



# Order of the Steel Magnolias

*Magnolia Messenger*  
Newsletter Volume 6  
Summer Edition June 2022



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## Announcement

### Introducing the Gallant Guards



Gentlemen who are approved for  
OSM membership will be known as  
the Gallant Guard.

Exclusive saber pins  
will be available.

Visit page 7  
for more information

Report corrections to the  
Secretary Sue Southern  
[suesouthern2019@gmail.com](mailto:suesouthern2019@gmail.com)



Report illnesses and deaths to the  
Chaplain Teresa Roane  
[roane1894@gmail.com](mailto:roane1894@gmail.com)



#### Website:

*[OrderoftheSteelMagnolias.weebly.com](http://OrderoftheSteelMagnolias.weebly.com)*

#### Newsletter Cover Art by:

Leslie Kirk



# Order of the Steel Magnolias

## 2021-2024



### Executive Board

#### **President**

Leslie Ann Kirk

#### **Vice President**

Patricia Gallagher

#### **Secretary**

Sue Hansford Jaworowski Southern

#### **Treasurer**

Barb Allison

#### **Historian**

Lila Burner Housden

#### **Chaplain**

Teresa Roane

#### **Counselor**

Deborah Whitmore Hicks

#### **Registrar**

Robin Redfearn Towns

#### **Parliamentarian**

LTC Charles Robert Odom

#### **Recruiter**

Carla Whitehurst Odom

### Committee Chairmen

#### **Newsletter Editor**

*Magnolia Messenger*

Jean Schaum Bradley

#### **Contributing Editor**

Carla Whitehurst Odom

#### **Finance**

Lynda Aydelott Moreau

#### **Public Relations**

Lila Burner Housden

#### **Ancestor Biography Project**

*Steel Magnolia Stories*

Julie Palmer Hesler

#### **Website**

Leslie Ann Kirk



## President General Message



Dear OSM members,

It's exciting that next month the Order of the Steel Magnolias will celebrate its fifth annual meeting. Our Board and Committee Chairmen have been diligently preparing for our meeting on Sunday, July 24, 2022. Please see the invitation on page five of this newsletter. We are very excited to share details about several new projects with you.

As you have shared your enthusiasm about OSM, you have assisted our Order in surviving one of the most difficult periods our Nation has ever faced. Your positive feedback to our newsletters and Zoom Socials shows your interest and desire to become more active within Steel Magnolias. We were delighted to have 47 members attend the February Zoom gathering. Our membership has grown to 305 and we are keeping Registrar Robin Towns busy. You have modeled the stamina and resilience of our Steel Magnolia grandmothers.

Our newest Board Member, Recruiter, Carla Whitehurst Odom and Publicity Chairwoman, Lila Burner Housden, have brought us creative projects to increase our Membership. The Board has approved the creation of a special designation for gentlemen members to be known as the Gallant Guards. To encourage gentlemen to apply for membership, the first 25 Gallant Guard members will be known as the Honor Guard. You will find more details about the Gallant Guards on page seven of this publication and on our website. Be sure to check out the new saber pin!

You can expect another newsletter in July before our meeting. That issue will contain the officer reports and information regarding our annual meeting.

We look forward to seeing each of you on July 24, 2022. Please be sure to register via the link that was emailed to you. If you need the link sent again, please let me know.

*Blessings,*

*Leslie*

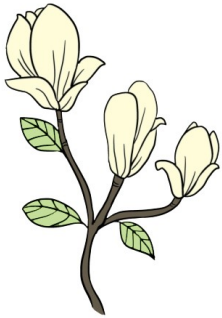


The Order of the Steel Magnolias is proud to support the Hereditary Society Community of the United States of America "HSC" as a **PERPETUAL SPONSOR**. HSC is a non-profit organization, founded in 2002, which reports the information and activities of over 300 lineage societies throughout the nation. The organization meets every April, in Washington, D.C., for an annual meeting and gala event. If lineage societies interest you, be sure to visit HSC's website. It provides a wealth of information and an extensive list of organizations and family associations.

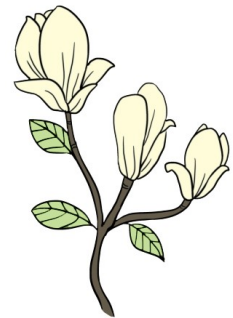
Website address: [www.hereditary.us](http://www.hereditary.us)



## Upcoming Meeting



### *The Order of the Steel Magnolias*



*President General Leslie Ann Kirk  
and the General Officers*

*Cordially Invite you to attend the  
Fifth Annual Membership Meeting*

*Sunday, July 24, 2022*

*3:00 pm Central Time*

*Electronically via Zoom*

*Register in advance for this meeting.*

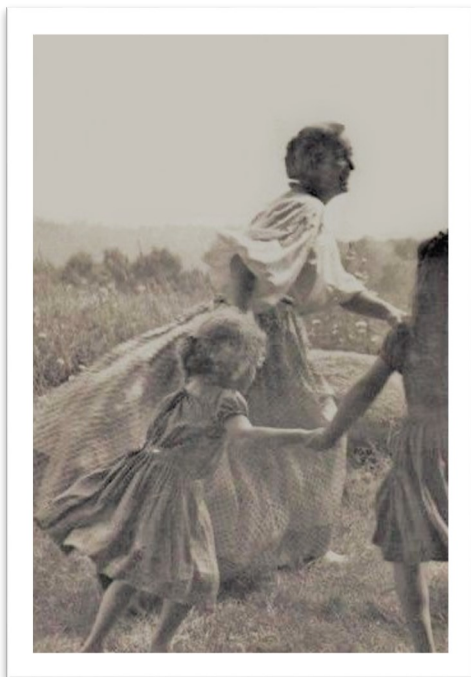
*A link was emailed to members*

*[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZ\\_Yrd-ChpjguEtB0R1mVbZrkJxChfeC-yAcm](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZ_Yrd-ChpjguEtB0R1mVbZrkJxChfeC-yAcm)*

*A confirmation email with the meeting link  
will be sent after registration.*

### *Guest Speaker*

John Lustrea is the Director of Education and the Website Manager at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in historic Frederick, Maryland. He earned his Master's degree in Public History from the University of South Carolina. Lustrea previously worked at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park during the summers of 2013-2016.



### *A Bridge Across Time*

She calls to me from long ago;  
through sunlit skies; through drifts of snow.  
In clouds that dance upon the sea,  
I call to her, and she to me.

So real was she. She laughed; she cried.  
She loved; she lost. She lived; she died.  
She hoped and dreamed; so real was she.

She lived a life that I may be.  
The blood through which my veins does flow  
is the same as hers from long ago.

So it will be that when I'm gone  
in an unborn child it will flow on.  
I'll live my life and when it's done  
I'll live again in those to come.

For I'm a bridge from she to me;  
from those that were, to those to be.

