

*A Society of the Descendants of Confederate Officers*

# *Old Dominion Officer's Call*

*The Official Newsletter of the Virginia Society MOS&B*

*Raymond Gill - Lieutenant Commander*

*March 2006*



## *From the Commander*

*By Virginia Society Commander Jerrell G. Keathley*

Please join me in welcoming a new chapter, "The Immortal 600" located in Luray, Page County, to the Society. The chapter was officially chartered February 26 with 13 charter members, 12 of whom are new members of the Order. It was a pleasure to meet with these outstanding men at the charter ceremony and the Virginia Society looks forward to working with them as they expand their presence in the Shenandoah Valley.

As stated elsewhere in this newsletter, and as most of you are well aware, MOS&B IHQ has physically, spiritually and emotionally moved from offices it shared with the SCV in Columbia, TN to new quarters in Daphne, AL. Doing this was a difficult decision, especially for many long-time members of the Order who hold good memories of days spent at Columbia. However, it seems that both parties wanted to make the split so it was best to do so and move on. Commander General Jones has been overseeing the transition to Daphne and it is working out very well. Whether the IHQ will remain in Daphne is, for the moment, undecided. Original plans were for the Order to relocate at the Jefferson Davis home in Mississippi, Beauvoir, but that was scotched by Katrina. As restoration work continues at Beauvoir, perhaps the original plan will be revisited. In the meantime, our home is now in Daphne and I hope you'll give the staff there the opportunity to assist you with your administrative or other questions.

Finally, please make plans to attend the Society Reunion in Powhatan April 29. Our reunion in Richmond last year was an excellent day of fellowship and Commander Ray Ryan and the members of Skipwith Dance DeNoon chapter promise that this year's will be even better. An added reason to go is that this is a year for electing new officers of the Society and we are fortunate in having a truly dedicated and competent group of men standing for election. Please go and support them.

Deo Vindice

Jerry Keathley  
Commander

## ***VIRGINIA SOCIETY CONVENTION*** ***29 April 2006, POWHATAN, VIRGINIA***

The following current Society members have indicated their willingness to run if nominated and serve if elected as Commander, Lieutenant Commander, and Adjutant respectively of the Virginia Society for the period 2006 - 2008:

Raymond Warren Gill, Jr., of Fredericksburg - current Lieutenant Commander of the Virginia Society  
Raymond Whiting Ryan, Jr., of Powhatan - current Commander of the Skipwith Dance DeNoon Chapter  
Robert E. Lee Scouten, of Charlottesville - member of the General Samuel Cooper Chapter

As permitted under the Virginia Society Constitution, nominations for any of the Society's three elective offices also can be made from the floor during the convention.

## Virginia Society Membership Reminder

Members and chapter officers are reminded that VA Society policy is that all applications for membership in the VA Society and its chapters must be reviewed and approved by the VA Society Genealogist before they are submitted to the Genealogist General. The VA Society also requires that all applications include proof of service, proof of the circumstances under which service terminated, and proof of the applicant's genealogical ties to the individual who served as an officer or elected or appointed official in Confederate States service. The Virginia Society Genealogist is James Cooke, Jr.

## Annual Chapter Reports Due Before 30 June 2006

In accordance with Article XI, Sections 1 and 2, of the MOS&B Constitution, Annual Reports for each Chapter are due prior to the Annual Convention. Annual Report forms will be mailed to Chapter Adjutants and Commanders in the near future and must be returned no later than 30 June 2006.

According to Section 2 the report must include:

1. Current Chapter roster
2. Payment of National dues to General Headquarters, if same has not been previously remitted
3. Names of all members deceased during the past year or dropped from the rolls

The Virginia Society collects dues of \$5 per active member. Those dues were due and payable on 31 December 2005. If you have not previously submitted your dues for 2005, please do so with the Annual report. Checks should be made payable to Virginia Society-MOS&B and mailed to:

Virginia Society MOS&B  
10938 Tidewater Trail  
Fredericksburg, VA 22408

## Around the Virginia Society

### Williamson Chapter

MOSB Thomas H. Williamson Chapter is proud to welcome Greg Eanes as a transfer new member. He is currently is serving in the US Army in the Surry Co., VA area and is from Crewe, VA. In his hometown, Greg was a Journalist and General Manager of the Crewe-Burkeville Journal. He was a member of the faculty of Randolph Henry High School and at Southside Virginia Community College. Greg is a current member of the American Legion and is also recognized for his service on his local School Board and Community Activities.

