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# Virginia Society

## M.O.S.&B.

General Samuel Cooper Chapter  
No. 105

Hupp-Deyerle-McCausland Chapter  
No. 237

Samuel Ali Mann Chapter  
No. 179

Colonel Elijah Viers White Chapter  
No. 48

Slemp-Pridemore Chapter  
No. 251

LGen Jubal Anderson Early Chapter  
No. 277



Headquarters Chapter

George E. Pickett Chapter  
No. 115

Colonel T.H. Williamson Chapter  
No. 249

MGen John Bankhead Magruder  
Chapter No. 258

Skipwith Dance DeNoon Chapter  
No. 260

Colonel Walter H. Taylor Chapter  
No. 269

Major Edgar Burroughs & The  
Princess Anne Cavalry Chapter  
No. 281

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A. Clarke Magruder, Sr., CDR.      Jerrell Keathley LCDR.      Raymond W. Gill, Jr., ADJ.  
Spring 2004 – vamosb.org – 10938 Tidewater Trail – Fredericksburg, VA 22408

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### **VIRGINIA SOCIETY CONVENTION,** **23 APRIL 2004, SOUTH HILL, VIRGINIA**

The Virginia Society's 2004 Convention will begin at 1:00 PM, 23 April 2004, in the American Legion Hall, South Hill Virginia. All Virginia Society members whose schedules permit are urged to attend and help select the officers and make the decisions which will guide the Society in this, the first decade of the 21st Century. Attendees will be asked to vote on the slate of officers proposed by the Virginia Society's Nominating Committee which appears below or to nominate from the floor of the Convention other officer candidates for election. Attendees also will be asked to approve several changes to the Virginia Society Constitution necessitated by changes to the MOS&B National Constitution approved by the general membership during the Order's 2003 National Convention in Asheville, North Carolina. A registration form for the 2004 Society Convention appears elsewhere in this newsletter. Chapter officers and members are reminded that chapter, state, and national MOS&B dues must be paid prior to the convention if members are to vote or be voted.

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 2004 - 2006:

Jerrell G. Keathley, current Lieutenant Commander of the Virginia Society  
Raymond Warren Gill, Jr., current Adjutant of the Virginia Society  
Andrew Knox Ramsay III, current Adjutant of 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.