~ Darlene Stevens

## **Announcements**

The Membership Directory was delayed at the printer last year. OSM is celebrating its fifth year at our Zoom Meeting July 24. We will take a group (screenshot) photo and then the directory will be submitted for print. It's not too late to update your information. You may email Leslie at [lesliekirk@live.com](mailto:lesliekirk@live.com)

Steel Magnolia's Ancestor Book Submissions ~ see page 24

Prayer List: Pat Gallagher; Linda Graham

We've lost several members since we began in 2018. Please see page 23 and remember these families in your prayers or meditation.

### **The Sixth Annual Membership**

**Meeting~Luncheon**

**Save the date:**

**Monday, April 10, 2023**

**The Army and Navy Club**

**John Paul Jones Room**

**Washington D.C.**

**Invitations will be sent early 2023.**





**Announcing**



## **Gallant Guards OSM Gentlemens Page**



The Order of the Steel Magnolias is extremely pleased to announce the formation of the Gallant Guard. Each of our Steel Magnolias certainly had one or more gallant men in their lives. Husband. Son. Father. Brother. Some came home to their beloved ladies, heartbreakingly, many did not.

Gentlemen who are approved for OSM membership will be known as the Gallant Guard, and will be honoring their Steel Magnolia great grandmothers and great aunts. Exclusive saber pins will be available.

### **Honoring the first Order of the Steel Magnolias Gallant Guards**



Honor Guard Charles Robert Odom, Co-Founder  
Honor Guard Charles "Chuck" Poland, Founding Member  
Honor Guard Jack Grady Dyess,\* Founding Member  
Honor Guard Baxter Keith Bedell, Charter Member  
Honor Guard Mark Anthony Chambers, Charter Member  
Honor Guard Harold Douglas Ford, Charter Member  
Honor Guard Terry Martin DeWitt, Member

*The first 25 Gallant Guard members will be known as the Honor Guard*





## **Our Newest Members**

297 Renee Marie Willingham Hamilton

298 Suzanne Lee Wilmeth Anderson

299 Harriett Marie Story DeWitt

300 Helen Elizabeth Story

301 Lisa Dawn Smith Luckey

302 Linda Kay Kuykendall

303 Trisha Holland Moseley

304 Cynthia Kay Newman McGuffey

305 Mary Ellen Fore Brillante







# Order of the Steel Magnolias

## Zoom Social

### February 23, 2022

Minutes (Unofficial gathering and FYI only)

An informal meeting of the Order of the Steel Magnolias was held on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. CST by President Leslie Kirk. Officers in attendance were introduced to the 47 members and guests.

President Leslie Kirk introduced Ryan Blocker, Museum Collections Coordinator, at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. She is responsible for the care, preservation, and exhibition of a diverse collection of artifacts, ranging from archaeological material to textiles. Mrs. Blocker is a graduate of Auburn University at Montgomery with a B.A. in History. She received a certification in Collections Care with a focus on Textile Conservation and Preservation from the International Preservation Studies Center.

Mrs. Blocker presented a program lasting 30 minutes, on "Clothing in the Age of Queen Victoria" Questions were entertained by Mrs. Blocker from attendees.

Fellowship among members followed and meeting was closed at 8:05 p.m. CST by President Leslie Kirk

Submitted:

Sue Hansford Jaworowski-Southern  
Secretary

In Attendance:	Audrey Johnson	Nancy Hoffer	Milbrey Bartholow	Bonnie Hurford
Ryan Blocker	Brenda King	Lori Brown	Judy Blackwell	Mary Lou Fabian
Leslie Kirk	Alicia MonCrief	Marcia Szedula	Faye	Tresa Tatyrek
Sue Southern	Paulette Lollar	Wilda Tisdale	Gaby Hadyka	Melissa Fischer
Deborah Hicks	Diane Dyess	Helene Werner	Barbara Collier	Lea Martin Songy
Pat Gallagher	Sandra	Lloyce West	Suzanne Anderson	Jean
Robin Towns	Terri McCullough	Denese	Ginny Carter	Anna Hecox
Barb Allison	Renee Hamilton	Cindy Waters	O Chandler	Selena
Suzanna Rawlins	Lynne Tate	Shawn Martin	Ann Wilkerson	
Ann Coupland	Elizabeth	Vickie Carmichael	Jan Bynum	



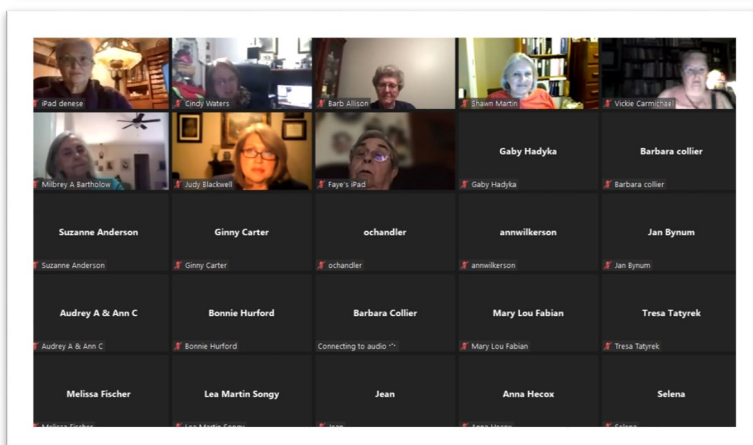
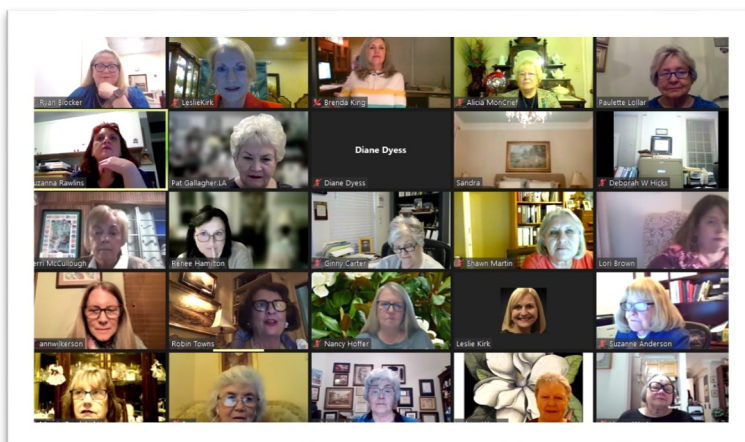
# Order of the Steel Magnolias

## Zoom Social

### February 23, 2022



*Images and graphics are courtesy of Mrs. Blocker and the Alabama Department of Archives and History*





# Order of the Steel Magnolias

## Zoom Social ~ February 23, 2022

*Images and graphics are courtesy of Mrs. Blocker and the Alabama Department of Archives and History*



THE QUEEN & PRINCE CONSORT.



THE QUEEN ON THE MORNING OF HER ACCESSION, JUNE 20. 1837.

