October 23, 2008

Report of the Maryland Division for the ANV Meeting at Point Lookout, MD
October 25, 2008

Commander Brag Bowling
Army of Northern Virginia

Dear Sir:

MEMBERSHIP: I am pleased to report that the Maryland Division has 11 Camps with a total membership of 463 members as of April 28, 2008.

RECRUITING: The Division has appointed Camp Adjutant Jeffrey Martins of the Elzey Camp 1940 to serve as the Division Recruiter.

MEMBERSHIP RETENTION: Each Camp has been urged to make an effective effort to retain the current members.

ANNUAL CONVENTION: The annual convention is hosted in April each year by one of the Camps in a location, usually near where the Camp regularly meets.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETINGS: The Division regularly meets twice a year, once in October and again in January or February, at the Broadneck Library near Arnold in Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

ELECTIONS: Officers are elected in even numbered years at the Annual Convention in April for a term of two years. They take office at the close of the National Convention in July.

CONFEDERATE GRAVES PROJECT: The Division’s Graves Committee has identified many Confederate Graves in Maryland and produced a CD as part of the National’s Grave Registration Project. The work continues to
locate new graves and add them to a database.

CAMPS:

Camp 1359, Captain Vincent Camalier C.S.A.  Reports 27 members and meets in Leonardtown, St. Mary’s County, Maryland

Camp 1388, Col. Harry W. Gilmor Camp.  Reports 87 members and meets in Cockeysville, Baltimore County, Maryland.  The Camp sponsors (1) a Lee/Jackson Day ceremony at the Lee/Jackson Monument in Wyman Park in Baltimore; (2) an Adopt a Confederate Grave in Loudon Park Cemetery in Baltimore; (3) an annual Bull and Oyster Roast in Baltimore; (4) a Confederate Memorial Day ceremony in Loudon Park Cemetery in Baltimore, and (5) an annual Candlelight Memorial Dinner at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.  The Adopt a Confederate Grave Program reported that it had placed 343 markers representing 359 Confederate Veterans to date.

Camp 1398, Col. William Norris Camp.  Previously reported 91 members and meets in Gaithersburg, Montgomery County, Maryland.  The Camp and the Capt. Charles Linthicum Chapter of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars sponsor an annual fording of the Potomac River at White’s Ford to commemorate the Army of Northern Virginia fording in September 1862; The Camp presents a wreath at (1) the annual Memorial Day ceremony in Bethesda, Maryland; (2) the annual Jefferson Davis Birthday ceremony at Confederate Circle in Arlington National Cemetery; (3) the annual Labor Day ceremony in Bethesda, Maryland; and (4) other special ceremonies.  Members of the Camp march in the annual Labor Day Parade in Gaithersburg, Maryland and in the annual Presidents Day Parade in Alexandria, Virginia.  The Camp has started an Adopt a Highway Program and has reported 5 new members.

Camp 1400, Pvt. Wallace Bowling Camp.  Reports 50 members and meets in La Plata and in Port Tobacco, both in St. Mary’s County, Maryland.  Past-Commander of the Camp, Jim Dunbar, has led the effort to establish a Confederate Memorial Park at Point Lookout after both the State of Maryland and the Veterans Administration acted to restrict the flying of a Confederate flag at annual memorial ceremonies that were held on their sites.  The Veterans Administration even went so far as to censor our speech at its site.  Members of the Camp recently joined with members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to place a gravestone on the grave of a U.S. Colored Troop’s Pvt. George Brown. This event received widespread publicity in local news outlets.  The Camp has completed its 18th year in the Adopt a Highway clean up
program; aintains a display at a Maryland Welcome Center on Hwy. 301; held an encampment at the historic Doctor Mudd House; participated in the Charles County Fair; and plans a Christmas Party.

Camp 1582, Battle of Sharpsburg. Reported last April 38 members and meets in the Mumma House behind the Visitor’s Center of the National Battlefield in Sharpsburg in Washington County, Maryland. The Camp was rechartered recently and has made its presence known in the Washington and Allegany County areas of Maryland. The Camp held (1) a Chartering Dinner with historian Ed Bearrs as the speaker; (2) Show and Tell Meetings; (3) a Picnic Meeting; (4) a Christmas Dinner; and now boasts 42 members with 5 new members pending.

Camp 1608, Capt. James I. Waddell, C.S.N. Reported 44 members in April and meets in the historic Linthicum family home in Crofton, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The Camp sponsors the annual Confederate Navy Day at St. Anne’s Cemetery in Annapolis. It also makes a showing at the annual Massing of the Colors at the U. S. Naval Academy in Annapolis sponsored by the Military Order of World Wars. The Camp also sponsors a Clean up day at St. Anne’s Cemetery. One Camp member on a business trip to Wisconsin placed Confederate flags on some Confederate graves.
Camp 1741, Maryland Line, C.S.A.  Reports 15 members and meets in Upper Marlboro, Prince Georges County, Maryland. The Camp supported the march in Baltimore to preserve the President's Street Station Museum and Historical Site. The Camp also participated in the ceremony to place a gravestone on the grave of a U.S. Colored Troop's Pvt. George Brown. This event received widespread publicity in local news outlets.

Camp 1836, Maj. Gen. Isaac Ridgeway Trimble. Reports 46 members and meets in Ellicott City, Howard County, Maryland. The Camp sponsors (1) the Howard County Monument Ceremony at the Howard County Court House, an annual Ceremony to honor Howard County's Confederate soldiers; and (2) Annual Dinner to honor Major General Isaac Ridgaway Trimble: The Dinner is a wonderful event held annually at Kings Contrivance Restaurant in Columbia where guests bring a candle to light in memoriam for one's ancestor. The Camp assisted the Elijah White UDC Chapter with the Mount Olivet Cemetery ceremony in Frederick, Maryland.

Camp 1940, Maj. Gen. Arnold Elzey. Reports 32 members and meets in Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. This year the Camp sponsored a Crab Feast that turned out to be a popular way to celebrate a little bit of Maryland. The Camp also participates in the Severna Park, July 4th Parade, an annual parade in Severna Park, Maryland, where they spread SCV good will to the public. The Camp produces a very good newsletter on line.

Camp 2013, Lt. Col. Robert H. Archer. Reported 23 members in April, but now report 30 members. They meet at the Booth House, Tudor Hall, in Havre de Grace. Harford County, Maryland. The Camp hosted the Maryland Division Convention this year and provided the attendees with a very good program and welcome. The Camp (1) participated in a Adopt a Highway clean up program; (2) received 1st prize in the Northeast Christmas Parade for the 2nd year; (3) attended the Havre de Grace Memorial Day ceremony; (4) attended the Charlestown River Fest; and (5) held three picnics.

Camp 2134, The Mechanized Cavalry. Reported 10 members and reports many perspective members. The Camp meets in St. Leonard, Calvert County, Maryland. The Camp was chartered on November 10, 2007. It boasts members from the Confederate Mechanized Cavalry Corps whose members belong to other Camps in the Sons of Confederate Veterans including Camps here in Maryland. The Camp works with the Divisions Graves Registration Committee and sponsored a Turkey Shoot which
featured a frozen turkey's being hit by a Confederate cannon ball.

Respectfully submitted

Donald E. Beck, Commander
Maryland Division
Sons of Confederate Veterans