

Merry Christmas



DCV TRAVELLER



**DESCENDANTS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
A TEXAS BASED ASSOCIATION WITH CHAPTERS IN TEXAS & SOUTH CAROLINA**
www.DCVTX.org

Winter 2022

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:
J.D. Boydston**



Members and Friends of the DCV,

On behalf of my family as well as the members of the Board of Directors of the Descendants of Confederate Veterans, please accept our sincere wish for a most Merry Christmas and a Happy (and prosperous) New Year!

As this year rapidly comes to an end it seems only natural to stop for a moment and reflect on the events and achievements of 2022, both personal and professional, and as an organization. In my opinion this past year has been a good one for the DCV. One reason is due to the fact that very little has happened to adversely affect our organization, and in this case nothing is good. Given the fact that this year was an election year, those persons with inimical intentions toward us were mostly too busy bloviating and trying to be elected to office. Believe me, there is nothing wrong with a quiet year!

The year began with one of the most important events in the entire history of our organization: the favorable outcome of the controversy surrounding our marker at the Confederate Woman's Home in Austin and the positive press accompanying it. I think everyone understands how difficult it is to prevail at any given time anywhere, but to prove more powerful than opposing forces in the climate we find ourselves in presently is remarkable.

President's Message cont.

It takes perseverance, patience, someone who is conversant with the laws and regulations, tact, a little bit of guile, and most of all, dedication and hard work. Thank you Mr. Steve Lucas, for exhibiting all those traits!

In March, the annual reunion in Vicksburg, Mississippi, served to promote friendship among members with a large group in attendance from South Carolina. And Vicksburg as the venue, well, it just does not get any better. The historical aspect was overwhelming.

My wife and I were fortunate enough to be able to travel to Darlington, South Carolina, in June to attend the 1st Lt. W. E. James Chapter meeting. Their hospitality was truly exceptional and made quite an impression on both my wife and me. We were amazed at how busy the membership is with all their projects. What an asset to the DCV and to the Darlington-Florence region!

There are other positive factors but space is limited. Suffice it to say the East Texas Chapter had an extremely successful year vis-a-vis our cemetery marker projects, and our sights are set on a future full of opportunity.

With kindest regards,

J. D. Boydston



Military Bases Named After Confederate Generals

In 2015, the Pentagon declared it would not rename any military installations named after Confederate generals. In June of 2020 following national media coverage of protests the U.S. military began rethinking its connection to Confederate Army symbols, including base names.

In 2021, the United States Congress created The Naming Commission in order to rename military assets that have names associated with the Confederacy. The Naming Commission is mandated by Section 370 of the United States National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (NDAA), enacted on January 1, 2021.

It required the United States Secretary of Defense to implement a plan developed by the Commission to "remove all names, symbols, displays, monuments, and paraphernalia that honor or commemorate the Confederate States of America or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America from all assets of the Department of Defense.

While the plan includes over 1,100 symbols, displays, monuments, and paraphernalia, it is the renaming the entire base or fort after Confederate Generals that has drawn the most attention.

In October of this year, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin signed off the commission's recommendations to rename military bases that honor Confederate officers and remove a long list of references to the Confederacy.

The order from Austin to follow the recommendations of the commission will be held up by a 90-day waiting period in most cases, per the congressional action that started the renaming process, but should be in place by 2024 at the latest.

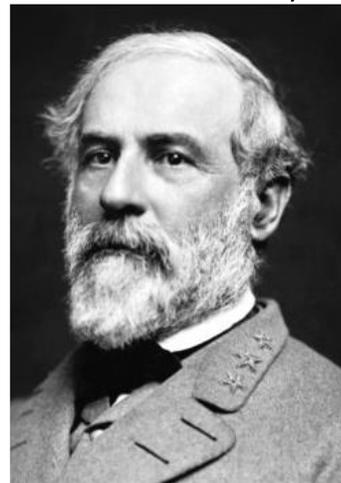
Before this **atrocious injustice** occurs the time is now if you want to have your photo with the entrance sign of any of the nine installations!

Military Bases cont.



Fort Lee Prince George County, Virginia

Named in honor of General Robert E. Lee, Commanding General CSA. Built 1917 In use 1917-1924 & 1941-Present. Changing to Fort Gregg-Adams, after Lieutenant General Arthur J. Gregg and Lieutenant Colonel Charity Adams.



