



Farthest To The Front

*The official newsletter of the
Confederate Officers of North Carolina Society Military Order of the Stars & Bars
Winner of the Col. Walter H. Taylor Award for Best Society Newsletter - 2006, 2014-2015
Summer 2015 Edition*

Annual NC Society Convention has 100% Chapter Representation

RALEIGH – The Confederate Officers of North Carolina Society MOS&B held their annual convention in Raleigh on Saturday, June 13, 2015. The site of the convention was the NC UDC HQ building. The convention was hosted by the Capt. James I. Waddell Chapter No.

32, Raleigh, who also sponsored a coffee hour prior to the business session.

Capt. Waddell Chapter Commander **James Izzell** opened the convention and welcomed those in attendance to Raleigh. He then introduced **Karen Powers** with the

NC UDC who welcomed everyone to their headquarters building and explained its history. Commander Izzell then introduced NC Society Commander **David M. Edwards**.

There were 17 members present representing all seven active Chapters within the Society. Reports were presented by all chapters.

Commander Edwards presented new chapter charters to North Carolina's two newest chapters: The Maj. Gen. W.H.C. Whiting Chapter No. 305, Wilmington; and the Gov. Zebulon Baird Vance NC Headquarters Chapter No. 307.

Planning has begun for the upcoming National MOS&B Convention set for Wilmington in July 2017 and new possible wayside markers on Confederate history for NC State Historic Sites. Commander David M. Edwards and Society Lt. Commander Harry Watt were reelected for two more years.

A tour of the Confederate section of Raleigh's Oakwood Cemetery was given by the Capt. Waddell Chapter.



Shown are some of the 17 members in attendance at the 2015 NC Society Convention held in Raleigh on June 13th.



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Official publication of the
Confederate Officers of
North Carolina Society
Military Order of the
Stars and Bars

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NC Society News

North Carolina Honors Keith Hardison

RALEIGH—Confederate Officers of North Carolina Society awarded a Certificate of Appreciation to NC State Historic Sites Director Keith Hardison. The Society awarded the Certificate at their June 13th Society Convention.



NC Society Commander David M. Edwards (right) is shown presenting the charter to members of the Gov. Zebulon B. Vance NC HQ Chapter. Shown left to right are Commander Larry E. Beeson and Carlton Mansfield.



NC Society Commander David M. Edwards (right) is shown presenting the charter to members of the Maj. Gen. W.H.C. Whiting Chapter No. 305 at the NC Society Convention. Chapter members shown left to right are Howard Talley, George Valsame, and Larry Brown.



NC State Historic Sites Director Keith Hardison is shown receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from the NC Society MOS&B from NC Society Adjutant Byron Brady on August 12, 2015.

Farthest To The Front **Wins First Place**

ALEXANDRIA, VA—*Farthest To The Front* won the 2015 Col. Walter H. Taylor Society Newsletter Award. The award presentation was made by Commander-General Howard Jones during the MOS&B Awards Luncheon July 11, 2015.

Welcome New Members

Gov. Zebulon B. Vance
NC HQ Chapter

Edward M. Southwell
Wilkesboro

Society Commander's Message

David M. Edwards, Commander, Confederate Officers of North Carolina Society

Greetings Compatriots! We have had quite a time since our last newsletter. How could you pack so much in such a short time? In June we held our North Carolina Society Convention in Raleigh. In July, compatriots gathered from all across America to attend our National Order Convention in Alexandria, Virginia. Along the way, the Progressives and liberal media have taken advantage of an unrelated mass murder by a deranged man in Charleston to attack anything having to do with the Confederacy (from flags, monuments, and SCV license plates).

I urge all compatriots to be attentive to local events in regards to vandalism of monuments and negative press. Local people have a lot more, or should have a lot more, pull with the local government and press. Be involved with your communities. Talk to your elected government representatives. Work with them and conduct yourself as a Southern gentleman. Protecting our heritage is not going to get easier. We have won some "battles", but as the general populace ages out and the newer generations (many ignorant of their heritage) begin to take control, the cultural war will be exceedingly tough. Which is why we should recruit, recruit, recruit, and try to educate our young people at every opportunity. The easiest thing to do is to sit back and complain about the inactivity

of others. Don't be a complainer, get up and be proactive.

Thank you for the opportunity to continue serving as your State Commander for another term. There are a lot of exciting things in store and a lot of hard work. Already planning is being started with our upcoming State Convention and the 2017 National Convention that we are hosting. This is a great opportunity to give back to the Order and strengthen friendships through fellowship.