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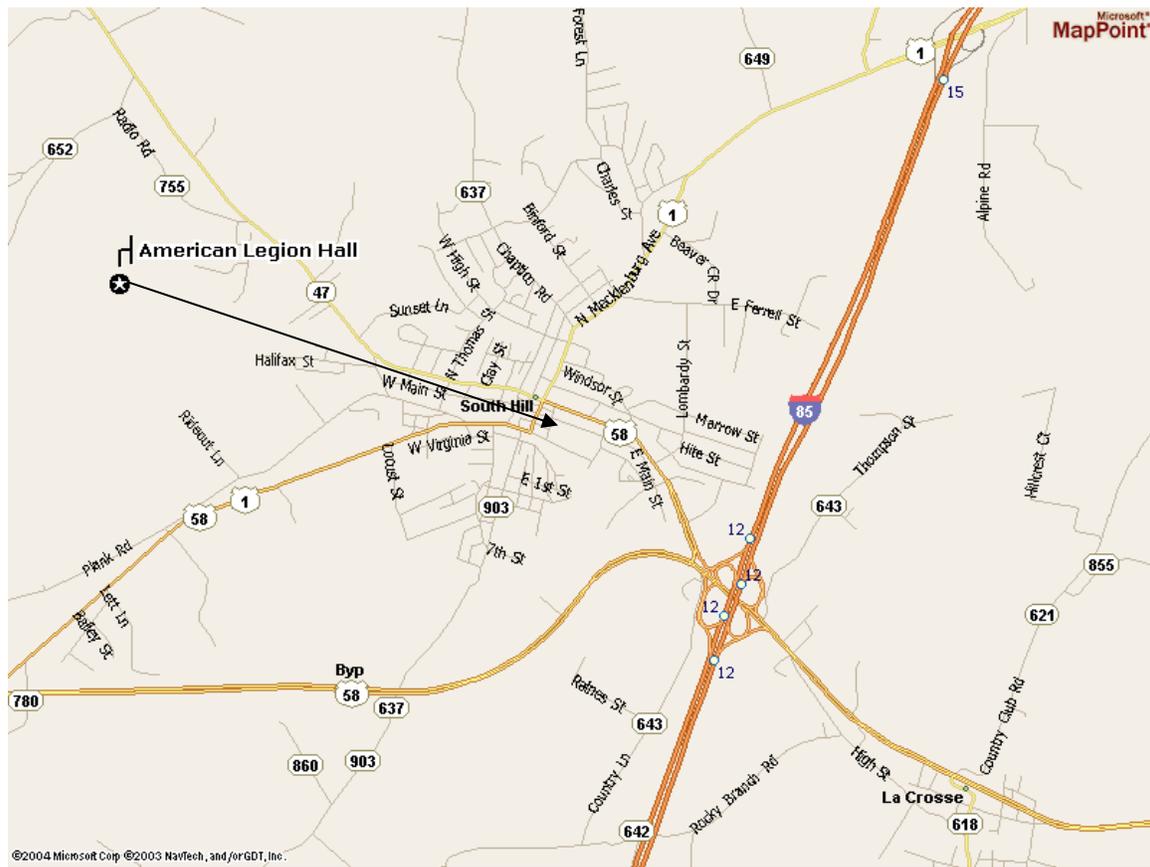
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At the completion of the business meeting, attendees are invited to remain for a social hour in order to chat with the Society's new officers and welcome the Society's two newest chapters, Major Edgar Burroughs and Princess Anne Cavalry Chapter, Virginia Beach, Cox - McFalls Chapter, Wise, and their new officers and members. All members must vacate the Hall not later than 5:00 PM to permit the Legion to prepare for another event. Attendees also are reminded that the Virginia Division SCV 2004 Convention will be held on 24 April also in South Hill, and those who are members of both organizations are encouraged to attend that convention as well.

Driving directions to the Crews-Epperson-Puryear Post 79 American Legion Hall, 213 Brook Ave., South Hill, are as follows: From I 85, take Exit 15, at end turn right onto US 1 South to South Hill (you will be on Mecklenburg Avenue). Go thru the 1st Traffic (Stop) Light at intersection of Mecklenburg Ave. and Atlantic St. Turn Left onto Danville St. at the 2nd Traffic Light (this is a new stop light and should be fully operational by April 23rd). Take the 1st left onto Brook Ave. and the American Legion Hall is on the Right at 213 Brook Ave.

From the West, take Highway 58 East and take the 1st South Hill Exit onto Business 58 East (Danville St.). Keep straight thru the Traffic Light (intersection of Danville St. and Mecklenburg Ave.). Take the 1st left after the Traffic Light onto Brook Ave. The American Legion Hall is on the Right at 213 Brook Ave.

From the East, take Highway 58 West and take the 1st South Hill Exit onto Business 58 West (this is a Right Turn at the Traffic Light, intersection of Highway 58, Country Lane and Atlantic St.). Follow Business 58 West (Atlantic St.) thru 2 Traffic Lights. At the 3rd Traffic Light (intersection of Atlantic St. and Mecklenburg Ave.) turn Left onto Mecklenburg Ave. At the next Traffic Light, turn Left onto Danville St. Take the 1st left after the Traffic Light onto Brook Ave. The American Legion Hall is on the Right at 213 Brook Ave.



