



Old Dominion Bulletin

Newsletter of the Virginia Division
United Daughters of the Confederacy®
December 2025
Issue 1

Published by President Eleanor Price
Edited by Corresponding Secretary Teresa Roane

President's Message-Eleanor Price

Every Christmas I watch the movie "*A Wonderful Life*", and being a member of Virginia Division is a "*wonderful life*". We have been knocked down and returned stronger again and again. We are a proud Division always productive and are looking forward to new things happening in 2026. "*YES Virginia*" when the bell rings we have a new member and if you ever hear it ring *twice* we have a new supplemental. "*Yes Virginia*", we need to be running through the streets shouting UDC is wonderful. Please join us.

I have a new member for my chapter from my retirement community because she was following my election, so you never know who will ask you to join. Always tell everyone about our scholarships, veteran activities, volunteer hours and the important contribution that we make. I am always amazed at how productive we have been since convention, and it was an exciting time in Houston, TX. Learning, fun, and always great fellowship.

2026 General Convention is scheduled for October 28-November 2, 2026, in Williamsburg, please plan to attend.

I've had trouble with my back and neck since I returned from Houston, because of the long days of driving, so things have taken me a longer to finish. I'm 10 years older as your recycled proud Virginia Division President.

I love honeybees so I've chosen productive, strong and committed to UDC, as the theme for my term and you all are buzzing like it's not even hibernation!!!! Hives are not to have two queens, but I could not be repeating this term without the wonderful help from my new executive officer former Past Division President Beth Foltz, keeping me on the straight and narrow and Teresa Roane my executive Corresponding secretary. We all keep buzzing along with you sending and calling to helping us get the information out to members quickly. Virginia has hosted wonderful registrar workshops, and now a Lee Jackson, Maury luncheon coming in January!!

For New members, I live in Harrisonburg Virginia close to Massanutten ski resort and James Madison University born and raised here. Grew up with southern and revolutionary history, Volunteer at New Market Battlefield, Sunnyside, and RMH hospital since 1986. Graduated

Madison College 1973, JMU Master's in library science and business in 1980. I have my own business hanging wallpaper, painting and snow removal and yes, Virginia I drive a big truck.

I'm ready and buzzing for 2026 because we too will celebrate 250.
Much love and proud to be recycled again!!!!

In UDC love

Vice President-Rebecca L. Ferguson

Ladies, thank you entrusting me to serve as your Virginia Division Vice President. Since our Division Convention the insignia orders have been remarkable. The purchase of all types of insignia has been steady. As of the first of December you have purchased \$1,405 in Virginia Division Insignia, \$1,417.80 in non-engraved and \$1,757.25 (including engraving cost) in engraved insignia.

I have some news to pass along. The Lee/Traveller Pin was retired and they are no longer available. The Stonewall/VMI/Little Sorrell Pin has also been retired and the supply is limited. The Virginia Division Badge will increase to \$40.00 and postage is \$12.00. You may combine your Chapter orders if you would like to. If you would like to order one of the Stonewall pins the cost is \$35.00 and postage for this pin only is \$10.00.

The postage for General has increased to \$12.00 and ancestor bars are \$30.00. Unfortunately, the opportunity to include 12 ancestor bars in one order has dropped to 5.

I would like to extend an invitation to visit your Chapter and give a workshop on insignia and also make pins available for members to purchase. As we all know many of our members are not able to attend District Conferences and Conventions. I have found that it has worked well for me to bring it to them. Also, at this time we can review the Minnie C. Eller Banner. We can discuss what the Chapter members can do on their own that can be counted on the Chapter report. I am available during the week and also weekends. I look forward to hearing from you.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Second Vice President-Debbie Mullins

Scholarship season is upon us! Virginia Division and UDC General scholarship application forms are on the Virginia Division website in the forms section. Please make sure you are using the current forms. The Division form says Revised 2016 at the bottom. The UDC General application says Revised 28 January 2020. Particularly at General, applications using outdated forms are not considered.

If the student plans to attend school in Virginia, both applications should be completed. It is possible to receive both a UDC General and a Virginia Division scholarship. If the student will attend school outside Virginia, only the UDC General application should be completed.

The UDC General application is due to the Division Second Vice President by March 15. The sponsoring chapter should make sure all required documents are in the packet, are in the proper order, and have the required number of copies as listed on the Checklist. Please make sure the student, parents, Chapter President and Second Vice President have signed all forms in the proper place. If the chapter does not have a second vice president, the chapter president should sign both lines.

Virginia Division scholarship applications are due to the Division Second Vice President by April 15.