Greg Eanes is best known in the Confederate community as the author of Black Day of the Army: Battles of Sailor's Creek.

### Immortal 600 Chapter #298 Receives Charter

On Sunday, February 26, 2006, the newest chapter of the Virginia Society, Military Order of the Stars and Bars was officially chartered in Luray, Va. Organized with thirteen gentlemen, the Immortal 600 Chapter #298 has a membership that spans the central and southern portions of the Shenandoah Valley as a couple of counties bordering on the eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge. Currently members hail from Page, Rockingham, Augusta, Madison and Culpeper counties with hopes of expanding its area of coverage into Frederick, Shenandoah, Warren, Clarke and Rappahannock counties. Present at the event to present the new chapter with their charter were MOS&B Lt Commander General Colin Pulley, Virginia Society Commander Jerry Keathley, Virginia Society Lieutenant Commander Ray Gill, and Commander Ray Ryan of the Skipwith Dance De Noon Chapter.

With such a broad area of coverage, naming the chapter for one particular officer or a small handful of officers was simply insufficient. Instead, it was decided to name the chapter after the “Immortal 600” Confederate officers who, as prisoners of war, were taken from Ft. Delaware, DE. to Charleston, S.C. and, there, less 50 officers who were too ill, intentionally placed by their captors in a three-acre pen on Morris Island, S.C. and under fire from Confederate artillery beginning on September 7, 1864. For forty-five days these men endured horrors untold, but remarkably, none were injured. Later moved to Ft. Pulaski, Ga., many of the men who had evaded severe illness were placed on “starvation rations” in retaliation for what the Union army had heard their prisoners of war were being rationed at Camp Sumter at Andersonville, Ga. In addition to the poor rations, the winter of 1865 was perhaps one of the coldest on record. Finally, after being shipped back to Ft. Delaware, early in 1865, the remaining officers were paroled in July 1865.

The “Immortal 600” Chapter hopes to engage in a number of special projects to honor these 600 Confederate officers as well as the officers that hailed from the different counties from which the new chapter recruited its members. At present, a number of members of the new chapter can claim ancestors who were counted among the numbers of the Immortal 600.” One member – Junior Kee - is a direct descendant of one of the Immortal 600. Members of the new chapter include Robert H. Moore, II, Commander (Capt. Michael Shuler, Co. H, 33<sup>rd</sup> Va. Infantry, Stonewall Brigade); W. Greaner Neal, II, Lieutenant Commander (1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Archibald Grinnan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Co. B, 13<sup>th</sup> Va. Infantry); Greg A. Kelly, Adjutant (1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Abednego Kiser, Co. A, 29<sup>th</sup> Va. Infantry); Brian L. Bosley (1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Erasmus L. Bell, Co. K, 10<sup>th</sup> Va. Infantry & one of the Immortal 600); Floyd C. Campbell, Jr. (also claiming ancestry to Capt. Michael Shuler); Greg R. Caton (Capt. John K. Booton, Dixie Artillery); William J. Graham, III (1<sup>st</sup> Lt. John F. Lytton, Co. C, 5<sup>th</sup> Va. Infantry & one of the Immortal 600); Ralph H. Kee, Jr. (1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Michael E. Bowers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Co. K, 25<sup>th</sup> Va. Infantry & one of the Immortal 600); Kenneth David Marston (2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Joseph Marston, Co. E, 35<sup>th</sup> Btn. Va. Cavalry, White’s Comanches); Robert H. Moore, Sr. (also claiming ancestry to Capt. Michael Shuler); Greg E. Painter (1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Daniel B. Judd, Co. F, 97<sup>th</sup> Va. Militia); Clifton Buckner Thomas (Capt. Alexander N. Finks, Co. L, 10<sup>th</sup> Va. Infantry & and also one of the Immortal 600); and Thomas L. Yeakle (Capt. Emanuel H. Mitchell, Co. A, 46<sup>th</sup> Va. Militia).

The new chapter is actively seeking new members but would also welcome, as associate members, existing members of other MOS&B chapters who have ancestors in the Immortal 600.



