



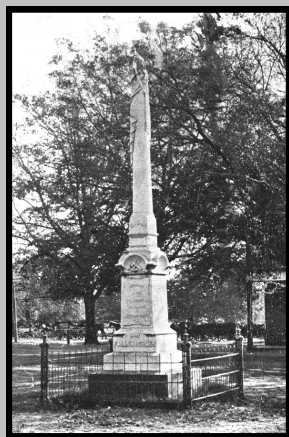
Florida Blockade Runner

www.flscv.org

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SUMMER 2025

Official Newsletter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans Florida Division



Florida Division Reunion 2025



I pray that everyone got home safely from the 55th Annual Florida Division Reunion this past weekend in Ocala.

On behalf of the Col. Samuel St. George Rogers SCV Camp 1865, I want to thank everyone who attended Reunion this weekend. It was an honor to host such an event with such wonderful members.

I hope Reunion met your expectations and that you had a great time. Thanks for all of your support.

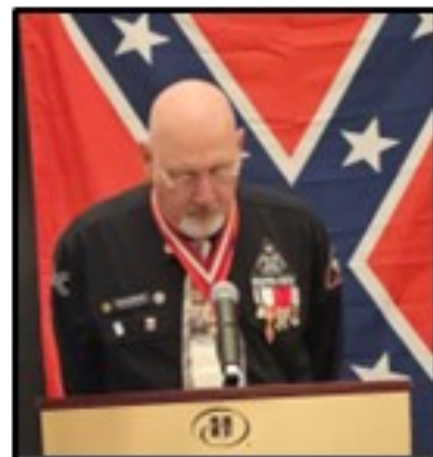


Bob Highbaugh



Florida Division Commander **Calvin Hart** calls the Reunion to order and the opening prayer was offered by Division Adjutant **Rick Roberts**.

After a moment of silence for the 21 compatriots who left us last year, a bell tolled as the name of each was read.





As the ceremonies began, the Color Guard, lead by Compatriot Jerry Peacock and his drum, posted the colors.

The presentation of camp banners followed before the membership pledged allegiance to the US Flag and saluted the Confederate flag.



Annette Lindsey, Florida President of the Order of Confederate Rose, Presented the “Chapter of the Year Award” to the Mary Ann Harvey Black, Chapter #5 . Members present were Jane Thomas, Kathleen Butler, Mary Ann Laird, Lisa Bess, shown below with President Lindsey.

Her next order of business was to present to the Chapter President, Lisa Bess, the “Rose of the Year” award for her dynamic leadership.



What is the Sons of Confederate Veterans?

The citizen-soldiers who fought for the Confederacy personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight the Second American Revolution. The tenacity with which Confederate soldiers fought, underscored their belief in the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. These attributes are the underpinning of our democratic society and represent the foundation on which this nation was built. Today, the Sons of Confederate Veterans is preserving the history and legacy of these heroes, so future generations can understand the motives that animated the Southern Cause.

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to insuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved.

Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces. Membership can be obtained through either direct or collateral family lines and kinship to a veteran must be documented genealogically. The minimum age for full membership is 12, but there is no minimum for a Cadet membership.



Commander **Bobby Van Zant** received the **J.J. Dickison Leadership Award** from Division Commander **Calvin Hart**.



The **Hogan/Kuykendall Memorial Division Commander's Award for Superior Service** was awarded to **Gerald Bell** by Commander **Calvin Hart**.

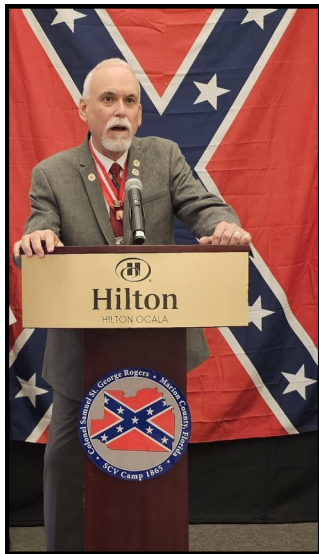


The second highest state award, the **Governor John Milton Award**, was presented to **Sean McFall** by Division Commander **Calvin Hart**.

