

**STOVER CAMP CHAPTER #863  
UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY  
Organized October 29, 1904**

Stover Camp Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, #863 was organized in Strasburg, Virginia, on October 29, 1904 by Mrs. Monroe Funkhouser of Mt. Jackson. The Charter was granted on December 10, 1904 and is on display at the Strasburg Museum. The Chapter is named for Major Joshua Stover, a descendant of Peter Stover, founder of Strasburg. Joshua lost his life at the Battle of Chancellorsville.

**First Officers elected at the first meeting in 1904 were:**

President.....Laura Virginia Hoover  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.....Bruce Funkhouser  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.....Bessie Machir  
Secretary.....Laura McInturff  
Treasurer.....Maggie Spengler

**Chapter Presidents:**

Mrs. Laura Virginia Stickley Hoover	1904
Mrs. Ida Funk	
Miss Gertrude Jenkins	
Miss Susie Pollard	
Miss Frances Jenkins	
Mrs. Alice Stickley Funk	
Miss Frances Hoover	
Mrs. Blanche Hammond	
Mrs. Ruth Artz	
Mrs. Irene Stickley	
Mrs. Charlotte Downey	1960-61
Mrs. Lois Zirkle	1962-63
Mrs. Nell Stickley	1964-65
Mrs. Margaret 'Peg' Painter	1968-70
Mrs. Julia Campbell	1979-80
Mrs. Louise Brumback	1981-82
Mrs. Juanita Lucas	1985-86
Mrs. Metta Arnold	1987-89
Mrs. Suzanne Estep	1996-98
Mrs. Anna Belle Winkfield	1999-2000
Mrs. Juanita Lucas	2001-02
Mrs. Gloria Stickley	2002-04
Mrs. Juanita Lucas	2004-06
Mrs. Gloria Stickley	2006-10
Mrs. Laura Ellen Wade	2010- Present

## **Monuments and Markers:**

In 1914, the green wreath made of boxwood was adopted to use for the deceased veterans and the Daughters of the Confederacy. A boxwood wreath was used for funerals until a change was made. In April 2015 the chapter decided that upon the death of a member, a vase containing a single red rose and Confederate flag would be sent to the funeral home for the visitation.

In 1929 The Chapter erected a granite marker to Peter Stover, the founder of Strasburg and ancestor of Major Joshua Stover for whom the Stover Camp Chapter is named.

Charlotte Downey was an active member of Stover Camp since 1947 and passed away on March 14, 2008. She maintained the grave site of a Confederate soldier from Georgia, John Helms, which is located on her historic farm "The Stickley House". She had a rail fence built around the grave to protect it from farm animals. An engraved tombstone was installed and a Southern Cross of Honor was purchased and placed at the site. Many visitors came to see the grave and Mrs. Downey always took time to explain the history of the battles. The grave continues to be maintained by her sons.

In June 1894 a plot of land behind the Strasburg Presbyterian Church was given to collect and bury the remains of soldiers who died throughout the lower Shenandoah Valley. Of the 136 remains gathered, only 36 have been identified. A monument was erected on the site. The daughters of veterans played a major role in collecting money for its cost. The monument was unveiled on September 20, 1986 by Beulah Stover, granddaughter of Joshua Stover. In 1988-89 Stover Camp Chapter paid for the cleaning and repair of the monument. In 2000, our Chapter approved of an Eagle Scout project to construct a wrought iron fence and install a night light around the monument.

In 1992, a military marker and tombstone was erected for Robert White, an ancestor of Rev. James B. White of North Carolina. Robert White died at the Presbyterian Church in Strasburg after being wounded at the Battle of Fishers Hill and was buried in an unmarked grave. A service was held marking the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death. Memorial wreaths were placed at the grave and a military style musket salute and the playing of taps.

Stover Camp contributed to the erection of an area monument to Sandie Pendleton, Stonewall Jackson's Chief of Staff. Pendleton was wounded at the battle of Fisher's Hill in 1864. He died hours later, only 5 days before his 24<sup>th</sup> birthday. Our Chapter's name was inscribed on the monument designed by Gary Casteel. Members attended the dedication on December 18, 1993 in Woodstock, Virginia.

