



DCV "TRAVELLER"

DCV

NEWSLETTER FOR DESCENDANTS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS



SPRING—2025

Special Dates of Interest:

March 21-22, 2025 -
16th Annual Corinth
Militaria Show

April 11-13, 2025 -
Battle of Pleasant Hill

August 16, 2025 - Mid-
Year Board of Directors
Meeting

The President's Message

J.D. Boydston, President

It would be remiss of me if I began with anything other than a sincere "thank you" to the membership and to the Board of Directors for electing me to this office. Having been in this position before, I assure you I consider it to be both a privilege and an honor to serve on the Board once again. With that thought in mind I would like to offer my observations as to where we are as an organization at present and point out some of the things impeding us in the course of our affairs.

We have grown slowly but steadily in the past few years. The infusion of new members has brought with it new ideas and fresh perspectives, It has added highly committed and well-seasoned Compatriots to the rolls. On one hand we have the promise of continued

growth and expansion, on the other hand we are facing the very real prospect of division and enervating friction.

I am simply asking everyone to rise above the petty details of operations and to not get caught up in ceremony, while realizing some degree of disagreement usually accompanies change. We must be able to cope with that and continue to focus on the mission, The mission is of the utmost importance and takes precedence over all else. If you do not believe that it is and place other things before it, then you are not honoring our ancestors and you probably do not belong in the Descendants of Confederate Veterans. Our members are Southern ladies and gentlemen who treat one another with respect and strive to create and

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Chaplain's Study

The Acolyte for Christ

O God, the creator and preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for this organization; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit. That all who profess and call themselves members may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are in any ways afflicted or

distressed, in mind, body, or estate; [especially those for whom our prayers are desired]; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

Steve von Roeder
Chaplain



Reunion Time

The 20th Annual Reunion was held in Jefferson, Texas this year. The event was hosted by the East Texas Chapter on Saturday, March 8th. Association business was conducted and include a Memorial Service for members we lost in 2024: Thompson William Reed of Hartsville, South Carolina, David G. Whitaker of Birmingham, Alabama, Rosannah Keys Denton of Longview, Texas.



President Larry “Joe” Reynolds 2024-2025



The Awards Program saw Bob Jones of South Carolina being presented the "Heritage Patriot Award". Three members were presented with their

"Life Membership" certificates: Ernie Hale of South Carolina, John Thomas Wiley, Texas and Stephanie D. Foley of Mississippi. Steve Lucas was presented with his '20 Years' service pin and certificate.



With terms expiring, Board members Ernie Hale and Terry Ayers were succeeded by J.D. Boydston and Carl Hedges as the new members of the board. In the ensuing Board of Director's meeting, the following were elected to govern the Association for the next year: President - J.D. Boydston, Vice President - Bill Elliot, Secretary/Treasurer - Steve Lucas, Comptroller - Sam Bennett and Membership Chairman - Carl Hedges. Congratulations to these members and to all who received recognition this year.

“Heritage Patriot Award— (L-R) President Larry “Joe” Reynolds, Bob Jones (recipient), J.D. Boydston and Carl Hedges, holding the award.



Pate’s Revolving Cannon

Henry Clay Pate (21 April 1833–11 May 1864) was an American writer, newspaper publisher and soldier. A strong advocate of slavery, he was a border ruffian in the “Bleeding Kansas” unrest. He is best known for his conflict with, and capture by, the abolitionist John Brown.



Henry Clay Pate, Lt. Colonel, CSA.

In summer 1856 Pate went back to Virginia to recruit settlers for Kansas. In a public meeting, Pate "gave most flowing descriptions of the territory, its climate, soil, and productions, and its vast importance to the south as a territory and prospective state." He aroused his listeners to action and "much interest was manifest in order to induce immigration, that a colony might be established in that, almost 'New World'.