Thomas Jessee, most often know as **Robert E. Lee**, received the highest award which can be bestowed upon a member of the Florida Division.

The **Corp. Charles P. Ulmer Award** was presented by Division Commander **Calvin Hart**.





Anthony M. Griffin, Lt. Commander-in-Chief, took some time to bring greetings from the SCV Headquarters. He particularly wanted to thank all who participated in the SCV billboard campaign around Florida. This generated positive attention to our organization and energized leadership and members. Perhaps we can do it bigger and better next year.

The Col. Samuel St. George Rogers Camp 1865 did a marvelous job of hosting the 2025 Florida Division Reunion in Ocala.

Commander Bob Highbaugh greeted all with, "We hope you enjoy your time with us!"



The Opening Ceremonies and the Business Sessions were well attended with 27 of the 47 Florida camps responding to the roll call.

Following the officer's reports and the reports of the various committees, Division Commander **Calvin Hart** addressed the assembly and delivered a presentation on Financial Accountability.

Fiscal Responsibility is required of camp officers. All books should be open for member's review. Any irregularities should be questioned and corrected.

He stressed that each camp member should make it their business to know the officers for whom they are voting.



Florida Division Officers

Commander	Calvin Hart
Adjutant	Rick Roberts
Treasurer	Mark Sizemore
Chaplin	Kim Hoffecker

1st Lt. Cmdr.	David King
2nd Lt. Cmdr.	Daryl Ratterrie
3rd Lt. Cmdr.	Roy Hudson
4th Lt. Cmdr.	Christopher Bunton
5th Lt. Cmdr.	Mark R. Bess

The *Florida Blockade Runner* is the official magazine of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Florida Division. It is published four times a year.

The subscription to this magazine is included in the SCV Florida Division dues. Products and services advertised do not carry the endorsement of the SCV Florida Division or the SCV.

The SCV Florida Division reserves the right to reject content of any copy.

Editors:

Gerald Bell
Jeff Sizemore



I had the great honor of attending the Charter Party for the **Pvt. William Raulerson Camp 2080** in Okeechobee, Florida on Saturday May 17th.

The party was well attended by our compatriots and the ladies of the OCR.

Commander Brad Phares was a great host supported by 12th Brigade Commander Jim Odell.

I had the honor of presenting the charter to Commanders Phares and Odell and addressed the crowd as the AOT Councilman.

Brigade Commanders **Jim Odell**, **Bob Highbaugh**, **Sean Mcfall** and **Warren Cullett** were in attendance as well as camp commander **John DeVane**.

It was truly a blessing to charter a new Florida camp.

Roy Hudson





130th NATIONAL REUNION

SCHEDULE



Wednesday, July 16th, 2025

8:00^{AM}—5:00^{PM} Vendor Set-Up & Sales
 2:00^{PM}-5:00^{PM} SCV Registration
 2:00^{PM}-4:00^{PM} GEC Meeting
 7:00^{PM}-9:00^{PM} Mixer/Meet & Greet

Thursday, July 17th, 2025

8:00^{AM}-5:00^{PM} Registration/Credentials/Vendor Set-up
 8:00^{AM}-9:00^{AM} Opening Ceremony
 9:15^{AM}-11:45^{AM} Business Session I
 12:00^{PM}-1:30^{PM} Heritage Defense Luncheon
 2:00^{PM}-10:00^{PM} Battle of Galveston Tour/ Dinner/Cemetery Tour
 3:00^{PM}-4:00^{PM} SCV Memorial Service

Friday, July 18th, 2025

7:30^{AM}-8:30^{AM} Chaplain's Prayer Breakfast
 8:00^{AM}-5:00^{PM} Registration/Credentials/ Vendor Sales
 9:00^{AM}-11:45^{AM} Business Session II
 12:00^{PM}-1:30^{PM} SCV Awards Luncheon
 2:00^{PM}-4:00^{PM} Adjutant Training (with Eric Previti, SCV HQ)
 2:00^{PM}-6:00^{PM} San Jacinto Battle Tour
 3:00^{PM}-4:30^{PM} Debutante Tea
 4:30^{PM}-5:30^{PM} Debutante Rehearsal
 7:30^{PM}-8:30^{PM} Special: Patrick Faici as General AP Hill
 9:00^{PM}-11:00^{PM} SCV Oratory Contest

