

DESCENDANTS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS A TEXAS BASED ASSOCIATION WITH CHAPTERS IN TEXAS AND SOUTH CAROLINA www.DCVTX.org

FALL 2018

<u>PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE</u>: Jerry Don Boydstun

Dear Members and Friends,

As the year begins to wind down along with my tenure as a board officer, this seems to be a good opportunity for me to extend my best wishes and heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you. Your continued support of our organization through what has to be considered extremely difficult times is, as General Jackson was wont to say, "commendable". In my opinion you are never thanked enough so count me as one who greatly appreciates your financial and moral support, and I want you all to know you have my sincere gratitude.

Over the course of the past few months, the Veterans Day Parade in Austin has become paramount in our operations. At the mid-year meeting of the Board of Directors there was a display of unanimity and like-mindedness which is rare for any group in deciding to seek a legal remedy if we are denied access to the parade. The first amendment to the US Constitution states:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE cont:

peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

This is the first amendment! Considering the possibility the Founding Fathers enumerated the Bill of Rights in order of importance, this is the very first one and most important. We have a Constitutional Right as American citizens to freedom of speech and expression as well as a right to 'symbolic speech' (as defined by the Supreme Court), which includes our emblems, flags, uniforms and other accoutrements as pertains to our legal charter by the State of Texas. I am expecting the City of Austin is going to be reminded of this in the near future along with the Parade Committee.

We have a Constitutional right as American citizens to assemble and express our support for all US veterans of all wars, just as any other group does. We are not limited to 'Confederate' veterans. Many of us are United States veterans ourselves, including me. At times it seems ludicrous that we should have to remind anyone we have these rights just the same as anyone else, and we shall never let them be taken away from us without a good fight. I end this message to you with both feet firmly

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE cont:

implanted upon the US Constitution. If there is a Bill of Rights, if there is justice and equality, then the petty resolutions of a misguided city council or municipal governing body can never be greater than the laws of the United States of America.

J.D.

2018 Mid-Year Board of Directors Meeting

The mid-year DCV Board of Directors meeting was held on August 25th in Hillsboro, Texas. All meetings of the Board of Directors are open to all members of the DCV. In attendance was President J.D. Boydstun, Secretary/Treasurer Dr. Samuel Bennett, Membership Chairman/Registrar Carl Hedges Jr. and General Board Members Terry Ayers, Michael Dunagan, and Steve von Roeder. Also attending the meeting were Debbie Boydstun, Kay Hilburn, Amy Hilburn, Robbin Hedrick, Lyn von Roeder, David Routh, Glenn Toal, and Susie Toal.



President Boydstun called the meeting to order and DCV Chaplain Steve von Roeder gave the invocation. Amy Hilburn led the group in reciting pledges to the U.S. and Texas flags followed by the salute to the Confederate Flag.

President Boydstun continued the meeting following the regular order of business. Treasurer's report was given by Dr. Sam Bennett. Dr. Bennett reported treasury is in great financial shape with no outstanding debts. The treasury balance was announced and is available at all times to any member upon request.

2018 Mid-Year Board of Directors Meeting cont:



Robbin Hedrick Dr. Samuel Bennett Lyn von Roeder

Membership Chairman Carl Hedges Jr. reported growth in membership has slowed considerably and encouraged all members to recruit potential members while still holding true to quality over quantity. He expressed a special effort be made to attract younger potential members.

East Texas Chapter Report:

Members Robbin Hedrick and J.D. Boydstun provided an update on the planned DCV cemetery marker placement and dedication ceremony for the East Mountain Cemetery located near the town of Longview, Texas. The marker that contains the names of Confederate veterans buried in the cemetery has been received and September 22nd was the date selected for the dedication ceremony. NOTE: A full report on the dedication ceremony will appear in the 2018 Winter edition of the DCV TRAVELLER.