In 1998 several Chapter members rode in a parade and took part in the dedication of plaques containing Confederate soldiers' names at Our Soldier's Cemetery at Mt. Jackson.

Gloria Stickley, an active member of Stover Camp, and her husband maintain the Stickley Cemetery on one of their farms. Ancestors of her husband and five Confederate soldiers are buried there. In 2006, 5 bronze markers were placed on each of their graves. In the same year, Gloria took on a project of clearing the gravesite and constructing a split rail fence around the

grave of Strasburg sniper, Levi Chrisman Crabill, located on their other farm. On completion of the project in 2007, Stover Camp contributed toward the plaque which was placed there.

In May 2006, Stover Camp sponsored a Dedication Ceremony for the plaques which they had been placed on the graves of Major Joshua Stover and his half-brother, Cpl. Nathan Stover. It was long believed that the Stovers were buried in unmarked graves. Both brothers had died at the Battle of Chancellorsville in May 1863. After much research, Dr. Daniel Downey, professor of Analytical Chemistry at James Madison University and son of Charlotte Downey, located their simple markers in the Fredericksburg Confederate Cemetery. Dr. Downey challenged Stover Camp to have special plaques placed to honor these brave soldiers. The Chapter worked with Dr. Downey and the Ladies Memorial Association at the cemetery to raise money to have descriptive markers placed on both graves. Bronze veteran markers were ordered from the Veterans Administration and installed at the grave sites. The dedication, using UDC ritual, was held and well attended. Members of the Fredericksburg Chapter, UDC, Sons of Confederacy members from the Strasburg Guards and Matthew Fontaine Maury Camp as well as descendants of Joshua Stover presented wreaths. Dr. Downey was guest speaker.

In 2009, Stover Camp contributed to the restoration and beautification of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church Cemetery, also known as the Old Grave Yard. At least 13 known War Between the States soldiers are buried there.

On Confederate Memorial Days, Stover Camp has placed flowers and Confederate flags at the Confederate Monument and on graves in the Old Cemetery, Stickley Cemetery, Riverview Cemetery, Lutheran Cemetery, and John Helm's grave.

### **Jefferson Davis Medal:**

In December 2006 the Jefferson Davis Medal and Certificate were presented to Dr. Daniel Downey for his outstanding research and work in obtaining the plaques for Joshua and Nathan Stover. Other local recipients of this prestigious award include Charles L. Crabill, Fred Painter, and Thomas Downey.

### **Children of the Confederacy**

Stover Camp Chapter sponsored the Cedar Creek Chapter of the Children of the Confederacy, #720. The Chapter was chartered in March 1984 with nine members. Miss Frances Hoover was its first sponsor. The Cedar Creek Chapter disbanded after 1998.

### **Members Serving the Division:**

Virginia Division Registrar: Charlotte Downey 1977 – 1979

Fourth District Chairman: Juanita Lucas 1988 – 1989

Fourth District Chairman: Frances Jenkins (dates unknown)

## Military Service Awards

Beginning in 1928, a total of 54 Military Service Awards have been presented using the United Daughters of the Confederacy's Ritual. Their names have been engraved in a plaque which was placed in the Museum. Recipients are listed in alphabetical order.