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## **VIRGINIA SOCIETY OFFICER NOMINATIONS, 2004 - 2006**

As required in the constitution of the Virginia Society, MOS&B, the members of the Society's Executive Council convene during even numbered years to serve as a Nominating Committee in order to recommend a slate of officers for election by the membership at the Society's annual convention. The Nominating Committee is composed of all past Society Commanders and is chaired by the Society's immediate past Commander. The Society's 2004 Nominating Committee, chaired by Past CDR John C. Stinson, recommends to the membership the following slate of officers for 2004 - 2006:

For Commander, Jerrell Glenn Keathley, current Lieutenant Commander of the Virginia Society and member of Elijah Viers White Chapter No. 48, Leesburg;

For Lieutenant Commander, Raymond Warren Gill, Jr., current Adjutant of the Virginia Society and member of MGEN John Bankhead Magruder Chapter No. 258, Fredericksburg;

For Adjutant, Andrew Knox Ramsay III, current Adjutant of General Samuel Cooper Chapter, No. 105, Alexandria.

As permitted under the Virginia Society Constitution, additional nominations for any of the Society's three elective offices also can be made from the floor during the Society's annual convention which will be held at 1:00 PM, 23 April, in the American Legion Hall, South Hill. Driving directions to the Hall are provided elsewhere in this newsletter.

## **DAN JONES ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR COMMANDER GENERAL**

North Carolina Society Color Sergeant Dan Jones recently announced that he will be a candidate for MOS&B Commander General in Dalton, Georgia at the national reunion this summer. Dan served the MO&B as ANV Commander and Executive Councilman; Historian General (two terms); and is in his second term as Scholarship Chairman. He was Editor of the 60<sup>th</sup> Year MOS&B History Book and has recently been appointed Editor of the 65<sup>th</sup> Year MOS&B History Book. Dan is currently serving as NC Society Color Sergeant. During his tenure as Commander of the Captain James I. Waddell Chapter, he was active in the cleaning, leveling, restoration, and rededication of the General Lawrence O'Bryan Branch monument in Raleigh's City Cemetery.

## **PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY CONSTITUTION**

The following changes to the Constitution of the Virginia Society, Military Order of the Stars and Bars (MOS&B), are required as a consequence of a change to the MOS&B National Constitution approved by the membership at the Order's 2003 National Convention in Asheville, North Carolina. As approved, membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) no longer is an obligation for membership in the MOS&B, and reference to membership in the SCV therefore is no longer relevant to the items listed below.

**Article II, Section 4**, now reads "Membership in the Virginia Society confers no special honors or benefits; rather, membership imposes additional obligations and duties beyond those imposed by membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans."

Change: End the sentence at the word "duties" and delete the remainder of the sentence.

Rationale: As above.

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**Article IV, Section 2**, now reads “Applicants for membership in the Virginia Society must be members of a properly chartered camp in the Virginia Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans. The Virginia Society may, on approval of the Society Convention, include Chapters from the District of Columbia (subject to the limitations imposed by Article V of the National Constitution of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars). All applicants for membership in the Virginia Society must be members in good standing in the Sons of Confederate Veterans and any of its subdivisions and integral parts.”

Change: Delete all of sentence one and all of sentence three.

Rationale: As above.

**Article IV, Section 4**, now reads “Any member of the Virginia Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, who is not otherwise eligible for membership in the Virginia Society pursuant to the provisions of Section 1 hereof, is eligible for associate membership in the Virginia Society.”

Change: In line 3, after the word “for” and before the word “associate” add the words “non-voting”.

Rationale: The change is needed to clarify the distinction between dues paying members qualified under the provisions of Section 1 and those who are not qualified under the provisions of Section 1 and who do not pay MOS&B national, society, or chapter dues.

**Article V, Section 1, Sentence 1**, now reads “The Executive and Legislative body of the Virginia Society shall be the Society Convention which is to be held annually, and at the same time and place as the Division Convention of the Virginia Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans.”

Change: Delete all words after the word “annually” to the end of the sentence and substitute the words “at a time and place determined by the Society Executive Council.”

Rationale: Provides flexibility to the Society’s Executive Council to schedule and arrange annual Virginia Society conventions at times and locations most convenient to the membership at large.

**Article VIII, Section 7**, now reads, “The Commander, Virginia Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, shall be a voting member of the Society Executive Council and he shall be entitled to cast one vote. The Commander, Virginia Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, need not be a member of, or be eligible for membership, in the Virginia Society in order to hold this position as a voting member of the Society Executive Council.”