J.D. Boydstun Debbie Boydstun Robbin Hedrick

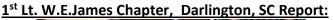
Capitol Chapter Report:

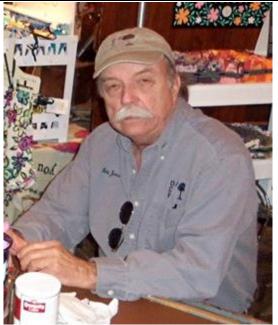
Chapter President Steve von Roeder reported membership remains strong and the focus in Austin has been heritage defense with the main issue being an all-out assault by the Mayor of Austin to block the DCV from participating in the annual Austin Veterans Day Parade. That issue will be addressed further in this newsletter. He reported the Capitol Chapter has once again been invited to participate in Pioneer Days, a living history event at the historical farmstead of founder Dr. Joseph Pound. Dr. Pound was a Confederate surgeon with the 18th Texas Cavalry. The event is also on September 22nd so a full report will be in the 2018 Winter edition of the DCV TRAVELLER



Lyn von Roeder

Steve von Roeder





Bob Jones The following report from Chapter President Bob Jones was shared by President Boydstun.

1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Report cont:

"The 1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter is involved in many projects pertaining to our Confederate history. Our chapter meetings have been superb in the quality of speakers we are fortunate enough to obtain. From professors, historians, authors, artifact collectors, to our own members. Attendance has been good, normally 12 to 23 folks show up at our meetings. We have participated in several Memorial Day services, street festival, and the SC Highway Cleanup Project.



1365 Harry Byrd Hwy Darlington, SC

We are planning a field trip to Kinston, NC where the CSS Ram Nuse Gunboat is located. Also there were two battles in Kinston, so there is a lot to see and learn. The Chapter in in the process of putting together a memorial Service for two members of the Hampton Iron Scouts who are buried at the Welsh Neck Baptist Cemetery in Society Hill, SC. This should be a great event and a good turnout. When we do these memorial services we try to locate living relatives and invite them to the event. They are usually amazed that a group such as ours would honor one of their ancestors whom we are not related. As you can see we keep busy and will continue to honor our Confederate Veterans."

The chapter's July meeting guest speaker was Ron York. Ron York gave an excellent power point presentation on the "Diary of Bartlett Malone, Co. H 6th North Carolina Infantry.

1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Report cont:



Ron York on the right being presented the chapter's Certificate of Appreciation by chapter President Bob Jones.



Bartlett Malone, Co. H 6th North Carolina Infantry.

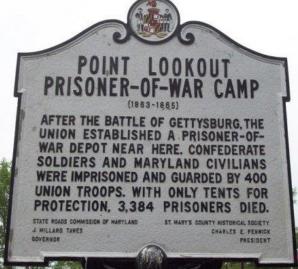
"I was born and raised in North Carolina, Caswell County in the Year of our Lord 1838. And was graduated in the corn field and tobacco patch; and enlisted in the war June 18th 1861. was a member of the Caswell Boys Company which was commanded by Captain Michel (A.A. Mitchell). And was attached to the 6th N.C. Regiment the 9th day of July '61..."

Here are a few lines from Malone's diary that he wrote while imprisoned at Point Lookout:

"The first day of July 1861 I left home, and the first day of July 1862 I was in the fight of Malvern Hill, and the first day of July 1863 I was in the fight at Gettysburg, and today which is the first day of July, I am at Point Lookout M.d."

"The night of the 7th a negro sentinel shot one of our men and killed him for no cause at all."

"The morning was pleasant but toward evening the air changed and the night was very cold. Was so cold that five of our men froze to death before morning. We all suffered a great deal with cold and hunger. Two of our men was so hungry to day that they caught a rat and cooked and eat it. Their names was Segt. N.W. Hester & I.C. Covington."





Bartlett Yancey Malone Born January 22, 1839 Died May 4, 1890 (age 54) Buried Lynches Creek Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery Cobalt, North Carolina

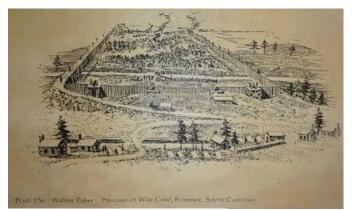
1st Lt. W.E.James Chapter, Darlington, SC cont.

August speaker was Johnny Andrews from Hartsville, SC. Johnny is an officer in "The Friends of the Florence Stockade". His excellent program was on the Guards Life at the Florence Stockade in Florence, SC. The program was enjoyed by all.

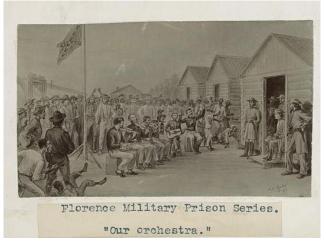


Johnny Andrews on the left being presented the chapter's Certificate of Appreciation by chapter President Bob Jones.

