

Bylaws of Colonel D. H. Lee Martz, Camp #10

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Harrisonburg, Virginia



Originally Organized 27 March 1896 as
Turner Ashby Camp No. 10
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Originally Re-Organized 15 September 1922 as
Colonel D. H. Lee Martz Camp No. 10
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Modern Re-Organization 1998 as
Colonel D. H. Lee Martz Camp No. 10
Sons of Confederate Veterans

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ARTICLE I: *Name and Purpose*

Section 1. The name of this camp shall be the Colonel D. H. Lee Martz, Camp #10, Sons of Confederate Veterans. In these Bylaws it will be referred to as the Camp.

Section 2. In the name of a reunited country, we declare the following purposes: An unquestioned allegiance to the Constitution of the United States of America, largely written and expounded by Southern men, the very Magna Carta" of our liberties; a strict construction of all sections conferring power upon the Federal Government and the implied and understood reservations to the States arising therefrom and a general attitude of opposition to further amendment thereof. We adhere to the principles of the Great Charter of England granted at Runnymede, 1215 A.D., and the Anglo-Saxon rights and personal liberties transmitted to us thereunder; to associate in one united, compact body all men of Confederate ancestry and to cultivate, perpetuate and sanctify the ties of fraternity and friendship entailed thereby; to aid and encourage the recording and teaching with impartiality of all Southern history and achievement from Jamestown to this present era, seeing to it especially that the events of the War Between the States are authentically and clearly written and that all documents, relics and mementos produced and handed down by the active participants therein are properly treasured and preserved for posterity; to comforts, succor and assist needy Sons of Confederate Veterans, their wives, widows and orphans; to urge, aid and assist in the erection of suitable and enduring monuments and memorials to all Southern valor, military and civil, wherever done and wherever found, particularly stressing that of our heroic Confederate ancestors who, by their sacrifice, perpetuated unto us and our descendants that glorious heritage of valor, chivalry and honor which we now hold and venerate; and to instill in 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.

Section 3. The Camp shall be strictly patriotic, historical, educational, benevolent, non-political, non-racial and non-sectarian. Each member shall perform his full duty as a citizen according to his own conscience and understanding.

Section 4. The nature of the services offered by this camp shall be volunteer. No payment or offered services shall be solicited by officers, or members, of this organization.

Section 5. This camp is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or the corresponding section of any future Federal tax code).

ARTICLE II: *Membership Eligibility*

- Section 1.* All male descendants, lineal, or collateral, 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 retired or discharged, shall be eligible for membership in the Camp, provided that no member shall be admitted under twelve years of age.
- Section 2.* No one shall be admitted to membership in the Camp until satisfactory proof of the foregoing qualifications be submitted in duplicate on official blank applications prepared for that purpose. The original shall be carefully preserved and forwarded to International Headquarters within ten days for recording and permanent preservation. The Camp shall keep a duplicate copy of all membership application forms.
- Section 3.* Membership in the Camp is membership in the General Organization of the Sons of Confederate Veterans by affiliation with this Camp.
- Section 4.* The language of the purpose to the contrary notwithstanding, no member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans who is not a citizen of the United States of America, shall be required to pledge or declare allegiance to the Constitution or Government of the United States of America.

ARTICLE III: *Officers and Duties*

- Section 1.* The Camp shall elect, at least, the following officers: Commander, 1st Lieutenant Commander, Adjutant, Chaplain, Treasurer. The following additional officers may also be elected: 2nd Lieutenant Commander, Quartermaster, Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Historian, Color Sergeant. If not elected, the Commander may appoint additional officers subject to approval of the elected Camp officers.
- Section 2.* Camp officers shall be elected to serve for a period of one year taking office in the month of August, and they shall continue to serve until their successors are elected.
- Section 3.* The Commander shall be the chief executive officer of the Camp with full responsibility and power to enforce the provisions of these Bylaws, the will of the Camp, and the decisions and orders of the Executive Committee, and to this effect he may issue all necessary orders. He shall be Chairman of the Executive Committee and shall decide all questions of law, order or usage. He shall be empowered to act for the good of the Camp, as circumstances, in his judgment, may require, in cases not provided for by these Bylaws, subject in all such decisions and acts to appeal to the full Camp Executive Committee, Brigade Commander, Virginia Division or the Executive Council. He shall appoint all necessary committees, and shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

