



NEWSLETTER OF THE VIRGINIA DIVISION
The Old Dominion Bulletin
UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY®

June 2024, Volume 2024, Issue 3

A Message From Virginia Division President Dawn Diehl



Summertime is here! I hope that you all have fun things planned for the summer and you will come back in September energized and ready to work hard in your chapters.

This has been a stressful time for Virginia Division and our General Organization. Our esteemed General Robert E. Lee stated, "There is one true glory and one true honor, the glory of duty well done and the honor of integrity of principle." This is the principle for which our Confederate forefathers fought with valor and it is the same principle we fight for today. I want to personally thank all who wrote letters, sent emails and made phone calls to the Virginia Legislature and Governor Youngkin.

We did our duty well and with integrity of principle. Our voice was heard and we did make a difference. Virginia Daughters you stood fast and answered the call!

Where do we go from here? As we know the fight is not over, it will come up again probably in 2 years. As soon as I have our numbers in from this year I plan on making a flyer with all the great things Virginia Division has accomplished and send it to every member in the Virginia Legislature and the Governor. We need to stand firm and keep our momentum going so that they know who we are and what we do. I encourage each of you to keep writing your Representatives and Senators, keeping our name out there.

A huge thank you to all our District Chairmen and Hostess Chapters for successful District Conferences. They all went well and were well attended. Special thanks to Teresa Roane for giving the presentation on the UDC start and talking points we can use. I know that we all found it helpful!

I was honored to give the Memorial Day Speech for Suffolk Chapter 173. They treated me like royalty and it was a delightful time for Jim and me. I want to thank them for a wonderful

(President's message continued)

week-end, it was so nice being together and getting to know the daughters better. Billie Earnest went out of her way to make it special, thank you and thanks to Jennifer Boykin for opening up her lovely home for lunch.

With my chapter Loudoun 170 I attended the Memorial Day Service in Leesburg, laying a wreath for Virginia Division. After that service I attended participated in a service by the Clinton Hatcher SCV Camp at the Ball's Bluff Monument at Union Cemetery. I read a poem and laid a wreath for Virginia Division. I attended the Memorial Service in Winchester, Debbie Thomas was presented an award for her 20 years of service in making sure this ceremony continued. Always one of my highlights is attending the Hats and Pearls fundraiser put on by Mary Custis Lee/17th Virginia Regiment Chapter 7.

I would like to thank Vice-President Pam Smith for taking over for me at Massing of the Flags. I hated to miss but due to the burial of my father-in-law at Arlington, I had to forego, having kids and grandkids here from Hawaii and California which made it special. Thank you for all your thoughts, cards and prayers, they were appreciated.

Elaine Powers Convention Chair is hard at work making sure we have a successful convention. If at all possible please make an effort to attend convention, the committee works hard to make it fun for all. This is a by-law year and we have a lot of work to do, so come prepared.

Chapter Presidents please make sure that your reports are turned in on time. It is so helpful to all of us who need those reports.

District Conference Schedule for 2025: First District: May 3 Hamilton Wade; Second District: April 26 Rockbridge; Third District: March 29 Farmville; Fourth District: April 12 Black Horse; Fifth District: March 22 Fort Lowry; Sixth District: March 15 Princess Anne

Wishing you all a happy and healthy summer! I will be going to Florida and spending time with Sutton Jackson the end of June and first weeks in July.

With UDC love and blessings,

Dawn

“The flags of the Confederate States of America were very important and a matter of great pride to those citizens living in the Confederacy. They are also a matter of great pride for their descendants as part of their heritage and history.”

Winston Churchill



Silent Echoes

In Dixie's land, where magnolias bloom
The ghosts of soldiers rest in their tombs.
Gone are the antebellum mansions grand
Their stories clasped in the Daughters' soft hands.
Gone are the battlefields, once fierce and wild
They fought with honor and courage, down to the last man-child
Their muskets silenced, their valor laid low
As time erases footprints in the red clay below.
The old plantation homes, with columns tall
Now crumble quietly, but their memories still enthrall.
Walls that echoed laughter, tears, and strife
Now echo only silence—a fading life.
The southern flags that fluttered in the breeze
Symbols of defiance, lost to history's seas.
The cotton fields, the riverboats, the songs have all been swept away
For the ignorant only want to see Dixieland's dismay
Yet in the Southern soul, the past remains
A tapestry of joy, sorrow, love, and pain
For every vanished monument, for every tale "re-told"
The truth is whispered by the pines, in every moss-draped fold.
So raise a glass to Dixie's memory dear
To mint juleps, sweet tea, and moonlight clear.
Though statues crumble and the grass grows thick
Southern history lives on—a timeless wick.

Shae Taylor
General Stuart 2195
Second Vice President

Third Vice President Report

THANK YOU MUCH! Yes, you supported 2023-2024 President Hazel Bittenbender so well, my UDC Sisters! Due to your monetary willingness we have almost \$8,200 for the Confederate Chapel steps to be replaced and painted in a historically correct manner. President Hazel attended every District's Spring Conference. I am glad you got to meet her, to hear her presentation, and hopefully you have one of her personally generated Confederate Memorial Chapel brochures for your Chapter's scrapbook. Some of you invited her to speak at your Chapter Meeting or event. PLEASE CONTINUE TO DO SO as other Children of the Confederacy Division Presidents come down 'our Southern Heritage Lane.

Hazel and I wish to thank those who kindly donated items to the CofC Sales Table. The CofC benefitted, indeed, from your "sharing" as did our customers!

The Children of the Confederacy had its 87th Annual Convention June 8, Sandston Presbyterian Church, Sandston. As Hazel steps down, ***Cora Scott*** steps up as the 2024-2025 Children of the Confederacy, Virginia Division President. I know you stand ready to encourage and support her and her CofC Officers as they embark on their year of service.

