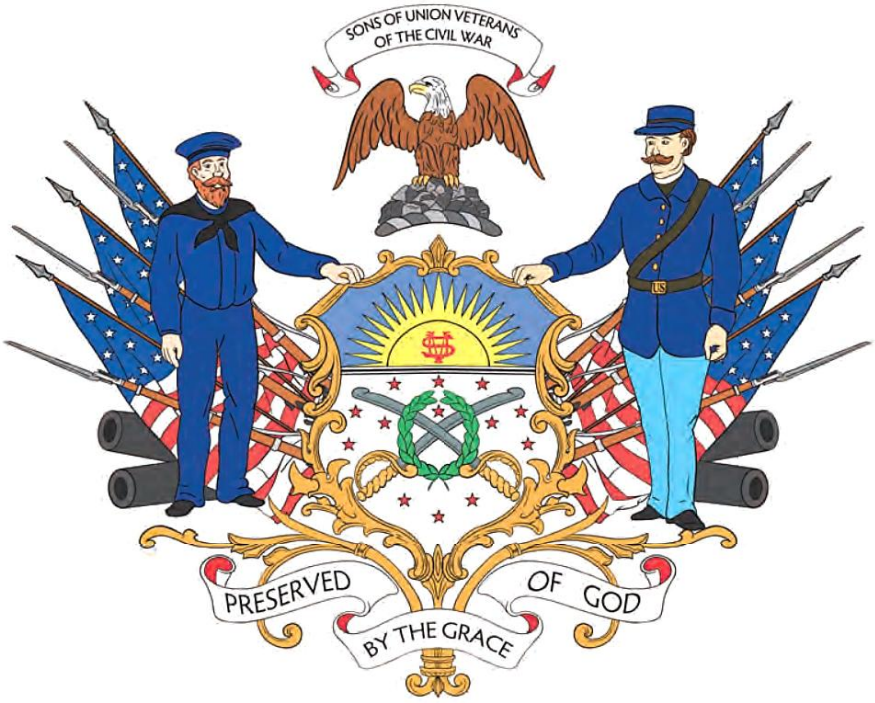
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ONE HUNDRED FORTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT



OF THE

SONS OF UNION VETERANS
OF THE CIVIL WAR

Houston, Texas
August 7-10, 2025

Approvals

Regulations, Chapter V, General Regulations, Article XVII, Proceedings:

The proceedings of each Encampment, when approved by the outgoing and incoming Commander-in-Chief, when published, become the official record of that Encampment.

Kevin L. Martin — Feb 2, 2026

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief 2024-2025 **Date**

Kevin R Tucker — 02/02/2026

Kevin P. Tucker, Commander-in-Chief 2025-2026 **Date**

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Compiled by Michael L. Lance, Assistant National Secretary for Transcriptions.

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2024-2025 National Officers and National Committee Rosters

National Elected Officers

Commander-in-Chief	Kevin L. Martin, PDC
Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief	Kevin P. Tucker, PDC
Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief	Daniel W. Murray, PDC
National Secretary	Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Treasurer	D. Michael Beard, PDC
National Quartermaster	Robert J. Welch, DC

Council of Administration (Voting)

Commander-in-Chief	Kevin L. Martin, CinC
Immediate Past Commander-in-Chief	Peter J. Hritsko, PCinC
Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief	Kevin P. Tucker, PDC
Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief	Daniel W. Murray, PDC
National Secretary	Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Treasurer	D. Michael Beard, PDC
National Quartermaster	Robert J. Welch, DC
Elected Member (2025)	Robert R. Payne, PDC
Elected Member (2025)	Dale Crandell, PDC
Elected Member (2026)	Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., DC
Elected Member (2027)	Shane L. Milburn, PDC
Elected Member (2027)	David Hann, PDC

Council of Administration (Non-Voting)

National Counselor	Michael A. Paquette, PCinC
Banner Editor	James B. Pahl, PCinC
National Signals Officer	Jamie McGuire, PDC
National Washington, DC Representative	Roger Leturno, PDC
All Past Commanders-in-Chief	Several

National Headquarters

Executive Director	David W. Demmy, Sr., PCC
Assistant Executive Director	Douglas P. McMillin, PDC

National Appointed Officers

National Aide-de-Camp	Eric Atkisson, PCC
National Aide-de-Camp	Clay Matthews, PCC
National Aide-de-Camp	David Payne, PCC
National Aide-de-Camp	Tim Sedmak

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National Aide-de-Camp	Nathaniel Horgan
National Organization Expansion Officer	John T. Buckler, PCC
National Chaplain	Doug Jones
National Chief-of-Staff	Brian W. Horgan, PDC
Deputy National Chief-of-Staff	W. Faron Taylor, PDC
National Civil War Memorials Officer	Walter E. Busch, PDC
National Color Bearer	Shane L. Milburn, PDC
National Counselor	Michael A. Paquette, PCinC
Assistant National Counselor	Donald E. Darby, PCinC
Assistant National Counselor (Blue Book)	James B. Pahl, PCinC
Banner Editor	James B. Pahl, PCinC
National Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator	Michael A. Spaulding, PDC
National G.A.R. Highway Officer	Peter J. Hritsko, PCinC
National G.A.R. Records Officer	Dean A. Enderlin, PDC
National Graves Registration Officer	Henry C. Duquette, PDC
National Guard	Lee Stone, PDC
National Guide	Michael L. Lance, PDC
National Historian	Gary L. Gibson, PDC
National Liaison to Cathedral of the Pines	Perley E. Mellor, PCinC
National Liaison to MOLLUS	Jeffry C. Burden
National Membership-at-Large Coordinator	Rocky L. Bartlow, PDC
National Parliamentarian	James B. Pahl, PCinC
National Patriotic Instructor	Tad D. Campbell, PCinC
National Signals Officer	Jamie McGuire, PDC
National Legislation Officer	Daniel R. Earl, PDC
National Washington DC Representative	Roger Leturno, PDC
National Webmaster (Home)	Robert R. Payne, PDC
Assistant National Webmaster	Ken L. Freshley, PCinC
National Webmaster (Memorial University)	Bruce D. Frail, PCinC
Assistant National Secretary, Dept-at-Large Secretary/Treasurer	James B. Pahl, PCinC
Assistant National Secretary (Proceedings)	John C. Vander Meulen, PCC
Assistant National Secretary (Proceedings) Aide	Michael L. Lance, PDC
Assistant National Treasurer 1	James B. Pahl, PCinC
Assistant National Treasurer 2	Danny L. Wheeler, PCinC
Assistant National Treasurer 3	Michael A. Paquette, PCinC
Assistant National Quartermaster	Ken Jacobsen
National Battle Flag Preservation Officer	Edward J. Norris, PCinC
National ROTC Coordinator	Ken Jacobsen

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2024-2025 National Committee Rosters

National Committee on Program & Policy

Chair *(ex officio)*	Kevin P. Tucker, PDC
Member	Robert R. Payne, PDC (2026)
Member	Benjamin J. Frail, PDC (2025)
Member	Leo F. Kennedy, PCinC (2027)
Member	Chip Huffman, PDC (2028)

National Committee on Civil War Memorials

Chair *(ex officio)*	Walter E. Busch, PDC
Member	Mike Flynn, DC
Member	Dean A. Enderlin, PDC
Member	Kevin P. Tucker, PDC
Member	Jay Rarick, PDC
Aide	Tom Gaard
Aide	Dale E. Crandell, PDC

National Committee on Communication & Technology

Chair	Jamie McGuire, PDC
Member	Ken L. Freshley, PCinC
Member	Robert R. Payne, PDC
Member	Tad Campbell, PCinC
Member	Benjamin J. Frail, PDC
Aide	Henry C. Duquette, PDC

National Committee on Constitution & Regulations

Chair	Donald E. Darby, PCinC (2025)
Member *(ex officio)*	Peter Hritsko, PCinC
Member	Shane L. Milburn, PDC (2025)
Member	Alan L. Russ, PDC (2025)
Member	Daniel R. Earl, PDC (2025)

National Committee on Encampment Credentials

Chair	Daryl V. VerStreate Jr., PDC
Member	Walter E. Busch, PDC
Member	Dale Crandell, PDC
Member	Thomas J. Brown, PDC
Member	Cameron Lowery

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National Encampment Site Committee

Chair	Michael A. Paquette, PCinC
Member	John M. Huffman, Jr., PDC
Member	Nicholas H. Kaup, PDC
Aide	James T. Crane, PDC

National Committee on Fraternal Relations

Chair	Brian C. Pierson, PCinC
Member	John M. Huffman, Jr., PDC
Member	Frank C. Avilla, PDC
Member	Michael D. Rusk, PDC
Member	Jerome W. Kowalski

National Committee on Grand Army of the Republic Post Records

Chair	Dean A. Enderlin, PDC
Member	Glenn B. Knight, PDC
Member	Jeffery L. Vaillant, PCC
Member	Ernest E. Blevins, PCC
Member	Walter E. Busch, PDC
Aide	D. Brad Schall, PCinC
Aide	Robert J. Wolz, PCinC

National Committee on Graves Registration

Chair *(ex officio)*	Henry C. Duquette, PDC
Member	Tom Mueller (2026)
Member	William E. Fisher, Jr., DC (2025)
Member	David Tschanz (2025)
Member	Dennis J. Duffy (2025)
Aide	William Wagner, Jr.

National Committee on History

Chair	Gary L. Gibson, PDC
Member	Robert J. Wolz, PCinC
Member	Gordon R. Bury II, PCinC
Member	Ernest E. Blevins, PCC
Member	Daryl V. VerStreate Jr., PDC

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National Committee on Lincoln Tomb Observance

Chair	Robert M. Petrovic, PDC
Member	Jerome W. Kowalski
Member	Nicholas H. Kaup, PDC
Member	Robert J. Welch, PDC

National Committee on Membership

Chair (JVCinC)	Daniel W. Murray, PDC
Member	John T. Buckler, PCC
Member	Dept. & Camp-at-Large JVCs

National Military Affairs Committee

Chair	Ken L. Freshley, PCinC (2026)
Member	Shane L. Milburn, PDC (2026)
Member	John M Huffman Jr, PDC (2026)
Member	Alan J. Teller, PDC (2025)
Member	Donald L. Martin, PCinC (2025)

National Committee on Civil War Memorial Grant Fund

Chair	Shane L. Milburn, PDC
Member	Joseph S. Hall Jr., PDC
Member	Brian C. Pierson, PCinC
Member	Roderick J. Fraser, DC
Aide	Walter E. Busch, PDC

National Committee on eBay Surveillance

Chair	Terry McKinch, PDC
Member	James R. Dixon, PCC
Member	George E. Maple Jr., PDC
Member	Jeffrey Graf, PDC
Member	Gary A. Ward, PDC
Member	Larry A. Williams, PDC

National Committee on Scholarships

Chair	Donald L. Martin, PCinC
Member	John M. Huffman, Jr., PDC
Member	Brian D. McManus, PDC
Member	Garry W. Brewer, PDC
Member	Ken L. Freshley, PCinC

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National Committee on Promotions & Marketing

Chair	Kevin P. Tucker, PDC
Member	Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., DC
Member	David Jones, PDC
Member	W. Faron Taylor, PDC
Member	Michael A. Spaulding, PDC
Member	D. Michael Beard, PDC
Aide	William E. Johnson, Jr.
Aide	Ben Block Jones II, PDC
Aide	John C. Vander Meulen, PCC

National Committee on Vision & Planning

Chair	Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC
Member	Leo F. Kennedy, PCinC
Member	D. Michael Beard, PDC
Member	David Jones, PDC
Member	Henry C. Duquette, PDC
Member	Michael A. Spaulding, PDC

National Committee on Real Sons & Daughters

Chair	Jerome L. Orton, PDC
Member	E. Donald Wilt, PCC
Member	Dennis St. Andrew, PDC
Member	Jerome W. Kowalski
Member	D. Michael Beard, PDC

National Special Committee on Veterans of Wars of the United States (2028)

Chair	Dexter A. Bishop, PDC
Member	Robert J. Welch, PDC
Member	James T. Crane, PDC
Member	Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., DC
Member	Lloyd D. Lamphere, Jr., PDC

National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning (2026)

Chair	Bruce D. Frail, PCinC
Member	David W. Demmy Sr., PCC
Member	Dane A. DiFebo, PDC
Member	Bryan Sigmund

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National Special Committee on the 250th Birthday of the United States of America (2026)

Chair	Ben Block Jones II, PDC
Member	Ben Hobbins, CC
Member	Brian C. Pierson, PCinC
Member	Sumner Hunnewell, PDC
Member	Bruce D. Frail, PCinC
Aide	Benjamin J. Frail, PDC

National Special Committee on Memorial University (2027)

Chair	Tad D. Campbell, PCinC
Member	Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC
Member	Kent A. Peterson, PDC
Member	John C. Vander Meulen, PCC
Member	Bruce D. Frail, PCinC
Aide	Todd Bryda

National Special Committee on Fundraising (2027)

Chair	Dave K. Hann, PDC
Member	Donald E. Darby, PCinC
Member	Kevin P. Tucker, PDC
Member	Donald L. Gates, PDC
Member	D. Michael Beard, PDC

National Special Committee on Medals/Badges

Chair	Robert J. Welch, PDC
Member	Jamie McGuire, PDC
Member	Harry Reineke, IV, PDC
Member	Michael Paquette, PCinC
Member	Robert J. Wolz, PCinC

National CinC Appointed Committee on Chaplain Affairs

Chair	Doug Jones
Member	All Department Chaplains

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Kevin L. Martin 2024 - 2025

Kevin L. Martin was elected as Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War on Saturday, August 3, 2024 at the *143rd Annual National Encampment* at Lexington, Kentucky. He presided over the *144th Annual National Encampment* in Houston, Texas on Friday and Saturday, August 8-9, 2025.

Commander-in-Chief Martin honors his direct ancestor, Capt. Adam Benjamin Martin of the *6th Maryland Volunteer Infantry*, Company H, who served under the Union banner and paid the ultimate price. Capt. Martin's brother, Sgt. Stephen G. Martin, served under his command and survived the war.

Brother Martin is the son of Richard L. and Ann E. Martin. At the Camp level with *Antietam Camp No. 3* in Frederick, Maryland, he held the elective offices of Jr. Vice-Commander, Sr. Vice-Commander, and two separate terms as Commander. He also fulfilled the role of Counselor of the *Antietam Auxiliary* since 2015.

The *Department of the Chesapeake* elected Brother Martin as Secretary/Treasurer for three years, Jr. Vice-Commander, Sr. Vice-Commander, Department Commander, and three times to the Department Council. He was an integral member of the 2011 Reston, Virgina and 2015 Richmond, Virgina National Encampment Host Committees, including co-designing and production of the Encampment polo shirts. He also served as Chief-of-Staff to Commander-in-Chief Tad Campbell in 2014-2015 and received the National SUVCW Cornelius F. Whitehouse Award for being the "Most Outstanding Member of the Order 2014-2015."

Also, at the National level, Brother Kevin attended every National Encampment since 2008 and served on numerous Encampment and Visitation Committees. He served three years as Chair of the *Standing Committee on Fraternal Relations*, one year as Chair of the *Lincoln Memorial Centennial Committee*, and as Chair of *Program & Policy* and *Civil War Memorial Grant Fund Committees*. He also served three years on the National Council of Administration, followed by one year each as Jr. Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Sr. Vice-Commander-in-Chief and Commander-in-Chief. Kevin is also a graduate of the *SUVCW* Memorial University.

Kevin earned a B.A. degree in Information and Computer Science from Hood College in Frederick, Maryland. He retired in 2024 after more than forty-four years as an Information Technology professional, with more than twenty-seven years as a contractor for the Department of Defense (DoD) Defense Health Agency (DHA). He was born and raised in Frederick, Maryland, where he continues to live with Rosemary, his wife of over thirty-six years. Of note, Rosemary served with Kevin concurrently during the 2024-2025 term as the National President of the *Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (ASUVCW)*. They have a son, Tyler, who is also a member of the *SUVCW*.

Brother Martin is also a member of the following organizations:

- The Maryland Society Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) since 1998.
- Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) Life Member.
- Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) – Lt. Col., 2nd Military District Commander (retired).
- Descendants of the Mexican War Veterans (DMWV) since 2008.

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144th National Encampment

of

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Ribbons, Badges, Programs, Etc.

Houston, Texas

2025

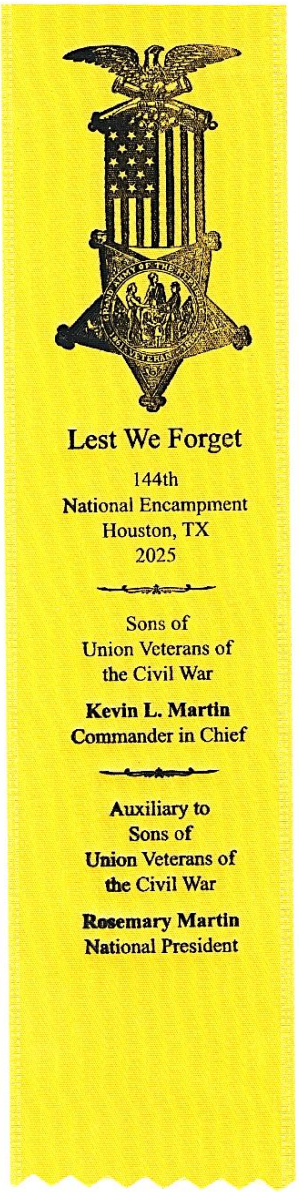
Name Tag and Ribbon

144TH NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT OF THE SUVCW
HOUSTON. TEXAS 2025

Name

Department

Rank



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Badges

DELEGATE BADGE
Obverse

SOUVENIR BADGE
Obverse

DELEGATE BADGE
Reverse

SOUVENIR BADGE
Reverse

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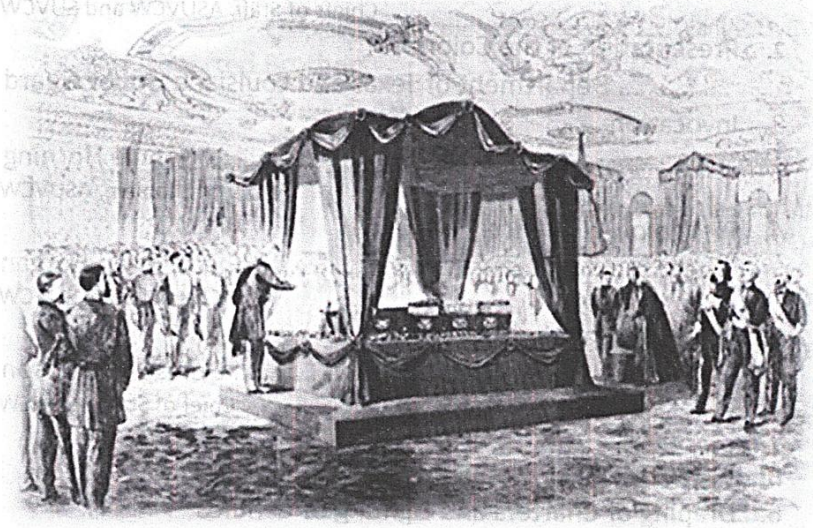
144th National Encampment of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic

Joint Memorial Service

8:00 a.m. Friday, August 8, 2025

Houston, Texas



Etching of Lincoln's Funeral in the East Room, April 19, 1865

Kevin Martin, SUVCW Commander-in-Chief

Rosemary Martin, ASUVCW National President

(continued on next page)

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2025 Annual Encampment of the Allied Orders
Of the Grand Army of the Republic

Joint Memorial Service
and
Encampment Opening

PROGRAM
August 8, 2025

I. PRELUDE
Selections - Bagpipes

II. PROCESSION

1. Introduction of National Officers
   ..... Denise Thompson and Brian Horgan
   Chiefs of Staff, ASUVCW and SUVCW
2. Presentation of the Colors
   ..... Department of Texas and Louisiana Honor Guard
3. Invocation
   ..... Connie Horning
   National Chaplain, ASUVCW
4. Pledge of Allegiance
   ..... Brian Horgan
   Chief of Staff, SUVCW
5. The Star-Spangled Banner
   ..... Denise Thompson
   Chief of Staff, ASUVCW

III. MEMORIAL SERVICE

6. Draping of Charters and Lighting of Candles
   ..... Connie Horning and Douglas Jones
   National Chaplains, ASUVCW and SUVCW
7. Flowers of Love and Remembrance
   ..... Rosemary Martin and Kevin Martin
   National President, ASUVCW and Commander-in-Chief, SUVCW
8. Near My God to Thee
   ..... Connie Horning
   National Chaplain, ASUVCW

(continued on next page)

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9. Meditation and Remarks
   ..... Stephen Schulze
   Chaplain, Department of Texas and Louisiana, SUVCW
10. Eulogy: ASUVCW Past National President Margaret Atkinson
    ..... Danielle Michaels
    Past National President, ASUVCW
11. Amazing Grace – Bagpipes
12. Our Departed Sisters
    ..... Connie Horning
    National Chaplain, ASUVCW
13. The Vacant Chair
    ..... Michael Paquette, Mike Beard and Kevin Martin
    PCinC, National Treasurer, CinC SUVCW
14. Romans 8: 31-35 and 37-39
    ..... Stephen Schulze
    Chaplain, Department of Texas and Louisiana, SUVCW
15. Our Departed Brothers
    ..... Douglas Jones
    National Chaplain, SUVCW
16. The Battle Hymn of the Republic
    ..... Connie Horning and Douglas Jones
    National Chaplains, ASUVCW and SUVCW
17. Benediction
    ..... Douglas Jones
    National Chaplain, SUVCW
18. Taps
    ..... Timothy Phillips PDC

IV. JOINT OPENING

19. Welcoming Remarks by the National President
    ..... Rosemary Martin
    National President, ASUVCW
20. Welcoming Remarks by the Commander-in-Chief
    ..... Kevin Martin
    Commander-in-Chief, SUVCW
21. Encampment Instructions
    ..... Denise Thompson and Brian Horgan
    Chiefs of Staff, ASUVCW and SUVCW

(continued on next page)

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SUVCW FINAL MUSTER

Alabama
Frank A Patten

Chesapeake VA WV DE MD DC
Richard W Chappell
Jim H Friedline
Robert H Roser Jr.
Dickson H Spencer
Larry Walthour

Colorado & WY - ID MT UT
Philip L Beckerich III
Robert P Fullerton
Jared D Richhart

Columbia
Curtis George Johnson
Richard G Lillie
W David McLaughlin

Connecticut
Salvatore Carmosino

Florida
John A Islin
Michael E Urell

Georgia & South Carolina
Jack C Meadows Jr
Henry Robinson

Illinois
Frederick Walcott Miller

Indiana
Ricky Lynn Deutscher
Donald E Gradeless
Lew Michael Thomas

Iowa
James Hugh Johnston
Robert (Bob) Allen Kennedy
Roger A Wheeler Sr

Kansas
Robert D Boyd II
Donald Darrel Gilliland
Roderick (Rick) A Hathaway
Douglas E McGovern
Douglas G Smith

Kentucky
John T Dietz

Maine
John (Jack) Francis Battick

Michigan
Richard G Hutchins
Carl Edward Lamphere
Howard Barnum Lloyd
Francis E. Rogler
Richard L Scott
Craig William Searight
John Robert Shumway
Arthur F Young Jr

Missouri
James L Albin
Kenneth W Bailey
Robert M Petrovic
John C Rutherford

Nebraska & Dakotas
Steve Bauermeister

New Hampshire
John Stephen "Steve" Dow
Clayton Longver

New Jersey
Edwin Barnhardt Leaf
Runkel Rea Nolan Jr
Frederick W Otto

New York
Peter A Braell
Gary F Chapin

(continued on next page)

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New York (cont)
Bennett Charles Gardiner
Thomas E Griffin
John J Kryger
Francis E. Rogler
Theodore A Spiegel
Arthur F Young Jr

North Carolina
Ambrose Gary Simon

Ohio
Don Glen Amrine
James H Houston Jr
David Henry Spencer

Pennsylvania
John A Boyer
Frederick E Clark
Anthony F Kline
Lonny J Pacana
Joseph Albert Shrader
Robert Charles Strangfeld

Southwest
John E Spencer

Southwest AZ NM
Richard L Rice
Jay Robert Simons

Tennessee incl MS
Omar Ernest (Ernie) Bacon
William Russell Shackleford

Wisconsin & Minnesota
Dale J Brasser
Leland L Burlison
Kurtis K Kirk

ASUVCW FINAL MUSTER

New England
Janice Broderick
Audrey Martin

Illinois
Donna Johnson

Iowa
Deb Carr

New Jersey
Bonnie Myers

Ohio
Marge Bechler
Lola Mae Lackey
Ruth Annabelle Greenwalt

Oklahoma
Carol Cox

Pennsylvania
Margaret Atkinson, PNP
Sharon McClellan
Nancy Rupert
Jennifer Kay Thompson

(continued on next page)

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Nearer My God To Thee

Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,
Still all my song shall be, nearer my God, to Thee;
Nearer, my God, to Thee! Nearer to Thee!

There let the way appear, steps unto heaven;
All that thou sendest me, in mercy given;
Angels to beckon me nearer, my God, to thee;
Nearer, my God, to Thee! Nearer to Thee!

Or if, on joyful wing cleaving the sky,
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I fly,
Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to thee,
Nearer, my God, to Thee! Nearer to Thee!

The Vacant Chair

We shall meet, but we shall miss him. There will be one vacant chair.
We shall linger to caress him. There will be one vacant chair.
When a year ago we gathered, Joy was in his mild blue eye;
But a golden cord is severed, and our hopes in ruins lie.

Chorus

We shall meet, but we shall miss him. There will be one vacant chair.
We shall linger to caress him, while we breathe our evening prayer.

True they tell us wreaths of glory, ever more will deck his brow,
But this soothes the anguish only, weeping o'er the heart strings now.
Sleep to-day, O early fallen! In thy green and narrow bed;
Dirges from the pine and cypress, mingle with the tears we shed.

Chorus

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:
his truth is marching on. *Refrain*

Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
he is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat.
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on. *Refrain*

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me.
As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free,
while God is marching on. *Refrain*

Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819-1910

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Challenge Coin

Obverse

Reverse

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Souvenir Challenge Coin Set

Department of Texas & Louisiana

Obverse

Reverse

Gen. James J. Byrne Camp 1

Obverse

Reverse

Lt. Cmdr. Edward, USN, Lea Camp 2

Obverse

Reverse

Maj. Gen. Edward O. C. Ord Camp 3

Obverse

Reverse

Brig. Gen. Joseph Bailey Camp 5

Obverse

Reverse

Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth Camp 18

Obverse

Reverse

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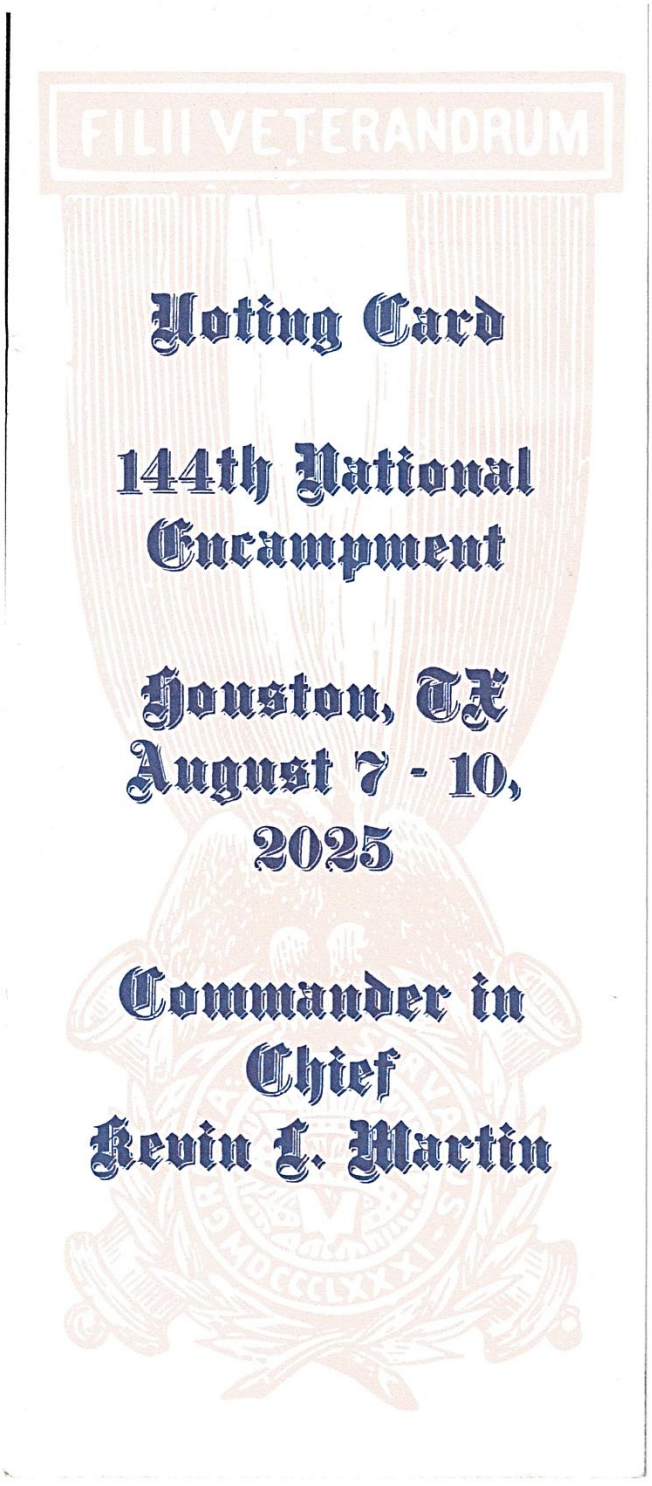
Voting Card



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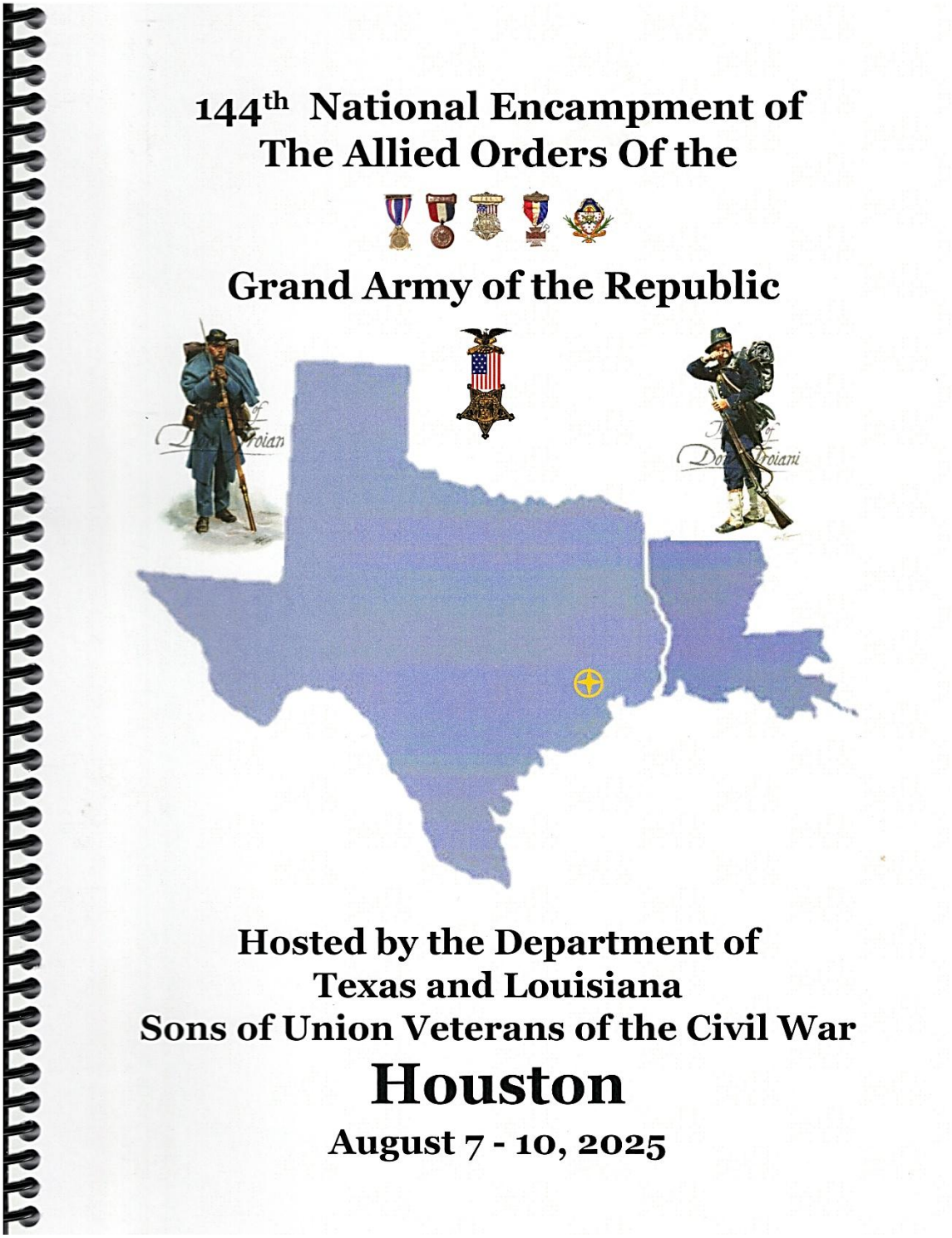
Program Book



Texas

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Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic

Annual Banquet

August 9, 2025
Houston, Texas

(continued on next page)

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The Battle Cry of Freedom (Union Version) by George Frederick Root (1862)

Yes we'll rally round the flag, boys, we'll rally once again,
Shouting the battle cry of freedom,
We will rally from the hillside, we'll gather from the plain,
Shouting the battle cry of freedom!
Chorus:
The Union forever! Hurrah, boys, hurrah!
Down with the traitor, Up with the star!
While we rally 'round the flag, boys, Rally once again,
Shouting the battle cry of freedom!

We are springing to the call of our brothers gone before,
Shouting the battle cry of freedom!
And we'll fill our vacant ranks with a million freemen more,
Shouting the battle cry of freedom! [Chorus]

We will welcome to our numbers the loyal, true and brave,
Shouting the battle cry of freedom!
And although they may be poor, not a man shall be a slave,
Shouting the battle cry of freedom! [Chorus]

Battle Hymn of the Republic by Julia Ward Howe

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.
Chorus:
Glory, glory hallelujah! Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watchfires of a hundred circling camps;
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps;
His day is marching on. [Chorus]

I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of steel;
As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace shall deal;
Let the Hero born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel,
Since God is marching on. [Chorus]

He has sounded forth the trumpet that Shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgement seat;
O be swift, my soul, to answer Him! Be jubilant my feet!
Our God is marching on. [Chorus]

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With the glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me:
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,
While God is marching on. [Chorus]

(continued on next page)

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BANQUET PROGRAM

Pre-Banquet Social

Presentation of the Colors

Pledge of Allegiance

Chiefs of Staff Welcome
SUVCW PDC Brian Horgan and ASUVCW PDP Denise Thompson

Singing of "*Battle Cry of Freedom*"

Invocation and Grace

Banquet

Patriotic Instructors' Special Presentation
SUVCW PCinC Tad Campbell and ASUVCW PDP Rebekah Thomas

Introductions

Allied Orders Remarks

Dr. Mary Edwards Walker Award Presentation
SUVCW 2024-2025 CinC Kevin Martin

Announcements

Singing of "*Battle Hymn of the Republic*"

Benediction

Retiring of the Colors

(continued on next page)

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Committed to perpetuating the memory of those who honorably served the Union, 1861 - 1865

WRC
National President
Cher Petrovic

LGAR
Natonal President
Erin Mongelli

DUVCW 1861-1865
National President
Norma Fiedler

ASUVCW
2024-2025
National President
Rosemary Martin

SUVCW
2024-2025
Commander-in-Chief
Kevin Martin

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Souvenir Apparel

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144th National Encampment
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Houston, Texas
August 7-10, 2025

Proceedings Transcript

First Session - Friday Morning

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Officers and members of the 144th Annual Encampment of the National Organization Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will now come to order.

Color Guard, post the colors.

[three raps, ***]

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

The colors are posted.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

The colors are posted.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

If I would have looked down in front... that's a good way to get started, right?

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

I appoint the following brothers as Encampment officers: Brother Lee Stone will be the Guard; Brother Michael Lance will be the Guide; Brother Past Commander-in-Chief, Jim Pahl, will be the Parliamentarian.

Guide, determine if all present are entitled to remain.

Color Bearer, assist.

Oh. If you're wondering why the lights are dimming, the ones that are in front of me are flickering quite a bit. And I do have vertigo issues. So anybody that's ever had vertigo, you'd understand that at what time, it will not get better.

All right. Let's move on.

The National Secretary, Brother Alan Russ, will call the roll of officers of the Encampment.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Please acknowledge when your name is called.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Here.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Kevin P. Tucker, SVCinC.

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Here.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Daniel W. Murray, JVCnC.

Daniel W. Murray, PDC, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Present.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan L. Russ, National Secretary, is present.

Michael Beard, the National Treasurer.

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Robert J. Welch, National Quartermaster, is absent.

Dale E. Crandall, Council of Administration.

Unknown

He's here.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Where? Oh, back there. Okay.

Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., Council of Administration.

Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., DC, Council of Administration

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

David Hann, Council of Administration, is excused.

Shane L. Milburn, Council of Administration and National Color Bearer.

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Shane L. Milburn, PDC, Council of Administration, National Color Bearer
Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Thank you, sir.

Robert R. Payne, Council of Administration and National Webmaster - Home.

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Council of Administration and National Webmaster - Home
Here.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Thank you, sir.

David Demmy, Executive Director, is excused.

Douglas McMillin, Assistant Executive Director.

[no response.]

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Okay, no.

Brian W. Horgan, Chief of Staff.

Brian W. Horgan, PDC, Chief of Staff
Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Eric Atkisson, National Aide de Camp.

Eric Atkisson, PCC, National Aide de Camp
Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Nathaniel Horgan, National Aide de Camp.

[no response.]

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Okay.

Dave Payne, National Aide de Camp.

[no response.]

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Tim Sedmak, National Aide-de-Camp.

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Tim Sedmak, CC, National Aide-de-Camp
Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Thank you, sir.

W. Faron Taylor, National Aide-de-Camp, Deputy Chief of Staff.

W. Faron Taylor, PDC, National Aide-de-Camp, Deputy Chief of Staff
Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Thank you. Present.

John T. Buckler, National Organization Expansion Officer.

John T. Buckler, National Organization Expansion Officer
Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Present, thank you.

Douglas P. Jones, National Chaplain.

Douglas P. Jones, National Chaplain
Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Present, thank you.

Walter Busch, National Civil War Memorials Officer.

Walter E. Busch, PDC, National Civil War Memorials Officer
Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Present, thank you.

Michael Paquette, National Counselor and Assistant National Treasurer.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor, Assistant National Treasurer
Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Donald E. Darby, Assistant National Counselor.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor
I am here.

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Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

He is here. Thank you.

James B. Pahl, Blue Book Coordinator, National Parliamentarian and Assistant National Treasurer.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

Michael A. Spaulding, National Eagle Scout Coordinator.

Michael A. Spaulding, PDC, National Eagle Scout Coordinator

Here.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

He is here.

It printed on both sides. One moment.

Peter J. Hritsko, National GAR Highway Officer.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Excused.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Is excused.

Dean Enderlin, National GAR Records Officer.