Change: Change both the words “voting” to “non-voting” and delete the words “and he shall be entitled to cast one vote.”

Rationale: Replicates the non-voting status of the MOS&B Commander-General in the SCV’s national Executive Council and the non-voting status of the SCV Commander in Chief in the MOS&B’s national Executive Council.

**Article XIII, Section 1**, now reads “In those instances where a member of the Virginia Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, who is eligible for membership in the Military Order of the Stars and Bars lives outside the Commonwealth of Virginia, or lives within the Commonwealth but in an area where there is no chapter convenient to him, or where such an individual chooses not to affiliate with a local Chapter, then that individual is eligible for membership in the Headquarters Chapter of the Virginia Society.”

Change the sentence to read: “In those instances where a member of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars lives within the Commonwealth of Virginia in an area where there is no chapter convenient to him, or where such an individual chooses not to affiliate with a local chapter, then that individual is eligible for membership in the Headquarters Chapter of the Virginia Society.”

Rationale: Clarity and, in this context, membership in the SCV is not relevant to membership in the MOS&B or the Virginia Society or its Headquarters Chapter.

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## **15 - 17 OCTOBER 2004 MOS&B HISTORICAL TOUR**

The MOS&B Executive Council has approved planning by the Virginia Society for a Historical Tour to be held in the Fredericksburg, Virginia area in October 2004. Similar to the very successful 1998 MOS&B Historical Tour which focused on Sharpsburg and Gettysburg, the Fall 2004 Tour will focus on mid-Virginia battlefields, among which are The Wilderness, Chancellorsville, Spotsylvania Courthouse, and Fredericksburg itself. There are too many other WBTS sites nearby to mention them all, but an hour and a half south by car from Fredericksburg is the Museum of the Confederacy, premier among all such museums; two hours south are Pamplin Historical Park and Petersburg; two hours southeast are the battlefields of the 1862 Seven Days Campaign; and nearby is Guinea Station where General Jackson succumbed to pneumonia on 10 May 1863. An hour and half north are the U.S. National Archives in Washington, D.C. Scheduling now is underway for the best available tour guides and speakers for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday events originating from Fredericksburg's Holiday Inn Select.

Pending final approval by the MOS&B's Executive Council, current planning is for check-in to begin on the afternoon of Friday, 15 October, followed by a reception and dinner with a speaker that evening. A tour of the Wilderness battlefield will be scheduled on Saturday, 16 October, with a dinner and speaker Saturday evening. A tour of the Fredericksburg battlefield will occur on the morning of Sunday, 17 October, and check out will be at noon. For family members not interested in battlefield tours, tours of Historic Fredericksburg and access to area shopping malls will be available. Fredericksburg is served by rail and by four airports, in order of proximity Richmond, Reagan, Dulles, and Baltimore-Washington.

Your participation is needed to make the 2004 Historical Tour successful. Come walk the ground with experts at battlefields depicted in Ron Maxwell's *Gods and Generals*. Renew old friendships, make new friends, and join with us in focusing upon the MOS&B's history and purpose. Further details and an official registration form will appear in future issues of *Officers' Call* and on the MOS&B and Virginia Society web sites. Because advance notice of membership interest will help our planning considerably, all those interested in attending are asked to contact VA Society LCDR Jerrell G. Keathley at - [jerrykeathley@msn.com](mailto:jerrykeathley@msn.com) - or at 703 771 2065 or at 1840 Silverado Terrace, Leesburg VA 20176.

All members of the Virginia Society are urged to participate and help your state officers and the officers and members of host Chapter MGEN John Bankhead Magruder No. 258 in Fredericksburg welcome other members of the Order and their families from all across the South to the Commonwealth of Virginia in the Fall of 2004, the most beautiful time of year in our beautiful and historic state.