As you prepare for your next Chapter year, perhaps you could include in your next budget a donation to Cora's special project about which you will hear more soon: Historial, Memorial, Benevolent, Preservation, and Restoration. Chapters and individuals are the lifeline, the examples, the mentors for our youth. ...***The Children of the Confederacy of the UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY shall be an organization auxiliary to the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and it shall be composed of state divisions and local Chapters*** [Article XX11]. During the summer months check out the CofC Pins that you may purchase to wear on your UDC Ribbon. Plan/look for opportunities for the CofC to help in meetings, events, and projects.

In making your VA DIV Convention plans, I hope they will include a visit to the CofC Sales Table. Give us a hello, a smile, and perhaps make a purchase or donation toward Cora's Special Project.

Proclaim your faith in our Confederate Heritage.

Fran Towberman, Third Vice President

Recorder Military Service Award (RMSA)

First, I'd like to thank those chapters working on packages to recognize veterans at Chapter, Division, or General Military Service Award bestowal ceremonies! Three packages have been submitted for Division-level review and, if endorsed, will be forwarded to the General RMSA for approval. Additionally, three chapters are working on applications for Chapter bestowals and two recipients are being prepared for bestowal from the Virginia Division at the General Convention.

I have also continued to respond to questions from across the Division and look forward to helping complete the application packages and review drafts as they are being developed. I appreciate being plugged in at the earliest possible stage of filling out the required forms and obtaining the right documentation and proofs.

I want to share at least one key message from Recorder General with you. She stresses attention needs to be paid to ensure the correct unit is put on page 1 of the MoF and remember, that just because a unit is listed on the DD214, it is not necessarily the correct unit during the period for which the applicant is getting the award. For more information on how to determine this, feel free to contact me on 804-580-1083 or karisma@hughes.net and I'll be happy to fill you in on the details.

Have a joy-filled and safe summer. Continue seeking out veterans and active duty that should be recognized and let's get them honored with one of our UDC Military Service Awards!

Submitted by Susan Hudson

Message from the Division Vice President

The magnetic ribbons are now available through the business office and the order form can be found on the General website. All order forms are to be sent directly to the business office. The forms DO NOT have to be sent to me for approval. A couple of weeks ago I sent an email out to the Chapter Vice Presidents with this information and a copy of the order form. I had a couple of emails bounce back. Please let me know if any of the Chapter Vice Presidents did not receive that email; so I can update my records.

Thank you all for your support this year. You have done an amazing job honoring your ancestors with your pin orders. Please continue to send your orders throughout the summer months; so that you can have your pins for the October Convention. Also, remember that this is an election year for General Officers so there is a period from the middle of October to the middle of November where I will be unable to submit new orders while the new officer comes into term.

Have a great summer and I hope to see you at our October Convention.

Pam Smith

Treasurer's Report

A huge "Thank YOU" to the chapter treasurers that did the hard work and submitted their Annual Financial Report, 990-Ns and their chapter's Per Capita Reports in time to ensure that their chapter will count and their members will have a say as delegates! Just a reminder: the 2024 Annual Financial report is due to me by October 31, 2024, and the Per Capita dues are due to me by February 15, 2025. The treasurer forms can be found on our Division website under *Division Forms* in the TREASURER section. Your 990-N for the year 2023-2024 will be posted on the Division website under *Division Forms* in the TREASURER section after September 15, 2024, and the Chapter Rosters will also be posted in the Treasurer's section of Division Forms as soon as the Business Office releases them to me, around mid-January 2025. And as always let me know if you need anything!

Pamela Curtin

ODB Submissions Deadline: Sept 15th– No exceptions. Email to juliaclairejw@gmail.com

HOMELAND DEFENSE SERVICES AWARD

Are you aware that the UDC has an award for civilian citizens who have protected and defended our cities, counties, states and country since 9/11? It is the Homeland Defense Services Award. It is awarded to firefighters, police, sheriffs, paramedics, doctors, and nurses who have served in essential non-combat positions that were critical to the protection of Americans. Proof of their acts is easy: a newspaper article, a TV clip, a certificate from their department or hospital that tells what they did, is acceptable.

Check with your local fire or police departments public affairs office to see if there is such a hero in your area. Check with you local newspaper and TV station. Call the Sheriff's Department. We want to recognize these people. In addition to the proof of acts, you will need a copy of their birth certificate proving they are an American citizen. No Southern ancestry is needed. The application is on the General UDC site, as is the criteria.

Virginia Norton
Chair, Virginia Division Homeland Defense Services Award Committee,

Virginia Division District 4 Chairman Report

By Janie Sherman, District 4 Chairman
President/Historian J.E.B. Stuart Chapter 156, Staunton

As always, it is a tremendous honor to serve in this administration as District 4 Chairman, 2023-2025. So many dedicated Get-It-Done Officers with so-willing, very generous spirits. Lucky Us! Fourth District held its Spring Conference, May 18, 2024; hostess chapter Warren Rifles 934, Patricia McMillen President. The theme of our conference was to honor all the hard-working Chapter Presidents in our district, thus, all Leadership Rolls on the Program were led by our honored Chapter Presidents. All, but two chapters were represented from our 15-Chapter District. A Survey was sent to members who attended, in order to evaluate how we did, and, perhaps, learn what needs improvement in the future. That apparently hadn't been done in the past—but how else would you evaluate your Conference goals, if you don't ask participants for feedback? Personally, I welcome attendee's suggestions and critiques, and don't take them personally, as I always want to do my best!

