



Merry Christmas

DCV TRAVELLER



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

www.DCVTX.org

Winter 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Steve Lucas



Ladies and Gentlemen of the DCV,

It is a great pleasure to speak with you again. As the calendar year comes to an end I hope you are all well and looking forward to enjoying a relaxing Christmas with family and friends, and I hope your Thanksgiving was filled with joy, good will and turkey and all of the fixings.

Speaking of Thanksgiving, I hope you all ignored all that Yankee propaganda about the first Thanksgiving being up north and remembered that it actually occurred much before then in Virginia, in the glorious South. If you're curious, feel free to look it up as time as space does not permit me to tell the whole story here.

It is my belief that 2021 in the DCV has been a successful year on the whole. You may raise an eyebrow or cock your head at such a statement given the general state of affairs and how it seems that the entire nation (and beyond) seems to hate all things Southern more and more every day, but our little organization has been doing very well at what we do, I believe. While it would be wonderful if we were a national power and had the clout to take on the national haters that permeate our society, alas we are not. We must fight our battles when and where we find them and where we are equipped both financially and realistically to make a difference. In those arenas we do very well.

I point to our brothers and sisters in South Carolina who are meeting regularly, with ever increasing membership and attendance, including impressive speakers every month and projects that involve chapter members as well as members of the community. Not to mention the fact that a number of members are preparing to travel to the DCV Annual Reunion in Vicksburg, MS in March to extend the bonds of brother/sisterhood with the rest of the membership and further strengthen the organization.

In Texas, the DCV took on a strong corporate entity in a battle that took almost a year, and convincingly prevailed in saving the Confederate Woman's Home and the surrounding lots in Austin, TX. Not only was the corporate entity defeated but some of the Texas Historical Commission staff, who often appeared to openly side with the corporate entity, didn't appear too pleased with our victory. To achieve this goal, we sought out and partnered with allies such as the UDC and the Hood's Texas Brigade Association and others...reaching out wherever necessary to stand up for our ancestors.

In East Texas, once the pandemic eased a bit, they are again active in inventorying cemeteries for Confederate graves and their program of placing what is the equivalent of a Texas Historical Marker at each cemetery, listing the names of the Confederates buried there. All of the money for these markers is raised by the members of the Chapter and they are very successful at involving the communities in remembering those members of that community who have gone before.

President's Message cont.

We are all familiar with the Austin Chapter's efforts with the Blue Santa donations and the Robert E. Lee awards with the local High School Jr. ROTC programs. Even with the efforts of the armed forces to do away with these awards, the Austin Chapter perseveres and the awards and charitable contributions continue. You see, ladies and gentlemen, we fight our battles where we find them and we fight the best we know how. Whether the battle be short or long is not an issue. Whether the battle be simple or complex is not an issue. If we need reinforcements, we seek them out. We plan, we strategize, we adapt where necessary, we improvise when required and then we defeat the enemy. We do our duty. I would like nothing more than to have 100,000 members and an unlimited treasury with a staff of attorneys ready to do our bidding. But... We'll just have to hit a lick when and where we can and do our best each and every day to do that which would make our individual ancestors and General Lee proud.

Speaking of General Lee...I read today where the construction company that is demolishing the base of what was his statue in Richmond has found a small metal box that they now believe is the time capsule that was buried within the base in the 1800s. I shudder to think what the so-called Governor of Virginia is going to do with it. Keep an eye out wherever you get your news on such things to see what happens next. And speaking of our upcoming Annual Reunion... elsewhere in this newsletter should be a substantial amount of information on the topic. Our folks from East Texas are planning quite an event. PLEASE try and attend.

All of the details are not yet worked out and some are subject to alteration, but those alterations are guaranteed to only make things better. There will be, at a minimum, monthly updates going to the membership to keep everyone informed as things are firmed up so keep an eye on your e-mail.

In closing, please allow me to say how proud I am of each of you. I've been around this history/heritage organization "game" for almost 30 years.

President's Message cont.