General Robert E. Lee

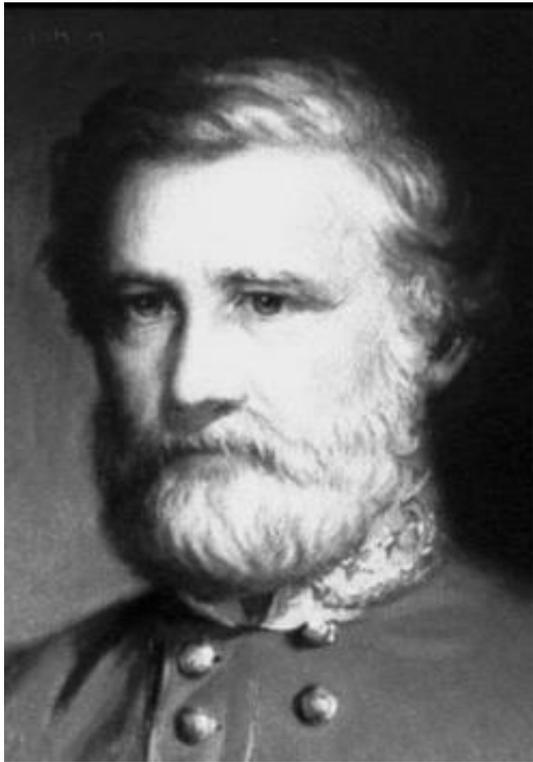
Commanded the Army of Northern Virginia and became the Confederate States Army's Commanding General. He challenged Union forces during the war's bloodiest battles, including Antietam and Gettysburg.



Fort Benning Columbus, Georgia

Named in honor of Brigadier General Henry L. Benning, CSA. Built 1909 in use 1918- present. Changing to Fort Moore, after Lieutenant General Hal Moore and Julia Moore.

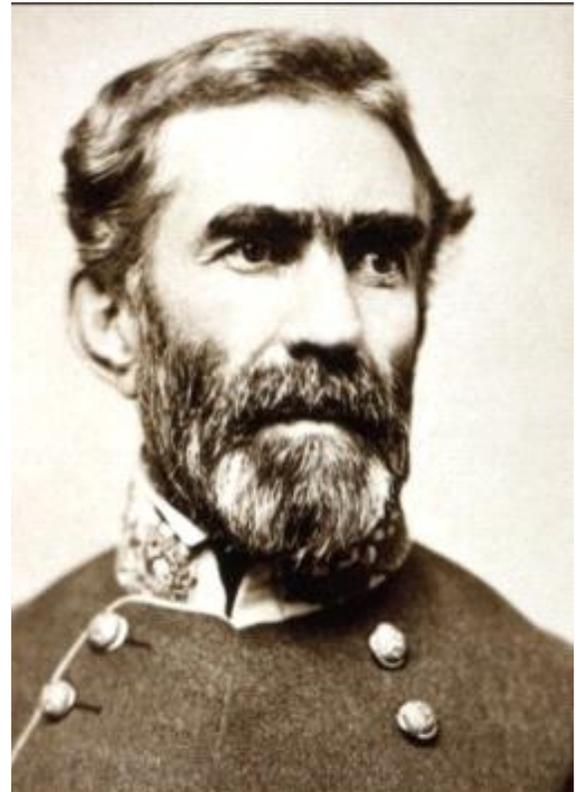
Military Bases cont.



Brigadier General Henry L. Benning

Appointed as a Colonel in the Confederate Georgian militia in August 1861 he spent most of the war in Robert E. Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia. Benning and his men held “Burnside’s Bridge” against a much larger Union force before retreating during the Battle of Antietam and took part in ferocious combat at Gettysburg and Chickamauga.

Military Bases cont.



Major General Braxton Bragg

An 1837 graduate of West Point, Bragg had served in the Seminole War and the Mexican-American War, and participated in the Indian Removal before resigning from the Army in 1856.

Appointed as a Confederate Brigadier General in 1861. Promoted to Major General in September 1861, Bragg led a corps unit at the Battle of Shiloh, before being promoted again to command the Confederate Army of Tennessee. His army had limited success in Kentucky and Tennessee before being decisively defeated at the Battle of Chattanooga. Bragg then resigned his command and served as an adviser for the rest of the war.



