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**Confederate Veteran
Camp of New York**



Constitution and By-Laws

Nineteen Hundred and Three

CONSTITUTION
AND
BY-LAWS
OF THE
Confederate Veteran Camp
OF NEW YORK

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CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I.

This organization shall be known as the Confederate Veteran Camp of New York.

ARTICLE II.

The object shall be to perpetuate the memories of our fallen comrades; to minister to the wants of needy and worthy Confederate soldiers and sailors, and to preserve and maintain the sentiment of fraternity that was born amid the pleasures, hardships, and dangers of the march, bivouac, and battlefield.

Having long since buried the animosities engendered by the war, it is our desire to extend to our late adversaries in arms, on every fitting occasion, courtesies which characterize intercourse between soldiers and dignify a common citizenship.

Avoiding everything that partakes of partisanship in religion or politics, we shall lend our aid to the maintenance of law and the preservation of order.

ARTICLE III.

OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The officers of the Camp shall be Commander, Lieutenant-Commander, Paymaster, Adjutant, and an Executive Committee, to be composed of the officers above-named and five others. There shall also be a Chaplain and a Medical Director.

SEC. 2. All officers shall enter upon their duties immediately after their election, and discharge the same under the direction and control of the Executive Committee and the Camp. They shall hold office for one year next succeeding

17. F. S. Stanton gift 2/10/17

the date fixed for the annual election, and until their successors are elected, and they shall be removable for cause, and on due notice at any meeting, by the Camp.

ARTICLE IV.
DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

COMMANDER.

SECTION 1. The Commander shall preside at all meetings of the Camp; he shall call special meetings of the Camp when he may deem it necessary, or when requested so to do, in writing, by ten members in good standing. On retiring from office, he shall have the rank of Past Commander, and as such be ex-officio a member of the Executive and all standing Committees for one year.

A special badge shall be provided and presented by the Camp to each Past Commander.

LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER.

SEC. 2. The Lieutenant-Commander shall take the place of the Commander in his absence. In the event of the absence of all of these officers, the Camp shall elect, from amongst the members present, a presiding officer pro tem.

ADJUTANT.

SEC. 3. The Adjutant shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Camp, and of the Executive Committee, which record shall, at all reasonable times, be open to the inspection of the members of the Camp. He shall keep the Roll of Members, notify applicants of their election, issue notices of all meetings of the Camp, with a brief statement of the business to be transacted at Special Meetings, and he shall be the keeper of the Seal.

PAYMASTER.

SEC. 4. The Paymaster shall keep the accounts of the Camp, and collect all dues, pay all bills duly authorized and

properly approved by the Executive Committee, procure proper vouchers for all payments, and make a statement of the financial condition of the Camp at each regular meeting of the Executive Committee.

CHAPLAIN.

SEC. 5. The Chaplain shall officiate at all funerals of members of the Camp, when his services may be requested.

SURGEONS.

SEC. 6. The Medical Director and the Medical Staff shall be employed by the Camp whenever their services may be needed to attend upon indigent veterans, their widows, or orphans.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

SEC. 7. The Executive Committee shall constitute a Board of Managers, five of whom shall constitute a quorum, with the following powers, to wit:

(a) It shall pass upon all applications for membership, and, with reasonable promptness, report its actions to the Camp.

(b) It shall have general management of the affairs of the Camp, the control of its property, and the appropriation of its funds, but it shall have no power to make the Camp liable for any debt or debts to an amount which shall exceed the amount of cash in the hands of the paymaster not otherwise appropriated; and shall appoint an Auditing Committee and a Membership Committee, and such other committees as it may deem requisite.

(c) It shall make such by-laws for its own government as it deems expedient, not inconsistent with this Constitution.

(d) It shall have power, by a majority vote of the entire Committee, to suspend or put an end to the membership of any member for violation of the Constitution or By-Laws, or for any conduct in its opinion improper or prejudicial to the welfare of the Camp or for prolonged and unreasonable neglect

to pay dues, after notice of at least five days to such member, but no member in good standing shall be dropped from the rolls for inability to pay dues. A member expelled or suspended may appeal to the Camp from such expulsion or suspension provided ten members in good standing shall file a notice with the Adjutant, endorsing such appeal within ten days after the action of the Executive Committee shall have been announced, in which event the appeal so taken shall be heard at the next regular meeting of the Camp, provided, however, that said appeal shall have been filed with the Adjutant at least twenty days before said meeting, and if not so filed, then said appeal shall not be heard until the next subsequent meeting.

A two-thirds vote of the members present shall be necessary to reverse the action of the Executive Committee.

(e) It shall have power to appropriate money to defray any proper expense incurred during the sickness of any member, as well as in the burial of a deceased member of the Camp.

ARTICLE V.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. At the regular meeting in October in each year the officers of the Camp, to serve until after the next annual election, shall be elected by ballot by the majority of those members who shall attend for that purpose and vote. Elections to fill vacancies may occur at any regular meeting.

SEC. 2. If on the first ballot there shall be a failure to elect to any office balloted for, all candidates for such office, except the two receiving the highest votes, shall be dropped and further ballots taken until all elective offices are filled, and such balloting may be continued at other meetings.

SEC. 3. If for any reason the election shall not be held on the day herein designated for that purpose, it may be held in the same manner under the rules herein provided, on any other day which may be fixed by the Executive Committee or by the Camp.

SEC. 4. No member who has been in arrears for dues for sixty days shall be entitled to vote for any officer of the Camp, nor shall any member be eligible for office who shall have been in arrears for dues sixty days previous to the annual election.