Dean A. Enderlin, PDC, National GAR Records Officer

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Henry C. Duquette, National Graves Registration Officer and National Webmaster Graves Registration database.

Henry C. Duquette, DC, Nat'l Graves Registration Officer, Nat'l Webmaster Graves Registration Database

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Thank you, present.

Lee Stone, National Guard.

Lee D. Stone, PDC, National Guard

Here.

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Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Here, present, thank you.

Gary L. Gibson, National Historian.

Gary L. Gibson, PDC, National Historian

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

Perley Mellor, National Liaison to the Cathedral of the Pines.

[no response.]

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Excused.

Jeffry Burden, National Liaison to MOLLUS.

[no response.]

Unknown

Jeffry Burden, he's not here.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

He's not here, okay, absent.

Rocky L. Bartlow, National Membership-at-Large Coordinator.

Rocky L. Bartlow, PDC , National Membership-at-Large Coordinator

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

Tad D. Campbell, National Patriotic Instructor.

Tad D. Campbell, PCinC, National Patriotic Instructor

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

James P. McGuire, Signals Officer.

James P. McGuire, PDC, National Signals Officer

Present.

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Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Present, thank you.

Daniel Earl, National Legislation Officer.

Daniel R. Earl, National Legislation Officer
Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Present, thank you.

Robert Leturno, Washington, D.C. representative.

[no response.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
No.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
No? Okay, absent. Thank you.

Ken Freshley, Assistant National Webmaster.

Unknown
Absent.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Absent.

Bruce D. Frail, National Webmaster - Memorial University.

Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, National Webmaster - Memorial University
Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Present, thank you.

Sumner Hunnewell, National Webmaster - Monuments and Memorials.

Sumner G. Hunnewell, PDC, National Webmaster - Monuments and Memorials
Yeah.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Present, thank you.

Encampment
[Laughter.]

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Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

I wasn't going to say yup!

John Vander Meulen, Assistant National Secretary - Proceedings.

John C. Vander Meulen, Assistant National Secretary - Proceedings

Here.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Here, thank you.

Michael Lance, Assistant National Secretary - Proceedings Aide.

Michael L. Lance, PDC, Assistant National Secretary - Proceedings Aide

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

Danny L. Wheeler, Assistant National Treasurer.

[no response.]

Unknown

He's absent.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Absent, thank you.

Kenny L. Jacobsen, Assistant National Quartermaster and National ROTC Coordinator.

Ken Jacobsen, Assistant National Quartermaster, National ROTC Coordinator

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

Edward J. Norris, National Battle Flag Preservation Officer.

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, National Battle Flag Preservation Officer

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

I will then run through the list of the Past Commanders-in-Chief in order of serving.

Danny L. Wheeler, Past Commander-in-Chief, 1999 to 2000, is absent.

Edward J. Krieser.

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Edward J. Krieser, PCinC, Department of Missouri

Here.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Thank you, sir, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2000-2001.

George L. Powell, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2001-2002 is absent.

Robert E. Grimm, Past Commander-in-Chief 2002-2003.

Unknown

Absent.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Absent.

Kent L. Armstrong, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2003-2004, is absent.

Stephen A. Michaels, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2004-2005.

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Department of Wisconsin

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

Donald E. Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2005-2006.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Department of Ohio

I am.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

James B. Pahl, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2006-2007.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Thank you.

Leo F. Kennedy, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2009-2010.

Leo F. Kennedy, PCinC, Department of Rhode Island

I am here.

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Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

He is here. Thank you.

Donald D. Palmer, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2011-2012.

Donald D. Palmer , Jr., PCinC, Department of Missouri

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

Perley E. Mellor, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2012-2013 is absent.

Ken L. Freshley, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2013-2014.

Unknown

Absent.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Absent, thank you.

Tad D. Campbell, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2014-2015.

Tad D. Campbell, PCinC, Department of California and Pacific

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

Donald L. Martin, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2016-2017.

Donald L. Martin, PCinC, Department of Ohio

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

Mark R. Day, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2017-2018.

Unknown

Absent. Marked absent.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay. Absent, thank you.

Edward J. Norris, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2019-2020.

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts

Present.

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Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

Brian C. Pierson, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2020-2021.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Yup.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

He's present, thank you.

Michael A. Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2021 to 2022.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Department of the Chesapeake

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present.

Bruce D. Frail, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2022 to 2023.

Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, Department of Rhode Island

Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

And Peter J. Hritsko, Past Commander-in-Chief, 2023 to 2024, is absent.

And Past Commander-in-Chief Robert J. Wolz.

Robert J. Wolz, PCinC, Department of Ohio

Here. Present.

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Present, thank you.

Commander... that concludes the roll call of officers.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Thank you.

Do we have any vacancies that we need to fill?

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

No.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay, very good.

Brothers, upon what principles is our Order founded, and what duties do we inculcate?

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Encampment

Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brothers, we meet again as the Sons of Union Veterans in the annual session to review the work of the past and plan for the future. May our conduct and our deliberations be marked by mutual tolerance, fraternal courtesy, keeping in mind our duty to our country, to our Order, and to ourselves.
Chaplain Jones, will you please invoke the Divine Blessing?

[three raps, ***]

Douglas P. Jones, National Chaplain

Supreme Architect of the Universe, we invoke thy Blessing at this time. As we serve you and serve our Country, grant that your spirit may fill our minds that we may choose wisely. Let your spirit fill our hands that we may have the strength and the skill to do what's necessary. And most of all, let your spirit fill our hearts that in all things we may show the love that you have for all of your world in all of your command. All of this we ask in your Holy name, and let all the people of God say:

Encampment

Amen.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

The National Patriotic Instructor, Past Commander-in-Chief, Tad Campbell, will lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Encampment

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands; one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

By virtue of the authority vested in me as the Commander-in-Chief, I hereby declare the 144th Annual Encampment of the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, duly open for transactions of such business that may legally and properly come before it.

The Guard will admit all Brothers qualified to enter.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

The rules of the Encampment: our deliberations will be conducted in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order,* the 12th Edition. National Counselor, Past Commander-in-Chief, James B. Pahl, will serve as Parliamentarian.

Rules may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of the Encampment body present and voting. With the exception of the Commander-in-Chief, the Officers and the Committee Chairmen shall not read their reports but shall submit their written report to the National Secretary when called upon. They shall approach the microphone, identify themselves, state upon which page of the reports packet their report may be found, read any corrections and/or additions to their report, and read any recommendations requiring action at this Encampment.

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While speaking on any issue before this Encampment, no person shall speak more than twice to each issue, each time not to exceed five minutes. Exceptions may be granted by a two-thirds vote of the Encampment body present and voting, except that the person making a motion may answer questions and use up to two minutes to close the debate, which privilege shall not be canceled by action ordering the previous question. The Commander-in-Chief reserves the right to limit the debate on any particular issue, including, but not limited to, designating the maximum number of speakers allowed to speak as to each side of the question on the floor.

Cell phones shall be turned off... just checking my own first... and set to vibrate to alert for incoming calls. All phone conversations shall take place outside of the Encampment room.

At the sound of the gavel, prior to election of officers, anyone outside the room will not be allowed to enter until the session is completed.

All discussions will be conducted in the spirit of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

In general voting, please use your voting card. The Commander-in-Chief reserves the right to use other forms of voting, including, but not limited to, private ballot, rising, or a roll call voting as he deems appropriate from time to time.

All amendments, substitutions, or other actions initiated from the floor, other than procedural motions or corrections of spelling or typographical errors, shall be in writing for the minutes of the National Secretary and for final reading before the Encampment votes on the matter.

Encampment Committees shall only consider matters properly referred to them by the Commander-in-Chief after receiving those items on the floor of this Encampment. Each item must be reported back to the floor of the Encampment with the Committee's recommendation to adopt, reject, refer, or take other appropriate action.

When rising to address the Encampment, use one of the available microphones. Upon being recognized, salute the Chair and announce your name, Department, and National office, if any. These proceedings are being recorded, and it is critical that you identify yourself each and every time you use the microphone. This helps the transcriptionist accurately compile the proceedings.

Any requests for funds from the Special Projects Fund or any other funds from the Order are to be submitted in writing to the National Treasurer prior to noon tomorrow. Such a request must include a description of the project, who is chairing the project, and the address to which any award may be sent. All such requests will be presented to the Encampment for consideration.

Deliberation will be conducted in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order*. Rules may be suspended by two-thirds' vote of the Encampment body present and voting. With the exception of the Commander-in-Chief, the officers and committee chairmen shall not read their reports, but shall submit their written report to the National Secretary when called upon. They shall approach the microphone, identify themselves, state the page of the report package where their report may be found, and read any corrections and/or additions to the report. As a reminder, by the vote of the previous National Encampment, Departments who have failed to submit their written reports are not permitted to give a report on the floor.

While speaking on any issue before the Encampment, no person shall speak more than twice on each issue, each time not to exceed five minutes. Exceptions may be granted by two-thirds of the vote of the Encampment body present and voting. Persons making a motion may answer the question and use up to two minutes to close the debate, which privilege shall not be canceled by action ordered by the

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previous question. The Commander-in-Chief reserves the right to limit…

The National Encampment Parliamentarian shall advise the Commander-in-Chief to the Parliamentarian issues and shall maintain strict neutrality in all matters. The Parliamentarian's advice to the Commander-in-Chief will be done privately and is up to the Commander-in-Chief to accept or reject advice when making rules. The Parliamentarian shall make the ruling… shall *not* make the ruling. The Parliamentarian may not object to the ruling of the Chair, nor raise the point of order. The Parliamentarian shall not address the National Encampment on merits of pending questions and shall not enter into debate. The Parliamentarian never votes except when a vote is taken by secret ballot.

In general voting, please use your voting card. Everybody should have their cards. The Commander-in-Chief reserves the right to use other forms of voting, including, but not limited to, private ballot, rising for a call, or roll call voting as deemed appropriate from time to time. All motions, amendments, substitutes, or other actions initiated from the floor, other than the procedural motions, or a correction of spelling of typographical errors shall be submitted in writing for the minutes of the National Secretary and the final reading before the Encampment votes on the matter.

Encampment Committees shall only consist… consider matters properly referred to them by the Commander-in-Chief after receiving those items on the floor of this Encampment. Each item must be reported back to the floor of the Encampment, and the Committee recommendation to adopt, reject, refer, or appropriate action.

When rising to address the Encampment, one will use the available microphones. Upon being recognized, salute the Chair, and announce your name, Department, and National office, if any. The proceedings are being recorded. I think we've already gone through that.

Any collection for funds for special projects… did we do that one as well? Yup.

Finally, the photographer has priority over the pictures. Please give him courtesy to allow him to do his job first and do nothing to interfere with his job. Otherwise, you may take all the pictures you like. Ed Norris... so if you see him, he's probably going to have a camera in his hand most of the time.

Let's take a moment to recognize those veterans among us. Please stand as…

[Military Branch songs begin playing].

Unknown

Hooyah! Go Navy.

Unknown

Air power. Give 'em the gun.

Unknown

Hey, Air Force. Oooh.

Unknown

Hooyah!

Encampment

[Applause.]

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Our Credentials Committee this year is comprised of Brother Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, and Brothers Tom Brown, Walt Busch, and Dale Crandall. Brother VerStreate, do you have a preliminary report at this time?

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Commander... Daryl VerStreate, Department of New York, Credentials Chairman. We have roughly 108 preregistered, 148 registered that are present.

I would make one request that as we break for lunch, if I could have a representative, one from each Department, to come see me. We're going to make a list of one contact so when we get ready to do elections and credentials and move people around, we have one person to reach out to and contact without chasing people down. Thank you, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Okay. I appoint the Encampment Committees as follows:

Constitution and Regulations: Past Commander-in-Chief, Don Darby, as Chairman, Shane Milburn, Alan Russ, and Daniel Earl.

Resolutions: Past Commander-in-Chief Ken Freshley, Chairman, and Alan Russ.

Unknown

He's not here.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Mike Paquette will be filling in for that.

Officers Reports: Past Commander-in-Chief, Don Martin as Chairman, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Kevin Tucker, and Shane Milburn.

Rituals and Ceremonies: Past Commander-in-Chief Steve Michaels, Chairman, Past Commander-in-Chief Jim Pahl, and Rod Fraser.

Fraternal Relations: Past Commander-in-Chief, Brian Pierson, Chairman, John Huffman, Frank Avila, Mike Rusk, and Jerome Kowalski.

Our visitation to the Auxiliary will occur on Friday afternoon after lunch, tentatively 1:30. The following Brothers will accompany the Commander-in-Chief: Brother Brian Horgan, National Chief of Staff; Brother W. Faron Taylor, Deputy Chief of Staff; Past Commander-in-Chief, Tad Campbell,

National Patriotic Instructor; and Past Commander-in-Chief, Brian Pierson, Fraternal Relations. Please meet outside the Auxiliary room, which is the Veranda room.

We will have National President Rosemary Martin of the Auxiliary... don't tell her that I messed up on that…

Encampment

[Laughter.]

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

… to the Sons of Union Veterans meeting with us on Friday at 4 p.m. Past Commander-in-Chief, Tad Campbell, will provide the response.

If we have representatives from WRC, LGAR, or DUVCW… DUVCW will be 1:30 on Friday…

… right here, yes.

And did we have any others? If there are others, I'll let you know.

Okay. I think that was pretty much it. So I've got something very special, and I'm proud to be part of this today. So if we could have the Delegates from Arkansas... would you please come forward.

Okay. It is my honor and privilege to present to you your Charter for our newest Department. And I believe for the year, the number 32, yes. So.... the Department of Arkansas!

Encampment

[Chatter and applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Now, this is the fun stuff. So I can stay here all day if we can do fun stuff!

Okay. So we're going to go into Officer Reports. I will entertain a motion that the Officers' Reports with recommendations be referred to the appropriate Encampment Committees.

Unknown

So made.

Unknown

Second.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Let's vote. All in favor?

Okay.

And opposed, same sign.

Excellent. Motion carries.

Okay. So first up is me. Therefore, I yield control of this meeting to the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief while I present my report.

Over the course of my term as Commander-in-Chief, I took it seriously to perpetuate the memory and legacy of the Boys in Blue. I was fully committed to the business of our Order every single day. I did not take this commitment lightly.

I am very proud of our Officers, both elected and appointed, along with our National Committee Chairs... having committed their best to you. I still believe that the health and vitality of our Order and our successes are incumbent on you, our Brothers, at the Camp and Department level.

As I mentioned in earlier correspondence, I have continued to observe that our Order is filled with Brothers who possess a wide and valuable array of talents, special skills, and levels of expertise that are

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key to the success of our growth. Brothers, take the step forward and make yourselves known. In a word, share.

The final victory achieved by the Union depended on commitments from the lowliest of privates to the highest echelon of command. Our Country needed every one of them, and now, more than ever, our Order needs you. All of you join us. Again, continue to celebrate by being an important part of our Order that honors our Union heroes of the past. Be a part of our future.

Brothers, there are several important milestones, achievements, and initiatives that have occurred during my term that I want to share. Please remember to keep 100-year-old real Son and Brother, William Pool, of Bolivar, Missouri in your thoughts and prayers.

It is my pleasure to announce the formation of the new Department, the Department of Arkansas, which we just did. It is our 32nd Department.

More than 25 General Orders and special messages that addressed specific issues germane to our Brothers were issued. As Chair of the Council of Administration, we acted on 20 motions involving important business of the Order.

I created a new form at Department Encampments called "Ask the Commander-in-Chief". It is an informal dialogue with Brothers attending their Department Encampment to ask questions. I think the idea has merit for future Commanders-in-Chief.

I have been supportive of a new initiative to educate and nurture future leaders within the Department. I am looking forward to our growing bench of new leaders.

It has been an absolute pleasure to be your Commander-in-Chief over my term. Each of you have been a positive influence on me and on our Order. I have enjoyed interacting with many of you throughout this past year. Thank you all for an outstanding year and your faithful service to our Order. A special thank you to my Chief of Staff and his staff of National Aides de Camp. I will miss all of our weekly *Coffee with the Commander-in-Chief* calls.

Lastly, my wife, National President of ASUVCW, Rosemary Martin. What an honor it has been to be able to share this experience with her. We make a great team together. We could divide and conquer as we traveled extensively across the country. We took turns taking pictures of each other's events for lasting memories as well as to share with the *Banner.* To borrow a quote from Indeed, *"It takes a team to be successful because teamwork fosters collaboration, enhances problem-solving, and drives performance. Successful teams exhibit qualities such as commitment, communication, and cooperation which are essential for achieving common goals. Empowerment*
within teams also plays a crucial role in driving success and productivity. Ultimately, working together allows individuals to leverage each other's strengths and achieve greater outcomes than they could alone".

Thank you again, Brothers, for all your support through this year. It has been an absolute pleasure to be your Commander-in-Chief over my term. Each of you have been a positive influence on me and on our Order. I have enjoyed interacting with many of you throughout the past year. Thank you all for an outstanding year and your faithful service to our Order.

Encampment

[Applause.]

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
You may be seated.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor
Commander...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Thank you.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor
Point of order.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Yes, sir.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor
I didn't hear what the Senior Vice said, but he has some housekeeping to do before he returns the gavel to you.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor, Assistant National Treasurer
No recommendations.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor
But his report has to be moved to the Committee.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Okay. Next up is Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Kevin Tucker.

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief
Brothers, my… Brothers, my report can be found on pages 8 through 10.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Who are you?

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief
Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts. Pages 8 through 10, no recommendations, nothing to add.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Thank you.

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Daniel Murray.

Daniel W. Murray, PDC, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Daniel Murray. My report begins on page 10 and concludes at the top of page 13. No recommendations, and I have two... one addition, I guess. Total number of inquiries was 106. I received three since I sent that report in.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Thank you.

National Secretary, Alan Russ.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Yeah. Alan Russ, PDC, Kansas, National Secretary. My report… we lost my report... begins right before the Secretary's or the Treasurer's. My report begins on page... begins on page 13. No recommendations, no changes.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Do you have any communications?

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Yes, I do have communications if you wish to do them now, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay. Again, Alan Russ, National Secretary. The first communication I have... those of you who were in attendance last year will recall there was a request for donations from the Sons from the… from the Christian Appalachian Project, and the hat was passed, money was collected. This is a thank you letter:

"Dear Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I am so grateful you started the year off with your gift of $1,320 received on August 30, 2024, to provide much needed relief to people who are struggling here in the heart of America. Because of you, a child won't be going to bed hungry tonight. You gave the last bit needed to repair a family's home to ensure it is safe, warm, and dry. And an isolated Senior will have food and friendship, even a small gift every now and then, all because you put your faith into action by sending your donation.

"Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, your generosity is the answer to so many prayers. Because you have such a caring heart, we're inviting you to become a guardian angel. This is a faithful way to share your blessing with a small monthly gift for people who are hungry and hurting. To learn more about how you can do this...", then there's a name and contact number. *"We give thanks to God for you every day in our daily prayers. Thank you for helping to build hope, transform lives, and share Christ's love with the good people of Appalachia. If you want to see your support in action, visit wearecap.org. You'll see how your partnership and support is changing lives".*

That was from Gary Adams, President. And again, thank you to all who helped fill that hat last year.

The next resolution I have is an endorsement from the Department of Michigan for Robert R. Payne for office of Junior Vice Commander. I don't plan to read that unless there's a specific request to do so. And that's part two of it, okay?

Next one is a resolution passed by the New Jersey Department, SUVCW, at their annual meeting... or did we address that last night? I'm looking for something from the CofA meeting that goes along with this.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Is it the website... newsletter?

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Yes, yes.

Yes, okay. *"Resolved, we, the Brothers of Colonel Louis R. Francine, Camp No. 7, Department of New Jersey, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, respectfully ask that the National Webmaster create an area on the National website to serve as a repository for all Camp and Department newsletters that may be accessed by all visiting the website, and that these newsletters be archived for posterity.*

The reason behind this is that the National website can serve as a hub for all newsletters that could be accessed by anyone visiting the website that may not realize that some Departments and/or Camps publish their own."

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

I've got it.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Oh, you've got it. That goes to the committee.

The next one is from the Department of Missouri. It is a resolution supporting rescinding General Order No. 4, Series 2024-2025, *"... Whereas we feel it important that any member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in good standing…"* well, actually, I'm not going to read this one because it was also submitted to the C&R Committee and is in their report. This is just a separate one. So it was considered by the C&R Committee, correct, Don? Yes? So we would just be reading it and rereading it.

The next one is also from the Department of Missouri, resolution for organizational efficiency. This one, *"Whereas the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a fraternal organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of the Union organized in 1881 and chartered by Congress in 1954, they are the lawful successor of the Grand Army of the Republic; and Whereas the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a 501(c)(3) federally chartered organization now; and whereas the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War charitable fund foundation was started as a 501(c)(3) organization to accept donations as well as to receive funds from the National organization; Whereas it now makes sense to eliminate the charitable foundation and bring all fundraising efforts and programs under the office of Treasurer of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.*

"Therefore, be it resolved, the Department of Missouri in Encampment assembled, proposes to the 144th National Encampment that the charitable foundation will be dissolved in all functions of charitable foundation be managed by an Assistant Treasurer under the direction of the Treasurer of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War."

The Commander-in-Chief declared this out of order.

The next one is a resolution in support of a Wisconsin monument at Antietam Battlefield. *"Whereas volunteer Union soldiers from Wisconsin fought valiantly at the Civil War battle of Antietam, the single bloodiest day in American history, Wisconsin regiments at the battle included the Second, Sixth, and Seventh Infantry of the famed Iron Brigade, and the Third Wisconsin Infantry and Fifth Wisconsin Infantry; And whereas the Wisconsin Iron Brigade Regiments and the Third Wisconsin Regiment experienced heavy losses at Antietam, approaching 59 percent of their numbers killed, wounded, or missing; and whereas no memorial monument exists on the battlefield at Antietam honoring the memory of the sacrifices of these violent....",* pardon me... *"... valiant Wisconsin soldiers; and whereas the Wisconsin legislature in 1913 passed legislation establishing funds for the erection of a suitable monument at Antietam Battlefield in honor of Wisconsin's vital role in the battle;*

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Therefore be it resolved that all approvals be established forthwith by...”, my apologies... *“that all approvals be established forthwith by Congress and the National Park Service for the erection of a memorial monument to Wisconsin's Union regiment's sacrifice at the Antietam Battlefield.”*

And this was... resolution was passed by their Encampment and will go to the Encampment Resolutions Committee.

That concludes communications, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you very much.

National Treasurer, Michael Beard.

David W. Kimble, DC, Department of Michigan

Commander... point of order.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, sir.

David W. Kimble, DC, Department of Michigan

On the resolutions, there was one that was left out. Dave Kimble, the Commander for Department of Michigan... Gary Gibson, his nomination for Council of Administration.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. That would probably be my error. I have… I printed two for Brother Payne, and I know I received the one from Gibson, or concerning Gibson, which I did not get printed. So that is my error. There was a resolution from the Department of Michigan.

David W. Kimble, DC, Department of Michigan

All right. Thank you, sir.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Thank you for clarifying that, sir.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Commander-in-Chief... Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio. You should also have received a resolution for the nomination of Jim Crane as National Secretary, and that was not read. Because the Ohio Department sent the resolution.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay, and I did…

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Okay. I just…

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Yeah. I understand what you're saying. Yes, sir.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

All right. Since I gave him a little bit of time to now think about it, the National Treasurer, Michael Beard.

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

Yes, the most anticipated report. Michael Beard, National Treasurer, Department of the Chesapeake. My report begins on page 16 and ends on page 22. There is an attachment at the last end of the report, or these reports. It is our audited fiscal statements for the year ending FY24, June '24, and the auditors currently have our books, gave them to them two weeks ago. So they're auditing this year now. I have no recommendations, and there's no changes.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

[Battery alarm ringing.]

That wasn't me.

I say I didn't quite make that noise. Should we continue on?

Unknown

Yes.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Council of Administration member, Shane Milburn.

Shane L. Milburn, PDC, Council of Administration

Shane Milburn, PDC. My report's on page 26. I have no recommendations, no corrections.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Council of Administration member, Rob Payne.

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Council of Administration

Robert Payne, Department of Michigan, Council of Administration. My report can be found on page 24, and there are no additions or corrections.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Council of Administration member, Dave Hann is not here, right? Was excused.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

He did have a recommendation.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

National Secretary, Alan Russ. There was a recommendation. The report begins on page 26, but the recommendation is on page 27. This recommendation was addressed last night and forwarded to the incoming Commander-in-Chief.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Council of Administration member, Dan... Dale Crandell. Sorry.

Dale E. Crandell, PDC, Council of Administration

We need one for short people here. Dale Crandell, Department of Missouri. My report is on 24 and 25. I have no recommendations or corrections.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Council of Administration member, Rod Fraser.

Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., DC, Council of Administration

Roderick Fraser, Council of Administration, Department Commander, Department of Massachusetts. My report is on page 25. There are no additions or corrections. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Council of Administration member and immediate Past Commander-in-Chief, Peter Hritsko, is not here in attendance. He has been excused.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

There's no recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

No recommendations, yes.

Banner Editor, Past Commander-in-Chief Jim Pahl.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, National Parliamentarian, *Banner* Editor

James Pahl, Past Commander-in-Chief, Editor of the *Banner*. My report is found on page 28. No additions, no corrections, no recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Executive Director, David Demmy. He is not with us this weekend. There's no recommendations.

I do have something to say to the Encampment here. Brother David... his health is not good at this point. He is having significant health issues, and that is why he was unable to attend the Encampment this weekend. I know he… we talked a little bit before I left, and he wanted me to say that he's so sorry that he couldn't be here, and he'll be thinking about us all weekend long and that he knows that we will do all the right things…

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Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

… and that he won't have to have extra work when we're done.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Did I miss any Officer reports?

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Council of Administration

Commander... Rob Payne, Department of Michigan, Council of Administration. You missed the Quartermaster report, sir, and he does have a recommendation in there.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So that is on page 23, I believe.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Yes. National Secretary, Alan Russ. The report begins on page 23, the recommendation on 24. That was addressed by the Council of Administration meeting last night and was not approved.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Thank you.

Let's continue on, and we'll go into the reports of the Standing Committees. We will start... well, remember to tell us what page your report appears, and only read corrections, additions, and recommendations.

We start with National Committee on Program and Policy, Brother Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Kevin Tucker.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

You're not going to go through all these other Officer's reports?

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Commander…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Hang on one second.

Okay. Yeah, something got mixed up here. Sorry about that.

We will start with National Aide-de-Camp, Deputy Chief-of-Staff, W. Faron Taylor.

W. Faron Taylor, PDC, Deputy National Chief of Staff

Faron Taylor, Past Department Commander of the Chesapeake. No additions or corrections, recommendations. Page 31. Thank you.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

National Camp-at-Large and Department Organizer, Jim Pahl.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

That's not me.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

So much for my list.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

You need to be on page 31, Commander-in-Chief.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

National Aides-de-Camp, Eric Atkisson, Clay Matthews, David Pyne, Tim Sedmak, and Nathaniel Horgan.

Brian W. Horgan, PDC, National Aide de Camp

Commander, sir... Brian Horgan, Department of the Chesapeake, Chief-of-Staff representing myself as well as the staff. My report can be found on page 30. There are no additions, no recommendations.

Sir, I actually have one correction, however. As the compiler of this actual report, I would like to correct the report from the Department of Colorado, and I will submit this in writing. Department Commander William Neu, and he's a Junior... should be listed there. That's all. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

National Chaplain, Doug Jones.

Douglas P. Jones, National Chaplain

National Chaplain, Doug Jones, Department of the Chesapeake. No changes, no nothing.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Douglas P. Jones, National Chaplain

Page 31.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

National Civil War Memorials Officer, Walt E. Busch.

Walter E. Busch, PDC, National Civil War Memorials Officer

Walter E. Busch, National Civil War Memorials Officer who's wearing high official [indistinguishable] report can be had.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

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Walter E. Busch, PDC, National Civil War Memorials Officer

My report begins on page 32, ends on page 38. I do have a couple additions that I will give to the Secretary during the break. The first is that I've been in contact with Sandy Flores of the Woman's Relief Corps, Southern Memorials Projects Section. And she's been known to starting to submit form 61's to us.

I've also begun... I said that I would try to begin my report by already beginning to write the first draft of the data entry manual for our monuments database, which is now up and running for those of you that want to check out what monuments we've got for your cities.

And my last thing is that a report... that we should commend Sumner Hunnewell for going throughout the states during his many travels and documenting many monuments, and he's added two more since my report was given for a full... of 58 this year. That's my report.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Page 38, National Color Bearer, Shane Milburn.

Shane Milburn, PDC, National Color Bearer

Shane Milburn, PDC, National Color Bearer. I just want to thank the Department of Texas and Louisiana, so I guess an addition... for allowing me to participate in the Color Guard, and I would like to commend the Color Guard for a job well done.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

National Counselor, Mike Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Michael Paquette, Department of the Chesapeake, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Counselor. My report can be found on page 39. No changes, no recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Assistant National Counselor, Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief. Have anything?

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

No report received. I can't talk.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

And that was your rule. That's the Encampment rule. So that's it.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yeah.

Unknown

That's a first.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. National Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator, Michael Spaulding.

Michael A. Spaulding, PDC, National Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator

Commander... Michael Spaulding, Department of Ohio, National Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator. My report is found on page 39. I have no additions or corrections. I would like to call out the Department of New York who had an extraordinary performance in Eagle Scout certificates this year with 257. That concludes my report.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Now, excuse me... I have passed over... not on purpose, the Assistant National Counselor (Blue Book), Jim Pahl, Past Commander-in-Chief.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Jim Pahl, Past Commander-in-Chief. My official title is Assistant National Counselor to C&R. Thank you very much.

My report is on page 39. No additions, no corrections, no recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

National GAR Highway Officer, Peter Hritsko, is not here. He is excused. No recommendations.

National GAR Records Officer, Dean Enderlin.

Dean A. Enderlin, PDC, National GAR Records Officer

Commander... Dean Enderlin, National GAR Records Officer, Department of California and Pacific. My report is on page 41. There are no additions, corrections, or recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Did you have a recommendation for purchase of cyber insurance?

Henry C. Duquette, DC, National Graves Registration Officer

That's me.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

We just got that. Okay, gotcha. Okay, thank you. Okay.

National Graves Registration Officer Henry Duquette.

Henry C. Duquette, PDC, National Graves Registration Officer

Commander... Henry Duquette, Department Commander, Department of North Carolina and National Graves Registration Officer. My report starts on page 41 and continues on page 42 where I have the following recommendation: "*Purchase cyber insurance.*"

During our conversion review of current freeform text fields in the database, we recognized that we have an exposure to malware and other potential harmful input. Consideration must also be given to the fact that we gather contact information from people who sign up for a Submitter's Account. While we do not hold Social Security Account Numbers, we do capture enough personal information to make our database attractive to hackers. So I repeat our recommendation is: *purchase cyber insurance*.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Commander...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, sir.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Yes, Alan Russ, National Secretary. That was handled by the CofA last night, and the motion was made and approved for the National Treasurer to see if current insurance covers all organizational-held databases or if there is an additional cost to cover it, and any possible costs to comply with insurance requirements.

Henry C. Duquette, DC, National Graves Registration Officer

Very good. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

National Guard, Lee Stone.

Lee D. Stone, PDC, National Guard

Sir... National Guard, Lee Stone, Department of the Chesapeake. No report given.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

The National Guide did not issue a report. Neither did…

Okay. Gary, do you want to speak?

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Gary L. Gibson, PDC, National Historian

Gary Gibson, Department of Michigan, National Historian. First of all, I want to apologize to all my Brothers. Just about two weeks ago, Brother Rob Payne and I discovered that the link going from the National Historian's email to my email disappeared who knows when. So if anyone's been trying to contact me for the last six months, that's why I haven't received anything because the link was broken.

I have a report. I won't read it. But I do have one recommendation.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Gary L. Gibson, PDC, National Historian

And that recommendation is; "*that we discontinue the National Committee on History. This Committee has been nonfunctioning for the last several years, and there really is no practical purpose for it*."
And I have copies of my report.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. I will assign that to the Officer's reports.

Okay. National Legislation Officer, Dan Earl.

Daniel R. Earl, PCC, National Legislation Officer

Dan Earl, Department of California and Pacific. My report starts on page 42 and nothing further to add.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

National Liaison to Cathedral of the Pines. I don't believe Perley is here.

Unknown

No report received.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Move on.

National Liaison to MOLLUS. I don't believe Jeffry Burden is here either. So we'll move.

National Membership-at-Large Coordinator, Rocky Bartlow.

Rocky L. Bartlow, PDC, National Membership-at-Large Coordinator

Rocky Bartlow, Department of Kansas, the Coordinator for the huge and expansive National Membership-at-Large. My report is on page 44, and I have nothing to add, no additions or recommendations. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

National Organization Expansion Officer, John Buckler.

Unknown

No report received.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

No report? Oh, sorry. You didn't submit a report, so sorry.

National Patriotic Instructor, Tad Campbell.

Tad D. Campbell, PCinC, National Patriotic Instructor

Tad Campbell, National Patriotic Instructor, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of California and Pacific. My report appears on pages 44 through 51 and also serves as the report of the National Special Committee on Memorial University.

I have the following updates since the report was submitted on July 11th:

I received late reports from the Departments of Indiana, Rhode Island, Michigan, and Chesapeake.

There have been six additional graduates from Memorial University bringing the total to 26.

And I do have three recommendations, which appear at the bottom of page 50 and top of page 51 as follows:

Recommendation No. 1: "... *that the direction of the 153rd (sic) National Encampment regarding the review and revision of the Patriotic Instructor reporting forms, specifically forms 40, 41, and 42 be followed, and that the National Standing Committee on Program and Policy be directed to complete this task as soon as possible. And further, that the detailed and accurate reporting required to be in compliance with General Order No. 18 be considered when recommending revisions to said forms*."

If it turns out that the National Standing Committee on Program and Policy has already completed these tasks, then I'm prepared to withdraw this recommendation.

Recommendation number two...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Hang on.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. Last night at the CofA meeting, that was tasked to the incoming Patriotic Instructor.

Tad D. Campbell, PCinC, National Patriotic Instructor

Excellent!

Recommendation number two: "... *That the reporting period for the form 42 National Patriotic Instructor be changed from January 1st through December 31st to August 1st through July 31st, a period that better matches the term of office of the National Patriotic Instructor*."

The reasoning is that with the current form using the prior calendar year as the reporting period, a first term National Patriotic Instructor has to try to report on seven to eight months of activity from before he assumed the office.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. That also was forwarded to the incoming Patriotic Instructor, sir.

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Tad D. Campbell, PCinC, National Patriotic Instructor

Recommendation number three: "... *That a new appointive office of Dean of Memorial University or other appropriate title be created, and that the administration of Memorial University and Chairmanship of the National Special Committee on Memorial University be assigned to that office and removed from the duties of the National Patriotic Instructor*."

The administration of Memorial University and Special Committee are important, but time consuming, and do not necessarily... or not necessarily best served by an educational officer whose main focus should be instruction and the collection of data pertaining to the patriotic works of the Order as a whole.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Ruled out of order at last night's CofA.

Tad D. Campbell, PCinC, National Patriotic Instructor

Thank you, Commander. That concludes updates.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Assistant National Secretary Department-at-Large Secretary/Treasurer, Jim B. Pahl, Past Commander-in-Chief.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Assistant National Secretary, Department-at-Large Secretary/Treasurer

I have no idea where my… this is…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Page 51.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Assistant National Secretary, Department-at-Large Secretary/Treasurer

Page... okay. They tell me it's not page 51. Ah, there it is. I have no additions, no corrections, no recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Thank you.

Assistant National Secretary (Proceedings) John Vander Meulen.

John C. Vander Meulen, Assistant National Secretary (Proceedings)

Commander... John Vander Meulen, Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings. I have no changes, nothing to add, subtract, or divide.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

National Signals Officer, Jamie McGuire.

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James P. McGuire, PDC, National Signals Officer

Jamie McGuire, National Signals Officer, Past Department Commander, Rhode Island. Report's on 51 and 52. No corrections, no recommendations.

One addition for the pleasure and edification of this body... we received through the Signal Corps... through LinkedIn actually, strange place to message... but received a message from a woman named Tiffany Price that I wanted to share.

"Hello. I just wanted to introduce myself. I'm Tiffany Price, William Pool's granddaughter. I really enjoyed growing up in Bolivar close to my grandpa, enjoying nature, learning from his lessons and stories, and hearing people honor him over the years. It is especially meaningful to see the SUVCW recognize him. I want to thank you for that. I'm now starting my career and hoping to bring similar honor and service, especially in the aviation and defense sectors".

She asked if there's anyone in our network who could give her guidance or suggestions as she begins this journey, and then thanks again for honoring her grandfather, and look forward to any connections in the future*. "All the best, Tiffany Price."*

This was forwarded to Committee on Real Sons. And I just wanted to share that... to see that a grandchild of William Pool reached out to us and sees it and appreciates it and just I wanted… thought it was important to share with our body.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Assistant National Treasurer, James Pahl.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Once again, the Honorable James B. Pahl…

Encampment

[Laughter.]

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

… Past Commander-in-Chief, Assistant National Treasurer #1. My report's on page 52. No additions, no corrections, no subtractions, no recommendations. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All right.

So next was Assistant National Treasurer #2, Danny Wheeler. There was no report received.

And Assistant National Treasurer #3, Michael Paquette.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Assistant National Treasurer #3

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Chesapeake, Assistant National Treasurer #3. My report's on 53. There's no changes or recommendations.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

National Washington D.C. Representative, Roger Leturno. I believe he is not here. He did not submit a report.

National Webmaster, Rob Payne.

Robert R. Payne, PDC, National Webmaster

Robert Payne, Department of Michigan, Council of Administration. My report is found on page 53. One addition, we are currently undergoing the update to Drupal 11. It is in the process on the development side of the site. When it's completed, it will launch.

There's just some issues... as every time there's an update with anything... there's always something that comes up. And so we are working through that process right now. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Assistant National Webmaster, Ken Freshley. No report given.

National Webmaster - Memorial University, Bruce D. Frail, Past Commander-in-Chief.

Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, National Webmaster - Memorial University

Bruce D. Frail, National Webmaster - Memorial University, Past Commander-in-Chief. My report is on page 55. There are no additions, no corrections, no recommendations. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Assistant National Quartermaster, Ken Jacobson.

Ken Jacobson, Assistant National Quartermaster, National ROTC Coordinator

Ken Jacobson, Department of Colorado and Wyoming, Assistant National Quartermaster and National ROTC Coordinator. I will… there was reference to my report following the acts of National ROTC Coordinator begins on page 55 and continues over to page 58 with five recommendations. Those recommendations were presented and acted on by the Council of Administration last night.

The only correction that I need to make is on recommendation number two in which... I'm sorry... correction, recommendation number three. It was lined out... the ROTC NDCC program that was lined out, then replace it with the Cadet Recognition Program, parenthetically, ROTC/JROTC.

And then, on page 58 under the same recommendation, line two, *"Department exists, the ROTC/JROTC Cadet Award may be purchased"*... that was lined out... *"requested by using the Form 7, slash, order form."* No further corrections, additions, or changes.

One acknowledgement: appreciation to the Marketing and Promotions Committee. I did not put that in the report... of budgeting and allowing for the inclusion of promotional brochures sent out to all requesting award packages. Thank you, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. Recommendation #1 was addressed at the CofA and referred to the incoming CinC.

Recommendation #2, the ROTC Coordinator to prepare instructions and submit to the P&P.

Recommendation #3, recommended incoming CinC reconsider after P&P addresses Recommendation #2.

