

March 20, 2017

Spring Edition



# DCV TRAVELLER



DESCENDANTS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

A Texas based Association with Chapters in Texas, South Carolina, and Florida

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

**Terry Ayers**

Ladies and Gentlemen of the DCV,

Spring came early to the great state of Texas this year. The mild February was much welcomed in Jefferson, Texas as it provided those who attended the DCV Annual Reunion with spectacular weather to enjoy the activities and attractions. Special thanks to the East Texas Chapter for hosting the reunion in fine fashion. The facility was excellent and the variety of delicious pastries, kolaches, and beverages the chapter provided for the meeting was literally icing on the cake. Without a doubt it was a team effort. They all pitched in to ensure the DCV had a fun and successful reunion. In every team effort there is always a MVP. That goes to Kay Hilburn. Kay secured the facility, arraigned for a guided tour of the Jefferson Ordinance Magazine, and an outstanding slide presentation by the Jefferson Historical Society. Kay also took care of dinner reservations at Riverbend Restaurant on Caddo Lake where the food was extraordinarily good, including, according to Capitol Chapter member Dr. Samuel Bennett, the alligator. That part I cannot personally confirm!! More on the annual Reunion/Meeting in this issue.

In the quarter since the last edition of the DCV TRAVELLER the DCV added one at-large member and three members into the 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. James South Carolina Chapter. The DCV also received applications for ten members from the great southern state of Florida. Accompanying the ten

member applications was an application to simultaneously form a chapter in Brevard County, Florida. Over the course of several weeks there were numerous email exchanges and telephone conversations between the person(s) representing the Florida group and DCV Membership Chair J.D. Boydston, DCV Registrar Carl Hedges Jr., DCV Board Member Bob Jones and myself. The goal to have all the necessary documentation submitted to the Board for consideration at the annual meeting was successfully met. With that, it is my honor and privilege to announce with great pride the DCV Board approved by acclamation to accept the applications for membership and establishment of The Brigadier General T.W. Brevard Jr. Chapter. Special thanks to DCV Registrar Carl Hedges Jr. and Greg Scott, Secretary/Treasurer, Brigadier General T.W. Brevard Jr. Chapter for the outstanding effort they put forth to ensure all the necessary documents were submitted to coincide with the DCV Annual Reunion. Duty faithfully performed.

With the ever increasing and seemingly never ending attack on our history and heritage you can be sure the DCV as an association will actively lead in the effort to preserve and protect both. Doing that individually in today's politically correct environment is not that easy. One of my favorite lines from an old movie is

"I'll do all I can do, and that's all I can do."

Regardless the amount, if each of us are doing all we can do, we are fulfilling our mission.

God Bless the Southland,  
Terry Ayers

# WELCOME FLORIDA MEMBERS TO THE DCV

Brigadier General T.W. Brevard Jr. Chapter  
Brevard County, Florida



Brigadier General T.W. Brevard Jr. cont.



Mike Baker and Chapter Genealogist Phil Thomas.  
Phil's shirt fittingly says "I seek dead people"



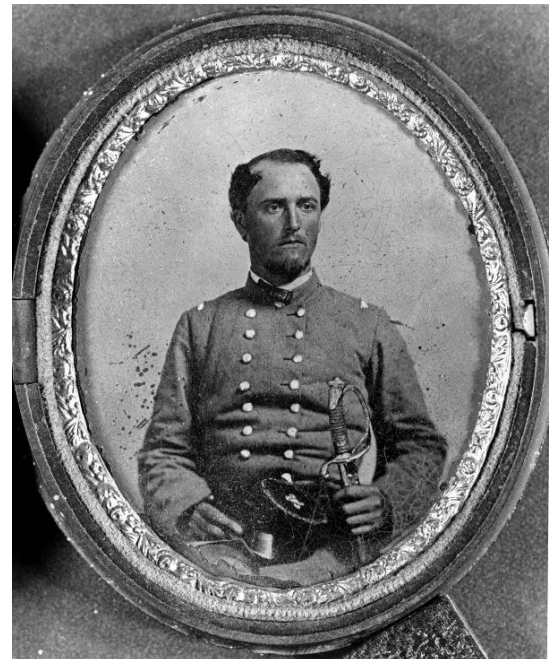
L-R President Rod Revels, Mike Baker,  
Secretary Treasurer Greg Scott, Constance Wagner,  
Sergeant-at-Arms B.P. Vicars, Barbara Smith,  
Vice President Rob Dyer, Matt Smith,  
Genealogist Phil Thomas, Steve Smith



Greg Scott, Phil Thomas, Rod Revels, Steve Smith



Monthly Confederate Roundtable discussion among  
members Rod Revels, Steve Smith and Matt Smith.  
The topic was General Nathan Bedford Forrest.  
Great discussion complete with fun and laughs.



