



CAMP COMMITTEES

The Commander appoints all committee chairmen. He may appoint individual members or permit the chairman to select his committee with the exception of the executive committee, which is defined by the camp's constitution. The proper use of committees prevents the overloading of camp officers, encourages participation by all members and helps to develop future camp officers. This is most effective when care is taken to have each member working on activities, which relate to his own personal interests. The designation of committees is at the discretion of each camp and is governed by its individual needs.

Executive Committee

This group is defined by the camp constitution but is usually comprised of elected and appointed staff, as well as all past camp commanders. The executive committee will be responsible for the overall direction of the camp and will be deeply involved in planning and running the camp. They should plan a program for the camp for at least two years in advance to provide continuity throughout periods of officer transition. Some suggestions for standing committees are:

Programs Committee

This committee is normally headed up by the lieutenant commander and should be comprised of from two to five members. The committee plans each camp meeting including the guest speakers and suggesting the subject matter. The committee also arranges for the speaker to be introduced and is also responsible for the expressions of thanks via letter or in person to speakers and others who gave special assistance to the event. The committee should include and provide notification to the newsletter editor ahead of time on who the speaker will be and his topic. The programs committee may also be responsible for the planning of field trips to historical sites, roundtable discussions and debates. This committee may also plan the camp's patriotic programs for Independence Day, Veterans Day, Confederate Memorial Day and other special events. The committee may also be responsible for the arrangements for refreshments at meetings or other camp events.

Membership Committee

This committee is normally headed up by the 2nd lieutenant commander and may include every member of the camp. The committee should have a sizable number of members interested in obtaining new members. This committee will also be active in reactivating delinquent members and reinstating dropped members. The membership committee should be very interested and pro-active in finding *Real Sons*. The committee reports address and telephone changes to the adjutant so that his records may be updated.

Honor Guard/Color Guard Committee

This committee may assist interested individual members in obtaining reproduction Confederate uniforms and weapons and participating in Confederate Memorial Day Service, funerals, and any special event that the unit may be needed. The honor guard acts as flag bearers and musket bearers to fire salute volleys with black powder. This group should be given the assignment of compiling a special manual of arms for flag bearers and the firing of muskets with safety do's and don'ts. The honor guard may work in concert with the planning committee for Confederate Memorial Day services in which the camp will participate. This committee will plan the service program including obtaining a guest speaker and printing a program. They may choose to attend services of other camps and organizations and shall bring this information to the camp membership. Participation in Confederate Memorial Day Services is strongly encouraged for all camps and camp members.

This committee also has the responsibility of posting and retrieving the colors at special events. The color guard participates in any event where a flag ceremony is needed.

Scrapbook Committee

The camp historian should chair this committee, and it should collect photos, newspaper clippings, printed programs, and other mementos that illustrate the camp's activities during the year. This collection may be used to create an appropriate scrapbook to enter the scrapbook in competition or otherwise display the scrapbook at camp functions and other events. It will be very helpful if at least one member of this committee a good photographer.

Headstones and Marker Committee

This committee will be responsible for obtaining a headstone and/or suitable markers for any unmarked Confederate grave. They will also be responsible, along with any interested volunteers, for cleaning and repairing headstones and markers that are in disrepair. The committee is responsible for compiling the information needed on Veterans Administration forms to order grave markers, seeing that the forms are filled out properly and forwarded to the proper authorities. The committee should also coordinate with the local United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) chapter concerning the placement of grave markers.

Newsletter Committee

This committee may be only one person who is usually the camp's newsletter editor, or it may consist of several members who function as a committee. The committee selects the format of the camp newsletter, writes and/or gathers articles of interest to the camp members. This group also determines the circulation list and any paid advertisements to be used to offset expenses. The newsletter is used to interest current members, build membership attendance, attract prospective members and advise other interested parties of the camp's activities. Only articles directly related to the SCV, the UCV and War Between the States are recommended for inclusion in the newsletter.

Genealogical Committee

Thus committee, headed by the camp genealogist, is designed to assist prospective members in obtaining family data and the genealogical proof necessary to qualify prospects for membership. This is an extremely important function to increase membership as some prospective members are intimidated by the prospect of obtaining these documents.

Finance Committee

This committee is responsible for the financial plans and expenditures of the camp and works with the executive committee. It recommends how much to charge for camp dues and prepares an annual budget for the camp. Thus committee usually consists of at least the commander and the adjutant.

Historical Research Committee

This committee researches historical data concerning the War Between the States such as battlefields, particular battles, publications and books. The committee aids and encourages the recording and teaching true Southern history at all levels of the education system.

Public Relations Committee

This committee is responsible for press releases and radio and television announcements well in advance of deadlines and events. This committee may often work with the media to develop a feature about an event on which the camp is working. Members with photography and/or literary skills are desirable for this committee. This committee should save clippings, printed programs, photos and other items for the camp scrapbook committee.

Monuments Committee

This committee researches different Confederate monuments in the area served by the camp. It reports to the camp on any monuments that are in need of repair and cleaning. The committee also works with the appropriate state entity responsible for placing historical markers for unmarked Confederate events and sites.

Awards Committee

This committee identifies those members and others who are deserving of an award or Certificate of Appreciation. It creates the award or certificate and has it appropriately inscribed.

Uniforms Committee

The SCV is not a uniformed organization. However, many members desire to wear reproduction uniforms at appropriate times such as Confederate Balls, as a member of a uniformed color guard etc. When a member chooses to wear a uniform it should be as authentic as possible in material and design. There are many who advertise in the *Confederate Veteran* or sell their wares at reunions or reenactments. These businesses, or sutlers, are a suggested source of uniforms and accessories.