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

www.DCVTX.org

Summer 2020

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Steve Lucas

Ladies and Gentlemen of the DCV,



Troubling times are upon us. What else is new? We and our War Between the States era ancestors are again under ever increasing fire. What else is new? Our monuments and memorials, street names, etc., are threatened. What else is new? People who think they know everything there is to know about the South, the Southern way of life, the War Between the States and all that it entails...but really don't know the difference between Robert E. Lee and Spike Lee...are ready to have us and our entire lineage wiped from the pages of history. What else is new? What else is new? I'll tell you. Nothing and everything. History certainly hasn't changed. Lincoln hasn't uttered or written a word since 1865 nor has Robert E. Lee since 1870. Grant is dead and so is Jefferson Davis. Quite a few wars have been fought, even some with former boys in Gray fighting in the blue of the United States. Slavery has been gone since shortly after the WBTS ended. So surely, nobody in their right mind could think that something that ended so long ago - involving people who died so long ago – could be responsible for the troubles of today, right? RIGHT?? Then why are those right-minded people also so angry with George Washington and Thomas Jefferson? And why did I see them defacing the Lincoln Memorial and burning a statue of Abraham Lincoln? And defacing the memorial to the 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Colored Troops?

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### President's Message Continued

And why is a whole police department being disbanded and others defunded (whatever that means)? I personally like the one where the movement is underway in Mobile, AL to take down the statue to Confederate Admiral Ralph Semmes. Yep...Ralph.

My point is, ladies and gentlemen that none of this is new. We've seen it all before. The difference is that "those people" (as General Lee called them) got a foothold and they are taking full advantage of it and so far nobody has been successful in slowing them down. As I write this, the Chief of Police in Fort Worth, TX has announced that he is dismissing all criminal charges against the protesters and rioters in that city. Momentum is firmly on their side. General Sherman used momentum on his march to the sea and similarly burned everything he could. All that the gallant soldiers and civilians of the South could do was wait until he was out of the way (as best they could) and live to fight another day.

Our DCV has no intention of surrendering to thugs, terrorists or the like and we are not about to strike our tents. If anyone wonders who we are or what we are I encourage them to visit our web site and peruse our Mission Statement and our Purposes and Principles. We stand by those statements. I would take this opportunity to caution everyone, however. Folks like ourselves, including me, tend to wear our emotions on our sleeves, especially when it comes to our Southern heritage and pride. That also tends to be true as it pertains to our vehicle windows and bumpers and the like. We are also likely to firmly stand our ground if verbally challenged regarding our Southern heritage. Such is our way.

#### **President's Message Continued**

During these precarious times, those who do not share our views are particularly emboldened and some have shown to be unusually prone to violence. I urge an abundance of caution. I can assure you that the DCV is keeping a close eye on things heritage related. The DCV is as strong as ever and as dedicated to our mission as ever. We are currently in the path of the same speeding freight train as many other worthy folks. Folks such as many of the Founding Fathers of the United States and almost all of the nearly one million Police Officers in this country. I think that puts us in pretty good company. I don't see myself standing on the tracks and shaking my fist at the currently oncoming train, nor do I see myself kneeling in front of it. I think y'all get my drift.

God Bless y'all and God Save our Southland Forever.

Steve Lucas
DCV Board President

### **Message from the Editor:**

The nationwide outbreak of the COVID-19 virus affected all of us in various ways. The DCV TRAVELLER is our organization's newsletter. As Editor I try to maintain the focus on heritage related items such as programs, events, and activities both chapters and individuals participate in. Often as Editor I take the opportunity to expand on historical facts, on heritage related events, anniversaries, and related activities that took place where there was participation by both chapter and at large members. I try to maintain interest by focusing on quality of the content not quantity, even though often there is both. Due to the COVID-19 virus shutdown that occurred on the heels of the Spring edition of the DCV TRAVELLER all DCV meetings, participation in events, and other heritage related activities were cancelled. As a result this is a limited edition of the DCV TRAVELLER.

Terry Ayers Editor

## Capitol Chapter's annual end of school year Junior Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps Robert E. Lee Leadership award.



In the 2019-2020 school year four local area high schools incorporated the Robert E. Lee Leadership Award sponsored by the DCV Capitol Chapter as a component of their JRNROTC program.

All four award ceremonies were cancelled due to the closing of schools during the shutdown. Capitol Chapter President Steve von Roeder was able to present one award in person to Captain Chris Fletcher, USN (Ret.), Senior Naval Science Instructor at Bastrop High School.