- Section 4.* The 1st Lieutenant Commander shall perform the duties of the Commander in the absence of the Commander, and in case of the death, resignation, removal from office, incapacitation or for any reason for which the Commander cannot fulfill his duties and responsibilities, shall become Commander for the unexpired term. The 1st Lieutenant Commander shall assist the Commander in the performance of his duties as directed by the Commander.
- Section 5.* The 2nd Lieutenant Commander shall assist the 1st Lt. Commander in the performance of his duties. In the event the 1st Lt. Commander succeeds to the office of Commander, or in the case of death, resignation, removal from office, incapacitation or for any reason for which the 1st Lt. Commander cannot fulfill his duties and responsibilities shall become 1st Lt. Commander for the unexpired term.
- Section 6.* The Adjutant shall be charged with the administration of the policies and mandates of the Camp, the Executive Committee and the Commander. He shall keep correct records of the proceedings of the Commander's actions, Executive and Camp meetings; a roster of the members of the Camp, including membership applications and all accompanying documentation; conduct the correspondence of the Camp under the direction of the Commander; issue the necessary orders under the direction of the Commander. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incidental to the office.
- Section 7.* The Treasurer shall keep a record of all financial transactions, receipts and disbursements collect all dues and assessments and make payments therefrom for all expenses and give reports to the Camp.
- Section 8.* The Quartermaster shall be responsible for all materials belonging to the Camp. He shall control any and all materials to ensure their availability to the Camp whenever required.
- Section 9.* The Judge Advocate shall advise the Commander, and Executive Committee, on all legal matters, and shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office. He may present at the Camp's Annual Meeting a report or paper on the history of his Department of the Confederate Service.
- Section 10.* The Surgeon shall perform the duties properly appertaining to his office, and may present at the Camp's Annual Meeting a report or paper on matters relating to the medical and surgical branch of the Confederate Service.
- Section 11.* The Historian shall collect all records and data of value and interest for the Camp and shall compile during his term of office a complete history of the year's activities. He shall have other duties as the Executive Committee shall prescribe.

Section 12. The Color Sergeant shall be responsible for the posting and retreat of Colors at each Camp meeting. He shall also be responsible to ensure that a proper Color Guard is available at each ceremony held by the Camp as necessary. He shall also be responsible to perform the duties as Sergeant-at-Arms at each Camp meeting; ensuring proper good conduct and order is maintained.

Section 13. The Chaplain shall open and close with prayer each meeting of the Camp, and perform such divine and non-sectarian services as may be necessary in connection with the office. He may present at the Camp's Annual Meeting a report or paper on matters relating to his branch of the Confederate Service.

ARTICLE IV: *Executive Committee*

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers of the Camp.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall meet as required, or upon a call of the majority of the membership. A majority of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. It shall arrange all meetings of the Camp, approve all unusual expenses, and perform all other acts necessary for the preservation, prestige, and well-being of the Camp.

Section 3. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to correct any and all discipline problems identified in the Camp. The decision of any individual member of the Executive Committee may be appealed to the Executive Committee as a whole. The decision of the Executive Committee is final and binding and may only be appealed to the General Executive Council as identified in Section 5 below.

Section 4. Members may be suspended or expelled from the Camp, and the Sons of Confederate Veterans, only upon a proper showing of cause. Charges shall be based upon disloyalty, neglect of duty, dishonesty, conduct unbecoming a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans or the commission of an act repugnant to these Bylaws or the General Constitution; provided, that at least fifteen days notice of such proposed action shall have been given to such members by certified mail, and that the member is given an opportunity to be heard. The effective date of suspension or expulsion pursuant to this Section shall be five days after a decision is rendered by the Executive Committee.

Section 5. Any member who has been suspended or expelled has the right of appeal to the Division General Executive Committee. A member expelled by a Camp is ineligible for membership in any other Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Section 6. In any matter requiring a decision of the Executive Committee, an elected officer shall have only one vote per decision regardless of the number of Camp officer positions filled by that elected officer.

ARTICLE V: *Nominations and Elections*

- Section 1.* Nominations for all officers will be made from the floor at, or in writing to one of the Executive Committee prior to, the annual meeting in May.
- Section 2.* Elections shall be held at the June meeting of each year and the officers will assume their duties at the close of the meeting at which they are elected.
- Section 3.* In case of a ballot, the majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to obtain a choice. If there is not an election on the first ballot the name receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped, and so on in successive ballots until an election is made.
- Section 4.* The vote shall be by secret ballot unless dispensed with by unanimous consent, when there may be a voice vote. In case of a ballot, only those regular members in good standing may vote. Those present will complete their ballot and place it in the ballot box or present it to the Election Balloting Committee. Those unable to attend the June meeting are required to complete their ballot, seal and have it arrive in the hands of one of the two members of the of the Election Balloting Committee no later than the beginning of the June meeting; these are the only two individuals who may present absentee ballots for tallying. Those voting by absentee ballot will have their ballot counted as long as the name contained within remains active. The Election Balloting Committee will tally the votes and present the results to the Commander. Ballots and Election Balloting Committee paperwork will be filed by the Adjutant until the next election.
- Section 5.* The Election Balloting Committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee to oversee the balloting process. The two members of the Election Balloting Committee will be individuals not running for election of any office. The committee will be appointed in May after nominations have been completed, and cease to exist June next, after the election results have been tallied and announced.
- Section 6.* Members who are unable to attend the May meeting, must designate in writing their willingness to accept nomination(s) and serve, if elected.

ARTICLE VI: *Policies and Procedures*

- Section 1.* Roberts' Rules of Orders shall govern at all meetings, either of the organization or of the Executive Committee.
- Section 2.* The Commander, or his designated representative, shall set the agenda for each meeting, whether of the Camp or Executive Committee.

Section 3. Members present at a meeting of the membership shall constitute a quorum and a majority vote of the membership present will govern. All members shall be notified by an appointed member, newsletter, or by any other means, as to the times and places of regular, annual, or special meetings.

