



# *Oran M. Roberts Chapter 440*

*United Daughters of the Confederacy®*

*Houston, Harris County, Texas*

Vol. 2, No. 2  
Lynna Kay Shuffield, Newsletter Editor

November 2006  
P. O. Box 16604 - Houston, Texas 77222

## Message from the President



September has come and gone! Our first meeting of the year was well attended. The first order of business was regrettably to accept the resignation of Connie **Surrency** as Treasurer. Anne **Woods** was elected to replace Connie for the term 2006-2008 and we have moved our bank account from Guaranty Savings to Washington Mutual.

### Texas Division Convention Report

Then, in a blink of an eye, October beset us and we found ourselves at the 110th Texas Division UDC Convention at the Galleria Marriott Hotel in Houston. Chapter members attending: Julie **Campbell**, Karen **Campbell**, Rita **Crabbe**, Carolyn **Farmer**, Judy **Meschwitz**, Connie **Surrency**, Anne **Woods** and myself. Also, included in our merry band was Margaret **Bates**, Anne's sister, who is a member of the Stonewall Jackson Chapter 639 UDC in Kansas City, MO.

The convention opened in ritualistic form with the presentation of colors, opening salutations and greetings. This included remarks from the new manager of the Clayton Library, Sue **Kaufman**. Our Chapter was able to make the arrangements for her to have this opportunity to speak at the opening session. Many thanks to Jamie **Davis**, Chair of District I, for this courtesy!

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### Chapter Website

[http://www.geocities.com/lks\\_friday/UDC/UDC-001](http://www.geocities.com/lks_friday/UDC/UDC-001)

### Texas Division Website

<http://txudc.org/>

### UDC General National Website

<http://www.hqudc.org/>



### Chapter Officers

Lynna Kay Shuffield, President  
Rita Crabbe, Vice President  
Karen Campbell, Recording Secretary  
Anne Woods, Treasurer  
Lynna Kay Shuffield, Registrar  
Carolyn Farmer, Historian  
Judy Hoke Meschwitz, Recorder of  
Military Service Awards  
Vacant, Chaplain

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November 2006 - 25 Members  
Chartered - 19 February 1901

**CHAPTER MEETING DATES  
2006-2007**

18 November 2006 (Saturday)  
20 January 2007 (Saturday)  
17 March 2007 (Saturday)  
2 June 2007 (Saturday)

**LOCATION**

Park Place Regional Branch Library  
8145 Park Place

[http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/branches/par\\_home.html](http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/branches/par_home.html)

**TIME:** 2 p.m.

**Driving Directions - From I-45 Southbound:** Exit 38B Howard Dr./Bellfort Ave. Stay to the left and U-turn under the freeway. Move to the right on the I-45 feeder for approx. 1-mile. Turn right on Park Place Blvd. Library is in the 2nd block on the left.

**Driving Directions - From I-45 Northbound:** Take Exit 39 Park Place Blvd/Broadway Blvd - go 0.7 mile Turn right on Park Place Blvd. Library is in the 2nd block on the left.

**16 Dec 2006 (Saturday)**

*Holiday Brunch (11 am)*

Panera Bread Bakery-Café

1928 Highway 6 - Sugar Land

*Tour of Museum of Southern History (1 pm)*

14080 Southwest Freeway

Sugar Land, Texas

**Texas Division Forum**

27 January 2007 (Saturday)

Briarcrest Country Club

1929 Country Club Drive

Bryan, Texas

Meeting at 9:00 am - 2:30 pm

Lunch from 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm

**DISTRICT I MEETING**

3 March 2007 (Saturday)

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

8601 Chimney Rock @ Beechnut

Houston, Texas

9:00 am to 2 pm

**Please send mailing address, phone number & e-mail address updates to:**

e-mail < [ksfriday@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ksfriday@sbcglobal.net) >

P. O. Box 16604 - Houston, Texas 77222

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**Corrections / Changes / Updates  
to your Yearbook**