Saturday, July 19th, 2025

7:30^{AM}-8:30^{AM} Mechanized Calvary Breakfast
 8:00^{AM}-12:00^{PM} Registration/Credentials/ Vendor Sales
 8:30^{AM}-9:30^{AM} Army Meetings (ANV,AOT,ATM)
 9:00^{AM}-4:30^{PM} Ladies Tour (Moody Mansion/Lunch/ Bryan Museum)
 9:45^{AM}-12:00^{PM} Business Session III
 12:00^{PM}-1:30^{PM} Lunch (Own your own)
 2:00^{PM}-4:00^{PM} GEC Meeting
 6:00^{PM}-7:00^{PM} Commander-in-Chief's Reception
 7:00^{PM}-11:00^{PM} Grand Banquet, Debutante Ball

Sunday, July 20th, 2025

8:00^{AM}-1:00^{PM} Departures (Complementary Shuttle to Hobby Airport.)



Content Submission

The SCV Florida Division actively seeks manuscripts and articles for publication. Suitable topics are articles about the state and local SCV Camps, their activities, and members. Articles should be approximately 100 to 500 words and photos should be included when possible. All submissions will be printed in a timely manner. Camp News submissions should be 150 to 200 words; single photo size should be at least 600x600 pixels. Other article submission should be original material or submit other author's articles with publication releases accompanying the submission.

The SCV Florida Division assumes no responsibility for statements made or opinions of contributors. All submissions are requested by email.

The Florida Division Editor reserves the right to make any editorial conformity of style. Authors must grant the SCV Florida rights to publish articles either in print & electronic format.

To submit material via email, send it to:

editor@flscv.org



Although I was unable to attend our recent Florida Division Reunion, On June 20th I was pleased to present two Florida Division "Certificates of Appreciation" to business owners **Amanda Bishop** of the NASSAU COUNTY RECORD newspaper and **Scott McCall** of DINSMORE FLORIST.

Thanks to each for supporting activities of the SCV.

Chaplain Kim Hoffecker



1830 Swamp Sailor & My Sweet
Bonny Blue: My Flag My Navy,
My Florida.

La Florida forever !

Jim Odell

Announcement - 2026



Roy P. Hudson

It is with immense pride and a deep sense of purpose that I announce my intent to run for the esteemed office of Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief of The Sons of Confederate Veterans in 2026. My journey as your AOT Councilman has allowed me the privilege of traveling extensively throughout our Confederation, meeting so many of you and, most importantly, truly listening to your concerns. I am now ready, more than ever, to act decisively on those insights.

This decision to seek higher office was affirmed by the unwavering encouragement of compatriots from all three armies. I eagerly anticipate making formal announcements at our reunion in Houston, where I look forward to engaging in meaningful conversations with many of you.

We are part of a truly great organization, and I firmly believe we possess the potential not just to survive, but to truly **thrive and grow even stronger!** It's time for the SCV to boldly go on the offensive to attract new members and expand our reach, and I have a clear plan to accomplish just that. My vision for our future is rooted in a fundamental truth: the undeniable strength and vitality of the SCV lie within our local Camps. Therefore, I commit to dedicating every ounce of my authority and effort at the National Level to ensuring that all our actions and initiatives are squarely focused on empowering and supporting our Camps, providing them with the resources and guidance they need to succeed and flourish.

With your steadfast support and the help of God, I am confident that we will achieve remarkable success together.

I invite you to reach out to me directly at scvroyhudson@gmail.com with any questions or thoughts you may have. I look forward to hearing from you!