And Recommendation #4, Department Camp Commanders already have the ability to appoint an individual to perform these duties, and no further action was taken there.

Recommendation #5 was ruled out of order.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Thank you.

National Battle Flag Preservation Officer, Ed Norris, Past Commander-in-Chief.

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, National Battle Flag Preservation Officer

Commander... Ed Norris, Department of Massachusetts. My comprehensive report is found on page 58. No changes, no recommendations.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Let's continue on. We're going on with the National Standing Committees.

First up, National Committee on Program… oh, did we miss anybody?

Seeing none, now we'll go on to the National Committee on Program and Policy, Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Kevin Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, National Committee on Program and Policy

Commander... Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts. My report is on pages 58 through 60. I do have a… I did submit a supplement to that if you'll let me read it.

The National Committee on Program and Policy recognizes the responsibility of the Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings has grown too demanding for one individual to manage effectively. In this light, the Committee recommends eliminating the current office of Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings and establishing two new appointed National Officer positions; Assistant National Secretary for Transcriptions and Assistant National Secretary for Recordings.

This restructuring will allow for a more efficient and manageable division of labor, ensuring the accurate and timely preservation of our proceedings. Attached to this recommendation were job descriptions for each which were approved by the National Committee on Programs and Policies and submitted... also submitted to the Committee on C&R.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. Brother Darby, isn't that being addressed in the C&R?

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Chairman, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio, C&R Committee Chairman. We have a question that's going to... when we get to our report... that I think will be after lunch if we're smart…

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Chairman, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Either that, or you guys are going to be hungrier now. There's going to have to be a motion for us to consider that. Because of the way the C&R is currently written, we can't accept it. So we'll deal with that, I guess, after lunch.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Okay. We're going to refer that to the Encampment C&R Committee.

National Committee on Communication and Technology, James P. McGuire.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

You skipped one, National Committee on Memorials, Walter Busch.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

It was... and is on the report, right?

Unknown

Yeah.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Is that a yes? No?

Unknown

[Indistinguishable] see it.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Walter E. Busch, PDC, National Committee on Civil War Memorials Officer

Walter E. Busch, National Committee on Civil War Memorials [indistinguishable]…

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you. Now, you can go, Jamie.

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James P. McGuire, PDC, National Committee on Communication & Technology

Jamie McGuire, National Signals Officer. My… I'm on page 60 now for the Communications & Technology. No changes, additions, or recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

The C&R... we're going to wait... do the C&R last.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Chairman, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Commander-in-Chief...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, sir.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio, Chairman of the Constitution and Regulations Committee. As it's nearing the hour of lunch, I would recommend to you to postpone any further reports until after lunch because if we go into this one, we'll be here until 3 o'clock in order to get it done.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Agreed.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Chairman, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Thank you, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Brothers, Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts...

Commander Martin, Brothers; today, as we gather in the spirit of remembrance and gratitude, we pause not simply to reflect on the past, but to honor it. Keep your voice to the legacy of a remarkable group of patriots... men known as the Minutemen of '61. These were the very first volunteers to answer the call of President Abraham Lincoln following the bombardment of Fort Sumter, and the sudden outbreak of Civil War in April of 1861.

Much like your namesakes of 1775, these citizen soldiers who stood ready at a moment's notice at Lexington and Concord, the Minutemen of 1861, responded without hesitation, without delay, and last, without knowledge of what dangers lie ahead. When President Lincoln called for 7,500 troops to defend the Union, these men; farmers, laborers, merchants, and students, immigrants and native born, stepped forward from their communities and into the ranks of history. They left behind their homes, their livelihoods, and their families - not in pursuit of glory or reward, but to preserve the fragile idea of a United Republic, a government of the people by the people for the people.
Some of these early volunteers, including members of the Sixth Massachusetts Infantry, faced violence before even reaching the battlefields. As they passed through the streets of Baltimore, they were met with bloodshed and hostility. Their sacrifice began the moment they stepped forward.

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The Third and Fourth Regiments were the first volunteers to occupy seceded soil at Fort Monroe, Virginia. The Sixth suffered casualties of war, as I mentioned, in Baltimore. The Fifth stayed past their 90-days enlistment to fight at Bull Run. And the Eighth guarded the *USS Constitution*, Old Ironside, when it was at Annapolis Naval Academy in enemy territory.
Their courage helped to steady a Union in one of the most uncertain and vulnerable moments in history. In recognition of this extraordinary service, in 1902, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts authorized creation of a Minuteman of '61 medal to be presented to those who volunteered for federal service between April 15th and May 3, 1861. Each medal was struck in honor of a specific soldier - each name preserved in metal, an enduring testament to their courage and principle.

Today, we are privileged to continue that legacy. The original medals, long forgotten, sealed away for generations, have been rediscovered, over 700 unclaimed medals in storage at a museum. Through the dedicated efforts of the 126th Military History Detachment, this collection of honor has been preserved at the Massachusetts National Guard Museum in Concord, Massachusetts and is now, at long last, being reconnected with the descendants of the men who earned them.

If your ancestor served in one of the qualifying Massachusetts units during those first days, and if his medal is still among those being held in the museum, you may apply to receive the medal designated in his name. In doing so, you do more than reclaim a piece of history, you restore a legacy, and you bring the story of sacrifice, duty, and devotion back into the light where it belongs.

And so, today, with profound reverence, and immense pride, we present the first of these Minutemen of '61 medals to Past Commander-in-Chief, Brian Pierson.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Congratulations! In honor of his direct ancestor, Private Rufus Harris, of Company F, Fourth Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, whose swift and selfless response in the earliest days of the Civil War helped preserve the Nation. Activated on April 16, 1861, the Fourth Regiment was composed of companies primarily from Norfolk County, with headquarters in Quincy, Massachusetts. Private Harris's Company F of Foxborough, Massachusetts... home of the New England Patriots by the way…

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

… and offered his services, if they should be needed, quote, *"at any point for our Country"* as early as January 10, 1861, before Fort Sumter.

The Fourth had the honor of being the first regiment to leave the state and training... Fall River, Massachusetts en route to Fort Monroe on the afternoon of April 17th. Initially sent to reinforce Fort Monroe in the Virginia Peninsula, the Fourth became the first Union volunteer regiment that set foot on seceded territory. Five companies of the Fourth participated in the battle of Big Bethel on June 10, 1861. After the battle, the Regiment performed Garrison duty at Hampton, Virginia. The 90-day military regiment returned to Boston, mustered out on July 22, 1861.

After the war, Rufus Harris was a member of Captain Horace Niles Post 110, Grand Army of the Republic in Randolph, Massachusetts. And so, on behalf of the Massachusetts National Guard, Staff Sergeant and

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Camp Commander of Camp Matthew O'Hearn and the Brothers of Charles H. Bond Camp #104, Department of Massachusetts, I present to you this medal in solemn tribute not only to the Union hero who earned it, but to the ideals for which he stood, and the family who now carries that legacy forward. May his memory be eternal.

Encampment

[Applause and chatter.]

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Looking at the… hang on. Okay. So it's getting to be that hour. I guess everybody is probably looking forward to getting something to eat. So, announcements?

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. I have one announcement and request of Past Commander-in-Chief, Ed Norris... that anyone who is running for a National office meet over by the flags for a picture. And anyone who wants [indistinguishable] an announcement, please present that in writing to me, and then at the next... before the next break, we will make that happen to the floor.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of the Chesapeake. On behalf of the Host Committee, they've asked me to make one announcement. If you've brought your own adult beverages into the hotel, you can consume those beverages in your room, but please do not walk out into any of the public spaces with the beverages that you brought to the building. They have to be consumed in your own room.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All right. I think we're going to take a break.

Yes, let's be back at 1:30.

[three raps, ***]

[one rap, *]

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Second Session - Friday Afternoon

[three raps, ***]

[one rap, *]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay. Alan Russ, National Secretary. And some more handy bits of information. From Ben Hobbins, Madison, Wisconsin. Ben wave or stand up. There he is, way over there. That's two for one from that area. Ben has brought 100 Vietnam era service pins from the Department of Defense for anyone who did not get their service pin. Go to the Texas Department SUV, oh... SUVCW table to pick yours up.

J. Ben Hobbins, Department of Wisconsin

[Indistinguishable.] if you didn't get your own service pin [indistinguishable] 1955 to '75. If you have friends that you think might not have gotten theirs... [Indistinguishable.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay. He's just expounding on the pin.

Okay. Continuing with another notice. Members of the Department of Rhode Island, please meet at the flag poles... I presume that's the Department flag poles, for a photo at the next break. We all do like to keep track of where the Rhode Island people are!

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

At the next break, muster the Department of Massachusetts at the flags for a photo.

Encampment

[Chatter and laughter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay. And at the close of today's business session, the Department of Massachusetts delegates will meet outside this room for an organizational meeting.

Also, Henry Duquette has requested that all... pardon me, that all Department and Camp Grave Registration Officers… and meet with him in this room immediately after the close of the meeting today. Henry, would you like to stand up and wave at them? Okay. That way, they all know which meeting they're at.

And for the moment, that appears to be the announcements. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So we have some visitors that are coming.

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Lee D. Stone, PDC, National Guard

Brother Commander-in-Chief... Lee Stone, National Guard. I announce the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

[three raps, ***]

Encampment

[Clapping.]

Lee D. Stone, PDC, National Guard

The National President, Rosemary Martin, from ASUVCW.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Lee D. Stone, PDC, National Guard

Denise Oman from the ASUVCW... and Vali Reyes from the ASUVCW as well.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Please escort them up to the podium.

Encampment

[clapping]

Rosemary Martin, President, ASUVCW

Hello, sweetheart.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

That's what they call me too.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Rosemary Martin, President, ASUCVW

Dear Brothers of the 144th National Encampment. I bring you greetings from the National Organization, Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Before I even became your sister of the ASUVCW, of the Allied Orders, I attended your meetings. And even today, when you answer in unison Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty, I feel a chill of awe and am so impressed by the pride and the sincerity with which you say these words so heartily spoken and the resonance of these words.

When I think on the expression of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty now, they mean so much more to me, especially during the SUVCW events like this with the ASUVCW. The example of Fraternity pervades everything we do and say. There is a unique bond that we share, lifelong friendships, and mutual support. Pope Francis said, *"Fraternal love is the nearest testimony that we can give that Jesus is alive among us."*

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And paraphrasing Ramana Marharshi on Fraternity: *"A happy Fraternity amongst themselves, the embodied beings get the supreme peace. Then all this earth shines like one house when the men and women, the embodied beings, treat each other with equal respect and how good brotherly and sisterly feelings amongst themselves, great peace and harmony abound. Then all this earth shines like one house. The whole world shines like one dwelling house of the entire human family."*

My wish to you is that this great peace, equal respect, and harmony of fraternity abound not only in your proceedings, but throughout our time together and apart. Now, I have some words for your Commander-in-Chief, Kevin Martin.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

I'm in trouble.

Sorry about that.

[one rap, *]

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Rosemary Martin, President, ASUVCW

What can I say that would encapsulate the multitudes of positive thoughts and feelings about and for you? There's just not enough time. And as the husband/wife ASUVCW/SUVCW team, we shared so many outstanding experiences together as we traveled extensively to and from the various totally enjoyable ASUVCW and SUVCW events across the country. It has been and is not only an honor, but a veritable partnership.

We successfully divvied out our time on one main computer with two screens. So we were trying to each get that one wonderful computer. And we worked together effectively. We even bought a new laptop, but we still wanted the main computer. We shared and reviewed activities and served as sounding boards for each other as well as gave each other much needed reminders. Together, we achieved much. I consider us a true team, and I love you.

Unknown

Awww.

Encampment

[Chatter and applause.]

Rosemary Martin, President, ASUVCW

Now, it is time for your gift.

Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

[one rap, *]

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Rosemary Martin, President, ASUVCW

Now it is time. Following the battle of Gettysburg, July 1st through 3rd, 1863, Congress approved the creation of a National Cemetery in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and a dedication ceremony was held November 19, 1863. The President gave a speech, and on his way, he passed a special tree, which we call a witness tree. And that particular tree had three different spokes. One of the spokes has died. So they got the wood and reclaimed it. And so now, this is in an Abraham Lincoln Sycamore Witness Tree shadowbox that includes an engraved sample of wood from the witness tree, a picture of the group of trees, with the one that I talked about, an uncirculated 2010 Gettysburg commemorative quarter, and an authentic Civil War bullet.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Rosemary Martin, President, ASUVCW

Thank you, Commander-in-Chief, Kevin Martin.

Thank you for traveling life with me.

Encampment

[Laughter and applause.]

Rosemary Martin, President, ASUVCW

Now, Denise Oman would like to say a couple words.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Denise Oman, ASUVCW

Good afternoon, Brothers.

Encampment

Afternoon.

Denise Oman, ASUCVW

I'm so excited about being here. It was a wonderful flight. We came in... I see all my brothers. I never had a brother. Oh, by the way, I'm the other one. I'm not attached to that one.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Denise Oman, ASUVCW

But the camaraderie in this group is like fire. I see more new members here in your crowd, which means you are growing. And that is what's going to preserve the SUVCW, and I'm hoping that we can catch some of the fury that you have in increasing our numbers as well. Because as Brother Jerry said, I don't know how many memorials ago, who's going to fill that chair? And I see these young faces. That is your legacy. And please know we are still here to support the Sons. We love you. We stand by your side, and we want to help with your initiatives, not just cook the dinners.

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Encampment

[Laughter.]

Denise Oman, ASUVCW

But we too have some skills that we can share. On the flip side of the coin, we're going to be asking you for your expertise, your wisdom, your know-how because we need to grow as well.

And I am hoping that you have a… you're sliding through your meeting with smiles on your faces and being productive, and that we can see each other for a good time in Gettysburg, and yet do the will of God that he has all of us in this organization to do.

Joining, your oath was to carry on the work of the GAR. So is ours. And we need to help each other remember it's not about us, it's about our ancestors, the real ones that went through the hardships. Having to wait at a layover is a hardship.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Denise Oman, ASUVCW

Losing a luggage is another, but that's nothing to compare with the cold that they went through, the blood that they lost, the mourning of the families when they didn't get their loved ones back. So we have some high goals to achieve. And please, as we reach out to you in love, please reach back. We love hugs. Thank you.

Unknown

Oorah!

Encampment

[Applause.]

Vali Reyes, ASUVCW

Hello, Brothers.

Encampment

Hello, Vali.

Vali Reyes, ASUVCW

I'm Vali Reyes, and I've been part of the Host Committee this year. And I just want to welcome you to Texas, and I hope you have a great and harmonious and successful Encampment. And I hope you have a great Texas experience here in Houston. Thank you.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Rosemary Martin, President, ASUVCW

The other thing I wanted to do is invite you over to the Veranda Room where the Auxiliary is meeting. We have all kinds of auction items and good things and 50/50 and all the things that you're interested in. So come on and see us.

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Encampment

[Applause.]

Tad D. Campbell, PCinC, Department of California and Pacific

Tad Campbell, Past Commander-in-Chief. Dear Sisters of our Auxiliary, thank you for your visit to our Encampment today. The great men of the GAR wisely provided for the welfare of our Nation by establishing the Allied Orders of which yours and ours are magnificent examples.

Together, we carry on the work of the GAR to forge a united and better nation. We truly work hand in hand as Brothers and Sisters, offspring of the Boys in Blue, united by a common heritage and a common purpose. Our programs and our Encampments compliment and support one another. May it always be so.

Congratulations to you as you near the completion of your term, and we wish you all the best for an enjoyable and productive year ahead under the shared banner of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. Thank you.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Rosemary Martin, President, ASUVCW

Thank you.

[three raps, ***]

Encampment

[Clapping and chatter.]

[one rap, *]

Lee D. Stone, PDC, National Guard

Brother Commander-in-Chief... Lee Stone, National Guard. Again, we have a group from the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861 to 1865.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Please present them.

[three raps, ***]

Encampment

[Clapping.]

Lee D. Stone, PDC, National Guard

Brother Commander-in-Chief... we have Ellen Higgins, better known as Squirrel...

Encampment

[Laughter.]

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Lee D. Stone, PDC, National Guard

... the National Junior Vice President of the DUVCW. And we have Sue Barry, their National Registrar.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Please bring them forward.

Encampment

[Clapping.]

Ellen Higgins, National Junior Vice President of the DUVCW

[Indistinguishable.] Oh, thank you.

[one rap, *]

Ellen Higgins, National Junior Vice President of the DUVCW

Greetings, Brothers.

Encampment

Greetings.

Ellen Higgins, National Junior Vice President of the DUVCW

Our outgoing National President, Norma Fiedler, bring greetings, and our incoming National President, Carol Comp, from the Department of Oklahoma, she brings greetings as well. They both wish they could be here in person to say hello to this grand group of men. But we had a… last week, we had our National Convention. It was very successful. We were moving through everything. We got a lot of business done in record time.

And it was… we had a lot of fun as well. We do our open houses. We go out to dinner. We just have a lot of fun, and we get our business done. I have with me Susan Barry, who is our National Registrar. She's from the great state of Texas. So I drug her along with me to bring greetings as well. Norma sends a gift for you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Ellen Higgins, National Junior Vice President of the DUVCW

You're welcome. And next year, we have our National Convention... will be in Springfield, Illinois, and it will be the week before... I forget the dates, but it's the week before your Encampment... is our convention. We don't have a 2027 yet. We're still looking. But you're all invited to come if you would like to come to Springfield.

I'm sure there's going to be tours before and after... of all the great things. We have the Stephenson Memorial we're going to visit, which many of you have been to. We're going to do some activities. We have renamed our library in Springfield that we own. It's the Stephenson Memorial Library. So there will be activities there. We just replaced our front porch there. It was a big project we had to do. Our museum now is completely ADA accessible thanks to some generous donations from Sisters.

We, as well, lost a longstanding Past National President, Roena Bayes, who passed away in September, I believe it was, of last year at the age of 104. She was a World War II veteran. But she was very generous

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to us... left us a donation. We're still going to figure out what we're going to do with that. We want to do something in her memory since she was such a fond member and a Past National President.

But thank you, Brother Kevin, for having us come in.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Thank you.

Ellen Higgins, National Junior Vice President of the DUVCW
Do you want to say anything?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
No?

Encampment
[Laughter.]

Ellen Higgins, National Junior Vice President of the DUVCW
I just drug her along. But thank you very much for having us.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Yes.

Ellen Higgins, National Junior Vice President of the DUVCW
All right.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Hang on a second.

Ellen Higgins, National Junior Vice President of the DUVCW
Uh-oh.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
We're not letting you get away that easy.

Ellen Higgins, National Junior Vice President of the DUVCW
Okay.

Tad D. Campbell, PCinC, Department of California and Pacific
Hi, Squirrel.

Is it on?

There... there we go. Hello, Squirrel.

Ellen Higgins, National Junior Vice President of the DUVCW
Hi. Hi, Brother Tad.

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Tad D. Campbell, PCinC, Department of California and Pacific

Sisters of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861 to 1865, for more than 140 years, your organization and the Sons have marched hand in hand, the offspring of the Boys in Blue who saved the Union. How good it is to walk with like-minded sisters in unity and harmony. That march has been long and fruitful, but the journey continues. Our paths become even more difficult in the 21st Century as fewer Americans feel that essential bond of blood to those brave American servicemen whose memory we honor. Let us resolve here today to continue our warm and cordial association for all coming time. The spirit of the Boys in Blue marches with us. Thank you.

Ellen Higgins, National Junior Vice President of the DUVCW

Agreed.

Encampment

[Applause.]

[three raps, ***]

Encampment

[Clapping.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary.

Robert Aubuchon, if you would care to come up and maybe sign a couple of blank checks for us, we'll fill in the rest. Your checkbook awaits. Thank you.

Encampment

[Laughter and clapping.]

Robert Aubuchon, DC, Department of Missouri

Thank you very much.

Lee D. Stone, PDC, National Guard

Brother Commander-in-Chief... I announce Denise Oman, the incoming Patriotic Instructor for the Women's Relief Corps, Melissa Anderson, the Presidential Liaison for the Women's Relief Corps, and Alexandra Anderson.

Encampment

[Clapping.]

Denise Oman, Incoming Patriotic Instructor, Women's Relief Corps

Hi, Brothers.

Encampment

Hi.

Denise Oman, Incoming Patriotic Instructor, Women's Relief Corps

I just saw you.

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Encampment

[Laughter.]

Denise Oman, Incoming Patriotic Instructor, Women's Relief Corps

I did change uniforms. Women's Relief. Okay. Many times we fill many shoes. We have different hats. I'm here as a Women's Relief Corps member from National, and our new President, Kathy Collins, extends her greetings and wishes that she could be here because she thought she'd have a… a hoot with you guys, that you're fun loving. Unfortunately, she's got a bunch of things to do.

So we want to let you know as an Allied Order, we're doing okay. We have some real big hiccups, especially with the museum in Springfield, all taken care of. We found another museum as our home. And we hope to be lending support to our Brothers in the near future as we have quite a few young members that are coming in. So please reach out to us, just as you do with the other Allied Orders, and know that you're loved. Thank you.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Melissa Anderson, Presidential Liaison, Women's Relief Corps

Similarly everyone, and on behalf of our outgoing and incoming National Presidents, who'd like to thank you for inviting us and give their regrets for not being able to join you. As our first Encampment here, it's been quite an experience so far, and we're very thankful that you've invited all of us into your family. And we would also like to make lots of new friends with everyone here, and to wish you all a productive and harmonious Encampment.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Alexandra Anderson, Women's Relief Corps

Hi.

Encampment

Hi.

Alexandra Anderson, Women's Relief Corps

Thank you all for letting us be here, and it's nice to meet all of you.

Unknown

You too.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Alexandra Anderson, Women's Relief Corps

Okay, bye.

Encampment

[Laughter and applause.]

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Hang on. Hang on.

Tad D. Campbell, PCinC, Department of California and Pacific

Tad Campbell, Past Commander-in-Chief. Sisters of the Women's Relief Corps, we welcome you to our 144th National Encampment. As the legal heir and representative to the Grand Army of the Republic, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War bears a special connection to the Women's Relief Corps, which is the official Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic. Our shared heritage of that august body makes us able partners in keeping green their memory.

We thank you for being here, and we look forward to continuing our work together to keep up the goals established by the Boys in Blue. Thank you.

Encampment

[Applause.]

[three raps, ***]

Encampment

[Clapping.]

[one rap, *]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay. Alan Russ, National Secretary. There was a missed communication or an omission during the communications that we need to rectify now. And Brother Paquette will address that.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

We received a…

Unknown

Who are you?

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Thank you very much. Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Counselor. We received a request to appeal the decision of a National Appeals Panel from a Brother from the Department of Colorado and Wyoming. No one has seen him yet, so we cannot proceed with his request until, or if he shows up... a request to be heard, not the actual appeal itself.

So until we know that Brother Richhart is here, or if he intends to come, we cannot proceed with that appeal... a request to appeal.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

The delegation from Colorado and Wyoming, do you have any idea if he's on his way... he's out there?

Ken Jacobson, Junior Vice Commander, Department of Colorado and Wyoming

Ken Jacobson, Department of Colorado and Wyoming, Junior Vice Commander. Commander, at this point, and at this time, we have no knowledge or information to indicate his whereabouts or if his intentions are to show up. We have no ability to confirm that. I only know based on what my Department

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Commander has informed me of, and what we're aware of at this time, but we are not aware. Frankly, he's incommunicado.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

We're going to be skipping over the C&R report for now, and we're going to… I'm going to change gears on you one more time. So the Department of Texas would like to make a special presentation to the Department of Illinois.

Blair Rudy, PDC, Department of Texas

Commander-in-Chief... permission to address the assembly. Blair Rudy, new Camp Commander for Camp #3 in San Antonio. We've met three or four times. One of our members is an active GAR enthusiast and collector. And Isaac said, Blair, you're going to the National Encampment, would you please return this to Illinois. And I said, of course.

Would Commander Lyon for the Illinois Department… get up here, guys. We're going to do this photo thing. Come on, just let's get this done so we can get going. Right here. Follow Jerry... right there, Jerry, hold. You're good. Everybody else come up around Jerry. We're good. We're good.

Well, it is a GAR charter from 1884 from Post 472 in Chicago... that is Post Joseph B. Rood Camp, and his name is on that. Our Brother found this some place and said it needs to go back to Illinois. So as a gesture of friendship between the Department of Texas and Louisiana to the Department of Illinois, congratulations, Brothers. I have the tube to take it home in the airplane. You don't have to fly it like that, Jerry. But we are honored to do that.

And I would encourage all Brothers that... should you come across GAR history and it needs to be sent home, please send it home. Family issues are different, but if you come across something that needs to go back home, by every means, please make that available.

I did mess up a little bit. I wanted to introduce our Department Commander, Brook Thomas, right here. And on behalf of Camp #3 and the Department of Texas and Louisiana..., gentlemen, congratulations.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Jerome Kowalski, Past National Chaplain

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank, thank, thank you. Thank you.

Blair Rudy, PDC, Department of Texas

Thank you, Commander. I appreciate it very much.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. We're going to continue on here. So on page number 74, about the middle of the page, National Encampment Credentials Committee, Daryl VerStreate.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, National Encampment Credentials Committee

Daryl VerStreate, Department of New York, National Credentials Chairman. I have two recommendations to add to my report, Commander.

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One: The preregistration form now states how much the cost is for preregistering. Consideration to adding a line into there, how much it costs to register when you get here so people are aware how much they're saving by preregistering.

Secondly: Brother William Pool has registered for convention. He has not signed in. I would make a recommendation that we issue… we honor him as a Delegate for this convention.

Thank you, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Thank you.

Okay. The one that was just added for registration?

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, National Encampment Credentials Committee

Yes, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

We're going to move that to P&P.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, National Encampment Credentials Committee

For the preregistration form?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes. So if you could restate the one for William Pool.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, National Encampment Credentials Committee

William, the last living son... William Pool, is a registered… preregistered for this convention. I personally don't think he might be able to make it at age 100. however, I believe that I would like to make a recommendation that we honor him as a delegate for this convention.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Motion?

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, National Encampment Credentials Committee

I would make that a motion, Commander.

Unknown

Second.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

There are no seconds required, but we are going to go ahead and vote. So get your cards ready. I'm giving you a couple seconds.

Unknown

You said there were no seconds!

Encampment

[Laughter.]

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. All those in favor, please raise your cards.

I don't think we need to count.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, National Encampment Credentials Committee

Thank you, Commander.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Those opposed? Any?

Good.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Motion carried. Can you give us the motion in writing?

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, National Encampment Credentials Committee

It was… it should be sitting on your podium, Commander.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, National Encampment Credentials Committee

Thank you, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All right. Next is National Encampment Site Committee, Brother Michael Paquette.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Encampment Site Committee

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of the Chesapeake, Chairman for the National Encampment Site Committee. One thing that I want to call your attention to, Brothers... I don't have any changes to my report, but I just want to call your attention to next year's Encampment will be held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, July 30th through August 2nd.

So for those of you that need to make plans, start making plans for next year. That's where we're going to be. The Encampment's actually going to be hosted by the National Encampment Committee with assistance from the Pennsylvania Department. I have no recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Going on next to the National Committee on Fraternal Relations, Brian Pierson.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Encampment Site Committee

He failed to submit a report.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

I'm sorry, failed to submit a report.

Next one is National Committee on GAR Post Records, Dean Enderlin.

Dean A. Enderlin, PDC, National Committee on GAR Post Records

Commander... Dean Enderlin, National GAR Records Officer, Chair, National Committee on GAR Records, Department of California and Pacific. You'll find our report between… starting on page 75 and running to page 79. We have no recommendations, no changes, no additions.

However, I just wanted to reiterate a 'Thank you' to the Departments... to those who were able to fill their Department GAR Records Officer position. And also, if a representative from the Department of New Hampshire could check with me at some point during the day, I'd like to talk to you a little bit about your position. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you. All right.

Okay. The next one is National Committee on Graves Registration, Henry Duquette. He did not file a report.

Henry C. Duquette, DC, National Committee on Graves Registration

No. It's part of the National…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Oh, sorry about that.

Henry C. Duquette, DC, National Committee on Graves Registration

Commander... Henry Duquette, Commander of Department of North Carolina and National Graves Registration Officer. My Committee report and my personal report are combined, and they are found on page 41.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Thank you.

Henry C. Duquette, DC, National Committee on Graves Registration

You're welcome.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Did you have any recommendations?

Henry C. Duquette, DC, National Committee on Graves Registration

They were addressed.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay, good. I thought so. Just making sure. So there was no report received from the National Committee on History from Gary Gibson. There's also no report received from the National Committee on Lincoln Tomb Observance. And that brings us to National Committee on Membership, Dan Murray.

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Daniel W. Murray, PDC, National Committee on Membership, Jr. Vice CinC

Junior Vice Commander, oh... Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Daniel Murray. My report is combined with my Junior Vice Commander's report on pages 10 through 13, and I have no recommendations, no additions.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

So National Military Affairs Committee, Ken Freshley, is not here.

Donald E. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Commander-in-Chief... Don Darby, Commanding General Sons of Veterans Reserve, I speak for Brother Freshley. There are no changes or recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

National Committee on Civil War Memorial Grant Fund, Shane Milburn.

Shane L. Milburn, PDC, National Committee on Civil War Memorial Grant Fund

Shane Milburn, PDC, Department of Ohio, National Committee on Civil War Memorials Grant Fund. We're going to get back to work as soon as the Encampment's over to start giving some money away... as soon as the Treasurer can start issuing checks.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All right. Thank you.

National Committee on eBay Surveillance, Terry McKinch.

Unknown

He's not here.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Not here?

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

No, yeah, no recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yeah, there were no recommendations on that.

National Committee on Scholarships, Don Martin.

Donald L. Martin, PCinC, National Committee on Scholarships

Don Martin, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio. My recommendation is already in the P&P Committee and is getting finished up. Thank you, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

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Donald L. Martin, PCinC, National Committee on Scholarships.

Page 82.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

National Committee on Promotion and Marketing, Kevin Tucker.

Kevin P. Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, National Committee on Promotion and Marketing

Commander... Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts. My report is on pages 85 through 89. No additions, no subtractions, and no changes.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

National Committee on Vision and Planning, Donald Palmer. There was no report received.

National Committee on Real Sons, Daughters, Jerome Orton. Not here. There are no recommendations on this one.

All right. That brings us up to special committees.

Let's take a quick ten minutes. Is that enough?

Okay.

[three raps, ***]

[one rap, *]

[break]

[one rap, *]

[three raps, ***]

Douglas P. Jones, National Chaplain

Before we continue our business, I was notified during our break by the Department of Indiana that their Treasurer, 35-year-old, Brother Drew Godby, has suffered a seizure and is currently in the hospital and nonresponsive. So please join with me in offering a prayer for his health before we begin.

Creator God, you knit us together, and you are the Great Physician. We turn to you in all of those times of need knowing that in you is hope and is eternal life. We ask that you would be with our Brother in these times of trial. Heal him, if that be your will. Be with his family and keep them tightly in your hands in the coming days and weeks. And be with all of us as we continue to pray for him. All of this we ask in your Holy name. Amen.

Encampment

Amen.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So going to do something a little fun here. Brother Bob Wolz, could you come up here, please? So it is my honor and privilege to present this Brother with his Past Commander-in-Chief badge.

Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Unknown

Hip, hip!

Encampment

Huzzah!

Unknown

Hip, hip!

Encampment

Huzzah!

Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

Robert L. Wolz, PCinC, Department of Ohio

Brothers, I am speechless. When it was proposed two years ago, I was shocked because I wasn't there. You can pull it all on me when I'm not around. Anyway, I want to thank you all. It's been 63 years that I've loved the Order, and I hope it's another 63 years.

Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Absolutely. Thank you.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All right. Brother Don Darby, would you like to come up here for the Constitution and Regulations, or would you like to go out in the hall?

Encampment

Hall, hall, hall, hall, hall, hall.

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

I'm going to pay for that. You understand, right?

Encampment

[Laughter.]

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
You need to have a seat. You need to rest.

Encampment
[Laughter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Not there, over there.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
No. If you all went to sleep.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
We're not doing that. I'll remember that, you guys.

Encampment
[Laughter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
So the big thing is... first off... Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, Chairman of the C&R Committee. I just want to know one thing... you all having fun?

Encampment
Yeah.

[Cheering.]

Laughter.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
This is where that harmonious stuff meets the road.

Okay. There's one thing that we need to take care of first. There was a presentation made to the C&R Committee which we could not hear. The reason we couldn't hear it is because Section 7 of the C&R, page 86 of the C&R, which was approved last year, states basically something to the fact that unless a Department Commander... or I'm sorry... unless a National Officer was making a change to procedures, everything had to go through a Department in order to get it heard by the C&R Committee. And that kind of screwed things up for these two very important submissions that were made... that we turned down because they would have been in violation of the C&R.

What the C&R Committee would like for you folks to do is... that we make a change where we're putting in to make a change to Section 7, page 86 of the C&R for it to state that the Departments, the CofA, and the Programs and Policy Committee can submit their recommendations directly to the C&R Committee. And before you all jump up and say what about my National Committee and you're being... whatever I am to you guys... you got to walk before you run.

So we're starting with the CofA and the P&P Committee. And so I've made the motion... or the C&R Committee has made the motion to add that to the… to make that change now. If that happens, then we can discuss those two very important job descriptions.

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Unknown

I'll second, if needed.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Who was the second?

Unknown

You don't need seconds…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. Evidently, we don't need seconds. So voting cards out, folks. Now, you get to call it.

I'm sorry, sir?

Unknown

What page?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. The C&R Committee report starts on page 61, and runs through... see I told you we were going to have fun... 74.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Yeah, but this motion isn't in there.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

No, no. I'm telling you where the report is. If you wanted to know what we're… why we're making this motion, it's just so that we can put in basically pages... the resolutions on pages 71, 72, and 73. But the change is just... it's not in your book right now, okay?

Unknown

I just… is there a number…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Well, you can... yeah, go ahead and read it.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

James Pahl, National Parliamentarian... Okay. This amends Section 7, which currently reads, *"All resolutions, recommendations for consideration at a National Encampment must first be approved by resolution of a Department Encampment in regular meeting".*

Then we would add the following language, "*or the Council of Administration or the National Committee on Program and Policies"*, and then back to where it originally is... *"except procedural motions of a National Officer may still be presented in his annual report"*, yada, yada, yada. So this adds the C&R and the P&P Committee as one of the…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

CofA.

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James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

... or CofA and P&P... now three different bodies can recommend changes to the C&R as opposed to just the Department Encampment.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Is there an opportunity for discussion? Is there an opportunity for discussion?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

There's always an opportunity for discussion.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of the Chesapeake, National Counselor. So Brothers, what you need to understand is this was voted on and approved last year. Prior to this, any National level committee could make a correction or submit to the C&R Committee changes to the C&R without any… having to go anywhere else.

So like the P&P Committee... if they had recommendations to forms that also impacted C&R, P&P could do this. So in passing what we passed last year, the language has been interpreted that even for the National level committees... now you've got to go back down to the Departments and basically get a resolution from a Department in order for your resolution or your recommendation to be passed to the C&R Committee.

And that was not what we all, or at least what I understood... what the intent was. I believe the intent, and Brother Pahl, you can add to this if I'm incorrect... but Michigan was attempting to limit frivolous changes to the C&R being made by individual Brothers or Camps, which they had the right to do previously. They could submit their changes to the three individuals specified in the C&R for those changes without that change being vetted by a more knowledgeable body on what was going on in the C&R, and that was the reason to have it at least go up through a Department level before it was brought before a National Encampment for a change.

But the way it was worded... it's been interpreted this way for the past year that now even National level committees can't proceed to C&R without going to the Department first.

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts

Ed Norris, Department of Massachusetts. The CofA... does that include voting *and* nonvoting members?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

The CofA means the CofA. If… if the CofA votes to refer something to C&R... yes. If an individual member of CofA... no.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

But nonvoting members of the CofA cannot make motions anyway, so... anyone else? Is there any more discussion? There you go, Commander, do your thing.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. We're voting…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

We're voting… you're voting to accept the recommendation of the C&R Committee which says we're promoting the change. A no vote means you're not with us, so...

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Before that, could the Credentials Committee do a count in the room, or give us the count.

155. Thank you.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Encampment Site Committee

We need to vote two-thirds of that. The vote is two-thirds of who is… present.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Right.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

You're going to do a show of cards. You should be able to figure out two-thirds.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. We're good. Okay. We're going to continue on. So with this... we're going to first see if everybody is in the affirmative... raise your cards.

Those cards down.

The opposite sign, opposed?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

I'd say that's two-thirds.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Oh, yeah, very clear.

The motion passes.

[one rap, *]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. We'll get to the stuff on the end of it in a minute. One of the things that just came up was they had... in order to make changes to the C&R... it has to go to the C&R Committee, it has to go to the Commander-in-Chief, it has to go to the National Counselor.

Department of Texas... or we had a committee that was established by a Commander-in-Chief to report out on the definition found in Chapter V, Article XXI, Section 1 of an opinion made by National Counselor Richard Orr at the 127th National Encampment proceedings... page 162... and referenced in Chapter I, Article II, Section 1, footnote 25, line 5 of the C&R, and the Committee was supposed to report out on it. They brought me this thing that... they sent me the email. I didn't get it, and I don't think they could print it any smaller, but anyway, so based on that... did you receive this?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

I was on the Committee.

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. So it's made the rounds now. So we're going to deal with that first. It is not in your booklet. And basically, I just read to you the purpose of the proceedings was the definition... I think it's of a cousin being permitted into the Sons.

The recommendation of the Committee was that there be two changes made to the definition... and one of those is basically an administrative change in that it says, *"for the purpose of administering"*, and it says Section V, and actually, it's 200303 of the Articles of Incorporation *"that a blood relative is defined"*.

And so that's the first change. We're going to change it from the number five to this two hundred million number. And it states, *"A blood relative is defined as a direct descendent or direct descendent of a Brother, Sister, Half Brother, or Half Sister of a veteran. This definition section shall not apply to any Brother admitted to membership prior to August 21, 1999"*, and that's where we went back and we erroneously let cousins apply for… become members.

And now, here's the addition to that, *"or between August 17, 2014, and August 13, 2022. This applies only to the member applying for membership, not to his children, grandchildren, or his prodigy."* That would be the change.

Donald L. Gates, PDC, Department of Texas

Commander-in-Chief... Don Gates, Department of Texas, Secretary/Treasurer, Chairman of the Committee for Membership.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Do you want to explain?

Donald L. Gates, PDC, Department of Texas

Say again?

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Can you talk to that?

Donald L. Gates, PDC, Department of Texas

Yeah, right, I can talk to it. This was a situation that had arisen several years ago and has been bouncing around the Order for quite a while. A brief rundown would have it this way; it was brought up originally back during Past Commander-in-Chief Paquette's tour when it was discovered that this definition, along with several other definitions, had actually been accidentally left out during the 2014 house cleaning that we did to get ready for the IRS. So they were put back in again.

And it was then suggested that we would have a Committee that would review that to see if that particular definition was still applicable and that we would also provide an exemption for those people who had been admitted to the Order during the time that it was not actually part of the C&R at all.

That, through some administrative flip flops, didn't happen completely. We did get the definition put in, but it was put in as a footnote, which is an acceptable way of doing things. But as the Committee that then did come about this last year, of which I was Chair... the Commander-in-Chief appointed me... what we determined was that while the majority vote on the Committee voted in favor of retaining the definition, they also voted unanimously on getting the references correct, which is what General Darby is talking about... that the reference of Chapter V versus 200 and 1 something or other.