**Next Issue of Newsletter - Jan. 2007**

Deadline - 15 Dec 2006

**Membership Dues are payable  
Sept. 1st - \$35 per year - Send to:**

Anne Woods, Treasurer, xxxxxxxxxxxx  
xxxx, Houston, Texas 77xxxxxxx

e-mail < [xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) >

**Confederate Gravemarkers**

Do you have a Confederate ancestor who does not have a gravemarker? If you would like help to obtain a FREE gravemarker for your ancestors, contact:

Judy Hoke Meschwitz - xxxxxxxxxxxx

xxxxxxxxxx - Houston, Texas 77xxx

e-mail < [xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) >

**Chapter Chaplain Resigns**

Regretfully, on Thur., 2 Nov 2006, the Chapter received an e-mail from Lee Etta Ferguson Sloan, informing us that her mother, Minalee M. Muery Ferguson, due to health problems, would have to step-down as our Chaplain. Mrs. Ferguson, age 89, is a real granddaughter.

**Please send get well wishes** to Minalee at:

xxxxxxxxxxxx

Houston, Texas 77xxxxxxx

We will take nominations to fill this vacancy at our meeting on Sat, 18 Nov 2006.



### District I News

Jamie Davis, Chairman  
<XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX>

Convention was FABULOUS! I can't thank you all enough for your dedication and hard work. The Real Daughter's

Luncheon was lovely, and the table runners added a special touch. It was wonderful seeing so many of you at convention. As we now turn toward General Convention and our individual chapter plans for the year, let us all go forward with pride in our Southern heritage.



### Upcoming Chapter Birthdays

Nov. 7th	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Nov. 21st	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Nov. 28th	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Dec. 5th	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Dec. 18th	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



## CONGRATULATIONS

**Our very own past President of the Texas Division, Mrs. Janice K. Langford, has been elected President General of the United Daughters of the Confederacy® at the UDC convention in Richmond, VA on Monday, 8 Nov 2006 to serve a term until Nov 2008.**



### Days of Observance

13 Dec - Birthday of Brigadier General Stand Watie who was Commander-in-Chief of Indian Forces throughout The War



General Stand Watie was born in Rome, GA on 12 Dec 1806 and was three-fourths Cherokee and was the son of Oo-watie and Susanna Chariety Reese. He was educated at several Indian Mission Schools. As a young man, Watie edited the *Cherokee Phoenix* newspaper (after Sequoyah developed the 86-symbol Cherokee syllabary in 1821 for the Cherokee language). He was married to four wives: Elizabeth Fields, Isabell Miller, Eleanor Looney and Sarah Caroline Bell.

At the beginning of the Civil War, Watie was an enthusiastic supporter of the southern cause. He formed a troop of Cherokee Rifles and assumed command and was appointed to the rank of Colonel. In 1862, he was named the principal chief of the Confederate Cherokees. During the war he led his troops into 18 battles and guided them into many more raids behind Union lines. His raids were so effective that it forced hundreds of Union troops to be tied to the West at a time they were desperately needed to fight in the East. In 1864, his regiment captured a Union steamboat and seized over a million dollars worth of supplies from Union forces. Later that year he was made a brigadier general, the only Native American to achieve that rank during the Civil War. He surrendered to Union forces on 23 June 1865, reportedly the last Confederate general to lay down his arms.



After the war, he farmed in Indian Territory and died at Hone Creek on 9 Sept 1871. He is buried in the Polson Cemetery, Delaware Co., OK.



## Profile of Our Ancestors

### Private Alexous Maltemore Durdin



Co. B, 2nd Infantry Regt., Texas [a/k/a 2nd Texas Sharpshooters, 1st Texas Infantry, Moore's Regt., Galveston Regt., Van Dorn Regt.]

[Great-great-great-uncle of Major Lynna Kay Shuffield]

Alexous Maltemore (Leck) Durdin<sup>1</sup> was born on Sunday, 20 Aug 1843

in Bibb Co., GA and was the son of James T. (Jim) Durdin and Sarah Washington Ricks.

In the 1850 Census, the family is living in Itawamba Co., MS and by the 1860 Census they were living in Walker Co., TX in the area that would, after 1870, become San Jacinto Co., TX.

