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DCV TODAY

Descendants of Confederate Veterans

A Texas Based Association, with groups meeting near your location.

May, 2011

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I hope that everyone has survived the storms and that no one had any relatives across Dixie that were negatively affected by the storms and flooding that plagued our beloved Southland. I know that all our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone whose lives were affected.

There is great news for our DCV marker project to celebrate the War Between the States Sesquicentennial. We had a very successful meeting with the people at Southwell Company in San Antonio and I'm proud to announce that they are the official marker provider for the DCV. The DCV Board of Directors was impressed with their work, prices and history, (they have been in business in San Antonio since 1866 and are the makers of the Texas Historical Markers, National Register of Historic Places markers and many more). Toni at Southwell is a delight to work with and she is up to date on the DCV and our

project, has the artwork for our logo and is ready to go. Brochures and additional information will be going out to chapter presidents soon. Not only are we strongly encouraging all of the chapters to jump into this project with both feet, but the DCV Board of Directors and staff will also be participating in the project by marking a location each year in 4 different parts of Texas, and we won't be using DCV money to do it. We will be chipping in and raising money just like the rest of the chapters, seeking the permissions, and everything else necessary to make this project possible.

This is a fun project that has something available for every chapter member to participate in. From the day of our founding, the DCV has had a long standing fraternal relationship with the MOSB, some of the chapters meeting concurrently. This project may be something where a DCV chapter and MOSB Chapter will want to work together. Just about the only limit in this project is your imagination. Stay tuned for more information from your chapter presidents regarding this opportunity to

honor your ancestors in a permanent way that generations long into the future can look upon with pride.

Thank you all for what you continue to do. I know that many of you are involved in many and varied activities to honor those that have gone before us. You can be very proud of what you do. Keep up the great work. Recruitment efforts of former DCV members are getting underway in earnest and we hope to be welcoming some of your old friends back into our ranks very soon. Welcome them with open arms. They share the same bonds with the past as you and share your same goals. We're happy to once again see their smiling faces.

There is a lot to do, and the DCV has the people to do it. Don't forget to look at the website, www.dcvtx.org, and remember that contributions to the newsletter and website are always welcome. Let me know if there is anything that I, the other officers or the DCV staff can do to help you with. We are here to help you.

God Bless You All
Steve Lucas
DCV Board President

EDITORS MUSINGS

There are several things in this letter that pertain to each chapter and opportunities for advancing the DCV. First is the

JROTC project as well as a dedication notice.

The WWII Pacific Theater Medal of Honor section below will be in every newsletter from now on.

It is encouraging to note the many articles appearing in newspapers, magazines, etc, re: TWBS. Also note the unbiased approach they have taken, at least to this point. Hopefully that is a trend that will continue, for a change.

As noted below, the actual events have started and we should support them in any way we can.

More Pacific Medal of Honors WWII

2nd Lt Alexander Nininger, Jr.

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action with the enemy near Abucay, Philippine Islands on January 12, 1942, Lt. Nininger, although assigned to another company not then engaged in combat, voluntarily attached himself to Co. K, same regiment, while that unit was being attacked by enemy force superior in firepower. Enemy snipers in trees and foxholes had stopped a counterattack to regain part of position. In the hand-to-hand fighting which followed, Lt. Nininger repeatedly forced his way to and into the hostile position. Though exposed to heavy enemy fire, he continued to attack with rifle and hand grenades and succeeded in destroying several enemy groups in foxholes and enemy snipers. Although wounded three

times, he continued his attacks until he was killed after pushing alone far within the enemy position. When his body was found after recapture of the position, one enemy officer and two enemy soldiers lay dead around him.



President Steve Lucas with last month's Medal of Honor feature Lt. John Finn.

MILITARY WISDOM

“Mankind has a perfect record in aviation; we never left one up there”

BOOK REPORT

By Gary Loudermilk

MY OLD CONFEDERATE HOME

A Respectable Place for Civil War Veterans

By Rusty Williams

This book traces the history of the Kentucky Confederate Home in Pewee Valley, Kentucky. The home came into

existence in 1902 and was finally closed in 1935. Using detailed records of the home, Mr. Williams is able to cover the entire period of operation from inception to the death of the final Veteran. From government and private records he outlines the political and management aspects of the home but the more interesting stories are from the records of the old veterans themselves.

From letters, logs, etc., he is able to confer a sense of what these men were like, often in their own words.