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And the other point was that when we made the… when the footnote was put together, a note was put in there to say that this exemption for the people between 2014 and 2022 did not apply to their prodigy. And that was something that was not on the original footnote, but for the same reasons that it was valid... should be applied to it.

That's one of the main reasons why we wanted to have the footnote incorporated back into the actual definition so that one sentence about prodigy would be implied, meaning that, you know, you couldn't… if you got in during that time frame, you couldn't pass that right down to everybody else in the world who's connected from you.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of the Chesapeake. Commander-in-Chief... through you to Brother Gates... Brothers, I was on… I was on this Committee. And basically there's the changes that are being proposed, one is, as Brother Darby has pointed out, is some of the confusion is where do you go for the definition of blood relative. And the C&R referenced the wrong location for that definition.

And the exemptions that were mentioned were… there were some Brothers that were admitted as on the cousin basis because the definition of blood relative had been dropped from… it wasn't present in the C&R.

So a previous Encampment allowed those Brothers that were admitted on that basis to retain their membership and not summarily throw them out because it was an administrative error on the part of the Organization. So my question to you, Brother Gates, is... the qualifications for becoming a member are virtually unchanged by this recommendation from the Committee; is that correct?

Donald L. Gates, PDC, Department of Texas

For all… Don Gates, Department of Texas, Secretary/Treasurer, Chairman of the Committee... for all intents and purposes, that is correct. And we also... in our first finding, we found that in looking back over the history of the thing, it's been chopped up and reviewed so many times that we don't think it's very much use doing that anymore. And for that matter, these people are… they are not very common cases.

In other words, we came to the conclusion that one of the things we were concerned about was... is this really going to affect recruiting in the future... or retention? And we found that… we didn't feel like that was probably the case. We felt there were some cases it might, but there were offsetting cases where it would go the other direction.

And so the general opinion of the Committee was to let it slide and pass along... to move on to make the final corrections to make it read properly.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

This is your second time.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

So Brothers, just in short, the Committee recommended not to allow cousins, you know, based on the definition in the right location in the Constitution. So there's no change... to saying we're going to let cousins in. That hasn't changed. It's not allowed.

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. Everybody got that…

Donald L. Gates, PDC, Department of Texas

Any additional questions?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

… convoluted explanation? Okay. In this response, the Committee concurs with the change. So the vote will be yes if you agree with the concurrence of the C&R Committee; no, if you want to throw it out.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Raise your cards for yes.

Okay. Put those down.

No?

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Motion passes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

That's for the transcription. Okay. Now, we're going to talk about the stuff you can read starting on page 62... I'm sorry, 61.

Department of Michigan has a change to the C&R. It comes down to... it's talking about the Department Membership-at-Large, and basically... in Chapter II, Article I, Section 13... it would be striking out, or as Charlie Kuhn said, "strucken"... try to spell that... to where it should read, *"Each Department shall make provisions for the Department Membership-at-Large (DMAL). The DMAL shall include all Brothers, Members, Associates, Juniors, and Junior Associates who are residing within the jurisdiction of the Department who are not a Brother of a Camp".*

And then, it would strike out the words, *"within the Department." "Such provision as may be 1) Department MAL, 2) a Camp established by the Department for the purpose of administering the DMAL, or 3) a requirement in the Department bylaws that all Brothers belong to a Camp of their choice or assigned to the nearest Camp if the Brother does not choose a Camp".*

The C&R Committee concurs with this change, which is basically striking out the words, *"within a Department."*

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Raise your cards for yes.

Okay. Cards down.

No?

Okay. Motion passes.

[one rap, *]

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Next is still with the Department of Michigan: *"Whereas, the current Regulations are unclear as to whether a Brother of the Order may attend and observe the meetings of the Council of Administration, be it resolved the Department of Michigan in Encampment assembled is making a change. The following change in National Regulations, Chapter III, Article VIII, Section 1(A) by adding the language written in red below."* It is not in red in this particular case. It's on page 62 in black bold.

With a vote of 3 to 2, the C&R Committee does not concur with the change: *"Any Brother in the Order in good standing may attend and observe without voice any in-person meeting of the Council of Administration, space permitting".*

We find that that… we don't agree with that. I will tell you; I find that the first part... when I read it... about the C&R being unclear as to whether a Brother of the Order can attend... I'm not an English major. I come from Southeast Ohio. But when it says, the following people may attend, and it lists all those people, and it says *"... and a Brother can be admitted at his discretion*", that's about as clear as it gets. If your name ain't on there, or you don't fall in one of these categories, you don't get to come in.

Transparency, I'm sick of that word. Anyway, transparency; we do not verbatim minutes of the meeting, but every meeting of the CofA... there are minutes for, and they're published. So they're not hiding anything from you. I do remember back when I was on the CofA, it was a verbatim account. And it was... you were two meetings before you even got the first one done, and that's… you don't want to do that. Trust me. So we're not concurring with this change. The C&R is clear. If you're not listed in one of those groups, or you haven't been invited by the Commander-in-Chief, you don't get to play.

The other question is; well, it will teach the Brother how to do the Order... or how to do the work of the Order. If you're involved in this Order, the CofA is nothing more than a Camp Council and a Department Council on steroids. If you… so if you're in those, if you've done those, you could do the CofA without having to come in, okay? I may be preaching to the choir, but that's the bottom line... is a 3 to 2 vote that we do not concur with this change.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

That there is no change made. The yes vote means there will be no change.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

A yes vote will be no change.

Oh, sorry, I missed you, Brother.

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PDC, Department of Missouri

6' 2" and you missed me? Commander... Robert Amsler, Past Department Commander from Missouri. I rise in favor of the Michigan motion, and I'll tell you while I believe in the intent behind it, I believe it actually needs a couple corrections.

I believe the membership in a 501(c)(3) organization like this where it's a membership organization, best practices are for the Board of Directors, which is what the CofA is the equivalent of, is open to the membership. I can cite to you numerous places that say this is in the best interest. Why? Because if you don't open the meetings and allow the membership to attend, you destroy trust.

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Second thing: they say that you get less people wanting to donate money to a corporation that won't allow its members to know what's going on by sitting in. And Brother Darby, I heard what you said about reading the minutes, but I disagree with you. And I think... I think that an organization builds trust by allowing the membership to see what's going on, and I think that's important and it's a priority.

And that's why I believe there are a couple changes here. I would say any meeting, whether in-person or not, they ought to be able to attend, and it shouldn't be…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Excuse me.

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PDC, Department of Missouri

Yes?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

You're making a change from the floor to the C&R, and that can't be done. That portion is out of order. You can only address what is here. You're making an additional change. You cannot do it at this time.

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PDC, Department of Missouri

National Commander... could I just... a little wee leeway for a legal reason that you may be stepping into big caca. May I point out that with the way that motion is currently administered, you would not be able to close the meetings for certain things that are considered good to close in part, such as attorney/client communications, HR stuff, and contract negotiations.

So if this actually passes, you're opening yourself up to lawsuits. I think it can be done where it's open, period, and then close it for the things that keep you safe. I don't know what to do if we're not going to be able to open the meetings. And if you're going to shut me down on trying to make changes I think that are for the good...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brother Ben?

Benjamin J. Frail, PDC, Department of Rhode Island

Brother Commander... Brother Ben Frail, Past Department Commander, Department of Rhode Island.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Are you for or against?

Benjamin J. Frail, PDC, Department of Rhode Island

I am for the C&R Committee's ruling.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Benjamin J. Frail, PDC, Department of Rhode Island

However, the reason why is not for how Brother, or for what, Brother Darby is stating. It is, I believe that the way that it's worded... the previous sentence is now… would lead to confusion. The fact that, as Brother Darby stated, the Commander-in-Chief may invite other nonvoting brothers, and then the next line would say, any Brother of the Order in good standing may attend. They contradict each other.

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That's why I'm in… I like the idea of the change. However, if you add this line, then the previous line should be removed. And as Brother Darby said, we can't do that right now because that's against the C&R... how we change the C&R. So that's all I've got to say, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brother Don.

Donald L. Martin, PCinC, Department of Ohio

Don Martin, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio. I agree with the Committee's recommendation. I've been on the Committee for a long time. These are your elected members. You have chose these guys that meet there. If you have something to say, something to address, you can talk to the Commander, and you may attend the meeting. That's been done for years. I've seen many people do that.

From experience, a lot of the rooms we have are not big enough for the people that are on the Committee. Who doesn't get to stay? Are we going to rent a bigger room to accommodate extra people that come in? So these are things that kind of do it.

The other thing I'll say from working with people for a long time; if you've 15 people in the room talking, you have 15 versions of the story coming out. If you have 30 people in the room, you have 30 versions. If you do not understand the aspects of what's going on, then you may not have a good concept. Attending is not going to teach you how the CofA works.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you very much.

Sumner G. Hunnewell, PDC, Department of Missouri

Sumner G. Hunnewell, Past Department Commander, Department of Missouri. Just to comment on the last…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

For or against, Brother?

Sumner G. Hunnewell, PDC, Department of Missouri

Pardon me?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

For or against?

Sumner G. Hunnewell, PDC, Department of Missouri

I am for. But a part of it has to do with the… we have to remember this is without voice. When you walk in there, and you have not been summoned by the Commander-in-Chief or given right to voice, you have no voice, you have no vote. You are there to observe. So there's no 30 conversations going on. You are a test dummy. You sit there and your ears work, and that's it.

So it's… we shouldn't have this issue with just multiple conversations going on. I would imagine you would expect to remove them from the room if they did.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

This is your second time.

Donald L. Martin, PCinC, Department of Ohio

Don Martin, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio. Just for clarification, when I said 30 versions, I'm not talking about 30 people talking at the meeting. I'm talking about 30 people leaving the meeting and telling 'here's what I saw happen'. And that's what I'm referring to.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brother Ken, for or against?

Ken Jacobson, Department of Colorado and Wyoming

I am against. Ken Jacobson, Department of Colorado and Wyoming, Junior Vice Commander. I'll be quick. Three years ago, I attended the National Encampment. I had been reintroduced to the Order just two months before. I attended there because somebody in the assembled Encampment said, you know, you can go to the National Encampment meeting or the CofA meeting afterwards. I had a specific person… purpose, but I attended.

And let me tell you, it was very insightful. I didn't say anything. I wasn't asked to say anything. I fully conformed with the provisions of that opportunity. I took advantage of it. There were other people there in the same capacity. It was a tiny room, but we got all in there and was accommodated. And it was very insightful.

There was nothing, and I would… I benefitted vastly from that experience. And so, as the one Brother made the comment about transparency and openness, I didn't need to have a voice to be able to say anything. But to be able to have that opportunity, just a simple opportunity to be there.

So if the C&R gives me that option, and as I was looking at that, I'm not even sure why, I mean, but it was vastly impactful for me as a new member to have that opportunity. So again, I do not concur... with all due respect to the Committee's recommendation. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you. All right.

Bruce Amsden, PDC, Department of Vermont

My name's Bruce Amsden. I'm the Past Department Commander from the Department of Vermont, and I would be opposed to this. In Vermont, and I was a state government worker for years, and we had public meetings, and there's a public right-to-know law where that you have a right to attend meetings, not to speak, but you have a right to attend. And I really see little difference in this being it's our organization, and just to be able to view, to hear what's going on makes it open and not a closed society. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

That's it? Yes, that's it.

So we're going to vote now. So what we're voting on is if you're voting yes, you're voting for this to not change, thank you.

And if you're voting no, then you're saying no, that you want the change, sorry.

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Everybody understand that?

Unknown
No.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Okay. If you are voting yes, you are voting with the concurrence of the C&R Committee which says no. If you vote no, you are voting against the C&R Committee and you wish this change to be inserted. Got that? Any questions on that?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
All right. We're now voting. Please raise your card for yes.

All right. We're going to need a count.

So the no's, please raise your cards.

Yeah. So we're going to have to count.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Okay. Everybody voting yes, raise your cards.

Start counting.

Nos in the air.

[Sidebar conversation.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Okay. The results were 62 yeses, 69 nos.

Unknown
So it passes?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
No.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
No.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Correct. So it does not pass.

Unknown
The finding concurs with…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
With the Committee, thank you.

Okay.

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[one rap, *]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Michigan again. *"Whereas, the current Regulations allow for a Past Department Commander to add a top bar to the appropriate device for the Past Department Commander Badge, and there is a desire to allow the same to the Past Commander-in-Chief...."*

Basically, Michigan wishes to add the following... and it says in red, so we're going to look at *N.) Past Commander-in-Chief Badge, it would remain the same with the exception of a Past Commander-in-Chief at his own expense attach a top bar to the Badge being of gold… a gold bar fashioned as a rank strap with a gold border, black enamel background and bearing four silver stars. Such a device shall be purchased from the National Quartermaster.*

With a 3 to 2 vote, the C&R Committee does not concur with this unless it goes to all levels of the Order, which would mean a Past Camp Commander could put a strap on, and it would have to be determined what that rank would be. The Department Commander would have a strap with his rank on there, and then the Commander-in-Chief would have the strap with the four silver stars. So…

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

This is what it would look like…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

This basically is... the GAR used to do this on their badges. There would be an eagle or something on the backstrap here. So this is what you would be adding or allowing the Commander-in-Chief to put on his badge. So I guess…

Unknown

This was once authorized.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

This is a picture out of Bob Wolz's book of what it used to look like and we took the… the bar away.

Unknown

Who are you?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Jim Pahl, Past Commander-in-Chief... Jim Pahl, Past Commander-in-Chief. This is from Bob Wolz's book. This is what the Past Commander-in-Chief Badge used to look like. We took away the top bar. The motion is to put it back, simple as that, at the expense of each Past Commander-in-Chief who wants to do it.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So I guess in this thing, we have two things to decide. One, are we going to let it go down to the Camp and Department levels. And then, two, are we going to approve the wording, or change the wording to facilitate those persons.

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James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

No, no.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Hang on, hang on.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

We're voting whether or not to concur with the Committee not to do this.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. I stand corrected. If you vote yes, you're agreeing with the Committee not to do it. And if you vote no, then you're saying this goes in and we go further, okay.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Let's vote here.

Or discussion. Sorry about that.

Robert J. Wolz, PCinC, Department of Ohio

Commander-in… hello. Commander-in-Chief, Bob Wolz, Past Commander-in-Chief for now.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Robert J. Wolz, PCinC, Department of Ohio

What is illustrated is what we had for the first 40 years... 50 years of our organization. It just reflects that we were a military organization, and the Grand Army did it. We did it.

Personally, I would love to see it go back to the Camps, go back to the Department, go back to… I mean, I proposed that... I hate to tell you... in 1968 that we do that, and you saw it didn't happen.

But nonetheless, I think that it's just part of our heritage, and it reflects upon our history and maybe it's time that we look more at our history and say, damn, that was a good thing, and it reminds us of our fathers and our grandfathers. So I would say I'd be against the Committee, but I'd be for putting it in all ranks.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of the Chesapeake. I don't see a downside to this. If we don't get it all done this time, and we want it to happen, we'll just come back and get the Camps next year. So I don't see a downside of approving it.

Even the Committee was split unless it were applied to everybody. Well, at least we can fix it for what was proposed and come back next year, and get the others included.

Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., DC, Department of Massachusetts

Rod Fraser, Council of Administration, Commander, Department of Massachusetts. I oppose the Committee recommendation. I say give them back the strap. Thank you.

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Gary L. Gibson, PDC, Department of Michigan

Gary Gibson, Department of Michigan, National Historian. As a point of information, for a Camp Commander, the proper rank strap would be a Captain; for Department Commander would be a Colonel. And I do recall many Commanders and sitting Commanders-in-Chief on their head gear... when having four stars across their head gear, and Don was one of them.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

I'm not… I'm okay. I'm just saying it should apply to everybody, not just that, but…

Gary L. Gibson, PDC, Department of Michigan

I had to get that dig in.

Edward J. Krieser, PCinC, Department of Missouri

Ed Krieser, Past Commander-in-Chief. Okay, I'm the source for those four gold stars that PCinCs wear, and I said gold, not silver. Silver implies active military. All the generals and all the military forces wear either silver stars or if they're embroidered, they're white.

Our American Military Generals wear those silver or white stars. They do not wear gold stars. So personally, I'm against putting silver stars on that thing. I wouldn't be against it if they were gold, but the fact that they're silver implies active military.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. We're at the point now I assume no one else wants to talk. You have… you either concur, or a yes if you agree with the Committee not to do this. A no vote means it's going to change in the C&R. Got that? Anybody questioning? No? Okay.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All right. For the yeses now… did you have something?

Donald L. Martin, PCinC, Department of Ohio

Don Martin, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio. Okay. Still trying to get this because you're talking about two votes, right?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

One vote. You're either concurring with this... that if you vote yes, you're concurring with the CofA.

Donald L. Martin, PCinC, Department of Ohio

It will happen at all levels?

It will not happen.

If you vote no, then the change will go into effect to all levels, okay?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

No.

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Donald L. Martin, PCinC, Department of Ohio

No?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Because one… all we're doing is the Past Commander-in-Chiefs. If you want to do anybody else…

Donald L. Martin, PCinC, Department of Ohio

Okay.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

… come see us next year.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So we're going to vote.

Yes, if you're voting yes, raise your cards.

Okay. You can lower your cards.

No?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So the change passes.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes. The change passes.

[one rap, *]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Now, does the Quartermaster have those straps?

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, National Encampment Credentials Committee

I will.

Gary L. Gibson, PDC. Department of Michigan

Commander-in-Chief... through you to Brother Darby, can we make it… can we propose an amendment to that?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Not now. It's already been voted on.

Unknown

To change the color of the stars. That's what we were talking about.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Do you want to come back and revisit this? We'll need a two…

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Unknown
No.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
... we'll need a two-thirds vote….

Unknown
Just to see if anybody wants to change the color of the stars to make it in line with... to be proper from silver to gold as Brother Ed pointed out.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
So my question again is, do you want to reopen this to make modifications?

Unknown
Yes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
All right. So is that what you're… that's your motion to amend?

Gary L. Gibson, PDC. Department of Michigan
That is my motion.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
And that's your second, right, Bruce?

Unknown
[Indistinguishable.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Okay.

Unknown
Gold stars instead of silver.

Unknown
Correct.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Okay.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
So a yes vote will mean gold stars; a no vote will mean silver stars.

Robert J. Amsler, Jr. PDC, Department of Missouri
Robert Amsler, Past Department Commander, Department of Missouri. I just have a question. What did the Order used to do? What color was the… did we do as an Order in the past because I'm unclear if it's gold or silver.

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
That's what Bob Wolz just said.

Unknown
Yeah, I think it was silver.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
It's his picture. I don't know…

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PDC, Department of Missouri
All right.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
It appears to me… walk up here, you can use your legal eyes. Well, it appears to me they look gold.

Unknown
Yeah, they look the same color as everything around it.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Right. Oh, my God, I agreed with another…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Uh-oh.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Things are going to go to hell now!

Unknown
There's a first for everything.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
You could be on their team.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
So it's…

Unknown
The color on there... on that picture looks like they're gold, so...

Mark A. Hale, PDC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina
Mark Hale, Past Department Commander, Georgia and South Carolina. The rank straps for the GAR, the stars were silver, and the picture that you showed would be for a sitting Commander-in-Chief. When they became a Past Commander-in-Chief, that bar was moved down onto the ribbon the same way it's in Bob's book.

Unknown
No. This is the Past Commander-in-Chief badge the way it was.

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
We almost had it done.

Mark A. Hale, PDC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina
Okay. That was the GAR. And I would say that they were probably all silver.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Okay. Gentlemen, as I understand it… where's Gary? It was your motion. You wish to change the stars to gold; is that correct?

Gary L. Gibson, PDC. Department of Michigan
Correct.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
So a yes vote changes the stars to gold; a no vote leaves them at silver.

Unknown
And two-thirds vote is still required?

Unknown
Yes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Two-thirds vote.

Yes? This is for gold.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Gold.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
No votes?

Unknown
Silver.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Well, that's overwhelming.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Yeah, it's clear.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
It passes for gold stars.

[one rap, *]

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Now, before we go any further, I would like to point out that my 72-year-old bladder needs relief. So I would ask that the Commander-in-Chief give us at least a 15-minute break.

Unknown

That requires a two-thirds vote.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

That's not a resolution.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

We have a Committee going over to the Auxiliary for our greetings to them. So Tad and Mike Paquette, Faron, Brian... who am I missing? We had five.

Unknown

BP.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

BP. So we're going to take probably a 15-minute break at least. But be prepared to be back.

[three raps, ***]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Hang on. Hang on.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

While everybody's standing up, remember the announcements about MOLLUS pictures, and Massachusetts, and somebody else…

Unknown

Rhode Island.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Rhode Island, thank you.

[one rap, *]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Fifteen minutes, and I mean…

[Break]

[one rap, *]

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Moving on and around [indistinguishable]…

We're still having fun. The Department of Kansas wishes to make a change... a resolution to amend Chapter III, Article IX, Section 8, item d dealing with battle flags. And then, this change, it would be in paragraph or subparagraph d, Monuments and Memorials Grant Fund aka Preservation Fund. They are asking that the change *be "the documented Union Civil War soldier flags shall be eligible for a grant for... restoration and conservation provided they are in the public domain, and not in private collections."*

The C&R Committee concurs with this with the caveat, where's the money coming from? And I assume you're meaning… I assume that you're saying you want it to come out of the Monuments and Preservation funds; is that right, Kansas?

Shake your head this way. Okay.

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

Commander-in-Chief... Commander-in-Chief...

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

He's the Commander-in-Chief. I'm just the Chairman.

Yeah, what…

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

Past Commander-in-Chief Darby, Michael Beard, National Treasurer, Department of the Chesapeake. To answer your money question…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay.

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

If you look at page 21, the grants received $10,000 in the budget. So last year, we spent $2,000, so we had $8,000 that wasn't going, but flags are expensive.

So if the budget is at $10,000, once we hit that budget, the Committee can no longer award what's going on. And I draw your attention also to page 22 that Past Commander-in-Chief Darby is wondering where is the money coming from... we are running a budget deficit. We have run a budget deficit for several years. So this particular motion will put pressure on that $10,000. That's all I'm informing you of.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So you're just putting that up for discussion, correct? Yes? Yes? Mike... that's part of the discussion, correct?

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

That was just part of the discussion, yes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. All right.

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Walter E. Busch, PDC, Department of the Chesapeake

Past Department Commander, Walter Busch, Monuments Officer. I have… I'm not opposed necessarily or in favor necessarily of this. Again, where is the money coming from? But there's a lot of procedures that go with this. Are they going to be filling out form 61? We just started a database. Am I going to have to keep track of these things in a database now since we're giving funds to these things?

The other question I had, which I brought to you, was about this footnote... where it says *'footnote, last Veterans grave markers are not eligible for grants'*... then why have we been giving them in the past, especially to the wonderful State of Ohio.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

It's not our fault you're not following the rules.

Encampment

[Chatter and laughter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Let me... that could be a typo... and I think you were looking that up, right, Jim?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Yeah. Because all that language was changed a year ago, and I think the Department proposing the change used old, outdated language, not the current C&R language. So that's not in there anymore.

Walter E. Busch, PDC, Department of the Chesapeake

So that's not in here. So this should be out of order then or it's…

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

The footnote that you're referring to is not in National Regulations anymore.

Walter E. Busch, PDC, Department of the Chesapeake

Okay. So the only question I would have then is what procedures we would be following on this then? Am I supposed to keep track of this like every other monument at this point? That would be my main question. I'm not opposed to it again. I'm not necessarily in favor of it.

Benjamin J. Frail, PDC, Department of Rhode Island

Ben Frail, Past Department Commander, Department of Rhode Island. Clarification question, when it says public domain, Rhode Island's battle flags are owned by the State; however, they are not on display. They're in a storage facility in Massachusetts. Would those qualify?

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York

Jeff French, New York Department Commander. I have a question on this because battle flags... to preserve them, is a lot of money. In New York, it's anywhere to ten to $15,000 per flag. We got over 400 flags in New York State alone that needs to be conserved. We could easily bankrupt this, you know, on the funds that we're already into deficit for. So I'm opposed to this…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Well, one thing I need to… we're not paying for this. We're paying a portion just like we would do a monument.

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Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York
Right.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
A couple hundred bucks, 100 bucks. We're not forking out $250,000.

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York
Right. But New York alone has 400 flags.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Well, but we're…

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York
So…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
It's still going to either Monuments…

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York
Are we doing this individually... individual flags, or are we doing it collectively? That's my question. I don't know what the intent is on this.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations'
Where's Kansas at?

Unknown
Behind me.

Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Department of Kansas
I can address this.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
They're asking you questions.

Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Department of Kansas
Tom Schmidt, Department of Kansas. I put this together. I'm a special volunteer with the Kansas History Museum working with the Kansas Civil War flags. The intent was to be eligible for a stipend or a grant in a small amount to help with the restoration. The intent was never for this organization to fully fund conservation or restoration of a Civil War battle flag. In other words, whatever the Committee would deem appropriate to help with the cause in connection with the flag.

We're dealing with silk flags that in Kansas that run anywhere in a conservation number for the six foot by six foot six inch flags, depending on their shape, depending on the conservator, anywhere from $34,000 to $42,000 per flag. So the intent was when I put this together... was this organization should be involved with those flags that come up before you, and the intent was that the Committee would determine the amount of funds that they are willing to allow the… of the contract or the application and that we would apply appropriately. There is no intent for us to apply for the entire conservation.

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So my question to you then, sir, is are you saying that you would apply for a portion of the grant for all the flags…

Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Department of Kansas

No.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

… or are you applying for each individual flag each year?

Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Department of Kansas

I think what should happen is, in my opinion, that entities like the Kansas situation, we could apply for one flag each year for some grant money that we're working to get conserved. Because you have to get on a… you have to get on a list, a conservator's list, and it takes a long time. So you've got to designate which flag you're going to put on that list. So we would apply to you.

We're trying to get the Eighth Kansas battle flag from Chickamauga conserved. That's what we're applying for for this year. And whatever funds that you would allow for that would be greatly appreciated. Any other questions?

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York

No. That answers my questions. I'm still opposed because I think this needs to really go to the Battle Flag Committee and be a [indistinguishable] of that because there's a lot of flags, you know, that you really need big money for... $250 here and there isn't really going to do much.

Kevin P. Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts. I think we're overthinking it. You're adding the flags. Any effort that we… any money that we give is to an effort not of our doing, but a town, a city.

You know, we just did the Wakefield monument. We donated… the Wakefield, Massachusetts monument... we donated $2,000. The monument cost $130,000. We were never expected to do that, nor were we expected to do more monuments than that in the same grant.

These are… all you're doing is expanding the grant to cover an effort to restore battle flags. It doesn't… you're not asking to restore all battle flags. You're not asking even to restore one battle flag. If there's an effort going on, and they're trying to raise money for it, this organization can apply money to that.

The reason that we want to do it is we want to be known as participating in this kind of effort. We want to be known for conserving, you know, Civil War history. That's what we do. And so it doesn't have to be the whole thing. Maybe we start it. Maybe we let them know that this battle flag's in need of repair, or maybe they let us know they're trying to raise funds, we donate to their, you know, whatever the GoFundMe is or whatever they're doing.

So I think we're overcomplicating this by trying to decide, you know, how grand it's going. It's just another effort to conserve things.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

I guess that's why he may be the next Commander-in-Chief. I don't know.

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Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts

Ed Norris. I am the National Battle Flag Preservation Officer. I was going to say a lot of what Kevin just said, but I won't repeat that. I just want to remind everybody that most of our ancestors followed these flags into battle. If one of the flag bearers fell, somebody else rushed to pick them up. That's how important they were.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Commander, I'm neither for nor against it, but I want to…

Unknown

Who are you?

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina

Who am I?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Speak up. Use your manly voice.

Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

This is BP, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Georgia and South Carolina and dual member Oklahoma. Now, this is a worthy cause, and it is in line with what we're doing. Brother Walt, I think, made a pertinent question. So we need to think of unintended consequences.

No one is allowed to apply for a grant unless the monument in question is in the grant database. If flags are included, they likewise would have to be. An assessment would be made. They'd have to be put in there. I don't know how much extra work that's going to cause Brother Walt, but I'm just... everyone, if we're going to vote on this, just think of taking this to its logical extreme end... unintended consequences, and what's the appropriate venue, okay? That's all. It just, again, a very worthy thing to do. We just need to make sure we do it right, okay? Thank you, sir.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Anybody else?

So we're going to… you've heard what the concurrence is of the Committee, that we're in favor of this change. So you will be voting yes, that you agree with the Committee and this change is made to the C&R, or you vote no, and if no wins, then this change does not happen. Everybody understand that?

Okay. You had…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. If you're voting yes, please raise your cards.

Lower those.

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The no's?

It passes.

[one rap, *]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Resolution from the Department of Massachusetts, page 63, renaming the National Committee on Programs and Marketing.

I'm sorry?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Promotions.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Oh, Promotions and Marketing. Who's robbing this stagecoach, you or me, Jesse?

Okay. After all that stuff that they've written, they want to change number 7 to "*Promotion of the Order"*. They want that change… I'm sorry, Number 14... they wish to have it read, "*The purpose/mission of the Natonal Committee for the Promotion of the Order*", they want that changed to that.

And then, number 7... 14-7 actually, it should be, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, it should be G because if you have a number, then you go to letters. But anyway, 7, to change that to "*Promotion of the Order"*. The C&R Committee concurs.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Discussion?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Wait a minute. He has a problem.

For the promotions and the… National Committee for the Promotions and Marketing.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

James Pahl as Parliamentarian. There's other places in the Regulations where this Committee is referred to by name…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, and…

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

… including Chapter III, Article X, Section 1, which the standing committees are... there is *Promotion and Marketing*. So there are other places where this needs to be changed in addition to that, and it's not appropriate for me to make a motion. But I would suggest that the motion be wherever else the Committee name is referred to, that change be automatic also.

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts

That was exactly my motion.

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Encampment

[Laughter.]

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts

Ed Norris, Department of Massachusetts. I'd like to make a motion that wherever the name... the old name would be, that it's changed to the new name if this passes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

The old name or all the old names wherever it applies to would be changed to the *National Committee for the Promotion of the Order*; is that correct?

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts

That's correct.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

That's your change.

Okay. We're going to vote on the amendment that says wherever the old name appears, it will be changed to *National Committee for the Promotion of the Order*.

So yes, you want it to happen; no, you don't.

Now the motion… which as amended, would be to change all of the old names to *National Committee for the Promotion of the Order* to make said change to number 14 of that Article X under Standing Committees to the wording *National Committee for the Promotion of the Order* and also 7, *Promotion of the Order*.

Yes means it happens; no means it doesn't.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Yes?

Cards down.

No?

Okay.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Passes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Resolution 2 from the Department of Massachusetts. They want to expand the number of miniature badges that can be worn at formal events. After all that verbiage, they're getting to the last thing; they wish to insert the words *'miniature of the badges' of the Order without a top bar...* that '*miniature of the badges'...* and then membership badge, war medal, that's like a third line, and '*badges in accordance with the order of precedence of badges as defined in Article VI, Badges and Medals, Section 5*.'

The C&R Committee concurs, but there was a comment on self-promotion issue, but we'll let that slide.

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Kevin P. Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Brother Commander... Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts. So all this is is an effort to allow the miniature badges to be worn in the same way the large badges are. Since this organization manufactures, or at least sells those miniature badges, we are selling badges that we can't wear. This was just an effort to allow us to wear them in the same way that our regular medals are worn, that's all. It's no different.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Yes means you concur, and it happens.

Then no means it doesn't happen.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yeses?

Cards down.

No?

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Passes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Resolution 3, Department of Massachusetts; *adding life membership fee for the members between ages of 14 and 19*. All that means… you see the way it is now, which the big problem was it excluded those members from 14 to 19. Massachusetts… and there were multiple requests for this revision... Massachusetts just happened to be the first one. And it adds the words in *(d) twelve (12)* and then "*Age 14-19, $2,200.00*."

The Committee concurs.

So yes means the change will be in effect.

No will mean it doesn't. Sir?

Douglas P. Jones, National Chaplain

Doug Jones, National Chaplain, Department of the Chesapeake. I just have an editorial comment that's actually not a part of the resolution. But on the top of page 66, since I looked at my age to see what it would cost me at 74, there are two different prices for the age 74. I'd like the lower one, please.

Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All those are gone. You have to take the higher one.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Well, are you making a motion to make a correction to that, an amendment?

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Douglas P. Jones, National Chaplain

Sure. I guess I'll make an amendment that we modify the…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Just do it when you turn 75.

Douglas P. Jones, National Chaplain

Well, I'm going to turn 75 soon enough, so it ain't going to make a whole lot of difference, so...

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

There's a typo?

Evidently, I'm being told that that is a typo, and it's actually 75 to 79, okay.

Douglas P. Jones, National Chaplain

Okay.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So you have to wait.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So we concur.

So yes means the change is going to be made.

No means we'll be doing this again next year.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York

Jeff French, New York Department Commander. I have a question because here it says 14-19, $2,200. The next page we're changing 14 to 29 to $1,880. Which is it?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

That's a resolution from the Department of Columbia.

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York

So…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So we're going to do this one first, and we won't have to do Department of Columbia.

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York

Okay. I thought it was the same one. It looked like...

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
No.

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York
... it was a continuation.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Right down here in the fine print, it says *Resolution, Department of Columbia* on page 66.

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York
Okay, got it.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Got it?

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York
Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Any other discussion?

Yeses?

Cards down.

Nos?

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Passes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Department of Ohio, the Department of Ohio…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Hang on a second.

Unknown
The Columbia one.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Oh, I'm sorry, Columbia. Well, the resolution from Columbia is OBE'd because we just passed the Department of Massachusetts. You want to vote to disapprove Columbia's after you've just done... or do you want to hurry along? Overcome by events. It's a military term. Air Force wouldn't understand it.

Encampment
[Laughter.]

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Department of Ohio, ... comes down to... right now, we have a lot of Brothers that are older than I am, and me and my 72-year-old bladder, you know? There's people with bladders older than mine. There are people in this organization who have spent decades supporting the Boys in Blue and this organization, especially when this organization was… we were getting money from the Allied Orders just to stay afloat. The Danny Wheelers of this group, the... you know, all the… the old Dave Mederts of this group. And some... and this doesn't apply obviously to Dave because we're not doing a seance.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

But there are, you know... there are Brothers in this have spent a lot of time in this Order that are infirmed, and we basically... if you can't come to the Encampment, see you later. What we're asking... what the Department of Ohio is asking here is that there be a change made to the C&R to allow somebody like Programs and Policy or the Communication Committee... we don't care who looks at it... but there should be a way for those Brothers to at least listen to the Encampment.

And it doesn't have to go out to God and everybody, but it probably is not a bad thing. It could be Recruiting. But anyway, what we've asked is that the Encampment make a change to National Regulations, Chapter I, Article IV, Meeting, Section 1, Footnote 33... "*to permit the transmission of National Encampment meetings live to those infirmed Brothers*", and... *"This would not permit the Brothers to vote, nor would they be counted as an attendee*" to the Encampment *"for voting purposes.*"

That's our change. Basically, all it is, is we want to be able to have that Committee look at it and say if it's financially feasible for us to do that.

And the line forms behind Brian.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina

BP, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma, Past Commander-in-Chief. I wholeheartedly support this. We saw how successful it worked during COVID. In Departments that are geographically

spread out, it's already done. It's already allowed at the Department level. I think this is a great compromise. And the one thing we had for the National, for those of you who weren't there, is how do we do virtual voting. This addresses that.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Yeah, these people are not allowed to vote.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Exactly. That's what I'm saying. That's why it addresses that concern by automatic… by excluding them from being able to vote. So I think this is an elegant solution, and I would encourage everyone to vote to support it. Thank you.

Benjamin J. Frail, PDC, Department of Rhode Island

Ben Frail, Past Department Commander, Department of Rhode Island. For a few years now, I have been one of the administrators on multiple of our social media platforms. I know some of you are not social media savvy. There is a feature on these item… on these apps that allows you to stream live where we

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have cameras. We have GoPros. We can log into our accounts, set up a phone on a tripod and stream live while we're doing business. This is something that is very feasible. Our Order needs to get younger. This is a prime way we can get younger Brothers into this Order and sustain the Order for the future.

I am in favor of this because if we start putting our meetings and streaming them for Brothers who can't be in attendance, it's opening up the doors for other streaming possibilities.

James T. Crane, PDC, Department of Ohio

Jim Crane, Past Department Commander of Ohio. And some of you know I've been on the Site Committee for a long time. We did look into this, and the equipment needed, like... probably eight, nine years ago... was very expensive to do this. I think maybe having a Committee take a look at this and see what it would cost, and equipment needed to do this...

I don't think you could take a computer and sit here and put it there, and say well, people can tap in, right? I don't think so. Maybe you can now, but not eight years ago because you had to have a camera like they used in a TV station if you're going to transmit. So I think…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Are you for or against?

James T. Crane, PDC, Department of Ohio

And the second issue would be... so if you allow one or two people to look at that, and stuff, where do you draw the line and say, well, another guy doesn't want to come so he can do it. So is it because of a disability? I mean it's… I think there's just a lot of issues there.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brother Jim, are you for or against?

James T. Crane, PDC, Department of Ohio

I'm for it.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

James T. Crane, PDC, Department of Ohio

I'm just saying that I think we need to look at the cost of it because we did eight years ago. So with that said, that's all I've got.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Two things here... thank you.

Two things here; we've already had enough for's. So if you're for, we're done. And before you can go, please each time you come up to the microphone, start with whether you're for or against. Thank you.

Kevin P. Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Commander... Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts. I stand in opposition to this. There are a couple of issues.

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One, when you do live feed, you don't have control of the content. Somebody sitting there talks into that mic, tells a dirty joke or something, that's going out to the world. Someone over there says something bad about someone else, that's going out over to the world. You don't have control over that content.

Now, we have a rule in place, I believe, that says we can't record and publish recordings of business meetings. We went through that when we awarded Brother Wolz the Past Commander-in-Chief honors, and I was told we had to cut part of that meeting out and could just show his acceptance. So that kind of puts a halt on all of it anyway. So we'd have to change that rule.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

That's what this does.

Kevin P. Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

That puts a halt on it?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

That's what this is talking about is right now. It basically says that you can't do that. And we're, in this thing... we're asking that the change to permit the transmission at footnote 33, which says you can't do that, we would ask that this be changed to permit for the infirm Brothers of the Order, not the entire frickin' world, specifically… Danny Wheeler.

Right now, Mark Day, he's got financial problems. He's got a wife that's sick. David Hahn, he can't come because his wife had a brain... it wasn't an aneurysm, but a brain bleed. So she's in the hurt locker. She just got out of ICU. For the Brothers like that to basically listen to what's going on, okay. And for Danny and Mark and even David, they've been… they have done a lot for the Order, and not just to kick them aside because they're sick.

Kevin P. Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

I just want to say, it's certainly not personal. I love all the people you just talked about. It's not about that. It may be a better idea to have a members area of the website where they could log on and listen to a recording of it, and we can cut out all the bad stuff and whatever. It's just, you know, live things put us open to some bad things.

The other thing I just want to mention real quickly... I'll get down. You said maybe we could use it for recruiting. Well, we can't, right? We can't use it for recruiting because it's a business meeting that would go out to everyone, so...

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Oh, I didn't say that. He said that.

Kevin P. Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

I think you said that. All right. We'll go to the tape.

James P. McGuire, PDC, Department of Rhode Island

Neither for or against, just clarification. This is Jamie McGuire, National Signals Officer, Department of Rhode Island, Past Department Commander. So the footnote to be changed here says Section 1, Footnote 33, to permit the transmission of National Encampment meetings live to those infirmed Brothers, no vote, et cetera.