At our State Convention, we had 100% participation from all Chapters! It is wonderful to go to a Convention and enjoy fellowship with others AND discuss our Society's goals & objectives in a positive manner. Always pressing ahead! This is great and everyone is to be commended.

In Alexandria at our National Convention, North Carolina led the way again with awards. These awards are not given out lightly. A lot of thought and reflection goes into each award applicant. Congratulations to all award winners! You did a fantastic job.

One last item I would like to discuss is our pocket books. Our Society could put up a lot more wayside markers, do more public education, etc. This costs money. And as was said at our State Convention, we can not expect to spend money like a drunken sailor. We must have extra funds coming into the Society's coffers. If fifty compatriots would give



*North Carolina Commander
David M. Edwards*

ten dollars a month to our Society that would be \$6,000 dollars a year. If one hundred compatriots would give twenty dollars a month that would be \$24,000 dollars a year. Think of what the Society would be able to achieve! Times are tough, but if I can give up a twenty dollars a month, so can you. Now is the time for action, but we have got to have funds. The NC Society sent a copy of the National Resolution passed in Alexandria to over 160 newspapers in North Carolina. That costs \$150. Whiners love to complain that nothing gets done. Most of the time there is a monetary reason nothing gets done. Open your billfold and give to the NC Society so that we can aggressively preserve our Southern heritage. Don't be a whiner who gives nothing.

I will close with this quote of Robert E. Lee – "Our country requires now everyone to put forth all his ability, regardless of self." We are facing some tough times, but our ancestors faced a lot worse.

David M. Edwards

Chapter News

News from across
the North Carolina Society

Greensboro

Members the Garnett-Pettigrew Chapter No. 67 participated in the 2015 Confederate Memorial Day observances at Oakwood Cemetery in High Point hosted by the Lt. F. C. Frazier Camp 668 SCV & Laura Wesson Chapter 5 OCR; at Green Hills Cemetery in Greensboro hosted by the UDC Guilford Chapter 301 with the support of the Col. John Sloan Camp 1290 SCV and at the Rockingham County Veterans Park in Wentworth hosted by the SCV & UDC of Reidsville and the Garnett-Pettigrew Chapter. We are especially proud of our members that served in the Confederate Memorial Cannon Crew, 40th North Carolina Troops, Patterson's Battery, Orange Light Artillery, CSA, for their involvement in all three of these events.

Our members were honored to be involved with these services in the traditional observance of Confederate Memorial Day, also known as Decoration Day, which is officially observed every year on the 10th of May in the State of North Carolina. It was a blessing to experience this tradition with fellow descendants of Confederate soldiers representing the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Order of Confederate Rose and the United Daughters of the Confederacy.



Oakwood Cemetery in High Point

Garnett-Pettigrew Chapter members were honored to support the Lt. F. C. Frazier Camp 668 SCV and the Laura Wesson Chapter 5 of the Order of Confederate Rose on May 3, 2015 at their annual memorial service at Oakwood Cemetery in High Point, North Carolina.

It was something special about experiencing a motivational tribute to all our Confederate ancestors and veterans at Oakwood Cemetery with its history during the war while being in the midst of the final resting place of so many brave souls who experienced the hardships of the War for Southern Independence.

The Barbee Hotel was converted to a Wayside Hospital in September 1863 to treat sick and wounded soldiers. There were 5,795 soldiers registered as patients from 1863 to 1865, but only 50 soldiers from all Southern States were known to have died at the hospital and were buried in designated area of the cemetery.

The story of Laura Ann Wesson is interesting but



sad. She was traveling with her father from Virginia to Charleston when they stopped in High Point in 1865. She volunteered to stay in the "pest house" and was the only nurse caring for the soldiers suffering from a smallpox epidemic. She would come down with smallpox while doing as many women in the South, all she could do for the cause, by caring for these men despite the fact she was exposing herself to this contagious disease. She would pass away on May 7th 1865 at the early age of twenty and buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

The original grave marker was said to have been a

Chapter News continued

stick with a note on attached with the inscription: “She rest in the last coffin and grave for the hospital at this place. She fed the hungry, clothed the naked, nursed the sick and wounded, aided by her father.”

The Keynote Speaker, Historian Lynn Salsi, shared an inspirational message of why today we still observe Confederate Memorial Day, also known as “Decoration Day”, and its significance to us as descendants of Confederate Veterans. This year the 150th Anniversary of the early death of Heroine Laura Wesson was also observed with a special tribute during her message.