Commander Robert Moore, Jr. (center) and fellow members of the Immortal 600 Chapter proudly display their new charter.

**Send us your pictures and event news!**

**Don't forget the Virginia Society Website – [vamosb.org](http://vamosb.org)**

# 2006 MOS&B National Convention

20-22 July 2006  
Mobile, Alabama

Host Hotel:

Mobile Marriott  
3101 Airport Blvd.  
Mobile, Alabama 36606  
(251) 344-5200

<http://marriott.com/property/propertypage/MOBMC>

Rate Quoted per room: \$105.00 per night + 14% tax= \$119.70 per night

Local Information:

Mobile Bay Convention and Visitors Bureau  
P. O. Box 204  
Mobile, AL 36601-0204  
Main: 251-208-2000 | Fax: 251-208-2060  
Tollfree: 1-800-5-MOBILE (800-566-2453)  
<http://www.mobile.org/>

## Time to Recognize Achievement in the Virginia Society

The Virginia Society's awards program recognizes contributions by members, non-members, and organizations. You are urged to take advantage of this once-a-year opportunity to give credit where credit is due. Nominations are also being accepted for the following awards to be presented at the 2006 Convention:

1. Membership Recruitment Award
  - by a chapter with fewer than 25 members
  - by a chapter with more than 25 members
2. Newsletter Award: highest quality newsletter published by a chapter of any size.
3. Heritage award: for the chapter that has done the most to enhance the image of the Confederate Officer Corps.
4. Commander's Award: for outstanding contributions by an individual member.
5. Edmund Ruffin Award: for non-members or organizations that have performed exceptional service in the promotion of Southern Heritage.
6. Sir Moses Ezekiel Award for Artistic Achievement: for a member who makes a significant contribution to the advancement of our heritage through the fine arts (painting, photography, literature, sculpture, or other media as approved by the Awards Committee).
7. Juliet Ann Opie Hopkins Award: for ladies who have demonstrated outstanding support for the MOS&B and/or Southern Heritage.

Based on the nominations received, the Awards Committee will meet soon thereafter at a time and place to be announced to review and decide on awards. Chapter representatives should be prepared to answer any questions and provide additional information concerning chapter nominations for any award.

All nominations must be received no later than 10 April 2006. Nominations should be sent to:

Ray Gill, Awards Committee Chairman  
10938 Tidewater Trail  
Fredericksburg, VA 22408-2023  
[raygill2@juno.com](mailto:raygill2@juno.com)



**SKIPWITH DANCE DE NOON CHAPTER**

**MILITARY ORDER  
OF THE  
STARS AND BARS**

Presents the

**2006 VIRGINIA SOCIETY CONVENTION**

**29 April 2006 - Powhatan, Virginia**

**Registration Form**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\$25 per person - Check or Money Order Payable to:  
Skipwith Dance De Noon Chapter No. 260**

**Send payment and form to:  
Mike Thomas, Adjutant  
15117 Manor Gate Place  
Midlothian VA 23112**

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- ❖ **11:00 am - Business Meeting – Rear Dining Room, County Seat Restaurant, 3883 Old Buckingham Road, Powhatan, VA 23139, 804-598-5000 (parking in the rear)**
  - ❖ **Noon – Luncheon - Garden Salad, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Rolls, Asparagus, Redskin Potatoes, Apple or Peach Pie, Choice of Beverage - Cash Bar Available**
  - ❖ **1:00 pm – Entertainment – To Be Announced**
  - ❖ **Directions – County Seat Restaurant is across from the Powhatan County Courthouse, on Rt. 13 (Old Buckingham Road).**
    - **Route 60 West (Anderson Highway) provides easy access to Rt. 13, and County Seat Restaurant.**
    - **Rt. 288 also provides easy access to Rt. 60 (from both North and South)**
    - **Rt. 95 from Northern Virginia - take Rt. 295 Exit, to Rt. 64 West, to Rt. 288 South, to Rt. 60 West (Powhatan Exit)**
    - **Rt. 95 from Southside Virginia - take Rt. 288 Exit, to Rt. 60 West Exit.**
    - **Those using Rt. 360 traveling North through Amelia and Nottoway Counties, e-mail me for directions, if needed: <hersocenva@earthlink.net>**