

# SCV *Gray Line*

News from International Headquarters

Vol. 10 No. 1 July 2004 **Information for Commanders, Adjutants and 33,092 Members**

Information contained in the *Gray Line* is for use by all members. Commanders are encouraged to copy those items which directly affect their membership into their camp newsletters, or to include the *Gray Line* in its entirety as a part of your newsletters. Communication throughout the organization is very important and the *Gray Line* offers us a means to provide members with the most up-to-date information on many different topics.

#### **List administrator urges all compatriots to register for SCV Dispatch**

Al Dalton, SCV Dispatch Administrator, strongly encourages all SCV members in good standing to join the SCV Dispatch mailing list. There are some good discussions going on now about the upcoming elections—the issues and the candidates—so don't miss out. Sign up today!

Direct sign up link: [http://green.mynethost.com/mailman/listinfo/dispatch\\_126152](http://green.mynethost.com/mailman/listinfo/dispatch_126152)

#### **Does your Camp have to file a tax return?**

Camps and divisions that have subordinate tax identification numbers under the SCV's umbrella have probably received booklets from the IRS entitled 2003 Returns for Organizations Exempt from Income Tax. Please be advised that camps and divisions DO NOT have to file a 990 tax return unless their revenues for the fiscal year (August 1 through July 31st) exceeded \$25,000.

#### **Personnel Change at IHQ**

ANV Secretary Katie Cunningham has been replaced by former ANV Secretary Nikki Thornton, who is taking a break from her studies. Nikki is scheduled to return to college in January 2005.

#### **Are Your Dues Current?**

Compatriots who are dues current, showing as status 2003 on camp rosters, are technically paid through July 31, 2004 and they also stay active through the six month grace period that ends on January 31, 2005. Camps are encouraged to send in their 2004 dues, covering the period August 1, 2004 through July 31, 2005, at any time after August 1, 2004, and not to wait until January 2005.

#### **Elms Springs gets a face lift—repairs almost complete**

The General Executive Council approved the purchase of a new copper roof for Elm Springs which has been installed, along with extensive work to reappoint a good deal of the brick mortar. Now that this wonderful antebellum home is water tight, numerous cracks in the plaster walls have been repaired, and fresh paint is being applied throughout the inside of the house. The painting will be completed in the near future, and the membership is invited to visit the IHQ and to tour Elm Springs.

#### **Reunion Awards and Certificates—how to get yours**

Certificates and medals for various SCV awards and Dixie Club recruiting awards may be picked up immediately after the SCV Awards Luncheon (preferred) or at the IHQ merchandise tables later in the afternoon. If possible, please pick up any awards for members of your camps who are unable to attend the reunion and take them home with you. This will save IHQ the effort and cost to mail them.

#### **Important Changes to Gray Line Announced**

**We still get requests to add members to the “hard copy” Gray Line list. The Gray Line is now being sent out by internet only!!** Any member may receive the Gray Line, however, it is vital that Camp Commanders make sure a current email address is on file for you at IHQ. If the Camp Commander does not have email access, it is very important that the email address of the Camp Adjutant and/or newsletter editor be on file. In the unlikely event that none of these people have email, at least forward a current email address for one member of your camp. **Don't miss vital information !** Email the correct address TODAY to [exedir@scv.org](mailto:exedir@scv.org).

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Commander-in-Chief R.G. "Ron" Wilson · 203 Siloam Rd. · Easley, SC 29642 · (H) 864-605-1004 · cic@scv.org

SCV Executive Director: **Ben Sewell**—[exedir@scv.org](mailto:exedir@scv.org), ext. 207

**Contact Information:**

**Nikki Thornton**, Army of Northern Virginia any@scv.org, ext. 204

**Deanna Nay**, Army of Tennessee—aot@scv.org, ext. 202 \* **Jodie Lippard**, Army of Trans Mississippi—atm@scv.org, ext. 203

**Bryan Sharp**, Membership Coordinator—membership@scv.org, ext. 201

(800) 380-1896 (931) 381-6712 (Fax)

## **Announced candidates for SCV office**

At the time of this writing, the following candidates (listed alphabetically) have announced their intentions to run for SCV office:

Commander in Chief: Walter C. Hilderman III  
J. Troy Massey  
Denne A. Sweeney

Lt. Cic: Paul Gramling, Jr.  
Dr. Anthony Hodges  
Chris Sullivan

ANV Commander: Henry E. Kidd  
Roger W. McCredie

ANV Councilman Randy Burbage  
Forrest Tucker

AOT Commander T. Tarry Beasley, Jr.  
Don Shelton  
Ronnie Simmons

AOT Councilman: C. Kelly Barrow  
John French  
Kevin Spargur

ATM Commander: Beau Cantrell

ATM Councilman: Steve Lucas  
Chuck Norred

If you visit the SCV website [www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org), you will find links to the website of every candidate who has one at <https://scv.secure-sites.us/candidates.php>.

