



# DCV TRAVELLER



## DESCENDANTS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

A TEXAS BASED ASSOCIATION WITH CHAPTERS IN TEXAS, SOUTH CAROLINA, MISSISSIPPI, VIRTUAL

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

Summer 2024

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**  
**Joe Reynolds**



I recently returned from the Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, State Reunion in San Antonio, Texas, where I had the honor of "Bringing Greetings" to the assembly from the DCV. There's not that much difference in the philosophy and goals of our two organizations, but I'm so thankful that I have not experienced the inter-fighting and bickering within the Descendants of Confederate Veterans that the SCV still has within some of its ranks. I did notice that within the ranks there was a lot of interest in our Association, and I think we are in a great position to do some recruiting and grow our ranks.

When I was elected as your President, I said that I wanted to help this Association grow and reach its full potential, well we are on our way, but we still have a long way to go. The South Carolina Chapter is doing great, and the Mississippi Chapter is growing stronger each and every day. Our new "Virtual Chapter" has applied for Charter and is growing each day.

What I would like to see now is recruiting for the Chapters now that have lost members and need to grow, resume their meeting, and become more active. At the same time, I want to see new Chapters formed where they can meet on a monthly or quarterly basis and help us fulfil our Mission!

I challenge each of you to attend nearby SCV meeting, talk to its members about the DCV and try to recruit as many as possible. Now is the perfect time to reach out to these men and get them on board with our Association.

As your President, I would like to attend as many Chapter meetings as possible, therefore I'm asking all Chapters, if you are still meeting, invite me to your next meeting, If you're no longer meeting, please let me know and let me help you recruit enough members so that you can resume your meeting. I hope to see as many as possible at our Mid-Year Board Meeting in August!

Joe

Larry "Joe" Reynolds

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**1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds**  
**Headquarters Chapter**

The first “Virtual Chapter” in the Descendants of Confederate Veterans is alive and well! The 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. David Richard Reynolds Headquarters Chapter was created by President Joe Reynolds to be a “Virtual Chapter”, and by that I mean that they only meet by Zoom. They were formed in order for members who lived too far away from a regular Chapter to meet and associate with one another.

We have submitted our Chapter Charter Request, with 21 members so far. We have had great turnouts to our last couple of meetings, and have had some interesting programs so far. It is not a requirement to be a Chapter member to attend one of our Zoom Meetings.

The Chapter meets once per month, on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom only. We have a regular agenda for the meeting, including a program each month. The Chapter has a monthly Newsletter that is published and a website at: <https://www.davidreynolds.org>. If you would like to attend our next or any of our meetings, just let me know and I’ll send you an Invite and Zoom link.

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**East Texas Chapter**

**Hallsville Cemetery DCV Marker # 2 Dedication**

**Submitted by J.D. Boydston**

**Chair, Heritage Committee**

Overnight showers had the Chapter concerned but by 11:00 a.m. the ground was dry enough to proceed without worrying about mud or standing water. About one hour after we were all finished the heavy rains came again. It seems that just as we were ill-fated by COVID causing an 11<sup>th</sup> hour cancellation of the dedication of marker# 1 in 2020, this time the Hand of Providence reached down and provided us with a window of opportunity which we took full advantage of.

**East Texas Chapter cont.**



Beautiful setting for the marker dedication



Kay Hilburn, Amy Hilburn, Rosannah Denton



Guests beginning to fill the seats



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**East Texas Chapter cont.**



East Texas Chapter President Terry Hedrick welcoming attendees to the ceremony  
Chapter member Bill Elliott

**East Texas Chapter cont.**



Unveiling of the Marker by Chapter member Robbin Hedrick



Roll Call of Confederate Veterans in the Cemetery  
J.D. Denton, Bill Elliott



Confederate Color and Honor Guards



Confederate Honor Guard



Roll Call of Confederate Veterans on the marker  
Heritage Committee Chair J.D. Boydston



Confederate Cannoneers

**East Texas Chapter cont.**



Musket Volley



Cannon Salute



"Taps"



DCV East Texas Chapter members,  
Mother and Daughter Kay and Amy Hilburn

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**East Texas Chapter cont.**



DCV East Texas Chapter members  
Robbin and Terry Hedrick



Rosannah Denton, Debbie Boydston,  
Amy Hilburn, Kay Hilburn

There was ample food and drink for everyone after it was over and nobody left. Everyone stayed to enjoy what was a picnic in the park and take part in what we Baptists call 'good fellowship'. We all bonded together in our shared love and respect for one another and our Confederate ancestors.