Alexous' siblings include: Washington Bruce Durdin; lantha Marion Durdin [mar. (1) Terril L. Hampton,<sup>2</sup> (2) William Clayton Knight]; James Francis Durdin; Louisa Adla Durdin [mar. (1) Colbert Reagan Johnson, (2) James Nathaniel Williams, (3) William Allen Keys, (4) John Chatten Calhoun Cozby, (5) Irvin Toole]; and, Albert Brinert Durdin [mar. Frances Turner].

In February 1860, Alexous' mother married Charles Chrzanowski in Walker Co., TX. Family lore was that during 1864, Charles took a dozen bails of cotton from the family plantation to Galveston. He sent the men back with the oxen carts to his wife, but he never returned with the money.

The family always thought the best and that Charles had been robbed and killed during the return trip. However, in 2000, research proved that he boarded a boat and traveled to California where he married and had another family. Research also determined that prior to coming to Texas, he had a wife and children in New York. He walked away from that family and never divorced his first wife.<sup>3</sup>

Records indicate that on Wednesday, 1 Feb 1865, Alexous was a conscript<sup>4</sup> at Galveston, TX. According to his wife's application for Confederate Widow's Pension, she stated he served for the last two years of the war from 1863 through 1865.<sup>5</sup>

It is very possible that Alexous, as the oldest son, traveled to Galveston to try and determine what happened to his step-father, Charles and the money, and that is how he came to be conscripted for military service.

During the Summer of 1861, the 2nd Infantry Regiment was organized by J. C. Moore and many of the men were from Houston and Galveston. After serving in the Department of Texas, it moved east of the Mississippi River and fought at Shiloh, Corinth and Hatchie Bridge.

In April 1864, the unit was reorganized and was stationed at Galveston Island. At this time, there were 18 officers and 190 men fit for duty. That summer, it suffered from a yellow fever epidemic but went on to participate in the defense of Galveston.

Alexous was probably conscripted during this reorganization period at Galveston.

In April 1865, the unit contained 395 effective personnel but disbanded before the surrender on Friday, 2 June 1865.

<sup>1</sup> Surname is also found sometimes spelled as: Durden. Family Bible has his given name spelled as: Alexious Maltimore, however there have been numerous spelling found for his name and the spelling used herein is how it appears on the UDC Supplemental Application filed by Major Shuffield.

<sup>2</sup> Terrill L. Hampton was born ca. 1839 in Alabama. He was recruited at Newport, Walker Co., TX into Co. H, 5th Infantry Regt., Hood's Brigade, Texas. He was wounded at the Battle of Second Manassas and was in the hospital at Culpeper, VA from Aug 1862 through Jan 1863. On 6 May 1864, he was wounded in the leg at The Wilderness and treated at Chimborazo and Howard's Grove Hospitals. He was transferred to Macon, GA for treatment. Then he was removed with other patients ahead of Sherman's March and died in a hospital on Sunday, 6 Nov 1864 in Orangeburg, SC. His place of burial is unknown.

<sup>3</sup> Mary Durdin Bird, a stated, "I was contacted by a great-grandson of Charles Chrzanwski and he told me that he left Texas running from the Union Army as he was a deserter. He went to California and married a third-time and had children.

<sup>4</sup> Conscript is a person who is drafted or compulsorily enrolled into military service.

<sup>5</sup> Durdin, Alexas Maltemore (Mrs.), Texas Confederate Pension Application #39688, Texas Comptroller's Office. Archives & Information Services Div., Texas State Library & Archives Commission

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## Profile of Our Ancestors -- cont. from page 4 --

On Thursday, 28 Oct 1869 in Walker Co., TX, Alexous was married to Ruth Jane Turner. She was born on Friday, 14 Apr 1854 in Florida and was the daughter of Joseph and Ruth (Knight) Turner.

They had 14 children: James Madison (Jim) Durdin, Joseph Robert (Joe) Durdin, Alexous / Alexious Maltimore (Leck) Durdin, Sarah Washington (Sally) Durdin, Rebecca (Becky) Durdin, Andrew Jackson (Jack) Durdin, Anna Lou Durdin, Eliza Jane Durdin, Callie C. Durdin, Melvina Durdin, William Franklin (Frank) Durdin, Marion Ferdinand Durdin, Walter Edward Durdin, and Edna Mae Durdin.