I am sorry to report that Winchester's Turner Ashby 184, has disbanded. That means that during the past two years, District 4 has gone from 17 chapters to 14 chapters. In light of this, and due to the concern raised by Division 2nd Vice President Debby Mullins, I have created a program called, **The Presidents Roundtable**, where Chapter Presidents in our district will meet bi-annually, thereby providing resources and encouragement to Presidents by sharing successful ideas, as well as, discussing chapter needs and concerns. We will focus on NOT losing any more chapters! July 27 is our first gathering.

Upon being asked by President Dawn Diehl to update our 10-year old **District Chairman Handbook**, and while attending all six Virginia District Conferences, I garnered many ideas and suggestions, recommendations and photos (--worth a thousand words, *i.e.*, *questions!*) at each district meeting, then created more-detailed guidelines—with photos. Hopefully, the new Guidelines answer all those questions by Chapter Hostesses. It took a lot of time taking the Handbook from 10 to 35 pages, but it was a labor of love! In conclusion, I discovered that Hostess Chapters who worked closely and cooperatively with their District Chairman—who is in charge of *her* District Meeting—had fewer issues. When your turn as a Chapter comes up in the rotation, remember this resource.

The new District Chairman Handbook, 2nd Edition, which has been uploaded to the Division Website under "District Chairman," provides Hostess Chapters with more Conference details and guidelines, but it also should be a great benefit to the District Chairman, as there is now a Program SCRIPT suggestion, that is found in the back of the Handbook. Big Thanks to very generous Theresa DeSanto, District Six's Chairman, who offered her Meeting Script to District Chairmen following her event. It was used as the base for the newly created Script in the Handbook.

FYI: The District Chairman Handbook Table of Contents includes: •a Message from the Division President, •To-Do List for the District Chairman (DC), •General Information for the DC, •District Conference Information for the DC; •Calendar for the DC; •District Hostess Chapter Guidelines and Duties; •Additional Guideline for Hostess Chapters; and an •Appendix with examples of: a Conference Call, Conference Program, Credentials Form, Participants Form, and a Script for the DC.

[Continued on Page 9]

Sixth District Chairman

Within the past few months, I have enjoyed many invites to Confederate Memorial Events and Chapter Meetings.

Chapter Report Packets are due to me by August 1. There are instructions in the packets along with the October Virginia Convention information. When sending your packet forms to me, remember to send your chapters' order for your Annual Minutes Books.

I have heard so much about the wonderful projects in our District and look forward to each chapter's narrative report. Presidents should be sure they send an updated chapter officers list with each officer's contact information and a chapter member list with contact information. Copies of the chapter packet can be referenced on the VA Division UDC website: vaudc.org under Presidents.

I encourage your chapter members to enter an essay in the Division Historical Essay Contest. The topics are educational and are worthy of recognition

Respectfully submitted,
Therese De Santo

Did you know??? The Sunshine State, Florida, still officially honors the Confederacy with the Confederate Memorial Day, General Robert E. Lee's and President Jefferson Davis' birthdays still on the books despite many efforts to remove them. Go, Florida!

Second District Chairman's Report

It has been my distinct pleasure to serve on the Executive Committee as the 2nd District Chairman. I attended the Executive Committee meeting in February and met some amazing ladies.

Special thanks to Judy Lienhardt, 1st District Chairman, and Janie Sherman, 4th District Chairman, for making me feel so welcomed at their District Conferences. Glynn Fraker and the Albemarle Chapter #154 hosted an excellent District Conference.

Memorial weekend brought the 1st Anniversary of the Lee-Jackson Memorial Park located outside Fairfield, in Historic Rockbridge County. The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stonewall Brigade invited me to give remarks and to lay a wreath. ‘

Submitted by Jan Lowry

THIRD DISTRICT CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

On June 14, 2024, members from Chapters in Third District went on the first, of what we hope will be several more, field trips. We met Teresa Roane at the Memorial Building for a tour of the building. Teresa did an absolutely wonderful job. Even if you have been to the Memorial Building for Spring Boards or other activities, it is well worth returning for the tour she gives. She gave us a rundown on what happened the night the building was attacked. After we were finished at the building, we had lunch in the Best Café at the VMFA. Several ladies walked to the Confederate Chapel after lunch and then went back to the museum. On the way home, Joanne Lipscomb, Susan Reynolds, Cindy Jordan and Rebecca Ferguson, stopped at Spring Hollow Farm Amish Market, located in Dillwyn, VA. It was a fun way to wrap up our trip. The ladies were from Anne Eliza Johns 164, Appomattox 11 and Kirkwood Otey 10.

Submitted by Rebecca Ferguson



Carol Williams, Diane Barbour, Judy Evans, Cynthia Hewett

Valerie Holmes, Stella Osborne, Susan Reynolds, Rebecca Ferguson

Cindy Jordan, Joanne Lipscomb, Teresa Roane, Karen Sale

4TH DISTRICT CHAIRMAN REPORT *[Continued from Page 7]*

The District Chairman Handbook, 2nd Edition, on the Division website, is available only to District Chairmen. CHAIRMAN: be sure you print off the very helpful *Hostess Chapter Guidelines/Duties* (pages 13-19), and the helpful *District Chairman's Calendar* (pages 10-12) for your Hostess Chapter Presidents. Thank you, President Dawn for all the time required for multiple Proofs and Amendments! We did our best to get it right!

In Fourth District, I as a Professional Genealogist, have conducted research for many prospective members and have forwarded prospective members from General to appropriate area chapters; ordered 74 Division Minutes distributed to chapters; have distributed Chapter Packets, and have worked with chapters in fulfilling Division President Dawn Diehl's goal to have EVERY chapter obtain at least one new member in the first year of her term. To date: EVERY chapter, but two, has prospective members and our district has a total of 11 NEW Members; 3 REINSTATED Members; 2 TRANSFER Members; & 17 PROSPECTIVE Members! Congratulations! MEMBERSHIP HAS TO BE A PRIORITY! No Members equals No Chapters, which equals No UDC.