Section 4. Reasonable expenses incurred by the elected officers or their committees due to the transaction of Camp business shall be reimbursed upon written request of that officer. (These shall include but are not limited to postage, shipping, copying, stationary, and phone calls.) Questions, and reimbursement request, concerning these matters shall be referred to the Executive Committee for their review, verification, and authorization for reimbursement.

ARTICLE VII: *Prohibitions*

Section 1. Discussions of matters that appertain to a political party, whether specifically identified or identified by implication, during meetings is strictly prohibited. Nothing in these Bylaws, however, shall be construed to abridge or prohibit the adoption or advocacy of positions that are concerned with the general welfare of the United States of America or its national security nor to abridge or prohibit the expressions of the mind of the Camp in such matters' by adoption of resolutions or petitioning the Executive and Legislative branches of the Government, provided that there is no identification, specific or implied, with any political party.

Section 2. No discussion of religious subjects, nor any discussion of political subjects that are identifiable with a political party, nor any endorsement of aspirants for political office, nor any political action except as set forth in Section 1 above, shall be permitted at any Camp meeting.

Section 3. No debt shall be contracted by this Camp except upon approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. No assessment shall be levied upon Camp members other than the recording fees and the per capita tax, except by the Executive Committee or by resolution of the General Convention; or by action of the Division Convention acting under authority of the General Constitution.

Section 5. Military titles used in the Confederate Army or Navy shall not be given to or used by members or officers of this Camp, by reason of their being such members or officers.

ARTICLE VIII: *Committees*

Section 1. Committees may be appointed by the Commander or the Executive Committee as necessary. Any Camp member in good standing may serve. The commander shall act as an ex-officio member of all committees. The term of all committees shall be set at the time of their appointment. (See exception Article V, Section 5, Election Balloting Committee)

ARTICLE IX: *Fiscal Year*

Section 1. The operating year for the Camp will be based on the calendar. Each year will begin 1 August and end 31 July.

ARTICLE X: *Finance*

Section 1. The revenue of the Camp shall be derived from annual membership fees and from such other sources as may be approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Annual Camp dues shall be set by majority vote of members in good standing present at a meeting. Annual dues, along with the required per capita fee for the International Headquarters, and State Headquarters, shall be paid to the Treasurer as required. New members are required to pay the full Camp dues along with their recording and per capita fee to the International Headquarters and State Headquarters. Camp dues collected for a new member in the period between the annual VA State Division Convention and the start of the billing cycle as proscribed by SCV General, shall be assessed to the next fiscal year.”

Section 3. Any member whose per capita tax for the year is not transmitted to International Headquarters as required for that year shall be automatically suspended. Suspended members may be reinstated to full membership upon payment to International Headquarters of a reinstatement fee of \$5 and payment of the full per capita tax for the year during which the member is reinstated Thereafter, a reinstated member shall be liable for the per capita tax for succeeding years at the same time as other renewing members.

Section 4. Donations in the form of monies, services or any items of service or use to the general membership, shall be accepted upon approval of the Executive Committee, provided said donation was not solicited and that said donation is not compensatory for services offered to the host by the membership of this Camp.

- Section 5.* Payment in the form of monies, services or any items of service or use to the general membership may be requested, as determined and approved by the Executive Committee, of a host for services of special services or efforts requested by said host, of the membership of this Camp.
- Section 6.* A host is defined as: a governmental body, department, agency or agent thereof (local, city, county, state, or federal), any school administration or agent thereof (public or private), any non-profit organization (whether volunteer or salary oriented), or any other sponsors of historical celebrations or programs who may be offered the services of this membership or who may request the services of this membership.
- Section 7.* No part of the net earnings of the Camp shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to its members, directors, officers or other private persons, except that the Camp shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of section 501 (c) (3) purposes. No substantial part of the activities of the Camp shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Camp shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.
- Section 8.* Upon the dissolution of this Camp assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code.

ARTICLE XI: *Annual Reports*

- Section 1.* The Commander shall make an annual report, in duplicate, utilizing forms furnished by International headquarters, giving such information as may be required by the General Executive Council. Reports must be submitted as required, one copy forwarded to the Division Commander, the other to International Headquarters. The report will include a Camp roster and payment of any per capita taxes not previously submitted to International Headquarters. In addition, at his discretion, the Camp Commander may submit a final report at the expiration of his term of office.
- Section 2.* Each officer should submit a report, if requested by the Commander, of the activities in his department which occurred during the previous year. These reports will become part of the historical record of the Camp.

ARTICLE XII: *Amendments*

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended at any Camp Meeting by the vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided that the proposed amendments shall have been sent to the members of the Camp in good standing at least thirty days in advance of the meeting.

Amendments (Amendments are underlined)

August 24, 2009 *Article III, Section 4*
Article III, Section 5
Article III, Section 12
Article V, Section 3
Article V, Section 5
Article IV, Section 6

November 23, 2009 *Article III, Section 1*
Article III, Section 3

February 27, 2012 *Article X, Section 2*