: there is no place in the United States of America or its territories where the United States flag is not appropriate; there is no place in the United States of America or its territories where a statue of a United States President is not appropriate. It is that simple.

Compatriots, I thank you for being civil human beings who never subject me or anyone else in our fine organization to the kind of mental abuse I encountered in the pages of those magazines. Thank you all for being patriotic Southern Americans who keep things in proper perspective, who can honor both flags, both sets of leaders, and most importantly, both philosophies with grace and wisdom.

With Kindest Regards and Sincerest Thanks,

J. D. Boydston

President, Board of Directors

Descendants of Confederate Veterans of Texas

## EDITORS MUSINGS

Finally the Summer doldrums has ended, at least here in E. Texas. Some rain has helped a lot and it looks like the grass will still grow.

I noticed the other day that there was a sign downtown (at the stop light) saying 'the return of the Battle of Ft. Crawford Re-enactment'.

Now this really disturbs me for several reasons.....

First, but duly noted in the newspaper, there was never a battle at Ft. Crawford. How can you have a re-enactment of something that never took place. To call it a demonstration would be more realistic.

Second, there was never a "fort" at what was called Ft. Crawford. To call a two story clapboard building with a school room on the bottom and a masons hall on the second floor is a little out of the question.

I am a little disillusioned at the organizers of this DEMONSTRATION for their lack of historical events. Anyway, that's my 'dos centavos'.

## DCV REUNION

Well the votes are in and it looks like we will be going to Brenham on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, 2012. A schedule of events and room information to follow.

## PRAYER REQUEST.

This is something that isn't often seen in this newsletter, but to me and others in this organization, it is important.

“There's a lady I've known forever. She's very sick; and on top of that, she's being abused by those to whom she has given everything. Lies about her abound, and seem to come from all sides. Breaks my heart, and seems there is nothing I can do by myself, but maybe if we can join in and lift her up together, we can heal her.

She is well over 230 years old, but way too young to die.

Her name is America, and I love her and always will. Take time to say a prayer for her – even if it is a short, simple prayer like, Lord Please heal our land. Amen”.



Steve von Roeder, Terry Ayers, Sam Bennett with two “recruits” at the Pound House

## SAM BELL MAXEY

Maxey was a military veteran and graduate of West Point, where he finished next-to-last in the class of “46. However, he distinguished himself in the Mexican War.

He resigned from the army to practice law with his father and in 1857 moved to Paris, Texas, with his father and wife, Marilda. The people of North Texas had elected him to the Texas Senate before the war; now they depended on him to keep the Yankees out of Texas.

At the outbreak of the war, Maxey formed the Lamar Rifles, which became a part of the 9<sup>th</sup> Texas infantry. After serving in Kentucky, Tennessee and Vicksburg, he was sent to Indian Territory. Low morale, high desertion and lack of basic living tools was causing unrest among the Indians. Using his diplomatic and oratorical skills, Maxey reassured the Indians supposedly fighting for the CSA, these needs would soon be on the way as promised. They stuck with him even as it turned out to be a false hope.

In an odd sort of way, Maxey was one of the more progressive officers, on matters of race, than any other CW Commander. He declared that no consideration of color – between red and white – be taken into account when promotions were issued. Largely through his recommendation, Cherokee warrior Stand Watie was promoted to General.

Maxey was ordered to Arkansas where BG Marmaduke captured a Union wagon train and told to take over from Marmaduke. To Maxey's credit, he told Marmaduke to continue the fight and Maxey would stand by lending support when and if needed. This victory gave the Indians something to brag about lifting their morale for some time to come.

The Indians and Maxey fought a guerilla type warfare, taking victories where they came. Their efforts kept the Yankees out of Texas, at least during the war.

After the war, Maxey returned to Paris, Tx., practiced law and, after receiving a Presidential Pardon, returned to Politics as a US Senator.

Article from the DMWV Newsletter by Sandra Blandford

### GOOD NEWSPAPER HEADLINES

“Mainers refuse to work after death”

And one more

“Enfield (London) couple slain; Police suspect homicide”

REMEMBER TO PLACE THE 22<sup>ND</sup> OF FEBRUARY ON YOUR CALENDER FOR THE REUNION. AGAIN DETAILS WILL FOLLOW ASAP FOR RESERVATIONS, ETC.