



The Gray Line

News from General Headquarters

~ Elm Springs / Columbia, Tennessee ~



Vol. 12 No. 2 August 2006 Information for Commanders, Adjutants and 31,304 Members

Information contained in the *Gray Line* is for use by all members. Commanders are encouraged to copy those items which directly affect their membership into their camp newsletters, or to include the *Gray Line* in its entirety as a part of your newsletters. Communication throughout the organization is very important and the *Gray Line* offers us a means to provide members with the most up-to-date information on many different topics.

SCV Membership

SCV Membership which includes over 3,000 Life Members and 56 Real Sons, has seen 172 new membership applications in just the first 15 days of August since the new fiscal year began. Please make sure each of your camp's members is aware that he needs to renew his dues NLT than November 1, 2006 in order to ensure the uninterrupted receipt of the Confederate Veteran magazine. Please do your part to recruit new members and to encourage former members of your camp to reinstate. If you would like a mailing list of your camp's dues delinquent former members, please contact your appropriate army secretary. Please remember that dues renewal period has started and your dues payment cut off date is November 1, 2006. Retention of our current membership is the easiest and best way to grow the SCV membership.

Important Notice

Recently members may have received email communications from a source calling itself "CV News". Please be advised that while this medium may be operated by members of the SCV, "CV News" is not a connected with the Sons of Confederate Veterans in any capacity, nor do the statements made through that medium represent the position of the SCV, the General Headquarters or any of its officers. If you or any of your Compatriots would like to receive occasional notices and announcements from the official, legitimate SCV news source, please visit <http://www.scv.org/maillistSubscription.php>.

New Orleans Reunion

The 111th SCV annual general reunion/convention was held at the Sheraton Hotel, New Orleans, LA from August 2 – 5, 2006. The Reunion was a great success with over 660 registered members, representing over 300 camps, in attendance. Elections for CiC, Lt CiC, and GEC positions in the three Army Departments were held along with a vote to on a new SCV constitution, all of which will be summarized in the next section.

Elections- Christopher M. Sullivan (SC) was elected Commander in Chief by acclamation at the request of his opponent, Michael Duminiak (PA) and Ronald E. Casteel was elected Lt CiC, also by acclamation at the request of his opponent Tarry Beasley (TN). Michal Givens (SC) is the new ANV Commander, Brag Bowling (VA) is ANV Councilman, Kelly Barrow (GA) is AOT Commander, Ed Butler (TN) is AOT Councilman, Chuck Norred (CA) is ATM Commander, and Chuck McMichael (LA) is the ATM Councilman, all serving to 2006.

The SCV Gray Line is published periodically by the Sons of Confederate Veterans, P.O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402

Commander-in-Chief Christopher M. Sullivan · P O Box 1512 · Travelers Rest SC 29690 · (803) 376-5078 · cic@scv.org
SCV Executive Director: Ben Sewell—exedir@scv.org, ext. 207

Contact Information:

Nikki Thornton, Army of Northern Virginia anvdesk@scv.org, ext. 204 Deanna Nay, Army of Tennessee aotdesk@scv.org, ext. 202

Stephanie Bible, Army of Trans Mississippi atmdesk@scv.org, ext. 203

Bryan Sharp, Membership Coordinator membership@scv.org, ext. 201 David Stinson, Merchandising- mktadm@scv.org, ext. 205

(800) 380-1896 (931) 381-6712 (Fax)

SCV Constitutional (New) was approved by an overwhelming number of camps with more than 90 % voting in favor of the new constitution on Friday night August 4, 2006. One of the more popular provisions of the new constitution is the establishment of Cadet Membership for young men not yet 12 years old.

GEC Appointments have been announced by CiC Christopher M. Sullivan. The new GEC members are Donald Shelton (KY) who was named Chief of Staff, Mark A. Simpson (SC) is the Adjutant in Chief, Cecil Fayard (MS) is the Chaplain in Chief, Darryl Starnes (VA) is the Chief of Heritage Defense and Burl McCoy (KY) is Judge Advocate in Chief.