Fort Bragg Fayetteville, North Carolina

Named in honor of General Braxton Bragg, CSA. Built 1918. Use 1918-Present. Changing to Fort Liberty, in commemoration of “The American value of Liberty,”



Fort Gordon Augusta, Georgia

Named in honor of Major General John Brown Gordon, CSA. Built 1941. Use 1941-Present. Chaining to Fort Eisenhower, after General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Military Bases cont.



Major General John Brown Gordon

Commissioned as a Captain in the Confederate Army in 1861, despite having no military training or experience before the war.

Gordon became one of the most successful commanders in Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, according to the National Park Service. He led fierce defensive stands during the Union's attempt to capture the Confederate capital of Richmond during the Peninsular Campaign, at great cost to himself and his men.

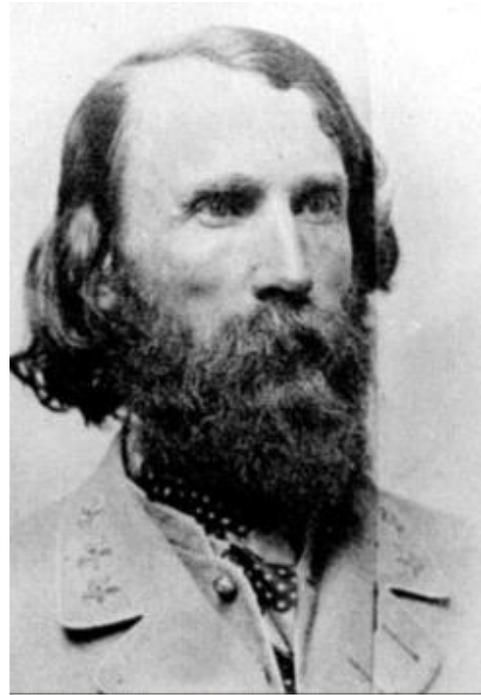
He was shot five times during the Battle of Antietam but participated in the Gettysburg campaign the following year.



Fort A.P. Hill Bowling Green, Virginia

Named in honor of Lieutenant General A. P. Hill, CSA Built 1941 Use 1941-Present. Changing to Fort Walker.

Military Bases cont.



Lieutenant General A.P. Hill

Hill was regarded as one of General Robert E. Lee's most trusted lieutenants and commanded the famed "Light Division."

Separated from Lee's main force during the Battle of Antietam in 1862, Hill led his men on a 17-mile march to reinforce the Army of Northern Virginia, ultimately saving the Confederates from a decisive defeat.

A.P. Hill was a pivotal figure in every major Civil War battle in the eastern theater from 1862 to 1865.



Fort Hood US Army Killeen, Texas

Named in honor of Confederate General John Bell Hood, CSA. Built 1942 Use 1942-Present. Changing to Fort Cavazos after General Richard E. Cavazos.

Military Bases cont.



Lieutenant General John Bell Hood

Commanded Texas Brigade, Texas Brigade Hood's Division, First Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, Second Corps, Army of Tennessee, Army of Tennessee 4th Texas Infantry Regiment

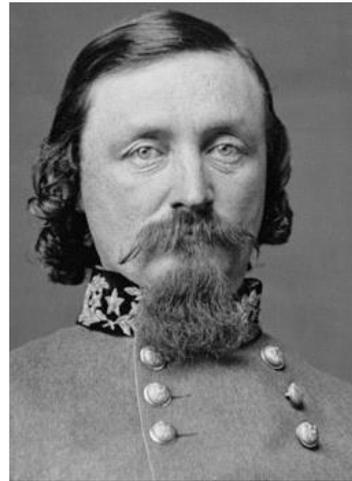
Robert E. Lee speaking of Hood's Texans, "I rely upon Texas regiments in all tight places, and fear I have to call upon them too often. They have fought grandly, nobly."



Fort Pickett Blackstone, Virginia

Named in honor of General George Pickett, CSA. Built 1941 Use 1942-Present. Changing to Fort Barfoot, after Sergeant Van T. Barfoot.

Military Bases cont.



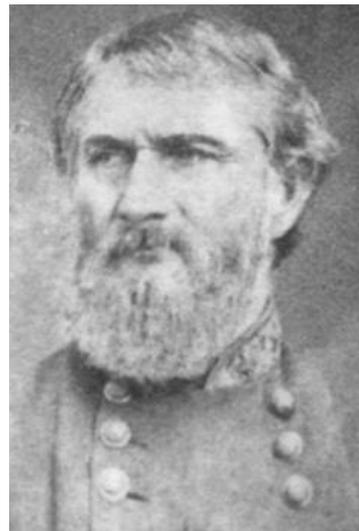
Major General George Pickett

Pickett's Division, 1st Corps, Army of Northern Virginia. Peninsula Campaign, Battle of Fredericksburg, Suffolk Campaign, Battle of Gettysburg, Second Battle of Petersburg, Appomattox Campaign, Battle of Five Forks.