Lastly, I would like to thank ALL DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENTS who were so tolerant and responsive to my near-weekly requests for updated numbers on your chapter's membership! Sorry to have been such a pest, ladies – just wanted to report your Chapters' results to President Dawn at each District Conference...but YOU were great!! Thank you!

Janie Sherman

Virginia Division Great Great Granddaughters' Club

Thank you to all members who have paid their 2024 dues by the June 1 due date. The 2024 General Club dues for 73 current members have been paid. (General dues are included in Division dues).

24 members have yet to pay dues in 2024. Division and General Bylaws state that *any member's dues not paid shall be dropped from membership before August 31. Those members may be reinstated by paying the past year's dues, current dues, and the \$5 reinstatement fee.* The membership form is available on the Division website. Sadly we have 2 deceased members this past year.

We will order additional club Insignia to be available at the October Convention during our annual breakfast. The next newsletter will be at the Annual Breakfast. If you would like your ancestor highlighted in the newsletter, submissions are due by August 1.

Therese DeSanto
Virginia Division
Great-Great Granddaughter Club
Treasurer
ourfamilylegacy@aol.com

2025 Division Convention Site Chairman: *Janie Sherman*

I am pleased to report that after checking past Convention site, Staunton's Hotel 24 (*formerly the Stonewall Jackson Hotel*) who would charge for parking per night, had good meal fees, but high room rates; then considering Wintergreen and Massanutten Resorts which offered good room rates, but off-hotel Conference Rooms (a complaint from last year), so President Dawn and I decided on the *DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel*, a 4-star hotel off I-81, in picturesque Shenandoah Valley with on-site Meeting Rooms, Harrisonburg, VA, 1400 East Market Street—Oct 3-5, 2025, for the 130th Virginia Division Convention, 2025. I hope you all will enjoy it. 😊

DoubleTree by Hilton Harrisonburg



Division Officers

President: Dawn Diehl
First Vice President: Pam Smith
Second Vice President: Deborah Mullins
Third Vice President: Fran Towberman
Treasurer: Pam Curtin
Recording Secretary: Janet Perkins
Registrar: Connie Schroeder
Historian: Angela Smith
Recorder of Military Services Awards: Susan Hudson
Custodian: Karen Grigg
Corresponding Secretary: Julia Warren
Assistant Registrar: Bonnie Gerber

Chapter Reports

J.E.B. Stuart Chapter 156 ~ President Janie Sherman

The J.E.B. Stuart Chapter 156 is proud of its heritage as an early UDC chapter whose first Chapter President in 1895 was Mrs. J.E.B. Stuart. At that time, Mrs. Stuart was Headmistress at the now Stuart Hall Boarding School, Staunton. In April, some members took the Civil War Tour in Augusta County / Shenandoah Valley, where General J.E.B. Stuart's wife was noted, which was in addition to our treading back through history in the same footsteps of our Confederate Ancestors on local battlegrounds. Also, many chapter members diligently, devotedly, and repeatedly wrote/ emailed/ and called the Governor concerning the two bills wishing to deny UDC of tax benefits— and we were thrilled at the VETO result!

We most recently held our 30th Memorial Day service at the foot of the Confederate Dead Statue in Thornrose Cemetery, the Confederate Section, where more than 4,500 Confederates are buried, 1,500 of them Virginians. President Janie Sherman emceed the tented event where the Rev. Dr. Paul Stonewall Jackson Gillespie of Lexington, VA, author of FIREFOX BOOK 7 of the best-seller Foxfire Series on the simple life in Appalachia, spoke on his favorite Confederate, General Stonewall Jackson. So very in awe of this General, Dr. Gillespie, as an attorney-turned minister, had his name changed to include as his middle name, “Stonewall Jackson.” Now, that's dedication! Our incredible Memorial Day Chairman, Carol King, underwrote and presented our guest speaker with a lovely handmade quilt-set along with a rare King James Bible for this retired history-loving minister.

President Janie gave the background on the “Confederate Prayer,” read by Vice President Kathy Cave, stating the prayer was found folded up in the pocket of an unknown dead Confederate soldier following the battle at Gettysburg. The President also gifted the chapter two fitted 6' table covers with UDC Logo and “Daughters of the Confederacy” imprinted under it for use in chapter events. The Memorial Day service included three wreaths being laid at the monument; a bagpipe piper playing tunes including, *O Shenandoah*, as she walked through the hills; Chapter Registrar Teresa Whitesell playing guitar and singing period songs; a NOVA patent attorney Billy Brooks, who flies his plane in just to play trumpet at our service each year in honor of his Real Daughter Grandmother, Lucye Anderson (whose grave is being marked in September); and, we were honored to have the dedicated SCV members of the Col. D. H. Lee Martz Camp who served as Honor Guard and delivered a 3-gun Rifle Salute.

A real treat was having the 4th Grade winner of our chapter's *Young Writers Essay Contest*, Everleigh Collins Jordan, who read her essay confidently to the seated guests on “Stonewall Jackson: From Orphan to General.” Everleigh was presented a gift bag of Stonewall Jackson memorabilia including a large stuffed sorrel horse proclaimed to be in the image of Jackson's Little Sorrell that she hugged immediately. In addition, she was presented a Stonewall Jackson Coin from the Stonewall Jackson Museum in Lexington, along with a 24” x 18” framed Portrait of Stonewall Jackson. Our always impressive Memorial Day service was followed with refreshments of punch, tea sandwiches and cookies sponsored by the J.E.B. Stuart ladies.