Cadet Membership is established for males from birth to 12 years of age who are otherwise eligible for SCV membership. A regular SCV application, with the word Cadet written or printed at the top, will be submitted along with \$10 to General Headquarters (GHQ), completely filled out including the Camp's approval. The GHQ will enter the young man in the database, assign him a SCV membership number, and all records will be the same as a full member except that his membership status will be different. The names of cadet members will not appear on the camp membership roster nor will they receive the Confederate Veteran magazine. A new cadet member joining for the year August 1, 2006 through July 31, 2007 will be status **CM06**. Once the young man becomes 12, he will pay his regular dues and his status will be changed to the appropriate fiscal year which will make him a full member.

Recruiting DVD entitled "All But Their Honor" has been completed and a complimentary copy is being mailed to Camp Commanders by GHQ. This video was debuted at the 111th Annual General Reunion in New Orleans. This video is sixteen minutes in length and a loop can be selected which allows it to play continuously if the camp wishes to set it up at a Gun Show or other events where the public is passing by. There are two additional 30 second long TV spots under the selection of "Ashes and Graves" which your camp might consider placing on local cable TV. Additional copies may be purchased from GHQ for \$10.00 with postage and handling included.

Time and Place Committee- The Time and Place Committee nominated Hot Springs AR as the host for the 2009 SCV National Reunion which was approved by the Convention attendees. The 2007 SCV National Reunion will be hosted by the Admiral Raphael Semmes Camp 11, Mobile AL and the 2008 Reunion will be held in Concord NC.

Confederate Veteran Magazine

The next edition of the Confederate Veteran magazine, cover date July August 2006, has been printed. The magazine went into the bulk mail system on August 12, 2006. Any photographs or articles submitted to the Editor in Chief for publication in the camp news section should be sent electronically, if possible, to eic@scv.org or mailed directly to Frank B. Powell III, 9701 Fonville Rd, Wake Forest NC 27587. Please remember the GEC approved a CV magazine subscription rate of **only** \$10.00 per year for libraries and schools when purchased by a SCV member or camp. Please take advantage of this offer to ensure your local area is exposed to this fine magazine.

Gray Line

The Gray Line is only being sent via email on the internet! Please forward the Gray Line on to all members of your camp as it contains useful information. Any member may receive the Gray Line; however, please be sure that your Army secretary has the current email addresses for your Camp Commander and Adjutant. If neither the Camp Commander nor Adjutant has an email address, please furnish an alternate email address to the IHQ. Please send any additions to the Gray Line email list to exedir@scv.org.

Combine Federal Campaign

The Sons of Confederate Veterans has been approved for the fourth consecutive year as a Combined Federal Campaign Charity (CFC). In many locations the CFC is combined with the United Way and joint fund raising campaigns are conducted during September and October. Please encourage members and their families who might be potential CFC donors to consider assigning a portion of their contributions to the SCV which is **Charity 0887**.

SCV Credit Card Revenue Sharing

Beginning August 1, 2006 the SCV national organization will be sharing 25% of the revenue received from the SCV VISA Card program with the divisions. The GHQ receives a monthly report from the bank which breaks down purchases by state based upon the billing address of the card holder. The checks to divisions will be made monthly, quarterly or annually once the amount due to the division is at least \$100. Please encourage your members to apply for a card. Applications have previously been sent to the division adjutants or you may request one from the GHQ.

Telephones

Please continue to use the member toll free line (800) 380-1896 or (800) MY DIXIE whenever calling the GHQ for normal business. (800) MY SOUTH is designed to be our recruiting line as it is featured on the recruiting coins and literature. This line is answered at night and on weekends by an answering service; however, the SCV must pay for each call they receive and message taken. Please do not conduct routine business on this recruiting line.

National Award Winners

Best Camp- The winner of the prestigious Dr. George R. Tabor, distinguished camp award, in an extremely close competition, is the Secession Camp 4 of Charleston SC, William J. Baber, Commander. Congratulations are also due the runners up: Captain Thomas H. Hobbs Camp 768, Athens AL, Tom Strain Jr, Commander, and third place which was the H.L. Hunley Camp 143 in Summerville SC, Eddie W. Wright, Commander.

Scrapbooks-

Dr. B. H. Webster Award for the best Scrapbook for camps with fewer than 50 members is the R. E. Lee Camp 239, Ft. Worth TX, Johnny D. Wells, Commander and finishing second was J. M. "Matt" Barton SCV Camp 441, Sulphur Springs TX, James W. Benton, Commander.

