



*Varina Howell Davis 2143*  
*United Daughters of the Confederacy®*  
*Chapter Newsletter*



***Volume 9 Issue 8***

***May, 2014***

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Vice President ..... Lois Lowe  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President..... April Bass  
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Corresponding Secretary..... Lollie Michael  
Treasurer ..... Ann Johnson  
Assistant Treasurer..... Sandi Sprawls  
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Historian..... Linda Moore  
Recorder of Military Awards ..... Barbara Slover  
Chaplain ..... Jo Helen Garcia  
Custodian ..... Cynthia Hardy  
Parliamentarian ..... Rachael Phillips

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Vanessa Burzynski / Barbara Slover

**Chapter Website**

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txvhdudc>

**Division Website**

<http://www.txudc.org>

**General Website**

<http://www.hqudc.org>



**Upcoming Events**

May 7, 2014 – Varina Howell Davis Birthday  
May 17, 2014 – Chapter Meeting @ 2:00 pm  
May 31, 2014 – Scrapbook Meeting @ 10:30 am  
June 3, 2014 – President Jefferson Davis birthday  
June 14, 2014 – Texas Flag Day  
June 21, 2014 - Scrapbook Meeting @ 10:30 am  
July 12, 2014 - Scrapbook Meeting @ 10:30 am  
Aug 2, 2014 - Scrapbook Meeting @ 10:30 am



May 7	Kristi Lilley
May 10	Linda Hybarger
May 18	Sandra Russell
May 23	Lollie Michael
May 25	Margaret Allen
June 5	Patricia Biasetti
June 9	Virginia Ford
July 1	Claudia Sanderlin
July 10	Kathleen Bownds
August 2	Dianne Davis
August 8	Margaret Taylor
August 12	Jo Helen Garcia
August 16	Anne Rossi
August 19	Vanessa Burzynski
August 23	April Bass
August 27	Mary Scheidemantel
September 8	Oma Arnold
September 20	Rachel Phillips
September 22	Jill Foster
September 24	Jo Nell Cass





## Chapter News

The April chapter meeting was held at the Community Rooms at HEB. We had a nice turn out. Our Guest Speaker, Past President of General, Janice Langford gave a wonderful talk on "The Founding of UDC". Janice is a past member of the chapter and we have missed her. President Cynthia Hardy presented Janice with a small gift and a Certificate of Appreciation.



Janice  
Langford &  
Cynthia  
Hardy

April also saw Cynthia Hardy & Lois Lowe attending the VA Hospital PRRC Luncheon. They also provided food for the "Parade of Salads"

We had lovely weather and attendance April 26<sup>th</sup> at this year's Confederate Memorial Day service at Washington Cemetery. If you did not attend, you missed out on a special program.



Seated: Margaret Taylor, Barbara Wesolek, Cynthia Hardy, Jamie Davis  
Standing: Barbara Slover, Lois Lowe, Marcia Wasson & Sandi Sprawls

Our May chapter meeting is going to be very special....so please try to attend. We will be installing our officers and we will have a guest, Honorary President of General, Sherry Davis. We hope to be able to bestow 2 military crosses if at all possible.

Look forward to seeing everyone at the this month's chapter meeting.....it will be the last one as chapter president for Cynthia Hardy

## HISTORICAL TIDBITS

### Varina Howell Davis The Widow



After her husband died in 1889, Varina completed Jefferson Davis' autobiography, publishing it in 1890 as *Jefferson Davis, A Memoir*.<sup>1</sup> At first the book sold few copies, dashing her hopes of earning some income.

Kate Davis Pulitzer, a distant cousin of Jefferson Davis and the wife of Joseph Pulitzer, a major newspaper publisher, had met Varina Davis during a visit to the South. She solicited short articles from her for her husband's newspaper, the *New York World*. In 1891 Varina Davis accepted the Pulitzers' offer to become a full-time columnist and moved to New York City with her daughter Winnie, where they enjoyed its busy life. White Southerners attacked her for this move to the North, as she continued to be a public figure of the Confederacy whom they claimed for their own. Varina Davis wrote many articles for the newspaper, and Winnie Davis published several novels.

In October 1902, Varina Davis sold Beauvoir to the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans for \$10,000. She stipulated the facility was to be used as a Confederate veterans' home and later as a memorial to Jefferson Davis.

Varina Howell Davis was one of numerous influential southerners who moved to the North for work after the war, who were nicknamed "Confederate carpetbaggers." Among them were the couple Roger Atkinson Pryor and Sara Agnes Rice Pryor, who became active in Democratic political and social circles in New York City. After working as an attorney, Roger Pryor was appointed as a judge. Sara Pryor became a writer, known for her histories, memoirs and novels published in the early 1900s.