Soon the southerners in Kansas were mustered into the "Kansas Militia" under a proclamation from Governor Shannon. Captain Pate, commanding the "Westport Sharpshooters," escorted two Lawrence men arrested for treason from Westport to Leecompton, where they arrived on May 19, 1856.

After learning of the Pottawatomie Massacre on the 25th, Pate, being appointed Deputy United States Marshal, resolved to find John Brown and arrest him.

Pate and about thirty of his Westport Sharpshooters camped near Blackjack in Douglas County and "began to terrorize the citizens of the surrounding country." Dr. Graham of Prairie City was arrested and taken to their camp. Others were "annoyed and alarmed," and reports of outrages circulated. When word reached John Brown of the Missourians' Black Jack activities, Brown called his company together and traveled all night to the site. At daylight, Brown attacked Pate and his company, who took shelter behind their wagons. Although Pate's forces outnumbered Brown's, after two hours, Pate sent one of his men out with a prisoner as a shield and under a white flag. Pate surrendered and became Brown's prisoner.

Soon Colonel Sumner, in command of Federal troops at Fort Leavenworth, arrived with orders from Governor Shannon to release Pate and his men. The Westport men were allowed to recover their weapons. One witness remembered what happened next:

"Then, Captain Pate got up on a log and said he would like to make a few remarks. Colonel Sumner then lifted up his voice and said distinctly, "I don't want to hear a word from you, sir. You have no business here, the Governor told me so." Captain Pate and his company then disappeared..."

Among Sumner's officers was Lieutenant J.E.B. Stuart, who along with Thomas Rosser of Westport, would figure in Pate's later life.

At the outbreak of the War Between the States,



Pate joined the Confederate Army with his mounted company that was called Pate's Rangers or the Petersburg Rangers. The innovative Pate designed

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The President's Message

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maintain a friendly, collegial atmosphere whereby everyone can function in a comfortable and casual manner. So please take my request to heart and put the pettiness aside. There is so much work to be done! There is no time for distraction.

In closing, I convey my best wishes and kindest regards to each and every one of you. Thank you for your membership and thank you for doing your duty.

J. D. Boydston
President, Board of Directors
Descendants of Confederate Veterans



Around the South

March 21-22, 2025 - 16th Annual Corinth Militaria Show
Corinth, Mississippi at the Crossroads Arena, 2800 South Harper Rd.
Friday: 1-6:30 pm. Saturday : 9 am - 5 pm.
Revolutionary/WBTS/WW I/WW II/Indian Artifacts
Entry Fee: \$5.00 for Adults, Children under 12 are free.

April 11-13, 2025 - Battle of Pleasant Hill
45th battle re-enactment. More info:
battleofpleasanthill.com

April 25-27, 2025—Texas Revolution Rendezvous.
Join the Texas State Historical Association for a weekend as they bring the Texas Revolution to life at The Menger Hotel, San Antonio, Texas. More info:
txrev.tsha.events/.

October 4, 2025—J.E.B. Stuart Birthplace Preservation Trust Annual Civil War Encampment & Living History at Ararat, Virginia. More info:
www.facebook.com/JEB.Stuart.Trust



He was a Hero if a Pauper

By J. L. McLaurin, Confederate Veteran

In the battle of Gettysburg, a stalwart lad from Darlington, South Carolina, was bravely advancing in the face of a hot fire when a shot tore off his first finger. An officer ordered him to go to the rear. "No sir," was his reply. "They will call me a coward if I go back for that." A moment later a piece of shell took his arm off, clear and clean above the elbow. A comrade caught him, and the poor fellow said, "I will go back now, but I would rather lose my arm than to be called a coward."

Two weeks ago, there was a death in the poorhouse. The bed was hard, the walls bare, the wan face cold and still, while across the breast was pinned the armless

sleeve of a pauper's coat. The heroic soul of Henry Miller had winged its flight to God, far beyond the reach of want and ingratitude.