President Janie, who attended Spring Board in Richmond, recently was presented the 25-Year Membership Pin and Certificate. Also, she recently received Insignia (*6 from General and 3 from Division*), and updated and distributed our Division award-winning Chapter Yearbook with updated supplemental pages at no cost to the chapter. Members also attended the lovely District 4 Conference held at Front Royal, May 18th. (*See photos next page.*)



President Janie Sherman presented awards and gift package to the winner of the chapter's Young Writers Essay Contest, Everleigh Collins Jordan, 4th grader



**J.E.B. STUART 153
CELEBRATE THE
30TH MEMORIAL
DAY AT
THORNROSE
CEMETERY,
STAUNTON**

13th Virginia Regiment Chapter Report

The 13th Virginia Regiment Chapter took a trip to Lynchburg for a historic tour which included the Lynchburg Courthouse Museum, the Old City Cemetery with its Confederate section, Fort Early and General Early's monument, the old Quaker House and the Sandusky Estate. On June 15th, several of our members attended the Mineral Chapter's Spring Salad Luncheon at Gilboa Christian Church, located near Cuckoo. They had a very interesting speaker and fundraiser silent auction which we really enjoyed.

Lynette Higginbotham, President



Warren Rifles 934 Chapter Report

On May 23, 2024, Warren Rifles 934 (U.D.C.) and The Colonel John S. Mosby Camp #1237 (Sons of Confederate Veterans) had a Confederate Memorial Day Service at Warren Rifles Confederate Museum in Front Royal, Virginia. The Sons performed the Color Guard, had the invocation, and had the benediction. Pat McMillen, the President of Warren Rifles Chapter 934, called the meeting to order, gave a welcome, led pledges to U.S. flag, Virginia flag, and Confederate flag, and introduced the speaker, Aaron Siever, who spoke on the Battle of Front Royal. Aaron Siever is a Ranger from Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Trust. On May 18, 2024, Warren Rifles 934 hosted the Fourth District Conference for the Virginia Division. This event was held at the Front Royal Church of the Brethren. Janie Sherman, District 4 Chairman, conducted the meeting.

Pat McMillen, President (See photo page.)

Lancaster County 1406 Chapter Report

The chapter has enjoyed a couple of good programs at our monthly meetings. At the March meeting, Vice President Iris Treakle described her dedication and support in bringing Dr. Tingle's vision to establish a healthcare facility on Tangier Island. Her support resulted in engaging the General Assembly, fundraising outreach and ultimately forging a long-lasting relationship with the community which continues to this day. The chapter was honored at the April meeting where our special guest speaker was Teresa Roane. She spoke on how 'we' were the living monuments and must proudly stand strong in telling our Southern history. In May, Susan Hudson presented an overview of the CSA prison at Pt. Lookout, Scotland, MD, which has been honoring and remembering CSA soldiers imprisoned there for over 30 years. She then presented an overview of the newly established Lee-Jackson Memorial Park in Fairfield, VA, which celebrated its first anniversary with a lovely Memorial Day ceremony on May 25. The park is offering to take Confederate memorials, monuments, and markers that need to be relocated, and already has several at the Park. Treasurer Jo Ann Fickling and Susan Hudson attended that ceremony and presented the chapter wreath.

Meanwhile, Historian Catherine Bennett presented the UDC JROTC medal and certificate at the Northumberland County High School.

Then to support the June 1st Massing of the Flags ceremony, Andrea Eichler, Kathy de Jonge, and Susan Hudson volunteered their time to set up and then hosted a lovely reception along with 6 other ladies from Virginia and North Carolina Division for attendees and their guests.

A new slate of officers for 2024 – 2026 are: Susan Hudson – President, Betty Christopher (appointed after Dinah Balderson had to withdraw) – Vice President, Carolyn Cook – Treasurer, Adele' Mangum – Registrar, Andrea Eichler – Recorder of Military Service Awards, Janet Cockrell – Historian, Joyce Mitchell – Chaplain and Corresponding Secretary. This Executive Committee will schedule the upcoming year's meetings, budget, and events. Submitted by Susan Hudson



Photo 1 – (l to r) Lancaster County 1406 Recorder of Military Service Awards Catherine Bennett awards the UDC JROTC Medal and Certificate to Sergeant First Class Ava Withers, Northumberland County High School.



(L to r) Lancaster County 1406 members Jo Ann Fickling and Susan Hudson attended the first annual Memorial Day Celebration at Lee-Jackson Memorial Park in Fairfield on May 25 and presented a chapter flag.



Virginia Daughters

**In the Old Dominion, we stand proud
Daughters of the South, our voices loud.
With the memory of our ancestors in our hearts
we care for our veterans, we play our part
Preserving history, our mission endowed
And to our enemies, we will not bow.**

Original poetry Shae Taylor, Gen Stuart 2195



FORT LOWRY 2695 CHAPTER REPORT

Fort Lowry 2695 members and guests have enjoyed a Spring full of fun and fellowship. In March, we hosted a fundraiser meeting and luncheon with Susan Hudson, VA Division Recorder of Military Service Awards, as guest speaker. Susan presented a most informative program entitled, "Point Lookout Confederate Cemetery and Memorial Park." During the meeting, Susan installed two new Fort Lowry members, Susan Fogg and Jane Harcum. Special guest was Teresa Roane, 5th District Chair, who brought us up to date about the House and Senate bills.

Member Patricia Haile hosted our chapter at Elton Farm for our April meeting. Patricia and her husband, John, presented the program on William D. Washington's painting, The Burial of Latané. The Hailes have an engraving of the painting hanging in their living room. After the meeting and program, we enjoyed Patricia's hospitality with a lovely meal which she prepared.

The chapter donated clothing and comfort items for the Women's Health Center at the Richmond Veteran Affairs Medical Center in Richmond, VA. Member Susan Fogg delivered the items to the facility. Our annual field trip in May was a visit with Teresa Roane, Archivist, at the UDC Memorial Building. Teresa gave a wonderful tour and updated us on the restoration process after the damage suffered in 2020. After lunch at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, we toured the Confederate Memorial Chapel.