The Florence Stockade, also known as The Stockade or the Confederate States Military Prison at Florence, was a Confederate prisoner of war camp located on the outskirts of Florence, SC



The Florence Stockade



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



The prison operated from September 1864 through February 1865; during this time, as many as 18,000 Union soldiers were imprisoned there, about 2,800 of whom died.

2018 Mid-Year Board of Directors Meeting cont.

Following the_chapter reports discussion took place to determine a proposed location for the 2019 DCV annual reunion. This is always a difficult decision due to the size of Texas and the radius in miles where the majority of members reside. President Boydstun opened the discussion with a proposal submitted by DCV founding member Gary M. Loudermilk. Gary is a member of the Capitol Chapter and a life member of the DCV. Mr. Loudermilk has suggested the Board consider Comanche, Texas as a possible meeting site. Below is Mr. Loudermilk's proposal.

"The Comanche Housing Authority Community Center and office is available and has both a large room and a Board Room. A few years ago the Center building was named for District Judge Newton Lindsey. The Comanche cemetery is across the street from the Center and Judge Lindsey's grave is right in front of the Center. A battle flag flies on his grave. Judge Lindsey fought for the Confederacy in an Alabama unit and came to Comanche in 1874. Theresa Nabers is the Director of the Housing Authority and is of course our daughter and a DCV member. In the middle of the cemetery is a UDC monument honoring the dozens of Confederate veterans buried in the cemetery."

2018 Mid-Year Board of Directors Meeting cont.

After a short discussion the Board moved to tentatively select Comanche as the site for the 2019 DCV annual reunion. President Boydstun will contact Mr. Loudermilk and work with him to secure the location. The annual reunion is typically held in February so there is plenty of time to work out the details. All members will be given full details in the Winter edition of the DCV TRAVELLER. Map Link to Comanche:

https://goo.gl/maps/V5XUmXTtpi42

President's Award:

The 2018 mid-year Board of Directors meeting wrapped up with the presentation of two President's Awards. Current President J.D. Boydstun presented Capitol Chapter member Terry Ayers with a plaque for "Outstanding Heritage Preservation."

Immediate past President Terry Ayers presented an acrylic base mounted award in the shape of the state of Texas to Capitol Chapter member Dr. Samuel Bennett for his outstanding performance serving as Special Officer Comptroller for the Descendants of Confederate Veterans.



Dr. Samuel Bennett

Past DCV President Terry Ayers



History and Update on the Austin Veterans Day Parade

The DCV was established in 2005. The Capitol Chapter charter did not take effect in time to participate in the 2005 Austin Veterans Day Parade. In 2006 the Capitol Chapter begin its annual participation. For the next eight years the chapter participated with the overwhelming support of the city and county. The entry has always brought cheers and applause from those attending the parade. Prior to the 2015 parade a single individual came forward to protest the flying of the Battle Flag of the Army of Northern Virginia. The protest was rejected by the parade committee and the Capitol Chapter participated as it had in the past. The decision by the parade committee was not well received by Travis County Commissioners Court Judge Sarah Eckhardt. Travis County was a co-sponsor of the parade providing administrative support to the committee through the Travis County Veterans Service Office. Unable to force her will on the committee Judge Eckhardt withdrew the county from its supporting role. The parade went on without any incident.

The following year, 2016 another protest was brought before the parade committee by a different individual. Although not forced to do so both the DCV and the SCV who also participates in the annual parade agreed to limit the display of flags to one of each design, including the ANV Battle Flag. Again the parade went on without incident.

Prior to the 2017 parade (last year) the parade committee was contacted by City of Austin Mayor Steve Adler in an attempt to persuade the committee to end our participation in the parade. The parade committee declined to "ban" the two Confederate heritage organizations from participating. In a good will gesture both the Capitol Chapter and the Austin SCV Camp agreed not to fly the ANV Battle Flag but would continue to fly the 1st National Flag of the Confederacy and other "regimental" flags with Hardee patterns and variants of the Texas Flag such as the 1st Texas Infantry. That wasn't good enough for City of Austin Mayor Steve Adler.

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History and Update on the Austin Veterans Day Parade cont:

In an expression of protest Mayor Adler called a media press conference and announced he would boycott the parade.