Please remember the Towberman-Epperson Vet Med Scholarship. The application is in the same place on the Division website. This award is for a student studying to be a veterinarian. At this time, it is not available to vet tech students.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me—dmullins@rcn.com

301-938-4421.

Third Vice President-Elizabeth Scott

Hello! I hope this message finds you well. I would like to introduce myself, I'm Elizabeth Scott and I am the President of Stonewall 1388 in Portsmouth. I am honored to serve as the newly elected Virginia Division Director for the Children of the Confederacy®.

I am truly excited to work alongside each of you as we continue to guide and encourage our young members in the spirit of faith, heritage, and service. Please know that open communication and collaboration will be a priority as we move forward into this new term.

Thank you for your patience and support during this transition. I look forward to connecting with each of you very soon! Until then, if I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

God Bless Dixie.

lizscott121600@cox.net

757-966-7777

Division Registrar-Bonnie Garber

Ladies, the Virginia Division needs new members. I want to thank all of you who are trying so hard to find new applicants. Since my term began in late September, we have had two transfers from North Carolina, one CofC transfer and 11 new member applications submitted. Five of these have been approved by General, the others are pending. Two new member applications were also approved that were submitted during the last administration.

To help Registrars with lineage and proof, a new program has been instituted. It is called "Do I Have a Confederate Ancestor?" Chapters can use this form for ladies who want to join, but are uncertain as to whether they have a Confederate ancestor. The form is filled out by the prospective member and endorsed by the Chapter. A copy of the prospective member's birth certificate and marriage certificate MUST accompany the form. Any other documents that the prospective has, such as parents' death certificates, marriage certificate etc. is appreciated. The form and documents are sent (either by mail or email) to the Virginia Division Registrar. So far, two forms have been submitted, and both resulted in found Confederate ancestors! They were submitted by Loudoun and Fairfax Chapters. If you need this form, just ask me.

Remember, if you know a lady who belonged to the CofC, you may just transfer her from the CofC to the UDC. Her age does not matter. Several years ago, I transferred an 88-year-old lady from a defunct CofC Chapter to my UDC chapter.

Ladies, look back over your previous rolls of members. Members were dropped, especially during COVID, due to nonpayment of dues. Contact these ladies. See if any would be willing to be reinstated. Reinstatements are handled by the Division Treasurer. Some of these former members may miss being with you. Take the initiative and call them.

I am always available to help you. Please call or email. I want the Virginia Division to grow and we must work together to make this happen.

Bonnie W. Garber, P.O. Box 202, Corbin, VA 22446-0202; (540)373-1042;
garberbbf@gmail.com

Division Historian: Therese DeSanto

I am truly honored to be elected and serve as your Virginia Historian once again.

I have always felt that it is important to make yourself knowledgeable and preserve our history. Remember our Confederate soldiers gave us a proud story of independence, toughness, bravery and patriotism. I always try to remember what Robert Lewis Dabney, Chaplain of General Stonewall Jackson once said, "You should have no reason to be ashamed of your Confederate dead; see to it they have no reason to be ashamed of you."

Each ODB I hope to bring you some ideas for your chapter meetings:

- A beautiful moment during chapter meetings is when a member lights a candle in memory of her ancestor. It can be the time to share their story, what they endured before, during and after the war.
- What is your program for the month? If you need help, please reach out to me.
- Chapters are requested to devote time at each meeting to the Historian General's program. These the current programs:
- DECEMBER 2025 - FRANK VAN DER STUCKEN - This Gillespie County German's Change of Heart

- JANUARY 2026 - GOD AND OUR COUNTRY - Joseph Finegan and the Fernandina Volunteer

Do you know of any individuals in your chapter or your area that are deserving of the Jefferson Davis Historical Gold Medal? The award is for excellence in furthering the study and preservation of Confederate history. The application may be downloaded from the UDC General website (<http://hqudc.org/>).

Do you have a chapter yearbook, newsletter or scrapbook? Why not have a meeting focusing on designing your scrapbook. Don't forget to reference the guidelines for scrapbooks if you would like to submit for judging.

Chapters should be keeping track of books that members read. Some chapters have monthly forms, other collect at the end of the chapter year. I recommend that members submit a monthly list and have someone type up a log monthly. The list should be sent to me with the Statistical Yearend report.

If you have any questions or concerns, my contact information is ourfamilylegacy@aol.com or (757) 395-7741 or 633 Makers Way, Martinsburg, WV 25405.

I hope that everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. 2026 will be a great year to honor our ancestors. How will you and your chapter honor our Confederate Soldiers in the New Year?

