

# Texas Division

## Sons of Confederate Veterans



## Compatriot's Handbook

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## **Introduction to the Sons of Confederate Veterans**

Welcome into our ranks! We are glad you have joined us in preserving the history, heritage and legacy of the Confederate soldier. This handbook is intended to introduce you to the SCV, the Texas Division, and our Camps. Please read it carefully and feel free to contact any of the Division or Camp officers with your questions.

The citizen-soldiers who fought for the Confederacy personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight the Second American Revolution. The tenacity with which Confederate soldiers fought underscored their belief in the rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to insuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 periods is preserved.

The SCV has ongoing programs at the local, state, and national levels that offer members a wide range of activities. Preservation work, marking Confederate soldier's graves, historical re-enactments, scholarly publications, local school presentations, and regular meetings to discuss the military and political history of the War Between the States are only a few of the activities sponsored by local units, called camps. All state organizations, known as Divisions, hold annual conventions, and many publish regular newsletters to the membership dealing with statewide issues. Each Division has a corps of officers elected by the membership who coordinate the work of camps and the national organization. In addition to the privilege of belonging to an organization devoted exclusively to commemorating and honoring Confederate soldiers, members are eligible for other benefits. Every member receives *The Confederate Veteran*, the bi-monthly national magazine that contains in-depth articles on the war along news affecting Southern heritage. The programs of the SCV range from assistance to undergraduate students through the General Stand Watie Scholarship to medical research grants given through the Brooks Fund. National historical symposiums, reprinting of rare books and the erection of monuments are just a few of the other projects endorsed by the SCV.

The SCV works in conjunction with other historical groups to preserve Confederate history. However, it is not affiliated with any other group. The SCV is a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization and rejects any groups whose actions tarnish or distort the image of the Confederate soldier or his reasons for fighting.

## Texas Division Command & Staff 2017– 2019

Division Commander	David McMahon
Division Lt. Commander (Heritage Defense)	John McCammon
Division 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt Commander (Recruiting)	Dennis Brand
Division 3 <sup>rd</sup> Lt Commander (Communication/Media)	Lee Roy Lance
Division Chief of Staff	Bill Boyd
Division Adjutant	John Dickey
Division Judge Advocate	Michael Moore
Immediate Past Division Commander	Gary Bray

### General Information

At all meetings, members should be addressed as “Compatriot”. Officers should be addressed by their title, e.g. Commander, Adjutant, etc. Every Compatriot in the Confederation in good standing will be privileged to attend the meetings of any organization belonging to the Sons of Confederate Veterans and receive the fraternal consideration they are designed to foster.

The SCV has the minimum organization needed to be consistent with its long-term survival and adherence to its original goals. Each Camp makes most of the decisions necessary for it to exist and carry out its programs. The higher levels of the organization exist to assist the camp, carry out policy and to serve as a clearinghouse for ideas. Structurally, the organization is centered on the camp and its support with the other layers of responsibility as outlined below:

### General

The members acting through elected delegates govern the SCV. The General Headquarters (GHQ) is located at Elm Springs, near Columbia, Tennessee. An Executive Director, who is a paid administrator of the organization, leads the Headquarters staff. The General Executive Council (GEC) exercises the authority of the organization between annual reunions (conventions). Our elected and appointed national officers have the responsibility to oversee the Operations of the total SCV organization.

## **Departments (Armies)**

To make it easier to manage and support the area that is covered by the General organization, the constituency is broken down into three Departments. Again, to manage this level of our organization, officers are elected and aides are appointed who have oversight for their respective Departments. The departments are named after the three main Confederate Field Armies, The Army of Northern Virginia, the Army of Tennessee and the Army of the Trans- Mississippi. Texas falls under the jurisdiction of the Army of the Trans-Mississippi.

## **Divisions**

Within each Department are several Divisions made up of states that are generally in geographical proximity to one other. Each state having five camps is known as a Division. The Commander-in-Chief may also form a provisional Division where a state or territory has at least two Camps. Divisions have a set of officers and aides to help manage and support the organization at this level. The division organization has responsibility for all camps in a particular state. The Division Executive Council (DEC) is responsible for exercising the authority of the Division between division conventions.