Special thanks to the Gilmer and Marshall SCV Camps for their participation in the ceremony. Also to the Mt. Pleasant SCV Camp for providing the cannon.

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**East Texas Chapter cont**



These events are manna for the soul and so rewarding to those of us who have a passion for our heritage. The East Texas Chapter is grateful to the Association for their financial assistance in underwriting part of Saturday's event, Money well spent in my opinion.

J. D. Boydston  
Chair, Heritage Committee

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER**

Submitted by Ernie Hales  
Chapter President

**March Chapter Meeting:**

Chapter President Ernie Hales was the chapter's speaker for the March 18, 2024 meeting

Ernie reported on the DCV Annual Reunion in Texas on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. His program featured many photos which helped in explaining what transpired. Enjoyed by all.



The reunion was attended by chapter members L-R Noah Brafford, Zachary Brafford, Carl Hickson, and Ernie Hales. Tex-Mex food was on the menu for the Friday evening meet and greet dinner.

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.**



Put in a little work at Garner Cemetery



Spruced up around these Confederate Veterans graves and gave them a new coat of D2 Biological Solution to brighten up the headstones on this next to last day in April of Confederate History Month



President Hales presented Patrick Coxe with his DCV Life Membership Certificate and Life Membership pin.

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.**

**April Chapter Meeting:**



Speaker was chapter member Joseph Matheson Jr. His program was about Richard Rowland, "The Angel of Maryes Heights". It was a follow up to the one he gave back in the Fall after several Chapter members visited the monument to Rowland Kirkland, the Angel of Maryes Heights.



Link to a documentary featuring Joseph Matheson [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qqz\\_z3T\\_jSY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qqz_z3T_jSY)



Monument to the Angel of Maryes Heights

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.**

**Confederate Memorial Day in South Carolina**

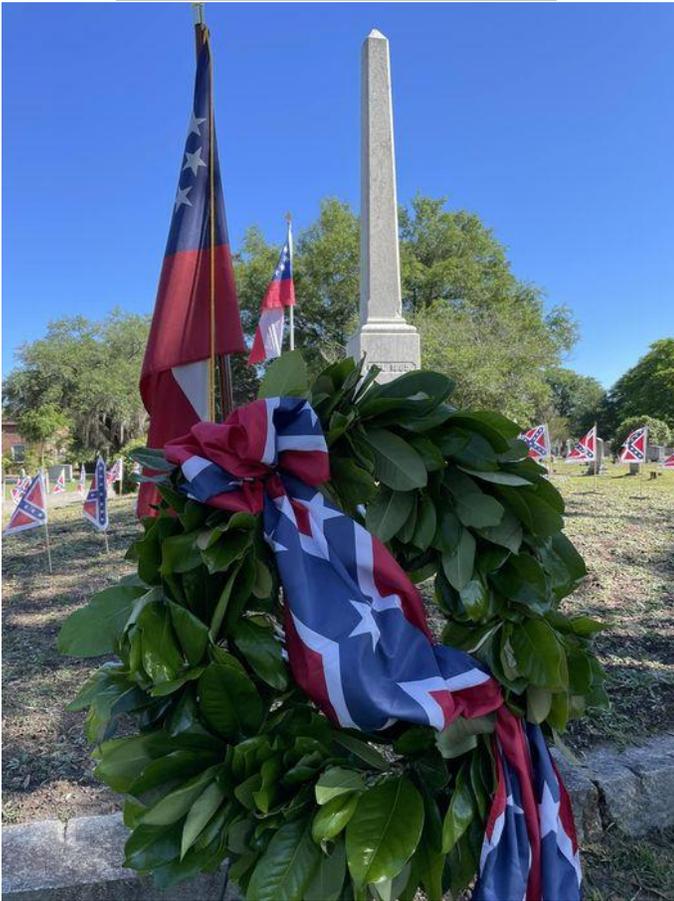


1<sup>st</sup> Lt W.E.James Chapter members Ernie Hales, Bob Jones, Tom Rhodes, Mike Lupo and Elwood "Doc" Owens attended the annual Confederate Memorial Day observance at Mt.Hope Cemetery in Florence, SC sponsored by the Pee Dee Rifles, 7th Brigade, South Carolina Division, SCV



Guest speaker was Kelly Barrow from Georgia, past National Commander of the SCV.