Judah P. Benjamin Award for the best Scrapbook for camps with 50 or more members has co winners, the N. B. Forrest Camp 215, Memphis TN, Knox Martin, Commander and the second place finisher was General Richard Taylor SCV Camp 1308, Shreveport LA, David H. Hill, Commander.

Historical Project- Dr. James B. Butler Award for the best historical project was won by the H. L. Hunley Camp 143 Summerville SC which found a long neglected Confederate Cemetery which was overgrown with dense vegetation. The camp members completely cleaned it, built a road for visitors to be able to get in and out of the area and held a memorial service to honor these veterans.

Best Web Site- General Samuel Cooper Award for the best website is, for the second consecutive year, The Tennessee Division, www.tennessee-scv.org/, Allen Sullivant, Webmaster.

Newsletters-

Dr. Paul Jon Miller Award winner for the best newsletter among camps with fewer than 50 members is CAMPTALK, Capt. J. J. Dickison Camp 1387, Melbourne FL, Robert L. Weaver, Editor. There was a tie for second between The Chickamauga, The General Ben Hardin Helm Camp 1703, Elizabethtown KY and the Col Henry Laurens Benbow, the newsletter having the same name of the Camp 859 in Manning SC. There was also a tie for the next place between The Frontier Chronical, 2nd TX Frontier District Camp 1904, DeLeon TX and The Outpost which is produced by CPT William Francis Corbin Camp 2683, Independence KY.

S.A. Cunningham Award for the best newsletter among camps with 50 or more members is the 15th REGIMENTAL REPORT, 15th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers Camp 51, Swansea SC, Steven L. Wolfe, Editor. Finishing tied for second were The Webfoot, Sam Watkins Camp 29, Columbia TN and The Sentinel, Secession Camp 4, Charleston SC, and finishing next was The Crescent, Moultrie Camp 27, Mt. Pleasant SC.

Dewitt Smith Jobe Award for the best Division newsletter is, also for the second consecutive year, THE LOST CAUSE, Kentucky Division, Don Shelton, Editor. There was a tie for second between the Alabama Confederate and Forrest's Escort (TN), and finishing next was the The Rebel Yell (AZ).

Recruiting- Edward R. Darling Award for the top recruiter in the Confederation was presented to Anderson S. Langsdale, a member of Secession Camp 4, Charleston SC, who recruited 46 new members. Second with 26 members was Joel T. Fesperman Sr (NC). There was a three way tie for third place, each recruited 20 new members, between Ronald E. Jones (TN), Stephen Lee Ritchie (IN), and Joseph R. Scamihorn (NV). Others should be envious and ashamed when men in Indianan and Nevada can each recruit 20 new members.

Membership-

General Nathan Bedford Forrest Award for the camp with the greatest gain in membership (49 net) goes to Secession Camp 4, Charleston SC, and William J. Baber is the Commander. The Anacoco Rangers Camp 1995 in Leesville LA was second and more than doubled their size while Longstreet Zollicoffer Camp 87 in Knoxville TN was third.

New Camps, Division- General A. P. Hill Award is awarded to the Texas Division which is commanded by Ron Strybos, with 5 new camps. This is the second year in a row that 5 new camps won this award. Surely, some division can top this in 2006-2007.

New Camps, Army- General Albert Sydney Johnston Award for the Army with the greatest gain in new camps is a tie with 11 each, goes to the Army of Tennessee, Jack Bridwell, Commander and the Army of Trans-Mississippi, Chuck Rand, Commander.

Individual Awards

Robert E. Lee Gold Medal, the second highest award which can be given to a SCV member, was presented to Bragdon R. Bowling Jr (VA), Donald G. Shelton (KY), and Charles L. (Chuck) Rand III (LA) for their exceptional contributions to the SCV.

Jefferson Davis Chalice was presented to outgoing Commander in Chief Denne A. Sweeney (TX). This is the highest award which may be bestowed on a member for service to the SCV and consists of an engraved silver chalice, a medal and a certificate.

Stand Watie Scholarship Winners- Charles Britton, Past Committee Chairman, recently announced the SCV has awarded four \$750 college scholarship awards to Kirk Gruenewald (NM), Jonathan Mabrito (TX), Will Cameron Taylor (AL), and William Mitchell Whatley (AL), Congratulations to each of these fine students who is the descendant of a Confederate soldier or sailor who provided honorable service to the CSA.