Not being able to legally ban our participation Mayor Adler and Austin city councilman Sabino "Pio" Renteria introduced a resolution to deny fee waivers to the parade committee if they continued to include the Confederate heritage organizations participation. It didn't name the groups specifically but there is NO question it targets us and only us. It passed on a split vote 9-2. Two council members voted against it. One who voted against it is an African American woman.

What the mayor and the city of Austin did was send a <u>blackmail</u> message to the committee stating if they allow our participation in the 2018 Veterans day Parade the city will NOT waive the \$21,000 in fees and assistance they have always waived in the past.

At the mid-year DCV Board meeting the Board approved a motion to submit an application for participation to challenge the committee to either do the right thing or cave to political blackmail.

One bright spot is it may be the only Veterans day parade in Austin but it is not the only Veterans Day Parade in Texas. Capitol Chapter President Steve von Roeder contacted the Fredericksburg, Texas Veterans Day Parade committee and they are welcoming our participation. Bottom line, the DCV WILL participate in a Veterans Day Parade on November 11th.



City of Austin, Texas RESOLUTION NO. 20180809-059

WHEREAS, at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, Germany signed an armistice agreement with the United States of America and its allies to end World War I; and

WHEREAS, on November 11, 1919, President Woodrow Wilson issued a message on the first Armistice Day following World War I acknowledging "solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service"; and

WHEREAS, in 1938, the United States Congress declared the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday to be dedicated to the cause of world peace celebrated as "Armistice Day" to honor veterans of World War I; and

WHEREAS, in 1954, Congress recognized the American Armed Forces that fought bravely in World War II and during the aggression in Korea and honored them by changing "Armistice Day" to "Veterans Day"; and

WHEREAS, the term "Armed Forces" is defined by 38 U.S.C.A. § 101 as "the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard, including the reserve components thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Austin City Council recognizes that Veterans Day is a celebration intended to honor those who have served in of the Armed Forces of the

United States of America for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The Council supports events and parades celebrating Veterans Day where the entire community can join together to honor those that have served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

RESOLUTION NO. 20180809-059 cont:

The Council recognizes that to keep the focus only on this goal, a Veterans Day event or parade would not celebrate, feature, or allow uniforms, flags, or symbols of any military armed forces other than the Armed Forces of the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council hereby expresses its desire for city resources, including fee waivers for special events, to be used only for Veterans Day events and parades that only honor those who have served in the United States of America's Armed Forces.

ADOPTED: August 9 2018

ATTEST: Jannette S. Goodall, City Clerk

Battle of Sabine Pass:

In a previous issue the DCV TRAVELLER recognized DCV Founding Member Dr. Gary M. Loudermilk for being selected to receive "The Davis Guards/Dick Dowling Medal" for his many years of exceptional dedicated service as a member of the MOS&B. This issue of the DCV TRAVELLER takes a deeper look at the Battle of Sabine Pass.

It's September and any Texan with Confederate ancestors don't need to be reminded that 155 years ago 40 Irish-immigrant artillerists spared the State of Texas from an invasion by Union forces in what Confederate President Jefferson Davis termed the "Thermopylae of the Confederacy".

Lt. Richard "Dick" Dowling and the Davis Guards defeated an advanced Union invasion force of 20 vessels and 5,000 men. But unlike the Greeks at Thermopylae, who were all slaughtered, not a man was lost by the Confederate forces. They incapacitated and captured two Union gunboats, three hundred and fifty prisoners and sent the rest of the invasion force scurrying back to New Orleans with their tails between their legs. The expert marksmanship of these Texas artillerists would create yet another Texas legend in a lopsided battle that went the other way, invalidating Voltaire's famous maxim of "God is always on the side of the heaviest battalions."

Battle of Sabine Pass cont:



As with much of the history of the War Between the States it wasn't as simple as the North vs the South. There were many global events occurring that played a role in the war strategy of both the North and the South. That came into play as the Battle of Sabine Pass began to take shape.

After Mexican forces were defeated by French forces in the summer of 1863, Mexican president Benito Juarez escaped the capital, and the French installed Austrian Maximilian as "Emperor". With a de facto French government bordering Texas on the south across the Rio Grande the Confederates hoped to establish a formal route between Texas and Mexico by way of which the Confederacy could obtain much-needed supplies.