Division Recorder of Military Service Awards-Lynne C. Jakobowski

This is my first Old Dominion Bulletin submission since being elected to this office, so first, let me thank each of you who expressed confidence in me by voting for me. I look forward to serving our Virginia Division over the next two years. Secondly, I would like to thank our immediate past Recorder, Susan Hudson, for her service, for passing on an orderly set of files, and for the tips that she wrote and left for me.

To date, I have received one application for review, which has been forwarded to the General Recorder of Military Service Awards. I encourage every member to work with your Chapter Recorder of Military Service Awards to compile a list of potential recipients, then work on that list. To begin a list of prospects, look at your own family, members of your local Sons of Confederate Veterans camp, or perhaps a nearby Veterans of Foreign Wars post, where you will find deserving recipients. These are just a start. For information on the different awards, as well as the individual and Confederate lineage requirements, refer to the UDC Handbook or the General Bylaws.

Assistant Recording Secretary-Charlotte Clinger

I wish to thank Virginia Division President Eleanor Price for appointing me as the first Assistant Recording Secretary for Virginia Division. With Eleanor Hunter, Recording Secretary, I hope to provide a roadmap for what the position will entail for future Assistant Recording Secretaries. I bring experience to the position, having served twice as Recording Secretary for Virginia Division, and hope to provide useful support to both the President and Recording Secretary. At the very least, in cases where the Recording Secretary cannot be present, the Assistant Recording Secretary will be called upon to fill the position, thus relieving the President of appointing a Recording Secretary Pro Tem. I am sure the position will evolve during this administration and I look forward to making the Recording Secretary's challenging position a little easier.

Chaplain-Janet Perkins

Ladies, I am your Division Chaplain. I am the person to whom you send the Deceased Member Form when a chapter member dies. You should also send a copy of the member's obituary from the newspaper or the funeral home. The Deceased Member Form can be found on the General website (www.hqudc.org) under the Forms tab and scrolling down to Chaplain. You may complete the form after you download it. I prefer that you email both the form and obituary to rxlace86@yahoo.com; but you may also snail mail to me at my address: 6059 Sugar Hill Road, Brookneal, VA 24528-3260. Please send the form and obituary as soon as you find out; do not wait until the end of the year. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas season and Happy New Year.

Corresponding Secretary-Teresa Roane

I want to thank President Eleanor Price for appointing me Corresponding Secretary. It is an honor to work with her again. My job is to keep the members of the Virginia Division informed. If you have a message for the members, please send it directly to President Eleanor Price. She will have me forward it to you. I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Assistant Registrar-Sheree Russo

WOW this has been an exciting start to my term as Assistant Registrar. Thanks to the support and guidance from Bonnie Garber, I was able to begin my responsibilities with confidence. At the Virginia Division 130th Annual Convention in Harrisonburg, Bonnie provided me with valuable advice and the necessary paperwork, which helped me get started smoothly in my new role.

On November 22nd, a Registrar's Workshop was held in Lynchburg, bringing together eleven members from eight chapters. The workshop was a great success! When Bonnie's son made plans to celebrate Thanksgiving the weekend before, Rebecca Ferguson graciously stepped in and assisted me with managing the workshop. A special "*Thank You*" to Rebecca Ferguson and Cindy Jordan for coordinating the event.

Please be certain you are using the latest Registrar's Manual updated April 2024. At the workshop members were provided with helpful tips and sample applications to assist with their paperwork. Additionally, handouts distributed by the Registrar of General at the General Convention were made available. There is a wealth of information at our disposal; it is important to remember where specific details belong on the forms and to use the requested format and to be certain we are using the proper UDC "Official" watermarked paper. Typically, only one proof document is required to connect one generation to the next.

By December 15, twenty-five Supplemental Applications were submitted, with twenty-three receiving approvals from Cathy Wells, Assistant Registrar of General. The Fifth District currently leads with seven approvals, while the Second and Third Districts are tied at six each, and the First District has four approved applications. The Fourth and Sixth Districts have yet to participate—"Where Are You?" We encourage you to get involved! Special recognition goes to Rockbridge 2568 for submitting the most applications. Well done! Members treat yourself to a Supplemental Application! You deserve it!

If you or anyone in your chapter would like assistance with completing documents or would be interested in hosting a workshop in your district or just for your chapter, please feel free to reach out. One of the main goals for this term is to help Virginia Division Chapter Registrars and members excel and expedite the application process. It is a privilege to serve in this capacity, following in the footsteps of our Confederate Ancestors, and to contribute to the continued success of our Division.