Fort Polk Leesville, Louisiana

Named in honor of Lieutenant General Leonidas Polk, CSA. Built 1941 Use 1941-Present. Changing to Fort Johnson.



Lieutenant General Leonidas Polk

First Corps, Army of Tennessee, Army of Mississippi Third Corps, Army of Tennessee.

Military Bases cont.



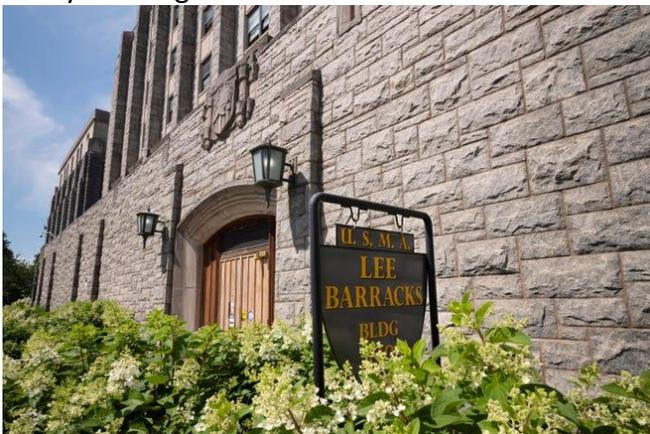
Fort Rucker in Dale County, Alabama. named in honor of Colonel Edmund Rucker CSA. Built 1942 Use 1942-Present. Changing to CW4 Michael J. Novosel Sr.



Brigadier General Edmund Rucker
(unconfirmed)

United States Military Academy West Point

The commission recommended renaming Lee Barracks, Lee Road, Lee Gate, Lee Housing Area, Lee Area Child Development Center and removing the portrait of Lee in his Confederate uniform in a library building.



Military Bases cont.



The order also includes renaming two Navy ships christened with names tied to the Confederacy



Guided-missile cruiser USS *Chancellorsville* (CG-62)



Not named for a Confederate, the Virginia battle was an overwhelming victory for the Army of Northern Virginia led by Robert E. Lee and Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson. Much of the heraldry aboard and the ship’s crest celebrates that fact.

Military Bases cont.

The predominant gray refers Lee's spectacular military strategies and his dominance in this battle. Lee's victory came at heavy cost, however, because General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson was mortally wounded. The inverted wreath commemorates General Jackson's death.

The ship's motto, "Press on," is what Jackson allegedly said in pursuit of a rout of Union troops.



Up until 2016, the ship's wardroom featured a painting of Lee and Jackson that has since been removed.

Under the Navy's proposed Fiscal Year 2023 decommissioning plan, Chancellorsville will leave active service in 2026.



USNS Maury (T-AGS-66)

A Pathfinder-class oceanographic survey ship of the Military Sealift Command. It is civilian-manned. Named after Commander Matthew Fontaine Maury, the "Father of Modern Oceanography" who resigned from a 36-year career in the US Navy to accept a command in the Confederate States Navy during the War Between the States.

And it goes **MUCH DEEPER**. Click this link for the **disgusting** complete inventory of everything on the chopping block. It's nothing less than total eradication of that chapter of our American history. <https://www.thenamingcommission.gov/inventory>

1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Darlington S.C.

The 1st LT W.E. James Chapter met at Takis Restaurant on Monday September 19th with 18 members present. Joseph Matheson was our speaker. His program was about the Confederate States Allied Europe. This group's mission is to locate and identify Confederate Veterans buried in Europe, they have done an excellent job.