## **Brigades**

In Divisions with a large number of camps where management and support is difficult, intermediate organizations known as brigades may be formed. Brigades are established to even out the workload, assist the Division Commander, and to provide quicker assistance and support for all camps. The Texas Division is divided into eleven Brigades.

## **Camps**

The backbone of the SCV is the individual Camp. Some may be as small as to have only seven members (the constitutionally required minimum), while many average about forty members. Some camps have the same name and number of a previous SCV or United Confederate Veterans camp that may have existed in the same area in the preceding years. New SCV camps may request the assignment of the name and number of a former SCV Camp if it expects to serve the same general area as its predecessor. Otherwise, the Camp may choose any name that will relate the camp to the community it serves or to the Camp's proposed activities. General Headquarters will assign the Camp with a number.

## **Opening ceremonies at Camp, Brigade and Division meetings**

It is customary to render honors to the colors of these United States, the State of Texas and the Confederacy, to give an invocation and to read the Charge when meetings are opened. Honors to the colors include reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, the Pledge to the Texas Flag, and the Salute to the Confederate flag.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

Note - During the pledge to the U.S. flag, those present in uniform should render the military salute. Those who are not in uniform should place the right hand over the heart. Veterans may render the military salute.

### **Pledge to the United States Flag:**

*"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."*

### **Pledge to the Texas Flag:**

*"Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and Indivisible."*

### **Salute to the Confederate Flag:**

Note - One never pledges allegiance to the Confederate Flag, but renders a salute. The right arm is extended outward, slightly to the right and downward with the hand fully open and turned upward to signify that you are open in friendship.

*"I salute the Confederate flag with affection, reverence, and undying devotion to the Cause for which it stands."*

### **“The Charge” by Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, New Orleans, 1906**

*"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."*

## **Conduct of meetings**

Meetings are conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order and members are expected to act as gentlemen, respecting the rights of other members. The Commander leads meetings. In his absence, the next ranking officer present conducts the meeting.

### **Closing meetings**

Camp, Brigade and Division meetings are closed with announcements of upcoming events and a benediction by the Chaplain.

## **Constitutions and Standing Orders**

The SCV, the Texas Division, the Division's Brigades and Camps all have written Constitutions and by-laws. Members are expected to follow the rules and procedures spelled out in those documents. Copies of the SCV Constitution and Standing Orders are available from GHQ or may be downloaded from the SCV Web Site at [www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org). Copies of the Texas Division Constitution can be downloaded from the Texas Division web site at [www.texas.scv.org](http://www.texas.scv.org). Copies of Brigade Constitutions are available from the Division Adjutant and copies of the various Camp Constitutions are available from that Camp's Adjutant.

## **General Orders, Administrative Memoranda, Policy Letters**

From time to time, it is necessary for the Commanders at the various levels to issue General Orders, Administrative memoranda or Policy letters dealing with various procedures or issues within the SCV, the Texas Division or the Camps. Members are expected to comply with these documents. Copies of those orders are available from the same sources as above.

## **Texas Division SCV - Code of Conduct**

It has been said that the purpose of the Sons of Confederate Veterans is to honor and defend the good name and memory of our Confederate Forces ancestors. To that end, Col. S. D. Lee issued The Charge in 1906:

***“To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish.”***

The general public who know us will judge each of US, and the SCV itself, by the way in which we conduct ourselves. We have in trust the reputation of the Confederate Army and the many good men who were in it. Let us not betray that trust!

Before we can expect to attract good men to the SCV by our conduct and reputation in public, we must learn to conduct ourselves with propriety in our Camps, Brigades, and Divisions. One of our first duties shall be loyalty to the SCV and obedience to its laws. This is a fundamental requirement.

“Propriety is not the result of law, but rather of tradition, custom and usage. Like good manners, it has behind it only the force of opinion. While there (may be) no penalties for breaches, there are tangible rewards for observance of the rules and ceremonies of good manners!”

An ancient philosopher advised “When in Rome, do as the Romans do.” This also applies to your actions when you are visiting another Camp. While the principles and ideals of Compatriotship

are universal, social customs and traditions vary from place to place. For example, all Camps open with a prayer and it is not surprising that the words of the prayer may vary from place to place. When we go to other states in our country we find that the attitude of prayer is not the same everywhere. But wherever you may be, you can be sure that respect and honesty towards a fellow Compatriot will be the fundamental guide for your conduct.