<u>Name</u>	<u>War</u>	<u>Date Presented</u>
Artz, Robert Leo	World War II	Oct. 1973 (Charlotte Downey's Home)
Baker, Dunbar Jackson	World War II	1948
Baker, Winston Brumback	World War II	1948
Ballagh, Hamilton Craig	World War II	1985 (UDC Division Convention, Lynchburg)
Bird, James Way	World War II	Nov. 1961 (Cletus Higg's Home)
Burke, Charles	Expeditionary Medal	June 2, 2007 (Luncheon at Hotel Strasburg)
Burke, Thomas Edward	Korean Conflict	Sept. 1978 (French's Cabin)
Cooley, Clarence Douglas	World War II	1982 (Chapel, Lutheran Church)
Crabill, Elias Emanuel	World War I	1928
Crabill, Ralph Brown	World War I	1928
Crawford, David Jamison	World War II	1969 (R.E. Stickley Home)
Davison, Harold Donald	Vietnam Conflict	1980 (Social Hall, Lutheran Church)
Davison, Harold Funk	World War II	1980 (Social Hall, Lutheran Church)
Davison, Lloyd Everett	World War II	May 1975 (Fred Painter's Home)
Davison, Louella Theresa	World War II	1980 (Social Hall, Lutheran Church)
English, Joseph Dudley	World War II	
English, William Stephen, Jr.	World War II	1947
Foster, Chester Lemuel	World War II	1961 (Cletus Higg's Home)
Foster, Ralph Lee	World War II	1967
Good, Ernest Allen	World War II	1971 (Hotel Strasburg)
Grant, Donald Stuart	Korean Conflict	June 6, 1977 (Tea@CharlotteDowney'sHome)
Hamman, Ralph Jacob	World War II	1954
Hammond, Julian Armistead	World War II	1954
Hatmaker, David Joy	Vietnam Conflict	1969 (R.E. Stickley Home)
Hildreth, Arthur L., Jr.	World War II	1971 (Hotel Strasburg)
Hinkins, George Spengler, Jr.	World War II	1981 (UDC Division Convention, Winchester)
Hisey, Carl Samuel	World War II	1976
Hockman, Lyndell Lyle	World War II	1979 (Hockman Home)
Hoffman, Edwin Hicks	World War II	1954
Hudgins, Garland C.	World War II	May 1975 (Fred Painter's Home)
Janney, James M., Jr.	World War II	Jan. 1975 (Presbyterian Church)
Johnson, Aubrey Edward, Jr.	World War II	1988 (Picnic at Home of Juanita Lucas)
Keffer, James E.	World War I	
Keffer, Robert E.	World War I	
Kerns, James Aubrey	World War II	April, 1984 (Home of Juanita Lucas)
Kerns, Lyle Edward	Korean Conflict	April, 1984 (Home of Juanita Lucas)
Long, Elwood	Korean Conflict	1992 (Home of Anna Belle Winkfield)
Lucas, William Davis	Korean Conflict	1988 (Picnic at Home of Juanita Lucas)

<u>Name</u>	<u>War</u>	<u>Date Presented</u>
Maphis, Frederick DeWitt, Jr.	World War II	1948
McDonald, Carlton	Korean Conflict	1992 (Home of Anna Belle Winkfield)
Racey, James Mohlar	World War II	1961 (Cletus Higg's Home)
Racey, Rodney L.	World War II	1948
Ritenour, Arthur Bill	World War II	1948
Ritenour, John Douglas	WWII, Korea, & Vietnam	1982 (Chapel, Lutheran Church)
Racey, William Pollard	Vietnam Conflict	Sept. 1978 (French's Cabin)
Smith, David Eugene	Vietnam Conflict	June, 2006 (Hotel Strasburg)
Smith, Michael Eugene	Global War on Terror	June, 2006 (Hotel Strasburg)
Snarr, Leo Lockmiller, Jr.	Korean Conflict	2001 (Ramada Inn, Woodstock)
Sonner, Fred Brown, Jr.	World War II ( Posthumous)	
Sonner, Lewis	World War II	1975 (Home of Jean Artz)
Sonner, Richard Franklin	World War II	1948
Strickler, Marvin Ford	World War II	Jan. 10, 1982 (Chapel, Lutheran Church)
Troxell, Jackie	Vietnam Conflict	Dec. 12, 2007 (Son's Christmas Dinner)
White, Herbert Charles	World War II	1947

### **Great Train Raid**

In May 2011, Chapter members participated in the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary reenactment of Stonewall Jackson's Great Train Raid which culminated at the Strasburg Museum. The raid demonstrated how Jackson took the trains from Martinsburg, VA (now WV) down Valley Pike to be put back on the tracks at Strasburg. The Chapter had an exhibit on display at the Museum during the festivities which were attended by approximately 1,500 people. The replica of the locomotive remains on display at the Museum.

