



Cowskin Prairie 2702

Chapter Where No Division

United Daughters of the Confederacy

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Members - 32

Greetings,

As thoughts turn to Spring, we want to hear from you! It was unfortunate that the March date, and preceding weekend, for the chapter's private UDC marker dedication on Mary Jeanne's stone appears to conflict with so many of you calendars. While I was in hopes we could make the weekend a great reunion type gathering for all of those in Oklahoma that don't seem to make it to chapter functions anymore, I understand Spring can be hectic and that close to Spring break also cuts into grandchildren time. Perhaps instead, we will see you at a chapter meeting or group activity – before we see you in August for our Annual Meeting?

As always, I understand that if you are far away, you will support the chapter in other ways than attendance. We are also looking into ways you may remotely attend, as well. If you are interested, please contact me directly so we can figure you into the mix.

Remember that this year will be an election year. Please take a moment to review the good works our chapter and UDC is involved in. If there is anything that interests you, feel free to contact me. So much can be easily achieved via communication – you need not be present at many meetings to succeed with your sister members. Whether your review results in anything this year or not, I'll be sure to pass along member interest you provide to our new President. I know in my heart that you are all being excellent ambassadors of, not only Southern etiquette, but history and Confederate values.

I look forward to hearing from those far away, and seeing those in the nearer region later in the year. Let's continue to make this year of service something Mary Jeanne can be proud of.

United in Service!

Carrie





Save the 2018 Dates

Please participate in activities, if you can!

- March 11 Girls Night Out - Chapter Overnight Outing - Norman, OK
March 12 Dedication of UDC Marker – 11:00 a.m. - For Organizing Member
Mary Jeanne Kieger Hansen, Honorary President of General
- April 14 Confederate Memorial Services – IOOF Cemetery, Neosho, MO
[Tentative] Campbell's Camp, SCV

Chapter Meeting - April 21st

Baxter Springs Museum – 1:00 p.m.
Program: Commentary on the Situation of Slavery
Sherry Rollins, Chapter Historian
No-Host Lunch plans for 11:30 a.m., TBA

- April 24-26 Living History – Baxter Springs Museum
- May 5 Old Timer's Day Parade – Noon - Southwest City, MO
- June 23 Chapter Meeting – Baxter Springs Museum – 1:00 p.m.
June 24 Confederate Iron Cross Dedication, Polson Cemetery – 1:00 p.m.
- August 1 Pre-Annual Meeting Historic Tour
August 2 Chapter Meeting & Annual Meeting – Downstream Casino Resort
Reports of all Officers, Chairmen and Directors
Awards Banquet – Downstream Casino Resort

*Do YOU have anything at all to share in the Newsletter?
Perhaps there is something
you would like to see more of.
Contact the President or Newsletter Editor....*

My Approach to My Confederate History

By Stefanie Loeffler – Duluth, Minnesota

As Americans, we are well seasoned with diverse ancestral backgrounds as well as various cultural experiences. I would imagine that most of us, whom belong to lineage societies, share the same desire to share our unique heritage with one another. When I share my Revolutionary War era family history among new friends and acquaintances, outside of my lineage society groups, most people are quite curious, and it often leads to an exciting discussion about American history. However, when it comes to discussing my Confederate ancestors, the room often becomes uncomfortably quiet. But I believe if they knew more about my Revolutionary War patriot and Confederate ancestors, perhaps they would not only feel differently about the UDC but the War Between the States, as well.

After the Revolutionary War, my patriot, John Bell, settled in upstate South Carolina where he had a family and plantation. His plantation was large enough to necessitate an overseer which would later become his son-in-law and my 4th great grandfather. Although this family's sacrifices contributed to American independence, and their hard work and determination brought wealth not only to the South but to our nation as-a-whole, I have not yet found any service in the WBTS on this branch of my family tree. My Confederate ancestors, the Todd family, originated in the North Carolina and migrated west to Missouri in 1820. The family continued to move both west and north eventually ending up in the far northwest corner of MO by the year 1870. Unlike my Bell family, The Todd's were dirt-poor, and except for the two youngest children who would eventually learn to read and write, they were all illiterate. When the war officially started in 1861, James SR. and his two eldest sons, William and James Monroe, joined the Confederacy. Their father died in 1861, William was captured by Union troops from Iowa and took the oath while James Monroe was in Louisiana and did not surrender until June of 1865. I use my personal family history as reference to help explain the theory, "Rich man's war; poor man's fight". I think it's safe to say that when push came to shove, as this country was experiencing tremendous growing pains, the Todd family was pressured into choosing which culture they identified with. In their heart of hearts they were Southern, and so was Missouri which they were willing and ready to protect their revered Southland and heritage.



After having the opportunity of a lifetime living just one-hour south of Charleston, and 45 minutes north of Savannah, in Beaufort, South Carolina, for nearly three years, I must say it's a culture and people worth defending. I feel proud and very blessed to have my UDC sisters to share my Confederate ancestry with. I look forward to serving the UDC with my new chapter members, and I want to thank you for welcoming me into you chapter.

Chapter Meeting - Baxter Springs

The February chapter meeting took place on the 17th, with several members in attendance. Fredrea Cook, General Flags of the Confederacy Committee, presented the program. Titled, "What Our Flag Means in the 21st Century", it included slides of all three Flags of the Confederacy, as well as the Battle Flag, with instructions for proper use.

Reports of officers and chairmen were received. The Registrar reported progress on the application for a new member. Some of the proofs needed were copied and sent to her with Barbara.

The reports of chairmen included the Computer & Webmaster, who reported the need to renew fees.

Confederate Iron Cross project was reported to be well underway. General has now located a new foundry to make the Crosses, several of which are needed for the chapter project at Polson Cemetery. Members desiring to purchase Crosses for their own Confederate ancestors are asked to contact the treasurer for more information.

Prior to the meeting, members gathered at the Spring River Buffet for lunch at the Downstream Casino Resort. Great food, with plenty of discussion and laughter was shared by all.



Chapter Insignia & Jewelry

If any member is interested in purchasing their Insignia or any UDC jewelry, please contact Kay F. and she will be happy to assist you. You can proudly display your Ancestor! Her contact information is in your Chapter Book.

← UDC Badge Set



Did You Know? Partially pre-filled Cowskin Prairie insignia order forms are kept on our eList, or current "fillable" forms can be found at General – hqudc.org.

Costumes for Upcoming Activities

Don't forget all the upcoming event possibilities. Do YOU have your outfits ready for parades and such? IF you need assistance in any way, please contact the President.