Alexous died on Tuesday, 13 Jan 1914 and was buried in the Mount Capers Cemetery in San Jacinto Co., TX. Ruth died on Wednesday, 20 Sept 1933 in Trinity, Trinity Co., TX at the home of her son-in-law, T. J. Jackson. She was buried next to her husband at Mount Capers. His grave is marked with a Confederate marker.



## Civil War Weekend at Liendo Plantation

18 Nov 2006 (Saturday) - 9 am to 5 pm

19 Nov 2006 (Sunday) - 9 am to 4 pm

Battle at 2 pm (both days)

Rain or Shine

located outside of Hempstead, Texas

at the crossroads of Highway 290 & FM 1488

Admission: \$10 per person; seniors & children (7-12) \$5 per person

The "Civil War Weekend at Historic Liendo Plantation" is a unique way to experience the grandeur and passion of the Victorian era versus the harsh realities of The War Between the States.

Folk Life demonstrations such as spinning, weaving, quilting, a blacksmith, soap, broom and furniture making will be presented. Popular music of the mid 1800s will be played each day by an orchestra and brass band. Dances of the period will also be performed.

For more information, contact: Will Gibson at 936/931-2811 or visit on-line at

< <http://www.liendo.org/> >

< <http://www.11texascav.org/liendo/liendo.shtml> >

## 7th & 8th Grade Essay Contest

One of the primary goals of the UDC is education. We accomplish this through a variety of activities including sponsoring student essay contests.

We are looking for 7th & 8th Grade students to participate in the 2007 Essay Contest. Chapter winners will be sent forward for competition at the Texas Division Level.

Guidelines:

1. Length: 300 to 400 Words
2. Topic: "**Confederate Spies.**"
3. Title Page: Title of Paper, "false" Name, Grade, Date
4. Body: Typing is preferred, but not required, double-spaced, pages numbered, footnotes and a Bibliography at the end.
5. Essays will be judged on interest, historical accuracy and research. Grammar, spelling and legibility (if hand-written essays) will be considered.
6. The term "War Between the States" is preferred to "Civil War."
7. Chapter Prizes are awarded for 1st Place (\$25), 2nd Place (\$20) and 3rd Place (\$15).

**Mail Entries by March 1, 2007 to:**

Rita Crabbe, Vice President  
Oran M. Roberts Chapter 440  
xxxxxxxxxxx  
Houston, Texas 77xxxxxxx

We will also need members to make contributions towards the prize money. Please send your donation to: Anne Woods, Treasurer and designate it for the Student Essay Contest.

## Liendo Plantation

The home was built in 1853 by Leonard Waller Groce, the son of Jared Groce, who was one of the largest most respected land owners in Texas. Originally a Spanish land grant of 67,000 acres assigned to Justo Liendo, the plantation's namesake, Liendo was one earliest cotton plantations in Texas.



**President's Message**  
– continued from page 1 –



[L to R - Julie **Campbell**, Lynna Kay **Shuffield**, Rita **Crabbe**, Carolyn **Farmer**, Anne **Woods** and Judy **Meschwitz** - Taken: Friday, 6 Oct 2006 at TX Div Convention]

After the First Business Session, an extremely moving and somber Memorial Service was conducted for the 53 members and one Real Daughter of the Texas Division UDC who have died in the last year. When the names of our two chapter members, **EMMA SCHNELL SIMON BELLEW** (Mrs. Robert Michael Bellew) and **Margaret Bond Gaunt Earthman** (Mrs. James Bradshaw Earthman), who both passed away in the Fall 2005, the ladies of our chapter stood in silent tribute.

Our member, Julie **Campbell**, age 20 and who was attending her first Texas Division Convention, was proudly served as a Page during the events on Friday morning

Then it was time to gear-up for the Real Daughters Luncheon we were co-hosting and everyone did a fantastic job getting all of the party favors and table decorations in place. Special thanks goes out to Gerrie Jones Dickson **Yates** and her cousin, Kay Lynn Mayer **Knee** for kindly volunteering to sew 40 red-fan-print table runners which added a wonderful splash of color to the setting!