### **Conventions, Conferences, and Special Commemorations**

In 1981 Stover Camp assisted the Turner Ashby Chapter, Winchester in hosting the Virginia Division Convention. Sixteen members attended sessions, pages were commended for their outstanding job.

On April 23, 1983 at Strasburg Presbyterian Church, Stover Camp Chapter held "Joshua Stover Day" to honor of the birthday of its founder. James Racey gave the invocation and Dr. Daniel Downey gave the address and followed by a reception in the Social Hall. Chapters from Front Royal, Luray, New Market, and Winchester were invited along with special guests.

Karen Downey and Cindy Funk attended and served as pages at the Memorial Service of the 91<sup>st</sup> General Convention held at the John Marshall Hotel in Richmond, Virginia on October 27 through November 1, 1984.

Stover Camp was hostess for the 4<sup>th</sup> District Conferences in 1986 and 2004. They co-hosted with Warren Rifles in Front Royal on April 23, 2016.

On May 16-17, 1986 Stover Camp participated in the Mayfest Pageant commemorating the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Strasburg. The pageant took place on the high school football field where members wore sashes signifying each of the Confederate States.

Stover Camp held its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Strasburg Christian Church on September 25, 2004. All Chapters in the 4<sup>th</sup> District, the Division President, and 4<sup>th</sup> District Chairman, and past General and Division officers were invited. Dr. Daniel Downey was the guest speaker and spoke on Joshua Stover. A reception in the Wake Fellowship Hall followed the program. A special scrapbook was prepared and on display. This scrapbook is now displayed at the Strasburg Museum.

On April 9, 2015 President Laura Ellen Wade and Gloria Stickley participated in “Bells Across America” commemorating the end of the War Between the States. President Wade assisted in ringing the bell at Old Shenandoah County Courthouse in Woodstock. Gloria rang bells at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Strasburg.

### **Strasburg Museum**

Stover Camp maintains a booth at the museum which contains items important to the Chapter and its history. The booth has been refurbished on several occasions. On the building’s 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a history of the Chapter’s work was given during the festivities. In 2011 some of the memorabilia about our Chapter was displayed in a downtown window as part of Strasburg’s 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. In 2013 a Chapter brochure was developed and placed in the Museum. On September 11, 2014 the Chapter held a reception here in honor of our 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and with the hopes of attracting new members. On August 1, 2015 the Chapter shared a table with the Museum at the Fisher’s Hill Veterans’ Picnic festivities. Items included brochures and Confederate display items loaned by John Riley. Many members have volunteered as faithful docents at the Museum. Gloria Stickley has been an active member of the Museum Board for many years.

### **Library Plaque**

In September, 1950 Stover Camp presented a bronze plaque for the dedication of the new library addition to the old Strasburg High School on High Street. The plaque which was located above the water fountain says:

“Stonewall Jackson Memorial Library Furniture presented by Stover Camp Chapter,  
UDC September 1950”.

In 1960 the old school was replaced by a new school located on Ram Drive in Strasburg. The old school was sold and is known today as the Strasburg Mennonite Church and School located at 239 High Street, Strasburg.

The plaque was donated to the Strasburg Museum on July 10, 2019 by Alpheus Park Hottel, Jr. The plaque has been cleaned and will be placed in the Stover Camp Chapter, UDC booth at the Strasburg Museum.

## **Work with the Schools in Strasburg**

Stover Camp had been active working with the schools. The Chapter has sponsored essay contests in the high school and offered monetary prizes. Locally winning essays were sent to the District and Division. We have been fortunate to have several winners:

- Valerie Warner was the District Essay winner in 1993. A plaque with the inscription “Love Makes Memory Eternal” was placed in the high school trophy room.
- Jennifer Weidlick was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Division Essay Contest.
- Denise Persinger was the local winner of the annual historical essay contest for her essay, “My Favorite Confederate Hero – Robert E. Lee”. She also won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Virginia Division Essay competition in 1982.

