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DCV TODAY

Descendants of Confederate Veterans

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

APRIL, 2011

PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

Gentlemen,

As DCV Chapter Presidents (and Ralph as Dallas Secretary/Treasurer) I am coming to you with something of a project. I have attached an Excel spreadsheet of all of the people who are, and ever have been, members of the DCV. The spreadsheet has been sorted by Chapter name. You will see that it begins with "At Large" and goes from there. Our objective in this project is membership. Not only do we want to keep the members we have and recruit new and worthy members to our organization, but we should also review and see who we have lost...try and determine why...and see if we can get those we have lost, who we still believe to be worthy of membership, to join us once again.

Let me stress that the Chapters are still the determining bodies of who their members will be. All of these names are going to the Chapters so that the Chapters themselves can determine who they want to contact and who they don't. All of these names are those of former members, so they have already passed the state level muster once and, unless there

is a new objection...their reinstatement should be automatic at the state level. These are Chapter decisions. I ask that you reach out to your Chapter members and seek their input.

We no longer have viable Chapters in Fort Worth and Houston. There are a number of reasons for this, but it is what it is. I ask each of you to carefully look over the names in those Chapters. Perhaps there is someone you or someone in your chapter knows or is a relative. Please also look at the At Large list, as the same applies to them. That person would be a prime candidate for reinstatement. For example, there is a gentleman listed in the Houston Chapter who actually lives (according to the last record we have) in Austin. The Capitol Chapter might want to give him a look. The Dallas Chapter might be interested in the former members of the Fort Worth Chapter. Geographically, they may be very interested in coming over.

Those former members from Fort Worth, Houston and At Large that our currently active Chapters choose not to contact WILL be contacted by DCV at the state level to gauge their interest in coming back to us. If

they are interested and show an interest in being in your Chapter, you will be contacted to follow up. If they are interested and are near you, you will be contacted to follow up.

Specifically, I would ask that you do the following:

1. Please review the spreadsheet and make sure we have current and complete information on your Chapter. If we don't, please e-mail me with the updated/current information and I will correct it at once.
2. Please review the inactive/dropped/resigned members from your Chapter and make a determination with your Chapter members on whether or not you want to contact these people for possible reinstatement.
3. Please review the rest of the list as outlined above for potential members for your own Chapter, or for giving a heads up to another Chapter President.
4. If your Chapter chooses not to contact one of your former Chapter members, please report that to me. I don't need to know a reason...I just need to know that you chose not to contact him and who it is. Simple as that. If you know of something that fits into #6 below, please let us know.
5. If your Chapter is going to contact someone from the Houston, Fort Worth or At Large list, please let me know who that is. That way, we won't contact them from the state level also.
6. If you know of something that would disqualify a person on the Houston, Fort Worth or At Large list from being a DCV member, please let me know. If it is something that truly disqualifies them, we won't bother contacting them either. This can also include anyone that your Chapter determines to not contact...see #4.

On numbers 4, 5 and six please copy your e-mail to Terry Hedrick, our DCV Membership Chairman, who is copied on this e-mail. He and I will be getting together to contact those who are not contacted by Chapters and this way we'll both have the information.

Gentlemen, I would like to have your results by May 1. Not the results of your reinstatement efforts themselves, but the results of 1-6 above. Even if you don't have a general membership meeting before then, perhaps your executive committee can make headway on this. We need to move on contacting

those former members who are not going to be covered (or excluded) by the Chapters.

As you all know, the Sesquicentennial is upon us and it is a great opportunity to celebrate what the DCV is all about. We have plans underway, as discussed in the last newsletter, for the Chapters to spearhead marking a location in their area in each of the 4 years. There is much we can all do but we need to do it together and we need folks to do it with. The information we have in the attached spreadsheet is all that we have been able to compile on our current and former members. Please put it to good use. I don't think it will take long and I do think it will be worth it. But you'll never know unless you try. We have taken the first step by putting the information in front of you. Now it's up to you. I know that each of you will do your best and do what is right. Remember General Lee's quote about duty. We have a never ending duty to our ancestors who fought in our names. Each of the names in this spreadsheet had ancestors who fought beside ours. Let's give them a look and see if we can include them in our Band, our Merry Band, our Band of Brothers.

Thank you all for what you continue to do to perpetuate the memory of those who have gone before and for what you do for the DCV. I am very humbled and proud to know each of you and call you my friend. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Steve Lucas
DCV President

EDITOR'S MUSINGS.

Spring has sprung and back breaking work in the garden have made this old man want to sit in the A/C and watch the Military Channel.

As we enter into the 150th year of TWBS, I see there are many different and varied occasions to commemorate those years in the 1860's. from battle re-enactments to monument dedications. Surly, thee is something in our area that you can be a part of; and if not, get something going yourself.

Remember, it does not have to come this summer. We have several years to do this.