**Brigadier General**  
**Theodore Washington Brevard Jr.**



## Brigadier General T.W. Brevard Jr. Chapter cont.

Brigadier General T.W. Brevard Jr. was born in Tuskegee Alabama on August 26, 1835. He was the son of Judge Theodorus W. Brevard, the namesake of Brevard County, Florida and Caroline E. Mays Brevard. He was an 1849 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point. In June 1860, Brevard was appointed adjutant and inspector general for the state of Florida. At the beginning of the war in 1861, he resigned from this post to enter active service.

Brevard organized the 11<sup>th</sup> Florida Regiment, which had its origins as a battalion. In early 1861 after obtaining a commission, he formed a company of volunteers which would later compose the 2<sup>nd</sup> Florida Regiment. Being the first regiment that was ordered by the state of Virginia, it was labeled the representative regiment of Florida.

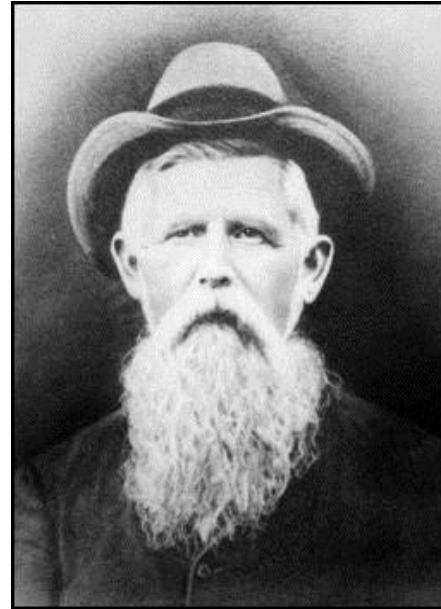
Captain Brevard returned to Florida in the summer of 1862 after being commissioned to form a battalion of partisan rangers. Six companies formed the second battalion under the command of Brevard, now in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

The battalion did effective work in south and east Florida volunteers were assigned to the 11<sup>th</sup> Infantry under the commander Colonel Brevard. The battalion took a gallant part in the fighting around Richmond and Petersburg, and were under fire nearly all the time after reaching Richmond. During the Battle of Jerusalem Plank Road, Brevard learned of the death of his younger brother, Lieutenant Mays Brevard.

Upon the resignation of General Finegan, Brevard was made a Brigadier-General and acted as such until April, 6, 1865, when while leading the 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Florida regiments to break a flank movement of the enemy, they were captured by General George Custer's cavalry. Brevard was sent to Washington and later to Johnson's Island where he was imprisoned until his release in August 1865. The Union army had not realized they had captured General Brevard, they thought they had captured Colonel Brevard.

## Brigadier General T.W. Brevard Jr. Chapter cont.

Despite Custer's habit of enumerating all his battlefield prizes, no federal provost marshal had counted Brevard as a General. Quite possibly, Brevard had no idea he was a general himself, as his March 28 commission to the post had not reached him due to the chaos of retreat, and he may not have discovered that he was a general until the war was over. Brevard died on June 20, 1882 in Tallahassee, Florida.



Theodore Washington Brevard, Jr.



St. Johns Episcopal Church Cemetery  
Tallahassee, Florida



Born August 26, 1835  
Died June 20, 1882

## **2017 DCV ANNUAL REUNION, JEFFERSON, TEXAS**

In accordance with the DCV Constitution the Association has an annual meeting of all interested members. It is held during the first quarter of the calendar year, typically in February. Association business is conducted including election of members to the Board of Directors. Following the general membership meeting the Board of Directors meet to elect officers and conduct business specific to the Board of Directors. All meetings, including Board of Director meetings are open to all members. The Board of Directors are required by the Constitution to also have a mid-calendar year meeting. The mid-year meeting is also open to all members of the DCV. The annual meeting is a time for business but also a time for engaging in activities with fellow DCV members that bind us in our mission to honor our Confederate ancestors by preserving the history and protect our heritage.