On June 1st, two of our members provided baked goods for the Massing of the Flags held at the UDC Memorial Building. Three additional members helped set up and serve for the reception.

Two goals of President Cindy Packett have been to increase membership at meetings and add new members to our chapter. She is happy to report that the chapter has two new members with a third application in the process, and attendance at meetings is bouncing back after the days of Covid. The chapter will be busy during the next several months preparing to host the Fifth District Meeting in March of 2025.

Submitted by President Cindy Packett



Susan Hudson, Jane Harcum (new member), Susan Fogg (new member), President Cindy Packett, 5th District Chair Teresa Roane.

Patricia Haile presented the program at the April meeting: (left to right) Malan Heidenreich, Sandy Hagan McClung, Patricia Haile

Patricia Haile hosted Fort Lowry for lunch: (left to right) Sandy McClung, Malan Heidenreich, Jane Harcum, Cindy Packett, Edwina Dawson, Patricia Haile, Patsy Trader, Joan Croson, Pat Pugh, Kathy de Jonge, Susan Fogg, Pat Given.

Fort Lowry donated \$295 worth of items to female veterans. (left to right) Jane Harcum, Patricia Haile, Susan Fogg, Joan Croson, Edwina Dawson, Suzi Maggard, Pat Given, Cindy Packett.



Mildred Lee 74 Chapter Report

While in Richmond, Linda Motley and Sheree Russo of Mildred Lee 74 were able to visit historical sites including the Confederate Memorial Chapel and Hollywood Cemetery. Teresa Roane gave Linda and Sheree a tour of the Memorial Building which was very interesting and informative. Linda and Sheree were joined by Chapter President, Charla Compton for the Spring Board.

Mildred Lee 74 was well represented by Charla Compton, Linda Motley, Sheree Russo, Jean Rood, Cindi Tilley, and Carolyn Davis at the Third District Conference in Appomattox on Saturday, April 13. Chapter President, Charla Compton presented a poem to those in attendance. The chapter had a table for fundraising with a large assortment of collectible lunch boxes. The proceeds from the fundraiser were earmarked for Wreaths Across America. Sheree Russo donated unsold items to Hazel Bittenbender, President of the Virginia CoC to assist with their future fundraising projects.

Secretary/Treasurer, Linda Canady Motley, represented the Mildred Lee Chapter as a *Lady in Mourning* at the Appomattox 11 Memorial Service on April 7th; and again for a Memorial Service for the late Red Barbour, SCV Commander and his wife Peggy Barbour on May 4th in Roanoke; and for the annual Mildred Lee 74 Confederate Memorial Service held at Oakwood Cemetery escorted by Sgt. Roy Prillaman, 2nd Virginia Cavalry.

Jennifer Leonard, Recorder of Military Service Awards attended the Confederate Memorial Day for Jeb Stuart in Stuart, Virginia on April 13th. Sheree Russo toured the Martinsville-Henry County Heritage Center & Museum in Martinsville. She visited the Confederate monuments, as well as other monuments. A list has been compiled of Confederate Veterans KIA and those who died in POW camps as shown on the monument for the next project. Linda Motley visited Confederate cemeteries and monuments in Columbus, Georgia.

Member, Cindi Tilley placed Confederate flags on graves in Rockingham County, North Carolina. On May 25, Mildred Lee 74 supported by Stuart-Hairston Camp 515 held a Confederate Memorial Day Service at Oakwood Cemetery in Martinsville, Virginia. The ceremony was led by Chapter President, Charla Compton who introduced guests and shared opening remarks along with the Opening Ritual and Prayer. Cindi Tilley, Carolyn Davis, and Franz-Hahr Phillips led the pledges. Sheree Russo, Franz-Hahr Phillips, Elizabeth Knighton, and Linda Motley proceeded with the Roll Call of Confederate Soldiers buried at Oakwood. For a comprehensive list of those names and others, check out [CSA-Oakwood, Martinsville, VA: a Virtual Cemetery - Find a Grave](#) created by Sheree Russo. Danville, Anne Eliza Johns 164, Galax, Jefferson Davis 2477, Rocky Mount, Jubal Early 553 UDC Chapters were represented at the service and placed wreaths at the Grave of the Unknown Soldier along with SCV members. Friends of Lucy Breckinridge presented the program "Women in The Civil War: the ones left behind". At the conclusion of the day's events, Mildred Lee 74 held a dedication ceremony of an Iron Cross at the grave of Dr. George E. Waller, Co. H. 24th Virginia Infantry. A United Daughters of the Confederacy Marker was placed on the grave of Sarah Putzel Waller, a charter member of Mildred Lee 74. A descendant of the Wallers, John Redd Smith III, (Tripp) Adjutant Stuart-Hairston Camp 515, SCV offered a few remarks. At the conclusion, Taps was played by Rick Pritchett, roses provided by Franz Hahr, and carnations by Sheree Russo. These were placed on the graves of the family members of the Waller Family, followed by the gun salute. Refreshments were provided after the service by Mildred Lee 74 members and served by Carolyn Davis.

Linda Motley and Sheree Russo attended the Lorenzo Dow Williams Camp #1456 of Reidsville, North Carolina Confederate Memorial Service on May 26th in Wentworth, North Carolina, where the Stuart-Hairston Camp 515, SCV, participated in the event with the cannons. Representing Mildred Lee 74, Linda Motley, Charla Compton, Connie Fox, and Sheree Russo attended the Anne Eliza Johns 164 Confederate Memorial Service on June 2nd at Greenhill Cemetery in Danville.

