



Lavaca County and The Spanish American War

By Brenda Lincke Fisseler

The next several issues of this newsletter will share the story of Lavaca County during the Spanish-American War and later the Philippine-American War. While both military actions were short term conflicts, Lavaca County men were involved in both and this newsletter will endeavor to share information about these men and their commitments to service. This newsletter series will also highlight some of the individuals whose stories are unique and those who lost their lives in service to their county.



Volunteers in the Spanish American War

The next issues of this newsletter will focus on the individuals who served from Lavaca County in the Spanish-American War. Many times, the stories will be brief, but there will be instances where the story can be quite unusual.

Ernest Henry Holitick
1st Texas Cavalry Co. G
Enlisted: April 28, 1898
Discharged: November 14, 1898



Ernest H. Holitick (Holaitick) was born in Texas on January 1, 1873. After he was discharged from service on November 14, 1898, he married Georgia Brown on February 15 1900. During their married life, the couple lived in Orange County, Texas, Corpus Christi, Texas and finally settled in Cuero, Texas. During his adult life, Ernest worked as a butcher and was the owner of Holitick Meat Market in Cuero, Texas. He died in Cuero on October 6, 1925 and is buried in the Sacred Heart Cemetery in Hallettsville, Texas.

*“Great minds are related to
the brief span of time
during which they live
as great buildings are to a
little square in which they
stand...”*

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with any one who might be
interested!*

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Henry Emil Hollman Jr.
4th Texas Cavalry Co. H
Enlisted: May 1, 1902
Discharged: April 24, 1905



Henry E. Hollman Jr. was born October 10, 1881 near Shiner in Lavaca County, Texas and died in Karnes County, Texas on November 22, 1962. He enlisted on May 1, 1902 and served with the 4th Texas Cavalry Co. H during the Philippine Invasion. After his discharge, he married Martha Ohlenbusch on October 21, 1906. Henry's occupation that of a gin owner and operator. He retired due to declining health and moved to Kenedy, Texas.

Buhler Wm. "Doc" Houchin's
2nd Texas Infantry Regiment Co. M
Enlisted: May 3, 1898
Discharged: November 9, 1898



Buhler W. "Doc" Houchins was a descendant of pioneer Southwestern families, his father having served in the Civil War and his mother from the off-chronicled Reese family. He was born on June 20, 1874 in Sublime, Lavaca County, Texas. After serving in the Spanish American War, he returned Lavaca County where he married Lura Mallick in 1906. In 1919, the Houchins family moved to Houston, Texas where Doc was the business agent for the Painters and Decorator Union 1069 that he helped organize. He later moved back to Hallettsville and remained there after losing his eyesight. The couple moved back to Houston in the early 1950s. He died in Houston on October 7, 1952 and was buried in the Hallettsville City Cemetery. He served as the Commander of the Dennis O'Connor Camp, Spanish American War Veterans, in the Lavaca County area.



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