



DCV TRAVELLER

Merry Christmas



**DESCENDANTS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS IS A TEXAS BASED ASSOCIATION
CHAPTERS IN TEXAS, SOUTH CAROLINA, MISSISSIPPI**

WINTER 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Ladies and Gentlemen of the DCV,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the Reunion in February. Stay well and safe and I'll see everybody then.

Steve Lucas
DCV Board President

Portions of the reunion are still being planned. The host Capitol Chapter has enough to share at this time that should help you plan to attend.

**Friday evening dinner for early arrivals
Meet up at 6:00 p.m. at local owned
Rio Grande Tex-Mex Restaurant
1720 N Mays St, Round Rock, TX 78664**



**19th Annual DCV Member
Reunion/ Board Meeting
February 23-24, 2024
Round Rock, Texas**



DCV Reunion cont.

**Saturday morning all members meeting
Courtyard Marriott Conference Room
2700 Hoppe Trail, Round Rock, TX 78681
Meeting begins at 9:00 a.m.**



**Bus tour in nearby Austin of Confederate sites
Will stage, leave and return to the Hotel
Departure time TBD
Bus will be similar to the one the DCV had
at the 2015 Reunion in San Antonio.**



**Closing out the reunion will be a Saturday evening
dinner. Meet up at 6:00 p.m. at local owned
Springhill Restaurant
2505 W Pecan St, Pflugerville, TX 78660**



**Minutes from Round Rock just off the Interstate.
Springhill specializes in catfish and shrimp
entrees; Texas chicken fried steak and burgers.**

DCV members will be receiving additional updates via email in the coming weeks. Please make your plans now to attend. If you are planning to attend and haven't already done so, or if you have questions, please email your intentions and questions to Terry Ayers mototerry@sbcglobal.net

Hale Rocket

Hearing there was a Hale Rocket being displayed at a small reenactment at the Museum of the Stonewall Saloon in nearby Saint Jo, Texas, DCV at-large member Ron Smith of Denison, Texas dropped everything and made the 60 mile trip to see such a rare artifact of the WBTS.



Museum of the Stonewall Saloon
Saint Jo, Texas



For the sake of history let's say Compatriot Ron Smith (right) standing with a likeness of General Pierre G. T. Beauregard

Hale Rocket cont.



In 1844 British inventor and rocket pioneer patented a new form of rotary rocket. Hale rockets were the first rockets used by United States armed forces in the 1 Mexican- American War. On November 19, 1846 Major General Winfield Scott was selected to lead an expeditionary force to Veracruz, His force included a brigade of rocketeers, the first in the history of the United States armed forces.

At the conclusion of the war with Mexico in 1848 up to 1861 and the beginning of the War Between the States, rockets had declined in importance. Rocket interest in the War Between the States was the result of the experience of both Northern and Southern leaders who had served either in or with the Mexican rocket battery.

The first rocket initiative was Confederate. Rockets stored in arsenals in the South had fallen into their hands. In August 1861, General P.G.T. Beauregard directed his Chief of Ordnance, Captain E. Porter Alexander, along with Major Josiah Gorgas, Chief of Confederate Ordnance, to approach President Davis to gain approval for the formation of rocket batteries. Unfortunately, this proved unsuccessful, as the gunpowder charges no longer worked properly after long-term storage.



Hale Rocket cont.

Even so, both Union and Confederate armies attempted to use Hale rockets.

On July 3, 1862, Confederate troops under Jeb Stuart used them against Union troops during the Battle of Harrison's Landing. Reports in the official record of the Union and Confederate Armies substantiate that Hale's rockets were used at the Battles of Gaines Mill, Malvern Hill, Franklin, Evelington Heights, Petersburg in Virginia, Legareville, Stono River and the siege of Charleston in South Carolina.

During Confederate campaigns in Texas, rockets manufactured in Galveston were used in 1863 and 1864. More on the Hale Rocket:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vnC5t-fl9w&t=18s>

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



At the October chapter meeting Compatriot Johnny Sessions gave an excellent program on the Confederate Navy.