Check the Standing Rules on the General website for price increases and effective dates.

Let's start the New Year full of enthusiasm as we pay tribute to our ancestors. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

First District Chairman-Elaine Powers

Congratulations to Hamilton Wade Chapter 949 who celebrated their 120th Anniversary at their Annual Holiday Party. Hamilton Wade participated in the presentation of two Iron Crosses in October, participated in the Floyd Veterans Parade, placing wreaths on monuments in Christiansburg and Floyd and gained two members this past year, one was an original application and one a transfer. Sheree Russo, VA Division Assistant Registrar was present for a Registrar Workshop following Hamilton Wade's Holiday Party.

Jefferson Davis Chapter bestowed a National Defense Service Medal and Certificate to Billy Burnette, who served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam Conflict. He is the Great Grandson of Elisha Burnette of Carroll County, VA who enlisted 16 May 1864 in Co. F 4th Virginia Reserves at just 18 years old. Chapter members donated bags of candy to Grayson Health and Rehabilitation Center Independence, VA, for the residents to give to Trick or Treaters on Halloween. The Chapter continues to support Grayson VFW Post 7726, by attending the annual Veterans Day Ceremony at The Blue Ridge Veterans Memorial, Galax, VA.

Jubal Early Chapter 556 held an Iron Cross Ceremony followed by an Annual Holiday Remembrance on December 13, 2025.

Southern Cross 746 had the honor of three awards from the 130th VA Division Convention: Chapter returning the earliest per capita report for 41+ members; received \$25 for bestowing the most military service awards in 2025 and receipt of a certificate for the highest number of approved supplementals submitted for the 2024-25 year. Southern Cross donates needed items every month for veterans at the Salem VAMC and the Chapter donated for the first time to support a local DAR Chapter with the Wreaths Across America program which places holiday wreaths on veterans' graves at East Hill Cemetery in Salem. Southern Cross gained two new members over the past year.

Mark your calendars: 1st District Conference will be hosted by Jefferson Davis Chapter 2477 on Saturday, May 2, 2026 at the First Christian Church in Galax VA.

Second District Chairman-Mary Harvey-Halseth

I am honored to have been elected the new Chair of the 2nd District. Although we are the smallest District (only two Chapters!) I feel that we will be the "small but mighty" District in the upcoming years.

The Rockbridge Chapter has been busy participating in field trips, activities at the Lee-Jackson Memorial Park in Fairfield, meeting and greeting attendees at the Stonewall Jackson House on Lee-Jackson weekend here in Lexington, and plenty of potlucks and social time together.

The Albemarle Chapter is my new "go-to" as I am honored to be included in their December 17 zoom meeting. They stay active with on-line meetings that serve the Daughters of that Chapter well. I hope to drive over there to meet some of the members over the next months, and stop to buy a fresh pie at Woodruff's!

The Presidents of the two Chapters of the 2nd District are dedicated and determined ladies, and I thank you both for all of your past work - and look forward to a "small but mighty" year ahead!

Third District Chairman-Susan Reynolds

The Third District Conference will be on March 14, 2026 and no location has been provided at this time. H.A. Carrington Chapter #1055 will host the conference and their new President is Mrs. Cindy Jones, 4544 Abilene Road, Charlotte Court House, VA. If anyone would like to help or send donations. Thank you.

Fourth District Chairman-Virginia Norton

Fourth District Conference

Date: Saturday April 18, 2026

Time: 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Place: Fairfax Army Navy Country Club
Blenheim Road (Old Lee Highway)
Fairfax, VA

Fifth District Chairman-Connie S. Schroeder

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Virginia Division's 5th District Chairman. It is a pleasure to get to know each of the ladies in the district and see what each chapter is planning for this year. I will read the end of year reports with much interest.

I have forwarded all updates from the Division level to each chapter president. This information should be passed along to the chapter membership. Additionally, prospective members, whose names were provided by Headquarters, were contacted and their information was passed to chapter presidents.

5th District Conference is scheduled for April 11, 2026, at the Harbor Inn at Aquia Harbor in Stafford, VA. Fredericksburg 163 is the hostess chapter for this year's conference. They are busy with preparations and are looking forward to a wonderful conference. This is in addition to conducting a UDC marker dedication ceremony for former member, Gennilla Alaska Atkins Pates, and ordering chapter pins from a new vendor.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the UDC functions in the spring.

Sixth District Chairman-Susan Carraway

Sixth District Conference is March 21, 2026 at Pinecrest Baptist Church.

The address is 209 Felton Road, Portsmouth, VA 23701