The Federals were well aware of Confederate intentions and sent an expedition to establish a military presence in Texas and to discourage Maximilian from opening trade with the Confederacy. In the larger picture Lincoln had his eye on capturing the cotton being grown and beef being raised in Texas.

In September 1863 Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks sent by transport from New Orleans 4,000 soldiers under the command of Gen. William B. Franklin to gain a foothold at Sabine Pass, where the Sabine River flows into the Gulf of Mexico. A railroad ran from that area to Houston and opened the way into the interior of the state. The Western Gulf Blockading Squadron of the United States Navy sent four

Battle of Sabine Pass cont:

gunboats, the Clifton, Sachem, Arizona, and Granite City mounting eighteen guns to protect the landing.



Sabine River

At Sabine Pass the Confederates recently had constructed Fort Griffin, an earthwork that mounted six cannon, two twenty-four pounders and four thirty-two pounders. The Davis Guards, Company F of the First Texas Heavy Artillery Regiment, led by Capt. Frederick Odlum, had placed stakes along both channels through the pass to mark distances to sharpened their accuracy.

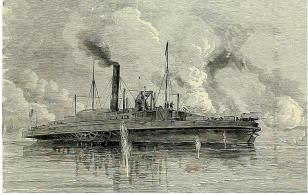


Fort Griffin

The Union forces lost any chance of surprising the garrison when a blockader missed its arranged meeting with the ships from New Orleans on the evening of September 6. The Navy Commander, Lt. Frederick Crocker, then formed a plan for the gunboats to enter the pass and silence the fort so the troops could land. The Clifton shelled the fort from long range between 6:30 and 7:30 A.M. on the 8th, while the Confederates remained under cover because the ship remained out of reach for their cannon. Behind the fort Odlum and other Confederate officers gathered reinforcements, although their limited numbers would make resistance difficult if the federal troops landed.

Battle of Sabine Pass cont:

Finally at 3:40 P.M. the Union gunboats began their advance through the pass, firing on the fort as they steamed forward.



USS Clifton

Under the direction of Lt. Richard W. Dowling the Confederate cannoneers emerged to man their guns as the ships came within 1,200 yards. One cannon in the fort ran off its platform after an early shot. But the artillerymen fired the remaining five cannon with great accuracy.



Confederate Artillery

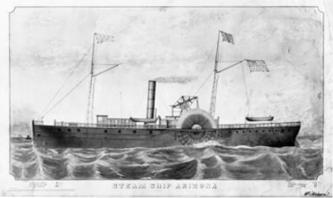
A shot from the third or fourth round hit the boiler of the Sachem, which exploded, killing and wounding many of the crew and leaving the gunboat without power in the channel near the Louisiana shore.



USS Sachem

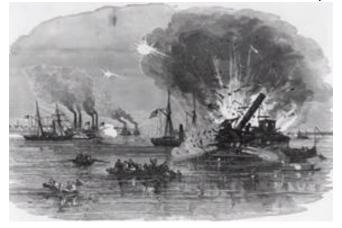
Battle of Sabine Pass cont:

The following ship, the Arizona, backed up because it could not pass the Sachem and withdrew from the action. The Clifton, which also carried several sharpshooters, pressed on up the channel near the Texas shore until a shot from the fort cut away its tiller rope as the range closed to a quarter of a mile.



USS Arizona

That left the gunboat without the ability to steer and caused it to run aground, where its crew continued to exchange fire with the Confederate gunners. Another well-aimed projectile into the boiler of the Clifton sent steam and smoke through the vessel and forced the sailors to abandon ship.



The Granite City also turned back rather than face the accurate artillery of the fort, thus ending the federal assault. The Davis Guards had fired their cannon 107 times in thirty-five minutes of action, a rate of less than two minutes per shot, which ranked as far more rapid than the standard for heavy artillery. The Confederates captured 300 Union prisoners and two gunboats. Franklin and the army force turned back to New Orleans, although Union troops occupied the Texas coast

Battle of Sabine Pass cont:

from Brownsville to Matagorda Bay later that fall. The Davis Guards, who suffered no casualties during the battle, received the thanks of the Confederate Congress for their victory. Careful fortification, range marking, and artillery practice had produced a successful defense of Sabine Pass.



