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# DCV TRAVELLER



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

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

**Summer 2016**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

**Terry Ayers**

Ladies and Gentlemen of the DCV,

This past quarter was a very busy time for the chapters with many grand deeds and major accomplishments that all the membership can be extremely proud of. Those accomplishments will be highlighted in this edition of the DCV TRAVELLER. Every good deed done to preserve our history and protect our heritage, whether it be as an association project, a chapter project, or an individual contribution is in keeping with why we choose to be members in this great organization. I congratulate all and thank all for what this organization has become. But there is still so much work to be done. As the old saying goes, "Win some, lose some, and some you can't even get a ticket to." That's how it's been recently in the ongoing battle to preserve and protect. In the spring edition of the DCV TRAVELLER it was reported the Austin Independent School District had responded favorably to an organized effort by a group of citizens to rename Robert E. Lee Elementary School. The school was built in 1939 and proudly named for a true Southern hero Robert E. Lee. Almost immediately after it was reported in the media the name was being attacked there were additional calls to change not only Robert E. Lee Elementary but all schools in the district named for persons who served in any capacity for the Confederacy regardless of any other life accomplishments. The DCV and others put up a noble fight but the fix was in from day

one. In the end, the trustees voted to rename Robert E. Lee to Russell Lee (no relation). Russell Lee was a professional photographer and former University of Texas professor. Russell Lee died in 1986 at the age of 83. I'm sure Mr. Lee is worthy of some type of recognition but the DCV is on record as totally opposed to his name replacing Robert E. Lee. Past DCV President Steve von Roeder and myself attended and spoke against the name change at a public input forum and at every Board of trustee meeting since January. We were not the lone voices speaking in opposition. Many parents of students at Lee, members of other Confederate heritage groups, and several individual concerned citizens also spoke against the name change. While we did not prevail, we did demonstrate to the trustees that we were organized and had lined up a huge following on social media to oppose any FURTHER attempt to rename the other schools, Sidney Lanier, John H. Reagan, and Eastside Memorial at the (Albert Sidney) Johnston Campus. In a March 28<sup>th</sup> article published in the Austin American Statesman when asked by the reporter about future name changes AISD President Kendall Pace commented, "Changes will only be considered if the school board or superintendent request them, or if trustees get requests from the community. We don't see interest from other communities, and actually, we see resistance. I think it's going to come from the board, if it comes at all." Pace also said "Since Monday night's 8-0 vote to rename Lee, those opposed to the name change have told her they (meaning the DCV) will double down their efforts to ensure other schools' names won't be changed."

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE cont:**

As your President be assured I will stay vigilant and actively fight the never ending onslaught of attacks on our sacred Southern heritage. I encourage each of you to become directly involved in opposing any effort in your area that threatens our honored past. You will not be alone. The DCV will be there. As an organization we have a proven record that the DCV "Gets things done." Thank you each and every one for your membership and support. Have a wonderful safe summer and now let's see what's been happening around the DCV.

Terry Ayers

**East Texas Chapter**  
**Millville Cemetery Commemorative Marker**

The East Texas Chapter has added another permanent DCV Commemorative Marker at a cemetery in their area. The new marker is at the Millville Cemetery and it bears the names of ten Confederate Soldiers interred there. The cemetery is located 10 miles Northeast of Henderson, Texas.



**Millville Cemetery Commemorative Marker**

On May 7<sup>th</sup> in grand Southern fashion the East Texas Chapter held a solemn ceremony to dedicate and unveil the marker. Members of the East Texas Chapter Color Guard honored the Confederate Soldiers with a musket volley followed by a cannon volley by the Val Verde Battery from neighboring Palestine.

**East Texas Chapter**  
**Millville Cemetery cont:**



**East Texas Chapter Color Guard**

Marching into position for the dedication and unveiling ceremony is the East Texas Chapter Color and Honor Guard led by Mark Appleton and followed by Van Matthews, Terry Hedrick, and J.D. Boydston. Also pictured is Val Verde Battery Cannoneer Calvin Nicholson.