1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Darlington SC cont.
On The Road Again



Doug Rankin, Zach Brafford, Dave Ships, Ernie Hales
 Bob Jones, Mike Lupo, Noah Brafford
 Not pictured Bonnie Lupo



Zach Brafford, Dave Shipes, Ernie Hales, Bob Jones
 Mike Lupo, Bonnie Lupo, Noah Brafford
 Not pictured Doug Rankin

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1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Darlington SC cont
After working up an appetite it was lunch at Takis



Bob Jones

Zach Brafford



Noah Brafford

Ernie Hales



Ernie Hales

Bob Jones

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1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Darlington SC cont
The Road Crew



Zack Brafford, Bonnie Lupo, Mike Lupo,
Dave Shipes, Zack Brafford, Ernie Hales, Bob Jones



At the November meeting Joseph Matheson gave an excellent program about the life of Josephine Lovett Noel Camden, South Carolina's own female Confederate spy.

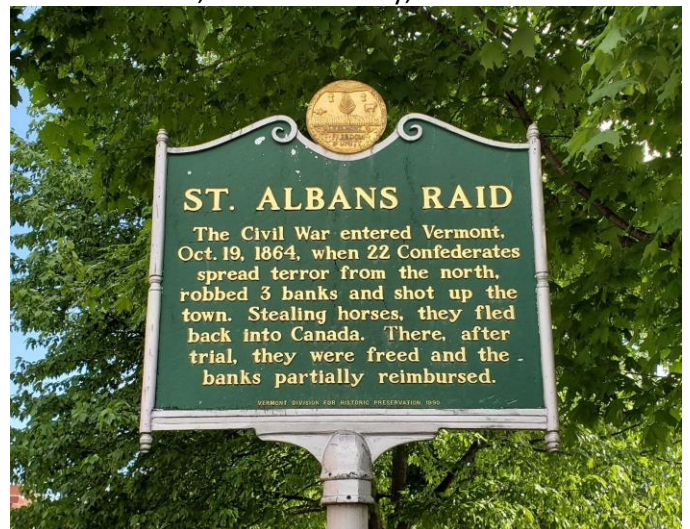
Joseph also spoke about the daring Confederate raid and bank robbery that occurred on October 19, 1864 in St. Albans, Vermont.



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

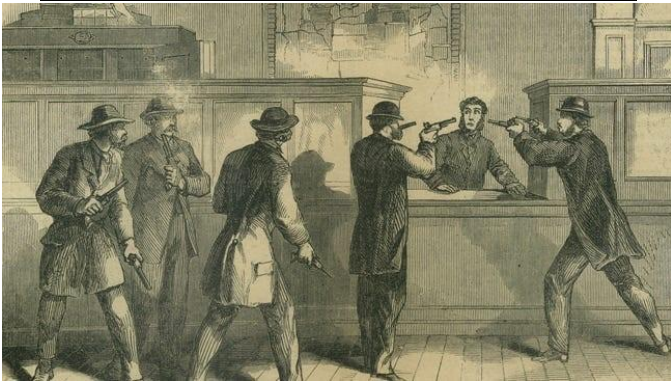


Josephine Lovett Noel
Quaker Cemetery
Camden, Kershaw County, South Carolina



The Confederate raiders were led by Lt. Bennett Young. All had escaped from Union prisons and went to Canada. Wearing civilian clothes they reportedly arrived in St. Albans in twos and threes over a 10-day period, most by train from Canada. They wore civilian clothing. The raiders were mostly young. One was 38, but all the others were between 20 and 26 years old.

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



Upon entering the St Albans Bank one of the raiders told the bankers. "Not a word We are Confederate soldiers detailed from General Early's Army to come north and to rob and plunder as your soldiers were doing in the Shenandoah Valley



St. Albans bank tellers being forced to pledge allegiance to the Confederacy

The raiders killed one man and wounded two others in St. Albans. One Confederate was wounded.

The raiders escaped to Canada and in response to US demands, the Canadian authorities arrested the raiders, recovering \$88,000 of the reported \$208,000 taken. However, a Canadian court ruled that because they were soldiers under military orders, officially neutral Canada could not extradite them. Canada freed the raiders and returned to St. Albans the money found. The remainder of the \$208,000 likely disappeared into the Southland.



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



Chapter President Ernie Hales presented member Mike Loupo with the 1st LT W.E. James Chapter Award for his continued service to the memory of the Confederate Veterans



Mike also accepted the 1st LT W.E. James Chapter Southern Belle award on behalf of his wife and member Bonnie Loupo who could not attend the meeting in recognition for her ongoing commitment and dedication to the DCV and the James Chapter. A formal presentation will be made in January.