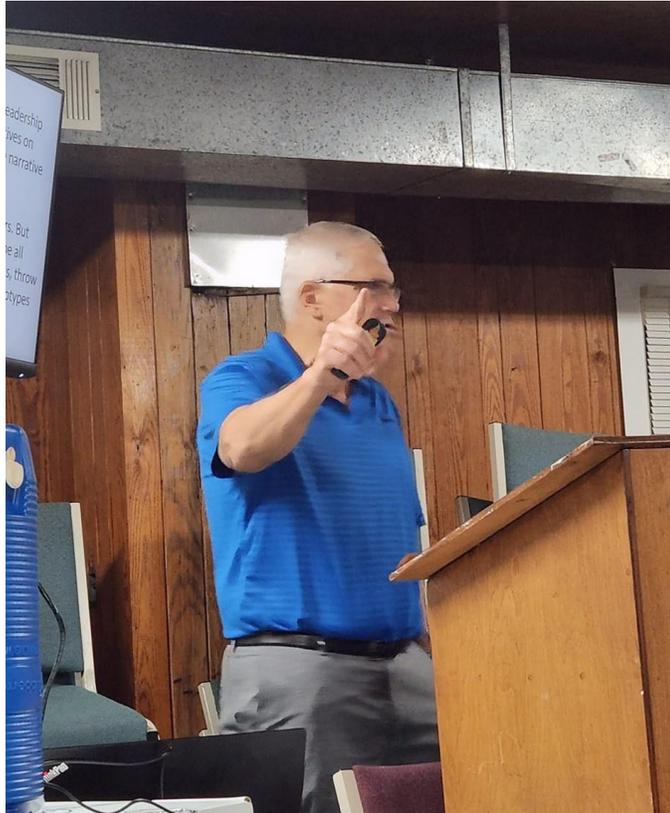
Carl Hickson receiving a certificate of a tree planting in memory of his Father by Chapter President Ernie Hales.



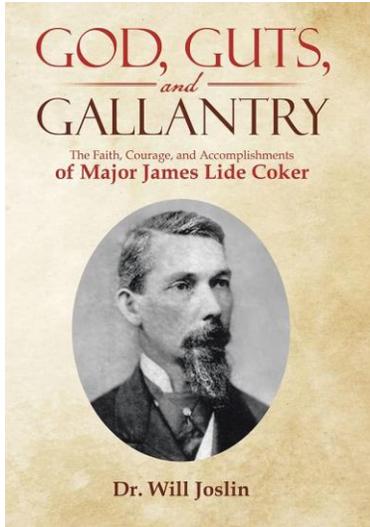
James Nesmith receiving a certificate of a tree planting in memory of his Father by President Ernie Hales.

1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Darlington S.C

September 20th DCV James Chapter members Carl Hickson, James Nesmith, Bob Jones, Zachary Brafford, Dan Cox, Artie Quick, Larry Jones and Ernie Hales attended the meeting of the SCV Captain Andrew T. Harllee Camp in Dillon SC. The featured speaker was Dr. William H. Joslin from Raleigh NC.



Dr Joslin's program was on his Great Great Grandfather, Major James Lide Coker of Hartsville SC. It was an excellent program. As a prize Dr. Joslin gave away a signed copy of his book, God, Guts, and Gallantry which was won by DCV member Hunter Heape.



God, Guts, and Gallantry Available on Amazon

1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Darlington S.C

The Jacob Kelley House (1780-1874) in Hartsville, South Carolina was the gathering place for the Annual November Chapter Meeting.



Members of the 1st LT W.E. James Chapter



Once again Chef Brian Gandy with assistance from his mother Doris Gandy put together an outstanding meal. The menu mid 1860's would have been served to folks from the 1800's through the mid 1860's.



Many chapter members prepared the vegetables be part of the dinner. The menu consisted of hearth roasted pork loin, country ham, glazed carrots, steamed cabbage, corn fritters, corn & potato chowder, baked apple and cherry pies.

1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Darlington S.C



Lynn Nesmith and Debbie Hales prepping for glazed carrots

1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Darlington S.C cont.



Bob Jones

Chapter President Ernie Hales gave out five Appreciation Awards to members who have been very involved in chapter activities



Elaine Frye



James Nesmith



Brian Gandy



Dr. John Owens

1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter Darlington S.C cont



A perfect day topped off with rest and relaxation



CHRISTMAS ON THE HOMEFRONT



**Women of the Confederacy
Christmas Memoirs**



Mary Jeffreys Bethell, born in 1821. Married William D. Bethell in 1840 and spent most of her life in Rockingham County, North Carolina.