The special guest of honor was Ms. Teresa Roane



who made a trip all the way from Richmond, Virginia to be with us. She also shared an inspirational message with very meaningful words about how it is our duty as descendants to honor the gift of our beloved heritage and preserve the truth in our history.

Commander Perdue had the privilege of the tradition of reading the Mayor’s Proclamation from Mayor William S. Bencini, Jr. proclaiming May 10, 2015 as Confederate Memorial Day in the City of High Point, North Carolina.

The Southern tradition when the women and children would lay flowers on the veteran’s graves on Confederate Memorial Day that Past Mayor Becky Smothers remembers as a child growing up was also observed this year during the “Reading of the Names”. The “Laying of the Wreaths” was followed by the distinct smell of black powder with the Honor Guard firing muskets and the Cannon Crew making some noise in memory of our Confederate veterans.

Green Hill Cemetery in Greensboro

The Garnett-Pettigrew Chapter 67 along with the Col. John Sloan Camp 1290 of Greensboro was honored again this year to support the UDC Guilford Chapter 301 in their annual Confederate Memorial Day Service on May 8th 2015 at the Mound of 300 Unknown Confederate Soldiers at Green Hills Cemetery in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Past Commander Rodney Williams brought greetings on the behalf of our chapter and the North Carolina Society of the Military Order of Stars & Bars. Terry Brady, Patrick Williams and Rodney Williams served as the Confederate Color Guard. Our chapter members Terry Brady, Larry Brown, Calvin Jones, Dwain Roberts, Patrick Williams and Rodney Williams representing the Patterson’s Battery, 40th NC Troops, Orange Light Artillery, CSA, served as MOSB Confederate Memorial Cannon Crew by making some noise firing a military salute with the cannon.

Rockingham County Veterans Park in Wentworth

On May 24, 2015, chapter members were honored to join the SCV and UDC of Reidsville for our 28th Annual Confederate Memorial Day Observance at the Rockingham County Veterans Park in Wentworth, North Carolina.

Rodney Williams, Past Commander of the SCV Pvt. Lorenzo Dow Williams Camp 1456 of Reidsville and the Garnett-Pettigrew Chapter 67, delivered the keynote address – “It is 150 Years Later, Now What?”



Chapter News continued

Raleigh - Waddell

RALEIGH—The Capt. James I. Waddell Chapter No. 32 met May 21, 2015 at the BBQ Lodge. Twenty-one members and guest were in attendance to hear **Donna Snipes** portray Mrs. Robert E. Lee. The Chapter helped man a recruitment table at the Bennett Place State Historic Site over the Memorial Day holiday weekend in Durham.

On June 13, the Chapter hosted a very successful NC Society Convention at th NC UDC HQ in Raleigh. Chapter Commander **James Izzell** opened the Convention. Other members attending were **Phil Hall**, **Darwin Roseman**, and **Byron Brady**. The Chapter sponsored a coffee hour prior to the Business Session and a tour of the Confederate Section of Oakwood Cemetery following the convention.



Shown left to right are Byron Brady, Donna Snipes, and Commander James Izzell at the Chapter's May 21, 2015 meeting.

Raleigh - Webb

RALEIGH—On July 21, 2015, the Colonel Robert F. Webb Chapter No. 195 met for their quarterly meeting at the Tribeca Tavern in North Raleigh. Joining us that evening were several members, including one returning member and a prospective one. Per our informal format for meetings, we discussed many of the pressing issues facing the Southern heritage community. We welcomed the recent passage of legislation protecting historical monuments and memorials by the NC General Assem-

bly and signed by the governor. Sam Currin reported on the ongoing issues pertaining to the governor's call for ceasing issuance of the SCV license plates. We discussed many ideas brought forth to bring together the heads of the various Southern heritage organizations for a state summit, in response to the attacks on our Southern culture and history.

Our previous quarterly meeting was on Tuesday, April 21, at the same time and location. On that occasion, we had an excellent guest speaker, in the person of Byron E. Brady. His thoroughly engaging presentation was on a very familiar historical personage, John Wilkes Booth, and his fateful attempt to escape through Maryland and into Virginia.