The Cadet who earned the award is Cadet Lieutenant Commander Alex Holder. He is a strong leader that is dedicated to the Bastrop NJROTC and the 103 cadets of SeaBear Company. As a freshman, he was a member of the unarmed drill team and the physical fitness team and quickly rose to the rank of Cadet Petty Officer First Class. As a sophomore, he completed the requirements and earned the promotion to Cadet Chief Petty Officer in the fall. He was also selected to be the unarmed drill team commander and was selected to be a member of the physical fitness team. As a Junior, he was selected to be on the SeaBear Company staff as the Cadet Command Senior Chief. While serving as the Cadet Command Senior Chief, he was also the unarmed drill team commander and physical fitness team commander and was able to maintain an A average in his Bastrop High School academics. As the Cadet Command Senior Chief, he helped plan and successfully execute all SeaBear company activities during the school year. At the end of the 2020 school year because of his motivation and strong leadership, he was selected to be the cadet commanding officer for the 2020-2021 school year.

## Capitol Chapter's annual end of school year Junior Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps Robert E. Lee Leadership award.



L-R Captain Chris Fletcher, USN (Ret.), Steve von Roeder, President Capitol Chapter

A Grave Tale
Pvt William W. Winburn Co D 21<sup>st</sup> South
Carolina Infantry
By Phillip Thomas
DCV at-large member
The telling of this story is in three parts.

#### I. Researcher and story teller:



My name is Phillip Thomas and I am a life member [at large] of the DCV, Texas Association # 0226. I am a genealogy/family history researcher with over 40 years' experience.

#### A Grave Tale Cont.

My Thomas line arrived on the Eastern Shore of Maryland in 1666 and other lines 1700 or before. I have some 29,000 kin in my data base, all individually researched.

Having been born 1 June 1941 and raised in Patrick, Chesterfield County, South Carolina, a town of 400, everyone knew everyone and most all families were related.

My interest in history and especially my Southern heritage began at an early age. I recall the annual gathering at the local Confederate memorial in the nearby town of Cheraw was well attended. The last event was in 1959 the year I graduated from high school in that town. The original Confederate flag of the 21<sup>st</sup> Regt. South Carolina Infantry was prominently displayed. Albeit for the last time.

At some point early in my life, I had heard of an event that would eventually lead to the aforementioned Confederate soldier and his stone. The story was of a widow, who along with two of her slaves made their way from our area to Richmond, Virginia to retrieve her husband's body. I knew the last name was Winburn. She had learned her husband [Pvt William W. Winburn] was wounded in May of 1864 at the Battle of Port Walthall Junction and was moved to Chimborazro hospital in Richmond, where he died in August of 1864. With her two slaves she was able to claim his body after paying \$50 in gold. I was intrigued as to how that was possible. The part of her having to pay \$50 in gold for his body was hard to believe.

#### II. How the grave was found:

As the years went by and my life story unfolded thru a 20 year military career and eventually to my current home in Florida. And then a 27 year career with the US Postal service I finally retired in 2007. My genealogy research became my passion. I found Pvt William W. Winburn and his wife Rebecca Ousley in my family tree and had found the vague location of where they lived in 1860. He was distantly related to me by marriage.

#### A Grave Tale Cont.

In 2017 I contacted the SCV camp [1<sup>st</sup> in Secession Camp] in Chesterfield Co, SC for assistance. They had helped me before to place a CSA stone.

Mr. Tom Jones of that camp and I met in Patrick and went to the office of the State Forest to inquire about abandoned graveyards on State land [a large part of our county is owned and operated by the state.] We knew that they had protected graves that they found. As it turned out this would be a fateful day in my search. Mr. Brian Davis, the Sand Hills State Forest Manager was most cooperative. His crew was scheduled to do fire break inspections that day and agreed to let us tag along.

In the process we discovered two undocumented abandoned graveyards. I found just by chance William's wife Rebecca Ousley's grave. The very woman who had made the trip to Virginia to claim his body. At that moment I knew where William was buried and must admit it was an emotional moment. I promised Rebecca at that time I would do everything in my power to place a CSA stone beside her grave.

#### III. Follow thru and stone placement:

Upon returning home to Florida I started the paperwork in Nov 2017. I asked Mr. Davis to sign on line 30 of the application as the responsible official of the graveyard as it was on state land. After several phone calls to the Veterans Administration and much delay it was 2 ¼ years later the stone was finally delivered to Chesterfield, South Carolina.

\*The town's funeral home offered to assist in its placement and hopefully I will have a picture to send you In the near future.

It was that serendipity moment in that long abandoned graveyard when I realized my search was over. It was the highlight of that summer's day.

### Phillip Thomas USAF Ret E 7

\* The marker has been received . Due to COVID-19 placement of the marker is currently on hold.

#### A Grave Tale Cont



L-R DCV at-large member Phillip Thomas DCV 1<sup>st</sup> Lt W.E. James Chapter President Bob Jones



21st Regiment, South Carolina Infantry
Manufactured in Charleston in 1863 by the Hayden
& Whitten Company. The flag cost \$50.00.
Flag's dimensions are 41" X 64" inches.