Our Constitution allows for local decisions as to pledges to the U.S. flag. It is your personal prerogative to salute or not but out of respect for others, allow them to do so if they choose to.

Respect - Every person has a basic need for both self-respect and the respect of others. When our friends show, by word or deed, that they hold us in low regard, we may react as strongly as if we were threatened. On the other side, we would do almost anything for a person who holds us in high esteem. Thus, respect is both the least honor that we require and the highest honor that we can hope for in our dealings with our fellow men.

The term “respect” includes courtesy, tolerance, kindness, sympathy, prudence, temperance, and a host of other concepts that refer to our relationships with people. It encompasses our words, our actions, our appearance and even our thoughts. Inside the Camp and outside of it, we should strive to demonstrate in every way our respect for a Compatriot's honor, feelings, efforts, hopes and any other part of his life that we may contact.

While conduct within the Camp is the concern of all Compatriots, it is especially important for the officers of the Camp. Since officers set the example for the whole Camp, before seeking or accepting a position a man should be certain that he is willing to demonstrate the highest standards.

If we show each other courtesy, civility, and respect then our actions and deeds in public will be taken in a more positive light. This can and will enhance our image and help our cause.

It is incumbent upon each of us to practice civil virtues and thus to carry on the good name of our Confederate soldier ancestors.

## **Texas Division SCV Communications Policy**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 At the Texas Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (TX Div SCV), communication plays an essential role in the conduct of our business. How you communicate with people both inside and outside the organization not only reflects on you as an individual but also on us as an organization. We value your ability to communicate positively with colleagues and the public. We trust you to use communications in its varied forms responsibly.

This policy applies to all individuals involved with the SCV.



## 2. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- 2.1 At the Texas Division of SCV courtesy, tact, and consideration should guide each member in relationships with fellow members and the public. The purpose of communications should be to educate the public and other members about our activities and mission.

Differences of opinion should be handled privately and discreetly. Gossip and backbiting must be avoided. Communicate directly with the person or persons involved to resolve differences.

- 2.2 Many aspects of communication are protected by intellectual property rights. Any communication containing the SCV logo, TX Div logo, Camp name and number, and/or other identifiers associated with either the National or local Division of SCV are covered by this policy.

## 3. PERSONAL BLOGS AND WEBSITES

- 3.1 **This part of the policy and procedures in it apply to content that you publish on the internet (e.g. your contributions to blogs, message boards and social networking or content-sharing sites).**

- 3.2 Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, recognizes that in your own private time you may wish to publish content on the internet.

- 3.3 Carefulness is important with written, vocal or visual content posted to the internet which identifies or could identify, you as a member of TX Div SCV and/or your discussions about your work or anything related to TX Div SCV or its business, members or staff, TX Div SCV expects you, at all times, to conduct yourself appropriately and in a manner which is consistent with gentlemanly behavior.

- 3.4 If a blog posting clearly identifies that you belong to TX Div SCV and you express any idea or opinion, then you should add a disclaimer such as "these are my own personal views and not those of TX Div SCV".

- 3.5 The following matters will be treated as gross misconduct capable of resulting in disciplinary action (this list is not exhaustive):

3.5.1 Revealing confidential information about SCV in a personal online posting. This might include revealing information relating to SCVs business plans, policies, staff, financial information or internal discussions. Consult your command staff if you are unclear about what might be confidential.

3.5.2 Criticizing or embarrassing TX Div SCV, its members or its staff in a public forum (including any website or social media format). You should respect the reputation of TX Div SCV and the privacy and feelings of others at all times. If

you have a genuine complaint to make about a colleague or workplace matter the correct procedure is to raise a grievance using the grievance procedure.

3.5.3 Posting material or advertising or other information from any organization or group outside the SCV which is racist, subversive, or outside the spirit and charter of the SCV.

3.6 If someone from the media or press contacts you about your online or other publications that relate to TX Div SCV you should contact the Chief of Staff, Div Publicist, or the Div Commander before responding. Additionally, if someone from the press contacts

you for an interview or back ground story, please contact someone from the above group before responding.