### **JEFFERSON, TEXAS**

Jefferson was founded in the early 1840s on Big Cypress Creek and Caddo Lake and named for Thomas Jefferson. As the westernmost outpost for navigation on the Red River, Jefferson quickly developed into an important river port. In the late 1840s Big Cypress Creek was cleared for navigation and steamboats were regularly making the trip from Shreveport and New Orleans, transporting cotton and other produce downstream and returning with goods and supplies. Jefferson soon emerged as the state's leading inland port. After Abraham Lincoln was elected President, Marion County voted unanimously for secession. Jefferson men volunteered for military service in large numbers. During the War a meat cannery was established there, as were factories for boots and shoes. Jefferson played a vital part in the South's effort as it was a critical rail and water supply point to the needs of the Confederate Army of the Trans-Mississippi.

### **Friday Night Meet and Greet**

Compatriots arriving early gathered Friday evening in the Lobby of the historic Excelsior House Hotel. The hotel was established in the 1850's.



Excelsior House Hotel established in the 1850's

Many notable citizens have registered at the Excelsior House including Ulysses S. Grant. My wife and I were booked in the "Grant Room." I jokingly objected to that assignment due to my Southern loyalty. The Hotel hostess quickly replied *"There's a picture of Robert E. Lee hanging on the wall."*



Dr. Samuel Bennett and wife Laurie pose with Robert E. Lee in the Grant Room



After several minutes of renewing friendships and establishing new ones it was a one block hike from The Excelsior Hotel to The Whistle Stop Restaurant for food, fun, and fellowship.



Friday Night Meet and Greet cont.



From left DCV President Terry Ayers, Barbara Ayers, Dr. Sam Bennett, Laurie Bennett, Elaine Frye, Bob Jones, Steve Lucas, Lyn von Roeder, Steve von Roeder, Brenda Smith, Debbie Boydston, J.D. Boydston

Friday Night Meet and Greet cont.



Debbie Boydston J.D. Boydston



Lyn von Roeder, Steve von Roeder, Ron Smith, Brenda Smith



Steve Lucas, Lyn von Roeder  
Hey now!!!! Cut that out!!



Elaine Frye, Bob Jones, Steve Lucas, Steve von Roeder's cap



Barbara Ayers Dr. Sam Bennett Laurie Bennett



**Friday Night Meet and Greet cont.**



Ron Smith and Steve von Roeder end the evening with a conversation about, what else? Cannons of course!

**Saturday DCV Membership Meeting cont.**

Kay Hilburn, East Texas Chapter member and Steve Lucas, Capitol Chapter member gave an update on a project idea that was discussed during the 2016 mid-year meeting. They are researching the feasibility of creating a DCV Confederate Historical Marker Trail app that would have the potential to spark interest in “millennials” as well as others. Kay invited Kelly Schilling with the Jefferson Transportation and Visitors Center to give the group a presentation on a very similar project the Visitor Center is working on with ITOURUSA, to create an internet based map and tour of historic sites in Jefferson. The possibility of the DCV having something similar looks very promising.

**Saturday DCV Membership Meeting**



Terry Ayers preparing to call the meeting to order



Taking care of DCV business

The 2017 annual DCV Membership meeting was called to order by President Terry Ayers. DCV Chaplain Steve von Roeder provided those in attendance with a gracious and inspiring invocation. Miss Amy Hilburn of the East Texas Chapter led the group in the pledges to the American and Texas flags followed with the salute to the Confederate flag. Terry Hedrick, President of the East Texas Chapter, Steve von Roeder, President of the Capitol Chapter, Bob Jones, representing the 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. James Chapter, South Carolina, and David Routh representing the Blackland Chapter provided the group with an update on Chapter activities.