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This is not a mandate that says we're changing the word from you must do it. This is changing it so that it will be permitted to do. We will then... when put to the appropriate Committee such as Comm and Tech or whoever looks at the viability and answers questions such as; blocked off access for certain Brothers, or cost of technology as Jim Crane brought up.

So it's just clarification that you're not voting right now to say we're going to livestream Encampments from now on. What you're voting on is to permit livestreaming for a subset of our Brothers. That's what it is. I just wanted… I think we were getting lost in the idea of the livestream.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Well, it has… and we're saying we just wanted this to change so that it can go to a Committee. And if the Committee comes back and says it's too expensive, you guys are crazy, we can live with that. We tried.

Michael K. Schneider, CC, Department of Texas and Louisiana

Michael Schneider, Camp Commander, Camp #18 of the Department of Texas and Louisiana.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

For or against?

Michael K. Schneider, CC, Department of Texas and Louisiana

I am against as it is currently written. I personally think that it isn't entirely even necessary because we already have a quote saying nothing in the Order shall be considered as any type of prohibition in the use of interactive video technology via Zoom or such other program for Brothers of the Order and invited guests to attend meetings by electronic means consistent with the National Regulations and/or National Policy. So it seems to me that we already have the right bylaws here to allow some kind of electronic means to have people attend our meetings, right?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

No, you don't. It does not allow that.

Michael K. Schneider, CC, Department of Texas and Louisiana

But it states right here that, you know, nothing shall be considered as any type of prohibition against electronic means. So it seems somewhat unnecessary to me for that. Although, I do agree with the idea that we should have some form of electronic means for participation in these events. That is all.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Parliamentarian?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Commander-in-Chief... there's a procedural issue. This is going to require more than amending the footnote in Chapter I. There is specific language in Chapter III, Article III, Section 1 that says "*there shall be an Annual Encampment at such place...*" and this is talking National, "... *an Annual National Encampment at such time and place the body may designate of which due notice shall be given publication of General Orders. All such meetings shall be in person without any virtual attendance unless otherwise provided in this Article*.

What the request is, in changing Article I, will have no impact in light of the language in Article III. This isn't ready for consideration. And I think what Don is saying maybe the whole issue should be referred by the Encampment to... like, Program and Policy working with Comm and Tech to determine whether

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it's feasible, and if so, which Sections of the Regs need to be changed or accommodated for consideration so as an entire package. This is going piecemeal. So I think from a procedural point of view as Parliamentarian, there's a problem.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Counselor. There's also the how are we going to do this, who's going to do it. Right now, we're paying for the recording secretary to travel with the equipment to do this. So there's the logistics of actually doing it which is why I think it needs to go to Comm and Tech to see if it is viable, and what's it going to cost to do it.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So once again, just refer it to…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Comm and Tech.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Yeah.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Referred to Comm and Tech.

[one rap, *]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. Department of Missouri basically once again, we just voted down the open CofA meetings so there's no sense… it's overcome by events.

The resolution... also there's another resolution... resolution supporting changes to the Constitution and Regulations considering the job description for Department and National Officers. It starts on page 68 from Missouri.

Over on page 69, they would, in Section 6... they would strike out the words *"outside the care of the National Military Parks, and the Department of Defense, or Veterans' Affairs*."

We would go down further to Section 6, subparagraph (d), *Upon completion of training as provided through the National Memorials Officer, the Camp Memorials Officer shall be responsible for creating digital files and uploading them into the National SUVCW Civil War Memorials and Monuments*

Database. Upon request of the National Civil War Memorials Officer, any trained members may also be tasked to work on reviewing and uploading memorials information from outside their camp's designated area."

Would you prefer to vote on this in sections, or you want to hear it all?
Hear it all, okay.

In Section 2, we are deleting, once again, "*outside of the care of the National Military Parks, U.S. Department of Defense, or Veterans' Affairs."*

Subsection (c), you would delete *"The Department Civil War Memorials Officer is encouraged to maintain*

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a computer database from the information submitted by each Camp, on the SUVCW Civil War Memorials assessment form, CWM 61." We would also delete subsection (d). And in that case, it would move section (e) up to (d), so it would have to require renumbering those, or re-letter those.

"(g) Upon completion of training as provided through the National Memorials Officer, the Department Memorials Officer shall be responsible for creating digital files and uploading them into the [National] SUVCW Civil War Memorials and Monuments Database. Upon request of the National Civil War Memorials Officer, any trained member may also be tasked to work on reviewing, and uploading memorials information from outside their Department's designated area.

Article III... I'm sorry... Chapter III, Article VII, job descriptions. We go down to subsection 21, subsection (c), *"If deemed necessary by the Organization, develop additional written instructions* or training for people to use with the Civil War Memorials Assessment Form.

(d), we would strike out the *"maintain their own websites containing monument information,"* and then go to maintain followed by the deletion of the next sentence, which is *"If/when all Departments meet our minimum standards, the National Monuments Officer will forward records sent in to him and complete the Form 62s scanned annually by him to the appropriate Departments."* and *"Then only records that are not connected with a specific Department will be kept by National (examples are those recorded outside the U.S.)"*

Add (g), or add a portion to (g) which says, *"Act as an advisor to the Civil War Monuments Grant Committee by providing instruction as to what is a monument*..." or I'm sorry, *"a memorial or monument and what is not, to help ensure the funds of the Organization are used for their purpose intended."*

So the Monuments and Memorials Committee doesn't know what a monument or a memorial is. Okay, anyway, I digress.

(j), we would delete that entirely as it stands, and add a new (j), *"Develop or maintain a training manual for using the database. The manual demonstrates to the trained Camp and Department Civil War Memorial officers how to access and upload files to a database, training on the proper use of the database and our forms should be developed with an eye to incorporating the training into the programs of Memorial University."*

A new (k), annual review training manual makeup dates. Item (j)*, "As needed, upload files to the database, review files uploaded by others to the database edit and evaluate the database, and make recommendations to the National Signals Officer.*

The C&R Committee concurs provided there will not be a conflict with Federal Agencies.

Got all that?

Unknown

May I just point out a scrivener's error? It should be (l), not… otherwise you have two (i)'s. It should be (j), (k), (l), not (j), (k), (i).

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. It's a typo, but he's correct. It will be a new (l).

Go ahead.

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Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., DC, Department of Massachusetts

Rod Fraser, Department Commander, Department of Massachusetts. In the new (j), I would make a motion to amend this to add the word Officers after trained Camp and Department Civil War Memorials.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So you would just add the word Officers to that?

Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., DC, Department of Massachusetts

Unless I don't understand what it's supposed to say, but I believe it should say Officers.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

He's shaking his head.

Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., DC, Department of Massachusetts

Yeah. So I make that motion we amend it to add the word Officers and change India to Lima.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Lima, okay. That's Navy talk for you guys.

George A. Huttick, PDC, Department of Tennessee

George Huttick, Past Department Commander, Department of Tennessee. I'm not sure if I'm for or against, but maybe a clarifying… I'm trying to understand the striking of outside the care of the National Military Parks in portions of this.

The reason I'm asking is I live basically in the middle of Shiloh National Battlefield, and the park does a horrible job of maintaining their monuments. We're working on restoring… there's groups working on restoring their monuments right now because they have no funds, and their funds got further cut. So I think we would be making a mistake if we don't pay attention to what's going on in the public parks and [indistinguishable].

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Hang on for a minute. I'm just told by the Parliamentarian we have a motion on the floor to amend.

George A. Huttick, PDC, Department of Tennessee

Oh, sorry.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So we're going to need to do that first. Sorry, Commander-in-Chief.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

That's fine.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So we would… the motion to amend was to... in new (j) to after the words Civil War Memorials, we add the word Officer. And below that it says new (i), and it should be new (l) as in Lima. So that's what we're going to vote on first. That will make the change.

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Unknown

Second.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Discussion.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Yeah, any discussion... it has to be about the amendment, not the original.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Right.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

We're going to vote on the amendment only.

Yes means we put in the word Officer and change the second (i) to an (l). Yes means that's what we do.

No means we look like an idiot, so...

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, raise your cards.

Okay, down.

Opposed, no, sorry.

It's amended.

[one rap, *]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. The man you need to direct your question to is right behind you... hopefully with the answer because he's got a St. Louis Browns hat on.

Walter E. Busch, PDC, Department of Missouri

Walt Busch, Past Department Commander, Missouri and Monuments Officer. The reason that outside the care of the National Parks, Military Parks is stricken is because that was taken a long… we kind of started changing that a long time ago.

The National Military Parks kept their own records, and we were told not to keep records on them. But the records of the National Parks were so bad that this allows us to go in there. For example, down in Vicksburg, there were three monuments they didn't even really know about for the Department of Missouri that had troop movements on them, and they were behind the Walmart store.

So that's the reason it's stricken... is so that we can go in there and document these things. If we're going to ask for funds to restore these things... Form 61s... we might as well... Form 61s for restoration, we might as well all be able to record whatever's there. If somebody's willing to record it, let's record it... let's get it in the database. That way, people can look at it. That's it.

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George A. Huttick, PDC, Department of Tennessee

George Huttick, Past Department Commander, Department of Tennessee. Based on that response, I'm for this.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Brian Pierson, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma. I support this, but I want to move for an amendment for Bob Amsler's scrivener's, I think. In Chapter I, Article VIII, Section 6, paragraph (d).

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Which page?

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

This is page 69. All right. The verbiage in here conflicts a little bit with the basic Section 6. If it says… the basic paragraph says *'the Camp's Civil War Memorial Officers should'*; however, paragraph (d) says *'the Camp Memorials Officer shall'*, okay?

So I would move that we strike the words a *'Camp Memorials Officer shall'*. So that it would say then upon completion of the trainings provided by *'the National Memorials Officer then be responsible for'*, that makes it align with everything else, okay?

And then, the same for on page 70, which would be Chapter II, Article IX, paragraph (g), which is the Department Memorials Officer, strike the words *'the 'Department Memorials Officer shall'*, and that eliminates that conflict.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Okay. I'm not following exactly where you're at.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

May I approach?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

The pages... I've got an electronic version from the report, and I'm the one that has to edit this puppy.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Can I come up there and show you?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Yes, please.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Well, what you're showing him, they're not going to be able to follow.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

But they can follow on the written page.

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Well, I was looking for where you were at, so enunciate.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma
Enunciate.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
And speak a little louder.

Unknown
Chapter, Article and what?

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma
Page 69, the hard copy, Chapter I, Article VIII.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer
Chapter I.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma
Article VIII.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer
Article VIII.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma
Section 6.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer
Section 6.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma
Subparagraph (d).

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer
Paragraph (b).

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma
Delta.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
D as in Delta.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma
D as in Delta. Okay. Strike the words *'the Camp Memorials Officer shall'* and that is because the basic Section 6 says *'the Camp Memorials Officer should'*... okay. It's directive versus prescriptive.

Unknown
Strike the four words.

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Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Just strike those five words. You don't even need it. It's superfluous because it already has *'the Camp Memorials Officer should then upon completion of training be responsible for'*, okay? And then, the same with… I'll wait until Jim catches up. Jim, I can come up and show you what I'm talking about.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

I found that first one.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Okay. The second one, page 70, which is Chapter II, Article IX, Section 2, paragraph Gulf. Again, strike *'the Department Memorials Officer shall'*. That again eliminates that should/shall conflict.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Got it, okay. Got it. Thank you.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

No. It just gets rid of the directive versus prescriptive. Shall and should have very different meanings.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Right. I understand where you're at. Thank you.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Shall I restate the motion, or are we all good? Or the amendment, I should say.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

You need a second?

Unknown

Second.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. So we're going to vote on the amendment to make the changes that Brother Brian just went through so we can get it done. Yes means we make the changes; no means you look like an idiot again. So do what you want Commander-in-Chief.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So those who are voting yes, cards up?

Cards down. For no?
I think we know what that is.

[one rap, *]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Thank you, Brothers.

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

That would be… Now we vote, yeah... now we vote for everything - all the changes and the amendments. Yes means it happens. No means it doesn't. So if you say no, you get to do this stuff all over again next year, okay?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Let's vote.

Yeses?

Cards down.

Nos?

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Passes. All right.

I think we're going to stop here. Okay. We're past the time.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All right, Brothers, so we're going to pick this up again tomorrow morning. I think we start at 9 a.m. So please be here on time. Okay. So Chaplain...

[three raps, ***]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. We will see you tomorrow morning.

[End of Day 1]

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Third Session - Saturday Morning

[one rap, *]

[three raps, ***]

Stephen D. Schulze, PDC, Chaplain Department of Texas

Let us pray.

Our Heavenly Father, the High and Mighty Ruler of the Universe, who looks down upon the government of men, we earnestly ask your favor to bless our native land and preserve it in purity and integrity it's free institutions for all coming time.

Bless our Orders. Grant that they may long exist and that they may continue to be an instrument of great good to all. Give us willing hands and ready hearts to carry out properly our principles and objectives. Keep green in our minds the memory of those who sacrificed so much that the life of our Nation might be preserved, and deal with them as in all things with your special mercy.

Give us your aid in conducting the business for which we are assembled and so bless us that Charity and Justice and Peace and Harmony shall remain and flow from us. Amen.

Encampment

Amen.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

I'm going to start this morning with asking all the National Officers to come up front here. I have a little gift for each of you.

Brothers, that's appointed and elected National Officers.

Okay. For the rest of you so you don't feel left out, I have Encampment coins. So we'll have them up here at break time and all that. Please, only one per customer and don't take people for… to go back to your Departments or Camps or whatever until after whatever's left and after that time, then they're free to go. But give everybody in the Encampment here the opportunity to try to get one, okay?

Brother Darby, if you would....

Oh, one last thing, is there a Hamilton Jansen here?

Come on up.

Encampment

[Clapping.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Come on up. I want to present you with a ribbon for the Encampment.

Hamilton Jansen, Department of Georgia and South Carolina

Thank you very much.

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Encampment

[Laughter and applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

He was sweating a little bit as he got up here.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Let's move on.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

It will be on page 70. Are we having fun yet?

Encampment

[Laughter and cheering.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

I remember when I went to boot camp. And boot camp, other than the Air Force's boot camp…

Unknown

Who are you?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, Chairman of the C&R Committee and nemesis of Jim Pahl. Yeah, everybody.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Anyway, we went… oh, Department of Ohio, [indistinguishable] can guard.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Anyway, we went to Chapel... and everything in boot camp sucks. Everybody knows it sucks. And we had a Catholic chaplain, a young guy, Lieutenant. He said, you know, boot camp is terrible. It's just a grind all the time we're here. So at Chapel, we're going to have fun. This is 1971. He said that we're going to sing the top 40 of the week. If we sang the top 20, he'd get up and go, "and now, a word from our sponsor", and he'd read a couple chapters, a couple verses and then “go have fun” and he would leave.

So that's what we need to do here... have fun. We're on page 70 for you who wanted to follow along in your hymnals.

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Encampment

[Laughter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

This is what we voted on yesterday at the start before we started going through all this stuff about being able to make a change to page 86, Section 7, about being able to put Departments... or at least that Programs and Policy Department... allow them to make a recommendation for a change to the C&R directly to the C&R Committee.

So that vote is what we're dealing with with this charge. And you can see the two job descriptions are quite large. I will tell you the C&R Committee did not look at these because we hadn't made the change yet, but we do agree with what these say. We just weren't allowed to say it until you guys voted yesterday.

There is one slight... I'm sorry... it's on... yes, 70 and 71. They're job descriptions. There is a bit of a hitch in regard to... on page 71, if you look down to number 4, it says, the ANST shall in these cases and after the concurrence with the other person review and recommend wording changes to the Commander-in-Chief and Immediate Past Commander-in-Chief.

The C&R states that it is a verbatim account of the proceedings so that word 'change' cannot be used, okay? You can't do a word change. You can put... in the case of Charlie Kuhn, God rest his soul, strucken. He wanted something strucken instead of stricken. But you would type in 'strucken (sic).' And (sic) basically means in Latin, we know he's an idiot, but this is what he said anyway. We know it's wrong but he still... that's what he said. So you can do that just to show... and you can also put the other word in there. But that is the only opposition we had to the rest of this. Now, if you feel that we need to read all of that, I got the time if you got the beer.

Yes, sir?

John Vander Meulen, Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings

John Vander Meulen. I'm Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings. I would just point out that item number 1, the last sentence says, "The review process will be conducted so that it ensures a verbatim copy of the National Encampment proceedings".

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. Are you saying… you're pointing it out, but now you have a conflict within your own document. You're saying it's verbatim, but then you're saying that it can… word changes can be made.

John Vander Meulen, Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings

Remember, last Encampment, we had a big discussion about sidebar conversations.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Uh-huh.

John Vander Meulen, Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings

That still happens despite our best efforts to not let it get in there. And this last go around, we made a very diligent effort to highlight in the transcript places where we felt like this is a sidebar, and we wanted to present that to the Past Commander-in-Chief who presided over the Encampment, and the incoming Commander-in-Chief to let them authorize the removal or keep it in. That's what this is trying to address here.

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James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer
That's not what it says. The Committee is recommending the package [indistinguishable].

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Yes, except for basic that… number 4. Well, we're accepting everything in number 4 except the thing, word 'change'. So basically, yeah, we're saying that everything but number 4…

John Vander Meulen, Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings
I would concur if we just strike number 4. Would that work?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
I need a second.

Unknown
Second.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Okay.

We want to deal with that first.

Unknown
Is that a motion to amend?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer
Yes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Yes. We have a motion to amend. Say it again.

John Vander Meulen, Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings
To strike item number 4.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Okay. So we're going to strike item number 4. Yes means it's strucken... stricken, there you go…
…and (sic), or no... means that it stays the way it is.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Okay. All who are in favor of yes, raise your cards.

Okay, cards down.

And those that are saying no?

Okay.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
So amended.

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Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts

Commander... Ed Norris, Department of Massachusetts. This recommendation does not show which verbiage is going to be strucken.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts

So I'd recommend that... well, I make a motion that if this passes the old job description is taken out; and second then that if we pass this that we have to add these to the National Officer list, and the National Officer list of the old job title has to be strucken.

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief-in-Chief

Brother Commander... Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts. I think that would be a separate item. Once we pass this, we can remove the other... the current job title and the references to that in the C&R.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

That will work.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Once the job title has been changed.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

BP, Past Commander-in-Chief, Georgia, South Carolina, and Oklahoma. Paragraphs 5 and 6 and maybe 7 are contingent upon paragraph 4. Now that paragraph 4 has been struck, what do we do with those? I'm not making a recommendation, just bringing it to your attention.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Well, I would say they're… this 5 and 6 do not... or the change of deleting 4 doesn't change 5 because there are changes that are recommended because the transcriptionist would come up and say person unknown or voice unknown and that they would figure out who it was and put that change in there to say okay, whoever said stricken or strucken it was unknown and now it's that person is known. So there are other changes that can be made other than, you know, speaker's titles, speaker's names that along that line, but not so much…

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Actually, I agree because they could be dependent on paragraph 3 which actually addresses what you just said. So I'll struck my comment from the record.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

So strucken.

Encampment

[Chatter and laughter.]

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. Anybody else?

You want me to read the whole thing, two pages, or…

Encampment

No.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

… trust me?

Okay. We're going to vote on this which means you… and I think we can accept one vote for the two job description additions. We'll get that out of the way and then we'll come up with what Brother Kevin has talked about of some other paperwork that needs to be done with this.

So yes means you approve all, I think, it's four pages of the job descriptions that were submitted by Programs and Policy. No means okay.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All right. With your cards, yes, raise your cards.

Okay. You can lower your cards.

No, same sign.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Passes.

Unknown

Kevin.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Can you restate your motion?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

[Indistinguishable] names of the officers at the very beginning, you know, if there are other places in the Regs that need to be altered because of these changes, and I want that authority…

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief-in-Chief

Just give me a second.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

… to make those editorial changes so the whole thing syncs. You know what I'm saying?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Yes, I do.

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Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief-in-Chief

Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts. I move that we remove from the C&R any mention of Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings, which is the previous combined office, and remove the job description from the C&R.

Unknown

Second.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thanks.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Any objections?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

You have to vote.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Well, yes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

I just wanted to see if we had somebody standing up to object.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Does that include the ability to make editorial changes in other places in the C&R where job titles or job… job titles occur so that those editorial changes can make everything consistent?

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief-in-Chief

Kevin Tucker, the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts. What he said.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So do we need to vote on that?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Because it changes the C&R.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

So for yes, raise your cards.

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Okay, cards down.

No?

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Passes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

We have one more item to come before the group. It is not in your booklet, and the reason it's not is because the Department of Texas sent it to everyone that was supposed to get it, but me. I didn't get it for some reason. The story of my life, not getting things!

And what this amounts to… okay, we already did that, did we not, to the grandchild or... I'm sorry…

Unknown

We did the blood relative.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

We did that. There was a... well, no, I guess we don't have anything more to do in this regard.

Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Unknown

Two-thirds' vote.

Donald L. Gates, PDC, Department of Texas

Commander-in-Chief... Don Gates, Department of Texas, Secretary/Treasurer. I believe we did also attach a second resolution that was supplied to us by Jim Pahl from Michigan regarding the numbering. I wasn't here yesterday afternoon the entire time, but I'm assuming that was taken care of... the renumbering of…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Your answer stands behind you.

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

Robert Payne, Department of Michigan, Council of Administration. This resolution is actually... this is on page 138 of your program booklet. It's still in here and it's about three or four pages long.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

138?

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

Yes, sir.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. This would…

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Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

It starts there, and it goes all the way to page 142.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay. And what this... basically, all these four pages amount to is that they want to... don't get all upset... they want to remove the titles of the forms in the C&R, okay? The title of the form... if you look it up in the website will have form 3, whatever form 3 is, registration or membership, okay? That will be on the form.

In the C&R it will just say form 3 because if we... not we... if the Committees wish to change the name of the form for whatever reason, as it currently stands, we have to go before you guys to make a word change, okay? ... in the title of the form.

So if we wanted to change form 3 to registration and eligibility, as it stands now, we would have to have your approval to do that. If this resolution is accepted, it will just say form 3 in the C&R and whatever it has the verbiage for it now. Just the name is going to go away. Do you understand that? That's what these, basically... these four pages fall down to.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

And these pages refer to record retention schedules.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Yes, and it's in the record retention schedule. So it's kind of a pain in the butt because the records change all the time and you... just it's a nightmare. Am I correct on the nightmare?

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

Yes, it is a nightmare, sir.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Okay.

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

There are also some references to where... this is Rob Payne, Department of Michigan, Council of Administration. There are also places in there that list where these... other places in the C&R where these names are listed that will have to be adjusted. So there's a list in other places in the C&R besides the records retention where, like form 3, and it says, dash, membership form that will have to make that change there, and those are listed…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

As well?

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

… in the resolution, yes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

So basically, you've done your homework and made life easier for Brother Pahl.

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

Thanks to Brother Russ who helped me.

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Okay.

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan
Brother Russ really helped me a lot.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Brother Bruce, Past Commander-in-Chief.

Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, Department of Rhode Island
Bruce Frail, Past Department... Commander-in-Chief, Department of Rhode Island. I was the creator of the record of retention, and I agree with the proposed change.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Any other discussion? A vote yes means that the titles of the various forms will just be taken out of the C&R. The form numbers and everything else will stay the same, and there are areas in this which when speaking about it in the C&R, it will have to be changed as well. But that was taken care of by the motion.

So Commander-in-Chief.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Okay. So as before, raise your cards for yes.

Cards down.

No? Okay.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Passes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Commander-in-Chief... first off, we're done with C&R Committee.

Encampment
[Cheering and applause.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
I'm not done yet.

Encampment
Awww.

[Laughter and chatter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
Commander-in-Chief... I would make a motion to the Encampment that the request for... well, first off, I would make a motion to the Encampment that the Commander-in-Chief direct the Guard to leave open

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the Encampment doors and call the name of Eric Ricchart three times. If he does not respond, then we vote to disapprove his request for…

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

No, no, his appeal not be allowed to proceed.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Oh, okay, his appeal not be allowed to proceed, and we move on, and it cannot be heard and whatever the last sentence of the... I think it was the trial commission… National level trial commission... is now in effect and stands until completion.

Unknown

Second.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. All that a yes, go ahead and raise your cards.

Okay, cards down.

No?

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

So no discussion.

Passes.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Commander-in-Chief... [indistinguishable] go out in the hall and call his name three times.

Lee D. Stone, PDC, National Guard

The doors are open, Commander.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. If you will have… call his name three times. Loud.

Donald L. Gates, PDC, Department of Texas

Eric Ricchart!

Lee D. Stone, PDC, National Guard

No response, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Let the record reflect the lobby was called very loudly three times and no response. And that's it.

[one rap, *]

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Special Committees.

Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC, Chairman, Vision and Planning Committee

Commander-in-Chief?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes.

Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC, Chairman, Vision and Planning Committee

Can we proceed with the Vision and Planning Committee Report as discussed?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes.

Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC, Chairman, Vision and Planning Committee

Thank you. Don Palmer, Past Commander-in-Chief, Chair of the Vision and Planning Committee. I know yesterday it was reported there was no report received. There was actually a report received. It was submitted to the Council of Administration after the National report package was released largely because this Committee extracts all the information from those reports to provide the latest information on statusing the goals.

So that report was sent to the Council, and a request was made to the National Webmaster to post that report on the webpage where the other package is reported or another appropriate location. So I asked the Commander-in-Chief for... to provide a short summary of that along with the two recommendations that the Committee has.

So as you're aware, the Vision and Planning Committee more or less works the strategic aspects of the Organization, establishing the vision and the goals, and we have four or eight largely primary goals for the Organization, four of which were statused recently. Those four are largely the barometers for measuring the health of the Organization, those being the financial, organizational growth, marketing, and promotion, yes.

So it's not a bad news story, but there is some bad news to report. So on the financial side, we're doing very well working through our goals. And I commend that our National Treasurer to following suit on that. We're making steady progress of achieving our revenue goal. We had 65 percent growth over the last four years. We're on our way to that $500,000 goal. And all the other elements where we're trying to reduce our dependency on National per capita dues... that being donations, investment income, Quartermaster Store... all doing well.

The one area that requires some attention is the element where we have grants as part of our financial plan. That's an area where we're really not progressing and that ties to one of our recommendations.

The one area that we're really facing challenges right now is membership. Last year, I stood here reporting that we had our first two-year decline in membership.. consecutive year decline... in the last 30-some years. This year, I'm going to report we have our first three-year decline in almost 40 years. And it's not painting a great picture of the overall health of the Organization.

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Now, some regions, if we look at it from a standpoint of the regions... the Mideast regions, which is Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, you know, they are kind of in the red. The worst hit areas are the mid-Atlantic states, Pennsylvania, Chesapeake, New Jersey, and New York. The largest growth areas for the Organization are our Midwest and Western Departments, between five and ten percent growth over the first half of this decade.

We had some growth on the Southern side, but they lost momentum and they're starting to show some losses even though we just stood up a new Department in the South, which is great, but it's a little bit deceptive because the membership is dropping in that area. So based on the challenges of membership... that's the second recommendation that we have.

So I'm going to read the two recommendations. If you want to see the report, please look at it. The Committee is still statusing some of our other goals, but those were the primary ones we wanted to look at to measure the health of the Organization.

So the first recommendation: "*The incoming Commander-in-Chief either assign the task to the National Committee on Membership or establish a Special Committee with an end date at the next National Encampment, or unless extended, to develop a comprehensive plan to promote membership growth across the Order.*"

We have some Camps and some Departments that are doing very well... others not, and those are individual points of light. Let's figure out what they're doing right and communicate that across the Order because it's very unbalanced right now. And I know in the engineering world, you don't wait for the slope of the line to become undefined before you start solving the problem. That is the first recommendation.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC, Chairman, Vision and Planning Committee

Do you want to handle them individually, or do you want to hear the second one?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Commander-in-Chief, James Pahl, National Parliamentarian. I move you... as a procedural matter... that any recommendation from a Committee that does not require a change to the Constitution and Regulations be approved ad seriatim if no objection is voiced from the body.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief. I second the motion.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Let's go to vote.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Oh, ad seriatim.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

So like before, raise your cards for yes.

Cards down.

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No?

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Are there any objections to his first recommendation?

Okay.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Motion passes.

Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC, Chairman, Vision and Planning Committee

Second recommendation: "*The incoming Commander-in-Chief appoint a Special Committee with the end date of the 2026 National Encampment to develop training material on one, pursuit of educational, preservation, and research grants; and two, the process of grant application preparation and submittal.*

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Discussion?

Objections?

Seeing none... oh, wait, wait.

Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., PDC, Department of Massachusetts

Rod Fraser, Council of Administration, Department Commander, Department of Massachusetts. So that's a lot of work to be done in one year before the next Encampment, do research all this, do educational material, et cetera, et cetera. We also have a Fundraising Committee which I thought this might be under their purview. So I stand in opposition to this recommendation.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Rod.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

If you make an objection, we need a motion.

Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., PDC, Department of Massachusetts

Yes, sir. Rod Fraser, Council of Administration, Department Commander of Massachusetts. I move that this recommendation be disapproved or voted no. Thank you.

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York

I second the motion.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brother French.

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Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York

… Department of New York.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All right. Any other discussion?

Benjamin J. Frail, PDC, Department of Rhode Island

Brother Commander... Ben Frail, Past Department Commander, Department of Rhode Island. My understanding is from what Brother Don just read was that this Committee would be focused on educating Brothers in the grant process. To me, that is different than fundraising. We should have Brothers on the Fundraising Committee that are already knowledgeable about the grant process. Educating the Brothers on the grant process will be able to help the Brothers as a whole, not just the National Order, but our Departments and our Camps on how to write grants so all of us can get money, not just National. So I am against Brother Rod's motion and in favor of Brother Don's recommendation, sir.

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York

Commander... Brother French, Department Commander, Department of New York. The Fundraising Committee looks at raising funds and everything. We even look at grants. I even went through a course on grant writing so we can help National, and you've got to have a cause for a grant. We submitted one for... a grant for a Committee, and we get no response.

I do have another grant that will help out Monuments for restorations of, like, the battle flags that you just approved... grants up to $750,000. There's a lot to grant writing. Doing an educational course... you got colleges that train you and teach you, and it only costs $100 to get certified on a process for grant writing.

Anyone that wants to go on the Fundraising Committee... that wants to be an expert on grant writing or is already an expert, we welcome you to come on the Fundraising Committee. We will work the grants if the Committee identifies a need. You've got to have the need before you can do a grant. It is as simple as that. So if the Department or the Camps have something, contact us at the Fundraising Committee and we'll go ahead and we'll help the Camps and we'll help the Department out.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

So Brother French, was that for or against?

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York

I'm for a motion that Brother Fraser…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York

… have said, and I'm against the original.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

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Benjamin J. Frail, PDC, Department of Rhode Island

Brother Commander-in-Chief... Ben Frail, Department... Past Department Commander, Rhode Island, my second time up. We should be enabling our Brothers at the Department and Camp levels to apply for grants on their own outside of the Order. We should not have to funnel everything... every request.

So in Rhode Island, we've got something called the Champlin Foundation where we can apply for a grant through it. Why should the Department of Rhode Island have to go and ask National to write a grant request to a Rhode Island-based foundation? We should be able to have that education available to us through the National Order... just the education... so we can teach a man to fish, so-to-speak. So again, I'm against the objection and in favor of the recommendation, sir.

Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC, Chairman, Vision and Planning Committee

Let me just throw out an example of what prompted part of that recommendation. I know there was one case that I am specifically…

Unknown

Who are you?

Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC, Chairman, Vision and Planning Committee

Oh, I'm back. This is Don Palmer, Past Commander-in-Chief, Chairman of the Vision and Planning Committee.

Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC, Chairman, Vision and Planning Committee

One specific case in Missouri where there was an educational seminar that was developed and one of our Camps was instrumental in organizing that, and there was a humanities grant that was approved for it. In talking to the Camp Commander, it's like, hey, this is great, you're involved in the grant pursuit. It's like, well, you know, we didn't do it, we worked through the Cole County Historical Society. They pursued the grant. It's like, we didn't know we could do that. It's, like, well, yeah, you can. And he said, besides, we wouldn't even know where to start.

So there's an educational aspect that I think, to the broader Order, should be aware of of how to go ahead and do that for, again, grant opportunities that may exist in their locales. That's what prompted the recommendation.

Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, Department of Rhode Island

Bruce Frail, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Rhode Island. Yes, another Frail being heard from. I am also in favor of the… of Brother Don's recommendation, and I echo the words of my son, Benjamin.

And with the Champlin Foundation, it is illegal for an entity outside of Rhode Island to put in a grant. And so in Rhode Island, we can educate how to get money from that, and they have millions of dollars to donate. This could be the case with every state, every Department, that every Camp could be eligible for things within their area. And if they don't know what to do, they're not able to access that. So I definitely stand in favor of educating our Brothers.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. We've had three against now.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Three against Brother Fraser's motion.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

[Indistinguishable.]

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

I'd like to make an information…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

Michael Beard, National Treasurer, Department of the Chesapeake, and member of the Fundraising Committee. What Brother French is saying is we will help if you want to go out and get a grant. But if you've got your own ideas, and you've got your own people that know how to do it, I'm not aware of any rule that says you can't go out and raise money or get your own grant for your own project. National does not stand in the way as far as I know.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Okay.

This will be your last time up, Brother.

Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., PCinC, Department of Massachusetts

Yes sir, I understand. Rod Fraser, Council of Administration Department Commander at Department of Massachusetts. So our Department and our Camp has successfully gotten grants. Every time we do a grant, it's different. Most grants now are completely online. You fill out a questionnaire.

As far as the grants that we've gotten within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, like Rhode Island, no one from outside the Commonwealth could apply to that. I know in Rhode Island, they've also gotten grants from the Champlin Foundation without anybody else's help.

So I would say go educate yourselves if there's opportunities for you to go and get grants within your Department, but don't ask for National to come and hold your hand to figure out your own stuff within your own Department. Go get it done. That's what I have to say. Thank you.

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

Commander... Robert Payne, Department of Michigan, Council of Administration. I am against Brother Rod's motion.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

We've already had three.

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

No. We've only had two because Ben spoke twice. That's one person speaking twice. So you can't count him as two people.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

If he wants to, he can.

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Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

Pardon?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

If he wants to, he can.

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

If he wants…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

No, go ahead.

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

Oh, I don't see him as two people. But…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

But wait, wait, wait.

Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

I said you're not two people.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

I changed my mind now.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

Okay. But being able to have some type of program that the Camps or the Departments can access without bothering the Fundraising Committee for every time we're trying to learn it... if there's a program that is actually developed that we can study on our own without bringing them in... that makes it more effective of their use of time as they may be writing grants and only contacting them if we run into a problem. And that's why this would make... Brother Palmer's recommendation should be passed.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So we're voting on denying the recommendation... the Committee's recommendation.

All right. So yes, we know what to do with the cards.

Hang on a second.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Brothers, the motion on the floor is the motion that was made by Brother Rod Fraser to not approve the Committee's recommendation. So a yes vote here is a no to the recommendation from the Committee.

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Unknown
Could you ID yourself, please?

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor
I'm sorry, my name is… this is Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
All right. Are we ready?

So yes, cards raised.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor
Are you asking for the cards to be presented for yes?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Yes.

Okay. Cards down.

No?

[one rap,*]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Motion is defeated.

Unknown
Does that mean the Committee's recommendation is approved?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Are there any other objections?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer
Then your answer, you had a motion.

Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC, Chairman, Vision and Planning Committee
Do you want me to restate the recommendation? I think we're getting some questions here.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Yes or no?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer
So now, we're going back to the Committee's recommendation.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Okay.

If you would repeat the Committee's recommendation, please?

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Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC, Chairman, Vision and Planning Committee

So the recommendation: "*Incoming Commander-in-Chief appoint a Special Committee with an end date of 2026 National Encampment to develop training material on one, pursuit of education, preservation, and research grants; and two, the process of grant application preparation and submittal.*"

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Any objections?

Okay.

[one rap, *]

Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC, Chairman, Vision and Planning Committee

Thank you, Brothers.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Motion passed.

All right. Special Committees.

We are on page 90 now, Special Committees.

The first one, National Special Committee on Veterans of Wars of the United States. Dexter Bishop. There was no report given.

National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning.

Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, Chairman, National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning

Bruce Frail, Past Commander-in-Chief, Chairman of the Special Committee on Headquarters Planning. My report is on page 90 and 91. I do have a correction. It is to paragraph 2; the first sentence currently reads has completely... or "is completely her work". I don't know what was going on in my head when I wrote that. But it should read "has completed her work".

We also have added a recommendation. Basically, let me read the new… the recommendation. "*As the short-term phase of this Committee's task has been completed one year short of this Committee's lifespan, we, the Committee members, ask that this National Encampment extend this Committee's lifespan to add five years to the end of the current term ending 2026 end of the National Encampment. The new end date would be to address the long-term phase of this project and would put a new end date of 2031 end of National Encampment to this Committee or that this Committee be made a standing Committee.*" The documentation is with the National Secretary.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So the second part is out of order. The "or".

Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, Chairman, National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning

Is that the recommendation? I'm sorry.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

The "or".

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Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, Chairman, National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning

Oh, okay, that's fine. To address the long-term part of the project…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes.

Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, Chairman, National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning

… which is basically... the short-term was to stabilize the current National Headquarters, which we've done very successfully. We've created different things including the Assistant Executive Director's position. The records retention, we've consolidated storage places. We've digitized and started archival collection.

And basically what we need to address for the long-term, which was part of our task at the very beginning, is just that... the long-term, what we're going to do in the future. Are we going to stay at the National Headquarters? Are we going to look into going to another Department? Are we going to look into buying a property? What is the future of the National Headquarters?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

So that was a five-year plan then, right?

Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, Chairman, National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning

The original was a five-year plan. We were going to re-present after that short-term was done, which we're doing right now.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. All right.

Any objections?

[one rap, *]

Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, Chairman, National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning

Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

That passes, yup.

Let's see, the next one... National Special Committee on the 250th Birthday of the United States of America. Ben Block is not here.

Is anybody on the Committee... on that Committee here?

J. Ben Hobbins, Department of Wisconsin

Ben Hobbins... excuse me, Department of Wisconsin Minnesota. I've been on the Committee since 2021 with BP over here. So this is our report here. We, as a Committee... we've managed to secure the America250.gov contract *Memorandum of Understanding* and had the signature of our Commander-in-Chief for the overall project.

We're putting together a new Committee under our new incoming Commander-in-Chief and now our Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Tucker. We're ready to roll. If we look through the report, you'll notice

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various stages of implementation. We started some discussions here. Rod Fraser will be our incoming Chairman of this Committee, and we will be integrating... if you go to page 94, our efforts will be coordinated across the Organization with our National Committee on Promotions and Marketing. Rod is also going to be the Committee Chair for this Committee working with our National Patriotic Instructor and our National Committee on Communications and Technology. Our vision at this point is for a… it's for our Committee to work with all state America250 Commissions to the Patriotic Instructors and Camp Commanders in coordination with America 250 events that are taking place in each state and try to customize our branding strategy to the specific event and in coordination with our other America 250 partners that are now contracted with the America250.gov and other organizations, fraternal bloodline organizations, that we will partner with.

And there are many that are just about to come online right now... two that have given us commitments. We have some commitments from the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War to partner and liaison with us for our events... to support our events.

We have the MOLLUS who in 2023 wrote a letter memorandum in the fall, summer and fall to cooperate and support all of our projects for 250. At that point, as we built towards this process of actually having a contract with .gov, you'll notice that when the new administration came in, they up funded the America250 commemoration as a national priority and went 20 times the budget as soon as they came in.