3.8 Online publications which do not identify the author as a member of TX Div SCV and do not mention TX Div SCV and are purely concerned with personal matters will normally fall outside the scope of this communications policy.

#### 4. **CAMP COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONIC OR PRINTED**

4.1 Camp web sites, while developed and supported by individual Camps, fall under the policies of TX Div SCV because they contain intellectual property identifiers which are owned by the SCV. Therefore, the rules of good conduct and gentlemanly behavior outlined above also apply to all the information, editorial opinion. And similar material which may appear on a camp website.

4.2 Content matters on websites. Content such as references or symbols relating to groups which are racist, subversive, or are outside the spirit and charter of the SCV is specifically banned. If you have doubts about your content, please contact one of the command persons mentioned below (section 5.1).

#### 5. **COMPLIANCE WITH THIS POLICY**

5.1 Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action being taken against you and/or the camp under TX Div SCV disciplinary procedures. If there is anything in this policy that you do not understand, please discuss it with your Camp Commander, Brigade Commander, the Division Chief of Staff, or TX Div Commander.

5.2 Please note that the procedures and policies outlined in this policy, and in any related policy, may be reviewed or changed at any time. You will be alerted to important changes.

**Policy edition: April 2017**

## **Dues and Fee Structure**

Note: The SCV Hq has announced a new dues collection procedure to go into effect in 2017. We will have training classes offered at several venues to explain this new process. We highly encourage all SCV members, camp and brigade level officers to attend these meetings.

The SCV charges an annual per capita dues for each active member. Currently, the per capita tax is \$30.00. Additionally, new members are charged a onetime \$5.00 recording fee with their application.

The Texas Division charges \$15.00 per annum in dues. There are no other dues or fees for the Division. The brigades do not charge any dues or fees.

Each Texas Camp may set its own dues.

The SCV collects dues payments on a fiscal year basis. The fiscal year begins on 1 August each year and runs through 31 July of the following year. All dues and fees become payable on 1 August each year. Dues and fees must be paid no later than 31 August or the member becomes delinquent and is dropped from the rolls.

The SCV adopted a prorated dues program in 2006. This allows Compatriots who join late in the year to pay dues for the current fiscal year and prorated dues for the next fiscal year. If a Compatriot joins in the first two quarters of the fiscal year, he pays the regular dues and fees and the prorate option is not available to him.

Life membership is also available. Cost varies depending on one's age. For details, contact your Camp Adjutant. Life membership only applies to the national per capita tax. Life members are still obligated for Division and Camp dues.

## **Categories of Membership**

The SCV offers the following categories of membership.

Full Membership for gentlemen ages 12 and above (Dues are \$30.00 for National and \$15.00 for Texas State plus any camp dues that are charged)

Cadet Membership for young men ages birth to 12 years. (Dues are \$10.00 per annum. Cadets do not pay Division or Camp dues)

Life Membership members may choose to become a member for life on International level, the Division level or both. Note that International Life Membership and Texas Division Life Membership require separate applications and fees.

International Life Membership Dues: \$750.00 for ages 12-64; \$375.00 for ages 65-79; \$187.50 for ages 80 and over.

Texas Division Life Membership Dues: \$315.00 for all ages.

For individuals that have not completed or found a genealogical link to a confederate veteran, National has a program called the “Friends of the SCV.” It has the same National dues payment and the individual receives the Confederate Veteran magazine. A Friend may attend reunions but cannot vote.

Associate Membership is an option that may be taken by a camp within their own bylaws. A camp may charge dues of an Associate Member but that person will never have a vote at any level.

## **A Brief History of the Sons of Confederate Veterans**

By Dr. Buddy Patterson, Archivist, Texas Division

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is a voluntary association of male descendants of those who served the Confederate States of America in the Confederate Army or Navy. We invite all of those who are eligible for membership to apply and multiply their individual abilities through the power of association.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) is neither political nor sectional; membership is distributed across the entire country, plus Europe and Brazil. The SCV strives to honor and keep alive the memory of the Confederacy and the principles for which Confederates fought, thus giving the world an understanding and appreciation of the Southern people and their brave history.

