



Bylaws

Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp No.863

Sons of Confederate Veterans

ARTICLE I — Name

The name of this organization shall be Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp

ARTICLE II — Object

To associate in one united, compact body of men of Confederate ancestry, and to cultivate, perpetuate and sanctify the ties of fraternity and friendship entailed thereby; to aid and encourage the history and achievement from Jamestown to this present era, constantly endeavoring to see that the events of the War Between the States and the heroic contributions of the Confederate soldiers of Indian Territory are authentically and clearly written, and that all documents, relics and mementoes produced and handed down by those active participants therein are properly treasured and preserved for posterity; to aid and assist in the erection of suitable and enduring monuments and memorials to all Southern valor, civil and military, wherever done and wherever found; to instill into our descendants a devotion to and reverence for the principles represented by the Confederate States of America, to the honor, glory and memory of our fathers who fought in that cause.

ARTICLE III – Nature

Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp shall be strictly historical and benevolent, non-political and non-sectarian.

ARTICLE IV – Membership

Section I. All male descendants, lineal or collateral, at least twelve years of age, of those who served in the Confederate Army or Navy to the end of the war, or who died in prison or while in actual service, or who were killed in battle, or who were honorably discharged, shall be eligible for membership, provided no member under sixteen years of age shall have the right to vote.

Section 2. No one shall be admitted to membership until satisfactory proof of the foregoing qualifications be submitted in duplicate on official blank applications prepared for that purpose, such applications bearing recommendation by a member in good standing of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp. The original shall be preserved by the Camp and the duplicate shall be forwarded to General Headquarters, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Section 3. All applications for membership in Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp, received by the Adjutant, shall be reviewed by the Commander. The Commander may submit the applications to a confidential, three-man membership committee, appointed by him, to pass on the acceptability of the candidate for membership. Candidates refused membership may petition the Camp membership for admission, and upon receiving favorable, written approval of three-fourths of the membership, will be granted full membership in the Camp.

Section 4. Annual, dues must be submitted with completed applications to the Camp Adjutant.

Section 5. Membership in the Camp shall be:

a. Active membership as herein set forth.

Section 6. Active membership in the Camp is membership in the General Organization of Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Section 7. Any member in good standing in the Camp, removing from the Camp, shall be entitled a certificate from the Camp Adjutant stating his membership and duration thereof.

Section 8. Applications for membership in the Camp must be read at a regular meeting of the Camp. Upon reading of the application, membership in the Camp will be extended only **after** receiving a two-thirds vote of acceptance by the membership present.

ARTICLE V – Dues

Section 1. The annual dues to the Camp shall be set annually by the Executive Committee, such amount subject to approval by the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Members in arrears four months in payment of dues shall be classed as delinquent, and six months' arrearages shall automatically impose suspension. Payment of all back dues within one year, together with all additional levies for that year, shall permit reinstatement to active membership. A member delinquent one year or more shall only be reinstated upon vote **of** the Camp and payment of all amounts due by him to the Camp.

ARTICLE VI – Meetings

Section 1. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of the Camp shall be in December of each year on a date determined by the Executive Committee. If the annual meeting shall not be held at the time fixed it shall be held within a reasonable time thereafter, and the officers shall hold over until their successors have been elected. Elections will be in November.

Section 2. Regular Meetings. The regular meeting of the Camp for the transaction of ordinary business shall be held on the second Tuesday of each month, at such time and place as may be determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Special Meetings. A special meeting of the Camp may be held at any time upon call of the Commander. The Commander shall also call a special meeting upon demand in writing, stating the object of the proposed meeting, and signed by not less than 20% of the members entitled to vote. Notice of the time, place and object of any special meeting shall be given all officers and members in good standing, in writing by United States Mail not less than seven days prior to the date fixed for holding of the meeting. The place of such special meeting shall be fixed by the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Quorum . _____ members of the Camp entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

Section 5. The rules of procedure at any meeting of the Camp shall be those set forth in Robert's Rules Of Order, Revised, except wherein they may be altered by the Camp.

ARTICLE VII — Officers

Section 1 The officers of the Camp shall be Commander, First Lieutenant Commander, Second Lieutenant Commander, Adjutant, Treasurer, Judge Advocate, Quartermaster, Surgeon, Chaplain, Color Sergeant, historian, and an Executive Committee. All officers, except those of the Executive Committee, shall be elected by a majority vote by ballot of tie members in good standing present at the annual meeting of the Camp. They shall hold office for one year or until their successors are elected. Officers elected at the annual meeting shall take office on the first day of _____ following their election.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Commander, First Lieutenant Commander, Second Lieutenant Commander, Treasurer, and the two immediate past—commanders No past commander shall be eligible that has failed to maintain good standing in the Camp.