Moving on to the afternoon Business Sessions, boy did our Chapter start a wave across the auditorium that had everyone's notice and attention! They were asking, "Who were these folks and what have they been up too?"

### Chapter Awards

1. Best Chapter Newsletter, Chapters 7-24 Members, in the Texas Division by the Texas Division Historian

2. Best Chapter Newsletter in the Texas Division - This is the most important award as it means our chapter had the best newsletter of all 86 chapters in the TX Div and it will be the only one submitted by Texas for judging at the General Convention!

3. Second Place for Best Historical Report, Chapters 7-24 Members, in the Texas Division by the Texas Division Historian

4. First Place for Most Number of Military Service Awards in 2006 in the Texas Division by the Texas Division Recorder of Military Service Awards

5. Most Number of Confederate Grave Markers placed in 2006 in the Texas Division by the Chair of the Grave Marker Committee

6. Outstanding Chapter Website in Texas Division by the Chair of the Internet Website Committee

7. Certificate for Participation in the Judah P. Benjamin Award at the Texas Division Level by the Chair of the Committee. Our Chapter nominated Carolyn Farb for this recognition by the Texas Division and we were very proud she was selected to be honored for her outstanding contributions to our community.

8. Certificate for Supporting the Charge of the Education Committee by Sponsoring Scholarship Applicants by the Texas Division 2nd Vice President

Personal Awards received by Lynna Kay Shuffield from the:

a. Certificate for Research old Chapter Minutes for information on last Chapter Flag and designing a new flag by the Chair of Correct Use of the Confederate Flag Committee

b. Certificate for computer programing and assistance in the Texas Division Business Office by the Chair of Conservation of Texas Division Records Committee

c. UDC Certificate of Merit for generous contributions and volunteer work in the Texas Division Business Office by the Texas Division President

### Historical Evening Events

And the day isn't over yet! A brief rest followed the last Business Session and then it was time to change for the Historical Evening Presentations.

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**President's Message**  
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The Texas Division President appeared in a beautiful brown satin reproduction Southern hooped ball-gown trimmed with ecru lace and ribbon with puffed sleeves. The evening events included presentation of the Juda P. Benjamin Award to Carolyn **Farb** and Ray **Richey**, of the Texas Civil War Museum.

During the Historical Evening, Military Service Awards were presented to two individuals our Chapter recommended for the awards, they are:



1) James Thomas **Hoke** for combat service during World War II. Mr. Hoke is the father of our member Judy Hoke **Meschwitz** and grand-father of our members Melanie **Meschwitz** and Charline Meschwitz **Cardwell**.

[L to R - Janice Langford, President, TX Div and Mr. Hoke - Taken: Friday, 6 Oct 2006 at TX Div Convention]

2) Jack Smith **Hess**, Jr., for combat service during the Vietnam War.



[L to R - Janice Langford, President, TX Div and Mr. Hess - Taken: Friday, 6 Oct 2006 at TX Div Convention]

The evening concluded with Dr. Danny Sessums, Director of the Museum of Southern History doing a portrayal of Confederate Major General Patrick Ronayn Cleburne.

**Saturday Business Sessions**

The Business Sessions on Saturday continued with reports of Texas Division Committees and election of officers. Then everyone adjourned to the "Scholarship Hat Luncheon" which held a capacity crowd!

The following ladies were elected as Officers of the Texas Division for 2006-2008:

- President** . . . . . Vickie Knuth
- Vice President** . . . . . Betty Petruska
- Second Vice President** . . . . . Phyllis Mistrot

- Third Vice President** . . . . . Virginia Robinson
- Corresponding Secretary** . . . . . Norma McGuire
- Recording Secretary** . . . . . Kay Hilburn
- Treasurer** . . . . . Barbara Hearn
- Registrar** . . . . . Patricia Stephenson
- Historian** . . . . . Sarah Uzzi
- Recorder of Military Service Awards** . . . . .
- . . . . . Shirley Woodlock
- Chaplain** . . . . . Nancy O'Massey

Saturday's Business Sessions flew by and there was hardly time to visit the Southern Sale Tables to pick-up wonderful items offered for sale by vendors and other UDC Chapters.