I've been in most all of the organizations and held local, state and national office in many of them. I've seen a lot of water go under the bridge. Most of those organizations get dragged down by interior political squabbles very quickly. Those political squabbles very soon turn to hateful infighting and division and very soon those struggles circumvent the real reason that the organization was formed in the first place. Everyone's ego gets so big and everyone covets holding office so much that the mission of the organization goes by the wayside. While our organization has had its growing pains, that type of problem has been very rare in the DCV, and that is greatly attributable to the example set by our founder, Steve von Roeder. His vision and his example have been clear and consistent from the beginning and it has been up to the leadership of this organization to maintain that vision through the years.

My term of office ends this year and a new Board President will be elected at our Reunion. It has been my privilege to serve you and I hope I have fulfilled the duties of my office as you and our founder expected.

To all of you – Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, please be safe and happy and I look forward to seeing you all just as soon as possible. May God bless us, every one.

Steve Lucas
DCV Board President



**2022 DCV ANNUAL ALL MEMBERS
REUNION
MARCH 11-12, 2022
VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI**



The East Texas Chapter is hosting the 2022 annual reunion March 11-12th. The reunion will be in Vicksburg MS. NOW IS THE TIME to make plans to attend. To help members plan their trip early, the reunion committee has been hard at work and has developed a tentative itinerary for Friday and Saturday. A more detailed itinerary with times and staging locations will be announced in the coming weeks. To get the very most out of the trip it is highly recommended members arrive during the day or evening on Thursday March 10th

There are plans for sight-seeing ventures beginning early Friday and also following the morning business meeting Saturday. The Reunion Committee is considering providing transportation similar to what was provided for the sight-seeing tour at the 2010 DCV Reunion in San Antonio.



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TENTATIVE ITINERARY

Friday March 11: Time and Staging Location TBD.

Serving as expert tour guides, DCV members Terry and Robbin Hedrick, both 24 year members of Vicksburg- Warren County, Mississippi Historical Society will take the tour to Champion Hill, site of the actual battle that precipitated the 47 day siege. Terry is a friend of Sid Champion IV. Mr. Champion still has the original family table that was used for amputations after the battle. It is covered with blood stains.

Also planned is a stop at the crossroads where a magnificent counter-assault took place when Confederate General John Bowen's 5,000 troops from Arkansas and Missouri engaged the Federals in battle.

Continuing on the planned route is a stop at the home of Dr. William T. Balfou and his wife Emma. Their home was the site of the famous 1862 Christmas Ball. Terry and Robbin (Rt.) participated in a reenactment of the Ball in December 2020.



Depending on the time, Terry and Robbin have other equally interesting historic sites the tour can visit.

Friday evening dining: Meet at location. Time TBD

Walnut Hills Restaurant

1214 Adams St.

Vicksburg, MS 39180

World famous Southern Plantation Cuisine. Located in Olde Town Vicksburg it ranked as one of the top 10 restaurants in the entire state of Mississippi.

<https://walnuthillsms.com/>

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TENTATIVE ITINERARY cont.

Saturday March 12th:

Breakfast on your own

Business Meeting: Time TBD

DCV annual membership and
Board of Directors meeting

Location: Old Warren County

Courthouse Museum
1008 Cherry St.
Vicksburg, MS 39183

Thanks to East Texas Chapter members J.D. Boydston, Terry Hedrick and their good friend George (Bubba) Bolm, curator of the museum, the DCV has been granted permission to have the business meeting in the upstairs courtroom. It is the very courtroom where Jefferson Davis practiced law. The courtroom remains as it was in the 1800's.

Lunch: On your own

Afternoon: Time and staging location TBD

Driving tour of the Vicksburg Battlefield with stops at key points of interest. For certain that includes the magnificent Texas monument and the glorious and difficult to locate South Carolina monument. The South Carolina monument is dedicated to the fallen men from General Evans and General Gist's Brigades. Time permitting a largely forgotten but extremely interesting place is the Chickasaw Bayou battlefield. It has no markers of any kind but both Terry Hedrick and J.D. Boydston are well-versed in the particulars of the battle. It was one of the worst beatings Sherman ever took.

Evening Dining: Meet at location. Time TBD

Beechwood Restaurant
4451 Clay St,
Vicksburg, MS 39183

Southern recipes that have been passed down through their family generation after generation. Beechwood has been recognized as the best steak spot and night spot in Vicksburg for years.

<https://beechwoodrestaurantandlounge.com/photos>

Culmination of DCV activities.