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.**



Chapter member Elaine Frye made the beautiful wreath for the ceremony.

Remembering our veterans on Confederate Memorial Day in South Carolina. Chapter project completed at a Lake City, SC cemetery.



Casselman Cemetery



A few of the flags and headstones.

**The Darlington County Commission & Museum Grand Opening**

The Darlington County Commission & Museum Grand Opening was a spectacular event. The Chapter was honored to be invited to participate.



The 1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter, Descendants of Confederate Veterans was ask to have a display featuring the correct way to clean headstones.



Doug Rankin, Marvin Privette, Doctor John Elway Owens, and Ernie Hales

**W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.**



Chapter President Ernie Hales engaging visitors to the Headstone cleaning booth.



Tony Heape Heather Heape  
Ernie Hales Joseph Matheson

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.**

**The Darlington County  
Commission & Museum Ribbon Cutting  
Grand Opening Ceremony**



Museum Director Brian Gandy welcoming guests



Unveiling of the Doris G. Gandy Research Room  
Plaque and Portrait

**1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.**



Ribbon Cutting



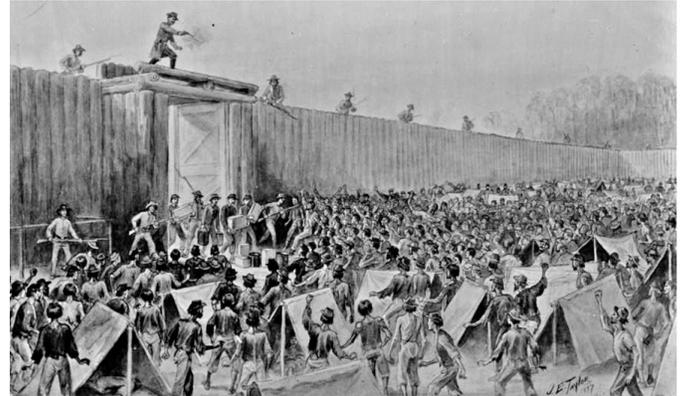
Inside the Museum



The Florence Stockade was built and became operational in September 1864

**1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.**

The Florence Stockade, also known as “The Stockade” was a Confederate prisoner-of-war camp located on the outskirts of Florence, South Carolina, during the War Between the States. It operated from September 1864 through February 1865; during this time, as many as 18,000 Union soldiers were imprisoned there, about 2,800 of whom died.



The Florence Stockade covered 23.5 acres of land with a trench dug out around the outside to prevent prisoners from tunneling out. After about a month of operation, there were about 12,000 prisoners and a death rate of 20 to 30 per day.



Ernie Hales and Patrick Coxe back at the headstone cleaning demonstration booth

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.**

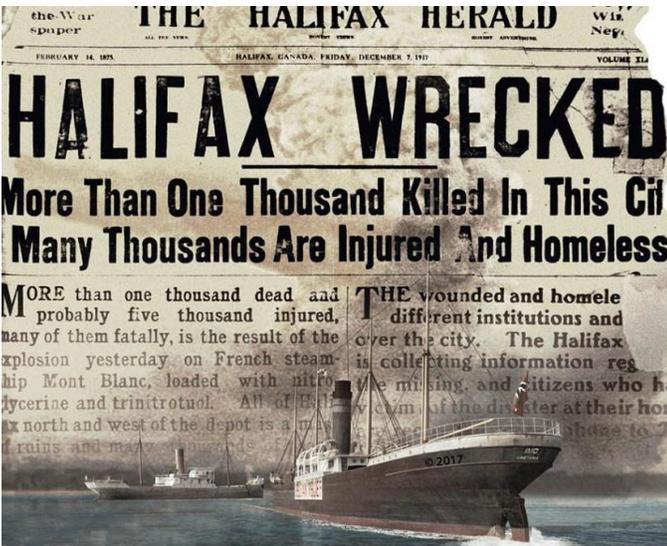


Activities continue on the museum grounds  
"Old times there are not forgotten"

