

# ***Constitution of the Arkansas Division Sons of the Confederate Veterans***

*As adopted on June 30, 1984 and*

*Amended in General Arkansas Division Conventions Through April 6, 2002*

## Article I - Title

Section 1. This Confederation of the Sons of Confederate Veterans shall be known as the ARKANSAS DIVISION, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS.

## Article II - Purposes

Section 1. The ARKANSAS DIVISION, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS shall be historical, fraternal, educational, charitable, benevolent, patriotic, non-political and non-sectarian.

## Article III - Organization

Section 1. The constituted bodies of the ARKANSAS DIVISION shall be as follows:

- a. Organizations of at least seven (7) dues paid members, known as camps; each camp shall have a name and be assigned by General Headquarters a number upon admittance.
- b. Organizations of at least two dues paid camps known as brigades. The two(2) brigades shall be known as: the North Arkansas Brigade and the South Arkansas Brigade.

The North Arkansas Brigade shall consist of the following counties:

Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Clay, Cleburne, Conway, Craighead, Crawford, Crittenden, Cross, Faulkner, Franklin, Fulton, Green, Independence, IZARD, Jackson, Lawrence, Logan, Madison, Marion, Mississippi, Newton, Poinsett, Randolph, St. Francis, Scott, Searcy, Sebastian, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren, Washington, White, and Woodruff.

The South Arkansas Brigade shall consist of the following counties:

Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Calhoun, Chicot, Clark, Cleveland, Columbia,

Dallas, Desha, Drew, Garland, Grant, Hempstead, Hot Spring, Howard, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lee, Lincoln, Little River, Lonoke, Miller, Monroe, Montgomery, Nevada, Ouachita, Perry, Phillips, Pike, Polk, Pope, Prairie, Pulaski, Saline, Sevier, Union, and Yell.

#### Article IV - Membership

Section 1. All male descendants, lineal or collateral, of those who served honorably in the Confederate military service shall be eligible for membership in the

camps of the Confederation. No member under age sixteen (16) shall have the right to vote. No one shall be admitted under twelve (12) years of age.

Section 2. No one shall be admitted to membership in any camp until satisfactory proof of the foregoing qualifications are submitted in duplicate on official applications. The original shall be preserved by the camp and the duplicate shall be

forwarded to General Headquarters for record and preservation.

#### Article IV - Membership. (continued)

Section 3. Membership in the SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS is membership in the General Organization of the SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS by affiliation with camps.

Section 4. Membership in the SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS shall be of three (3) kinds as follows:

- a. Active membership paying dues to one of the camps and membership in the ARKANSAS DIVISION is membership in good standing.
- b. Life membership.
- c. General Headquarters camp.

#### Article V - Meetings

Section 1. The legislative body of the ARKANSAS DIVISION shall be the Division Convention to be held annually at a time and place to be fixed by the preceding Division Convention. Thirty (30) days written notice will be sent to each camp, each Division officer and General Headquarters prior to the convention.

Section 2. The Division Commander, or in the event of his absence, death, or resignation, the Lieutenant Commanders, in succession, at the request of a majority of the active camps or the Executive Committee shall convene the Division in special meetings if he deems the emergency sufficient.

Section 3. The Division Convention will be called to order by the Commander. After a prayer and addresses of welcome, the Adjutant will call the roll of Division officers and camps in numerical order. As the camps are called, the chairman of each delegation will answer and hand to the Adjutant the credentials of his delegation. The Commander will then appoint a Credentials Committee to confirm the credentials of the delegates.

Section 4. A quorum shall exist at Conventions when one-third of the camps are represented as provided above.

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

#### Article VI - Officers

Section 1. The Convention shall elect a Commander, a First Lieutenant Commander and a Second Lieutenant Commander. The newly elected Commander will then appoint an Adjutant, a Judge Advocate, a Chaplain, and a Historian. The Commander may appoint such Aide-de-Camps as in his judgment are necessary.

Section 2. Each Division Commander who has served a full term and does not continue to serve shall have the title of Past Division Commanders, while in good standing in their respective camps, shall be life delegates to all Division Conventions with vote.

Section 3. Such officers, as stated in Section 1, Article VI, shall serve until the adjournment of the succeeding Division Convention or until their successors are chosen.

Section 4. Elective officers of the ARKANSAS DIVISION will serve a two (2) year term.

#### Article VII - Duties of Officers

Section 1. The Division Commander shall be the executive head of the ARKANSAS DIVISION with full power to enforce provisions of the Constitution. He shall be chairman of the Division Convention and shall be empowered to act for the Confederation as circumstances, in his judgment, require, in cases not provided in the Constitution subject to appeal by the Convention. Vacancies occurring among officers shall be filled by him, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee and he shall appoint all necessary committees.

Section 2. The Lieutenant Commanders, in succession, shall perform the

duties of the Commander in his absence, and in the event of his death or resignation, shall become Commander for the unexpired term. The Lieutenant Commanders shall assist the Commander in the performance of his duties as so directed by the Commander.

Section 3. The Camp Commanders shall command camps. They shall supervise the work of their camps and shall enforce all orders from Division Headquarters and make semi-annual reports to the ARKANSAS DIVISION Headquarters stating the condition of their camps and the work which they have done; such reports being submitted on January 1 and July 1 of each year.