The regimental designation consists of 4.5" red letters and numbers appliqued to both sides of the flag in the center white bar.

The SCV stands for "South Carolina Volunteers". The flag was captured on July 10th, 1864 during the savage fighting on Morris Island. This battle flag currently resides with a private collector.



Chimborazo Confederate Hospital Richmond, VA

# Confederate Monuments removed or designated to be removed after the death of George Floyd





<u>Appomattox</u> is a bronze statue in Alexandria VA commemorating Confederate soldiers from the area, The bronze portion of the statue was removed by the United Daughter of the Confederacy on June 2, 2020.





<u>Norfolk Confederate Monument</u> Norfolk, VA June 2, 2020 announced plans for removal by City. "Johnny Reb" statue atop the monument removed June 12.



Confederate Soldiers and Sailors Monument Birmingham, Alabama. Dismantled and removed 6-1-20





<u>Bust of Robert E. Lee</u> in Fort Myers Florida the Sons of Confederate Veterans were authorized to legally to remove the bust to protect it from vandals. Will probably be relocated.



Robert E. Lee Statue at Robert E. Lee High in Montgomery, Alabama. Toppled by protesters
June 1, 2020.



Bentonville Confederate Monument in Bentonville, Arkansas. In August 2020, the monument is scheduled to be moved from the Bentonville Square to a private park near the Bentonville Cemetery.



Athens Confederate Monument in Athens, Georgia. It is a Carrara marble obelisk mounted on a granite foundation engraved with names of the city's soldiers who were killed during the War Between the States. Mayor and commissioners announced plans to remove it June 2, 2020





Nash County Confederate Monument in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. The City council voted June 2, 2020 to remove it in 2020. Originally the statue of a soldier sat atop each of the short columns at the base. Two were stolen in the 1970's and the other two removed for safekeeping. They are stored in a city-owned warehouse.

#### **Monuments Removed Cont.**



<u>Norfolk Confederate Monument</u> in front of the Norfolk Southern Museum in Norfolk, Virginia. The monument is slated to be removed in 2020



Robert E. Lee Monument in Richmond VA. It was the first monument placed and is the largest of Monument Avenue's monuments in Richmond, Virginia.

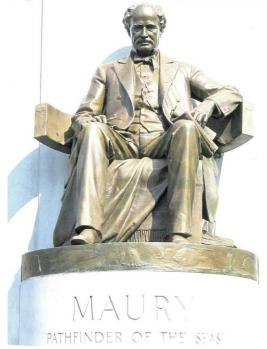
General Lee's horse is not a representation of his famous mount Traveller. The sculptor did not find the size of the actual horse to be in keeping with the overall composition and therefore created an ideal mount with the necessary requirements. Ralph Northam, Governor of Virginia, announced June 3, 2020 the removal "as soon as possible" of the monument, which is located on state land.



J. E. B. Stuart Monument on Monument Avenue in Richmond VA. Mayor Levar Stoney announced plans to remove the four Confederate monuments along Monument Avenue that are on city land.



<u>Stonewall Jackson Monument</u> in Richmond, VA on Monument Avenue. June 3, 2020 Mayor Levar Stoney announced plans to remove the four Confederate monuments along Monument Avenue located on city land.



Matthew Fontaine Maury Monument
Monument Avenue Richmond, VA.



<u>One Riot, One Ranger</u> Bronze statue of a Texas Ranger Removed from Love Field Airport Dallas, Texas



<u>Statue of Sam Davis</u> at Nashville, TN Montgomery Bell Academy. Boy Hero soldier executed by Union forces in Pulaski, Tennessee. Removed by the Academy June 8<sup>th</sup>



**Slave Auction Block** in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Large stone used as an auction block in slave auctions. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Fredericksburg Historic District. The block was removed on June 5, 2020 and will be loaned to a Fredericksburg Area Museum.





**Confederate Naval Officer Raphael Semmes Statue** in Mobile, Alabama. Removed on June 5, 2020.





<u>Confederate General Williams Carter Wickham Statue</u> in Richmond, Virginia's Monroe Park near Virginia Commonwealth University's main campus. Toppled by protesters June 6, 2020.

#### **Monuments Removed Cont.**



Confederate Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Garfield Park Indianapolis, Indiana. A large granite monument that sat at the south entrance for nearly a century. It commemorated the Confederate prisoners of war that died at Camp Morton. At 35 feet tall and located in the city's oldest public park, it had been the most prominent of the very few Confederate memorials in the Union state of Indiana. It was dismantled and removed by the city of Indianapolis June 8, 2020.





John Breckinridge Castleman Statue. A Confederate officer and later a United States Army brigadier general as well as a prominent landowner and businessman in Louisville, Kentucky. It was taken down on June 8, 2020





<u>Confederate Memorial</u> in Jacksonville, Florida's Hemming Park. The monument was removed June 9, 2020. Two additional monuments and eight historic markers will be removed over the next few weeks.



