



## 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.

**Charles Henry Miller**  
**1st Texas Cavalry Co. D**  
**Enlisted: May 2, 1898**  
**Discharged: April 18, 1899**



Charles Henry Miller was 92 years old when he died on September 18, 1965 at Brooke General Hospital on the grounds of Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. Charles joined in army on May 2, 1898 and served until his discharge on April 18, 1899. He was born on December 12, 1873 in Cuero, Texas. After his return from the service, he lived in Yoakum, Texas for 75 years working as a painter and paperhanger most of his life, but later operated a grocery store in Yoakum. He was married to Maggie L. Grandberry and had two daughters and one son, all who survived him.

*“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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*Please share this newsletter  
with any one who might be  
interested!*

# Lavaca County and The Spanish-American War

*By Brenda Lincke Fisseler*

## Volunteers in the Spanish American War

**Otto Richter**  
**1st Texas Cavalry Co. K**  
**Enlisted: May 2, 1898**  
**Discharged: April 17, 1899**



Otto Richter was born in Weimar, Texas on September 28, 1878. The family moved to Shiner in the early days of Otto's childhood. As a youth he worked at the Shiner Gazette newspaper under the ownership of C.C. Ward and was later employed by the United States Post Office.

Otto enrolled at Texas A&M College, but at the outbreak of the Spanish American War, he left college and enlisted in the United States Army. He served in Company K as a corporal in Cuba until his discharge.

After his return from Cuba, Otto traveled extensively and told a Shiner reporter that the skills he learned at the Gazette helped him defray the cost of his traveling expenses.

Later in life, he located in Spokane, Washington where he resided for 22 years, serving as a ticket agent for a western railroad until his retirement. Otto met and married his wife, Zoe Ann Curtis, a native of Wisconsin, in Idaho where they resided for several years before moving to Washington.

Otto was buried in Forest Cemetery in Coeur d'Alene, Kootenai County, Idaho.



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History of DeWitt County