Department Order No. 4 Headquarters of Maryland, August 23, 2008

Brothers

At <u>every</u> National or Department SUV encampment I've attended our leaders have exhorted the gathering to view recruitment and retention as the responsibility of each brother of our order.

As a form of impetus your Department Commander is sponsoring a contest – *The Commander's Creative Citation*:

Details: Each camp will submit one special strategy/idea that has succeeded, or is a "work in progress", to either (1) bring new recruits/brothers into the order, or (2) pertains to camp efforts to stimulate attendance and keep the troops from drifting out of the camp. The most clever brother approach as <u>determined by the participating camp</u> will earn that individual the prize. Only one to a camp. All ideas will be shared at the Department Encampment in April as an inspiration to us all. Most brothers brought into the camp in the shortest time and most overall increase are awards already established by the National. We are looking for <u>original thinking</u> with this offer and not an overlap process with existing awards.

I have already emailed more than several promotion/publicity ideas that have worked to increase membership in the Col James D Brady Camp so you have a head start.

Each winning participant will receive *A Donnybrook at Dusk*. This limited edition print has been created by Master Civil War artist Bradley Schmehl and is the last print in the coveted *Irish Brigade Series*. The issue price is \$140. Each print is accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity and historic background of the struggle at Malvern Hill.

The winner or a member of his camp <u>must</u> be present at the Department Encampment to receive his prize. For this contest to be effective Camp Commanders should email this message to their membership master list and talk it up at their next meeting. Good Luck!

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Neil Hanlon Department Commander Department of MD