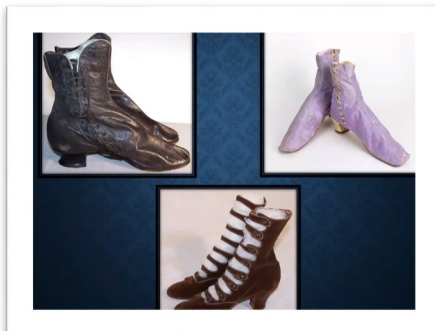




# Order of the Steel Magnolias

## Zoom Social ~ February 23, 2022

*Images and graphics are courtesy of Mrs. Blocker and the Alabama Department of Archives and History*







# Order of the Steel Magnolias

## Zoom Social ~ February 23, 2022

*Images and graphics are courtesy of Mrs. Blocker and the Alabama Department of Archives and History*



# About OSM

## Founded

In Alabama, the Cradle of the Confederacy  
on 28 June 2018

## Motto

“She was powerful not because she wasn’t scared  
but because she went on so strongly, despite the fear.”

*~Atticus*

## Flower

The Magnolia

## Colors

Green and Cream

## Objects

To honor all those women who supported  
Confederate Soldiers with courage, dignity and honor  
To promote genealogical, educational and historical research  
To encourage camaraderie among the members and those of like pursuit.

# Membership

Membership inquiries are welcome. Email Leslie Kirk at [lesliekirk@Live.com](mailto:lesliekirk@Live.com)

The Membership of the Order shall be limited to men and women who are 18 years of age or older, and are lineal or collateral descendants of those female family members who supported the Confederate Soldiers during the War Between the States. The qualifying female ancestors shall be limited to mothers, sisters, wives, daughters, aunts, sweethearts, and fiancés of qualifying direct or collateral Confederate Soldiers of the applicant.

Only Life Membership shall be offered. A person shall be deemed to be a life member upon approval of his/her application to the Order on its official lineage form and the payment of all fees and dues.

The current Order of the Steel Magnolias application must be completed by all applicants. Names, dates and places of birth, marriage and death must be given in each generation, as far as known, and sufficiently to prove the line. Each generation must be adequately connected to the preceding generation, consistent with standard professional genealogical practices. All sources relied on to prove the lineage must be cited and copies furnished.

Copies Military Service Records of the Confederate Soldier are required to prove service. If an application cannot be accepted, the Life Membership fee shall be refunded, less twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), which shall be retained for examination services.



# OSM Official Insignia

The official insignia of the Order was based on an actual magnolia bloom and leaves in Georgia and will be rendered as follows:

## Top Bar

Top bar is approximately .69 x 1.5". Embellishment includes a top ribbon flanked by magnolia leaves with beaded trim around the remaining three sides. "Order of the Steel Magnolias" appears in green enamel under the ribbon and leaves. There is a hidden ribbon bar on the back to attach the official green and ivory moiré ribbon.

## Founding Member Pin

The Founding Member pin measures approximately .35 x 1.25" with coordinating beaded trim to match the top bar. "Founding Member" appears in green enamel centered on the pin.

## Charter Member Pin

The Charter Member pin measures approximately .35 x 1.25" with coordinating beaded trim to match the top bar. "Charter Member" appears in green enamel centered on the pin.

## Officer Pin

The Officer pin measures approximately .81 x 1.13". The 10 different offices each appear in green enamel in the center of the decorative repousse edge. The years of service will be engraved under the office title.

## Ancestor Bar

The Ancestor Bar measures approximately .25 x 1.37". The ancestor name will be engraved on the bar.

## Lower Insignia

The lower insignia consisting of a magnolia bloom and leaves measures approximately 1.13 x 1.5" and will dangle from the official ribbon.

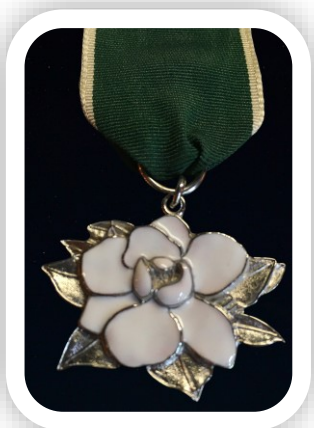
## Miniature Insignia

The miniature insignia will be a miniature silver magnolia in the appropriate size to wear on the branch bar with the miniature insignia of other societies.

The ribbon of the Order is dark green with a trim of cream.

The miniature insigne of the Order may be worn at any time. If worn together with other miniature insignia, it will be placed in the order of its founding in relation to the founding dates of other societies.

The President's Regalia shall be in sterling silver and will be a single enlarged magnolia bloom and leaves suspended from a bow and embellished with stones.



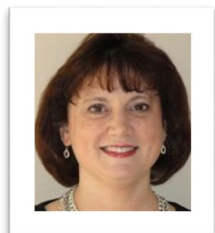
The Insignia order form, additional photos, and prices are on the website.





# Order of the Steel Magnolias History

## Honorary President General



Suzanna Etheridge Rawlins

2018-2021

## Founding Executive Board 2018—2021

Founder and President  
Suzanna Etheridge Rawlins

Founder and Vice President  
Leslie Ann Kirk

Co-Founder and Secretary  
Laura Rowell

Co-Founder and Treasurer  
Charles Robert Odom

Co-Founder and Historian  
Carla Whitehurst Odom

Co-Founder and Chaplain  
Patricia Gallagher

Co-Founder and Counselor  
Deborah Whitmore Hicks

Co-Founder and Registrar  
Jane Routt Power

Co-Founder and Parliamentarian  
Shelby Dean Ward

Honorary Co-Founder  
Alex Bannerman

## Past Events

### Inaugural Membership Tea & Social

November 18, 2018 ~ Montgomery, AL

### 2nd Annual Meeting

April 8, 2019 ~ Washington, DC

### 3rd Annual Meeting

April 13, 2020 ~ Washington, DC

Canceled Global Pandemic

### 4th Annual Meeting

April 12, 2021 ~ Zoom Meeting

### Zoom Social

June 24, 2021

### Zoom Social

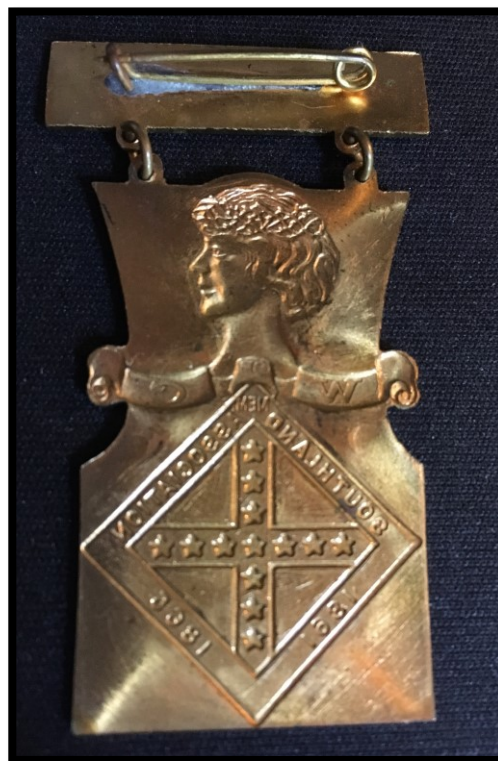
February 23, 2022







## Women of the Confederacy Medal



This is a circa 1924 Southland Memorial Association Women of the Confederacy medal.