News from Princess Anne 435 Chapter

The chapter has been busy collecting photos and articles for our Scrapbook Historian Elizabeth Bake. Everyone was excited to see the scrapbook at our May meeting. At this meeting, our chapter presented new member Elizabeth Hixon, her membership certificate under the service of her Uncle Henry Clay Knight, Virginia Infantry, who later moved to Texas and became a Texas Ranger.

Historian Donna Grantham and President Therese DeSanto attended Spring Board on April 6. While in Richmond they visited Hollywood Cemetery and spent time at the Davis Circle where Jefferson Davis is interred with family members, including his daughter Winnie Davis. They met quite a few ladies who were attending Spring Boards at the Circle.

Submitted by Terese De Santos



Photo 1: Registrar Sherry Butler and President Therese DeSanto present Membership Certificates to Elizabeth Hixon



Photo 2: President General Jinny Widowski with Princess Anne's President Therese DeSanto and Historian Donna Grantham at Spring Boards.

CENTENNIAL-MAURY 2296 CHAPTER REPORT

Centennial – Maury Chapter ended meetings for summer, but not before taking care of a few new projects for the months of March, April and May. Members were busy with 5th District Conference and a basket that was raffled off with proceeds for our scholarship account, Spring Board and Massing. A General Scholarship application was submitted by our 2nd Vice President, Carolyn Orr. Our dear sweet chaplain, Theresa Morgan turned 91, and stays actively involved with all our chapter projects. Our meetings are blessed with her beautiful prayers and voice. A chapter donation was sent to the Tunnels to Towers and everyone had a great time at the May meeting filling bags with snack treats for the Hanover County Deputies. Suzi Robinson and Cynthia Ledbetter delivered the items and were greeted graciously by some of the Deputies available. The Hanover County Facebook page had the nicest write-up from the Sheriff's Department about U.D.C., Registrar Cynthia Ledbetter, who is in the process of helping a prospective member with her application to join the U.D.C. and our chapter. Also, we were honored in May to have Mrs. Ruby Pugh, Honorary President of General and past Honorary President of Virginia Division come to install our officers for the new upcoming term of 2024-2026. Ladies, have a safe and fun summer!

Cynthia Ledbetter- President

Stonewall 1388 Chapter Report

Our Chapter gathered candies, cookies, chips and a few other snacks to put together a Valentine Goodie Thank-You basket for the first responders at two of our local fire houses. We also gathered more snack and candy items to make them an Easter basket, as well. The baskets were a hit! We placed our order in February for two iron crosses. We have received them and are preparing to install them. We have plans to dedicate one iron cross in the historic Oak Grove Cemetery in Portsmouth during summer time. The other iron cross will be dedicated in historic Cedar Grove Cemetery in Portsmouth soon after. We are also working to do a Meritorious Service Award bestowal during the summer months. We hope everyone has a wonderful, safe summer and we look forward to seeing you at the Convention. -

Elizabeth Scott



Did you know??? Confederate Memorial Day was started in Georgia in April 1866 to commemorate the deaths of Confederate soldiers on the first anniversary of the day that Confederate Gen. Joseph Johnston surrendered the Army of Tennessee to Union Gen. William Sherman in Bennett Place, North Carolina, which many in the Confederacy felt marked the end of the Civil War. Lee had surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant two weeks earlier.

Rockbridge 2568 Chapter Report

All of our members (shut-ins, out-of-state, and active) receive a monthly newsletter that keeps everyone up to date. We strive to meet monthly with either a meeting and program or attending local events as a group.

We've toured the Jackson House and learned about Stonewall's life prior to going to war. Another meeting has us hearing about one of our member's civil war ancestor, Eustace Bellinger Pinkney with a talk entitled, "A Pesky Pinkney Strikes Again!"

We were honored to be included in the first Anniversary of the Lee-Jackson Memorial Park where our chapter laid a wreath. We will have a potluck picnic at the McCormick Farm, home of Cyrus McCormick, inventor of the mechanical grain reaper

Submitted by Jan Lowry . President.

Southern Cross 746 Chapter Report

Members Kim McDonough and Mary Jane Rhodes visited J.S. Mosby's "Antiques and Artifacts" on 125 E. Main St in Orange, VA, on 26 Apr 2024. What a great store! They specialize in Civil War relics, books, memorabilia, and general American antiques. It was like a museum! It was founded in 1998 by U.S. military historian, author, and publisher Stephen W. Sylvia. He has been a collector since childhood and a relic hunter since 1970. He has enjoyed a life-long fascination and study of Civil War artifacts. He publishes the award-winning "North South Trader's Civil War" magazine. He also appeared as an appraiser on PBS' Antiques Roadshow and has been a historical consultant on a variety of television shows and Hollywood films. The store carries an impressive array of military collectibles from the Revolutionary War through WWII, specializing in the WBTS.

When finding out that we were UDC members, he showed us a framed picture of Daniel Decatur Emmett's "Dixie." At the bottom, it says "United Daughters of the Confederacy." We told him we would like to purchase it and donate it to the UDC Headquarters in Richmond, VA. His reply was, "Since that is what you are planning to do with it; I will donate it." On Saturday, April 27, 2024, we presented the framed print at the 2nd District Conference in Ruckersville to Dawn Diehl and Pam Smith in Teresa Roane's absence, to be taken to the UDC Memorial Building.



Stephen Sylvia and Kim McDonough



Stephen Sylvia and Mary Jane Rhodes



Mary Jane Rhodes, Pam Smith, Division President Dawn Diehl, and Kim McDonough

Did you know?? Virginia was the 8th state to secede from the Union on April 17, 1861. Virginia provided 5% (192,924) of troops. By the numbers there were over 2100 raids, skirmishes and battles in Virginia. Virginia had 3 Union P.O.W. Camps and 35 Confederate P.O.W. Camp.