CHRISTMAS ON THE HOMEFRONT

December 25, 1861

This is Christmas day, a beautiful day but very cold, how different this Christmas from last, now our Country is filled with armies to defend our country from the Northern army, many bloody battles have been fought, hundreds have been killed on both sides, and a great many soldiers have died in the camp from disease and want of attention while sick, it is sad to contemplate, perhaps the Lord is chastising his church, I believe he permits it for our good. I have two sons in the army, they have enjoyed fine health, the Lord has blessed them, I thank and praise him for it. I hope and pray that they may get home safe to my arms.

December 25, 1862

This is Christmas day, a most lovely day for the season, it is almost like Spring. I hope 'tis a token of good, that the Lord is going to bless us if it is his will. I hope the war will soon close and that we may have peace.

December 25, 1864

Sadai jumped out of bed very early this morning to feel in her stocking. She could not believe but that there would be something in it. Finding nothing, she crept back into bed, pulled the cover over her face, and I soon heard her sobbing. The little negroes all came in: "Christmas gift, mist'ess! Christmas gift, mist'ess!" I pulled the cover over my face and was soon mingling my tears with Sadai's.



Mary Boykin Miller Chesnut, 1823-1886, was born in Stateburg, South Carolina.

CHRISTMAS ON THE HOMEFRONT

Mary was educated in Charleston at Mme. Talvande's French School for Young Ladies, where she became fluent in French and German and received a strong education. On April 23, 1840, Mary Boykin Miller married James Chesnut, Jr., a lawyer and politician eight years her senior. Like her father, he became a U.S. Senator from South Carolina and served from 1858 until South Carolina's secession from the Union in 1860. Once the war broke out, James Chesnut, Jr. became an aide to President Jefferson Davis and a brigadier general in the Confederate Army. During much of that time she lived at Mulberry Plantation in Camden, South Carolina.

Christmas Day, 1863

Yesterday dined with the Prestons. Wore one of my handsomest Paris dresses (from Paris before the war). Three magnificent Kentucky generals were present, with Senator Orr from South Carolina, and Mr. Miles...Others dropped in after dinner; some without arms, some without legs; von Borcke, who can not speak because of a wound in his throat...Poor fellows.

Oh, why did we go to Camden? The very dismalest Christmas overtook us there. Miss Rhett went with us - a brilliant woman and very agreeable. "The world, you know, is composed," said she, "of men, women, and Rhetts" (see Lady Montagu). Now, we feel that if we are to lose our negroes, we would as soon see Sherman free them as the Confederate Government; freeing negroes is the last Confederate Government craze. We are a little too slow about it; that is all.



CHRISTMAS ON THE HOMEFRONT

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Anita Dwyer Withers, wife of Confederate army officer, Lt Col John Withers. She was from San Antonio, Texas. Lived in Richmond during the war before returning to Texas in 1865.

Christmas Day 25th 1861 Wednesday

We went to Church at 10 O'clock. Father McMullen preached a very good sermon. After Church we all went to Mr. John Purcell's and took a glass of eggnog, and from there we went to see the Sisters, Mrs. Randolph took us ladies in her carriage. (The Stable of Bethlehem was beautiful.) The little Orphans sang for us. About five we walked up to Mr. Menard's to dine--we returned about nine...

Christmas Day 1862

I went to Church at half past ten. My Husband was busy and could not go--he had to attend to every thing for Mrs. Whiting, her husband had to be buried the same afternoon--It was the saddest Christmas I ever spent--no person dined out, though many were invited. We were to have dined at Mr. John Purcell's.

Christmas Day 1863

Col. Williams & his family, Capt. Wade & Capt. Myers & wife dined with us. We had a mighty nice dinner--cake, Jelly, Blanc Mange and many nice things.



Continued Next Page

IMPORTANT DUES REMINDER

2023 Dues are payable on January 1, 2023

Chapter members submit dues to their chapter treasurer.

At-Large members submit \$16.00 payable to
DESCENDANTS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Mail to:

Samuel Bennett
121 Edgewater Trail
Bastrop, TX 78602

Life Memberships are available

Life Members do not pay
annual association dues

Age 18-59 years \$ 300.00

Age 60-69 years \$ 200.00

Age 70-79 years \$ 100.00

Age 80 + years \$ 50.00

Contact Carl Hedges Jr.

DCV Registrar: cfhedges@sbcglobal.net

**The 2023 Spring Edition of the DCV TRAVELLER
will be sent to members March 20, 2023.**

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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Descendants of Confederate Veterans
Texas Association
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Non-profit organization

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.