1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Darlington SC cont
Laying of Wreaths



1st Lt W.E. James Chapter Namesake
 Grove Hill Cemetery Darlington, South Carolina

1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Darlington SC cont
Garner Cemetery

Ernie Hales



George W. Wilson
 Co C 15BNSC Hvy Arty
 CSA

Solomon B. Wilson
 Co E 4th Reg SC Trps
 CSA

James Nesmith



John G. Gatlin Co K 21st SC Inft
 CSA

Brunson Cemetery

James Nesmith



Lt Col Axalla J. Hoole
 Co A 8th Regt SC Inft CSA

Pleasant Grove Cemetery



**1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Darlington SC cont.
New 1st National Flag raised and a wreath placed**



Ernie Hales

James Nesmith

**Mechanicsville Baptist Church Cemetery
Mechanicsville, SC.**



Ernie Hales and James Nesmith placed Wreaths at the graves of their Fathers. Korea Conflict era Veterans



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**Christmas at Old Fort Concho
San Angelo Texas**



Capitol Chapter member Ewell Loudermilk's 7th Texas Confederate Infantry Company "H" reenacting unit at the annual Christmas event.



Visitors can experience the Winter Rendezvous campsites re-enactors and period traders who bring the 1800s to life. Compatriot Ewell Loudermilk is 2nd from the left.



During daylight hours the many troops on the Parade Ground will drill, ride, and shoot their weapons. Compatriot Ewell Loudermilk is on the far left.

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BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM P. BARKSDALE



IN MEMORIAM

Kenneth Randy McNease

August 10, 1960 – October 29, 2023

“Randy” was President of the recently chartered Brigadier General William P. Barksdale Chapter. He tragically lost his life in a motorcycle accident. Prior to his passing Randy provided the TRAVELLER with the following report on their first activities as a chapter in the DCV. Please keep our brothers and sisters of the Barksdale Chapter in our prayers during this Christmas season.



Front: Jim Hancock- VP, Randy McNease- President
Back: Jamie Hancock, Sam Hancock, Jerry McNease, Dave Adcox, Priscilla Sharrock, Patricia Silassi, Nan Abbott, Stephanie Foley, and Louis Foley.

BG William P. Barksdale Chapter cont.

37th Annual Fall Muster at Beauvoir

Fall Muster at the last home of President Jefferson Davis is a once a year event hosted by the Mississippi Division SCV. All reenactors are invited to attend.



It’s true in almost every reenactment some of “our boys” will dress in federal attire. Randy assured the TRAVELLER most of their boys portrayed union soldiers their loyalty remains truly southern. When asked by spectators that ask, they reply, “if nobody puts on a blue uniform the confederates don't have anybody to shoot at.”



Barksdale Chapter members
l-R Jim Hancock, Sam Hancock, Jamie Hancock

BG William P. Barksdale Chapter cont.



Rank has its privilege. **Confederate** Gunner Kenneth Randy McNease and his crew of Cannoneers firing his 3-inch ordinance rifle model 1861.

**Battle of Cedar Creek Reenactment
159th Anniversary**

Held on the same weekend as Fall Muster at Beauvoir other members of the Barksdale Chapter travelled to Middletown Virginia to participate in the Battle of Cedar Creek reenactment. The Battle of Cedar Creek on October 19, 1864 was the last major battle in the Shenandoah Valley.



Battery M 2nd US Artillery

L-R Chapter members Barb Smith, Patricia Silassi Larry Insko and chapter prospective member Pappy Wade.

DCV DUES REMINDER

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

After March 1, a \$5.00 late fee must be included with the dues. If the total amount of dues is not received by May 1, the member will be dropped from the rolls of the Association.

PLEASE DON'T LET THEM LAPSE

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.

At Large members submit your check payable to:

Descendants of Confederate Veterans

Mail to:

Samuel Bennett
121 Edgewater Trail
Bastrop, TX 78602

Life memberships are available

Age 18-59 years \$ 300.00

Age 60-69 yers \$ 200.00

Age 70-79 years \$ 100.00

Age 80 + years \$ 50.00

Life Members do not pay annual dues to the Association.

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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mototerry@sbcglobal.net

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

Web Site Link: www.DCVTX.ORG



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