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General Robert Hatton #329 UDC Chapter Honors Black Confederates

At the February meeting of the General Robert Hatton #329 Chapter meeting of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Black Confederates Holt Collier and Horace King were honored.

Holt Collier was a freed slave from Mississippi. At the beginning of the WBTS, although already known for his marksmanship he was deemed too young to go to war. Collier stowed away on a riverboat to follow the white men of the Hinds family to training. He was a teenage soldier and a spy. Even after receiving his freedom, he chose to remain and fight for the South.

Horace King was also born a slave. He was sold to an architect who trained him and King gained experience erecting buildings. In 1846, King was freed, but he, too, decided to fight for the South. He built bridges for the Confederacy and even contributed his own money towards a rolling mill for the Confederate Navy.

New member Mary Scott was welcomed into the chapter and the following guests were recognized: Ada Midgett, Grace Harbison and Jimmie Swafford.

The heroism of Helen Price Cato, the ancestor of Cynthia Cato, was cited. As a girl of about 14 years of age, Helen Price Cato, saved the lives of some John Hunt Morgan's men by helping them hide to escape capture by Yankee soldiers and bringing them food. This account is recorded in the book, The Journal of B. L. Ridley, A.P. Stewart's Staff, that was published in 1906.

A replica of the flag the ladies of Lebanon presented to Robert Hatton and his men when they left Lebanon to join the Confederate Army was displayed. The wording on this flag says: The women of Lebanon to the Lebanon Greys—Go and Fight! The Confederate soldier was defending his home and family from invasion.



Ruth Cato displays a replica of the flag presented by the ladies of Lebanon, TN to the Confederate soldiers of Lebanon on the occasion of their departure to defend Tennessee and the South.