Among activities of the SCV are maintenance of historic sites such as Beauvoir, the home of President Jefferson Davis, sponsorship of symposia such as the annual Confederate History Symposium at the Confederate Research Center in Hillsboro, Texas, the marking of Confederate graves, sponsorship of reenactment groups and Confederate honor guards, the encouragement of historical literacy achievement, and the awarding of scholarships. Individual camps and Divisions establish their own calendars and schedules of activities in addition to national projects.

On June 30, 1889, the United Confederate Veterans (UCV) was organized at New Orleans, Louisiana. Descendants of those veterans met with the UCV, but never with full, official status. In 1894 and again in 1895, poorly planned proposals to form an official organization of these descendants were rejected by the UCV.

In 1896, Edwin P. Cox of Richmond, Virginia, led a well-organized effort to establish a national structure for the "Sons" of Confederate veterans. At the 1896 convention of the UCV, a resolution was presented and adopted calling for the foundation of the Sons of Confederate Veterans as a separate national organization. But, before the vote was taken on the UCV resolution the Sons had already acted.

On June 30, 1896, in the Auditorium at Richmond, representatives of 24 camps and societies met to take action. J. E. B. Stuart, Jr., son of the noted cavalry leader, was selected as temporary chairman and a committee was appointed to draft a constitution. They worked late into the night. On the next day, July 1, 1896, the constitution was completed and adopted. The United Sons of Confederate Veterans had been born.

The structure of the new federation followed that of the Confederate Army; that is, there were three departments. The Army of Northern Virginia Department would be composed of the states of Virginia, Maryland, North and South Carolina, and Kentucky. The Army of Tennessee Department included Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, and Louisiana. The

Army of the Trans-Mississippi Department included all states west of the Mississippi. Each state was designated as a Division.

The constitution stipulated that annual meetings would be held at the same time and place as the UCV. This procedure was followed through the last UCV convention in 1951. J. E. B. Stuart was elected the Commanding General of the SCV and Edwin Cox was appointed the first Adjutant General. No commander was elected for the Army of the Trans-Mississippi Department until the second convention in Nashville in 1897. No Texan served as Commander-in-Chief of the SCV from the time Edgar Scurry left office in 1922 until Ralph Green's election in 1986.

By the end of the 1897 convention of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans, the number of camps had grown to thirty-seven, with one in Texas. One issue facing delegates at that meeting was the question of admitting females into membership in the USCV. While the assembly voted to cooperate with the ladies and to secure their cooperation, a resolution changing the name of the organization to "Sons and Daughters of the Confederacy" was voted out of order. The existence of the United Daughters of the Confederacy was perhaps a factor in the resolve to keep the organization male.

At various times through the years the constitution has been revised to meet the needs and changes dictated by the passage of time. For instance, in 1912, in Macon, Georgia, the name "United Sons of Confederate Veterans" was shortened to the present "Sons of Confederate Veterans." In 1914, the officer designations of Major General, Lieutenant General, etc., were eliminated. Today the various levels from camps through departments are headed by Commanders, with the national organization directed by a Commander-in-Chief. Record keeping and business operations are directed by our Adjutant-in-Chief. A General Executive Council was instituted to oversee the national organization, functioning similarly to a board of directors of a commercial enterprise.

For many years after its formation, the SCV grew and flourished. Cities large and small were proud to be the homes of SCV camps. These camps, meeting on a regular basis, presented historical programs and worked on local projects to promote the memory of the Confederate veterans and their ideals. In 1904, there were a total of 1,563 UCV Camps with 314 in the Texas Division, and there were 481 SCV Camps with 86 in the Texas Division. However, as the veterans passed away, the SCV membership and number of Camps waned.

The centennial celebration of the War Between the States from 1961 to 1965 brought temporarily revived interest, but the late 1960s saw membership dwindle again. Since the mid-1970s, membership has again moved upward as more and more men became interested in knowing about their Southern heritage and the sacrifices made in behalf of that heritage. The 1980s and early 1990s have seen steady SCV growth both in terms of members and new Camp development.