Did you know??? During the Battle of Antietam, Clara Barton tended the wounded so close to the fighting, a bullet went through her sleeve and killed a man she was treating.



In 1859, while a U.S. Army officer J.E.B. Stuart received a U.S. patent for a piece of cavalry equipment that he invented called a saber hook. Ironically the US Army ordered thousands of these to be used. They remained in use until 1902.

Captain Sally Tompkins 2626 Chapter Report

After a busy spring we are slowing down for summer. Middle of June we will have our end of summer luncheon, election of officers and announce our scholarship winner. We will be making plans for a fall field trip.



Captain Sally Tompkins booth at May Faire left to right Mark Sheehan, Susan Fauver, Marilyn Iglesias, Gwen Wood, and Michael Enneking



Laying wreath on Captain Sally Tompkins grave left to right are Diana Swenson, Melanie Miles, Martha Connelly, Patricia Miles, Gwen Wood, Marilyn Iglesias, Miriam Kleintop, and Rebecca Morgan.



Cleaning Captain Sally's grave left to right Marilyn Iglesias, Martha Frame, Susan Fauver, Gwen Wood, Martha Rhodes, and Diana Swenson.

DNA DOES NOT LIE!

By Janie Sherman, Professional Genealogist ~ J.E.B. Stuart 156, Staunton, President & District 4 Chairman

People may lie, but DNA Never Lies! We are a product of our Ancestors through DNA, which is passed from parents—(50% DNA from each parent). Because your parents *also* received 50% DNA from their parents, YOU have 25% DNA from your grandparents, as well. Genes determine the uniqueness of each individual. Most people know that every person can be identified by their DNA. It's used to identify adoptees, criminals, and dead soldiers. Nevertheless, no two people have the same-identical DNA, not even identical twins.

Like a ruler measures in “inches,” DNA is measured in “CentiMorgans (cM.)” **The more CentiMorgans, the more relationship!** Simply stated, it works like this: My daughter inherited 50% DNA from me (3,479 cM); and my son inherited 50% (3,476 cM) from me—noting a small variance. My granddaughter (who shares 1,741 cM with me) inherited 50% DNA from her parents, of which 25% is from me. See the math? Half the previous generation's cM? The amount of CentiMorgans indicates relationships. *(See Chart reference below.)* Who knew researching bacterial pneumonia would lead to the discovery of DNA! Eighty years ago, researcher Oswald Avery with the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, wrote a 1944 landmark paper providing proof that DNA was hereditary material, but it took time for the community to accept DNA as the human genetic code--not unlike today's hereditary societies.

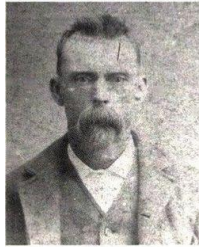
It IS true that we have our ancestor's Confederate blood (DNA) running through our veins! Your DNA contains a true record of your ancestors and is *more* accurate than a paper trail. As a genealogist, I have seen erroneous documents such as marriage records and delayed birth certificates that falsely named the “step-father,” as the biological father—often due to the stigma of illegitimacy. But, **“hereditary societies are about BLOODlines, not status!”** I say this at EVERY Genealogy Workshop I've presented. I hope soon to see DNA evidence used as accepted-proof within the first three generations, on a case-by-case basis, by every hereditary society. The benefit, like in cases of burned courthouse, is that it opens more avenues for Confederate ancestor finds. **DNA DOES NOT LIE!!!**

[See cM Relationship Chart: <https://familytreemagazine.com/dna/how-to-use-shared-dna-to-determine-relationships/>]

**Photos from Mildred Lee
May 25 Confederate
Memorial Service**



Iron Cross Dedication for DD Brisendine



D.D. Brisendine

On June 2nd the Isham G. Harris Camp of Paris, Tennessee hosted a ceremony honoring David D. Brisendine with a Iron Cross in conjunction with the Fort Heiman Camp 1834 of Murray, KY, and the 4 Paris Chapter 2521 of the UDC. Captain Brisendine had previously been awarded the Southern Cross of Honor by the UDC in the early 1900s. He is buried in Cottage Grove, TN

In April 1861 he mustered into the 154th Tennessee Volunteer Regiment. Early in the war, he was near capture at nearby Fort Donelson when his horse was shot out from under him and received his only wound of the war. At this time, he was riding with General Nathan Bedford Forrest. He led the successful assault at Shiloh Church against Union General Bankhead on April 7, 1862 until he was ordered to retire that afternoon. He was captured the following day. He served for four years and only surrendered when a Cease and Desist order came in May, 1865, surrendering in Paducah, Ky. The family has a handwritten account of his recollection of Shiloh which is on loan to the Tennessee State Archives.

His family had settled in Tennessee leaving Virginia after his grandfather received a land grant for service in the American Revolution.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Paris Chapter 2521 UDC, General Stuart 2195 of Richmond, VA, and the Virginia Division. Kentucky Division was present as well. Representing General Stuart 2195 and the Virginia Division was Julia Warren, his great-great granddaughter.



Presentation of the flag



Decorated Grave of Capt. Brisendine



Some of his 4th, 5th, and 6th generation descendents

Free Cemetery Preservation Workshop – August 24, 2024 11 am-1 pm

Below is a link for an upcoming cemetery preservation workshop in Smithfield.. From the description, it is not a hands-on workshop on how to clean headstones. It seems to be an introductory workshop to educate volunteers on the training needed in order to preserve headstones.

<https://stlukemuseum.org/cemetery-preservation-workshops/>

The Cemetery Preservation Workshop is a free program designed to educate volunteers on the necessary training needed to safely preserve and protect historic tombstones and markers. This program promotes engagement and preservation of the church cemetery through education and practical experience.