



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.

Armond Kainer
1st Texas Cavalry Co. G
Enlisted: April 28, 1898
Discharged: November 14, 1898



Armond Kainer was born in Fayette County on June 4, 1879. He served in Company G of the 1st Texas Cavalry and was among the large group of men who enlisted on April 28, 1898 in Hallettsville, Texas. After returning November of 1898, she moved to Houston, Texas. On Christmas Eve, 1909 he married Lula C. Weyman. During his adult life her worked as a bookkeeper and later as a real estate agent. He died in Houston, Texas on April 26, 1958 and is buried in an unmarked grave in the Forest Park Cemetery in Harris, County, 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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Frank Walter Kunetka
1st Texas Calvary Band
Enlisted: June 15, 1898
Discharged: March 10, 1899



Frank Kunetka was born on April 25, 1876 in Weimar, Colorado County, Texas. His family moved to Yoakum in 1888. He enlisted in the 1st Regiment of the Texas Cavalry and was a member of the Army Cavalry band where he played trumpet and trombone. He was discharged on March 10, 1899.

He married Carrie Morgan on August 10, 1902 in Yoakum. He and his brother-in-law opened and operated a general mercantile store for several years. In 1908 they sold the store and purchased property in DeWitt County along the Guadalupe River where they engaged in farming and ranching.

After moving to Cuero in 1916, Kunetka was elected DeWitt County Tax Assessor in 1917, a position he retained until 1934. In 1935, the Assessor and Collector offices were combined and he served as a deputy in the new office for approximately 25 years.

Frank could speak five languages, Czech, English, German, Polish and Spanish.

Frank and Carrie retired to the Trinity Lutheran Home in Shiner in 1965 where Frank resided until his death on January 18, 1973. Frank and Carrie are both interred in the Oak Grove Cemetery in Yoakum, Lavaca County, Texas.



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History of DeWitt County