Deo Vindice



Brigade Commanders

1st Brigade Randall W. Crooke
 2nd Brigade William Q Platt III
 3rd Brigade Gerald F. Bell
 4th Brigade James F Taylor
 5th Brigade Byron Peavy
 6th Brigade Harold D Schemer
 7th Brigade Clement Lindsey
 8th Brigade Bob Highbaugh
 9th Brigade Bobby Van Zant
 10th Brigade Al Massey
 11th Brigade Leon Arthur
 12th Brigade James Odell, Jr.
 14th Brigade Warren Caulett, Jr.
 15th Brigade Sean McFall
 16th Brigade Paul W Norris

Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

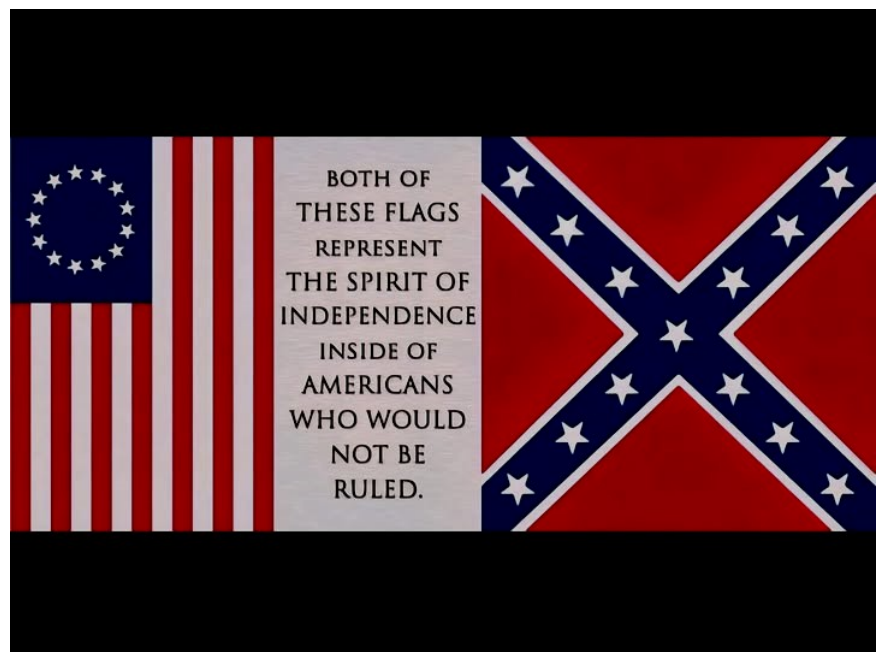
"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee,
 Commander General,
 United Confederate Veterans,
 New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



On May 01, 2025, a new 3rd National Flag was raised at the Havana site. Thanks to the efforts and generosity of Finley's Brigade, Camp 1614 members, we now have a 1st National, 2nd National, 3rd National and AOT, flags to proudly display. Aint she beautiful?

Mark R. Bess



Compatriots in Florida

There are more than 350 brave Floridians buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Richmond Virginia with no headstones to honor their sacrifice.



The Virginia Division and its Oakwood Restoration Committee respectfully challenge the Florida Division, its Camps, and Compatriots to consider sponsoring a headstone or headstones for your men. We have negotiated very good pricing with Southern Heritage Products and are able to provide the headstones for \$450 installed. These are Veterans Administration style upright granite headstones produced by a Veterans Administration supplier.

More than 16,000 Confederate soldiers from every State in the Confederacy are laid to rest at Oakwood Cemetery. These heroes died in Richmond hospitals during the war, and most graves are unmarked except for a small 6" X 6" numbered marker which may represent as many as six soldiers. This may be acceptable to the Veteran's Administration — but it is not acceptable to us!

Donations for the upkeep of the cemetery are greatly appreciated as well. You can also support us by purchasing a Friends or Descendants medal. (Descendant of soldier buried in Oakwood medal shown, friend's medal is bronze) These medals are \$35 which includes shipping.

The Confederate soldiers buried in Oakwood Cemetery deserve better. Won't you help us? We will highlight the soldiers from other Divisions in future editions.

Oakwood Restoration Committee
c/o Richard A. Moomaw
69 Old Kiln Lane
Mt. Jackson, VA 22842
rmoomaw@shentel.net



Learn more about Oakwood at: www.scvvirginia.org/oakwood-overview

Florida will respond!

Contact Rick Roberts for more information.