These men were returning from war in 1865 and there was no institutional support for them. The Union Veterans were provided pensions, medical care and other assistance, but none of these benefits were available initially for the Confederate Veterans. As they aged and needed even more assistance, it just wasn't available. Finally in 1902, the Kentucky UCV and UDC, and with the help of state officials were able to open a home for these men.

The personal stories of the “inmates”, as they were called, make up the majority of the book. The chapter titles give an idea of what kind of stories they are; “The Cripple and the Banker,” “The Boat Captain and the Bank Robber”, “The Governor and the Prisoner,” and “The Knight and the Icemaker” are a sampling of these chapters.

There is also a section of excellent pictures from the 1890's through the 1930's printed on slick paper. The book is an interesting and moving read and

anyone interested in this phase of our Southern History will enjoy it.

THE OLD FARMER SAYS

“Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.”

Congratulations Capitol Chapter

The Capitol Chapter has once again been invited to offer a JROTC award to the Seguin ROTC for outstanding cadet. This award is a CSA Officers sword and is highly sought after by all cadets.

This is an outstanding project that all chapters should pursue.

It may be a little late to get it set up for this year, but by next year all chapters should have an ROTC Chairman and get set up with the nearest ROTC unit to your chapter.

I know Steve or Lyn von Roeder would be more than happy to advise on how to get started.



Capitol Chapter and Texas VP, Terry Ayers at Sailors Creek aboard Stormy

MILLVILLE DEDICATION

Pvt. John C. Bell, 3rd Tx Cav.

Directions to the dedication are as follows.

From I-20 at Estes Pkwy, hwy 149, go south on 149 2 miles to hwy 322. follow 322 to the west 11.3 miles to CR 254 on the left. Turn south on 254 for 2.2 miles to dead end and turn left on Hwy 782 for about a mile to church and cemetery.

There will be a big tent to cover the food and drink tables.

Our part of the ceremony starts at 11:45. I would like the participants to be there by at least 11:00 with the gun crew to be there around 10:30.

If questions, please advise.

NOTE FROM MOSB ARK. COMMANDER TROY MASSEY

Compatriots:

Today marks the beginning of the end of the Old Confederacy 150 years ago. I wish I could have been at the events in Charleston to begin the Sesquicentennial this week.

I pass on my friendship to each of you receiving this message (ed) as we have a common bond in our

ancestors fight for Southern Rights. It is a good feeling to have so many friends who have a passion to honor their Confederate ancestor's service. I have a hard time imagining what thoughts ran through my (our) Confederate ancestors minds and their families vision of the future. We are comfortable today, live in nice homes, eat regularly and do not worry about our lives being in danger from threatening sources. What our ancestors went through, we can only imagine.

Let us all continue to honor our confederate ancestors in our own way in which we deem appropriate. We are truly a Band of Brothers. I want to thank each of you for all you do in your own area to preserve the legacy of our Confederate Ancestors.

God Bless the Southland,
J. Troy Massey
Arkansaw (Massey)
April 13, 2011

EAST TEXAS CHAPTER VICKSBURG TRIP

Weekend of the 16th inst., the East Texas chapter made one of it's semi-annual trips to Mississippi. This time to Vicksburg, under the

direction of DCV board member Terry Hedrick. He is a member of the Vicksburg Historical Com. and is a walking encyclopedia of the area.

We made a trip down to Rocky Springs site on the Natchez Trace just NE of Grand Gulf. Outstanding historical location and ghost town started in the late 1700's.

Visited the Grand Gulf Military Park again and as usual, enjoyed it greatly.

Next Chapter trip will be to Natchez the first weekend of November for the annual Angels on the Bluff event.



ET Chapter members Liz and Carl Hedges, Barney Hilburn, and, kneeling, Terry Hedrick. Rocky Springs Cemetery on the Natchez Trace.



The ET Chapter members at Old Hopewell Cemetery, just South of Vicksburg. Dates to the 1700's.



E. T. Chapter men, Hilburn, Hedges, Hedrick, Boydston, on the original Natchez Trace road at Rocky Springs.

We have on hand several packages of the new brochures. These need to be used. We are ordering another printing, so let's get these out. Won't hurt to keep a handful in your car or ditty bag to hand out. We will be handing a lot of them out at the Millville Dedication the first part of May.

WEST TEXAS FIRES

DCV member, Frank Smith, who lives in Robert Lee, Texas, had a close call with fires getting too close. They were prepared to evacuate, however, they got the fires under some semblance of control, and with a little cooler weather, they were spared.

Hope all did something for Confederate Heroes day.

Barney Hilburn

BROCHURES