After the election, the remaining business was quickly concluded and there was a few hours to rest for the evening's events.

**President's Evening**

The President's Banquet was set in splendor and elegance with remarkable party favors at each place setting. Pamela Wright and the Pamela Wright Collections < <http://www.pamelawright.com/> > provided unique Texas Division UDC Charms for everyone who attended. These charms will be collector items and everyone was grateful to Pamela for this amazing gift!

After the banquet, the members and guests proceeded to the ceremonies, which included a processional presentation of each chapter's flag. It was a great honor for me to be able to present our new chapter flag during this event!

Amazing entertainment was provided by the "Aggie Wranglers," a country-western dance team from Texas A&M University. This amazing group of talented students performed fabulous high-speed western swing, polkas and jitterbug routines. They had all our heart pumping by the end of their performance. < <http://aggiewranglers.tamu.edu/> >

On Sunday morning, the convention concluded with the installation of new officers.

Begin making plans now to attend next year's events:

111th Texas Division Convention  
4-7 October 2007  
MCM Elegante Hotel  
2355 I-10 South  
Beaumont, Texas

## Tour of Museum of Southern History & Holiday Brunch



As many of you may know, the **MUSEUM OF SOUTHERN HISTORY**, in Sugar Land, will be closing at the end of the year (Dec. 2006).

The Museum's Board and membership have voted to accept an agreement with Houston Baptist University (HBU) for the collection to be moved to the campus in 2007.

On **Saturday, 16 Dec 2006**, before the museum closes, we are going to have a "road trip" for one last visit.

At 11 am, we will meet at the **Panera Bakery-Café**, 1928 Highway 6 in Sugar Land, for a Dutch-treat brunch before the tour at 1:00 pm. The tour fee is \$3 per person.



Please feel free to bring your friends and family members to this outing. The more, the better!

For information about the museum on-line at:  
< <http://www.museumofsouthernhistory.org/> >

This will be the last opportunity for any of us to enjoy the exhibits of the museum because even when it moves to the HBU Campus, it will never be the same again.

Yes, the Museum Gift Shop will still be open and they promise some unique items you can purchase as last-minute stocking stuffers.

## VICTORIES OF THE HEART by "A Soldier's Wife"

There's not a stately hall,  
There's not a cottage fair,  
That proudly stands on Southern soil,  
Or softly nestles there,  
But in its peaceful walls  
With wealth or comfort blessed,  
A stormy battle fierce hath raged  
In gentle woman's breast.

There Love, the true, the brave,  
The beautiful, the strong,  
Wrestles with Duty, gaunt and stern, --  
Wrestles and struggles long.  
He falls, no more again  
His giant foe to meet;  
Bleeding at every opening vein,  
Love falls at Duty's feet.

O Daughter of the South!  
No victor's crown be thine,  
Not thine upon the tented field  
In martial pomp to shine;  
But with unfaltering trust  
In Him who rules on high,  
To deck thy loved ones for the fray,  
And send them forth to die.

She, the tried, the true,  
The loving wife of years,  
Chokes down the rising agony,  
Drives back the starting tears;  
"I yield thee up," she cries,  
"In the country's cause to fight;  
Strike for our own, our children's home  
And God defend the right."

O Daughter of the South!  
When our fair land is free,  
When peace her lovely mantle throws  
Softly o'er land and sea,  
History shall tell how thou  
Hast nobly borne thy part,  
And won the proudest triumph yet --  
The victory of the heart.



## EDITORIAL: Falling into Cold Fronts

The first fall cold fronts have started and the cool days of fall abound. Pecans are falling and waiting being gathered and picked for special holiday dishes and events. It is about time to slaughter the hog and hunting season is in full swing.

Thinking of this time of year, I wonder about everything our Confederate ancestors had to accomplish in preparation for winter during The War Between the States when food was scarce and many of the menfolk were off fighting.