**Val Verde Battery Cannoneer Calvin Nicholson gives a brief history of the Val Verde Battery.**

**East Texas Chapter**

**Millville Cemetery cont:**

Prior to the dedication and unveiling ceremony the Millville Church and Cemetery Association held their annual meeting followed by the annual picnic on the church grounds.



East Texas Ladies Liz Hedges and Amy Hilburn enjoy the “fixins” at the afternoon picnic.



East Texas Ladies Robbin Hedrick and Debbie Boydston dressed in traditional “Southern Belle” attire.



Cropped from the above picture is one of the ten Confederate Soldiers interred in Millville Cemetery.

**East Texas Chapter**

**Millville Cemetery cont:**



Prepare to Fire: L-R Mark Appleton, Van Matthews, East Texas Chapter President Terry Hedrick, and J.D. Boydston.



**FIRE!**



East Texas Lady Robbin Hedrick watches the smoke clear from the round fired by the Val Verde Battery

**East Texas Chapter  
Millville Cemetery cont:**



L-R East Texas Chapter President Terry Hedrick, Mark Appleton, J.D. Boydston, and Van Matthews standing proudly beside the DCV Commemorative Marker.

**East Texas Chapter  
Millville Cemetery cont:**



Special thanks to the Val Verde Battery for providing the artillery salute to the ten Confederate Soldiers interred In Millville Cemetery.



East Texas member J. D. Boydston with the "Taylor" Battle Flag.



East Texas Lady Robbin Hedrick with the crew of the Val Verde Battery from Palestine, Texas.

The original Val Verde Cannons were captured on February 21, 1862 during the Battle of Val Verde (New Mexico). Upon returning to Texas the famous Val Verde Artillery Battery was formed at Fort Bliss near El Paso. The Val Verde Battery served General Richard Taylor's Army during the Red River Campaign of 1864.

**East Texas Chapter Continued:**  
**Congratulations East Texas on a job well done at Millville Cemetery!**

It's worthy of mention the East Texas Chapter participated in a prior dedication at the Millville Cemetery in June 2011. The East Texas Chapter was privileged to be the designated honor guard at the grave dedication for Private John Chisum Bell, Company B. 3<sup>rd</sup> Texas Cavalry. Private Bell's name is on the new marker with the other nine Confederates.



2011 Millville Cemetery Grave Dedication for Private John Bell. East Texas members Scott Appleton and Liz Hedges.



Private John Chisum Bell,  
 Company B. 3<sup>rd</sup> Texas Cavalry.

Also worthy of revisiting is the placement of a DCV Commemorative Marker at the Gum Springs cemetery on June 2, 2012 by the East Texas Chapter.

**East Texas Chapter Continued:**

The Gum Springs Cemetery Marker lists the names of seventeen Confederate Soldiers and one Union Soldier interred at Gum Springs.



East Texas member Barney Hilburn shows the DCV Commemorative Marker for Gum Springs Cemetery at the February 2012 annual member reunion. Then DCV President Steve Lucas (seated) conceived the idea and challenged chapters to adopt a Commemorative Marker placement program.



Prior to the unveiling East Texas Chapter member Amy Hilburn leads the pledges to the flags at Gum Springs Cemetery.

**East Texas Chapter Cont:**



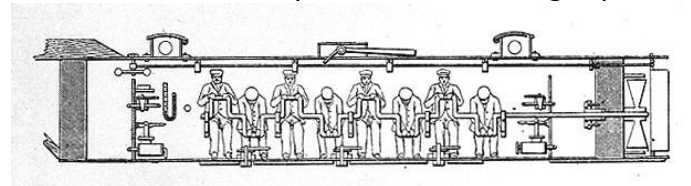
June 2, 2012 East Texas Chapter President Scott Appleton and member Liz Hedges at the Gum Springs DCV Commemorative Marker unveiling and dedication ceremony.

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

Born and built amid gray-cloaked secrecy the CSS H.L. Hunley was the first submarine to sink a ship, the USS Housatonic. The 40-foot vessel resembling a whale, had watertight hatches, two short conning towers, sea cocks, pumps and ballast tanks. The Hunley and its eight-man crew sank to the bottom of the sea on the moonlit evening of February 17, 1864, after it signaled to shore a success that changed naval warfare. Researchers are optimistic that as the conservation process continues modern day forensics will unlock the mystery of what caused it to sink.