1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. James Chapter founder Bob Jones and Elaine Fry travelled over 1000 miles from S.C. to attend the reunion



**Saturday DCV Business Meeting**  
**New Members Receive Certificates**

During the last quarter the DCV added one new at-large member, and three new members to the 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. James Chapter, Darlington, S.C. The DCV Board also approved four Life Membership applications from within the DCV.



President Terry Ayers      Ron Smith



Janice Elaine Frye      President Terry Ayers

**Not So New Members Receive Certificates**

The old saying, “Better late than never” was invoked at the 2017 Reunion. It was recently discovered that DCV founding life member Steve Lucas, who incidentally was the first DCV “Life Member” and DCV founder Barney Hilburn never received their Life Membership Certificate. Soooo..



President Terry Ayers      Founding Life Member Steve Lucas



DCV Founding Life Member Barney Hilburn      Pres. Terry Ayers

**New Members not in attendance**

Teresa Reed, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. James Chapter  
 Tom Reed, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. James Chapter

**Life Memberships Approved**

Madge F. Hodges, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. James Chapter  
 Dr. Gary M. Loudermilk, Capitol Chapter  
 Dr. Loudermilk is also a DCV founding member  
 Carl Hedges Jr., East Texas Chapter  
 Liz Hedges, East Texas Chapter



## Tour of the Jefferson Ordnance Magazine

Located in Jefferson on the banks of the Big Cypress Bayou is the only surviving Confederate Powder Magazine in Texas. Over a century of often dealing with flooding of the bayou combined with unchecked erosion began placing the structure in serious peril in the last decade. The embankment had moved to within seventeen feet of the building and unless something was done to stabilize the embankment and stop the erosion the relic of the war would be lost forever. In early 2016 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers agreed to oversee the project. Issues have since surfaced causing the Army Corps of Engineers to cancel the project.



The Jefferson Ordnance Magazine in 2014.

The Historic Jefferson Foundation seeking a solution, even if temporary, determined the best option was to physically move the structure out of immediate danger. As you will see in the following photos taken during the DCV's tour, the magazine has been successfully relocated thirty feet inland placing it close to 50 feet from the embankment. A separate effort to stabilize the embankment was also done. The grounds are still under construction as you will see in the photos.

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## Tour of the Jefferson Ordnance Magazine cont.



Elaine Frye, Amy Hilburn, Steve Lucas, Kay Hilburn, Dr. Samuel Bennet



Debbie Boydston, Barbara Ayers, Steve Lucas, Dr. Samuel Bennett, Elaine Frye, Bob Jones, Terry Hedrick, Amy Hilburn, Kay Hilburn standing on firm footing now fifty feet from the embankment



The State of Texas Historic Marker will soon be re-set

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**Tour of the Jefferson Ordnance Magazine cont.**



Steve Lucas facing the magazine standing within a few feet of the original location

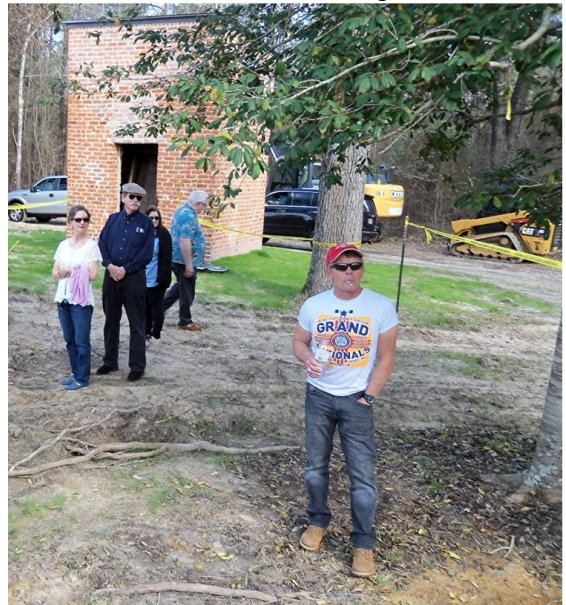
**Tour of the Jefferson Ordnance Magazine cont.**



Elaine Frye Bob Jones within a few feet of the original location of the Jefferson Ordnance Magazine



Debbie Boydston, Laurie Bennett, Barbara Ayers, Elaine Frye, Historic Jefferson Foundation President Laura Miller, David Routh, Kay Hilburn, Amy Hilburn



Laurie Bennett, Dr. Samuel Bennett, Barbara Ayers, J.D. Boydston, Terry Hedrick



Robbin Hedrick David Routh  
Recently installed steel embankment stabilizing wall



Steve Lucas, David Routh, Laura Miller, Sam Bennett, Laurie Bennett, Terry Ayers, Barbara Ayers, Robbin Hedrick, Terry Hedrick, Elaine Frye, Bob Jones, Amy Hilburn, Kay Hilburn, Debbie Boydston, J.D. Boydston



Meanwhile, back in downtown historic Jefferson...