Little is known about this unique medal. It measures 1.5" x 2.5".

The Southland Memorial Association, a sponsored organization under the auspices of the United Confederate Veterans, the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy®, was organized at Fort Worth in 1924, to create a "Southland Institute of Learning" or sometimes referred to as "Great Southland Institute of Learning" in memory of the women of the Confederacy. Mr. S.O. Moodie, Houston, Texas, was head of the Association.

The top bar reads, "In Memoriam" which is a Latin phrase meaning "in memory of" or "as a memorial to."

There is a female image with a wreath of vines or twigs in her hair

On the scroll below the image is: W of C (Women of Confederacy)

Around the Second Confederate Navy Jack flag which is turned in a cross like position it reads:

"Southland Mem. Association 1861 1865". There is no makers mark on the back.

Most Ladies' Memorial Associations and the United Daughters of the Confederacy® used the First National Confederate flag so it is assumed the medal was designed by the Confederate Veterans.

Unfortunately, the newspaper articles end in 1931. If you know anything about what happened to the plans for the college or the medal please email us so we can print a follow up.

*(From Leslie Kirk's collection)*

# Women of the Confederacy Medal Continued

## "College Honoring Confederate Women Is Planned In The South"

### College Honoring Confederate Women Is Planned in the South

Governor McLean Is Invited by Texas Man to Join in Movement Designed to Erect Great School as Memorial to Women of the Confederacy.

Raleigh Bureau of The News  
Sir Walter Hotel

Raleigh, April 28.—The creation of a great Southland institute of learning in memory of the women of the Confederacy is the announced object of the Southland Memorial Association, organized in 1924 under the auspices of the United Confederate Veterans, the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy, according to a letter received by Governor A. W. McLean from S. O. Moodie, of Houston, Texas, first vice-president of the association.

Invitation is extended to Governor McLean, and doubtless to Governors of other Southern States, suggesting that the occasion of the annual reunion of the United Confederate

Veterans at Little Rock, Arkansas, May 8-10, will be an opportune time for the chief executives of these States to get together, in response to an invitation by the Legislature of Florida, and take united action in support of the Southern Memorial Association in its efforts to have the South leave to our posterity evidence of its appreciation, love, respect and gratitude to the "Women of the Confederacy" for the sacrificial service rendered by them in the days that tried men's souls, from 1861 to 1865, inclusive."

The United Confederate Veterans have indorsed the proposal four times, the Sons of Confederate Veterans twice, and the United Daughters of the Confederacy once, the letter states, adding individual indorsements, as well as the statement that a majority of the Governors have indicated their approval, and in several instances appointed distinguished men to serve on a committee to devise ways and means for carrying out the purposes of the association."

The invitation to the Governors has the approval of the general chairman of the reunion committee, it is stated, Mr. Moodie extending the invitation to them for the meeting.

"An indorsement of our undertaking by the chief executives, of the Southern States," Mr. Moodie writes, "backed up with a recommendation to their respective legislative bodies, would go far toward solving the problem confronting us. The great institute thus established would become the Mecca to which our nation's student body could come, and while at the fount of knowledge, behold, day after day, the great tribute ever offered to womanhood, and that womanhood the— Women of the Confederacy."

CLIPPED FROM

The Charlotte News

Charlotte, North Carolina

29 Apr 1928, Sun • Page 29

Governor McLean Is Invited by Texas Man to Join in Movement Designed to Erect Great School as Memorial to Women of the Confederacy

Raleigh April 28— The creation of a great Southland institute of learning in memory of the women of the Confederacy is the announced object of the Southland Memorial Association organized in 1924 under the auspices of the United Confederate Veterans, the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy according to a letter received by Governor A.W. McLean from S.O. Moodie of Houston, Texas, first vice-president of the association.

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Printed *The Charlotte News* April 29, 1928

# Women of the Confederacy Medal Continued

## Silver Certificate for Donor to School

Certificate No. 1 of the Southland Memorial association, sponsored by the United Confederate Veterans and the Sons and Daughters of the Confederacy, will be awarded to the person who makes the most satisfactory donation to a fund for the erection of a proposed school to commemorate the women of the Confederacy, according to information received here from J. C. Foster, commander of the Texas division of the U. C. V. Sealed bids are to be sent to Gen. Lon A. Smith of Austin, Texas, by November 21.

The movement was inaugurated at the last convention of the U. C. V. at Memphis and is being put into action by the Texas department.

Certificate No. 1 is engraved on a sterling silver plate bearing an emblem and the name of the purchaser.

CLIPPED FROM

*The Times*

Shreveport, Louisiana

17 Nov 1924, Mon • Page 14

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Printed *The Times* Nov. 17, 1924

## The People's Column

In regard to the work of the Southland Memorial Association, it has for its purpose the creation of a Great Southern Memorial Institute as a memorial to the "Women of the Confederacy". I wish to say that following our meeting at Birmingham, I visited Muscle Shoals, Alabama, and the three adjacent cities of Florence, Sheffield and Tuscumbin, and while at Florence, at the initiative of the Chamber of Commerce, addressed that body on the subject of the purpose of our Association, and the Chamber of Commerce promptly voted to tender a site for the great Southland Memorial Institute if we would locate within two miles of Muscle Shoals.

So, now being assured of a free site, with more than \$100,000 there's nothing left for us to do but to raise the funds to create the only and the greatest tribute of love and respect ever left to womankind—the most patriotic, loving and self-sacrificing galaxy of womanhood—the "Women of the Confederacy". S. O. MOODIE, Vice President, Southland Memorial Association.

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Printed *The Eagle* June 24, 1926

CLIPPED FROM

*The Eagle*

Bryan, Texas

24 Jun 1926, Thu • Page 1



## Women of the Confederacy Medal Continued

### Veterans Plan New University for Southland

San Angelo, Texas, Oct. 9 (AP).—The establishment of a university in the south with an endowment of \$5,000,000 is the aim of a group of Confederate veterans, led by S. O. Moodie of Houston, a vice president of the Southland Memorial association.

The endowment is to come from the \$50,000,000 fund now held in the court of claims as a result of the decision of the United States federal court of claims which declared that the special cotton tax enacted after the Civil war indirectly made the south pay the cost of the war.

Eleven southern governors have endorsed the plan and a number of congressmen and senators have agreed to sponsor it, Mr. Moodie said.

The Texas division of United Confederate veterans at their meeting here Saturday endorsed the plan.