The Colonel Robert F. Webb Chapter resumed meeting in the second half of 2013, after a brief hiatus. We meet quarterly, usually the third Tuesday of the first month of the quarter. Our next meeting with be Tuesday, October 20, at 7 PM, at the Tribeca Tavern (6004 Falls of the Neuse Road), in North Raleigh. We welcome all current members of the NC Society of the MOS&B, as well as our past chapter members and prospective members, to join us for an evening of conviviality and comraderie.

Wilmington

WILMINGTON—The Maj. Gen. W.H.C. Whiting Chapter No. 305 held their Charter Luncheon and Organizational meeting on June 6, 2015, at the Carolina Bar-B-Q in Wilmington. Planning for the future and new officers were elected. The following officers are: **Donald Watson**, Commander; **George Valsame**, Lt. Commander; **Glen Kye**, Adjutant; and **Howard Tally**, Historian. It was decided that the Chapter would meet quarterly with the next meeting scheduled for September 12, 2015, at 6:00 pm at Carolina Bar-B-Q in Wilmington.

NC Headquarters

ALEXANDRIA, VA— The Gov. Zebulon Baird Vance NC HQ Chapter No. 307 had two representatives attending the MOS&B's 2015 national convention in Alexandria, VA July 9-11th. Attending were Commander **Larry E. Beeson** and Lt. Commander and PCG **Albert D. Jones, Jr.**

**The Military Order of the Stars and Bars
at its convention held on July 10, 2015 in Alexandria, Virginia
passed the following resolution:**

Resolved that:

History should not be abolished or wielded in the pursuit of vengeance. It is a tool that is to be used to build a better future. The Confederate heritage community acknowledges that the battle flag has been inappropriately used and abused by certain hate groups. We will not surrender to hate, or abandon our heritage.

Politicians are using the Confederate heritage community as a target for government discrimination to sow the seeds of racial divisiveness. The vile public rhetoric and the campaign of discrimination have inspired recent vandalism on war memorials. The Confederate soldier was an American soldier and recognized as such by Federal law, multiple Congresses and multiple Presidents. When the war was over all Americans joined hands to reunite and reconcile the nation.

The recent actions by certain politicians, without thinking of the consequences, are reprehensible and encourage destruction and disobedience of the law. They exploit racial strife for political gain.

Over 70 million American citizens descend from Confederate veterans and are a part of the nation's multi-cultural fabric. They are entitled to the same privileges as any other citizen. They are entitled to equal protection under the law.

The preservation of our American heritage is vital. All Confederate memorials and monuments must be protected as a part of history. The Military Order of the Stars and Bars is dedicated to the preservation of all aspects of history. We sincerely ask all Americans to join with us in this worthy goal.

Wm. Howard Jones

Commander General

Military Order of Stars and Bars

The Confederate Officers of North Carolina Society paid to distribute the above resolution as a press release to every newspaper in North Carolina. Please contact Society Commander David M. Edwards or Society Adjutant Byron Brady if you see this resolution published or mentioned in any North Carolina publication.



**Visit the
North Carolina War Between the States
Sesquicentennial Commission**

web site at:

www.ncwbts150.com

International Headquarters News

North Carolinians Attend 2015 MOS&B National Convention

ALEXANDRIA, VA—Six North Carolinians representing four NC Chapters were in attendance for the 2015 Military Order of the Stars and Bars National Convention held July 9-11. Chapters represented at the Convention from North Carolina were the Capt. Waddell Chapter No. 32, Raleigh; the Capt. Henry Grady Chapter No. 296, Wadesboro; the Maj. Gen. W.H.C. Whiting Chapter No. 305, Wilmington; and the Gov. Zebulon B. Vance NC HQ Chapter No. 307.

Major items of business included a unanimously-approved resolution asking all Americans to join with them to preserve and protect our rich Confederate history and heritage.

The 2016 National Convention is set for Fair Hope, Alabama May 19-21, 2016 at the Hampton Inn Hotel. 2016 will be an election year. Wilmington, NC will be the site of the 2017 convention and Baton Rouge, LA was selected as the site for the 2018 convention.



Shown left to right are Byron Brady, Raleigh; John Williams, Concord, David Edwards, Wadesboro; and Larry Brown, Greensboro. Not pictured but also attending were Larry Beeson, King; and Albert Jones, Plymouth.



MOS&B GEC to meet in Atlanta October 24th

ATLANTA— The fall meeting of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars is scheduled to meet in Atlanta, GA on Saturday, October 24, 2015



Delegates attending the Business Session on the first day of the Convention.



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Stars and Bars**