J.D. Boydston and Bob Jones taking an ice cream break at the General Store while the ladies shop



Debbie Boydston had no time for ice cream when there was shopping to do in the old general store



Terry Ayers, Railroad Engineer Steve Lucas, and Sam Bennett on the 3:10 leaving Jefferson. What a GREAT TIME!!

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### DCV Reunion Wrap-Up

After a full day of meetings, tours, presentations, and just go `ol Southern style fun with our DCV family we all joined in an East Texas jack-ass caravan (in our vehicles) and drove to The River Bend Restaurant on Caddo Lake for the finest catfish, hush puppies, and alligator south of the Mason-Dixon line!



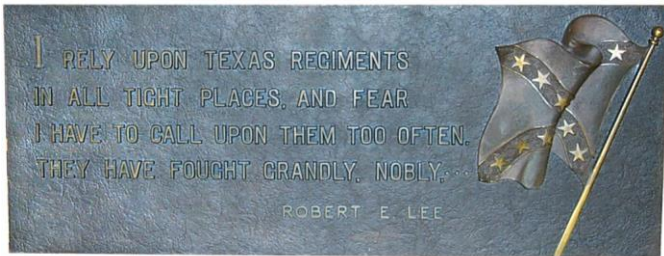
SEE Y'ALL NEXT YEAR

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## COMMEMORATING ROBERT E. LEE'S BIRTHDAY

On January 15<sup>th</sup> the Capitol Chapter returned to Hood's Texas Brigade Monument on the grounds of the Texas State Capitol to celebrate and commemorate the 210<sup>th</sup> birthday of Robert E. Lee.



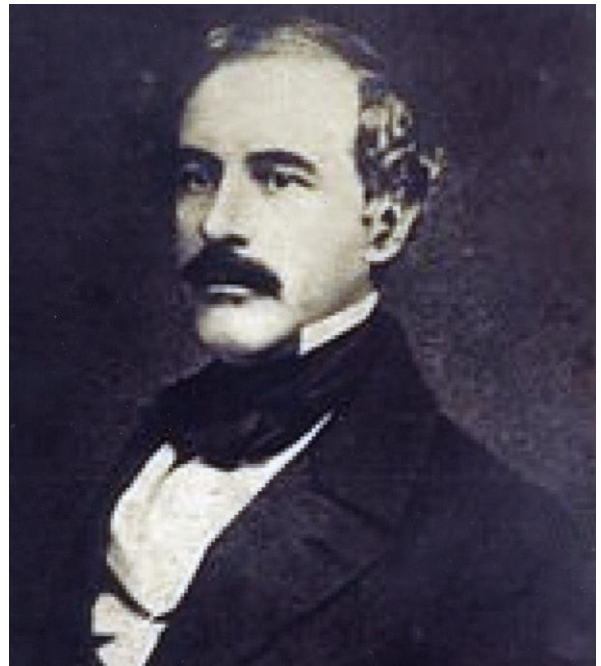
The men of Hood's Texas Brigade were among Lee's favorites



Weapons Safety Check

The ceremony includes a different topic each year about the life and career of Robert E. Lee. The program this year was a tribute to Robert E. Lee's military service in Texas prior to the War Between the States.