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Printed *The Times* Oct. 10, 1927

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**The Times**

Shreveport, Louisiana

10 Oct 1927, Mon • Page 1





# Women of the Confederacy Medal Continued

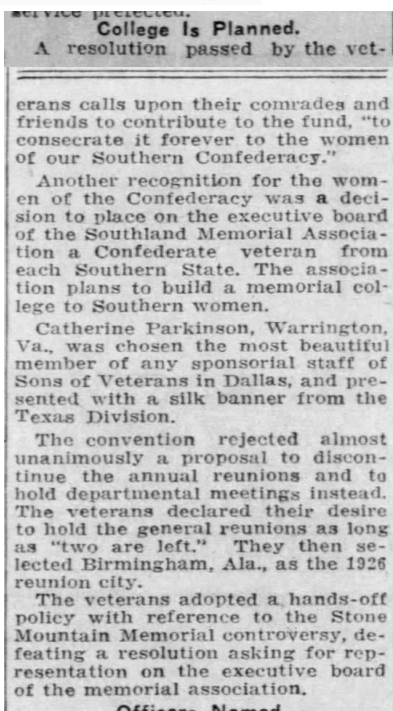


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The Eagle  
Bryan, Texas  
22 Nov 1924, Sat • Page 1

## COLLEGE TO BE PLACED IN SOUTH TEXAS BRANCH SOUTHLAND MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION BEEN ORGANIZED CONFEDERATE WOMEN

AUSTIN, Nov. 22. A Texas branch of the Southland Memorial Association has been organized here with the election of General J. M. Cochran of Dallas as President and Mrs. Joe Wroe of Austin as secretary. The association plans for the erection of a college in the South as a memorial to the women of the Confederacy.

Printed *The Eagle* 22 Nov 1924



CLIPPED FROM  
Fort Worth Star-Telegram  
Fort Worth, Texas  
22 May 1925, Fri • Page 18

### "College Is Planned"

"A resolution passed by the veterans calls upon their comrades and friends to contribute to the fund 'to consecrate it forever to the women of our Southern Confederacy.'

Another recognition for the women of the Confederacy was a decision to place on the executive board of the Southland Memorial Association a Confederate veteran from each Southern State. The association plans to build a memorial college to Southern women.

Catherine Parkinson Warrington, VA was chosen the most beautiful member of any sponsorial staff of Sons of Veterans in Dallas and presented with a silk banner from the Texas Division. The convention rejected almost unanimously a proposal to discontinue the annual reunions and to hold departmental meetings instead. The veterans declared their desire to hold the general reunions as long as "two are left" They then selected Birmingham, Ala., as the 1926 reunion city.

The veterans adopted a hands-off policy with reference to the Stone Mountain Memorial controversy defeating a resolution asking for representation on the executive board of the memorial association."

Printed *Forth Worth Star* May 22, 1925



# Women of the Confederacy Medal

## MEMORIAL URGED FOR CONFEDERATE WOMEN

Support of efforts to establish a Southland memorial to women of the Confederacy is asked in a letter sent to all members of the Southland Memorial Association by S. O. Moodie, Houston, vice president of the organization.

The letter states that the Legislature of Florida last year passed resolutions calling on all Southern States to take co-operative action in support of the association, which desires to create a "Southland Institute of Learning" in memory of the women of the Confederacy.

CLIPPED FROM  
[Fort Worth Record-Telegram](#)  
Fort Worth, Texas  
01 May 1928, Tue • Page 11

## MEMORIAL URGED FOR CONFEDERATE WOMEN

Support of efforts to establish a Southland memorial to women of the Confederacy is asked in a letter sent to all members of the Southland Memorial Association by S.O. Moodie, Houston, vice president of the organization.

The letter states, that the Legislature of Florida last year passed resolutions calling on all Southern States to take co-operative action in support of the association which desires to create a "Southland Institute of Learning" in memory of the women of the Confederacy.

*Printed Fort Worth Record-Telegram*

01 May 1928

## College Urged as Tribute To Women of Confederacy

Houston, Tex.—(AP)—A co-educational institute, dedicated "to the memory of the women of the Confederacy," would be established under a plan proposed by S. O. Moodie, vice president of the Southland's Memorial association.

He has addressed an open letter to the governors and legislators of the southern states, quoting a resolution adopted by the veterans in reunion at Biloxi, Miss., to urge prompt co-operative action.

Under the plan, a bond issue would create and endow the college.

CLIPPED FROM  
[The La Crosse Tribune](#)  
La Crosse, Wisconsin  
22 Mar 1931, Sun • Page 2

## COLLEGE URGED AS TRIBUTE TO WOMEN OF CONFEDERACY

HOUSTON, Texas

A co-educational institute, dedicated "to the memory of the women of the Confederacy," would be established under a plan proposed by S. O. Moodie, vice president of the Southland's Memorial association.

He has addressed an open letter to the governors and legislators of the southern states, quoting a resolution adopted by the veterans in re union at Biloxi, Miss., to urge prompt co-operative action.

Under the plan, a bond Issue would create and endow the college.

*Printed La Crosse Tribune*

March 22, 1931



## *In Memoriam*

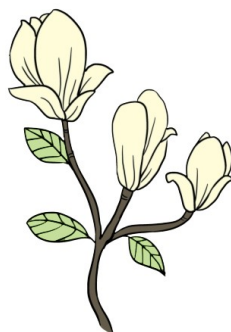
Founding Member 25 - Camille Rycroft Redfern Lowery  
Died: December 4, 2018  
Ancestor: Henrietta Jerkins, wife of Warren Lumpkin Story

Founding Member 29 - Jack Grady Dyess  
Died: June 5, 2019  
Ancestor: Mary Ellen Holt, wife of Orville Columbus Younglood

Charter Member 92 - Lavalon Kernon Collie Wall  
Died: October 17, 2020  
Ancestor: Mary Alice Williams, wife of James Henry Collie

Charter Member 85 - Mary Jane Inge Tingle  
Died: March 3, 2021  
Ancestor: Fanny Iredell Jones, wife of George Erwin

Historian National & Charter Member 153 - Felicia C. Wilt  
Died: November 30, 2021  
Ancestor: Mary Elizabeth Bateman, wife of Pleasant Potts







# Steel Magnolia Stories



## Ancestor Book

OSM is gathering biographical sketches for our Steel Magnolias. To date, we have received 15 submissions. We have a goal of reaching at least 100 narratives before we go to print with the first volume. Please continue to research and write about your Steel Magnolias and their experiences. You may submit photographs, stories, recipes, etc.

The Book Committee Chairman is: Julie Hesler. The project email: [OSMancestorbook@gmail.com](mailto:OSMancestorbook@gmail.com)

See the OSM website "Members" page to download the submission form and instructions:

<https://orderofthesteelmagnolias.weebly.com>

While we wait, from time-to-time, we will share some of the sketches that have been received so far as inspiration to other members.

### Steel Magnolias: Biographies of Our Soldiers' Loved Ones

#### Book Narrative Submission Form

- Complete the form and save it with your last name and your ancestor's name in the file name. (i.e. Smith – Jane Doe.docx)
- Submit the form via email to: [OSMancestorbook@gmail.com](mailto:OSMancestorbook@gmail.com).
- Attach photograph as a separate .jpg file to the same email message.

