



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.

In the summer of 1899, an army of 25 U.S. Volunteer Regiments were organized, one regiment of which, the 33rd U.S. Volunteers, was recruited at San Antonio, Texas. Several Hallettsville and Lavaca County boys enlisted in the regiment. The next newsletters will focus on the twelve men who enlisted and served in Company H of this regiment.

Gottlob Frederick Euchner
1st Texas Cavalry Co. G Band
Enlisted: April 17, 1898
Discharged: November 11, 1898

33rd US Volunteer Inf. Co. H
Band
Enlisted: August 17, 1899
Discharged: April 11, 1901



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with any one who might be
interested!*

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Gottlob Fredrick Euchner was born in Germany on November 12, 1871 to Jakob Friedrich Euchner and Marie Katharine Bader Euchner. He immigrated the United States of America in 1886. He enlisted in the Spanish American War on April 17, 1898 serving with the 1st Texas Cavalry Co. G Band. He was discharged on November 11, 1898.

In the August 24, 1899 issue of the Hallettsville newspaper it was announced that “Fred Euchner, one of our popular butchers, has enlisted in the 33rd US Volunteer Band at Camp Capron, San Antonio, Texas and will soon leave with his regiment for the Philippines”.

During his service in the Philippines, Euchner send a letter to Hallettsville resident Berthold Riedel along with some pictures of his location. In the letter, Euchner states that “he is tired of the war and wants to come back to civilization.”

He was discharged on April 11, 1901 and took up residence in Washington state working as a butcher and operated downtown restaurants and worked for the Alaska Steamship Company.

He married Annie Eleanor Parkin on October 26, 1903 in Seattle, Washington.

According to this obituary, he was in charge of the Officers Mess at Fort Lewis during WWI and served in the Merchant Marines during WWII.

Euchner died on October 19, 1956 in Mt. Pleasant, Washington and is buried in the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Note:

Miss Vesta Euchner, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G.F. Euchner, a Seattle aviator, died on June 9, 1933, at the age of 23 years. Miss Euchner gained distinction in 1931, when she made her first solo flight after only 5 hours and 40 minutes of instruction. She received her pilot's license in November 1931. Vesta made many cross-county flights and many short flights in the Seattle area. An ardent horsewoman, she was a familiar sight at the airport astride her pony as well as in her neighborhood. She was survived by her parents, one brother and one sister.

Sources:

www.ancestry.com

www.fold3.com

www.findagrave.com

Hallettsville Herald

August 24, 1899

April 12, 1900



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