

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Person: Jane G. Dugger, President, General Robert H. Hatton UDC Chapter #329

Date: July 15, 2016

Re: Tom Wood Speaks to the General Robert Hatton UDC #329

**Tom Wood Speaks to the Gen. Robert Hatton UDC Chapter #329**

Mr. Tom Wood, Adjutant for the Tennessee Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) and Chaplain for the General Robert H. Hatton SCV Camp # 723, addressed the members and guests of the General Robert Hatton Chapter #329 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) on Saturday, July 9, 2016. His topic was "Medicine during the War Between the States."

Mr. Wood focused particularly on the role of the military surgeon, both Union and Confederate during the war. He said today's greatest misconception is that operations were performed without anesthesia, but that 95% of all surgeries were performed with chloroform or ether. He expressed tremendous admiration for the medical officers of this conflict.

Mr. Wood stated, "Medical care evolved to new heights during the Civil War as surgeons learned from experience. Many medical innovations and administrative systems were developed and implemented during the war. Many of these innovations continue to be used by today's military."

The General Robert Hatton UDC Chapter presented Mr. Wood with a \$25 check for his SCV camp's project of restoring of a 7<sup>th</sup> TN Infantry flag.

Historian Pamela Annette Dies recognized General Nathan Bedford Forrest whose birthday is July 13. She presented facts to show how this great man has been misrepresented. Below is a quote from Southern Heritage 411.com.

The Independent Order of Pole Bearers Association (a forerunner of the NAACP), invited General Forrest, the first white man ever invited, to speak at their convention on July 5, 1875. During his speech, too [sic] much applause, Bedford said: "I came here with the jeers of some white people, who think that I am doing wrong.

I believe I can exert some influence, and do much to assist the people in strengthening fraternal relations, and shall do all in my power to elevate every man - to depress none. (Applause) I want to elevate you to take positions in law offices, in stores, on farms, and wherever you are capable of going." Forrest went on to say,

"I came to meet you as friends, and welcome you to the white people. I want you to come nearer to us. When I can serve you I will do so. We have but one flag, one country; let us stand together. We may differ in color, but not in sentiment. Many things have been said about me which are wrong, and which white and black persons here, who stood by me through the war, can contradict. Go to work, be industrious, live honestly and act truly, and when you are oppressed I'll come to your relief."

Members and friends of the General Robert Hatton UDC Chapter who attended were: Teresa Deathridge, Jean Ayers, Ruth Cato, Pamela Annette Dies, Pam Kolbe, Jane Dugger, Betty Wright, Mary Scott and Nancy Wood, wife of the guest speaker.

*(Please see picture on the next page)*



(L to R) Teresa Deathridge, Ruth Cato and Nancy Wood listen as Tom Wood explains the uses of various items in his collection of Civil War medical equipment.