One of my favorite fall meals is stew. I found a wonderful recipe, "Stew for Company" in the book, *Ma's in the Kitchen: You'll know when it's done! - The Recipes and History of Governor Miriam A. Ferguson, First Woman Governor of Texas.*

Governor Miriam Wallace Ferguson, the daughter of Joseph Wallace, a Confederate veteran, frequently had guests over for lunch, particularly on Sunday afternoon after church. A stew made of good meat and fresh vegetables really is a company dish. This is a wonderful meal with a nice relish and pickle tray, a fresh green salad and hot sweet cornbread.

2 ½ pounds of beef or chicken  
 3 quarts water  
 1 pound lima beans  
 2 potatoes, large, cut small  
 4 carrots, sliced  
 1 can tomatoes, drained  
 6 white onions, small, chopped  
 handful of whole okra, small size  
 1 pound fresh green peas  
 2 ears of fresh corn, broken into bite size portions  
 pepper and other seasonings

Cut your meat into 2-inch squares. Add water and salt; boil until meat is half-cooked. Then add lima beans, potatoes, carrots, corn and tomatoes. Simmer for 20-minutes; add onion, okra, peas, pepper and a bit more salt and simmer half an hour.

Food is one of the main traditions in family history. What have you done to preserve these family recipes? Take the time this year to collect the precious family recipes and put them together. Ask your older family members for their holiday food memories and put those with the recipes. What would you give if your grandmother had left your family such a rich collection of family memories? Well, get started today!

NOTE: Gov. Ferguson was a member of the Albert Sidney Johnston Chapter 105, UDC, in Austin, TX.

## Six Military Service Awards Presented

On Saturday, October 14, 2006 the ORAN M. ROBERTS CHAPTER 440, presented six Military Service Awards at the Shuffield/Sheffield Family Reunion in Cameron, Texas. The ceremony was conducted by Major Lynna Kay Shuffield (of Houston), President and Mrs. Shirley Woodlock (of Waco), Recorder of Military Service Awards for the Texas Division, UDC.



[L to R: Shirley Woodlock and Lynna Kay Shuffield]

The six men who received the awards are all lineal blood descendants of Private Harmon Jasper Shuffield, Co. O, Phillips' Legion (Infantry Battalion), Georgia. The individuals recognized were:

### **Cross of Military Service - World War II**

**Wilburn Elma Shuffield** (of Temple), Cross No. 15576; US Army Air Corps

**O. V. Sheffield** (posthumously-killed-in-action on 3 March 1945) accepted by his niece, Carol Ann Sheffield Junek (of Cameron) - Cross No. 15577; US Army

### **National Defense Medal**

**Elmer Ray Mullinax** - (posthumously - died: 20 Jan 2006) accepted by his widow, Helen Ora Fontaine Mullinax (of Houston) - Korean War Era - Medal No. 1422; US Army

**Alcy Taylor Shuffield, Jr.** (of Cameron) - Vietnam War Era - Medal No. 1423; US Air Force

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Service Medal**

**John Louie Shuffield** (of Cameron) - Operation in Laos (19 April 1961 to 7 October 1962) - Medal No. 0162; US Navy

**David Ray Mullinax** (of Houston) - Operations in Kuwait & Iraq (22 May 2002 through 23 Sept 2002 and 4 Jan 2003 through 14 July 2003) - Medal No. 0163; US Army

### Meeting Minutes

Date: 16 September 2006

Place: Park Place Library - Houston, Texas

Regretfully, the Secretary was unable to provide the minutes from the last meeting to include in this newsletter. Printed copies of the minutes will be provided at the meeting.

If you are unable to attend the Nov. 18th meeting, but would like a copy of the minutes for the Sept. 16th meeting, please contact Karen Campbell, by e-mail <XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX> or telephone: XXXXXXX-XXXX.

### Bylaw Vote

Please remember we will be voting on the Bylaw revisions at our meeting on Saturday, Nov. 18th.