VERY IMPORTANT: If you and your guest(s) are planning to attend please at your earliest convenience contact Reunion Committee member Carl Hedges and indicate the activities you plan to attend. That is very important so the committee can secure tour transportation and restaurant reservations with an approximate head count.

Contact Carl by email, phone, or USPS mail.

Carl F. Hedges, Jr.

809 Beverly Drive

Carthage, Texas 75633

Email: cfhedges@sbcglobal.net

Phone: 903-918-0085



DCV DUES REMINDER

****DUES ARE PAYABLE JANUARY 1****

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 may vary. Your Chapter Treasurer should contact 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.

Life Members do not pay annual dues to the Association.

At Large Members submit your check payable to:

Descendants of Confederate Veterans

Mail to:

Samuel Bennett

P.O. BOX 160773

Austin, TX 78716

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

1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter

The 1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter of the Descendants of Confederate Veterans November meeting was held at the Jacob Kelley House in Hartsville, South Carolina. The program was hosted by member Brian Gandy who supervised preparations and cooked a meal from the war years of the 1860's.



Brian Gandy

Twenty chapter members & friends were on hand to help the chef and enjoy a fantastic dinner. Menu: Hearth Roasted Pork Loin, Country Ham, Steamed cabbage, Glazed Carrots, Corn & Potato Chowder, Corn Fritters, Hearth Baked Apple & Cherry Pies. Also, all the sweet tea you could drink.

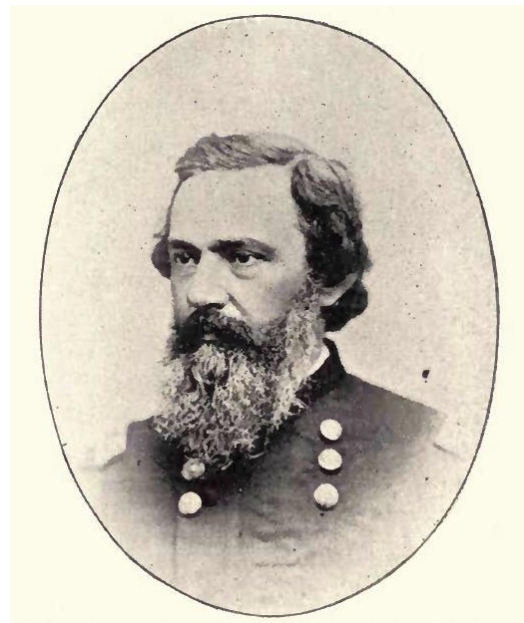
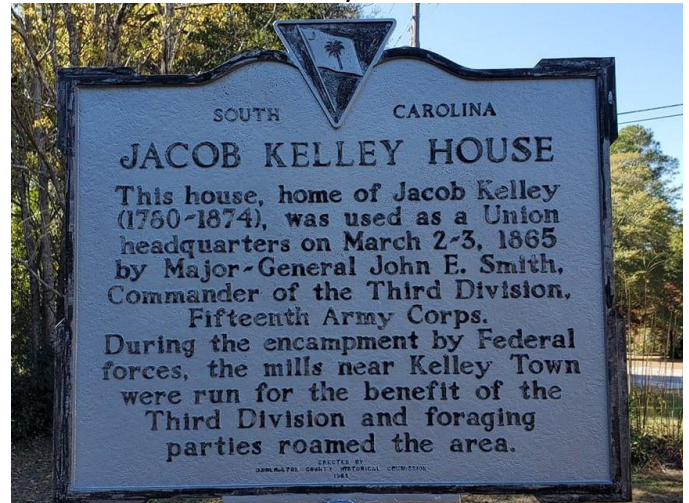


Twenty (count em) chapter members & friends

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



Jacob Kelley House



Major General John E. Smith
Union Army
Brevetted Brigadier General
For Vicksburg
(Enough about him)

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



Everyone pitched in



Lady peelers



Noah Brafford making butter



Doris Gandy supervising the Chef

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



Elaine Frye, Tom Reed, Teresa Reed, and Debbie Hales



Chow Line



All Done



Full stomach, Zachary Brafford all played out

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



Elaine Frye on behalf of the James Chapter presented Brian Gandy with two books in appreciation for hosting the meeting



Descendants of Confederate Veterans
 South Carolina Society Award is presented to
 Ernie Hales
 Joseph Matheson Jr.
 Tom Reed
 For his many contributions to the preservation of Southern Heritage
 Given by the
 1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter
 Darlington, SC
 2021

Appreciation plaques to Ernie Hales, Joseph Matheson Jr. and Tom Reed for their many contributions to the preservation of Southern heritage



DCV Life Members
 Richard Hubbard & Joseph Matheson Jr.