Mid-Year Board Meeting 2025

The arrangements for the Mid-Year Meeting of the DCV Board of Directors have been finalized. The Board will meet on Saturday, August 16, 2025, in Hillsboro, Texas. The venue will be El Conquistador

Restaurant from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm. More information will be forthcoming.

President J.D. Boydston



Pate's Revolving Cannon

(Continued from page 3)

the revolving cannon, which he had cast at the Petersburg foundry in Petersburg, Va. This cannon was then made available to Pate's unit which became part of the 5th Virginia Cavalry. His revolving cannon firing five shots of four-pound balls. The cylinders of the revolving cannon were fired using percussion caps. The cap was struck by a large spring-actuated striker. The cannon employed a screw mechanism which pushed the cylinder forward when it was in position. This reduced the gap between the cylinder and the barrel, which significantly reduced gas leakage during firing. A lever attached to a ratcheting mechanism was used to rotate the cylinder. A spring-loaded cog would slip into recesses in the cylinder, holding it in the

The first Federal attack at Yellow Tavern was repelled by the 5th Virginia "in a hand-to-hand grapple." General Stuart was apprehensive that Pate might fail to hold on the next attack. He rode over to Pate's position, gave the colonel instructions and asked him to hold the position until reinforcements arrived. Pate "got up and looked squarely at the General from whom he was estranged." "I will do it," Pate said. Stuart thanked him and, as the two men shook hands, "all difference" between them was "effaced." Henry Clay Pate rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.



Pate's Revolver Cannon is currently displayed in the Siege Museum at Petersburg, Va.

correct position for firing. At the battle of Yellow Tavern in May 1864, Pate served under General J.E.B. Stuart, defending the Confederate left. In addition to knowing Pate in Kansas, Stuart had testified at Pate's court martial arising out of Pate's dispute with his old friend and superior officer, Thomas Rosser, now a Brigadier General in the Virginia cavalry. Stuart had taken Rosser's side in the feud.

Decendants of Confederate Veterans



President: J. D. Boydston
 Vice President: William "Bill" Elliot
 Secretary/Treasurer: Sam Bennett
 Registrar: Carl Hedges
 Newsletter Editor: Steve Melton



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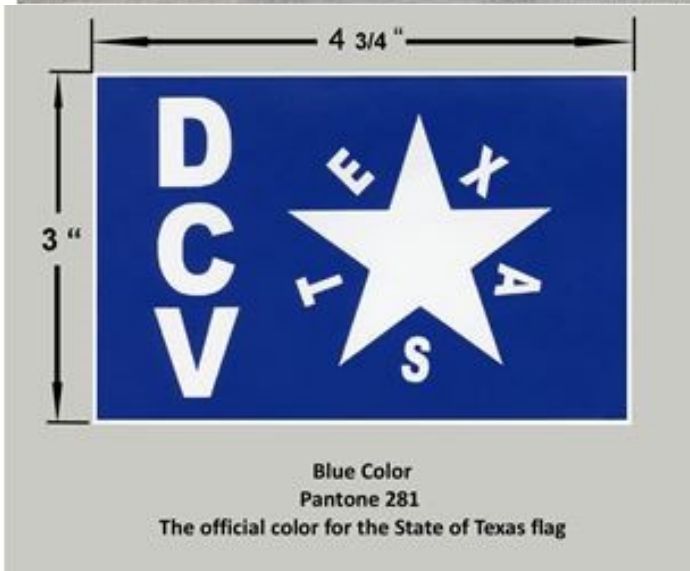
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OUR MISSION

To establish & maintain an honorable, non-racist Southern heritage and history organization dedicated to perpetuation of the memory and spirit of the Confederate Soldiers & Sailors who served their country during the War Between the States, 1861-1865.

DCV Merchandise

DCV Anniversary Pins \$10.00 each



DCV Decal - \$2.00 ea.

To purchase any of the items, please email Carl Hedges: cfhedges@sbcglobal.net



Decal—\$2.00 ea.
 Service & Life Membership pins—\$10.00 ea.

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