SEC. 5. The Adjutant shall receive all nominations made up to the Tuesday preceding the last Tuesday of October in each year, and shall cause the same to be printed in a list, the different nominees being arranged under the respective offices for which they are nominated, with a note of the number of officers to be voted for under each head. This list shall be distributed to the members of the Camp before the day of the election.

The Adjutant shall also prepare a sufficient number of ballots for use at the election, with proper blanks for the insertion of the names of Comrades voted for.

Additional nominations may be made at the time of the election.

SEC. 6. At all elections for offices the polls shall be opened from 8.30 P. M. until 9.30 P. M. for the first ballot and fifteen minutes for each subsequent ballot.

SEC. 7. Immediately after the polls are closed, the tellers shall count the ballots cast, and certify the results to the Camp.

SEC. 8. The Commander shall appoint three Tellers from among Comrades present at the time of election.

ARTICLE VI.

MEETINGS.

The regular meetings of the Camp shall be on the last Tuesday of each month at 8.30 o'clock P. M., and nine members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII.

MEMBERS AND MEMBERSHIPS.

SECTION 1. The classification of memberships in the Camp shall be Veteran, Associate, Non-resident, Life and Honorary.

VETERAN MEMBERS.

SEC. 2. Persons of good character who served honorably in the Army or Navy of the Confederate States, or in the civil service in the War of 1861-1865, shall be eligible to admission as Veteran Members.

SEC. 3. All applications for memberships shall be in writing, signed by the applicant and his seconder, upon blanks furnished by the Camp, and such application shall be delivered to the Committee on Membership, and the name of the applicant shall not be brought before the Executive Committee for action thereon until after the Committee on Membership shall have reported in writing.

Upon the report of the Executive Committee, a ballot shall be taken by the Camp, and it shall require a four-fifths vote of those present to elect.

SEC. 4. No member elected shall be admitted to the privileges of the Camp until after he shall have paid his dues, and if such payment is not made within sixty days after notice of election has been sent him, said election may be declared void by the Executive Committee.

(a) Veteran Members are entitled to all the privileges of the Camp, and are alone eligible to the offices of the Camp, until there shall remain on the Roll in good standing less than ten Veteran Members, at which time Associate Members shall be eligible to hold such offices.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

The Confederate Veteran Camp of New York was organized in 1890 by Veterans of the War of 1861-65, for benevolent purposes and comradeship.

It having prospered and gained a high position in the community, the natural desire of the Veterans was to have the Camp continue to exist for all time. To that end, it was decided to take in as members the younger element, descendants and relatives of Veterans, under the name of Associate Mem-

The Associate Members were to be a part and parcel of the Veteran body, with necessary restrictions during the lives of the Veterans, and then later to control the Camp, its offices, etc.

SEC. 5. Persons of good character having attained the age of eighteen years, who are relations or descendants of persons qualified to be Veteran Members, shall be eligible to admission as Associate Members.

(a) Associate Members are entitled to all the privileges of the Camp, excepting that they shall not be eligible to hold office until there remains on the Roll of the Camp less than ten Veteran Members, and shall have the right to vote only on the Election, Suspension, or Expulsion of Associate Members, and on matters relating to the social entertainments of the Camp.

NON-RESIDENT MEMBERS.

SEC. 6. Persons of good character residing more than fifty miles from New York City, and qualified under Sections 2 or 5, are eligible to admission as Non-resident Members.

(a) Non-resident Members are entitled to all the privileges of the Camp, excepting the right to vote or hold office.

LIFE MEMBERS.

SEC. 7. Persons of good character who are qualified under Sections 2 or 5 are eligible to admission as Life Members on payment of one hundred dollars.

(a) Life Members are entitled to all the privileges of the Camp, as provided in Sections 2 and 3.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

SEC. 8. Persons of good character who are qualified under Sections 2 and 5, and are recommended by the Executive Committee, are eligible to admission as Honorary Members by unanimous vote of the Camp.

(a) Honorary Members are entitled to all the privileges of the Camp, excepting the right to vote or hold office.

ARTICLE VIII.

DUES.

The annual dues of Veteran Members and Non-resident Members shall be five dollars, and of Associate Members three dollars, payable in advance, at the regular meeting in October in each year; but the dues of members elected in the months of June, July, August, and September shall not commence until the following October.

ARTICLE IX.

BADGE.

A membership badge shall be designed, and shall be worn by the members at all meetings of the Camp, and may be worn at any other time.

ARTICLE X.

SEAL.

The Camp shall have a seal, to be devised by the Executive Committee, and approved by the Camp.

ARTICLE XI.

AMENDMENT OR SUSPENSION.

No part of this Constitution shall be amended or altered, except at regular meetings, by a two-thirds vote of those present, and after notice has been given at a previous meeting. But in case of emergency, any part of this Constitution may be suspended at any meeting by a unanimous vote of those present.

BY-LAWS.

I. The Commander or Adjutant may, and at the request of three members of the Executive Committee must, call meetings of the Committee, but written notice thereof shall be given by the Adjutant to all members of the Committee.

II. At all meetings of the Camp and of the Executive Committee the order of business shall be:

1. Roll Call.
2. Reading Minutes of Previous Meeting.
3. Communications and Proposals for Membership.
4. Reports of Officers and Committees.
5. Election of Members.
6. Unfinished Business.
7. New Business.
8. Adjournment.

III. The Executive Committee, at their first meeting after the annual election, shall appoint a Standing Committee of Three on Membership, whose duty it shall be to investigate all applications for membership, and report thereon to the Executive Committee; and also an Auditing Committee, who shall audit the Paymaster's books.

IV. All reports of Committees shall be in writing.

V. The same rule relating to amendments to the Constitution shall apply to and regulate these By-Laws.

VI. Cushing's Manual shall govern the deliberations of this Camp.