### **THE "JACKSON MEDAL"**

Adopt a Confederate officer's grave, commit to its care and you might wear the "Jackson Medal". This is not a commitment to be taken lightly, nor was it intended to be. If you accept this challenge, do so with two thoughts in mind:

1. It is a year-to-year commitment
2. Your efforts should be towards perfection

Certificates and medals are awarded on a point basis. For an application form contact any of the following:

Joe B. Gay, III, Chairman  
904 North High St  
Franklin, VA 23851  
757-562-6077

Collin G. Pulley, Jr.  
P.O. Box 189  
Courtland, VA 23837  
757-653-9001  
[cpulley@beldar.com](mailto:cpulley@beldar.com)

Ray Gill  
10938 Tidewater Trail  
Fredericksburg, VA 22408  
540-373-8846  
[raygill2@juno.com](mailto:raygill2@juno.com)

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## **VIRGINIA SOCIETY AWARDS ARE AVAILABLE**

Members are encouraged to submit their nominations for 2003-2004 Virginia Society awards:  
Recruitment Award presented to the Chapter recruiting the most new members.  
Newsletter Award for the Chapter producing the most informative newsletter.  
Distinguished Chapter Award for exceptional contributions to the Virginia Society.  
Edmund Ruffin Award presented to non-members for significant contributions to the Virginia Society.

Nominations should be sent to Jerry Keathley, 18440 Silverado Ter, Leesburg, VA 20176-3972.

## **NEWS FROM THE MAGRUDER CHAPTER 258**

Members of the Magruder Chapter participated in A Commemoration of the Birthdays of Lee, Jackson & Maury. The event was held at St. George's Episcopal Church in Fredericksburg on 17 January 2004. The Fredericksburg Chapter UDC sponsored the commemoration with Greg Mertz, Supervisory Historian at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, the speaker.

## **COX-MCFALLS CHAPTER FORMING**

A new chapter is forming in Southwest Virginia. The Commander is Teddy Mullins, currently Aide-de-Camp in the Virginia Society, Lt. Commander Walt Rivers, Adjutant Luke Gilly and Chaplain Denver Mullins.

Captain John Madson McFalls was born in 1830 in Yancey County, North Carolina; Captain John Madson McFalls served in the 7<sup>th</sup> Bn., CSA Cavalry, Co. I. As a Lt. he first served in the 4th Va. State Line. The oldest of 10 children, John served with five brothers during the WBTS. Four of these brothers served in the same unit. Older brother, Arter McFalls was killed in Mississippi. John also had two brothers-in-law and a son-in-law in his unit.

After the War, McFalls left Wise County, feeling that his actions might cause future problems for family, friends and in-laws. Apparently some Union soldiers had robbed and mistreated his family. McFalls tracked them down and shot them. He moved to Greenville, Texas after the war where he became a minister, preaching his first sermon at age 60. Captain McFalls died in Greenville in 1917 at age 87.

Lt. William Reynolds Cox was born on 27 July 1836 in the Green Hill Community in Lee County, Virginia, the 8<sup>th</sup> child of Elisha and Mary Cox. He worked on the family farm until war came. On 16 September 1861, he enlisted in the 21<sup>st</sup> Virginia Infantry at Camp Lane in Lee County. After a merger, the 21<sup>st</sup> Virginia Infantry became a part of the 64<sup>th</sup> Virginia Mounted Infantry. Soon after his enlistment, he was elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant of Company A of the 64th. He reenlisted at Abingdon, Virginia on 18 April 1862 and by 30 November 1862; he was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant.

The Cox family produced six sons who fought for the Confederacy. Three were lieutenants; one was a sergeant, one a corporal, and one a private. They were in the 64<sup>th</sup> Virginia, the 48<sup>th</sup> Virginia, and the 50<sup>th</sup> Virginia, serving from Cumberland Gap to Chancellorsville, to Gettysburg, to the Wilderness and many points in between. All came home except one, Mitchell, the youngest.