Defending Dixie's Land: What Every American Should Know About The South And The Civil War

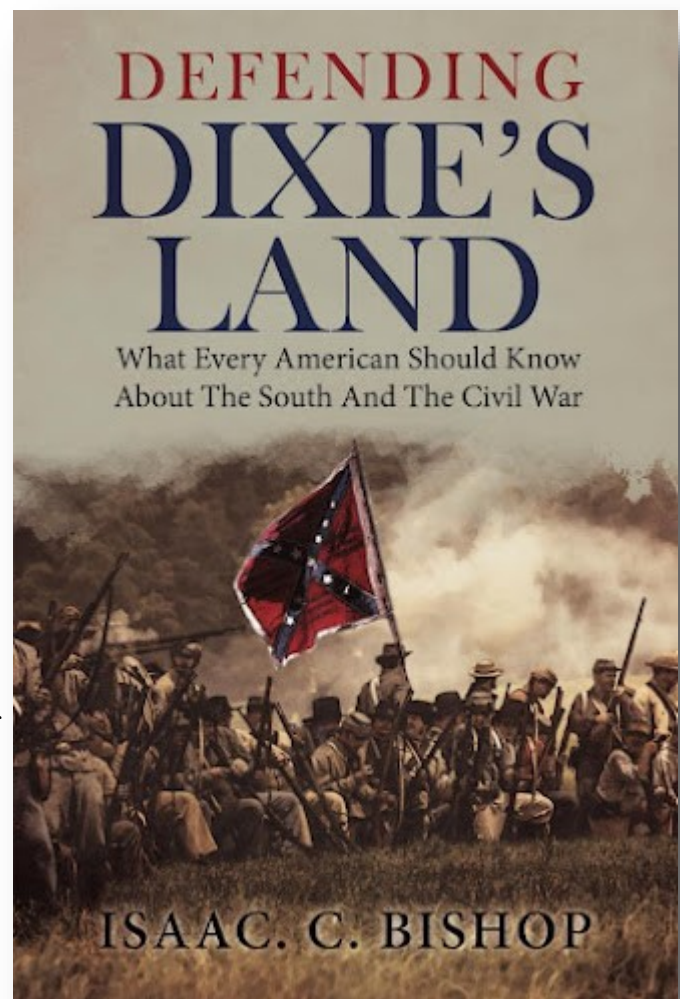
by Isaac C. Bishop

Are you interested in knowing the actual history of your country, or are you content with the propagandized version the winners of wars conjure up to feed schoolchildren? When it comes to the story and tradition of the U.S. South, and especially the events surrounding the Civil War (1861–1865), you may need to brace yourself. What you think you know about it is likely untrue – and not just by a little.

Isaac C Bishop is a lifelong New-Englander who happened to become interested in southern culture. But when he began to earnestly study its history and folklore, he was shocked by what he learned. Thus began an intense multi-year quest to unearth a true story which resulted in *Defending Dixie's Land*. Should you choose to set aside your preconceived biases and “take the red pill” with the author, you will discover:

- How the United States government was originally meant to function, and by what means that system was usurped in the mid-1800's
- The real reasons the cotton states initially seceded
- The entirely different factors which prompted the upper South to then also secede
- An accurate picture of what life was like for minorities in both the North and South, and, as inherently wrong as the institution of slavery has always been on planet earth, why southern slaves generally viewed their situation as preferable
- Character traits and motives of Abraham Lincoln which shatter the humanitarian hero image painted in our minds
- Eye-opening facts about African-American support for the Confederacy, the history and current status of slavery worldwide, insights into the true enemy of free peoples everywhere, and more.

Defending Dixie's Land is an all-encompassing defense of the Southern cause; readers will no longer view American history the same.





FLORIDA DIVISION



SCV

GUARDIAN

Purpose: The purpose is designed to honor the memory of our Confederate ancestors and through its implementation will provide the preservation of their final resting places and will document for future generations their sacrifices.

Eligibility: Any Florida Division camp member, Friend of the SCV, UDC, or OCR member, in good standing, who is at least 12 years of age, and who has demonstrated the desire and ability to serve as a GUARDIAN. All compatriots are encouraged to participate in the program to honor our ancestors and to protect their final resting place.

