

Belleair man gets two military crosses from Daughters of the Confederacy

The United Daughters of the Confederacy, Florida Division, presented four military service crosses during the division's 81st annual convention in Coral Gables Oct. 12, and Henry G. Lawrence Jr. of Belleair received two of them.

The cross can be bestowed on lineal descendants of Confederate veterans who have served honorably in time of war. Lawrence was cited for his service as a major during World War II and as a lieutenant colonel in the Korean Conflict for the U.S. Marine Corps.

Lawrence is the great grandson of Garland Terry Dismukes Jr., who was a corporal in Co. G, Georgia Infantry, 12th Regiment, during the War Between the States.

Cpl. Dismukes was captured at the Battle of McDowell, Va., then escaped. Later he was severely wounded in the back and shoulder near Petersburg, Va., and again captured. This time he was imprisoned at Point Lookout, Md., until the war ended.

Henry Lawrence is the commanding officer of Albert Pierce Camp 1318, Clearwater, Sons of Confederate Veterans, which was chartered Oct. 5, 1974.

Dean Boggs of Jacksonville, then Florida state commander and national lieutenant commander for the Sons of Confederate Veterans, came to Clearwater and delivered the charter. Boggs recently was named national commander, the first from Florida to be so honored, during the annual national convention in Memphis, Tenn.