After the war, he moved with his family to Texas. He died in Goldthwaite, Texas on 12 May 1912. In his obituary in the Goldthwaite newspaper, he was referred to as Captain Cox. His funeral was held "under the auspices of the Masonic fraternity. Capt. Cox was a man of high ideals and principals and none knew him but to be drawn to him and admire his character. He was charitable, genial and kind and had the happy faculty of looking on the 'bright side'. He was one of the most loyal members of the Jeff Davis Camp, U.C.V., and was at one time commander of the camp. A large number of Confederate veterans gathered with his other friends at the residence and the cemetery to pay respect to his memory". Certainly he would be happy to know that his name is upon the monument in Mills County, Texas dedicated to the memory of the men of Jeff Davis Camp #117.

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## **YOU ARE INVITED TO A TRIBUTE TO THE LAST CONFEDERATE VETERAN**

Come join the UDC, MOS&B, and SCV on May 16, 2004 at 2:00 pm in Slant, Scott County, Va. to remember John Salling, "The Last Confederate Veteran." John Salling was born May 15, 1846 and died March 15, 1959. He was a private in the 25th Va. Reg., Co. D, the last living Confederate soldier, the oldest living Confederate soldier, 113 when he passed away; he was born, lived, died and buried in Slant, Va. Come help us remember John Salling in Slant, Va. Contact Teddy Mullins, Virginia Society Aide-de-Camp, MOS&B Chapter 258, SCV Commander Camp 1798. Call (276) 328-5154 or email [wiserebelbear@juno.com](mailto:wiserebelbear@juno.com) for more information.

## **NEW MOS&B CHAPTER IN VIRGINIA BEACH**

Several members of Princess Anne Camp # 1993 decided in 2003 that there was a need to form a new MOS&B chapter in Virginia Beach. Membership in the Camp had grown from its inception a year earlier from nine to over 50 members. Several members had ancestors who were officers, so the stage was set to proceed with a charter application. After consideration amongst the prospective members, a name was chosen that would reflect the makeup of both the area and the member's ancestors. Since Virginia Beach was formerly known as Princess Anne County, that was to be part of the chapter name. Likewise, the 15<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry was active almost immediately after secession and that needed to be incorporated into the name as well, if possible. We searched for an officer who was recognized as a local hero and a standout among the Confederate officers who served the Confederacy, as well as Princess Anne County/Virginia Beach. The officer selected had a varied background and was killed while being held in a Norfolk prison hospital. Our new chapter name, as long as it is, has significant meaning to our new chapter members. The "Major Edgar Burroughs & The Princess Anne Cavalry Chapter #281 has "arrived." Major Burroughs was with the 15<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry until 1862 when he resigned his commission due to poor health, through Battalion Surgeon, Major Oscar F. Baxter, Jr., MD. In June of 1863, he was authorized by the Secretary of War to organize a company of partisan rangers in Princess Anne County to harass the enemy around the county and in the Norfolk area. The partisan rangers, known as "Burroughs Battalion Partisan Rangers," were quite successful at hit and run tactics throughout Princess Anne County, the Currituck County area of North Carolina and along the seaboard of both Virginia and North Carolina. The Yankees tried their best to capture the rangers, but their efforts were hampered due to the swamps, mosquitoes, hit and run tactics and other effective antics. When Major Burroughs was finally caught, again due to poor health, he was admitted to the Smallpox Hospital in Norfolk where he was shot by a guard, allegedly while trying to escape through an open window. One of our charter members, Kenneth Harris, is a direct descendant of Major Burroughs and has been instrumental in the formation of our new chapter. As of this writing we have nine charter members and our charter is to be presented by the Virginia Society Commander, Clarke Magruder, on 29 March 2004 at our monthly meeting. Charter officers are:

Oscar F. Baxter, V (Bud) – Commander

Kenneth R. Harris (Kenny) – 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander

Col. William D. Andrews (Sandy) – Adjutant

John S. Moscoe (John) - Genealogist

## **PLEDGE OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE STARS AND BARS**

"We the posterity of the Officer Corps and civil officials of the Confederacy do pledge ourselves to commemorate and honor the service of leadership these men rendered in the cause of the fundamental American principles of self-determination and states rights and to perpetuate the true history of their deeds for the edification of ourselves, our society, and for generations yet unborn."