## **A Brief History of the Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans**

By Dr. Buddy Patterson, Archivist Texas Division

The Texas Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans is the flagship Division of the Army of Trans-Mississippi Department. It was organized in October, 1897. The organizational meeting was held in Dallas, and Robert K. Gaston was elected Division Commander. The first Texas Division Reunion was held in Dallas in 1889. There were seven Camps in the Texas Division at the time.

By 1901, there were 36 camps in the Lone Star State. In 1904, 86 Camps, 16 percent of the total number of Camps in the SCV, were located in Texas. In 1904, the Confederate Veteran reported that the R.E. Lee Camp 239 in Fort Worth was the largest in the nation with over 1,200 members. The Texas Division continued to grow, and by 1927, the Division reached its peak with over 170 Camps.

The Division began to wane during the 1930s as the Confederate Veterans passed on, the Great Depression came and went, and World War II occurred. In 1950, only five active members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans could be located in the State. The Texas Division had all but vanished along with the Veterans themselves.

The spirit of the Confederacy was still alive in Texas, though. On June 7, 1954, Dr. Ralph W. Widener, Jr. was appointed Division Commander and he spearheaded the reactivation of the Texas Division. In 2011, the Texas Division has approximately 2,410 members in 80 Camps organized into 11 brigades. Texas has provided 21 Commanders of the Army of Trans-Mississippi Department and four Commanders-in-chief. The Division has hosted seven national Reunions.

The Texas Division enjoys a rich heritage and has produced a strong, vibrant organization, thanks to the hard work of the membership of the Division and its leaders from the Camp to National level.

Due to the efforts of all these men and those who have gone before, the Texas Division maintains its place as the largest Division in the Army of Trans-Mississippi Department and one of the premier Divisions in the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

## **April Is Confederate Heritage Month in Texas**

The Senate of the State of Texas

### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 526

WHEREAS, April is the month in which the Confederate States of America began and ended a four year struggle for states' rights, individual freedom, and local government control; and

WHEREAS, The State of Texas declared herself to be a free and independent state and subsequently joined the Confederate States of America of which it was a member state from 1861 until 1865; and

WHEREAS, The battlefields, monuments, museums, and other historical sites to be found in Texas allow our citizens and visitors to remember, study, and appreciate the men and women of that unique time in the history of Texas and the nation; and

WHEREAS, The flag of the State of Texas was carried by Texas Confederate soldiers in every major battle of the War Between the States and the state contributed over 115,000 soldiers and sailors to the service of the Confederate States of America; and

WHEREAS, during the period of reconciliation, Texas Confederate veterans became instrumental in the continued development of our state and local governments and our institutions of higher learning; and

WHEREAS, We honor our past and draw from it the courage, strength, and wisdom to go forward into the future together as Texans and Americans; and

WHEREAS, The State of Texas has long recognized her Confederate history and the leaders who made sacrifices on behalf of the Confederate cause; and

WHEREAS, The Texans who served in the War Between the States are memorialized in almost every county in the state, and many cities and counties in the State of Texas bear the name of Confederate veterans; and

WHEREAS, It is important for all Texans to reflect upon our state's past and to respect the devotion of her Confederate leaders, soldiers, and citizens to the cause of Southern liberty; and

WHEREAS, In years since the war, the morally abhorrent practice of slavery has in the minds of many Texans become the prime motivation of Southern soldiers, despite the fact that 98 percent of Texas Confederate soldiers never owned a slave and never fought to defend slavery; and

WHEREAS, Politically correct revisionists would have Texas children believe that their Confederate ancestors fought for slavery when in fact most Texans joined the Confederate armed forces to defend their homes, their families, and their proud heritage as Texans; and



WHEREAS, Confederate Memorial Day in April is a time for all Texans to honor those men and women who died for Texas, and also all the Texans who came afterward and benefitted from their legacy of honor and devotion to our state; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Senate of the State of Texas, 76th Legislature, hereby recognize April as Confederate History and Heritage Month in the State of Texas and encourage all Texas schools and citizens to join in efforts to become more knowledgeable of the role of the Confederate States of America in the history of our country.