And so you'll see that there's a very large ramp up nationally. Our 250th Anniversary of the U.S. Army... you would have noticed the 250.gov logo everywhere. We now have our logo to go next to the .gov logo which gives us some brand strength and visibility. We are looking at developing some co-branding or event branding to go along with our principal brand that would come into play for the 250th and then generally fade out, and that will be in coordination with Promotions and Marketing Committee, and then fanned across all of our Patriotic Instructors across the nation and in coordination with our Commander-in-Chief.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

So your only recommendation is that on the bottom of page 94?

J. Ben Hobbins, Department of Wisconsin

Yeah. So we'll move to…

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Excuse me. Alan Russ, National Secretary. The report at the Thursday night CofA meeting was referred to the incoming National Special Committee. The recommendation was referred to the incoming CofA Sunday morning because of the funds, okay?

J. Ben Hobbins, Department of Wisconsin

Okay. So if you look on page 94…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

We're done.

J. Ben Hobbins, Department of Wisconsin

Oh, we're done, okay. Excuse me. Between my cheaters and looking down at the paperwork… thank you.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts

Commander... Ed Noris, Department of Massachusetts. There is two other additional recommendations on 93, paragraphs 1 and 4.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

No. No.

[sidebar conversation]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Department of Ohio

Commander-in-Chief... Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio. I would submit that this Committee made one recommendation. That's the one highlighted. If someone else decides that there's a recommendation somewhere else, who would know better where the recommendation is than the Committee who wrote the report. So I would move that we follow what the National Secretary says, and that being because there's a submission or a request for funds, that it be tabled until the CofA... post-Encampment CofA.

Unknown

Second.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Any objections?

Hearing none.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

National Special Committee on Memorial University.

Tad D. Campbell, PCinC, Chairman, National Special Committee on Memorial University

Tad Campbell, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of California and Pacific and Chairman of the National Special Committee on Memorial University. The report of the Committee was submitted as part of the National Patriotic Instructor's report, pages 44 through 51, and the three recommendations contained therein have already been handled.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Special Committee on Fundraising.

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

Commander-in-Chief.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, sir.

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D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

Michael Beard, Department of Chesapeake, Autopen for Brother David Hann, Fundraising Chair…

Encampment

[Laughter.]

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

… Department of New Jersey who can't be with us because his wife has had some significant health conditions. Our report had two recommendations that were dealt with at the CofA meeting, one to negotiate with the *Banner* on some word changings to our ad in the *Banner*, and the other seeking permission from the Council of Administration to approach the Henry Rifle Company. They are interested in doing a Henry rifle with our logo on it.

So we've gotten permission to start that process to determine cost. And I have one addition to the report. Mr. Hann runs a fundraising booth at the Gettysburg Reenactment, and I run one at the Remembrance Day. And we hand out wooden coins, pamphlets, get people to sign up, that sort of thing. We have our QR codes for donations, but we sell T-shirts. And this year, we are selling a T-shirt only for members of the SUV, and it's acknowledging our involvement in Remembrance Day. And on the back, it says Annual Remembrance Day Parade, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and it has that image of the reunion at the wall. I think it was the 1910 reunion.

I happen to have ten T-shirts with me of limited size application. But if somebody's not going to Remembrance Day and wishes to purchase one, I'm available and I'm here the rest of the week.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you. Okay.

We have next the National Special Committee on Medals and Badges. Bobby Welch is not here, and he did not submit a report.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

It's with the Quartermaster… National Secretary Alan Russ. That was included in the Quartermaster report.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, okay.

Ken Jacobson, Department of Colorado and Wyoming

Commander... Ken Jacobson, Assistant Quartermaster, Department of Colorado and Wyoming. Yes, it does refer to… it may be a foregoing conclusion, but in the previous report talking about it, and I know it's been tabled, but that $6,000 for those badges... I saw nothing in there. Is it just a foregone conclusion that the Quartermaster would be involved in the procurement of those and then selling them too there, but there's no mention of who's going to sell those.

So if it's a moot point, and the Committee will handle it, I just want to address that to make sure that there's a cut for the Quartermaster, where he's not here, and then Daryl's going to be incoming, but clarification on that is all I wanted to make.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
That's CofA.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Mm?

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
That's CofA, so.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Okay. I can move on.

Okay. We are at the Appointed Committee on Chaplain Affairs, and the Chaplain is not here. So…

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer
It was included in a previous report.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
But it was included in a previous report, yes. So Brothers…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Assistant Counselor
Commander-in-Chief...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Yes, sir?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Assistant Counselor
My 72-year-old bladder would appreciate you making a break for at least 15 minutes. Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief Department of Ohio, and my bladder thanks you.

Encampment
[Chatter and laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
So be prepared with that. And that said, I don't want to delay it any further.

Encampment
[Laughter.]

[three raps, ***]

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
15 minutes, okay?

[break]

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[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Brother Alan Russ has a few things for us.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. A list of announcements...

The Department of Chesapeake will meet for a photo at the beginning of the lunch break.

Department of Missouri and Department of Arkansas will meet at the flags for the photo at the lunch break.

Wisconsin will meet at the flags at lunch break.

Texas photo at the lunch break.

And the 1881 Club will meet by the flags for a photo... he says before lunch, so may the largest or best win. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. I have been given a banquet ticket. Does anybody need a banquet ticket if they're giving this?

Come on up.

Unknown

Can I get two?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

No, just one.

Donald L. Gates, PDC, Department of Texas

We have more. See me after…

Commander-in-Chief... don't go anywhere. Commander-in-Chief...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, sir.

Donald L. Gates, PDC, Department of Texas

Don Gates, Department of Texas, purveyor of tickets. We have more than one... several more banquet tickets, available. So on a first-come, first-served basis, please come and contact me... probably between... either during the… during the lunch break would be the best... most desirable. I will go up and get them out of the kitty box, and we'll bring them down and we'll distribute them. Thank you, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you. Okay.

Can I get a report from the Credentials Committee?

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Daryl VerStreate, PDC, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Permission to approach, Commander?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Absolutely.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Thank you, sir. Daryl VerStreate, Credentials Chairman, Department of New York. I'm going to read off the delegates and numbers as I have them now. I won't entertain any questions from the podium.

The other day, I asked for one representative to sign in with their name and phone number. Well, 15 of you did, 13 of you didn't. But this is why I'm asking this because if there's any discrepancies, I need that one person to go to the back table when I get back there so we can make any corrections so when it comes time for election, we're ready to rock 'n' roll.

With that being said...

Alabama: present at Encampment, Department Commander one, delegate one, total present two, votes two.

Arkansas: Department Commander, one; delegates three; total present four, votes present four.

California: one Past Commander-in-Chief, one Department Commander, two Past Department Commanders, eight delegates for a total of 12.

Chesapeake: one Commander-in-Chief, one Past Commander-in-Chief, one Department Commander, four PDC, four delegates, looks like one alternate for a total present of 12, votes 11. So you're going to be delegates 11.

Unknown

12.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Okay, well, yeah, we'll look at it in the back in a second.

Colorado: two delegates, total present two.

Columbia: zero. We'll skip all the zeros.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

I would appreciate it if you would call those.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, Chairman, Credentials Committee

You want to call them? Okay.

Let's see, where did I leave off?

Colorado: delegates two, total present two.

Columbia: total possible seven from Biggs, zero present, zero here all the way across.

Connecticut: zero all the way across. I'll give you a copy of this, Alan, so you can…

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Thank you.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, Chairman, Credentials Committee

It will save you a lot of writing.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Yeah.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Florida: Department Commander one, delegate three, total present four.

Georgia and South Carolina: one PCinC, one Department Commander, two PDC, three delegates, total present seven, total votes present seven.

Illinois: one Department Commander, one Past Department Commander, two delegates, four present for total votes present four.

Indiana: one Department Commander, two PDC, total present three, total votes three.

Iowa: zero all the way across.

Kansas: four PDC, total present four, total votes four.

Kentucky: one PDC, one delegate, two present, two votes present.

Maine: zero all the way across.

Massachusetts: one PCinC, one Department Commander, three PDC, six delegates, 11 present, votes present 11.

Michigan: one PCinC, one Department Commander, four PDC, three delegates, total present nine, total votes present nine.

Missouri: two PCinC, one Department Commander, five PDC, total present eight, total votes present eight.

Nebraska: one PDC, two delegates, three, total present three, voting strength three.

New Hampshire: one PDC, total present one, total votes present one.

New Jersey: two delegates, two present, voting strength two.

New York: one Department Commander, one PDC, one delegate, total present three, total votes present three.

Almost done, guys.

Iowa… **Ohio**: ...

Unknown

North Carolina.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, Chairman, Credentials Committee

North Carolina did not print out on this sheet. My apologies. I'm sure it's not back there.

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Ohio: three PCinC, one Department Commander, four PDC, one delegate, total present nine, total votes present nine.

Oklahoma: one Department Commander, two PDC, two delegates, total present five, total votes present five.

Pennsylvania: one Department Commander, total present one, total votes one.

Rhode Island: two PCinC, one Department Commander, two PDC, total present five, total votes five.

Southwest: four delegates, four present, total votes four.

Tennessee: one Department Commander, one PDC, four delegates, total present six, total votes six.

Texas: one Department Commander, 12 PDC, eight delegates, six alternates, 27 present, total votes will be 21.

Vermont: one PDC, one present, total votes one.

Wisconsin and Minnesota: one PCinC, two delegates, three present, total votes three.

And **Membership-at-large**: they're all zeros all the way across.

So total Brothers present... total present 156, total votes present 149.

Jim, if you need a copy of this, I can print one out for you, save you…

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

I already got it.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, Chairman, Credentials Committee

You already got it, all right.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

I would like the North Carolina number.

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, Chairman, Credentials Committee

All right. Before North Carolina shoots me, we got one Department Commander, one delegate, two present, total votes present two.

If there's any questions, please see me in the back of the room. Thank you.

Thank you, Commander.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brothers, at this time, we're going to be giving the pins and all for the Memorial University.

Tad Campbell, Past Commander-in-Chief.

Tad D. Campbell, PCinC, National Patriotic Instructor

Tad Campbell, National Patriotic Instructor. Memorial University offers a number of courses to assist Brothers in becoming more familiar with the history and inner workings of the SUVCW. Thank you, sir.

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Successfully passing these courses not only educates Brothers but demonstrates their further dedication to the Order. Graduates from Memorial University are entitled to receive a certificate and recognition pin for their efforts. This year, we had 26 Brothers graduate.

The following nine Brothers have requested to have their certificates and pins presented here in person by the Commander-in-Chief. Please come forward when your name is read and remain standing by the Commander-in-Chief until all have been called. And if the audience will kindly hold their applause until the end.

From the Department of Georgia and South Carolina: Hamilton Jansen.

From the Department of Massachusetts, Dan Anderson.

And the remaining seven are from my home Department, California and Pacific: Daniel Earl, Kenneth Felton, William Harrington, Gary Hormel, Rick LaRosa, Robert Mayer, and Owen Stiles.

Gentlemen, as I said at the beginning, taking the courses shows an additional level of dedication and interest in learning about the Order. And if you have not taken courses in Memorial University, please do. It's open book. It's untimed. You can take it at your leisure. So please become familiar with it and take the courses. It's a great way to learn more about the SUVCW and how things work.

Brothers, let's give these dedicated Brothers a round of applause, please.

Encampment

[Applause and chatter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All right. Okay.

We're going with Department reports now, page 97 in the book if my eyes are telling me the right thing.

So with your reports... we don't need the report being read. So any recommendations that you have... additions or corrections... that's all we're looking for with these.

So we're going to start with the Department of Alabama.

Scott A. Martin, DC, Department of Alabama

Scott Martin, Department Commander, Department of Alabama. No corrections, no recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Department of Arkansas.

Joseph Rainey, DC, Department of Arkansas

Joseph Rainey, Department Commander, Department of Arkansas. I have one addition. I issued Order No. 1 to all members of the Department outlining the Officers that have been elected and appointed.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Department of California and Pacific. There was no report given.

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Department of Chesapeake.

A. Clay Matthews, DC, Department of the Chesapeake

Clay Matthews, Department of the Chesapeake, Department Commander. We have no additions or corrections, no recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming.

Ken Jacobson, Department of Colorado and Wyoming

Ken Jacobson, Department of Colorado and Wyoming, Junior Vice Commander. One correction, Jim Barker is not the Department Commander. That should be read to reflect William... Bill Neu, spelled N-E-U.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Junior.

Ken Jacobson, Department of Colorado and Wyoming

Junior, thank you. And the only recommendation that was given here was to recommend the sponsorship of RootsTech for 2026. But I believe that has been already addressed and covered.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Yes. National Secretary Alan Russ. He is correct, that recommendation was Thursday night was put to the CofA.

Ken Jacobson, Department of Colorado and Wyoming

Nothing further to report, Commander. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

It involves funds. So that will end up being a Monday morning or Sunday morning.

Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Well, you don't know how long the meeting can run.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

I can't sit here that long.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Department of Columbia, page 102. There was no report given on that one.

Same with Department of Connecticut, no report given.

Department of Florida, page 103.

Timothy Campaign, DC, Department of Florida

Commander, Tim Campaign, Department Commander, Department of Florida... the great Department of Florida. We're on page 103, 104, 105. As you can see, we are growing. I have no recommendations. I have no corrections. But I do have two additions that I think are fairly important.

We have a Brother in our Fort Myers Camp #2 who is a tax attorney and has helped our two Camps... Camp #2 in Fort Myers, Camp #3 in West Palm Beach... with their IRS attempts at getting their 501(c)(3) restored. That has been accomplished as of just last couple of days.

Unknown

Oorah!

Timothy Campaign, DC, Department of Florida

The other exciting thing I'd like to announce is President Rosemary Martin has been to Florida and has established the Auxiliary in Florida. This weekend, we've become very close with Rebecca Thomas in our Department, and they've already offered to host a Lincoln Dinner the night before our February 26th Encampment in Saint Augustine.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Timothy Campaign, DC, Department of Florida

That is all, Commander. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina.

Unknown

No report.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

No report was given.

Department of Illinois.

Jeffrey Kaup, Department of Illinois

Jeff Kaup, Junior Vice Commander, Department of Illinois. Nothing further to add.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Department of Indiana.

Travis J. LeMaster, DC, Department of Indiana

Commander, Travis LeMaster, Department Commander, Department of Indiana, the Hoosier state. No additions or corrections other than that.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Department of Iowa, page 108.

Unknown

There's no one here from…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

No one here from…

Unknown

... from Iowa.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

No? That's a no. All right.

Department of Kansas, 109.

Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Department of Kansas

On page 109, Department of Kansas, Tom Schmidt, PDC. No additions, corrections, or recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

Department of Kentucky.

Bruce E. Fortin, PDC, Department of Kentucky

Commander... Bruce Fortin, Department of Kentucky. No additions or corrections at this time.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

Department of Maine. No report received.

Department of Massachusetts.

Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., DC, Department of Massachusetts

Commander... Rod Fraser, Department Commander, Department of Massachusetts. We have no corrections. We have no additions. However, we did submit the name of four Brothers who passed away in the past year, but they were not mentioned in the Memorial. So I'd like to mention those four Brothers now with your permission, Commander?

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

You have my permission.

Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., DC, Department of Massachusetts

Brother Ronny Petit, Camp #5;

Brother Calvin Pixley, Camp #15;

Brother Elisha Mallory "Mal" Grant, Camp #25;

Brother Allerton Bonney, Camp #3188.

That is my report.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Department of Michigan.

David W. Kimble, DC, Department of Michigan

David Kimble, Department Commander of Michigan. No corrections, no additions, and no recommendations, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

Department of Missouri, 118.

Mark A. Coplin, DC, Department of Missouri

Mark Coplin, Department Commander, Department of Missouri. No corrections, no additions.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Commander-in-Chief...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, sir?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief. In the Department of Missouri... the one recommendation... the resolution for an organizational efficiency where they are calling for the Sons of Union Veterans to disestablish the SUVCW Charitable Foundation... I move you to rule that this is out of order because the Charitable Foundation is a separate entity unto itself and does not fall under the guidance of this Organization. Thank you.

Unknown

Second.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

This was ruled out of order on Thursday night at the CofA meeting.

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With Missouri, do you want to discuss anything else other than…

Alan Russ, PDC, National Secretary

They have a second resolution.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

... you do have a second one... yes, and a third.

Mark A. Coplin, DC, Department of Missouri

Mark Coplin, Department Commander, Department of Missouri. I did not bring up the resolution because we already knew it was tabled. So I did not want to waste anybody's time.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Resolution, yeah, excuse me. Alan Russ, National Secretary. You had four resolutions. The one was ruled out of order. Two and three went to the C&R Committee. And then, you had resolution number four, which you can bring up now because that has not been ruled out of order.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Commander-in-Chief...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, sir.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio. I believe that resolution number four, while not being ruled out of order, was overcome by events with the votes of the Encampment earlier and so it should be disregarded.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

You are correct. Thank you. So that number four on the bottom of page 122 is ruled out of order.

Department of Nebraska.

Paul J. Hadley, PDC. Department of Nebraska

Paul Hadley, PDC. Nebraska has no changes and corrections, but we promise to do better next year.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

Department of New Hampshire.

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Daniel W. Murray, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Daniel Murray, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of New Hampshire. No additions, no corrections, and no recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

Department of New Jersey.

Dylan Wettstein, Department of New Jersey

Dylan Wettstein, Department of New Jersey. We have no corrections, but we do have a resolution. Resolution passed by the New Jersey Department SUVCW at their Annual Encampment, June 14, 2025.

Resolved: *We, the Brothers of the Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp #7, Department of New Jersey, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War respectfully ask that the National Webmaster create an area on the National Website to serve as a repository for Camp and Department newsletters that can be accessed by all visiting the website, and that these newsletters may be archived for posterity.*

This is for last year... we had a problem with our resolution, so we had to withdraw it. So we have no corrections.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor.

Commander-in-Chief... Michael Pacquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, Chairman for the Encampment Resolutions Committee. We've reviewed this resolution, and as the responsibility for maintaining Camp newsletters and posting… Camp and Department newsletters reside with the Camp and Departments. I object to the resolution and move that the Encampment not approve the resolution.

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

Second. Robert Payne, Webmaster.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

Department of Michigan.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Do we have a discussion before it or… so discussion at this point? Anybody have…

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

Commander...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, sir?

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

Michael Beard, National Treasurer. I would agree with rejecting this resolution. Currently, we spend a lot of money on our website... a lot of money on our website. Adding this volume of data is just going to cause us problems and further swamp our Signals Officer.

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I'll also point out that on our current website, every Department is linked, and there's a symbol on a page for that symbol of that Department, click on that, you go to the Department's webpage. If it's a good webpage, every Camp is linked. That's where the newsletters should reside... or at the Department and at the Camp level... and they're linked to the National Level already.

Sumner G. Hunnewell, PDC, Department of Missouri

Sumner Hunnewell, Past Department Commander, Department of Missouri. I do not agree with Past Commander-in-Chief Paquette. I think that the possibility of us losing our history, losing the information that we have, and dissemination of information across Departments and across Camps to see what people are doing, it would be a good thing to have a central repository.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, sir.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Commander-in-Chief... Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio. I agree with Brother Paquette and Brother Beard. It's the responsibility of the Department and the Camps to maintain this. If you have a hard time doing it, look at the… my Department, Department of Ohio, which puts out… which won the National newsletter award last year. We put out a large Department newsletter as well as a thing called *Tales of the GAR*, pictures, everything else, and we manage it by ourselves.

I can tell you right now, well, members of this Order may be looking at the other Departments to see what they're doing, which is a good thing and it's impressive. Other people can't spell SUVCW let alone look for it on a website. You're responsible to maintain your own history at the Department level and it's either that or we'll just shoot the National Webmaster now and save him some time or aggravation. So I stand with Brother Paquette.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Dylan Wettstein, Department of New Jersey

Dylan Wettstein, Department of New Jersey. I would just like to say as more of a clarification I guess, this wouldn't be absolving the responsibility that Camps or Departments have for their newsletters. It's just accessibility. It's being able to see across the Department or all across the entire National what other Camps are doing. It's not giving up the responsibility of it; it's just expanding as a database. And we talked about this at our Department Encampment two years ago when we had originally… Mike Paquette was there... and it was a big discussion there as well. And I think that was just something that needs to be clarified... that it's not just for absolving the responsibility, but for the entire National, so...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

James P. McGuire, PDC, National Signals Officer

Commander... Jamie McGuire, National Signals Officer, Past Department Commander of Rhode Island. I stand in opposition with Brother Paquette. This body agreed in 2016-17... I don't remember when, I'll have to check proceedings... that the purview of operating Camp and Department websites and web content was no longer needed to be the National's responsibility and that everybody would manage their own content and information. So there's that.

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The other thing is the space issue that Brother Beard brought up, and the cost associated.

And third, the connective tissue from Department links to Camp links and forth. We can very easily... my team put together a sentence that says “Did you know that every Department and Camp”, you know, “have electronic newsletters. Visit your Department to find out more.”

We don't necessarily have to have the extra expense and work of carrying these things. If a Camp folds, and they want things to go posterity electronically, give it to the Department just like we do with physical media. That's all I have to say. So I stand in opposition to the original, and I stand in support of Brother Past Commander-in-Chief Paquette.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

So we're going to… anyone else?

Okay. We're going to vote.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Yes. So it's my motion not to approve…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

So what we're voting on is Brother Paquette's recommendation not to approve this, yes. Thank you. So we're going to vote.

So all in favor, yes?

Unknown

In favor of what?

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

The motion is to approve the recommendation to reject the resolution. So if you are voting in favor of the motion, you are voting to reject the resolution. Alan Russ, National Secretary.

Unknown

Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

We're clear? All right.

So yes?

Cards down.

No?

Okay.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Motion passed... motion was approved, yes. Sorry about that.

Yes, sir?

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Jeffrey French, DC, Department of New York

Jeff French, Department of New York, Department Commander. No changes, additions, deletions, or recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Okay. Department of North Carolina, page 128.

Henry Duquette, DC, Department of North Carolina

Commander... Henry Duquette, Department Commander, North Carolina. No additions, no corrections, no recommendations

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

Department of Ohio.

David A. Rish, DC, Department of Ohio

David Rish, Department Commander, Department of Ohio, home of the Ohio State Buckeyes National Champions.

Encampment

[Chatter and boos.]

David A. Rish, DC, Department of Ohio

Thank you.

Thank you, Michigan.

No changes, and no recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

Department of Oklahoma.

Terry Handley, DC, Department of Oklahoma

Terry Handley, Department of Oklahoma, Department Commander, the home of the Thunder, the Champions.

Encampment

[Cheers and applause.]

Terry Handley, DC, Department of Oklahoma

And the Sooner state. And we have no corrections and no additions.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

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Terry Handley, DC, Department of Oklahoma

Thank you, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Let's hold the remarks for the voting.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Unknown

Amen.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Department of Pennsylvania.

Michael E. Peter, DC, Department of Pennsylvania

Commander... Mike Peter, Pennsylvania Department, Department Commander. My report is on page 129 to 132. I have two recommendations. I believe the first one with the change of form 7 has already been addressed by this Encampment. So the second recommendation was to have the Commander-in-Chief signature imprinted on the Cadet award certificate instead of leaving it blank to reduce confusion and for ease of presentation.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Yeah, Alan Russ, National Secretary. Yes, the first one, you are correct... Thursday night it was forwarded to the P&P Committee, especially after now the Regulation's been changed. The second one was previously referred to the CofA. It was part of another report also.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. We are up to Rhode Island.

John T. Duchesneau, DC, Department of Rhode Island

Commander-in-Chief...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, sir.

John T. Duchesneau, DC, Department of Rhode Island

John Duchesneau, Department Commander, State of Rhode Island. No additions, corrections, or recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

John T. Duchesneau, DC, Department of Rhode Island

Yes, sir.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Department of Southwest.

W. Mark Clark, PDC, Department of the Southwest

Commander... W. Mark Clark, Senior Vice Commander of Department. No additions, no corrections, and no recommendations.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

Department of Tennessee.

Chip Huffman, DC, Department of Tennessee

Commander... Chip Huffman, Commander, Department of Tennessee. We have no additions. We have no corrections and no resolutions.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you very much.

Department of Texas.

Brook Thomas, DC, Department of Texas

Commander... I am Brook Thomas, Department of Texas and Louisiana. Our report has no additions and no corrections. We have two recommendations. We respectfully withdraw the first one, and the second one we believe has already been addressed earlier in the meeting.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Department of Vermont, page 141.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

No report.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

No report given.

Department of Wisconsin.

Gary Carlberg, PDC, Department of Wisconsin

Commander-in-Chief... Gary Carlberg, Senior Vice Commander, Department of Wisconsin. While we have no recommendations, changes, or anything to vote on, I do have a clarification. In the report, it says something about they'd like to see Minnesota become a Department in the near future if properly supported by National. Clarification, it's not a problem with Vikings and Packers.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

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Gary Carlberg, PDC, Department of Wisconsin

We get along and we sometimes cross the border. But the Minnesota Camp has grown by 50 percent, and they are creating their own SVR. And so, maybe moving in that door, but no support is requested from National at this point, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

So if I'm not mistaken, that completes Department reports.

Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Encampment Committees.

Constitution and Regulations.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Chairman, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

Past Commander-in-Chief…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

It's the Encampment report.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Encampment C&R Committee.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Right.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Chairman, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations

... We have nothing to report because everything has been taken care of, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Perfect.

Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Resolutions.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Chairman, Encampment Resolutions Committee

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, Chairman for the Encampment Resolutions Committee. We had other resolutions that have already been resolved at the Council of Administration level... there were only two.

The first one was from the Department of New Jersey that we just addressed.

The second one... received a resolution from the Department of Wisconsin regarding a Wisconsin monument at the Antietam Battlefield. They're looking for support for erection of a monument at the

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Antietam Battlefield for the State of Wisconsin. The Committee concurs with the resolution with the caveat that if lobbying is required in this endeavor that they properly submit a request to lobby through the incoming CinC. So we concur with the resolution.

Unknown

What page is it on?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

That was…

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Chairman, Encampment Resolutions Committee

This was a separate resolution submitted through Communications. Was it…

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

It was read.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Chairman, Encampment Resolutions Committee

It was read. I don't know that it's in the Encampment program packet.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

No.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

It was read and then forwarded to the Encampment Committee.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

They are just asking for support, no money?

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Chairman, Encampment Resolutions Committee

Yes, that's correct.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Okay.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes. Okay.

Any objections?

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Rituals and Ceremonies, Past Commander-in-Chief Steve Michaels.

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Chairman, National Encampment Committee on Rituals and Ceremonies

Past Commander-in-Chief Steve Michaels, Department of Wisconsin. No resolutions, recommendations were submitted to this Committee. Thank you, Commander.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Fraternal Relations.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Chairman, National Encampment Committee on Fraternal Relations

Commander... Brian Pierson, Past Commander-in-Chief, Oklahoma and Georgia and South Carolina. We had the pleasure of visiting the ladies in the Auxiliary, yesterday. Other than that, we had no resolutions, recommendations to entertain, and we performed our duty in that respect very well. Thank you, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

So are there any reports that have been missed?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

There's one more... Officer reports. Don Walker, I thought... was the Chair for the Officer's reports.

Unknown

Don Martin.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Don Martin?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Yeah.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Commander-in-Chief...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, sir?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Commander-in-Chief... Don Darby, Department of Ohio. Past Commander-in-Chief Martin is in his room with Montezuma's revenge. So he's not here. He, I guess... it hit him in the middle of the night and he's down for the count. So he cannot respond to your request.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Who else is in the Committee?

Kevin P. Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Brother Commander... Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. I believe we only received one direction. I'm sorry, I'm going to have to check with Don to see what that resolution was.

Unknown

Because I handed it to him because it was submitted during the Encampment.

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Kevin P. Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Don took the vote of us individually. We didn't meet together. And so I'm not sure how it ended.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Hang on.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Brothers, Michael Pacquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of the Chesapeake. The report in question was handed… it was read at the Encampment, and I handed that hard copy to Past Commander-in-Chief Don Martin. So I would ask the Parliamentarian how we best address this.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Good grief!

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Not putting you on the spot or anything.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

James Pahl, Parliamentarian. You address it sir. No?

Encampment

[Laughter.]

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

You have to wait until a member of the Committee is prepared to present the report of the Committee as to what their... you know... what their findings are as to that recommendation.

And so I would recommend that we table that for the moment or defer it until after lunch and give the other Committee members a chance to confer with Montezuma.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. At this point, we're going to start the awards. We are not going to get through too many of them, I don't think, because we have the hotel staff coming in here shortly. But we'll get started if BP is ready to, and I'll go over to…

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Department of Texas, please come forward.

Department of Texas receiving the National Encampment streamer.

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Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

The following are Certificates of Recognition.

Terry Handley, PDC, Department of Oklahoma.

Jeffrey Kennedy, PDC, Department of Oklahoma.

Clint Anderson, PDC, Department of Oklahoma.

Encampment

[Applause and chatter.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Ken Jacobson, Department of Colorado and Wyoming, for RootsTech.

Monroe McBride, Department of Colorado and Wyoming, RootsTech as well.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Chair, National Committee on Program and Policy; Chair, National Committee on Promotions and Marketing.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Daniel Murray, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Chair, National Committee on Membership.

Would someone from the Department of Ohio come forward, please? Peter Hritsko, Past Commander-in-Chief, Council of Administration; National GAR Highway Officer.

Unknown

Accepting on behalf.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Shane Milburn, Council of Administration; National Color Bearer; Chair, National Committee on Civil War Grant Fund.

Robert Payne, Council of Administration; National Webmaster.

Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

David Hann, Council of Administration; Chair, National Special Committee on Fundraising.

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Is anyone from New Jersey here? Dale Crandall, Council of Administration.

Roderick Fraser, Council of Administration.

Alan Russ, National Secretary.

D. Michael Beard, National Treasurer.

Robert Welch, National Quartermaster; Chair, National Special Committee on Medals and Badges. Anyone from his Department, Department of Illinois?

This one is going to take a minute. James Pahl, Past Commander-in-Chief; *Banner* Editor; National Blue Book Coordinator; National Parliamentarian; Assistant National Secretary Department-at-large Secretary/Treasurer; Assistant National Treasurer.

Encampment

[Chatter and laughter.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

You know, size 8 font.

Brian Horgan, National Chief of Staff.

W. Faron Taylor, National Aide; Deputy Chief of Staff.

Encampment

[Chatter and laughter.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Eric Atkisson, National Aide-de-Camp.

Tim Sedmak, National Aide-de-Camp.

David Pyne, National Aide-de-Camp.

Nathaniel Horgan, National Aide-de-Camp.

Clay Matthews, National Aide-de-Camp.

John Buckler, National Expansion Officer.

Douglas Jones, National Chaplain.

Walter Busch, National Civil War Memorials Officer; Chair, National Committee on Civil War Memorials.

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Counselor; Assistant National Treasurer; Chair, National Encampment Site Committee.

Donald Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief…

Unknown

[Indistinguishable.]

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Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

... Donald Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, Assistant National Counselor; Chair, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations.

Michael Spaulding, National Eagle Scout Coordinator.

Dean Enderlin, National GAR Records Officer; Chair, National Committee on GAR Post Records.

Henry Duquette, National Graves Registration Officer; National Webmaster Graves Registration Database; Chair, National Committee on Graves Registration.

Lee Stone, National Guard.

Gary Gibson, National Historian; Chair, National Committee on History.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay, gentlemen.

[three raps, ***]

Encampment

[Clapping.]

[one rap, *]

Lee D. Stone, National Guard

Brother Commander-in-Chief... we have a delegation from the hotel led by the General Manager.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Please present them.

Encampment

[Clapping.]

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Chair, National Encampment Site Committee

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, Chairman of the National Encampment Site Committee. So Brothers, you see some familiar faces appear on the stage. I would like to introduce you to the General Manager of the hotel, Leila Cantu.

And Leila, your staff has been… your staff has just been absolutely wonderful to work with from the planning stages of getting here to Houston and for the actual execution of our event. You have bent over backwards... your staff, to accommodate our needs. I know me personally and all the comments that I've heard that it's just been a wonderful experience. And I was in the ladies meeting yesterday up in the Veranda Room, and they said that your staff treated them like royalty. So that's a big deal, especially for us.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

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Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Chairman, National Encampment Site Committee
So in gratitude that everything that you've done for us, we'd like to offer you a token of our appreciation.

Encampment
[Applause.]

Leila Cantu, General Manager, Sonesta Hotel Houston
Can I say something?

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Chairman, National Encampment Site Committee
Yes.

Leila Cantu, General Manager, Sonesta Hotel Houston
Okay.

Encampment
[Applause.]

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Chair, National Encampment Site Committee
[Indistinguishable.]

Leila Cantu, General Manager, Sonesta Hotel Houston
Oh, my God. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you so much. I just want to say you are a wonderful group.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Chairman, National Encampment Site Committee
Go ahead. Go ahead.

Leila Cantu, General Manager, Sonesta Hotel Houston
You are a wonderful group and thank you all for being here. We are honored to serve you all. And all my team is great and they are here for you too, okay. So if you need anything, just let us know. I know you're checking out tomorrow, but we still have a whole day. So thank you so much.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Chair, National Encampment Site Committee
Thank you.

Encampment
[Applause.]

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Chairman, National Encampment Site Committee
Do you want to say anything?

John Schneider, Chairman, Host Committee
John Schneider, Department of Texas, the Host Committee Chairman. I'd also like to thank the staff for what they've done here today. They made our program and our effort as a Committee much easier to do, and I know we've all appreciated the work they've done. Thank you, Leila.

Leila Cantu, General Manager, Sonesta Hotel Houston
Thank you.

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Encampment
[Applause.]

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, Chairman, National Encampment Site Committee
I think that's it, so okay. Thank you.

Leila Cantu, General Manager, Sonesta Hotel Houston
Thank you. See you at lunch.

Encampment
[Clapping and cheering.]

Unknown
Hip, hip.

Encampment
Huzzah!

Unknown
Hip, hip.

Encampment
Huzzah!

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
All right. So we're going to go back and finish up awards here, so...

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor
Commander-in-Chief...

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Yes, sir.

Unknown
A Darby break.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
All right.

[one rap, *]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor
Commander-in-Chief... Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio. I was able to contact Brother Martin in response. His Committee votes to not concur with the recommendation to dissolve the National Committee on History.

And it also... as this is a change to the C&R because those Committees are in the C&R... it has to be ruled out of order.

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The third thing, was that the yellow Rose of Texas we gave them? Just asking.

Encampment
[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Uh-huh.

Encampment
[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Okay. So we are ruling it out of order.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
All right. We're going to go finish up awards here.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma
Perley Mellor, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Liaison to the Cathedral of the Pines.

Jeffry Burden, National Liaison to MOLLUS.

Anyone from Brother Burden's…

Unknown
Chesapeake.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma
Oh, that's right.

Rocky Bartlow, National Membership-at-Large Coordinator.

Tad Campbell, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Patriotic Instructor; Chair, National Special Committee on Memorial University.

Jamie McGuire, National Signals Officer; Chair, National Committee on Communication and Technology.

Daniel Earl, National Legislation Officer.

Roger Leturno, Past Department Commander, Washington, D.C. Representative. Not present.

Ken Freshley, Past Commander-in-Chief; Assistant National Webmaster; Chair, National Military Affairs Committee. Also not present. Anyone from the Department... Ken Freshley?

Bruce Frail, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Webmaster - Memorial University; Chair, National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning.

Sumner Hunnewell, National Webmaster - Monuments and Memorials.

John Vander Meulen, Assistant National Secretary Proceedings.

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Michael Lance, Assistant National Secretary Proceedings Aide.

Danny Wheeler, Past Commander-in-Chief, Assistant National Treasurer. Not present. Anyone from the Department of New York?

Ken Jacobson, Assistant National Quartermaster; National ROTC Coordinator.

Edward Norris, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Battle Flag Preservation Officer.

Daryl VerStreate, Chair, National Committee on Encampment Credentials.

Nick Kaup, Chair, National Committee on Lincoln Tomb Observance.

Terry McKinch, Chair, National Committee on eBay Surveillance.

Anyone want to deliver this? This is Donald Martin, Past Commander-in-Chief.

Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

I think he's beyond…

Unknown

[Indistinguishable.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Yeah. I mean he's on more than just the Chair of the National Committee of Scholarships.

Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, National Assistant Counselor

I'm not afraid of him.

Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Donald Palmer, Past Commander-in-Chief, Chair, National Committee on Vision and Planning.

Jerome Orton, Chair, National Committee on Real Sons and Daughters.

Dexter Bishop, Chair, National Special Committee on Veterans of Wars of the United States.

Ben Block Jones, Chair, National Special Committee on the 250th Birthday of the United States of America.

Unknown

Ben is not here.

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Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

And that is it for now.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

It is currently 11:58. Do you want to just keep going?

Unknown

No.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

I thought that would be popular. Okay. We do have some messages.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Well, you know, we've made all of our photograph messages and such. This one is actually good news before we go to lunch. Alan Russ, National Secretary.

We were asked to let everybody know that Brother Hann, who is on the Council of Administration and was unable to attend because his wife was having a very, very serious health condition... Kelly is now out of ICU and has been moved to rehab, so...

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Send them our best wishes from the Encampment.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

We will send them our best wishes from the Encampment.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Okay. Are we ready to… all right.

So we're going to go ahead and break for lunch. And so…

[three raps, ***]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brothers, be back at 1:30, please.

[one rap, *]

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Fourth Session - Saturday Afternoon

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
We are going to continue with a few more awards. And then, we're going to go into new business.

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts
Brother Commander... before we continue the awards, could I make a motion, please?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Absolutely.

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts
I would like to make a motion that the Encampment send a bouquet of get-well flowers to Kelly Hann, the wife of David Hann of the Council of Administration, who's currently in the hospital. That is my motion.

Unknown
Second.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Any objections?

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
So moved.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Mike, are you going to handle that? Are you going to handle that?

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer
I wasn't planning on it.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
You got the money, buddy.

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer
Well…

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Probably, but we're good.

Brother Clay. Brother Clay Matthews is one of my Brothers that quietly works diligently... quietly works diligently behind the scenes. He is a Brother that is focused to the attention to detail. He was instrumental in working with Past Commander-in-Chief Brian Pierson on the 2025 National Encampment Awards. Brother Clay Matthews was an integral part of my team and continually assisted with tasks

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associated with preparing for the upcoming National Encampment. Brothers, please help me commend Brother Clay Matthews for his dedicated work and accomplishments throughout my term.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brian Horgan, next up. I've known this Brother for many years. He is a brilliant, hard-working, and dedicated to our Order. At least that's what he told me to say.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Brian Horgan, PDC, Department of the Chesapeake

Good job.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

He is generous with his time even though he has a very demanding work schedule which keeps him quite busy. Anything assigned to him is completed timely, thoroughly, and professionally. Yet somehow, he finds the time to make the SUVCW a priority.

He is patient and willing to assist other Brothers and Sisters with their tasks for our Orders. This Brother has the ability to make solid off-the-cuff suggestions at meetings to come up with great ideas to improve our processes. He challenges mediocrity and how we communicate with our Brothers and Sisters. He is a calming influence, especially with confrontations during heated discussions.

He was primary organizer for the new Department of the Chesapeake Leadership Program. Brian efficiently completed the Herculean task of collecting, organizing, and distributing the National Encampment reports package. When his time frees up in the future, he will make an awesome Commander-in-Chief.