<u>Denton Confederate Soldier Monument</u> in Denton, TX. It is the intention of the County Commissioners to remove it from the Courthouse lawn. After consultation with the Texas Historical Commission the permit was granted. The county will have a year to relocate the monument on County property.



Monument to Confederate WBTS Soldiers
Located on the grounds of the Tarrant County
Courthouse in Fort Worth, Texas. The memorial was
funded by the United Daughters of the Confederacy in
1953. Tarrant County commissioners voted June 9,
2020 to remove it soon as possible.





<u>Jefferson Davis Memorial</u> is located along Richmond, Virginia's Monument Avenue. Protestors toppled the statue from its plinth on June 10, 2020.



<u>Confederate Monument</u> in Portsmouth, Virginia. Four statues on the monument were decapitated and one pulled down by protesters on June 10, 2020. City campaign to completely remove it already underway.



Commander Richard W. Dowling Dick Dowling
Installed in 1958 at entrance into Houston's Hermann
Park. June 11, 2020 plans were made for removal by
the city of Houston and relocated to the Sabine Pass
Battleground State Historic Site.



**Spirit of the Confederacy**, also known as the Confederacy Monument in Houston's Sam Houston Park. It is a bronze sculpture depicting an angel holding a sword and palm branch. Moved June 11, 2020 to the Houston Museum of African American Culture.



<u>Jefferson Davis Statue</u> in the Kentucky State Capitol, Frankfort, Kentucky. To be move from the capitol rotunda to the Jefferson Davis State Historic Site.





<u>Gadsden Confederate Memorial</u> in Quincy, Florida. The memorial was removed by the County June 11, 2020.



<u>Confederate Monument</u> in Huntsville, Alabama. Madison County Commissioners voted June 11, 2020 to relocate monument from the Courthouse lawn to a location to be determined.





<u>Howitzer Monument</u> in Richmond VA. Near Virginia Commonwealth University's Monroe Park campus Toppled by protesters June 16 2020.



Robert E. Lee Dixie Highway, Confederate Colonel John Connally Marker Located In front of the county courthouse The Daughters of Confederacy have 90 days to remove the marker.



Monument to 60th Regt. NC Volunteers in Asheville, NC. Removal authorized by Buncombe County Commission June 16, 2020. Located in front of the county courthouse. The Daughters of Confederacy have 90 days to remove the monument.



Stand Watie and Confederate Soldier Fountain in Tahlequah Oklahoma. Removed June 13 2020 by Cherokee Nation. The fountain was dedicated in 1913 by the Daughters of the Confederacy.



Stand Watie Monument in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Removed June 13 2020 by Cherokee Nation. The monument was dedicated in 1921 by the Daughters of the Confederacy rather than the Cherokee Nation.



Confederate War Memorial in Dallas, Texas
Pays tribute to the soldiers and generals from Texas
during the WBTS. Located in Pioneer Park Cemetery in
the Convention Center District of downtown. The
monument will be placed in storage pending resolution
of legal dispute over final disposition



<u>Lost Cause Monument</u> in Decatur Georgia Ordered removed by County Judge on June 12, 2020 Removed June 19, 2020

The Confederate monuments featured in this newsletter are only the ones more widely known. Sadly the vandalism continues to grow and expand with little or no protection or prosecution. It's no longer confined to Confederate monuments. The carnage has expanded to include every founder of this this nation. There is one more beautiful and precious monument that I intentionally reserved for last.

Located in Jacksonville, Florida's Confederate Park is the State of Florida's Tribute to the Women of the Southern Confederacy and Monument to the Women of the Confederacy."

What happened to this priceless precious work of art by heartless criminals was no doubt guided by the hand of Satan. Even worse the Mayor of Jacksonville, Florida has called for its complete removal. On June 9, 2020 Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Cury announced the removal of all Confederate monuments, memorials, and markers in the city including this one.

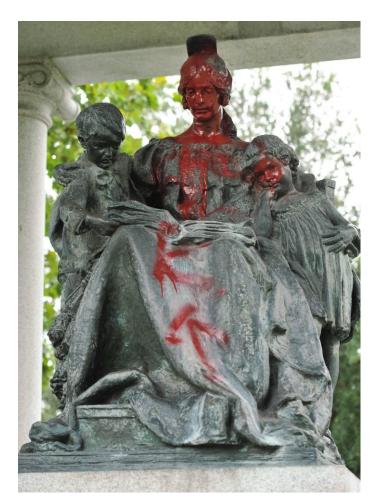


Monument to the Women of the Confederacy





Memorial to the Women of the Confederacy



## DCV Website www.DCVTX.org

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

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