CSS H.L. Hunley in all its Southern glory



The crew of eight used hand crank propulsion.

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



As the spring edition of the DCV Traveller was hitting the streets the 1st Lt. W. E. James Chapter was out on the trail in our beloved Southland. This time they headed Southeast to Charleston to take in the CSS H.L. Hunley Submarine exhibit and then on to Fort Moultrie.



L-R Chapter President Joyce Digges, Chapter member Bob Jones, and friends.



This editor proudly marched in the funeral procession and attended the burial of the crew of the Hunley in 2004. This was the day after.

R.I.P. Lieutenant George E. Dixon, Arnold Becker, Corporal J. F. Carlsen, Frank Collins, Lumpkin, Miller, James A. Wicks, Joseph Ridgaway.

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



The Stars and Bars fly proudly over Fort Moultrie. It is named for General William Moultrie, American Commander in the Battle of Sullivan’s Island during the America Revolution. It was supplanted by Fort Sumter out in the bay as the principal defense of Charleston prior to the outbreak of the War Between the States. The site was turned over to the National Park Service in 1960, and is now part of Fort Sumter National Monument.



Fort Moultrie in the 1860’s



Fort Moultrie today.

**KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK SOUTH CAROLINA!**

**Capitol Chapter**

**Robert E. Lee Leadership Award Program**

Every summer issue of the DCV TRAVELLER features the Capitol Chapter’s sponsorship of the Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Robert E. Lee Leadership Award at area high schools. So what exactly is it and how did the Capitol Chapter become involved?

DCV founder, past DCV President, and current Capitol Chapter President Steve von Roeder became involved with the program as a member of another heritage organization. He basically brought it with him when he and others founded the DCV.

The Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps is a four year course of military study designed to benefit the student, the community, and the nation. In addition to a wide variety of academic subjects, students are introduced to military procedures including grooming, terminology, and concepts presented at such levels that understanding and enjoyment are achieved. The program is coeducational and includes extra classroom activities, physical training, drill field trips, orientation cruises, flights, and visits to naval facilities. Uniforms, equipment, textbooks and travel are provided for the students. As part of the team building concepts students serve on a team. Bastrop High School teams are the Armed Drill, Unarmed Drill, Color Guard, Rifle, Orienteering, Athletic, and Academic teams.

At the end of the school year every NJROTC program conducts a military style award ceremony including a student change of command for the next academic year. Organizations such as the Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Noncommissioned Officers Association, Descendants of Confederate Veterans and many others sponsor an award that is presented to the cadet(s). Awards vary from certificates with a pin, medals, and trophies to scholarships. The Capitol Chapter started with a single program at Seguin High School in 2008.

**Capitol Chapter**  
**Robert E. Lee Leadership Award Program**

The first Robert E. Lee Leadership Award from the DCV Capitol Chapter in 2008 was a very fine ribbon with a star and a nice certificate signed by the President of the Capitol Chapter. Although it was a nice award and equal to many awards being given to other cadets Steve felt it needed to be upgraded. He commented most cadets at the senior level eligible for the award already had a chest full of medals.

DCV founding member and Capitol Chapter member Gary Loudermilk was also familiar with the program. During a discussion with Steve about the award Gary suggested replacing the ribbon award with a replica Confederate Officers Sword. Gary donated the first sword awarded to the 2009 recipient at Seguin and the tradition began.



General 'Jo' Shelby, who never surrendered, carried this style officer's staff sword. The cadet that earns the Robert E. Lee Leadership Award is presented a replica of his sword.

Due to a prior commitment Steve was unable to attend the award ceremony at Seguin High School the first year the Capitol Chapter presented the cadet with a sword. I had the honor of pinch hitting for Steve and I must say the sword (not me) hit a HOME RUN! I was sitting in the group of presenters with a representative from the Marine Corps League. After presenting the young cadet with the sword the reaction from the attendees in the stands was unbelievable. The reaction from the cadet on the field was unbelievable. When I returned to my seat the Marine made the comment, "You stole the show." No, I said... That bright brass and flashing steel stole the show! I reported back to President von Roeder that he and Gary had raised the bar for good.