However, our first observance would be the dedication of the Historical Marker for the Confederate Men's Home in Austin.

Information on this to become available when all has been worked out.

CPL. FRANK BUCKLES, USA
(ret). 2/27/2011

Imagine what it was like to be born in 1901? Think of all the things you could have seen emerge to

what we take for granted today. Frank Buckles saw those things and participated in some of them.

He was born in Missouri, raised in Oklahoma on a farm and when he turned 15, (some say 16), he enlisted in the army as an ambulance driver. He did finally admit to "stretching his age" to the recruitment sgt. He survived the "War to End All Wars" to, as luck would have it, end up in a Jap Prison Camp during WWII for three plus years. He was working in Manila at the time the Jap's took the island. He was freed after the 11th Airborne made a daring raid on the famous Los Banos Prison. He had been active in procuring a WWI Memorial in Washington for many years.

In 2009 he wrote to the American Legion:

"America goes to war to free, to liberate, to protect, and to bring justice to bear. I hope this Memorial Day , you take the time to thank the veterans you meet for their service to this country ---the sacrifices they have made t preserve our freedom. May God bless America!"

Frank Buckles
Corporal, World War I
U.S. Army (Retired)

R. I. P..... Frank Buckles
“THE LAST OF THE LAST”

FT. SUMPTER

On April 12, 1861, at 0430 ,after several days of negotiations by then Maj. Anderson, U.S. and three Confederate messengers, Col. James Chesnut, Col. A. R. Pickens, and Cpt. Stephen D. Lee, a steady rotation of cannon fire commences throughout the day and into the night, from the several Confederate Forts surrounding the bay. Spectators from the city of Charleston had a field day watching from rooftops wondering what the Union response would be from the several Union ships that could be seen around Sumpter. However, Anderson, after the long bombardment and short of supplies at 1430 on the 13th. surrendered the fort. It is amazing that after some 40,000 shells fired, there were no lives lost with few wounded on either side. On the 14th , after Lincoln learns of the attack calls for 75,000 volunteers to put down the rebellion. Also on the 14th , Anderson proceeds north with his

troops by sea after a surrender ceremony.

It was at this time the only lives were lost by the Union forces when a powder magazine accidentally blew up killing two soldiers and wounding four.



Ft. Sumpter approach today from Charleston



Pretty well cleaned up after fight



Interior parade grounds today.
Note BIG guns on display.



Doesn't look like too much room
for elevation of the tube.

Today it is a peaceful small island, or actually a spit, into the bay. If you get a chance to get there, do so by all means.

**PACIFIC MEDAL OF HONOR
WINNER**

Lt. John William Finn

During the first attack by Japanese airplanes on the Naval Air Station, Kaneohe Bay, on December 7, 1941, Lt. Finn promptly secured and manned a .50 cal machinegun mounted on an instructional stand in a completely exposed section of the parking ramp, which was under heavy enemy machinegun strafing fire. Although painfully wounded many times, he continued to man this gun and return the enemy's fire vigorously and with telling effect throughout the enemy strafing and bombing attacks and with complete disregard for his own personal safety. It was only by specific orders that he was persuaded to leave his post to seek medical attention. Following first aid treatment, although obviously suffering much pain and moving with great difficulty, he returned to the squadron area and actively supervised the rearming of returning planes. His extraordinary heroism and conduct in this action were in keeping with

the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

HOODS TEXAS BRIGADE

July 27, 1862, Gaines Mill, Hoods Texans broke the Union lines,
Today, the HTBAR, a 501c3, Organization is raising monies for a monument, to be placed at the battlefield. At present there is no monument or marker signifying this event by the Texans of the 1st, 4th, and 5th plus Hampton's Legion, SC, as well as 18 Ga.

Our DCV friend, Martha Hartzog. is behind the fundraising for this worthy project, and they need more than \$20,000.00 to complete the project. Over half the money has already been raised.

If you are interested in participating, contact:

Martha Hartzog, Pres.
Hoods Texas Brigade
Association, Re-activated
605 Pecan Grove Rd.
Austin, Tx., 78704
512 447 3881

THE OLD FARMER SAYS
“When you waller with pigs,
spect to git dirty”

DEDICATION

The East Texas chapter will hold a second dedication at the Millville church and Cemetery, near between Henderson and Longview the first weekend in May. Time will be 10:45 in the church with ceremonies outside in the cemetery at about 11:30. Refreshments will be served at the end of the ceremonies.



DCV Flags at last years dedication

CIVIL WAR TRUST

Today I received my latest issue of HALLOWED GROUND, the name of the magazine of the Civil War Trust. It has a great article regarding the First Manassas battle.

The Trust is in progress of saving many of the battlefields and portions thereof from development, which destroys those hallowed grounds.

Those interested in being a member of the trust can visit:

civilwar.org

It is a worthwhile organization.

Barney Hilburn

Editor (of sorts)

What opinions there are , are mine!