Duties & Responsibilities:

- A. You shall care for and protect the grave of a Confederate Veteran, ensuring that the gravesite is kept clean and well-maintained year-round. You shall perform these duties personally unless you are physically unable because of health reasons. At no time shall these responsibilities be passed on to another without the approval of the GUARDIAN committee for the Florida Division.
- B. You will be responsible to appropriately mark the grave, so it is designated as the final resting place of a Confederate Veteran. This can be by stone, plaque, Cross of Honor, etc. You will also be responsible for replacing or repairing any marker that is worn, damaged or destroyed.
- C. You shall personally visit the grave a minimum of four times a year to include Confederate Memorial Day or at least a week prior. You shall place a wreath, a small Confederate flag or both on the grave.

Applications, Reviews & Approval:

- A. Individuals who wish to participate in the GUARDIAN program must complete and submit the Guardian Application Form to a Camp Commander, or UDC / OCR Chapter President. The Camp Commander, or UDC / OCR Chapter President will submit the form to the Guardian Committee of the Florida Division. **The application must be accompanied by a map showing the location of the gravesite along with written driving instructions to the cemetery. A photograph of the gravesite must be submitted before approval. Additional photographs can be submitted for the file as cleanup work is completed.**
- B. The applicant must also remit a one-time \$15.00 fee with the application to cover the cost of the GUARDIAN pin and certificate, which will be awarded upon the candidate's approval for membership in the GUARDIAN program. The fee is non-refundable.
- C. Individuals who are not accepted into the GUARDIAN program will be given an explanation in writing by the review committee. The applicant can request an appeal of the decision. The Review Committee will review the applicant's appeal and render a decision. The decision of the Review Committee is final.

Additional Information:

- A. Multiple Gravesites: GUARDIANS may care for more than one gravesite and will be recognized by the Guardian Review Committee. The cost of additional certificates is \$5.00 each.
- B. Forfeiture of Guardian position: A Guardian who cannot meet the requirements of the position due to relocation, health or other reasons must notify the Review Committee. All fees are non-refundable.
- C. Bequeathing of GUARDIAN position: A Guardian may transfer his responsibilities as a Guardian to another Guardian, SCV member, Friend of the SCV, UDC, or OCR member in good standing, with prior approval by the Review Committee. There is a \$15.00 fee for transferring Guardianship. This fee will cover the new Guardian's membership pin and certificate. If they are already in the Guardian program, there will be a \$5.00 fee to cover the certificate designating the new guardianship they are undertaking.
- D. Revocation of GUARDIAN status: The Review Committee may revoke the status of a participant in the Guardian program if they fail to carry out the duties and responsibilities as outlined. The committee reserves the right to inspect any GUARDIAN'S Confederate Veteran's gravesite, with or without notice, to confirm compliance with all the rules and regulations specified in the program.



FLORIDA GUARDIAN PROGRAM APPLICATION

Turn application in to Camp Commander

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone #: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

SCV Camp Name & Number: _____ Ancestor: _____

GRAVESITE DETAILS

Confederate Veteran's Name: _____ Rank: _____ Unit: _____ Co _____

Born: _____ Died: _____ Condition of Gravesite: _____

Location of Grave: (Include Name of Cemetery, City, State & Country) _____

Marker on Grave denoting Confederate Service: _____ Cross of Honor: _____

Documentation of Confederate Service: _____

I affirm that all the information here is true and accurate.**I agree to faithfully care for and protect this Confederate Veteran's grave in accordance with the GUARDIAN PROGRAM rules for as long as I am able.****In the event I cannot carry out my duties, I shall notify the Review Committee immediately.****I also understand that the Review Committee can revoke my status as a GUARDIAN for good cause.**

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Camp Commander: _____ Date: _____

Mail the completed forms to the attention of:

Florida Guardian Program/ Florida Division, SCV**2089 Padlock Place****Tallahassee, FL 32303**Make checks payable to Florida Division, SCVSubmit a separate form for each soldier you are requesting to be a guardian for.*******DO NOT WRITE ON LINES BELOW*******

Application Approved: _____ Disapproved _____ Date: _____

Approval Signature: _____