In the postwar years of reconciliation, Varina Davis became friends with Julia Dent Grant, the widow of former general and president Ulysses S. Grant, who had been among the most hated men in the South. She attended a reception where she met Booker T. Washington, head of the Tuskegee Institute, a historically black college. In her old age, she published some of her observations and "declared in print that the right side had won the Civil War."

Although saddened by the death of her daughter Winnie in 1898, Varina Howell Davis continued to write for the *World* and enjoyed a daily ride in a carriage through Central Park. She was active socially until poor health forced her retirement from work and any sort of public life in her final years. Varina Howell Davis died at age 80 of double pneumonia in her room at the Hotel Majestic on October 16, 1906. She was survived by her daughter Margaret Davis Hayes, and by several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Varina Howell Davis received a funeral procession through the streets of New York City. Her coffin was taken by train to Richmond, where she was interred with full honors performed by Confederate veterans at Hollywood Cemetery. She is adjacent to the tombs of her husband and their daughter Winnie.

A portrait of Mrs. Davis, titled the *Widow of the Confederacy* (1895), was painted by the Swiss-born American artist Adolfo Müller-Ury (1862–1947). It is held at the museum at Beauvoir. In 1918 Müller-Ury donated his profile portrait of her daughter, Winnie Davis, painted in 1897–1898, to the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, Virginia.

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina caused extensive wind and water damage to Beauvoir, which houses the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library. The home has been restored and reopened on June 3, 2008. The Presidential Library and Museum and other outbuildings are in the process of being rebuilt. Varina Howell Davis' diamond and emerald wedding ring, one of the few valuable possessions she managed to retain, was held by the Museum at Beauvoir and lost during the destruction of Hurricane Katrina. It was discovered on the grounds a few months later and returned to the museum.





HOTEL INFORMATION FOR  
TEXAS DIV CONVENTION –  
OCT 2-5, 2014

Make your hotel reservations early--

Holiday Inn  
3950 I-10 South  
Beaumont, Texas 77705  
409-842-5995  
Fax 409-842-7810

Guest Room Rates  
Standard Double or King Room  
Contracted Rate \$79 + tax 15%

Specify whether you need smoking or non-smoking.

Mention United Daughters of the Confederacy to get this rate.

All rooms have flat-screen TV, microwaves and mini-fridge.

**Don't forget to bring the following items  
to the Chapter Meetings:**



**Can Goods & Pantry Items  
Clothing Items**

**Items for the May Military Boxes**

**REMINDERS:**

**Hostess for May Meeting**

Janie Barenscheer & Cynthia Hardy

**Speaker for May Meeting**

Vanessa Burzynski &

Sherry Davis, Honorary President of General



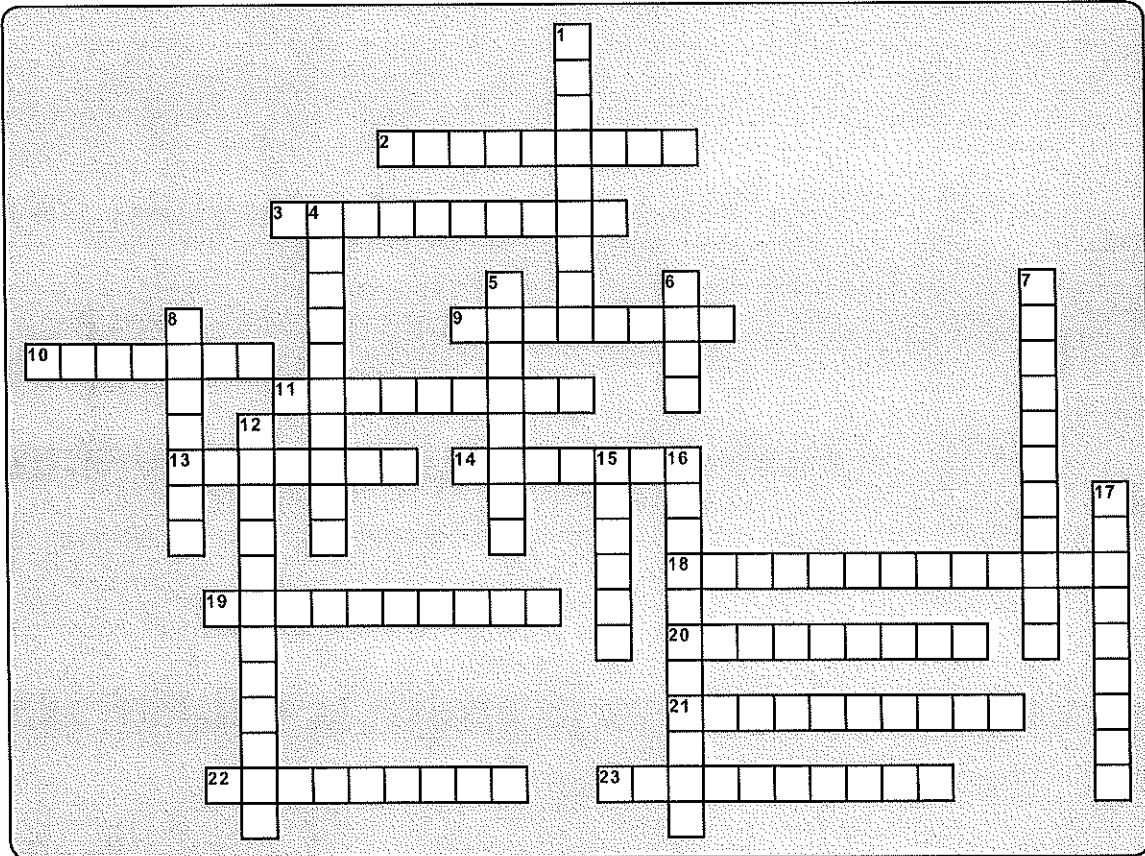
**Please remember the following chapter  
members in your prayers:**