#### Member Contact Information

Member First Name:	<input type="text"/>	Member Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
Member Email Address:	<input type="text"/>		
Member Phone Number:	<input type="text"/>		

#### Ancestor Information

Ancestor First Name:	<input type="text"/>	Ancestor Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
Confederate Soldier's Name:	<input type="text"/>		
Ancestor's Relationship to Soldier:	<input type="text" value="Select One"/>		
Photo Included (300 dpi or higher)	<input type="checkbox"/>		

#### Narrative

Tag line (optional):	<input type="text"/>
----------------------	----------------------

Ancestor's biographical narrative (no character limit):

#### For Office Use Only

Date received:	<input type="text"/>
Notes:	<input type="text"/>





## *Steel Magnolia Stories*



### **Ancestor Spotlight**

#### **Rachel Price Bass**

Submitted by: Diana Kay Bass Blankenship



Rachel Price was born 30 April 1832 in Mecklenburg Co., NC, to parents Burrell Price and Rebecca Tomberlin Price. She was married to Uriah Bass in 1839 in Barbour Co., AL. By the time the War Between the States broke out, she and Uriah had six children. They farmed on land purchased by the Bass family near Hagler's Mill outside of Louisville, AL. Uriah enlisted in Co. B of the 39th AL Inf. Not only did Uriah join the Southern Cause, but so did Rachel's father and four brothers. When Uriah left home, Rachel was alone to provide for herself and her children-without the aid of any man in her family. Her oldest son was ten, and her youngest child, a girl, was not a year old. Uriah had only been gone for about six months when his unit was assigned to guard the pass in Chattanooga, TN. In the dead of a harsh winter on December 13, 1862, Uriah died from disease and was buried in a mass unmarked grave near the hospital camp.

Because three of Rachel's brothers were also in Co. B of the 39th AL Inf, she found out about his death. However, a family story tells a different tale of how she knew he would not return to her. According to the story, on the day he went away to serve the Confederacy, Uriah left his cherished fiddle at home under the bed. The lore says that on December 13th Rachel heard a sound coming from beneath the bed, and she looked to see the strings of the fiddle moving on their own to a strain she had often heard Uriah play. Her heart broke, for she knew he would never return to her.

Throughout her life, Rachel was a devoted mother who labored for the welfare of her children. The Scripture says, "A woman's children will rise up and call her blessed." No greater testimony can there be to such a woman than in the twilight of her years, she lived with her children. They cared for her just as she had done for them. She is buried between three of her children in the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church cemetery in Dale County, AL.





## *Our Steel Magnolia Ancestors*

Listed by Maiden Name (if known)  
Married Name is in parentheses



~A~

Celia A. Adams (MN possibly Kennemer)  
Amy Elizabeth Agerton (Camp)  
Mary Henrietta Allen (Jefferies)  
Mary Allen (Myers)  
Caroline Anderson (Eubanks)  
Ruth Andrews (Phillips)  
Mary Archer (Gillet)  
Martha Ashburn (Ring)

Martha Caroline Taylor Ashford (Turnipseed)

~B~

Albina L. Bailey (Nelson)  
Mary Baker (MNU)  
Martha Jane Barr (Langston)  
Mary Elizabeth Bateman (Potts)  
Nancy Ann Batey (Gaddy)  
Jane Battle (Lawson)  
Elizabeth Ann Beck (Prater)  
Mary Susan "Sudie" Beck (Powers)  
Elvira Jane Bedwell (Mohon)  
Rachel Holmes Bell (Holmes)  
Augusta Bellinger (Cheney)  
Tabitha Cumi Bennett (Hudson)  
Eliza Jane Berry (Read)  
Mary Ann "Polly" Blevins (Whitt)  
Cecilia C. Bonner (Sample)  
Martha Rebecca Bowden (Maddox)  
Mary Ann Eliza Boykin (McLemore)  
Susanna Agnes Bozeman (Sansom)  
Nancy Emeline Bradley (York)  
Martha Braxton (Washington)  
Frances Ann Bridges (Carter)  
Rebecca Brock (MNU)  
Mary Jane Browder (Lewis)  
Lavina Burkhalter (Owens)  
Mary Isabell Burson (Mallory)  
Sarah Burton (Agee)  
Winefred Elizabeth Byrum (Robinson)

~C~

Lucretia Cannon (Fordham)  
Cecile Sarah Carey (Mayans)  
Martha Carnel (Clark)  
Mary Susan Carroll (Issacs)  
Mary Ann "Polly" Carter (Shore)  
Mary "Polly" Cartwright (Ragland)  
Manerva Carver (Brooks)  
Sarah Ann Cates (Dutton)  
Tabitha Artemissa Cato (McGee)  
Elizabeth A. Chambers (Milam)  
Rachel LaDosca Chambers (Thomas)  
Araminta Vashti Chambliss  
Mary Ann Chapman (Hightower)  
Sarah A. Chisenhall (Shackelford)  
Mary Cassie Choice (Rickets)  
Lydia Christian (Pruitt)  
Catherine Clark (Lee)  
Isabel Clark (Davis)

Rebecca Matilda Collier (Collins)

Jane Collins (George)  
Rebecca Cooke (Pryor)  
Columbia Anna Cooper (Millan)  
Mary E. E. Craven (Blackledge)  
Matilda "Tillie" Evelyn Crosby (Bryars)  
Louisa Crowder (Mercer)

~D~

Elizabeth Davidson (Fleenor)  
Emeline Cynthia Davis (Patrick)  
Mary Jane Davis (Cline)  
Laura Dawson (Holcome)  
Marie Laure de la Houssaye (Murphy)  
Rebecca Jane Dean (Frame)  
Sostenes Diaz (Gonzalez)  
Bettie Ann Elizabeth Dickens (Nunnally)  
Mary Catherine Dillard (Wilson)  
Zenora Flournoy Dillard (Mahone)  
Exia Dilworth (Kay)  
Henriette Dolle (Adams)  
Susan Samantha Donaldson (Johnson)  
Sophronia A. Dozier (MNU)  
Caroline Durbridge (Vallette)  
Luna Hester Durkee (Power)

~E~

Miriam Earle (Lee)  
Henrietta Maria Elliott (Mitchell)  
Sarah Ann Melinda Ellis (Edwards)  
Sarah Emerson (Brabham)  
Rebecca Emmons (Davis)  
Eliza C. Eubanks (Holcome)  
Susan Evans (Patten)  
Elizabeth Ann Ezell (Dean)

~F~

Sarah Jane Farris (Adams)  
Easter Ferguson (Young)  
Sarah Ann Ferguson (Gamble)  
Celeste Thomas Ferrell (Chambers)  
Louisa Adeline Findley (Kuykendall)  
Sallie Wier Fort (Conger)  
Caroline Jane Fountain (Johns(t)on)  
Amelia Ann Fowler (Wright)  
Sarah Ellen Freeman (Missildine)  
Mary Agnes Frierson (Burton)  
Eliza Jane Fuller (Keith)

