



Lt. Commander Edward Lea
Camp 2 (Houston)
Department of Texas with Louisiana
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



MEMBERSHIP AND APPLICATION INFORMATION - 2025

Dear Prospective Member,

Thank you for your interest in our Fraternal Order, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. We are a patriotic, educational, and hereditary organization founded on November 12, 1881, as the successor to the Grand Army of the Republic and incorporated by Act of Congress on August 20, 1954. We exist to perpetuate the principles for which our Union ancestors gave their lives, to guard the results that they secured by their service and sacrifice, and to honor their memory.

Since one in every two eligible men enlisted in the Union between 1861 and 1865, there is a high probability that at least one of your male ancestors served for the Union during the Civil War. This can often be confirmed using genealogy tools like Ancestry.com. Our camp genealogist can help you establish your lineage and eligibility as a hereditary member, if you haven't already. Should you not have a Union veteran ancestor, you may still join us as an Associate Member.

As the Junior Vice-Commander for our Camp, I am glad to help you with the application process. The application form, once filled out, will be sent to the National Office by our Camp Secretary after confirming your eligibility and receiving your check for the application fee and annual dues. Please note that the dues and fees listed on the national application form are only for those applying for membership directly to the National Office, which is reserved for applicants who live abroad or in an area not covered by a Camp.

Since you are applying for membership in Camp #2 of the Department of Texas with Louisiana (Located in Houston), fees and dues are listed below. Membership dues for a full year are \$60 and are due by March 31st. However, for the first year only, we collect prorated dues for the portion of the year when you join. There is also a \$10 application fee and a \$25 discounted badge fee which you will need to attend Camp meetings (wearing the badge is required at Camp Meetings and expected at camp events). Checks should be made payable to "LCDR Edward Lea USN Camp 2 SUVCW."

Table 1: First-year Fees and Membership Dues

Application Date	Application Fee	Badge Fee	Membership Dues	Total Due
Jan 1 - Mar 31	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$62.00	\$97.00
Apr 1 - Jun 30	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$48.00	\$83.00
Jul 1 - Sep 30	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$35.00	\$70.00
Oct 1 - Dec 31	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$21.00	\$56.00

The completion of your membership comes in two parts. The first is upon a favorable vote of the Camp to grant you membership. The second is when you take the Oath of Obligation and receive your membership badge during the Initiation Ceremony at a regularly scheduled Camp meeting. With the Oath of Obligation comes your full membership in our honored Order. A copy of the Oath is included in the application form for you to review and acknowledge reading as part of the application process.

Once a member, you will discover many areas to choose from where your participation will be welcome. This is a volunteer organization, so we rely exclusively on the enthusiasm and talent of our members. We hold Camp meetings on Saturdays at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center, starting promptly at 10:00 am. We also like to gather for lunch after Camp meetings at a nearby restaurant. Members are expected to attend via Zoom if unable to travel to the meeting but attendance in person is encouraged if you live within a reasonable driving distance and are able to travel.

Our meetings begin with Camp business and are often followed by special events such as new member initiation ceremonies, guest speakers, and presentations from members or invited guests on historical events and people or their ancestors. We also hold special events such as Civil War veteran grave dedications which will be subject to separate announcements.

A schedule of our regularly scheduled meetings and events can be found on the Camp 2 web site.

Camp Meeting Schedule: <https://www.camplea.org/meetings/>

Events Schedule: <https://www.camplea.org/events/>

Events include civil war battle reenactments, commemorations, living history events, as well as meetings of the civil war roundtable. These are yet another way to honor our veteran ancestors and we encourage you to attend as many as your schedule allows. You can read about our activities on our nationally-recognized newsletter, our website home page, as well as our Facebook page:

Camp 2 Home Page: <https://www.camplea.org/>

Camp 2 Newsletters: <https://www.camplea.org/camp-newsletter/>

Camp 2 Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/LtCmdrEdwardLeaCamp2HoustonSUVVCW>

I look forward to answering your questions and helping you with the application process should you choose to proceed.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Jason D. Hoffman, Hereditary Member

*Jr. Vice Cmdr., Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea, Camp 2 Houston
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Union Veterans of the Civil War*

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