Jamie Davis – fighting Lung Disease  
Davine Hall – Ill  
Francis Woodruff - Surgery

**IMPORTANT NEWS**

We will be meeting back at  
St Jerome Catholic Church  
in the Adult Education Building

## First Inaugural Address of Jefferson Davis



### Across

2 - President Davis calls the Confederates "An agricultural people, whose chief interest is the export of a \_\_\_\_\_ required in every manufacturing country." That item is cotton.

3 - He says that if "the integrity of our territory and jurisdiction be assailed" they will "appeal to arms and invoke the blessings of \_\_\_\_\_ on a just cause."

9 - Davis asserts that "government rests upon the consent of the \_\_\_\_\_".

10 - He says that the Confederates "have vainly endeavored [tried] to secure tranquillity, and to obtain \_\_\_\_\_ for the rights to which we were entitled."

11 - Davis says that if the Union would attempt to disrupt the export of Southern goods to the rest of the world, out of spite, the "\_\_\_\_\_ of millions will bear testimony to the folly and wickedness of our aggressors."

13 - Like the "Founding Fathers", Davis also asserts that "it is the right of the people to alter or \_\_\_\_\_ governments" when they no longer do what they were created to do.

14 - For ordinary defense, they could rely on a \_\_\_\_\_; but with current circumstances he is recommending a "well-instructed and disciplined army".

18 - Even though the agent through which they communicate with other nations has changed, their \_\_\_\_\_ relations are not interrupted.

19 - He says that in case of war, there will be no "\_\_\_\_\_ in the production of the staples which have constituted our exports". \_\_\_\_\_ means "decrease".

20 - This word means "righteousness" or "correctness". "The impartial and enlightened verdict of mankind will vindicate the \_\_\_\_\_ of our conduct..."

### Down

1 - In his address, he asks God to guide them as they try to continue the principles which the Founding Fathers "were able to \_\_\_\_\_, establish and transmit to their posterity." In this sense, \_\_\_\_\_ means "deliver".

4 - He says that "it is by abuse of language that [the Confederate states'] act has been denominated [or named] a \_\_\_\_\_."

5 - Davis claims that "passion or the lust of \_\_\_\_\_" is "cloud[ing] the judgment or inflam[ing] the ambition of those [New England] States." This word means "power" or "control".

6 - Davis warns his countrymen that while they will see many errors to forgive, they will not see a lack of \_\_\_\_\_ or fidelity [faithfulness] to their cause.

7 - Davis had been chosen to be the President of the \_\_\_\_\_ (or temporary) government.

8 - To survive, "the \_\_\_\_\_ of every portion [must] be the aim of the whole". If not, bad feelings between the segments will be created.

12 - He believes that the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Confederacy is the same as that of the Founding Fathers, as they would have explained it.

15 - President Davis explains that all public offices are "\_\_\_\_\_ held for the people". The presidency is a duty held for the benefit of the people.

16 - They will use the "final \_\_\_\_\_ of the sword" to "maintain the position which we have assumed among the nations of the earth". In other words, they'll fight and the sword will declare who's right.

17 - He says that a "peaceful appeal to the \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ declared that so far as they were concerned, the government created by that compact should cease to exist." The compact is the Constitution.

**Across**

21 - This Inaugural Address was given in \_\_\_\_\_, Alabama.

22 - Davis believes that \_\_\_\_\_ [or future generations] will find them blameless - the future will decide that they haven't engaged in war needlessly.

23 - Davis says that their separation from the Union was "marked by no aggression upon others and followed by no domestic \_\_\_\_\_. A "domestic \_\_\_\_\_" is a violent internal disruption.

**Down**