~G~

Mary A. Gaines (Hunt)  
Frances Permelia Gambel (Dyer)  
Cynthia Elivira Gambill (Smith)  
A. Eudora Gantt (Puckett)  
Drucilla P. Gardner (Butler)  
Mary Catherine George (Beckham)  
Elizabeth Emeline Gilbert (Holland)  
Elizabeth Giles (Agerton)  
Ellen Gillum (Pillow)  
Mary "Mollie" Gladden (Hurst)





## *Our Steel Magnolia Ancestors*

Listed by Maiden Name (if known)  
Married Name is in parentheses



Martha Ann Frances Glenn (Dyer)  
Mary Jane Glisson (Roberts)  
Eliza (Jane) Good (Burner)  
Permelia Carolyn Goodwin (Childress)  
Mary Goss (Huddleston)  
Winifred Malone Gotcher (Sherman)  
Samantha Ann Graham (Wascom)  
Margaret "Peggy" Gray (Ross)  
Samantha Ann Green/Thomason (Choat)  
Amanda Greenwood (Foote)  
Emily Catherine Griffin (Butler)  
Ann Theodocia Griggs Griggs (Ward)  
Mary A. Grumbles (Pumley/Pumlee)  
~H~  
Amanda M. Hancock (Smothers)  
Permelia Harmon (Schmidt)  
Amelia Harrellson/Harrison (Hester)  
Virginia Harris (MNU)  
Martha Ann Hayes (Jackson)  
Serena Haygood (Thompson)  
Malissa Caroline Henderson (Beall-Cadenhead)  
Amelie Victoire Herbert (Boudreaux)  
Clarinda Herrington (Kirby)  
Emma Jane Hicks (Dent)  
Elizabeth Hickson (Johnson)  
Rebecca Chisum Hill (Robinson)  
Margaret Elizabeth Hillman (Osborne)  
Crescentia Hoelle (Gulden)  
Mary Jane Holden (Wardlaw)  
Charlotte Julia Holman (Byers)  
Marian (Mary) Holmes (Price)  
Mary Ellen Holt (Younglood)  
Nancy Jane Hough (Smith)  
Ruth House (Crunk)  
Savannah House (Cobb)  
Tarlisha Howell (MNU)  
Sarah Elizabeth Huey (Parsons)  
Georgia (George) Ann Hughes (Statham)  
Katherine Elizabeth Hunsucker (Smith)  
Susan Hunter (Corn)  
Malvina C. Huston (McShan)  
~I~  
Elizabeth Ingram (Dunaway)  
~J~  
Alice Rachel Jacks (Norton)  
Mary A. Jacobs (MNU)  
Caroline Virginia James (Thomas)  
Henrietta Jerkins (Story)  
Lillian Johnson (Green)  
Martha M. Johnson (Willingham)  
Fanny Iredell Jones (Erwin)  
Sarah Catherine Jones (Stover)  
Thirza Jones (Ricks)  
Elizabeth Jordan (Shaw)  
~K~  
Lucy Keith (MNU)  
Lucy Leffingwell Kelley (Connely)

Zilphia Jane Kennedy (Shelton)  
Mary Ellen Kershaw (Bellinger)  
Charlotte Ann Kesler (Seeders)  
Mary Kilcrease (Etheridge)  
Mary Adalin King (Lightfoot)  
Emily E. Kitchens (Manning)  
Rachel Knight (Hunter)  
Matilda Knighten (Missildine)  
~L~  
Angelina Lair (Lovelace)  
Nancy A. Lamb (Johnston)  
Mary Frances Langford (Young)  
Mary Langston (James)  
Mary Ann Elizabeth Law (Bedell)  
Irene Leach (Craven)  
Elizabeth Lee (Palmer)  
Mary Lee (Wesley)  
Almeda Jane Leggett (Kolb)  
Madeleine Lemoine (Blake)  
Rebecca A. Lewis (Morgan)  
Caroline Lightfoot (Sparks)  
Mary J. Lindsey (Washburn)  
Jane Little (MNU)  
Frances Ann Lock (Brewer)  
Margaret Loftin (Tysinger)  
Sally Margaret Lord (London)  
Frances Ann Lowe (Day)  
Sarah Ann Lummus (Thomas)  
~M~  
Mary Elizabeth Machen (Hammond)  
Lucy Steptoe Marshall (Marshall)  
Senny Martin (Coody)  
Sarah Matthews (Handy)  
Sonora Matthews (Cranford)  
Eliza Jane Maxwell (Bunch)  
Celia Ann McAskil (Wilson)  
Mary Adeline McClendon (Roberts)  
Eliza Jane McCrary (Rogers)  
Letitia Ann McDearmont (Allen)  
Rebecca Angeline McDonald (Banta)  
Mary Jane McLesky (Whitesid(s))  
Amanda Jane Meadows (Edwards)  
Eleanor Jane Mecklin (Willbanks)  
Elizabeth Frances Mercer (Douglass)  
Mary Jane Meredith (Ingram)  
Sarah Prudence Merritt (Tinsley)  
Esther Elmina Miller (Harris)  
Samantha Miller (Crow)  
Emma Victoria Missildine (Dorman)  
Kenzie Elizabeth Mitchell (Horton)  
Elizabeth Morton (Smallen)  
Sarah Jane Mouser (Parrish)  
Martha Foster Murphy (Kean)  
~N~  
Sara Elizabeth Nabors (McCool)  
Eliza P. New (Adams)  
Jane Hollins Nicholas (Randolph)



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Listed by Maiden Name (if known)  
Married Name is in parentheses



Mary Nicholson (Peebles)  
Penelope M. Nicholson (Wear)  
Matilda Hester Norris (Robbins)  
~O~  
Mary Oliver (Crawford)  
Bedi Caroline Osborn (Sparks)  
~P~  
Louisa Emmaretta Parchman (Slater)  
Martha Parten (Aydelott)  
Dorothy Elizabeth Perry (Stone)  
Sarah Peters (Morgan)  
Sarah Ann Peyton (Eubank)  
Loucretia Phillips (Perry)  
Elizabeth Cassandra Obedience Philpott (Bruce)  
Eliza P. Piercie New (Adams)  
Ellen M. Pilcher (Goodrich)  
Louisa Ann "Louisiana" Pleham (Slaughter)  
Minerva Posey (Suttles)  
Debbie (Dobey) Powell (Anderson)  
Nancy Tabitha Prewitt (West)  
Rachel Price (Bass)  
~R~  
Maria Jane Rabb (Barnidge)  
Mary Ann Randle (Sexton)  
Jane Nicholas Randolph (Kean)  
Mary Margaret Rawlins (Berry)  
Nancy S. Reynolds (Womack)  
Permelia Adaline Richards (Ware)  
Charlotte Richardson (Pool)  
Sarah Anne Elizabeth Ridley Fitzgerald)  
Amanda Caroline Roberts (Carter)  
Jane Haseltine Roberts (Allen)  
Sarah Ellen Roberts (Blankenship)  
Elvira Robertson  
Nancy Robinett (Barnett)  
Annie Lipscomb Robinson (Brown)  
Margery Rogers (Clark)  
Isadora Ross (Kelvin)  
Mildred Ann Ross (Casey)  
Sarah Marinda Ross (Johnson)  
Temperance Parazah Rucker (Austin)  
~S~  
Charity Missouri Sands (Bass)  
Marie Felicie Sauve (Waggaman)  
Sarah Jane Scott (Henderson)  
Mary Jane Seal (Stevenson)  
Catherine C(ivill) Selkirk (Inglehart)  
Penny Serls/Surls (Bird)  
Alice Shackelford (Brown)  
Eatha Malinda Shellnut (Langley)  
Nancy Lavina Sisk (Ayers)  
Elizabeth Smith (Messer)  
Frances Smith (Holdway)  
Margaret Snodgrass (Holloway)  
Nancy Ann Wagley Spiker (Errington)  
Margaret Louisa Stark (Montgomery)  
Susan Catherine Starr (Cook)