Section 3 Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at any time and place as the Commander may determine. Meetings may be called at any time on demand, in writing to the Commander, by three members of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. _____ members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5. Resignation of any officer may be accepted by majority vote of tie remaining members of the Executive Committee.

Section 6. When an office is vacated as result of death, resignation or removal, the Commander shall appoint a successor, upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, such successor to hold office until the next annual meeting.

Article VIII—Officers

Section I . COMMANDER. The Commander shall preside at all meetings of the Camp and of the Executive Committee. He shall be a member ex-officio of all regular and special committees, and shall perform all much other duties as usually pertain to him office.

Section 2. FIRST LIEUTEANT COMMANDER. The First Lieutenant Commander shall perform the duties of the Commander in his absence or at **his** request. He shall serve as program chairman, securing guest speakers and presentations for Camp functions.

Section 3. SECOND LIEUTENANT COMMANDER. The Second Lieutenant Commander shall perform the duties of Camp Commander in the absence of the Commander and First Lieutenant Commander, he shall be responsible for the enlistment of new members, he shall maintain an adequate supply of SCV brochures and applications to accomplish recruitment of new members, He shall monitor membership as to dues payment and meeting attendance. He shall constantly strive for an active, growing membership. he shall

prepare and distribute to the membership in good standing a roster of members, their addresses and telephone numbers.

Section 4. ADJUTANT. The Adjutant shall conduct all official correspondence pertaining to the proper preparation and forwarding of all reports required of the Camp to SCV Headquarters. He shall notify all members of special meetings. He shall keep a true record of all meetings of the Camp and have custody of the books and papers of the Camp, except the Treasurer's books of account. He shall be keeper of the Camp seal. All applications for membership, initiation fees and first year dues shall be made to the Adjutant. He shall be responsible for the ordering of all items necessary for operation of the Camp. He shall maintain adequate stock of SCV membership pins, decals and applications.

Section 5. TREASURER. The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the Camp and place the same in such bank or banks as may be approved by the Executive Committee. Such money shall only be withdrawn by check signed by the Treasurer. He shall keep an accurate account of all his transactions and render a detailed report to the membership at any meeting when requested, he shall present a detailed report, in writing, of income and expenditures at the annual meeting. Bills paid by the Treasurer shall have received approval of the Executive Committee. He shall be responsible for collection of dues and fees, taking proper note of the paying member, his address and other information necessary in the maintenance of Camp records and posting such information with the Adjutant.

Section 6. JUDGE ADVOCATE. The Judge Advocate shall advise the officers and Executive Committee of all legal matters, including the construction and interpretation of the S.C.V. General Constitution and Camp By-laws. He shall serve as parliamentarian at both regular and special meetings. Upon direction of the Commander, he shall conduct investigations into charges or challenges brought against Camp members. He shall perform such other duties as are usually to his Office.

Section 7. QUARTERMASTER. The Quartermaster shall be responsible for the procurement of meeting sites and arrangements incident to preparation for regular, special or social meetings of the Camp, such sites and arrangements subject to approval of the Executive Committee. He shall be responsible for the operation of Camp stores, maintaining adequate stocks and other items necessary for efficient operation. He shall account to the Commander as to expenditures. He shall maintain a cash fund up to \$_____. Any monies in excess of \$_____ shall be remitted to the Treasurer.

Section 8. SURGEON. The Surgeon shall be responsible for the establishment and observance of ceremonial forms and courtesies of the Camp. Upon direction of the Commander or Executive Committee, he shall issue announcements to the public concerning the Camp, its members and activities. He shall be familiar with basic techniques of first aid and shall stand ready to administer basic medical assistance when called upon at meetings and functions of the Camp.

Section 9. CHAPLAIN. The Chaplain provides spiritual guidance for the Camp. He shall represent the Camp in times of bereavement. He shall periodically report to the Commander on the well being of members confined by illness. In event of member death he shall immediately notify the membership. He shall be responsible for the procurement of flowers, wreaths or other such items incidental to the accomplishment of his duties.

Section 10. COLOR SERGEANT. The Color Sergeant shall maintain and safeguard the Camp colors. He shall insure the proper display of colors at all functions of the Camp and will lead members in salutes to the colors. He shall appoint assistants to aid in the performance of his duties.

Section 11 HISTORIAN. The Historian shall keep and maintain a written record of the Camp, its officers and members, and its accomplishments during his tenure of office. He shall be responsible for the

collection of photographs, newspaper clippings and such other items as necessary in proper recording of Camp history. All items will be affixed in a bound volume so as to insure its preservation.