**Capitol Chapter**  
**Robert E. Lee Leadership Award Program**



Terry Ayers presents the 2009 Seguin NJROTC Cadet with the Robert E. Lee Leadership Award



Steve von Roeder with the 2011 recipient of the Robert E. Lee Leadership Award

To use a much overused cliché, once the "genie was out of the bottle" (the sword) the Robert E. Lee Leadership Award became, and is the most sought after award by the cadets.



**Capitol Chapter**  
**Robert E. Lee Leadership Award Program**

Word began to get out among the High Schools in Central Texas that have a NJROTC program that the Descendants of Confederate Veterans were willing sponsors of the Robert E. Lee Leadership Award and the award had become very popular among the cadets. In fact, so popular the program has grown from one award at Seguin High School to five different NJROTC programs in central Texas.

**2016 Robert E. Lee Leadership Award Recipients**



**Bastrop HS Cadet**  
**Lieutenant Commander Harrison Bodine**



**2016 Robert E. Lee Leadership Award Recipients**



**Elgin HS Cadet**  
**Lieutenant Commander Emily Norris**



**Capitol Chapter President Steve von Roeder and**  
**Robert E. Lee Leadership Award recipient**  
**Lieutenant Commander Emily Norris**

2016 Robert E. Lee Leadership Award Recipients



Congratulations

2016 Robert E. Lee Leadership Award Recipients



Salute



Seguin HS Cadet Lieutenant  
Commander Trey Lawer



Present Arms



PROUD MOM!!!



Congratulations from Capitol Chapter President  
Steve von Roeder to Vista Ridge HS Cadet  
Lieutenant Commander Hayden Richard



## 2016 Robert E. Lee Leadership Award Recipients

## 2016 Robert E. Lee Leadership Award



Capitol Chapter President Steve von Roeder

A very special thanks to Capitol Chapter President Steve von Roeder and his wife Lyn von Roeder for all the time, effort, and money they put into the program. Lyn is also a member of the Capitol Chapter. Since 2008 they both have attended all but the 2009 ceremony. Steve makes the presentation and Lyn takes photographs of the cadet recipients of the Robert E. Lee Leadership Award.



Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps  
Seguin High School  
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Tel: (830) 372-5770, Ext. 20705  
E-Mail: brobertson@seguin.k12.tx.us

23 May, 2016

Mr. Steve von Roeder  
Descendants of Confederate Veterans  
Austin, Texas

Dear Mr. & Mrs. von Roeder,

On behalf of the entire Corps of Cadets of Seguin High School, we wish to thank the Descendants of Confederate Veterans for supporting our Unit with the award and the beautiful sword you presented during our Spring Review Ceremony on 17 May, 2016. Our recipient, cadet **Trey Lawler** is very proud, and we are very grateful for your assistance in allowing us to recognize his superior efforts.

We thank you for your continuing support of our program. Thanks to organizations such as yours, the Seguin NJROTC Unit is able to help influence the young people of our community to get involved and do the right thing. We look forward to working with you in the future. Our Administrative Officer will contact you sometime in the spring of 2016 to coordinate your support for next year.

Thanks again for sharing in the success of the Seguin High School NJROTC Program.