Drucilla C./Kathryn Staton (Slater)  
Frances Caroline Steed (Bailey)  
Mary Stinson (Moore)  
Mary Jane Sutherland (Bartholomew)  
Rebecca Swords (Odom)  
~T~  
Permelia Tankersley (Crank)  
Agnes E. Tate (Landrom)  
Martha Thompson (Wilkins)  
Sarah Thompson (Francis)  
Elizabeth Tillery (Fitts)  
Nancy Ann Tison (Perry)  
Julia Ann Tolan (Ringo)  
Sarah Travis (Smyth/Smith)  
Mintie Mallissa Tucker  
Belvidere S. Tully (Shackelford)  
Ollie Turpin (Woods)  
Emily F. Tyler (MN possibly Clark)  
~U~  
Sarah Ann Underwood (Young)  
Julia Ann Upton (Merrill)  
Nancy Elizabeth "Nannie" Urquhart (Wilson)  
~V~  
Elizabeth Vail (MNU)  
Mourning Adeline Vandiver (Westmoreland)  
Margaret L. Vaughan (Fitch)  
Nancy Vaughn (Thompson)  
~W~  
Pricilla Wainwright (Miller)  
Amanda Elizabeth Walker (Etheridge)  
Mary Elizabeth Warmath (Rosamond)  
Mary E. Weeks  
Tobitha Welborn (MN possibly Welch)  
Mary Jane Wellborn (Lyle)  
Lucy Elma Whitelaw (Rowan)  
Sally Margaret Wiggins (Braswell)  
Eliza J. Wiggins (Story)  
Telisia Wiggs (Talbot)  
Charity Wilkes (Crews)  
Juda Williams (Woodward)  
Mary Alice Williams (Collie)  
Missouri Louise Williams (Willingham)  
Alice A. Williamson (Stringer)  
Sidney Williamson (Boyett)  
Agnes Caroline Wise (Phillips)  
Nancy Wood (Gillihan)  
Elizabeth Jane Wood (MN possibly Calima)  
Mary Jane Woods (Griffith)  
Edith Emmaline Worrell (Gillette)  
Maria P. Wright (Alcorn)

MNU - Maiden Name Unknown



# Inspirational Page

## The Story of Teddy Stoddard

“Jean Thompson stood in front of her fifth grade class on the very first day of school in the fall and told the children a lie. Like most teachers, she looked at her pupils and said that she loved them all the same, that she would treat them all alike. And that was impossible because there in front of her, slumped in his seat on the third row, was a boy named Teddy Stoddard. Mrs. Thompson had watched Teddy the year before and noticed he didn’t play well with the other children, that his clothes were unkept and that he constantly needed a bath.

And Teddy was unpleasant. It got to the point during the first few months that she would actually take delight in marking his papers with a broad red pen, making bold X’s and then marking the F at the top of the paper biggest of all. Because Teddy was a sullen little boy, no one else seemed to enjoy him either.

At the school where Mrs. Thompson taught, she was required to review each child’s records and put Teddy’s off until last. When she opened his file, she was in for a surprise. His first-grade teacher wrote, “Teddy is a bright, inquisitive child with a ready laugh. He does his work neatly and had good manners... he is a joy to be around.”

His second-grade teacher wrote, “Teddy is an excellent student, well-liked by his classmates, but he is troubled because his mother has a terminal illness and life at home must be a struggle.”

His third-grade teacher wrote, “Teddy continues to work hard but his mother’s death has been hard on him. He tries to do his best but his father doesn’t show much interest and his home life will soon affect him if some steps aren’t taken.”

Teddy’s fourth-grade teacher wrote, “Teddy is withdrawn and doesn’t show much interest in school. He doesn’t have many friends and sometimes sleeps in class. He is tardy and could become a problem.”

By now Mrs. Thompson realized the problem but Christmas was coming fast. It was all she could do, with the school play and all, until the day before the holidays began and she was suddenly forced to focus on Teddy Stoddard. Her children brought her presents, all in gay ribbon and bright paper, except for Teddy’s, which was clumsily wrapped in the heavy, brown paper of a scissored grocery bag. Mrs. Thompson took pains to open it in the middle of the other presents. Some of the children started to laugh when she found a rhinestone bracelet with some of the stones missing, and a bottle that was one-quarter full of cologne. She stifled the children’s laughter when she exclaimed how pretty the bracelet was, putting it on, and dabbing some of the perfume behind the other wrist.

Teddy Stoddard stayed behind just long enough to say, “Mrs. Thompson, today you smelled just like my mom used to.” After the children left she cried for at least an hour. On that very day, she quit teaching reading, and writing and speaking. Instead, she began to teach children. Jean Thompson paid particular attention to one they all called “Teddy.” As she worked with him, his mind seemed to come alive. The more she encouraged him, the faster he responded. On days there would be an important test, Mrs. Thompson would remember that cologne. By the end of the year he had become one of the smartest children in the class and... well, he had also become the “pet” of the teacher who had once vowed to love all her children exactly the same.

A year later she found a note under her door, from Teddy, telling her that of all the teachers he’d had in elementary school, she was his favorite. Six years went by before she got another note from Teddy. He then wrote that he had finished high school, third in his class, and she was still his favorite teacher of all time. Four years after that, she got another letter, saying that while things had been tough at times, he’d stayed in school, had stuck with it, and would graduate from college with the highest of honors. He assured Mrs. Thompson she was still his favorite





## Inspirational Page Continued

### The Story of Teddy Stoddard

teacher.

Then four more years passed and yet another letter came. This time he explained that after he had got his bachelor's degree, he decided to go a little further. The letter explained that she was still his favorite teacher but that now his name was a little longer. The letter was signed, Theodore F. Stoddard, M.D.

The story doesn't end there. You see, there was yet another letter that spring. Teddy said he'd met this girl and was to be married. He explained that his father had died a couple of years ago and was wondering ... well, if Mrs. Thompson might agree to sit in the pew usually reserved for the mother of the groom. You'll have to decide for yourself whether or not she wore that bracelet, the one with several rhinestones missing. But, I bet on that special day, Jean Thompson smelled just like ... well, just like she smelled many years before, on that last day of school, before the Christmas holiday began."

Radio talent Paul Harvey read this story on his broadcast April 4, 1998