Section 2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The Executive Committee shall:

- a. approve or disapprove all bills presented to the Treasurer for payment
- b. sit in judgment in all disciplinary matters
- c. authorize and approve all meeting sites and arrangements
- d. rule on all questions affecting the election eligibility and conduct of members
- e. when in the interest of the Camp, transact business in behalf of the membership

Section 13 EDITOR. The Commander shall, upon taking office, appoint an editor and such other staff as necessary in the preparation and distribution of the official Camp bulletin, _____ . The Commander shall periodically review operation of the bulletin to ascertain if operation is in the best interest of the Camp. The Executive Committee shall provide for acceptance of annual subscriptions from non—members and establish an annual subscription rate. The Editor shall, at the end of the fiscal year, prepare a written report concerning number of copies produced, number distributed and associated costs, this report to be submitted to the Commander at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE IX — Awards

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the creation and administration of a program of awards presented to Camp members and non-members deemed worthy of recognition.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall review and authorize the presentation of certificates and awards, except Commander's Commendations and Resolutions of Respect. which are reserved to the Commander.

ARTICLE X — Suspension or Expulsion

Section 1. Any member may be suspended or expelled from the Camp for cause, such cause being deemed sufficient by the Executive Committee by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members of the Committee present at any regular or special meeting. Cause for disciplinary action shall **be:**

- a. disloyalty
- b. neglect of duty
- c. dishonesty
- d. conduct unbecoming a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.
- e. an act repugnant to the S.C.V. Constitution or detrimental to the objects and purposes of the Confederation

Section 2. No vote on suspension or expulsion may be taken unless at least fifteen days notice, in writing, shall have been given to the member of the charges preferred and of the time and place of the meeting of the Executive Committee at which such charge will be considered. The notice must be delivered to the member by registered mail. At such meetings the member under charge will be accorded a full hearing.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall provide for true and accurate recording of all proceedings of such hearings.

Section 4. Any officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members in good standing present at any special meeting called for that purpose. No vote of removal may take place unless at least fifteen days' notice in writing shall have been given to the officer of the reasons for his removal and of the time and

place of the special meeting at which on his removal is to be taken. The Executive Committee, upon majority vote, may suspend the officer pending outcome of this special meeting. At such meetings the officer shall be given a full hearing.

Section 5. Charges against any officer or member may be preferred by any member in good standing. They shall be in written clearly stating the facts relied upon and accompanied by all affidavits or exhibits which are to be used in their support. Such charges shall be filed with the Adjutant, who will immediately notify the Commander. The Commander will call a meeting of the Executive Committee to hear the charges. The Adjutant will give at least fifteen days notice of the meeting to each member of the Executive Committee and to the accuser and to the accused, which notice shall be in writing and will include a true copy of the charges and of the supporting affidavits and exhibits.

Section 6. Any member suspended or expelled by the Executive Committee may appeal to the full membership of the Camp. Such appeal shall be made in writing to the Adjutant who will notify the Commander. The Commander will call a special meeting of the Camp for the purpose of acting on the appeal. The Adjutant shall give at least fifteen days' notice in writing to all members of the Camp in good standing stating the date, time, place, and reason for such special meeting. At the meeting of the full Camp the Adjutant will read the original charges, the supporting affidavits, and will read or display the accompanying exhibits and will read the minutes of the special meeting of the Executive Committee at which the charges were heard and action taken. A full hearing will be given the accuser and the accused. A vote will be taken by ballot of the members in good standing present and a two-thirds vote shall be required to reverse the action of the Executive Committee.

Section 7. Any member who has been suspended or expelled, and having exhausted the foregoing appeals procedures, has the right to appeal to the General Executive Council, Sons of Confederate Veterans, the decision of which shall be final. A member expelled by the Camp is ineligible for membership in any other Camp of the Confederation.

ARTICLE XI — Prohibition

Section 1. No discussion of political or religious subjects, nor any political action, or endorsing of aspirants for political office, shall be permitted.

Section 2. No assessment shall be levied upon Camp members other than annual dues and initiation fees, except by resolution of the general membership.

Section 3. Proxy voting shall not be permitted in the conduct of Camp elections or business.

ARTICLE XII — Official Ladies

Section 1. The Camp Commander may appoint only the following ladies to represent the Camp: Matron of Honor, Chaperon, Sponsor and three Maids of Honor.

ARTICLE XIII — Official Observances

Section 1. The Camp shall religiously observe the celebration of Lee-Jackson Day, Georgia Secession Day and Confederate Memorial Day.

Section 2. The Camp shall , as a token of appreciation to friends and family, annually host banquet during December on a date selected by the Commander.

ARTICLE XIV — Amendments

Section 1. Any proposed amendment to these by-laws may be introduced by any member of the Camp **at** any regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose. A vote may be taken upon the proposed amendment provided a copy of the intended amendment **has** been sent to each Camp member in good standing, by United States Mail, at least ten days previous to the meeting. A two- thirds vote of the members present, by ballot, will be necessary to pass or reject.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 19____ by the members of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863