Major Richard William "Dick" Dowling wearing the Davis Guards medal

IN THEIR OWN WORDS Official Report of the Battle of Sabine Pass from Lt. Dowling to Capt. Odlum:

CAPTAIN: On Monday morning, about 2 o'clock, the enemy were signaling, and fearing an Attack, I ordered all the guns at the fort manned, and remained in that position until daylight, when there were two steamers evidently sounding for the channel on the bar; a large frigate outside. During the evening they were re-enforced to the number of twenty-two vessels of different classes.

On the morning of the 8th, the U.S. gunboat Clifton anchored opposite the light-house, and fired twenty-six shell at the fort, all in excellent range, one shell landing on the works and another striking the south angle of the fort without doing any

Lt. Dowling's own words cont:

material damage. The firing commenced at 6:30 o'clock and finished at 7:30 o'clock when the C. S. gunboat Uncle Ben steamed down near the fort. The U.S. gunboat Sachem opened on her with a 30-pounder Parrott gun. She fired three shots which passed over the fort and missed the Ben. The whole fleet then drew off, and remained out of range until 3:40 o'clock, when the Sachem and Arizona steamed into line up the Louisiana channel, the Clifton and one boat, name unknown, remaining at the junction of the two channels. I allowed the two former boats to approach within 1,200 yds, when I opened fire with the whole of my battery on the Sachem which, after the third or fourth round, hoisted the white flag, one of the shots passing through her steam drum. The Clifton in the meantime had attempted to pass up through Texas Channel, but receiving a shot which carried away her tiller rope, she became unmanageable and grounded about 500 yds. below the fort which enabled me to concentrate all my guns on her, two 32-pounder smooth-bores; two 24-pounder smooth-bores and two 32-pounder howitzers. She withstood our fire some 25 or 35 minutes, when she also hoisted a white flag. During the time she was aground, she used grape, and her sharpshooters poured an incessant shower of Minie balls into the works. The fight lasted from the time I fired the first gun until the boats surrendered - about three-quarters of an hour. I immediately boarded the captured Clifton, to inspect her magazines, accompanied by one the ship's officers and discovered it safe and well stocked with ordnance stores. I did not visit the magazine of the Sachem, not having any small boat to board her with. The C. S. gunboat Uncle Ben steamed down to the Sachem and towed her into the wharf. Her magazine was destroyed by the enemy flooding it.

I was nobly and gallantly assisted by Lt. N. H. Smith, of the Engineer Corps, who by his coolness and bravery won the respect and admiration of the whole command. Ass't. Surg. George H. Bailey, having nothing to do in his own line, nobly pulled off his coat and assisted in administering Magruder pills to the enemy, behaving with great coolness. During the engagement the works were visited by

Lt. Dowling's own words cont:

Capt. F. H. Odlum, commanding post; Maj. (Col.) Leon Smith, commanding Marine Department of Texas. Capt. W. S. Good, ordnance officer, and Dr. Murray, acting ass't. surgeon, with great coolness and gallantry, enabled me to send reenforcements, as the men were becoming exhausted by the rapidity of our fire; but before they could accomplish their mission, the enemy surrendered. Thus, it will be seen we captured with 47 men two gunboats, mounting thirteen guns of the heaviest caliber, and about 350 prisoners. All my men behaved like heroes; not a man flinched from his post. Our motto was "victory or death." I beg leave to make particular mention of Private M Michael McKernan, who, from his well-known capacity as a gunner, I assigned as gunner, and nobly did he do his duty. It was his shot struck the Sachem in her steam drum. Too much praise cannot be awarded Maj. (Col.) Leon Smith for his activity and energy in saving and bringing the vessel into port.

I have the honor, captain, to remain in your most obedient servant,

R. W. Dowling, 1st. Lt., Cook's Artillery.





James Phillip "Phill" Salvo 1st Lt. W.E.James Chapter October 5, 1942 - July 28, 2018

Phil Salvo, a native of Conway S.C. was a founding member of the Descendants of ConfederateVeterans, 1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter in Darlington,SC. Phil was a friend to many and participated in many of the chapter programs when his health was good. He will be truly missed. Please keep his wife Harriet and family in your thoughts and prayers.



Phil Salvo and wife Harriet Bob Jones



Rest In Peace Compatriot Salvo

DCV Website: <u>www.DCVTX.org</u> DCV on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Descendantsof-Confederate-Veterans/149137755127037

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

Members are encouraged to contribute items of interest to the Editor. The Winter edition of the DCV TRAVELLER will be published December 21, 2018

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