### **Other Significant Confederate Holidays**

- 9 January: Mississippi Secession Day (1861)
- 10 January: Florida Secession Day (1861)
- 11 January: Alabama Secession Day (1861)
- 19 January: Birthday of General Robert E. Lee (1807)
- 19 January: Birthday of Vice President Alexander Stephens (1812)
- 19 January: Georgia Secession Day (1861)
- 19 January: Confederate Heroes Day in Texas, State Holiday
- 19 January: Confederate Memorial Day in Arkansas and Texas
- 21 January: Birthday of LTG Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson (1824)
- 26 January: Louisiana Secession Day (1861)
- 1 February: Texas Secession Day (1861)
- 6 February: Birthday of MG J.E.B. Stuart (1833)
- 14 February: Arizona Territory CSA established (1862)
- 22 February: Confederate Constitution adopted (1861)
- 4 March: Confederate Flag Day
- 9 April: Army of Northern Virginia Surrendered (1865)
- 26 April: Army of Tennessee Surrendered (1865)
- 26 April: Confederate Memorial Day in Arizona, Florida and Georgia
- 4th Monday in April: Confederate Memorial Day in Alabama and Mississippi
- 5 May: Arkansas Secession Day (1861)
- 10 May: Confederate Memorial Day in North and South Carolina
- 20 May: North Carolina Secession Day (1861)
- 23 May: Virginia Secession Day (1861)
- Last Monday in May: Confederate Memorial Day in Virginia
- 3 June: Birthday of President Jefferson F. Davis (1808)
- 3 June: Confederate Memorial Day in Kentucky, Louisiana & Tennessee
- 8 June: Tennessee Secession Day
- 13 July: Birthday of LTG Nathan Bedford Forrest (1821)
- 22 September: Birthday of LTG Stephen Dill Lee (1833)
- 12 October: Death of General Robert E. Lee (1870)
- 6 December: Death of President Jefferson F. Davis (1889)
- 20 December: South Carolina Secession Day (1860)

## **Marking a Confederate Soldier's Grave**

Members should make every effort to locate the graves of Confederate soldiers and make an effort to either clean the graves and headstones of the veterans. Headstones should be replaced after they become too worn or broken, making them unworthy of the respect due a Confederate soldier.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) furnishes, at no charge, upon request a headstone or marker for the unmarked grave of any deceased eligible veteran in any cemetery. For all deaths occurring before September 11th 2001, the VA may provide a headstone or marker only for those graves that are not marked. When burial or memorialization is in a national, post, or state veteran's cemetery, cemetery officials will order a headstone or marker, based upon information provided by the next of kin or requestor.

A special type of headstone is available to mark the graves of Confederate veterans. These special styles are available in upright marble or granite. To order this special style, write the words "Special style-Confederate" in the appropriate block on the requesting form. The inscriptions available on the special style are limited. The Southern Cross of Honor is automatically inscribed at the top. The name is arched, followed by abbreviated military organization and dates of birth and death. No additional items can be inscribed. If a flat marker is requested, the Southern Cross of Honor can be inscribed or any other appropriate emblem, if requested.

There is an unfortunate tendency for clerks to make mistakes concerning headstones for servicemen prior to the "official discharge" era. In other words, proof of military service prior to World War 1 requires detailed documentation, such as muster rolls, extracts from State files, pension documents or land warrants to be considered for a Government furnished headstone. One can order a copy of the form required to order a headstone from the VA at:

Director, National Cemetery System (42A) Veterans Administration Central Office  
810 Vermont Ave. NW Washington DC 20210 (see the updated VA regulations on Page 16)

When a Confederate Veteran's grave is located, it should also be registered with the Texas Division's Grave Registry Data Base. To do so, visit the Texas Division's website: [www.texas-sev.org](http://www.texas-sev.org) Click on "Research" then "Graves Registry". Then complete the form by following instructions on the website.

## **United States Department of Veterans Affairs Headstone and Marker Application Process Updates**

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 38.632 "Headstone and Marker Application Process" became effective on July 1, 2009. This regulation describes the processes required to apply for a

Government headstone and marker, as well as request a new emblem of belief be added to the list of emblems available for inscription on headstones and markers.