Challenge made!

Brian Horgan, PDC, Department of that Chesapeake

No, thank you, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you, sir.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brother Tad Campbell, you don't get away from this. For meritorious achievement and the superior performance and the accomplishment of ideals and principles of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War during the period of August 2024 to August 2025, Brother Tad D. Campbell of the Department of California and Pacific.

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In 2023, Brother Peter Hritsko contacted me just prior to starting his term as the Commander-in-Chief, and he asked me if I had anyone in mind for the Patriotic Instructor if I was elected as the Commander-in-Chief after his term. I indicated that I already had asked Brother Tad Campbell to be my Patriotic Instructor. He then asked if I thought Tad would accept the Patriotic Instructor for his term. The rest, as they say, is history.

Tad did a phenomenal job as Patriotic Instructor. With his Patriotic instruction for not one, but two years, I have been totally impressed with his ability to come up with material not only for one, but for two years.

In addition to his other duties, Tad was also involved with Memorial University. He had quickly become familiar with Class Maker... Marker, sorry, the online portal through which classes are presented and participants graded. He also secured a supply of premium parchment paper certificates on which to print. These activities have resulted in a higher-quality certificate worthy of the effort expended by the graduate as well as representing the Memorial University and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

In addition, Tad secured a supply of mailing tubes for sending Memorial University certificates and pins to the graduates. This greatly reduced the chances of those certificates becoming damaged during shipping. A database was needed to track graduates along with the dates they were contacted and when their certificates and pins were mailed. He established a database using Microsoft Excel which can now be passed along to his successors for consistency. Because of the frequent turnover in the office during his first half of the term, I contacted prior graduates, or he contacted prior graduates, and they had received their certificates and pins. Several had not and were sent the missing items. Since taking office, he has sent out 12 certificates and pins to graduates.

Therefore, I am… it is my great pleasure in presenting the Meritorious Service Award to Brother Tad Campbell.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. One last one. And I need to probably… so I need to stand a little bit more distance here now. When I think of this Brother…

Unknown

Save that until the end.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Never mind. We're going to hold this one off for a while. Going to make him sweat.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

National Aide Award presented to Timothy O'Neal, Department of Columbia. Anyone from Columbia?

Unknown

No.

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Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Okay. Go ahead and get that.

Gary Carlberg, National Aide Award, Department of Wisconsin.

National Aide Award, Brandon Villardi, Department of California and Pacific.

The National Aide Award is for every Brother who has recruited more than five members.

The next award is the David R. Medert Award presented to Brandon Villardi, Department of California and Pacific for recruiting the greatest number of members in 2025.

Encampment

[Applause and chatter.]

Unknown

How many?

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

Eight.

The U.S. Grant Cup is presented to the Department with the greatest percentage of increase in membership in 2025, presented to the Department of Oklahoma.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

The Augustus P. Davis Conrad Lender Award is presented to the Department with the greatest number of new members. In 2025, it is presented to that Department of Pennsylvania.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

The following is a Meritorious Service Award presented to John Decker of the Department of Wisconsin.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

The following award is the Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star presented to Brother Michael Emett, Department of California and Pacific.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

You want me to read it? The citation reads as follows:

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During the period January 2012 until 2024 December, Michael Scott Emett of the Department of the California and Pacific served as the Graves Registration Officer for Camp #18 registering the graves of more than 8,200 Civil War veterans interred in cemeteries throughout the United States.

He was awarded the Major General Montgomery C. Meigs Graves Registration Award for the Department of California and Pacific for registering more Civil War graves than his fellow Department counterparts for the period 2017 to 2024.

In March 2025, Brother Emett was awarded the Presidential… the President Abraham Lincoln Exemplary Dedication Award for 2024 by the Department of California and Pacific for his outstanding efforts in honoring and preserving the memory and faithful service of our ancestors.

Brother Emett created a 63-page biography of the Union soldiers who served at Fort Sumter in April 1861 giving the biography to the Fort Sumter Park officials to share with their visitors.

He registered 660 new Civil War veteran graves to include the unknown graves of 20 soldiers who served at the battle of Fort Sumter and 16 U.S.C.T. buried in Mount Olive Cemetery in Clarksville, Tennessee.

He was invited by Dr. Edda Fields Black to attend her book signing where she hailed his outstanding research contributions to her book which she used as well as Civil War manuscripts, documents to find proof that Harriet Tubman actually served as a guide with the 2nd U.S. South Carolina Volunteer Regiment, an all-black Regiment during the battle of Combahee River raid.

Brother Emett personally sponsored 30 wreaths to place on Civil War graves at the Evergreen Memorial Park, Riverside, California during the Wreaths Across America, December 2024.

Let's hear it for Brother Emett.

Encampment

[Applause and chatter.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

The following certificate is for the Under 40 Award. It is in recognition of having the most new members under the age of 40, and this goes to the Department of Pennsylvania.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

This is the Marshall Hope Award, Camp level, in recognition of having the best Camp newsletter presented to the General Orlando Poe Camp #444, Department of Michigan.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

The following is the Marshall Hope Award, Departmental level, for recognition having the best Department newsletter, and this goes to the Department of Ohio.

Encampment

[Applause.]

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Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

The Horace Greeley Award, Camp level, in recognition for having the best Camp website, General Orlando Poe Camp #444, Department of Michigan.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

The Elmer Bud Atkinson Award for Lifetime Achievement for sustained and significant service to the Order for more than 30 years is presented to Brother George Shadman, Department of New York.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

All right, Brothers, we're down to the last two, and these are the biggies. This is for the Abraham Lincoln Commander-in-Chief's Award, the most outstanding Camp in the Order 2025.

Unknown

Drum roll, please.

Brian C. Pierson, PCinC, Department of Georgia and South Carolina, Oklahoma

The General Orlando Poe Camp #444, Department of Michigan.

Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Unknown

Hip, hip.

Encampment

Huzzah!

Unknown

Hip, hip.

Encampment

Huzzah!

Unknown

Hip, hip.

Encampment

Huzzah!

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

When I think of this Brother, the first words that come to mind are professional, reliable, a strong sounding board, a fount of knowledge, humble, loyal, and a fierce friend. He never shies away from

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lending a hand at all levels of not only our Organization, but the Auxiliary as well. He fulfilled the role of Department of Chesapeake Commander for two consecutive terms, 2017 through 2019. He constantly has stepped up with new initiatives like the Department of Chesapeake Leadership Program. Each year, he organizes a ceremony at the Maryland Monument in Gettysburg during the Remembrance Day weekend and a Lincoln Dinner in Baltimore at the Maryland Club for the Garfield Camp in the spring. He has... he and his Camp Brothers annually lay wreaths at multiple locations.

He has the knack to get our Brothers to volunteer when work of the Order needs to be done. No one can say no to him. He likes to work behind the scenes of the Order... I'm sorry, scenes and rarely takes credit for all the work he has done. In simple terms, a true leader.

I cannot recall a time when I did not know him. He's like family to me, more like a blood brother than just a close friend. He is extremely supportive but does not hesitate to warn me when I am heading off the rails. He is a master chef, and an outstanding sommelier. Over the past several years, he has prepared and served Rosemary and I gourmet meals, taught us how to choose wine pairings and how to overall enjoying retired life.

When Past Commander-in-Chief Mike Paquette and I traveled each year to Springfield, Illinois, this Brother kept us entertained and awake on the phone while we traversed this great nation to attend the special events in Springfield and Petersburg, Illinois. The tradition continued this past year when Rosemary and I traveled to Department Encampments. Our last trip to the Illinois events, he chauffeured us on the long trip, refusing to let us take a turn at the wheel. But that might have been because of his confidence in my driving.

He is my advisor and a human thesaurus. He is a fount of knowledge, especially all things SUVCW, and he shares that knowledge freely with others, including not only the Department of Chesapeake, but their Camps as well as other Departments and National.

Therefore, it is my great honor to bestow the 2025 Cornelius F. Whitehouse Award for the most outstanding member of the Order to Brother W. Faron Taylor.

Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Unknown

Hip, hip.

Encampment

Huzzah!

Unknown

Hip, hip.

Encampment

Huzzah!

Unknown

Hip, hip.

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Encampment
Huzzah!

Unknown
Well earned.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
I will say Faron's response to me cannot be repeated in polite society.

Encampment
[Laughter.]

W. Faron Taylor, PDC, Department of the Chesapeake
No, I would not.

Encampment
[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Thank you.

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer
Brothers of the Order, Michael Beard, Treasurer, Department of the Chesapeake. I draw your attention to page 61 in the Texas program. You'll find listed there the current members of the 1881 Club. On that page is described how you get in the 1881 Club. There are currently 11 members:

Tim McCoy,

Mark Day,

Michael Paquette,

Linn Malaznik,

Clay Hoffman,

Kevin Martin,

Alan Russ,

Brian McManus,

Michael Reither,

Wayne Wehrheim,

and Glenn Martin.

And today, Brother Bruce Frail is going to join the 1881 Club. So if Bruce would come forward...

Encampment
[Applause.]

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D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

Bruce is getting his exclusive neckwear and nifty polo shirt for the 1881 Club. Bruce is very gracious, and he has agreed to let us borrow his medal... oops, excuse me... because we had a gentleman join yesterday morning on PayPal, and he is here. And that is Brother Robert Amsler. If he would come forward...

Encampment

[Applause.]

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

So that's number 12 and 13 helping to build our endowment fund which is approaching half a million dollars, and that's our investment money for the future.

Encampment

[Applause and chatter.]

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

That's it.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. That's it. That concludes the awards.

Okay. We're going to take another five-10-minute break. Got to get rid of the stuff from lunch.

Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

[three raps, ***]

[one rap, *]

[break]

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay Brothers, we're going to start on new business. But just prior to that, I was told that the Brother that was from…

Unknown

Indiana.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Indiana, thank you... was falsely reported as being passed. Apparently, he is not passed. So that's good news.

Encampment

[Applause and chatter.]

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

All right, Brothers, do we have any new business?

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief-in-Chief

Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts. I make a motion that the Encampment create and approve a National Special Committee on Social Media Management. Most of us old guys maybe have Facebook, you know, websites through the 1990s. Facebook was in the 2000s. All of these young guys you see around here, none of them use Facebook. That's not for them. Those are the guys we want to target, right? We want to target those young guys.

So in coordination with the Promotions of the Order Committee, you know, Rod runs our YouTube channel from there... this Committee will allow a consistent message across Instagram, Tik-Tok, you know, whatever the media is.

I envision that all the members will each take two or three, maybe, applications, have consistent messaging across those... consistent postings across those and we'll just paper the Internet with Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. All of them have followers or likes or some kind of a positive or negative reaction. That can be reported. That can be reported to the Chairman. The Chairman can report it to us, and we can focus where we want to be with that. So I make such a motion.

Unknown

Second.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Point of order.

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Oh, sorry.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Commander-in-Chief... point of order. If there's a…

Unknown

Who are you?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio. If there's going to be the creation of a Special Committee, there needs to be an end date unless you're going with what the C&R says that it ends in one year.

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

So I was just going to say that when Don jumped in front of me.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

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Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

The end date would be 2030.

Unknown

Second.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Any objections?

Benjamin J. Frail, PDC, Department of Rhode Island

Brother Commander-in-Chief... Ben Frail, Past Department Commander, Rhode Island. This isn't an objection. This is kind of beating a dead horse for Brother Kevin, if you will.

I've been assisting as an administrator on multiple applications: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, I think, and the Reddit account. We have gotten a... I don't know the number off the top of my head, but we have definitely gotten new recruits from our social media platforms. And I wholeheartedly support this idea and this motion because it is the way to get younger Brothers into the Order and to help further and sustain our future. Thank you, sir

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes, sir?

Unknown

[Indistinguishable.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Oh, sorry. I thought you were on for something else.

Okay. So all in favor of this Special Committee, raise your cards.

Lower your cards.

Nos?

[sidebar conversation]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Passed.

Yes, sir?

Walter E. Busch, PDC, Department of Missouri

Walt Busch, Past Department Commander of Missouri. And I'm wearing my official Fruhschuppen hat because it's that time of day where we're supposed to be saying 'let's get the heck out of here and go

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drinking'. That's what it means in German. And Fruhschuppen is spelled F-R-U-H-S-C-H-U-P-P-E-N for the person taking dictation.

I want to preface this whole thing by saying that I taught criminal investigation, criminal law, constitutional law, traffic law at the police academy for about 15 years. I've always been a... as a police officer... I was always a stickler for if there was a way around something just like there is about uniforms, I'd find it.

At our past Department meeting, we were denied the chance of electing the Commander that we wanted because Article V, Section 1 says, no Brother, I'm sorry, that no Brother shall be eligible to elect… to be elected to the office of Department Commander who is not present and entitled to vote at the Department meeting. It also says some other stuff, but that's the main clause. I understand that.

However, somebody in their infinite wisdom several years earlier, apparently during COVID, decided to create the rule Article III, Meetings, Section 1 that states, the 'Department Commander may allow a limited number of Brothers to attend virtually by way of interactive video conferencing or other such electronic means, including Internet-based or telephonic means should he find a Brother who would not otherwise be able to attend a meeting in person. The Commander shall ensure the method used allowed full participation of the Brothers attending virtually.'

And I'm going to stress 'full participation of the Brothers attending virtually.' To me, full participation means that if that person is on videoconferencing and says, I want to stand for office of the Department Commander, he has the right to stand for office of Department Commander, period.

So I make a motion that we either say that this… this thing that I just read about shall have full participation means that we can elect the person who's attending virtually who has already discussed it with a whole bunch of the rest of the Department whether they can do it or not that is going to be the rule that the full attending virtually means that we can elect him to the Commander's office or it needs to be put in order that full participation doesn't mean that.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Counselor. So this situation that Brother Busch is referring to... there was a portion that didn't show up in my report, a second paragraph, and I'd like to read that to the Encampment... get it on the record, because it addresses this situation.

"On June 7th, the day of the Department of Missouri's Department Encampment, I was contacted by the National Officer attending the Encampment along with several Brothers also in attendance regarding the requirement for a nominee for Department Commander to be present at the Department Commander *[sic]* in order to be eligible for election. See Chapter II, Article V, Section 1.

Prior to the modifications to the CC&R, which allowed virtual meetings and virtual attendance, this requirement meant a nominee for Department Commander had to be physically present at the Department Encampment. No opinions or changes to the CC&R have been made since the updates, and more specifically no ruling has been made as to whether a Brother's virtual attendance meets the requirement for being present. I identified this matter as a change in interpretation to the CC&R as I was not afforded the time to conduct research and provide a formal opinion.

I ruled that the historical interpretation of the requirement still applied, that the Brother had to be physically present at the Department Encampment in order to be elected as Department Commander. That was… that should have been in with my report. I apologize for not bringing it up when we were going through reports.

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So I don't necessarily disagree with the interpretation, but due to the amount of time that was afforded me to make a ruling, I couldn't in all good conscience do due diligence and issue a formal opinion in time because this was the day of the Encampment. It was literally hours before the election was happening. So they ultimately found another mechanism to get their candidates into office... so I hear.

If I'm allowed to make a substitute motion while there is a motion on the floor, I would move that this matter be moved to CC&R and we vote on it next year because there are a number of permutations and conditions that apply to whether… there is specifically in our Regulations that the guy has to be present, right? It was put there for a reason. So there are conditions and permutations to this that need to be taken into consideration, and we should not do a knee-jerk reaction to that at this Encampment.

Unknown

I'll second that motion.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

So we are voting on my motion or discussion on my motion?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Any discussion on this motion?

Walter E. Busch, PDC, Department of Missouri

Did I say I accept that?

Unknown

Second. We need a second.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

It was over there.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

It was over here? Okay.

Discussion?

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Commander-in-Chief... Past Commander-in-Chief Don Darby, Department of Ohio, C&R Committee Chairman. I agree with Brother Paquette that this needs to be transferred or, I'm sorry, this needs to be resubmitted next year or anytime you want, but next year to the C&R to report out. As Brother Paquette said, there are more than one thing that needs to be modified, looked at, and changed.

And as the Brother back here from Missouri said, it's almost beer drinking time, okay? So it needs to be corrected either way, but it's a C&R thing so Missouri would then send in a resolution by your Department saying the C&R Committee needs to look at it. Thank you, sir.

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Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts. I disagree with Brother Paquette. What the Section said was must be present. It doesn't say physically present. Is someone that is logged in to a meeting, participating in that meeting, present? Of course.

What the original intent of that Section was, you know, no shows or, you know, whatever it is, you know, somebody nominating someone that didn't want it, whatever it was. But if you are there and you are participating in the meeting live, in my opinion, that would make you present, and I think that that should count. That shouldn't be the issue that would disqualify someone from running.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Counselor. This is my second time. I was contacted by the National Officer, Dan Murray, because his understanding of that line was that the Brother had to be physically present. So to a number of us here in the room, that's what the requirement has always meant. And to interpret in the way that you and Brother Busch are suggesting is a change to that, and that's exactly the reason why I made the ruling that I did. So I stand by my motion.

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PDC, Department of Missouri

Robert Amsler, Past Department Commander, Department of Missouri. I would like a clarification if what Brother Darby is saying we got to wait, submit this, and then in another year it's going to go… we're going to have an answer in two years because if that's how long this is going to take, according to what I heard, maybe I'm wrong interpreting it, if it's going to take two years, that's not right because our Department Commander, who is our Department Commander today couldn't attend. He was in another state, and he attends everything and does all this stuff. So what we ended up doing is the old Department Commander stood for election again, and then immediately resigned.

Come on, we've got to be faster than two years.

Walter E. Busch, PDC, Department of Missouri

Walt Busch, Past Department Commander, Missouri. Second time. All I'm saying is that if you're going to say today that the ruling is and the ruling stands that they have to be physically present, and we're going to operate under that, I don't have a problem with that per se. But it needs to be footnoted by this Encampment that we're temporarily putting on hold the other thing that says Zoom meetings allow full participation. And I say 'full' because full means I or anybody else should be able to stand for election.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

Commander-in-Chief... Past Commander-in-Chief Don Darby, Department of Ohio, C&R. And Brother, you are incorrect. It will be taken care of. You'll submit it just like we did before, and it will be heard at the next Encampment, and it will be in effect whichever way it comes up next Encampment.

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PDC, Department of Missouri

Okay. So in other words…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

It's not going to be a two-year thing. We may argue it for another year, but anyway…

Encampment

[Laughter.]

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Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

… that's where we are. So…

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PDC, Department of Missouri

A one-year resolution I can live with. Waiting two years…

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Assistant National Counselor

No, sir. It's never two years. I taught him. He communicated it to me. So it will show up. So you'll have an answer. This body will decide next year, okay? Does that work for you?

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PDC, Department of Missouri

[Indistinguishable.] I misunderstood what you were saying.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

So they're voting on my motion.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Different topic?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Yeah. Actually, it's a motion to refer.

Lloyd Dean Lamphere, Jr., Department of Michigan

Commander... L.D. Lamphere, Jr., Department of Michigan, Past Department Commander. This is a clarity question to you, Don. My interpretation is this body can, through the Commander-in-Chief, send it to the Committee from here. We don't need to wait for Missouri to put in the proposal. The proposal is here. He's reading it in front of us. We're voting on what Brother Busch is presenting. We can go from there through the Commander-in-Chief as the body to the Committee, correct?

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Counselor. In order for this body to rule on it, we first have to basically waive the requirements for submitting a CC&R change during the Encampment, which is going to take a two-thirds' vote to do that.

And then, it would require a vote. All I'm doing is, and I was corrected by the Parliamentarian... it was a motion to refer is the official motion that I was making to send this to the CC&R and allow us the opportunity to do the research needed and present it next year.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Go ahead, Kevin.

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief-in-Chief

Brother Commander... Kevin Tucker, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief speaking for the second time. Does it need a change to the CC&R? It does not say physically present. If three… if Section 3 says someone that, you know, during COVID... someone that comes in by Zoom is able to vote, is able to do all those things that would make him present. It doesn't say physically present. It just says present. If he, and like Walt said... if he has the ability to do everything else, he's not trying to hide anything, he's not trying to…

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I don't understand. I don't think it needs a change. Present means you're part of the meeting. They are part of the meeting. I, again, stand in opposition to Brother Paquette.

Lloyd Dean Lamphere, Jr., Department of Michigan

L.D. Lamphere, Jr., Department of Michigan, Past Department Commander. Brother Paquette, I don't think it's clear in your original statement that you, in that reference... that's the stuff versus what Don's saying for the Department of Missouri to resubmit. All I'm saying is that I'm agreeing with referring it to the Committee, and that meets the requirements for that review process to start.

You don't need the proposal from the Department of Missouri to start that process.

Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, Department of Rhode Island

Bruce Frail, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Rhode Island. I believe the reason why Brother Paquette, and my understanding of what he motioned was so that it can be immediately moved to the CC&R Committee that can do some research. I was on the Virtual Meetings Committee, and we need to research the wording that was approved through that Committee to be able to determine the presence criteria.

James P. McGuire, PDC, Department of Rhode Island

Jamie McGuire, National Signals Officer, Past Department Commander, Rhode Island. I don't disagree with Brother Frail or with Brother Paquette. I just want to point out that, you know, we have set precedent. Present in 2020 at the National Virtual Encampment was interpreted as we were all there virtually. And from that moment forward, that is my opinion that present was present. We elected a Commander-in-Chief virtually. We elected all officers virtually.

And that's all I have to say, it's just the interpretation of present and I feel like we've sailed down this river.

Michael A. Paquette, PCinC, National Counselor

Michael Paquette, Past Commander-in-Chief, National Counselor. That meeting of the National Encampment was done virtually. It was a one-off. If you check through the Regulations, we cannot do that again unless there's another type of virtual emergency for National Encampment meetings. So I disagree with what Brother Jamie is saying.

Bruce D. Frail, PCinC, Department of Rhode Island

Bruce Frail, Past Commander-in-Chief Department of Rhode Island. That's exactly what I was going to say when I came up.

Timothy M. Phillips, PDC, Department of Texas

Sir, Timothy Phillips, Camp #1, Department of Texas. And this does have a fair bearing on me. I live 150 miles from my Camp, which makes attendance a bit dicey. Now, do I understand it that we can refer this today to the CofA for their consideration?

Unknown

That would be C&R…

Timothy M. Phillips, PDC, Department of Texas

C&R, excuse me. I looked… alphabet soup.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes?

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. At the Camp and Department level, there is only one position this applies to, you know, it does not apply to Camp Commander or a Camp Junior Vice. It does not apply to Junior or Senior Vice Department. It only applies to the singular position, single position of Department Commander.

Timothy M. Phillips, PDC, Department of Texas

Okay.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Go ahead.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

James Pahl, National Parliamentarian. I've been asked by the National Counselor to explain the impact of his motion. This body has the authority as the ultimate authority of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to directly refer the matter to the C&R Committee to report back next year without any further referral. And that's what Brother Paquette's motion does, it directs the C&R Committee to study the issue and come back with a report and recommendations next year.

Timothy M. Phillips, PDC, Department of Texas

Okay. So we have a motion…

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

If the motion passes.

Timothy M. Phillips, PDC, Department of Texas

… on the floor to refer it.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

There is a motion on the floor to refer to the 2025-2026 National Committee on Constitution and Regulations to report back next year their recommendations.

Timothy M. Phillips, PDC, Department of Texas

Okay. Has it been seconded?

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Yes.

So that's what's currently on the floor. It's a motion to refer or commit.

Timothy M. Phillips, PDC, Department of Texas

Thank you.

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Phillip Solida, Department of Georgia and South Carolina

Phillip Solida, Camp #3, Kennesaw Mountain. It could have been simply solved by... if you're sticking with the current position that it is physically present rather than you got another way of being present, but not physically present. So the rule should be if you have a way to make and require that they be physically present that the word "physically" be added to the rule.

Unknown

Amen.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes. So I'm calling the vote here. So if you…

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Here's the motion.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay, thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. This is a motion by the National Counselor, Mike Paquette, to 'refer this to the CC&R for next year.'

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Cards for yes?

Cards down.

No?

Passes.

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Motion carries.

Mark Coplin, PDC, Department of Missouri

Commander-in-Chief... Mark Coplin, Department Commander, Department of Missouri. Sorry for that little... little delay. As Brother Pool is our last Real Son, the Department of Missouri, upon his passing, would request that some type of plaque be installed at his gravesite upon the... you know, if family does agree with this, and the Department would seek approximately up to $2,000 in placing such plaque.

[sidebar conversation]

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Commander... [indistinguishable] request for funds that came in after noon today.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

So sorry, but you're going to be out of order just because it wasn't submitted before noon today.

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Mark Coplin, PDC, Department of Missouri

Okay.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Not that I'm saying that it's a bad idea. It just…

Okay. Any other new business? Any other new business? Any other new business?

[one rap, *]

Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

[sidebar conversation]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

We are moving into nominations.

We will start with the nominations for Commander-in-Chief. The Secretary will now call the roll of Departments.

This is National Secretary, Alan Russ.

Unknown

[Indistinguishable] report?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Well, we'll get those before we start to vote. We'll have the most current. Is that all right?

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Are you expecting a close election, Kevin?

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

The Department of Alabama.

Scott A. Martin, DC, Department of Alabama

Scott Martin, Department Commander, Department of Alabama. We defer to the Department of Massachusetts.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

They're deferring to the Department of Massachusetts.

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts

Commander... we're about to elect the Brother…

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Unknown

Who are you?

Edward J. Norris, PCinC, Department of Massachusetts

Oh, I'm sorry. I'm Ed Norris, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Massachusetts. We start again. We're about to elect the Brother who will lead us for the next year and an influence will continue for years to come. Our Commander-in-Chief is the most important position we have, and it comes with great responsibility. We elect Brothers to be Commander-in-Chief who have led their Camps and Departments, they have been instrumental in the moving forward the National Organization through years of work.

Becoming Commander-in-Chief is not about obtaining a title, it's about serving our Brothers. I can think of no one better to carry on our long tradition of great leaders than Brother Kevin Tucker. At my first Department command… I mean Department Encampment 20 years ago, I had no idea what was happening. But I knew Kevin was one of its leaders. He was the Department's Junior Vice Commander, but it wasn't the title that made him the leader, it was his presence. He spoke about our Department's future and what it would take for us to get to those goals.

And Kevin didn't just express opinions, he carried them forward to meet those aims of ours. I was mightily impressed. Peter F. Drucker, who is well known for exploring how humans are organized, says management is doing the right things; leadership is doing, I'm sorry, *"Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things"*.

Kevin is someone who does the right things. And John le Carre stated, *"A desk is a dangerous place from which to view the world."* Kevin's traveled across our country from Maine to California from Texas to Wisconsin making many stops along the way so that he could be in attendance at numerous Department Encampments, regional meetings, and National Encampment planning sessions. Kevin has acquired an understanding of what is currently working and what is not. He wanted to get a sense of what needs to be changed, and what should remain as is. He wants to ensure that we are doing the right things.

I'm not going to tell you about all the positions Kevin has held, the Committees he's Chaired or the awards he has won or the accolades he has received. We have heard his resume many times over the past few years before this National Encampment, and he put handouts on the chairs for those few who might not be aware of many achievements.

Frank's father, Frank... I'm sorry, Kevin's father, Frank, was our Department Commander in 1982 and was elected again in 1992 and 1997 when our Department needed him. Kevin comes by his dedication to our Organization honestly, and I'm sure his father is smiling down from above knowing that his son is standing before us seeking the position of Commander-in-Chief.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Yeah. National Secretary, Alan Russ. Commander... with your permission, I'm going to request that any Department which is passing do not need to come to the microphone, and I will just repeat that they passed into the mic.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay. With that being done, Department of Arkansas.

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Department of Arkansas

[Indistinguishable.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Arkansas passes.

Department of California and Pacific.

Department of California and Pacific

California passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

The Department of California and Pacific passes.

Department of the Chesapeake.

Department of the Chesapeake

Department of the Chesapeake passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of the Chesapeake passes.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming

Passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Colorado and Wyoming passes.

The Department of Columbia.

Unknown

Nobody here.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

No one here, my mistake.

Department of Connecticut. Oh, they're not here.

Department of Florida.

Department of Florida

Pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Florida passes.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina.

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Department of Georgia and South Carolina
Department passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Georgia and South Carolina passes.

Department of Illinois.

Department of Illinois
Department of Illinois passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of Illinois passes.

Department of Indiana.

Department of Indiana
Department of Indiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
The Department of Kansas.

Department of Kansas
The Department of Kansas passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of Kansas passes.

Department of… did I say…

Unknown
You didn't say Indiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
I'm sorry. Department of Indiana passes.

Department of Kansas passed.

And Department of Kentucky.

Department of Kentucky
The Department of Kentucky passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Thank you, sir. Department of Kentucky passed.

Department of Michigan.

Department of Michigan
The Department of Michigan passes, sir.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Michigan passes.

Department of Missouri.

Department of Missouri

The Show Me State passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Missouri passes.

Department of Nebraska.

Department of Nebraska

The Department of Nebraska passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Nebraska passes.

New Hampshire.

Department of New Hampshire

New Hampshire passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of New Hampshire passes.

Department of New Jersey.

Department of New Jersey

New Jersey passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New Jersey passes.

Department of New York.

Department of New York

The Department of New York passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New York passes.

Department of North Carolina.

Department of North Carolina

North Carolina passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

North Carolina passes.

Department of Ohio.

Department of Ohio

Ohio passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Ohio passes.

Department of Oklahoma.

Department of Oklahoma

Oklahoma passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Oklahoma passes.

Department of Pennsylvania.

Department of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Pennsylvania passes.

Department of Rhode Island.

Department of Rhode Island

Rhode Island passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Rhode Island passes.

Department of Southwest.

Department of Southwest

Southwest passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Southwest passes.

Department of Tennessee.

Department of Tennessee

Department of Tennessee passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Tennessee passes.

Department of Texas.

Department of Texas

The Department of Texas and Louisiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

The Department of Texas passes.

Department of Vermont.

Department of Vermont

Department of Vermont passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Vermont passes.

Department of Wisconsin.

Department of Wisconsin

Department of Wisconsin passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Wisconsin passes. There's no [indistinguishable] here.

So that completes the roll call for nominations for Commander-in-Chief.

Encampment

[Applause.]

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Commander-in-Chief... I'm James Pahl, National Parliamentarian. I move you, sir, that when there's only one candidate for office, the Secretary be directed to cast a single ballot for that individual.

Unknown

Second.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All in favor?

Encampment

Aye.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Close enough.

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Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Calling for nominations for… I'm sorry... if elected, are you willing to serve?

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Otherwise, I'm drafted. I will accept. I hold no other Department offices.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you. Now you're official.

Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Next will be Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief... opening nominations.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

National Secretary, Alan Russ, calling the roll of officer... or the roll of Departments for nominations for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Department of Alabama.

Department of Alabama

Alabama passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Alabama passes.

Department of Arkansas.

Department of Arkansas

Passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Arkansas passes.

Department of California and Pacific.

Department of California and Pacific

Pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of California and Pacific passes.

Department of the Chesapeake.

Department of the Chesapeake

Department of the Chesapeake passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Chesapeake passes.

Colorado and Wyoming.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming

[Indistinguishable] Department of Colorado and Wyoming passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Colorado and Wyoming passes.

Department of Florida.

Department of Florida

Department of Florida passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Florida passes.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina

Georgia and South Carolina passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Georgia and South Carolina passes.

Department of Illinois.

Department of Illinois

Department of Illinois passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Illinois passes.

Department of Indiana.

Department of Indiana

Department of Indiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Indiana passes.

Department of Kansas.

Department of Kansas

Department of Kansas passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Kansas passes.

Department of Kentucky.

Department of Kentucky

The Department of Kentucky passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Kentucky passes.

Department of Massachusetts.

Department of Massachusetts

The Department of Massachusetts defers to the Department of New Hampshire.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of New Hampshire.

John J. Dupre, PDC, Department of New Hampshire

Commander-in-Chief... My name is John Dupre. I'm Past Department Commander of Massachusetts, but I was at least born in New Hampshire. I arise to nominate Brother Daniel Murray of New Hampshire for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Brother Daniel has... excuse me, cites his ancestor, Sergeant Andrew Kelly, who served with the U.S. Sharpshooters, then later the 5th New Hampshire Infantry, the Regiment with the most casualties of any Regiment North or South.

Dan is a veteran of the United States Army and has been a member of the SUVCW for over 25 years. He has served in every elected position in the W. W. Brown Camp #1 of New Hampshire. And in that Department, he went on to serve as Junior and Senior Vice Commanders and five terms as Department Commander. A dual member with Massachusetts, Dan has served in every elected office in that Department and two terms as Department Commander.

At the National level, Dan has served on various Committees, the Council of Administration, and as National Secretary and currently Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Dan is also a captain in the Sons of Veteran Reserve, and adjutant of the First Military District. For brevity's sake, I will note that Dan has also served in the American Legion, local government, and on state committees.

I hereby place in nomination for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief a friend and mentor, a man of deep dedication to the principles and objectives, Brother Daniel Murray of New Hampshire.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Do you hold any other positions at this time? ... Brother Daniel?

Daniel W. Murray, PDC, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Department Counselor [indistinguishable] Department Counselor.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

If elected, will you serve?

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Daniel W. Murray, PDC, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief
Yes, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Okay. Continuing on...

Department of Michigan.

Department of Michigan
Pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Yeah, Michigan passes.

Department of Missouri.

Department of Missouri
The Show Me state passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of Missouri passes.

Department of Nebraska.

Department of Nebraska
Passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Nebraska passes.

Department of New Jersey.

Department of New Jersey
New Jersey passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
New Jersey passes.

Department of New York.

Department of New York
Department of New York passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
New York passes.

Department of North Carolina.

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Department of North Carolina

North Carolina passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

North Carolina passes.

Department of Ohio.

Department of Ohio

Ohio passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Ohio passes.

Department of Oklahoma.

Department of Oklahoma

Oklahoma passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Oklahoma passes.

Department of Pennsylvania.

Department of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Pennsylvania passes.

Department of Rhode Island.

Department of Rhode Island

The Department of Rhode Island passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Rhode Island passes.

Department of Southwest.

Department of Southwest

Southwest passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Southwest passes.

Department of Tennessee.

Department of Tennessee

The Department of Tennessee and the Tennessee Vols pass.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Tennessee passes.

Department of Texas.

Department of Texas

The Department of Texas and Louisiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Texas passes.

Department of Vermont.

Department of Vermont

The Department of Vermont passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Vermont passes.

Department of Wisconsin.

Department of Wisconsin

Department of Wisconsin with Minnesota passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

The Department of Wisconsin passes.

That concludes the call for nominations from the Departments.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Next up, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief nominations.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

National Secretary, Alan Russ, calling the roll of Departments for nominations for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Department of Alabama.

Department of Alabama

Pass to Michigan.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alabama passes to the Department of Michigan.

Lloyd Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC, Department of Michigan

Commander... L.D. Lamphere, Jr., Department of Michigan, Past Department Commander. I have the distinct pleasure on behalf of the support for the candidate, and the request of the Department, a

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Brother whom I have personally known since I was ten years old, and can state for that over 50 years that they had been a foundation of a lifelong friendship. I offer and respect to brevity.

My father and I can offer more... an in-depth history should you desire and inquire. We would like to put into nomination the youngest candidate for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief having only had 15 actual birthdays... being born on leap year.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Lloyd Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC, Department of Michigan

In the spirit of remembrance of Brother Keith Harrison and in keeping traditions alive,

whereas, Brother Robert R. Payne tracing his lineage back to his third great-grandfathers, Private John W. Webster of Company K, 14th Michigan Infantry; Private John W. Wilson, Company B, 26th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, killed in action at Spotsylvania Courthouse; and Private Francis Belter, Company F, 49th New York Infantry;

and whereas Brother Payne has honorably served as the Commander of Curtenius Guard Camp #17 of Lansing-Sunfield having previously served in other elected and appointed Camp positions;

and whereas, Brother Robert Payne not only served as the Commander of the Department of Michigan, also served in other elected and appointed Department positions;

and whereas, Brother Payne is currently honorably serving as Second Lieutenant, Company A, 14th Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Sons of the Veterans Reserves in support of the activities and ceremonies of the Department of Michigan and its Camp;

and whereas, brother Payne has… was an honored and respected officer within the United States Army achieving the rank of Captain while serving with the 101st Airborne Division and the 2nd Battalion 320th Field Artillery Regiment.

In honor and remembrance of Michigan's Past Commanders-in-Chiefs and their service, Brother Payne has served the National Organization on the Council of Administration, the National Webmaster, National Program and Policy Committee, Chair of the Website Development Committee.

As a recipient of the Cornelius F. Whitehouse National Brother of the Year Award, Brother Payne has served both his church on their leadership team for over five years and the Utility Workers Union as their Secretary for eight years and their Constitutional Convention delegate twice.

Again, and finally, I proudly put into nomination from the Great Lake State Brother Robert Russell Payne, Past Department Commander, for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Attention 14th Michigan. Break ranks. March.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brother Payne, what positions do you currently hold?

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan

Commander... Robert Payne, Department of Michigan. I'm on the Council of Administration, Department Counsel, and the Camp Counsel for Curtenius Guard Camp #17 and Governor Crapo Camp #145.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
If elected, will you serve?

Robert R. Payne, PDC, Department of Michigan
Yes, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Okay. National Secretary, Alan Russ, returning to the roll call.

Department of Arkansas.

Department of Arkansas
Pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Arkansas passes.

Department of California and Pacific.

Department of California and Pacific
California passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
California and Pacific passes.

Department of the Chesapeake.

Department of the Chesapeake
Pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Chesapeake passes.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming
Passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Colorado and Wyoming passes.

Department of Florida.

Department of Florida
Department of Florida passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Florida passes.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina

Department of Georgia and South Carolina also passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Georgia and South Carolina passes.

Department of Illinois.

Department of Illinois

Pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Illinois passes.

Department of Indiana.

Department of Indiana

Department of Indiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Indiana passes.

Department of Kansas.

Department of Kansas

The Department of Kansas passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Kansas passes.

Department of Kentucky.

Department of Kentucky

The Department of Kentucky passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Kentucky passes.

Department of Massachusetts.

Department of Massachusetts

Massachusetts passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Massachusetts passes.

I'm sorry. I got tongue tied there.

Department of Missouri.

Department of Missouri

The Show Me state passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Missouri passes.

Department of Nebraska.

Department of Nebraska

The Cornhusker state passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Nebraska passes.

Department of New Hampshire.

Department of New Hampshire

New Hampshire passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New Hampshire passes.

Department of New Jersey.

Department of New Jersey

New Jersey passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New Jersey passes.

Department of New York.

Department of New York

The Department of New York passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New York passes.

Department of North Carolina.

Department of North Carolina

North Carolina passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

North Carolina passes.

Department of Ohio.

Department of Ohio

Buckeye State passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Ohio passes.

Department of Oklahoma.

Department of Oklahoma

Department of Oklahoma and Indian Territory pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Oklahoma passes.

Department of Pennsylvania.

Department of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Department passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Pennsylvania passes.

Department of Rhode Island.

Department of Rhode Island

The Department of Rhode Island passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Rhode Island passes.

Department of Southwest.

Department of Southwest

Department of Southwest passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Southwest passes.

Department of Tennessee.

Department of Tennessee

Department of Tennessee passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Tennessee passes.

Department of Texas.

Department of Texas

The Department of Texas and Louisiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Texas passes.

Department of Vermont.

Department of Vermont

Department of Vermont passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Vermont passes.