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### **No Need To Send Back Incorrect Certificates!**

In the event the IHQ makes a mistake on a membership or other type of certificate you have ordered, inform your Army Secretary by mail, email, facsimile, or telephone call and we will replace it. It is NOT necessary

for you to go to the expense and trouble to mail the certificate back to IHQ.

### **Alberta Martin Scholarship Fund**

Mrs. Martin has gone on to her reward, but a scholarship fund has been established in her memory. It is a 501(c)3 tax-deductible fund that will be used to help deserving, qualified students in their post-high school studies. Address to contribute: The Mrs. Alberta Martin Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 340, Courtland, VA 23837

### **SCV Membership Papers being Reorganized at Elm Springs**

IHQ announces that part-time employee Joe Bailey, an SCV member finishing his college degree, is now a bit past half-way finished with reorganizing all of the old camp files in the attic of Elm Springs. The records are being sorted by individual camp from the early 1950's to the current day when this project is completed. He has also begun work on organizing and recording the books in the McCain library. A software program has been purchased, and all books and manuscripts we currently have on hand have been recorded by title and author. The next stage of this project will be to catalog and sort the books in order that the membership and visitors can locate a particular volume. We continue to accept books as well as copies of manuscripts and family letters that people donate to the SCV. Please consider the McCain Library at Elm Springs as a repository for future gifts of books, historical papers and photographs, UCV and SCV reunion memorabilia and artifacts.

### **New SCV Cookbook on Sale at the Dalton Reunion**

The new SCV cookbook will be available for sale at the IHQ tables at the Dalton Reunion. There will probably be other vendors also offering the book for sale, possibly at a discount. Do not be tempted by this—IHQ will match the price of any other vendor at the convention on this item! Support the SCV and shop our tables first!

### **Southern Heritage Videos—More are in the Works!**

There's good news for SCV members who are into collecting what few pro-Confederate video productions are now available. At the Dalton reunion, we will be unveiling our DVD version of "Jesse and Frank James: Missouri Confederates," which until now has only been available on VHS. Ron Casteel, SCV Chief of Staff and veteran writer-producer-director of historical documentaries says he recently put the James documentary on DVD at the urging of Commander in Chief Ron Wilson, after many requests from the membership for that format. Shot a few years ago, this full-length documentary is considered by James' history experts to be one of the most historically accurate works ever done on the subject. It features the third reburial of Jesse James in Missouri back in 1995. The last reburial (we hope) was an SCV sponsored event. Except for Casteel's use of the term "Civil War" in the picture's opening, the James picture has been very well received by SCV viewers. Casteel assured the Gray Line he wouldn't use that phrase today, and asks viewers to understand the script was written and the picture shot prior to his discovering his Confederate ancestry.

Casteel is excited about his next documentary production that will be cranked up full-speed after Dalton, now that he has completed the script. Many division and camp commanders have expressed strong interest in this new production, the working title of which is "The Confederate Flag: Heritage or Hate?" This program, long in the planning, explores in-depth the war against the Confederate flag and other Confederate symbols and how the SCV is fighting back.

In part, it's the story of the beginnings of the SCV, what it stands for, and its mission in the 21st century regarding the Confederate soldier, the rightness of the Cause, and the preservation of Confederate heritage. Shooting will be done at various places important to the SCV and will include numerous interviews, as well as reenactment footage and new battle footage captured on beta digital and 35 millimeter film. "The Confederate Flag: Heritage or Hate?" is intended to be a unique educational program for friend and foe alike, as well as the ideal recruitment tool for telling potential new members what the SCV is all about. A 20 minute version of the film will also be available for school and civic club showings and other events.

"The Confederate Flag: Heritage or Hate?" is a production of Ron Casteel Productions and Southern Heritage Media. Funds for this project were provided by Casteel and a group of SCV members interested in the project. Keep an eye on the Gray Line for news regarding this and other upcoming film/video projects Casteel and his financing group intend to make.