### **Who Can Apply for a Headstone or Marker?**

Please go to the Veterans Administration website: [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) to read the latest changes in the VA headstone or grave marker application process. There have been significant changes in the last eight years. The most current form was authorized on February 2014 and is the current form on the website. If you are interested in obtaining a VA headstone or grave marker for a Confederate Veteran, please read all the instructions prior to completing and submitting the form. You should contact your camp or division officers if you are having difficulty with this process. VA Form 40-1330 "Claim for Standard Government Headstone or Marker". Source: <https://www.cem.va.gov/hmm/> also <https://www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-1330.pdf>

### **Sons of Confederate Veterans War Service Medal**



The Sons of Confederate Veterans honors its members who have served or who are serving the nation in times of crises. The red ribbon of the War Service Medal represents Duty, Honor, and Country.

Members who are serving or have served honorably in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States are eligible to receive the War Service Medal. The WSM may also be awarded to non-members. The eligibility criteria are listed below.

### **Eligibility for the War Service Medal**

Those who served honorably in the US Armed Forces during the following periods are eligible to receive the War Service Medal. World War II: 7 Dec 1941-31 Dec 1946 Korean War: 25 Jun 1950-31 Jan 1955 Vietnam War: 28 Feb 1961-7 May 1975 Lebanon/ Grenada: 24 Aug 1982-31 Jul 1984 Panama: 20 Dec 1989-31 Jan 1990 Desert Shield/ Desert Storm: 2 Aug 1990-cessation of hostilities as determined by the US Government (includes operations in Afghanistan and Iraq).

To apply for the War Service Medal for yourself, another member or a non-member, contact your Camp Adjutant for an application form. You may also download the application form from the SCV website at [www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org). Along with the application, you must provide a copy of your DD Form 214 or similar document. If you are on active duty, a copy of your DA Form 2 or 2A (or the equivalent form from services other than the Army) is required.

The cost of the WSM is \$36.00 plus \$8.50 s/h. Applicants may also order a miniature version for an additional \$22.00. One service bar denoting the war or conflict in which the applicant served is provided with the WSM.

### **The Robert E. Lee Leadership Award**



The Robert E. Lee Leadership Award is presently annually to an outstanding cadet enrolled in the ROTC or Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps in each participating college and high school within the State of Texas.

Criteria for Award: The Robert E. Lee Leadership Award Ribbon will be presented to one cadet in each college and high school ROTC Department who, in the judgment of that school's Professor of Military Science, best emulates the leadership principles, moral character, and dedication to duty demonstrated so superbly by General Robert E. Lee.\*

The Award will consist of a standard-size military ribbon (GRACO pattern 1051) with a gold star in the center. It will be worn in accordance with applicable ROTC/JROTC regulations. In addition, the recipient will receive a Certificate of Award and, at the discretion of the appropriate level Commander, a copy of one of the books shown below.

Where possible, the award will be presented in an appropriate ceremony by a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Brigade and local Camp Commanders will serve as the Points of Contact and liaison with ROTC/JROTC Departments within their geographic areas. The Division and Brigade Commanders will address contact with those schools not served by a local Camp and also resolve responsibilities when an area is served by two or more SCV Camps.

Costs of the Award will be borne by the presenting Camp. Requests for Ribbons and Certificates will be forwarded to the Headquarters, Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans and will contain the Name (first, middle initial, last), College/High School (name and town/city) of the cadet to be honored, and the name and return address of the presenter.

### **The Jefferson Davis Leadership Award**



The Jefferson Davis Award will be presented annually to one outstanding student enrolled in a participating college or high school within the State of Texas.

Criteria for Award: The Jefferson Davis Leadership Award should be presented to the student that in the judgment of that school's student advisor, best emulates the leadership principles, moral character, and dedication to duty that was so superbly demonstrated by President Davis.

Where possible, the award will be presented in an appropriate ceremony by a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Brigade and local Camp Commanders will serve

as the Points of Contact within their geographic areas. The Division and Brigade Commanders will address contact with those schools not served by a local Camp and also resolve responsibilities when an area is served by two or more SCV Camps.

Costs of the Award will be borne by the presenting Camp. Requests for Ribbons and Certificates will be forwarded to the Headquarters, Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans and will contain the Name (first, middle initial, last), College/High School (name and town/city) of the student to be honored, and the name and return address of the presenter.

### **NOTES**