**May James Chapter meeting at Takis Restaurant**



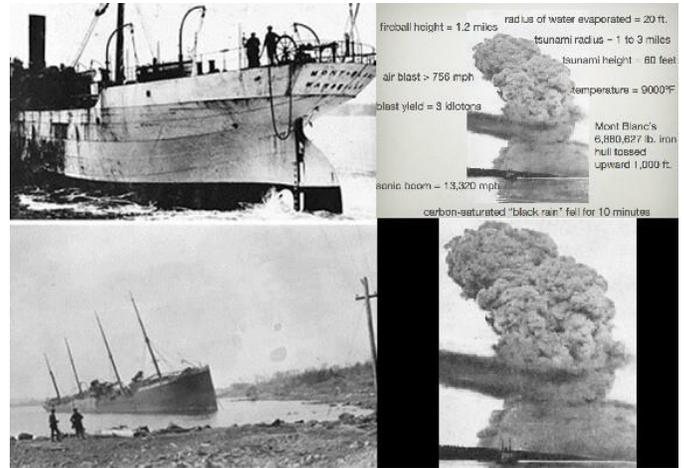
Speaker was our very own Joseph Matheson Jr. He gave an excellent presentation about the Halifax Explosion. This was a very informative and touching story. I urge you to look it up and read about it.



December 6, 1917

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**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER cont.**



The French cargo ship SS Mont-Blanc collided with the Norwegian vessel SS Imo in the harbor of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. The Mont-Blanc, laden with high explosives, caught fire and exploded, devastating the Richmond district of Halifax. At least 1,782 people were killed, largely in Halifax and Dartmouth, by the blast, debris, fires, or collapsed buildings, and an estimated 9,000 others were injured. The blast was the largest human-made explosion at the time. It released the equivalent energy of roughly 2.9 kilotons of TNT.

**Capitol Chapter  
Submitted by Dr. Samuel Bennett**



Dr. Bennett participated in an event celebrating Confederate Decoration Day in San Antonio Texas.

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**Capitol Chapter Dr. Sam Bennett cont.**



Dr. Bennett (middle) preparing for a musket volley

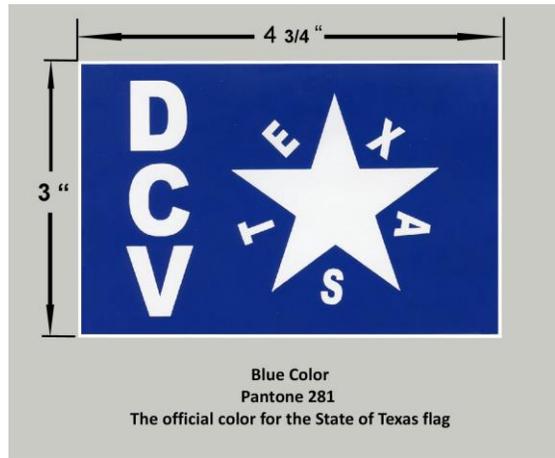


Impressive multiple Musket Salute. Count them!



This Cemetery is located within part of a 40 acre grant of land given to the City of San Antonio by the King of Spain. The property was later subdivided into twenty-nine separate cemeteries by city aldermen, and this area was designated as cemetery number four. This section became known as the Confederate Cemetery after its purchased by the Albert Sidney Johnston Camp No. 1 United Confederate Veterans. The earliest documented burial in the plot, that of Charles Hutcheson, dates to 1855 and was already in place at the time of the Camp's purchase. Prominent Confederate Veterans interred here include John Salmon "Rip" Ford, the pioneer Texas political leader and newspaper editor famous for his service as a Texas Ranger, George Wyth Baylor, a political and military leader, and Hamilton P. Bee, Confederate General and Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives. There are over 900 marked burials in Confederate Cemetery, including those of Civil War Veterans, their dependents, and later generations of descendants. Also interred here are Veterans of WWI and WWII.

DCV Sticker \$2.00 each



DCV Anniversary Pins \$10.00 each



**DCV Replacement Items**

DCV Member Pin \$10.00

DCV Life Member Pin \$10.00

To purchase any of the items listed above email

Carl Hedges: [cfhedges@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cfhedges@sbcglobal.net)

**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

Life Members do not pay Association annual dues.

Contact DCV Registrar Carl Hedges for more

information: [cfhedges@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cfhedges@sbcglobal.net)

Texas Association

501 (c) (3)

Non-profit organization

DCV Web Site

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

**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.

**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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**END**