## Commemorating Robert E. Lee's Birthday cont.



Robert E. Lee prior to the WBTS

Texas won its Independence from Mexico in 1836. There continued to be an area between the Rio Grande and Nueces rivers that was disputed land. When Texas became a state in 1845 the dispute elevated to war between Mexico and the United States. Lee was assigned under Brigadier General John E. Wool in San Antonio. From there Lee was assigned to Gen. Winfield Scott's army. As Scott's chief of staff during the Mexican War, Lee won three brevets—major, lieutenant colonel, and colonel—all because of gallantry in the field. In 1856 Lee was sent back to Texas with Albert Sidney Johnston's Second Cavalry. He was assigned to command two squadrons at Camp Cooper. He referred to Camp Cooper as "my Texas home." Lee would eventually return to Washington for a brief period. In February of 1860, less than a year before the start of the War Between the States Lee was sent to San Antonio to temporarily replace General David Twiggs, Commander of Department of Texas, who was on extended sick leave. General Twiggs resumed his command on December 13, 1860. Two months later Texas would secede from the Union and Robert E. Lee would resign his Commission in the Union Army and take Command of the Army of Northern Virginia, Confederate States of America.



**Commemorating Robert E. Lee's Birthday cont.**



Prepare to Post Colors  
Chaplain Gillis Bartles, Steve von Roeder, Sam Bennett,  
Terry Ayers, Jim Price

**Commemorating Robert E. Lee's Birthday cont.**



Dr. Sam Bennett speaks of Robert E. Lee's time in Texas



Capitol Chapter President Steve von Roeder  
delivers opening remarks.  
Jean Price, Jim Price, Dr. Sam Bennett,  
Chaplain Gillis Bartles, Steve von Roeder, Terry Ayers



Musket Volley in honor of Robert E. Lee



Pledges to the United States and Texas Flags.  
Salute to the Confederate Flag  
Jean Price, Steve von Roeder, Terry Ayers,  
Jim Price, Chaplain Gillis Bartles, Sam Bennett



People from all over the world visit the State Capitol



Many Visitors to the State Capitol love being in photos

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## IN THEIR OWN WORDS

“General Young was a quiet, unassuming gentleman, and as a commander a strict disciplinarian, but was lenient and kind to all his men who bore the record of good soldiers. When we lost General Ector at Atlanta, Georgia, he being severely wounded by a shrapnel exploding just in front of our lines, and Capt. Robinson, who was with General Ector, killed by the same shell, General Young then being senior colonel, took command of the brigade and so continued until the battle of Alatoona where in that desperate charge his horse was soon shot from under him, but he continued leading his men until wounded himself. Guns were clubs, bayonets and rocks were used. A Lieutenant knocked down the Yankee flag-bearer with a rock and a man of my company, John Hardy, brought the flag out on the retreat. When some of Sherman's reinforcements rushed to cut us off General Young was left wounded and captured. No braver officer ever lived than General William H. Young.”

W. F. McClanahan  
Orange, Texas  
January 1902



WILLIAM HUGH YOUNG AT TWENTY-SIX  
Brigade Commander, Confederate Army

## IMPORTANT DUES REMINDER

**\*\*DUES WERE PAYABLE ON JANUARY 1 \*\***

**IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR 2017 DUES  
PLEASE MAIL YOUR DUES TODAY**

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 will vary. Your Chapter Treasurer should have already contacted 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.

Submit your check payable to:  
**Descendants of Confederate Veterans**

**Mail to:**

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

Life Members do not pay  
annual dues to the Association.

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

### THE DCV ON THE WEB

DCV Home > <http://www.dcvtx.org/>

Visit the DCV on Facebook:

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

Capitol Chapter > [http://tiny.cc/Capitol\\_Chapter](http://tiny.cc/Capitol_Chapter)

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. James Chapter, South Carolina**

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



**The DCV TRAVELLER is published quarterly  
The Summer issue will be sent June 20, 2017.**

I invite and encourage each of you to contribute to the DCV TRAVELLER. Please send photos and descriptions of meetings, activities, and events. Large or small, every contribution we make to preserve and protect our Confederate history and heritage is worthy of being noted in our newsletter.

**-IMPORTANT-**

**If you change your email address or USPS mailing address PLEASE inform the Editor of the change to ensure that you will continue to receive the DCV TRAVELLER and all other important DCV correspondence.**

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General Robert E. Lee  
University of Texas at Austin  
South Mall

Descendants of Confederate Veterans, Texas  
Association

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.

501 (c) (3)  
Non-profit organization

[www.DCVTX.ORG](http://www.DCVTX.ORG)

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