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1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Cont.



Ernie Hales making sure Yankees don't return



Bob Jones, Jo Anne Hudson, Tom & Susan Rhodes

East Texas Chapter

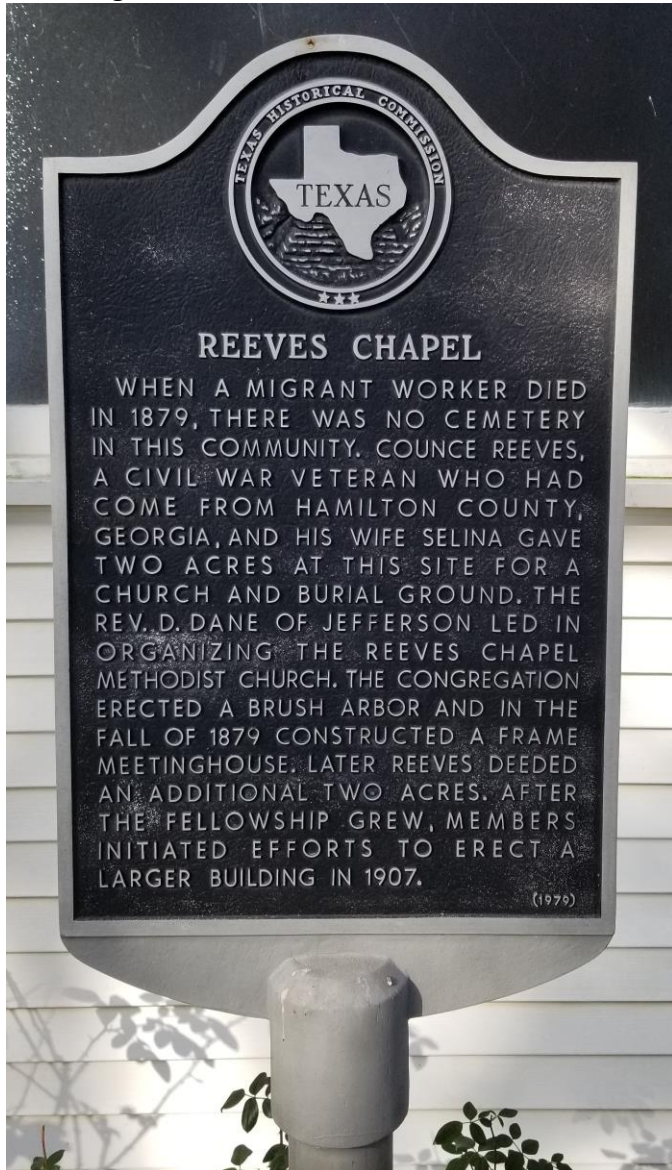
Research has been completed and the DCV marker inscribed with the names of eleven Confederate veterans buried in Reeves Chapel Cemetery in Camp County just outside Pittsburg, Texas has been ordered.



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East Texas Chapter cont.

When the marker arrives several members of the East Texas Chapter will meet with Mr. Horace Reeves, who is Chairman of the Cemetery Committee, to determine the best location for placement and to discuss the type of dedication ceremony to be held as well as the most advantageous time to conduct it.



The DCV plaque with the names of the eleven Confederate veterans buried in the cemetery will add to the significance of the State of Texas Historical Marker that was place at the chapel in 1979

The East Texas Chapter is glad to be able to resume doing what they do best, and that is honoring our ancestors and the ancestors of others who put their lives on the line and sacrificed so heavily during the WBTS.

Editor's Comments

Dues are payable January 1st. See page 4.

Make plans to attend the 17th annual DCV Reunion March 11-12, 2022 in Vicksburg, MS
Look for updates in your Email

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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Descendants of Confederate Veterans, Texas Association

Mission Statement:

To establish and maintain an honorable, non-racist Southern heritage and istory 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

Web Site Link: www.DCVTX.ORG



Merry Christmas Happy New Year

END