The Chapter has also contributed books for the Sandy Hook Elementary and Strasburg High School libraries. On several occasions, members presented programs at the schools.

## **Scholarships**

For many years Strasburg High School seniors have been submitting applications for UDC Scholarships. In 2004, Mary Redmond won the Matthew Fontaine Maury Scholarship. Stover Camp sponsored her and her picture appeared in the March edition of the UDC Magazine. Mark Stickley, Ellen Wright, Michael Zirkle and Lisa Zirkle also received scholarships.

## **Last Real Daughter**

Stover Camp lost its last real daughter, Lucy Elizabeth Riddell Hupp, on March 28, 2000 who passed away at her home. Chapter members served as honorary pallbearers at the funeral at Strasburg Christian Church. Lucy was officially registered on March 26, 1963. She gained eligibility from her father, Austin Archibald Riddell of Woodstock, Virginia, who served in Co. F, 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment Virginia Infantry. Her daughter, Sally Hupp, is a current Chapter member.

## **Miscellaneous**

Stover Camp had participated many times in Strasburg’s Mayfest parade. Members wore period costumes and either walked with a banner or rode in a horse drawn carriage.

Chapter members manned tables for their display at the Museum for Civil History Day on October 13, 1984.

The Chapter had 100% participation in their contribution for the cornerstone project for the Virginia Division Headquarters. Per Capita member contributions were made each year for a 5 year period beginning in 1985.

On June 6, 1986 Stover Camp awarded a special plaque to James M. Racey in recognition of his interest and contribution to the Chapter throughout the years.

Stover Camp had made donations to the Veterans Hospital in Martinsburg, West Virginia. Ditty bags, lap spreads, and other items had been prepared. Monetary donations have also been made. A subscription to the UDC Magazine had been given but discontinued in 2001.

The UDC Magazine and books have been donated to the Strasburg High School Library. The Shenandoah County Library currently receives a subscription.

Associate member, Mary Elizabeth Trinal, is the author of Mary Surratt, An American Tragedy. The book was published and was in 1995 and is available in bookstores across the country as well as at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C.

### **Should Stover Camp Disband or Stay Active?**

In 2013, Stover Camp considered disbanding. Membership had dropped and several members were in nursing homes. As an alternative, we considered merging with Warren Rifles Chapter in Front Royal and they were open to the possibility. In March 2014, it was clear that a merge would not be possible due to the corporate structure of their Warren Rifles Confederate Memorial Museum, Inc. However, Warren Rifles was graceful enough to welcome anyone who wanted to transfer. Instead, through the hard work of President Wade, Stover Camp decided to continue on as a Chapter by enrolling a new member as well as a reinstating another. Despite being small, we are a dedicated and enthusiastic group. Our Chapter meetings have included many informative guest speakers:

- May 3, 2013 Judy Reynold, Executive Director of the Mosby Heritage Area Association program highlighted John Singleton Mosby, “the Gray Ghost”, and his Rangers’ 28 month reign of terror using psychological intimidation on Union Soldiers.
- On September 17, 2015 Nick Racey gave an informative talk about the Confederate Monument in the Presbyterian Cemetery.
- November 19, 2015 Mike Kehoe presented a wonderful program featuring pictures taken by 2 brothers who photographed the Strasburg area shortly after the War Between the States.
- On July 14, 2016 Richard Kleese gave an informative talk about Levi Chrisman Crabill, the ‘Sandy Hook Sniper’.
- November 17, 2016 Mike Kehoe presented a slide show GPM-Tracing an Unknown Stone Marker at the Cedar Creek Battlefield.
- On May 17, 2018 published author and story teller, Richard Kleese presented an updated program on Levi Chrisman Crabill as well as George F. Hupp, a well to do member of the Strasburg community during the war.
- On April 18, 2019 Guest speaker Ralph Wakeman, presented a program on James Gibbs who invented a single thread sewing machine which had one tension and used a twisted

chain stitch single thread using a rotating hook. Gibbs could not serve the Confederacy due to a knee injury, but did offer aide in some skirmishes at New Market.