©CDR Aubryanna Zuniga  
Cadet Battalion Commanding Officer

LCDR Bryan C. Robertson, USN (Ret.)  
Senior Naval Science Instructor



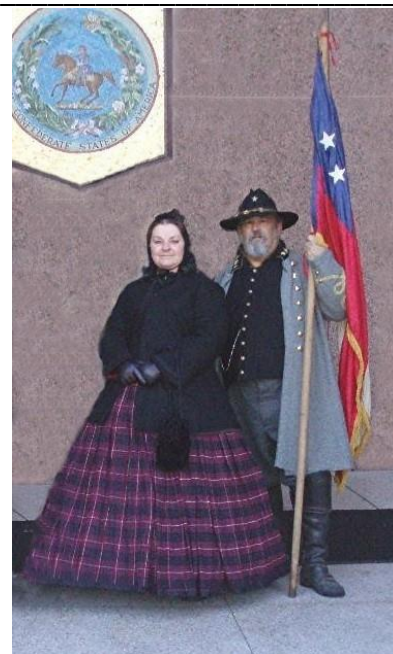
Prepare to Salute



Present Arms



Travis HS Cadet Lieutenant Yomar Velez



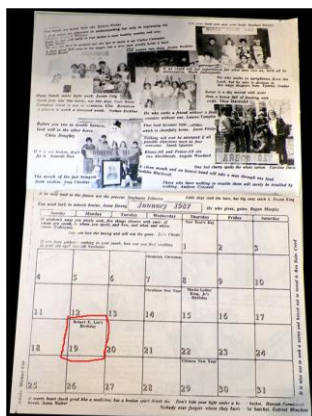
Lyn and Steve von Roeder

**2016 Robert E. Lee Leadership Award cont.**

Special thanks also to all members of the Capitol Chapter who support and fund the program through additional donations. The reality is annual member dues alone do not nearly cover the cost of supporting the three main programs the Capitol Chapter participates in. Keep up the good work Capitol Chapter!

**Robert E. Lee Elementary School  
Austin, Texas**

In my role as DCV President I wrote in my message this issue about the effort put forth by the DCV to oppose changing names of schools in the AISD district. We did a lot of research on the history of Robert E. Lee Elementary and presented many facts in our limited time to address the Trustees. One interesting item I came across I want to share. In 1987 the school published a calendar that featured photos of students participating in various activities. It also included students "favorite quotes." Keeping in mind the School Board "changed" the name, check out the irony in one of the quotes and its location on the calendar.



**Honoring George Washington Glasscock Jr.**

Confederate Soldier, County Attorney, County Judge, State Senator, Mason, Donated Land for Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas.



Above, Terry Ayers of Pflugerville, a member of the Descendants of Confederate Veterans, holds a regimental battle flag. Right, Richard Brewer, center, of San Antonio, unveils a Confederate Cross of Honor.

Photo Courtesy Williamson County Sun  
May 21, 2016, IOOF Cemetery Georgetown, Texas  
Uveiling the Iron Cross placed at the grave of  
Pvt. George Washington Glasscock Jr.  
Texas Militia, CSA

**"IN THEIR OWN WORDS"**

I shall never forget the rainy evening in 61 on top of Valley Mountain while on my return from Mingo Flats. Passing by a tent I saw a fine head and a smiling contenance. I halted, dropped my old musket to a rest, and said to the man near me: "Are you dry? Have you anything to eat?" "Yes," to both questions was replied, and "Come in, and help yourself" was added. After enjoying some ham, light bread, and pickle, I said: "I feel good now and will be going down the mountain. Will you kindly tell me who you are?" "Lee is my name." "What? Not General Robert E. Lee, our Commander?" "Yes"

Henry Hunter Smith  
Atlanta, Georgia  
February 1889



## THE BACK PAGE

The DCV TRAVELLER is published quarterly. Members are encouraged to contribute items of interest to the Editor for publication. The Fall 2016 edition will be published September 22, 2016

### **-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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### **MID YEAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

CONSTITUTION of the  
Descendants of Confederate Veterans  
Texas Association  
As adopted on June 5, 2005  
Amended February 21, 2015

#### **Article III - Governing Body**

Section 3. The Board shall meet in person at the time and place of each annual reunion of the Association. A second scheduled annual "in person" meeting of the Board shall be held on a date occurring after July 1, of each year, the date, time and place to be determined by the Board.

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In accordance with the DCV Constitution the DCV Board of Directors will be meeting after July 1, 2016. Date, time, and place to be determined. Once the meeting is finalized all DCV members will be notified in the same manner you receive the DCV TRAVELLER. All members are encouraged to attend.

#### **DCV ONLINE**

DCV Website  
[www.DCVTX.org](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>



END