### Battles of The War During the Months of November & December

- 7 Nov 1861 - Belmont, MO - victor: Gen. Polk - Confederate
- 13 Nov 1862 - Molly Springs, MS - victor: Grant - union / Gen. Pemberton - Confederate
- 18 Nov 1862 - Cran Hill, AR - victor: Gen. Marmaduke - Confederate
- 7 Dec 1862 - Prairie Grove, AR - victor: Blunt - union / Gen. Hindman - Confederate
- 13 Dec 1862 - Fredericksburg, VA - victor: Gen. Lee - Confederate
- 18 Dec 1862 - Lexington, TN - victor: Gen. Forrest - Confederate
- 19 Dec 1862 - Jackson, TN - victor: Sullivan - union / Gen. Forrest - Confederate
- 20 Dec 1862 - Holly Springs, MS - victor: Gen. Van Dorn - Confederate
- 27-29 Dec 1862 - Chickasaw Bluffs, MS - victor: Gen. Smith - Confederate
- 30 Dec 1862 - 2 Jan 1863 - Murfreesboro, TN - victor: Rosecrans - union / Gen. Bragg - Confederate
- 31 Dec 1862 - Parker Cross Roads, TN - victor: Gunham - union / Gen. Forrest - Confederate
- 7 Nov 1863 - Rappahannock Bridge & Kelly's Ford, VA - victor: Meade - union / Gen. Lee - Confederate
- 16 Nov 1863 - Campbell's Station, TN - victor: Hantraft - union / Gen. McLaws - Confederate
- 23-25 Nov 1863 - Chattanooga, TN - victor: Grant - union / Gen. Bragg - Confederate
- 27-29 Nov 1863 - **Fort Esperanza, TX** - victor: Banks - union / Gen Kirby Smith - Confederate

- 29 Nov 1863 - Fort Sanders, TN - victor: Benjamin - union / Gen. Longstreet - Confederate
- 4-5 Nov 1864 - Johnsonville, TN - victor: Gen. Forrest - Confederate
- 16 Nov 1864 - Lovejoy, GA - victor: Kilpatrick - union / Gen. Wheeler - Confederate
- 21-22 Nov 1864 - Griswoldville, GA - victor: Walcutt - union - Gen. Wheeler - Confederate
- 23-24 Nov 1864 - Ball's Ferry, GA - victor: Howard - union / Gen. Hartridge - Confederate
- 26 Nov 1864 - Sandersville, GA - victor: Sherman - union / Gen. Wheeler - Confederate
- 29 Nov 1864 - Waynesboro, GA - victor: Kilpatrick - union / Gen. Wheeler - Confederate
- 29 Nov 1864 - Spring Hill, TN - victor: Schofield - union / Gen. Hood - Confederate
- 30 Nov 1864 - Honey Hill, SC - victor: Gen. Smith - Confederate
- 30 Nov 1864 - Franklin, TN - victor: Schofield - union / Gen. Hood - Confederate
- 7-11 Dec 1864 - Weldon Railroad, VA - victor: Warren - union / Gen Hill - Confederate
- 7-15 Dec 1864 - Murfreesboro, TN - victor: Genl Forrest - Confederate
- 7-27 Dec 1864 - Fort Fisher, NC - victor: Gen. Lamb - Confederate
- 9 Dec 1864 - Sand Creek, CO - victor: Chivington - union / Cheyenne, Arapahoe Indians - Confederate
- 13 Dec 1864 - Fort McAllister, GA - victor: Hazen - union / Gen. Anderson - Confederate
- 15-16 Dec 1864 - Nashville, TN - victor: Thomas - union / Gen. Hood - Confederate

### Battle of Fort Esperanza, Texas

Fort Esperanza was an earthwork fortification on the eastern shore of Matagorda Island and was constructed to guard Cavallo Pass at the entrance of the bay. The fort was armed with nine guns including eight 24-pounders and one 128-pounder.

After the Union debacle in the Battle of Sabine Pass in Sept 1863, the federal invasion plans for Texas shifted south. The Rio Grande valley was invaded in early Nov 1863 and union troops advanced up to St. Joseph's Island. Their crossing to Matagorda Island was unsuccessfully challenged, and a battle took place on 23 Nov 1863 at Cedar Bayou, which separates the two islands. Union forces under Gen. T. E. G. Ransom reached Fort Esperanza on 27 Nov and dug in and a 2-day battle followed. On the night of 29 Nov, the Confederates evacuated the fort after spiking the guns, firing their stores and blowing up their magazines.