Chapter members have also presented very interesting programs:

- On September 15, 2016 Marie Spence spoke on Turner Ashby. On May 18, 2017 Marie spoke on Stonewall Jackson's horse, Little Sorrel. On November 16, 2017 her program featured Lee's horse, Traveller. On March 15, 2018 Marie spoke on Turner Ashby's favorite war horse, Tom Telegraph. On October 18, 2018 she spoke on the areas restless souls which may still have a presence in the Strasburg area.
- October 20, 2016 Gloria Stickley spoke on the background of quilting and the Heater Quilt which has been donated to the Strasburg Museum.
- On March 16, 2017 Laura Ellen Wade spoke on Civil War era dolls.
- April 20, 2017 Karen Downey spoke on Dr. Hunter Holmes McGuire, the Winchester native who amputated Stonewall Jackson's arm. The program was based on an article from the Feb. 2017 issue of the UDC Magazine.
- On June 15, 2017 Real Granddaughter Sally Hupp's program featured an old bible which belonged to her great-grandfather, Luther Hurn.
- On June 21, 2018 President Wade spoke on Strasburg native, John G. Dosh, a saddler by occupation who joined the 10<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry, Company A.

We have also enjoyed many outings:

- On June 17, 2015 Chapter members went to the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley to view the exhibit featuring Civil War artist Mort Künstler.
- On September 14, 2017 Chapter members visited the Caleb Rector House, headquarters for the Mosby Heritage Area Association in Atoka, Virginia. We then drove to Goose Creek Historic Bridge, attempted to find the Ludwell Lake home where Mosby was shot through a window, then drove to the Rectortown granary and train station which was used as a Federal prison. The last stop was the Unison United Methodist Church which was used as a Union hospital after the Battle of Unison. We were able to go to the balcony where soldiers had written on the walls.
- On April 19, 2018 members toured Stonewall Jackson's Headquarters and Museum in Winchester, Virginia.
- On March 21, 2019 several members visited and brought flowers to Pauline Cooley, a resident of Greenfield Assisted Living facility in Woodstock. Pauline always welcomed the Chapter into her home for meetings.

- On May 16, 2019 members visited the Stickley Cemetery and Panthers' Cove outside of Strasburg. The cemetery has the graves of 5 Confederate Veterans: George Stickley, Daniel Stickley, John Jenkins, Manuel Stickley, and Joseph Stickley who is the great great grandfather of member Ellen Davis. Each of these graves has a bronze starred marker.
- On June 26, 2019 several members viewed the exhibits at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley.
- 2020-2021 COVID-19 pandemic broke out and meetings and activities were postponed. Meetings resumed in the spring of 2022.

### **Members as Authors**

Mrs. Gloria Stickley had written two books concerning her local community of Strasburg. One was Strasburg, Virginia: Our History in Post Cards and the other she co-authored with Rev. William Hall, Legacy: A History of St. Paul Lutheran Church Strasburg, Virginia 1700s-2000.

In June 2022, Stover Camp Chapter President, Mrs. Laura Ellen Beeler Wade, wrote a 32-page booklet, "Peter Stover, the Stickleys and the Beelers" on her family for the 250<sup>th</sup> Shenandoah County Virginia History Series. Two of her Stickley family ancestors had their homes used as field hospital during the War Between the States: Daniel Stickley's was used at the Battle of Cedar Creek and James Stickley oldest daughter lived in the Hamman-Barbe home which served as a field hospital during the Battle of Fisher's Hill. As a young man, another ancestor, Ezra Eugenius Stickley, witnessed the hanging of John Brown when serving guard duty during the trial. When he was a Colonel serving in the Stonewall Brigade, he lost his right arm at the Battle of Antietam.