Section 4. The Adjutant shall be charged with the administration of the policies of the ARKANSAS DIVISION Convention, the Division Executive committee and the Commander. He shall keep correct records of proceedings of the Convention, a roster of camps, conduct correspondence of the confederation and issue general orders of the commander, under his signature. He shall collect and be the custodian of the funds of the Arkansas Division and he shall make reports of the condition of the treasury when called for by the Commander.

Section 5. The Judge Advocate shall advise the Commander and the Executive Committee on all legal matters and construction and interpretation of the ARKANSAS DIVISION and General Constitutions. He shall act as Parliamentarian at all ARKANSAS DIVISION meetings.

Section 6. The Chaplain shall open and close with prayer all ARKANSAS DIVISION meetings and shall perform such divine and Christian activities as prescribed by the Commander. He shall send proper condolences to the families of deceased members as he is notified by the respective camps.

Section 7. The Historian shall be responsible for the construction and maintenance of the ARKANSAS DIVISION scrapbook and any other duties prescribed by the Commander.

Section 8. Aide-de-Camps will perform duties as prescribed by the Commander.

Section 9. Brigade Commanders will be elected to a two (2) year term and will be elected by members of that Brigades District; this election to be held at the time of the ARKANSAS DIVISION convention. Brigade Commanders will supervise the camps assigned, and shall submit to the ARKANSAS DIVISION Headquarters a semi-annual report stating the condition and work done by the respective camps in his assigned Brigade for the prior six (6) month period; such reports being submitted on January 1 and July 1 of each year.

## Article VIII - Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Commander, First Lieutenant Commander, Second Lieutenant Commander, Adjutant, Past Commanders of the ARKANSAS DIVISION, Brigade Commanders, each Camp Commander and others deemed necessary by the Commander.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall meet at the place of the Division Convention. The Commander may call other meetings as he deems necessary or upon written request of five (5) members of said committee.

Section 3. The ARKANSAS DIVISION Commander shall be chairman of the Executive Committee.

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

## Article IX - Finance

Section 1. The fiscal year of the ARKANSAS DIVISION shall be from April 1 of one year to April 1 of the next year.

Section 2. The revenue of the ARKANSAS DIVISION shall be derived from annual membership dues and from other sources as may be approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. A yearly per capita tax shall be paid by each camp for every active member in good standing to the ARKANSAS DIVISION Adjutant. A roster of member names and addresses of members in good standing are to be submitted with per capita tax.

Section 4. The yearly per capita tax shall be set by the Executive Committee; such amount subject to the approval of the ARKANSAS DIVISION Convention. The ARKANSAS DIVISION annual dues are six (6) dollars per person.

Section 5. Camps will not be allowed representation at the ARKANSAS DIVISION Convention unless their per capita tax has been paid to the ARKANSAS DIVISION Adjutant in full as required, prior to the opening of the ARKANSAS DIVISION Convention.

## Article X - Prohibitions

Section 1. No discussion of religious subjects, nor any discussion of political subjects that are identifiable with a political party, nor any endorsement of aspirants of a political office, nor any political action except as set forth in Article II, Section 1, shall be permitted in the organization of the ARKANSAS DIVISION or the General Confederation.

Section 2. No debts shall be contracted by the ARKANSAS DIVISION except

upon approval of the Executive Committee of the ARKANSAS DIVISION.  
Section 3. The use of the Seal, badges or name of this Confederation for unauthorized purposes and the giving of its badges to persons unauthorized to wear them are strictly prohibited.

Section 4. No one can be elected or appointed and officer of the Confederation, unless he is a member in good standing of one of its camps.

#### Article XI - Committees

Section 1. Committees may be appointed by the Commander as necessity dictates.

Section 2. All committees shall meet when called by their chairman. Committees shall make written reports and recommendations to the ARKANSAS DIVISION Commander as soon as assigned duties are performed.

#### Article XII - Delegates

Section 1. Representation of the various camps at the Convention shall be by delegates as follows: One (1) delegate for every seven (7) active members with one (1) additional delegate for a fraction of five (5) or more, provided every camp in good standing shall be entitled to at least two (2) delegates. All delegates shall have credentials signed by their Camp Commander and Camp Adjutant. All delegates must be present to vote. Each delegate has one vote.

#### Article XIII - Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at any Convention by vote of two-thirds of the authorized representation in assembly provided that the proposed amendment is sent by United States mail to each camp in good standing atleast thirty (30) days prior to convening of the ARKANSAS DIVISION Convention.

#### Article XIV - Dissolution Clause

Section 1. In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the ARKANSAS DIVISION will be turned over to a recipient which is officially recognized as a tax exempt organization, qualified to receive donations which are deductible by the donor under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Executive Committee shall determine. Such distribution shall be only made after said Executive Committee has paid or has made provision for the payment of all liabilities of the ARKANSAS DIVISION, NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, S.C.V.

Article XV - Annual date of ARKANSAS DIVISION Convention

Section 1. The ARKANSAS DIVISION of the SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS will hold its annual Convention on the first weekend of April each year. If Easter or some other possible holiday falls upon that weekend, then in the preceding year Convention, it will be voted upon by the ARKANSAS DIVISION delegates to set an appropriate weekend either before or after the Easter holiday weekend.