Department of Wisconsin.

Department of Wisconsin

Department of Wisconsin passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

And that concludes roll call for nominations for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Encampment

[Applause and laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Next, we are taking nominations for National Secretary.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

National Secretary, Alan Russ. This is a very important position.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

We want to make sure we do this one right. Calling the roll of the Departments.

Department of Alabama.

Department of Alabama

Passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alabama passes.

Department of Arkansas.

Department of Arkansas

The Department of Arkansas defers to the Department of Missouri.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Arkansas passes to the Department, or I should say defers to the Department of Missouri.

Edward J. Krieser, PCinC, Department of Missouri

I'm here to nominate Brother Dale Crandall for National Secretary. Brother Dale served…

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Please identify yourself.

Edward J. Krieser, PCinC, Department of Missouri

Oh, I'm sorry. Ed Krieser, Department of Missouri, Past Commander-in-Chief.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Thank you.

Edward J. Krieser, PCinC, Department of Missouri

Dale served in virtually every Camp and Department office and currently serves on National Council of Administration and a few other Committees in the Department as well as National that were covered… that are covered in the resume and the flyers that were placed on your seats.

But let me highlight just three things there. He spearheaded our Department of Missouri $2,000 GAR Foot Soldiers Monument and restoration project. He navigated the city politics to place a GAR Historical Marker in Kansas City. And he literally wrote and edited our Department Policy and Procedures Manual.

I've gotten to know Brother Dale since moving to Missouri, particularly this past year carpooling as Brother Dale fulfilled his Council of Administration duties. You learn a lot trapped in a car for eight hours or more.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Edward J. Krieser, PCinC, Department of Missouri

We shared our mutual military service, Masonic membership, church services, and love of history. Now, I am a combat enlisted Marine. Dale is a peacetime naval officer, but we worked through that.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Edward J. Krieser, PCinC, Department of Missouri

There is much we disagree on; football, beer, politics, the definition of a Trinity, but more we agree about... especially the future of the SUV and the Allied Orders. We need to keep Brother Dale on the

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Council of Administration as National Secretary. Dale Crandall from Missouri for National Secretary. I thank you.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Do you currently hold any other offices?

Dale E. Crandall, PDC, Department of Missouri

I have been released from all Department and Camp offices.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. If you're elected, will you serve?

Dale E. Crandall, PDC, Department of Missouri

I will.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary, continuing on.

Department of California and Pacific.

Department of California and Pacific

California and Pacific defers to Ohio.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

California and... pardon me, California and Pacific defers to Ohio. Thank you.

Department of Ohio.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Department of Ohio

Don Darby, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Ohio. It gives me great pleasure to stand before you and present James T. Crane from the Department of Ohio for the position of National Secretary.

How many Navy guys we got in here? Okay. You're familiar with the term brown water Navy. Task Force 117 had the honor to have Brother Crane serve with them during Vietnam. He's also served aboard the Ranger and the USS Paul. That's his military side.

In the Department, he has held every Camp position. He has been the Department Secretary, the Department Commander, the Department Counsel, that Department Chaplain, and the Chair for the Site Committee.

Nationally, he's a member of the National Encampment Site Committee, like, for 17 years. And if you've ever put on a National Encampment, you can… one year is enough, okay?... and then you go to therapy. To be on the National Site Committee for 17 years, that's a… that's a stretch.

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And back in 2023, he was awarded the Brother of the Year Award. When he got it, he was back fixing the air conditioning in the meeting room when they called him up there, and he was, like, what do you want, I'm doing the air conditioning, okay? So that's Brother Crane.

The one thing I can say additionally about Brother Crane is that he survived old Dave Medert, me, and young Dave Medert in our Department. And he still tells the story about Crane... I need to talk to you from all three of those individuals, and he survived.

The one thing that Brother Crane additionally does or knows is the C&R. All right? I mean, he knows it, and he makes sure, or tries to make sure that every one of the Ohio Department Commanders realize they need to read that before they get to sit up in the big chair. Some listen; some don't. But he strives to bring up the young people in the Department and strives to see that they know what he knows to pass on for the future of the Department and of the Sons.

Right now, if Brother Martin was not out sick and Brother Freshley is not having his sewer dried up or fixed, the Department of Ohio would have four Past Commanders-in-Chiefs representing the Ohio Department at this Encampment. Brother Crane dealt with all of us and did an outstanding job.

He is also a Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post Commander of VFW Post 4369 in Cincinnati. He is a private in Company A, the 14th Michigan Regiment Irish Rifles. He's the Aide-de-Camp to the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 2004. He's on the Military Honor Guard, '98 to '20, did over 700 funerals. A member of the Sons of American Revolution. Served the Cincinnati Chapter as the Second Vice President. Served as an SAR State Representative to the VA Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. Society of the War of 1812.

The one thing you need to know about Brother Crane is if you ask, he delivers, no questions, no regrets, no 'I'm sorry I can't do that'. It's yes sir, three bags full and it gets done. And you can ask and just walk away because you know it's done, okay? I can't say enough about Jim.

He is definitely… I know that the Site Committee as it is now has relied and in the past has relied on Jim Crane's ability to deal with hotels and try to get the best deal for us. He also is a Captain in the Sons of Veterans Reserve, and his job is to make sure the Gettysburg Hotel is the way it's supposed to be. He's done everything for us. You can do no better than Jim Crane. Thank you.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brother Crane, do you hold any other offices?

James T. Crane, PDC, Department of Ohio

Commander-in-Chief... I'm on the Committee for the... let me get this straight, the Veterans of Wars of the United States... I'm on that Committee. I am the… I'm Mike Paquette's aide, so I work for him now. And I hold the Assistant Treasurer's job in the Department of Ohio, sir. That's all.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. If elected, will you serve?

James T. Crane, PDC, Department of Ohio

I will.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National, yeah... National Secretary. Continuing with the roll call.

Department of the Chesapeake.

Department of the Chesapeake

Pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Chesapeake passes.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming

The home of Boise State Broncos, the Department of Colorado and Wyoming passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Colorado and Wyoming passes.

Department of Florida.

Department of Florida

Department of Florida passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Florida passes.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina

Georgia and South Carolina also passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Georgia and South Carolina passes.

Department of Illinois.

Department of Illinois

Prairie State and Land of Lincoln passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Illinois passes.

Department of Indiana.

Department of Indiana

Department of Indiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Kansas.

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Department of Kansas

Department of Kansas passes.

Unknown

Indiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Oh, I'm sorry... Department of Indiana passes.

Department of Kansas also passes.

Thank you. Thank you both.

Department of Kentucky.

Department of Kentucky

The Department of Kentucky passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Kentucky passes.

Department of Massachusetts.

Department of Massachusetts

Massachusetts passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Massachusetts passes.

Department of Michigan.

Department of Michigan

The Department of Michigan passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Michigan passes.

Department of Nebraska.

Department of Nebraska

Nebraska passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Nebraska passes.

Department of New Hampshire.

Department of New Hampshire

New Hampshire passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New Hampshire passes.

Department of New Jersey.

Department of New Jersey

Department of New Jersey passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New Jersey passes.

Department of New York.

Department of New York

The Department of New York passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New York passes.

Department of North Carolina.

Department of North Carolina

The Olde North State passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

North Carolina passes.

Department of Oklahoma.

Department of Oklahoma

Oklahoma passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Oklahoma passes.

Department of Pennsylvania.

Department of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Department passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Pennsylvania passes.

Department of Rhode Island.

Department of Rhode Island

The Department of Rhode Island passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Rhode Island passes.

Department of the Southwest.

Department of Southwest

Department of the Southwest passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Southwest passes.

Department of Tennessee.

Department of Tennessee

The Department of Tennessee with Mississippi passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Tennessee passes.

Department of Texas.

Department of Texas

The Department of Texas and Louisiana pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Texas passes.

Department of Vermont.

Department of Vermont

Department of Vermont passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Vermont passes.

Department of Wisconsin.

Department of Wisconsin

Department of Wisconsin passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Wisconsin passes.

That concludes the roll call of Departments for nominations, sir.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

So we have two candidates so there will be an election.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

So yes, there will be an election for the two candidates... nominees for the Treasurer... National Treasurer.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. I believe that's National Treasurer, not National Treasure.

Encampment

[Laughter and chatter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Just clarifying.

Department of Alabama.

Department of Alabama

We pass [indistinguishable] Ohio.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Alabama defers to Ohio... okay, defers to Ohio.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Department of Ohio

The Department of Ohio defers to the Department of the Chesapeake.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Ohio defers to Department of the Chesapeake.

W. Faron Taylor, PDC, Department of the Chesapeake

Faron Taylor, Past Commander, Department of the Chesapeake. Six years ago in the wake of the passing of Brother Dave McReynolds, I had the privilege of placing into nomination for our Treasurer, Michael Beard. Three years ago, I had the privilege of placing his name into nomination again.

Today, I will be fulfilling that same promise. At that time, our treasury was in flux. Mike Beard delivered for us and delivered on every promise. Since that time, he has continued that legacy to a point where now, not that we are flush with money, but we are certainly well, well in advance of our goals that we struck just six years ago. Michael has always delivered on those financial promises to us, and I see him fulfilling them within this next three-year term should we so bestow that on him. I place his name into nomination... Michael D. Beard.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brother Beard, do you hold any other positions?

D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer

I'm the Signals Officer for the Irish Brigade Camp.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

And if elected, will you serve?

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D. Michael Beard, PDC, National Treasurer
I will.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
National Secretary, Alan Russ. We're continuing with the roll call.

Department of Arkansas.

Department of Arkansas
Pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Arkansas passes.

Department of California and Pacific.

Department of California and Pacific
We pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of California and Pacific passes.

Colorado and Wyoming.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming
The Centennial State, Department of Colorado and Wyoming passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Colorado and Wyoming passes.

Department of Columbia... oh, I'm sorry... Department of Florida.

Department of Florida
Department of Florida, home of the Alligator Alcatraz passes.

Encampment
[Applause and cheers.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Florida passes.

There's a reason we aren't including your comments in the recording here.

Encampment
[Laughter.]

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of Georgia and South Carolina.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina
Georgia and South Carolina passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Georgia and South Carolina passes.

Department of Illinois.

Department of Illinois
Department of Illinois passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Illinois passes.

Department of Indiana.

Department of Indiana
Department of Indiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Indiana passes.

Department of Kansas.

Department of Kansas
Department of Kansas passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Kansas passes.

Department of Kentucky.

Department of Kentucky
The Department of Kentucky passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of Kentucky passes.

Department of Massachusetts.

Department of Massachusetts
Massachusetts passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Massachusetts passes.

Department of Michigan.

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Department of Michigan

The Department of Michigan passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Michigan passes.

Department of Missouri.

Department of Missouri

The Show Me State passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Missouri passes.

Department of Nebraska.

Department of Nebraska

Nebraska passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Nebraska passes.

Department of New Hampshire.

Department of New Hampshire

New Hampshire passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New Hampshire passes.

Department of New Jersey.

Department of New Jersey

New Jersey passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New Jersey passes.

Department of New York.

Department of New York

The Department of New York passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New York passes.

Department of North Carolina.

Department of North Carolina

North Carolina passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
North Carolina passes.

Department of Oklahoma.

Department of Oklahoma
Oklahoma passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Oklahoma passes.

Department of Pennsylvania.

Department of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Pennsylvania passes.

Department of Rhode Island.

Department of Rhode Island
The Department of Rhode Island, where we don't need peepee breaks, passes.

Encampment
Oooh.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Rhode Island passes.

Encampment
[Laughter and chatter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of Southwest.

Department of Southwest
Southwest passes.

Give it 20 years…

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Southwest passes.

Department of Tennessee.

Department of Tennessee
Department of Tennessee passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Tennessee passes.

Department of Texas.

Department of Texas

The Department of Texas and Louisiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Texas passes.

Department of Vermont.

Department of Vermont

Department of Vermont passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Vermont passes.

Department of Wisconsin.

Department of Wisconsin

Department of Wisconsin passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Wisconsin passes.

And that concludes the roll call of Departments for National Treasurer.

Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. We have... or we're going on now to the Council of Administration.

Unknown

Quartermaster.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Sorry, Quartermaster. I got ahead of myself. Nominations.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. This is for nominations for the office of National Quartermaster.

Department of Alabama

Department of Alabama

We defer to the Department of Colorado.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

I'm sorry, which?

Department of Alabama

Colorado.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Colorado. Alabama defers to Colorado...

Department of Colorado and Wyoming.

Ken Jacobson, Department of Colorado, Assistant National Quartermaster

Ken Jacobson, Assistant Quartermaster, National ROTC Junior ROTC Coordinator. Gentlemen, the other day... you know, Bobby Welch has been my boss for the past year. And when I talked to Daryl the other day, I said who's nominating you? Nominate, who? I need to have somebody nominate me? And I said, let me nominate you, please. I would like to enter for the record the nomination of Daryl VerStreate, in the Dutch, Junior, Past Department Commander for National Quartermaster.

May I refer everybody to his resume. As an Army veteran and his service in various associations associated with his service, he has served honorably and with distinction in his MOS specialty of search and rescue, and maybe that will be well served when he serves the business needs of this Order with your orders to him. He has served the Order as a Department Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, and Patriotic Instructor. He has served the Order at the National level currently and in the past since 2022 as the National Credentials Chairman.

He also preceded me and Brian Mexin as the Assistant Quartermaster and ROTC Coordinator for four years. He endured that very well, and I have consulted with him in my execution of my duties. He is a charter founder of the Judson Hicks Camp #111 in New York. He has served with distinction in the American Legion, and he has been recognized for his service in the Civil Air Patrol. He has association and affiliations with other societies, the Society of the Cincinnati, the Founders of Hartford, the Mayflower Society, and he is a Kentucky Colonel. So it is my distinct pleasure to nominate him again for National Quartermaster of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you. Brother, do you hold any other positions within the Order?

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, Department of New York, Chair, National Encampment Credentials Committee

Commander... no, other than Credentials Chairman, no, sir, just Credentials Chairman.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

And if you are elected, will you serve?

Daryl VerStreate, PDC, Department of New York, Chair, National Encampment Credentials Committee

Yes, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. Continuing with the roll call of Departments.

Department of Arkansas.

Department of Arkansas

Arkansas passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Arkansas passes.

Department of California and Pacific.

Department of California and Pacific

California and Pacific passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

California and Pacific passes.

Department of the Chesapeake.

Department of the Chesapeake

Department of the Chesapeake passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Chesapeake passes.

Department of Florida.

Department of Florida

Florida passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Florida passes.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina

Pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Georgia and South Carolina passes.

Department of Illinois.

Department of Illinois

Passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Illinois passes.

Department of Indiana.

Department of Indiana
Indiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Indiana passes.

Department of Kansas.

Department of Kansas
Department of Kansas passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Kansas passes.

Department of Kentucky.

Department of Kentucky
The Department of Kentucky passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Kentucky passes.

Department of Massachusetts.

Department of Massachusetts
Massachusetts passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Massa…

Encampment
[Laughter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
It's getting late in the day for my teeth. Anyway, the Department of Massachusetts passes.

Department of Michigan.

Department of Michigan
Department of Michigan passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Michigan passes.

Department of Missouri.

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Department of Missouri

The Show Me State passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Missouri passes.

Department of Nebraska.

Department of Nebraska

The Cornhusker State passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Nebraska passes.

Department of New Hampshire.

Department of New Hampshire

New Hampshire passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New Hampshire passes.

Department of New Jersey.

Department of New Jersey

New Jersey passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New Jersey passes.

Department of New York.

Department of New York

Department of New York passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

New York passes.

Department of North Carolina.

Department of North Carolina

North Carolina passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

North Carolina passes.

Department of Ohio.

Department of Ohio

Ohio passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Ohio passes.

Department of Oklahoma.

Department of Oklahoma

Department of Oklahoma passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Oklahoma passes.

Department of Pennsylvania.

Department of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Department passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Pennsylvania passes.

Department of Rhode Island.

Department of Rhode Island

The Department of Rhode Island passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Rhode Island passes.

Department of Southwest.

Department of Southwest

Passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Southwest passes.

Department of Tennessee.

Department of Tennessee

The Department of Tennessee passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Tennessee passes.

Department of Texas.

Department of Texas

The Department of Texas and Louisiana pass.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Texas passes.

Department of Vermont.

Department of Vermont

The Department of Vermont passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Vermont passes.

Department of Wisconsin.

Department of Wisconsin

Department of Wisconsin passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Wisconsin passes.

Sir, that concludes the roll call of Departments for nominations for Quartermaster.

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

I believe next up will be actually two three-year terms for Council of Administration. So we'll go with the first one to start.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

You can do both at the same time.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Both at the same time? I'm corrected.

Okay. So nominations for CofA.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Just getting my… okay. Yes. Alan Russ, National Secretary calling the roll of Officers for candidates for Council of Administration.

Department of Alabama.

Department of Alabama

We defer to the Department of Michigan.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alabama defers to the Department of Michigan.

Michigan, Department of Michigan.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

He's coming.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay.

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Commander... James Pahl, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Michigan. I stand before you this morning to place in to nomination for Council of Administration, Gary L. Gibson, Past Department Commander.

Gary mustered into the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at age 16... 47 years ago, responding to an ad in the Civil War Magazine as a member-at-large. He became a Life Member in 1988. He helped organize and is a Charter Member of the Benjamin Pritchard Camp #20 in Kalamazoo where he has served in all the offices, three terms as Camp Commander.

At the Department of Michigan level, he was Chairman of the Department Council, '86 to '88, Senior Vice Commander, three terms as Department Commander, 1991, '91-'92, and then again 2004-2005, Counselor, GAR Records Officer, Historian, Chief of Staff, several Committees, five National Encampment Host Committees.

He's a Past Commander of the Central Region Conference of the Allied Orders. Nationally, he was the Historian in '94-'95, 2023-24 and to the present. He was National Chaplain in 1991, History Book Coordinator '92 to '94, Patriotic Instructor '93-'94 and 2006-2007. He is the only Brother not to be Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief to Chair the National Committee on Programs and Policy.

He was elected to the Council of Administration in 1998 to 2001 so he's not a stranger to the Council. Chairman of the 50th Anniversary of the last National Encampment of the GAR in 1999, served on a Special Committee on Digest. He was a Camp-at-large Department organizer, helping to organize the Department of Oklahoma and four Camps-at-large; one in Oregon, two in North Carolina, one in Georgia. Chaired the Committee that initially developed Memorial University.

Back at the Department level, he was a member of what infamously became known as the Flying Squad. While with Keith Harrison, then National Secretary Jim Lyons, directly responsible for the formation of seven Camps in the Department of Michigan. He is formerly a Second Lieutenant in Company A of the 30th Michigan SVR, currently a Private in Company A of the 14th Michigan SVR. He's a companion of the Ohio Commandery, a Military Order of the Loyal Legion. He's a past President of the Michigan Society Sons of the Revolution, Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, and for 14... or excuse me... 11 years was on the Board of Directors as Secretary of Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum.

He's a three-time recipient of the Michigan Department's Abraham Lincoln Award for efforts to keep green in the memory of Union soldiers. He was honored with a plaque from the Department of Illinois in 2016 in appreciation for his work in helping to reorganize that Department. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in history from Western Michigan University. He is the author of the *Kalamazoo County and the Civil War* book published just a few… in 2021, and is a member of the 3rd Battery, 1st Michigan Light Artillery, and he was in the TNT movie Gettysburg during Pickett's charge. If you look real closely, he's one of the guys waving his hat at the artillery piece.

I place into nomination Gary Gibson, Past Department Commander.

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Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brother, what positions do you currently hold? I'll let you get to the mic.

Gary L. Gibson, PDC, Department of Michigan

Commander... In my Camp, I am the Camp Secretary and Historian. At the Department level, I am the GAR Records Officer.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

If elected, will you serve?

Gary L. Gibson, PDC, Department of Michigan

I will, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary, continuing with the roll call of Departments.

Department of Arkansas.

Department of Arkansas

The Department of Arkansas defers to the Department of Missouri.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

The Department of Arkansas defers to the Department of Missouri.

Department of Missouri.

Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC, Department of Missouri

Don Palmer, Past Commander-in-Chief, Department of Missouri. It's my honor to place into nomination the name of Robert J. Amsler, and formerly known as Bob, for a seat on the Council of Administration. I know Bob placed his resume on the seats, and so you can read through that. I want to go through a few of the highlights.

So Bob's a 32-year member of the SUVCW. In fact, he's a Charter Member of the Ulysses S. Grant Camp #68 in St. Louis. He was also instrumental in the resurrection of the Missouri Department in 1996. He served as U.S. Grant Camp Commander for seven terms. In fact, when I joined the Order 27 years ago, Bob was in his first term as Camp Commander.

He's also served his two terms as Missouri Department Commander, and he's also Commander of the 2nd Missouri Infantry Company C of the Sons of Veterans Reserve. As you probably notice from a lot of the discussions, Bob is a practicing attorney. He's a former Assistant Attorney General for the State of Missouri, and he's provided legal advice to two governors of Missouri. He's litigated a number of cases before the Missouri Supreme Court. In tying his legal experience back into our Order, he has served as the Department Counselor during the current incarnation of the Missouri Department the entire time.

He also brings new ideas into the Order. For example, he helped establish the current General Sherman Patriot Flag Program for recipients who are honored for their support of Civil War history and service to our country. One of the recent honorees was General David Petraeus. He also established the U.S. Grant

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Dinner and Colloquy in St. Louis most recently with noted Grant scholar and well published author, Brooks Simpson.

And if you noticed earlier today, he is the newest member of the 1881 Club. So we believe the Council of Administration would benefit from Bob's legal experience and demonstrated dedication to the Order. Thank you.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Brother.

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PDC, Department of Missouri
Yes, Commander.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Do you hold any other positions?

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PDC, Department of Missouri
I currently hold, at both the Camp and Department level, their legal counsel as well as I'm on both Councils.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
And if elected, will you serve?

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PDC, Department of Missouri
I will.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Alan Russ, National Secretary. We are continuing with the roll call of Departments.

Department of California and Pacific.

Department of California and Pacific
California and Pacific Sunshine State passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
California and Pacific passes.

Department of the Chesapeake.

Department of the Chesapeake
Department of the Chesapeake passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Chesapeake passes.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming.

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Department of Colorado and Wyoming

Colorado and Wyoming, home to the Wyoming Cowboys, passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Colorado and Wyoming passes.

Colo… pardon me... Department of Florida.

Department of Florida

Department of Florida passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Florida passes.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina

Department of Georgia and South Carolina passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Georgia and South Carolina passes.

Department of Illinois.

Department of Illinois

Department of Illinois passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Illinois passes.

Department of Indiana.

Department of Indiana

Department of Indiana passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Indiana passes.

Department of Kansas.

Department of Kansas

Department of Kansas passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Kansas passes.

Department of Kentucky.

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Bruce E. Fortin, PDC, Department of Kentucky

Commander, Officers, Brothers... I am Bruce Fortin, Past Department Commander with the Department of Kentucky. I have this honor this morning to bring to your attention and the nomination for Council of Administration my double Brother, John Buckler. He is currently serving as the National Expansions Officer, and currently the Junior Vice Commander for the Department of Kentucky. He has held three terms thus far as Camp Commander. He's also a member of the Sons of Veterans Reserves and Sons of American Revolution. He has also served, if you will, 31 years with the United States Post Office. He has also been awarded twice the Bronze Good Citizen Medal, therefore with the Oakleaf Cluster.

Now, this man's principles and leadership and loyalty and respect, honor, and by guiding the Members of the Department as well as the Camp in all activities. His extensive knowledge of the Civil War in Kentucky, his dedication to service has shown in his 31 years in the Post Office. His willingness to step up and be a contributor to our cause, Brother John Buckler... he goes places and it's not because he works with a well-known vehicle rental company.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Bruce E. Fortin, PDC, Department of Kentucky

But his willingness and pride in service to others. And as we had seen yesterday, behind every great man, there is a great woman. In his case, Lorna Atwater... and she supports him in all his endeavors, and you can be guaranteed that he will support us in our endeavors.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty and also as our ancestors have Faith, Hope, and Charity, Commander, I would like to nominate, again, Brother John Buckler for the Council of Administration.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brother, are there any other positions other than what were just stated?

John Buckler, Department of Kentucky, National Organization Expansion Officer

Junior Vice Commander of the Kentucky Department and the Commander of Sergeant Elijah P. Marrs, Camp #5 in Kentucky Department. And I suppose at least temporarily I'm still the National Expansion Officer.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

If elected, will you serve?

John Buckler, Department of Kentucky

Yes.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. Let me see, that was Kentucky, so...

... the Department of Massachusetts.

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Department of Massachusetts
Pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Thank you. Mass passes.

Encampment
[Laughter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of Nebraska.

Department of Nebraska
Nebraska passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Nebraska passes.

Department of New Hampshire.

Department of New Hampshire
New Hampshire passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
New Hampshire passes.

Department of New Jersey.

Department of New Jersey
New Jersey passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
New Jersey passes.

Department of New York.

Department of New York
Department of New York passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
New York passes.

Department of North Carolina.

Department of North Carolina
Department of the great State of North Carolina passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

North Carolina passes.

Department of Ohio.

Department of Ohio

Ohio passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Ohio passes.

Department of Oklahoma.

Department of Oklahoma

Department of Oklahoma passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Oklahoma passes.

Department of Pennsylvania.

Department of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Department passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Pennsylvania passes.

Department of Rhode Island.

Department of Rhode Island

The Department of Rhode Island passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Rhode Island passes.

Department of Southwest.

Department of Southwest

Southwest passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Southwest passes.

Department of Tennessee.

Department of Tennessee

The Department of Tennessee passes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Tennessee passes.

Department of Texas.

Department of Texas

The Department of Texas and Louisiana pass.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Texas passes.

Department of Vermont.

Department of Vermont

The Department of Vermont passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Vermont passes.

Department of Wisconsin.

Department of Wisconsin

Department of Wisconsin passes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Wisconsin passes.

That concludes the call of the Departments for the position of Council of Administration with three nominees. Thank you for your cooperation in this, Brothers.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

All right. So what we are going to do now is we're going to take a break before we get into elections, and it's going to be 15 minutes. So be back here and ready to caucus as soon as we get back.

[three raps, ***]

[One rap, *]

[break]

[one rap, *]

[three raps, ***]

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. Guard and Guide, no one else comes in at this point. We're in it for to win it here.

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Encampment
[Laughter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Credentials, can you get a count for who we have in the room?

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee
Permission to approach?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Yes, sir.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee
All right. In the effort to save time, I'm going to give off… I'm going to call off the Department, the total votes. And if you disagree, go see Walt in the back. We'll get it adjusted real quick. If you do agree, just give me a thumbs up, and we'll keep on moving.
Alabama, total votes present two.

Brother, you should... okay. If you'd stand up, please. Two?... thank you, sir.

Arkansas: four.

All right. Will you stand up, all four of you?

California and Pacific, 12.

Unknown
Here.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee
Can you stand up, please? Three, four. I'm counting 12. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Yes.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee
Chesapeake, 12.

Unknown
You mean 11.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee
11. Okay, that changed... so one, two, three…eight, nine, ten.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
And at the door.

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Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

That's 11.

Colorado and Wyoming, two.

Columbia, zero.

Connecticut, zero.

Florida, four. Thank you, sir.

Georgia and South Carolina, seven.

Unknown

Correction, sir, six.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Six. They just got to count you... five, six. Thank you, sir.

Illinois, four.

Unknown

Two.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Two? You're one, okay. You're pointing at three. So just you two... Kowalski and you? Okay, two.

All right.

Indiana, three. Thank you, sir.

Iowa, zero.

Kansas, four. One, two, three, four.

Kentucky, two.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Thank you, sir.

Maine, zero.

Massachusetts, 11. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven. Thank you, sir.

Michigan, nine. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes.

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Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Thank you, sir.

Missouri, eight. Three, four, five, six.

Unknown

One in the back.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Seven and eight. Thank you, sir.

Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota, three. Thank you.

New Hampshire, one.

New Jersey, two. Thank you, sir.

New York, three. Two in the back and myself.

North Carolina, two. Thank you, sir.

Ohio, nine.

Donald L. Darby, PCinC, Department of Ohio

We have eight.

You have eight? Two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight... down to eight.

Oklahoma, five.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Thank you, sir.

Pennsylvania, one. Thank you.

Rhode Island, five.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Thank you.

Southwest, Arizona and New Mexico, four.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes.

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Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Thank you.

Tennessee and Mississippi, six.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Yes.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Six.

Texas, includes Louisiana, 21.

Unknown

20.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

20? Oh, here's a count. At least they're all lined up. Six, seven, eight, nine, ten.... hang on... 16, 17, and 20. So total 20, correct? All right.

Vermont, one. Thank you.

Wisconsin Minnesota, three.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Three.

Daryl VerStreate, Chairman, Credentials Committee

Thank you.

And no membership-at-larges are present.

All right. Total voting strength present, 144. Thank you, Commander.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Thank you.

One second, okay?

All right. We are now voting for National Secretary.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. When I call the name of your Department, please state candidate, how many... candidate how many. Now, if they're all going for one, you just need to name that one. Department, yes, sir.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Hang on a second.

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John C. Vander Meulen, Assistant Secretary for Proceedings

Commander... will each Department have an opportunity to caucus together? John Vander Meulen, Assistant Secretary for Proceedings. Will we have a moment to caucus together so we can decide what our collective... that is going to be?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Well, we were supposed to do that at the break.

John C. Vander Meulen, Assistant Secretary for Proceedings

Were we?

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Five minutes.

John C. Vander Meulen, Assistant Secretary for Proceedings

Thank you, sir.

[break]

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So we're going into the election for Secretary.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay. As everyone is taking their seats... Alan Russ, National Secretary... we will be voting for the position of National Secretary. The two candidates are Dale Crandall and Jim Crane. So you know, you just need to give me the last names and the number of votes for each of them from your Department when it's called. And I will repeat those back to you, so you do not need to go to the microphone to do that. If I make a mistake, please immediately let me know.

Okay. Starting with the roll call, Department of Alabama.

Department of Alabama

Crane, one; Crandall, one.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alabama: Crane, one and Crandall, one.

Department of Arkansas.

Department of Arkansas

Four for Crandall.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Four for Crandall. Thank you, sir, for Arkansas.

California and Pacific.

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Department of California and Pacific

California and Pacific: eight for Crandall; four for Crane.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

California and Pacific: eight for Crandall; four for Crane. Thank you, sir.

Department of the Chesapeake.

Department of the Chesapeake

Crandall, one; Crane, ten.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of the Chesapeake: Crandall, one; Crane, ten.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming

Two votes, Jim Crane.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Colorado and Wyoming two votes for Jim Crane.

Let me see, Department of Florida.

Department of Florida

Florida, four votes for Crane.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Florida, four votes for Crane.

Georgia and South Carolina.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina

Six votes for Crane.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Georgia and South Carolina, six votes for Crane.

Department of Illinois.

Department of Illinois

Two for Crane.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Illinois, two for Crane.

Department of Indiana.

Department of Indiana

One vote Crandall; two for Crane.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Indiana: one vote for Crandall; two for Crane.

Department of Kansas.

Department of Kansas

Three votes for Crane; one vote for Crandall.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Kansas, yeah, three votes for Crane; one vote for Crandall.

Department of Kentucky.

Department of Kentucky

Department of Kentucky, two votes for Crane.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Kentucky, two votes for Crane.

Department of Massachusetts.

Department of Massachusetts

Department of Massachusetts cast 11 votes for Brother Crane.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Massachusetts, 11 votes for Crane.

Department of Michigan.

Department of Michigan

The Department of Michigan, nine votes for Crane.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Michigan, nine votes for Crane.

Department of Missouri.

Department of Missouri

Crandall, eight votes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Crandall, eight votes for the Department of Missouri.

Department of Nebraska.

Department of Nebraska

Nebraska and the Dakotas, three votes for Crandall.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Three for Crandall?

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Department of Nebraska
Correct.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Ok, thank you, sir. And that was for the Department of Nebraska.

Department of New Hampshire.

Department of New Hampshire
One for Jim Crane.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of New Hampshire, one for Jim Crane.

Department of New Jersey.

Department of New Jersey
One vote for Brother Crandall; one vote for Brother Crane.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of New Jersey, one vote for Brother Crandall; one vote for Brother Crane. If I put it in, it will work better, yes?

Okay, Department of New York.

Department of New York
Department of New York: Crandall, one vote; Crane, two.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of New York: Crandall, one; Crane, two.

Department of North Carolina.

Department of North Carolina
Crane, two votes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of North Carolina; Crane, two votes.

Department of Ohio.

Department of Ohio
Crane, eight votes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of Ohio; Crane, eight votes.

Department of Oklahoma.

Department of Oklahoma
Crane, five votes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Oklahoma, Crane, five votes.

Department of Pennsylvania.

Department of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania, Crane, one vote.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Pennsylvania, Crane, one vote.

Department of Rhode Island.

Department of Rhode Island

Three votes for Crane; two votes for Crandall.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Rhode Island: three votes for... excuse me, three votes for Crane; two for Crandall.

Department of Rhode Island

Correct.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Thank you, sir.

Southwest.

Department of Southwest

Crandall, three votes; Crane, one.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Southwest: three votes for Crandall; one vote for Crane.

Tennessee.

Department of Tennessee

The Department of Tennessee [indistinguishable] votes go one for Crandall; five for Crane.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Depart... yeah... it's your turn now. Department of Tennessee: one for Crandall; five for Crane.

Department of Texas.

Department of Texas

20 votes for Crandall... Crane, I mean... sorry.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

For Crane?... okay. Department of Texas: 20 votes for Crane.

Department of Vermont.

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Department of Vermont

One vote for Crandall.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Vermont, one vote for Crandall.

Department of Wisconsin.

Department of Wisconsin

One vote for Crane; two for Crandall.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

One vote for Crane; two for Crandall.

The final tally is Crandall, 38 votes; Crane, 106. Commander...

Encampment

[Applause.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So we're going to have five more minutes to caucus, but for two Council of Administration seats, yes. So…

James B. Pahl, PCinC, Blue Book Coordinator, Nat'l Parliamentarian, Assistant Nat'l Treasurer

Have your votes for both ready.

[sidebar conversation]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So a reminder that we're voting for one now, and one after the next vote. Understood?

Unknown

Yes.

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So what we're doing is... you're going to caucus for one, not for two. So one... and we'll re-vote then the next time. All right?

[break]

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. So now, we're going to have the vote for the first one.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay. National Secretary, Alan Russ. What we will be doing is... there are three candidates, there's Gibson, Amsler, and Buckler. When you cast your votes, you know, I will record them. You do not have to come to the microphone. I will repeat your Department and the votes you cast back to you. Again, if

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there's any mistake, holler quickly. Then after it's all done, of course, whoever gets the most votes will get the first position.

Okay. Department of Alabama.

Department of Alabama

Amsler, two.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Alabama: Amsler, two.

Department of Arkansas.

Department of Arkansas

Four votes, Gibson.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Arkansas: four votes to Gibson.

California and Pacific.

Department of California and Pacific

11 for Buckler, one for Gibson.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay. Department of California and Pacific: 11 for Buckler and one for Gibson.

Department of the Chesapeake.

Department of the Chesapeake

Amsler, four; Buckler, one; Gibson, six.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay. So that would be Amsler four; Buckler one; and Gibson six for the Department at the Chesapeake.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming

Amsler, two.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Colorado and Wyoming: Amsler, two.

Department of Florida.

Department of Florida

Florida, Gibson, four.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Florida: Gibson, four.

Georgia and South Carolina.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina

Gibson, six.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Georgia and South Carolina: Gibson, six.

Department of Illinois.

Department of Illinois

Two for Buckler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Illinois: two for Buckler.

Department of Indiana.

Department of Indiana

Gibson, three.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Indiana: Gibson, three.

Department of Kansas.

Department of Kansas

Gibson, four.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Kansas: Gibson, four.

Department of Kentucky.

Department of Kentucky

Department of Kentucky, two, Buckler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Kentucky: two for Buckler.

Department of Massachusetts.

Department of Massachusetts

Massachusetts cast all our votes for Brother Gibson.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Massachusetts: 11 votes for Gibson.

Department of Michigan.

Department of Michigan

Michigan, nine votes for Gibson.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Michigan: nine votes for Gibson.

Missouri.

Department of Missouri

Gibson, eight votes.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Missouri: Gibson, eight votes.

Department of Nebraska.

Department of Nebraska

Nebraska, three votes for Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Nebraska: three votes for Amsler.

Department of New Hampshire.

Department of New Hampshire

One vote for Gibson.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of New Hampshire: one for Gibson.

Department of New Jersey.

Department of New Jersey

One vote for Gibson; two votes for [indistinguishable].

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Two votes, was it for Amsler? Thank you, sir.

Department of New York.

Department of New York

Amsler, one; Gibson, two.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay, two and one. Amsler... pardon me, Department of New York: Amsler, one; Gibson, two.

Department of North Carolina.

Department of North Carolina

Gibson, two.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of North Carolina: Gibson, two.

Department of Ohio.

Department of Ohio

For Ohio, Gibson, eight.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Gibson, eight. Ohio: Gibson, eight votes.

Department of Oklahoma.

Department of Oklahoma

Oklahoma, five votes for Gibson.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Oklahoma: five votes for Gibson.

Department of Pennsylvania.

Department of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania, one vote for [indistinguishable].

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

For Gibson, sir? Okay. Pennsylvania: one vote for Gibson.

Department of Rhode Island.

Department of Rhode Island

Rhode Island, five votes for Gibson.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Rhode Island: five votes for Gibson.

Department of the Southwest.

Department of Southwest

Gibson, four votes.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Southwest: Gibson, four votes.

Department of Tennessee.

Department of Tennessee

The Department of Tennessee, four for Buckler; two for Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Okay. Four and two. Department of Tennessee: four for Buckler; two for Amsler.

Department of Texas.

Department of Texas

One for Amsler, 19 for Gibson.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Texas: one for Amsler; and 19 for Texas.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Sorry... Gibson.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

It's getting late. 19 for Gibson... just to correct, and Amsler one, for the Department of Texas.

Thank you, sir. I told you to holler if I made a mistake.

Department of Vermont.

Department of Vermont

One for Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Vermont: one for Amsler.

Department of Wisconsin.

Department of Wisconsin

Two for Gibson; one for Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Wisconsin: two for Gibson; and one for Amsler.

And the magic number will be... with the voting in, Gibson 105; Amsler 19; Buckler 20.

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Encampment
[Applause and chatter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
Okay. I'm going to give you five more minutes to caucus for the next one. A quick five minutes.

[break]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief
We're ready to vote now.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Okay. Alan Russ, National Secretary. There are two candidates for the remaining one position. That's Brother Amsler and Brother Buckler. As I, again, will call the roll of the Department, name and number of votes from your Department. I will repeat that back. Again, if I don't get it right, Texas…

Encampment
[Laughter.]

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
… feel free to shout quickly. And with that, we're ready to go.

Department of Alabama.

Department of Alabama
Amsler, two.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of Alabama: Amsler, two.

Department of Arkansas.

Department of Arkansas
Amsler, four.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Department of Arkansas: Amsler, four.

California and Pacific.

Department of California and Pacific
12, Buckler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary
Okay. Department of California and Pacific: 12 for Buckler.

Department of the Chesapeake.

Department of the Chesapeake
Amsler, 12... or 10; Buckler, one.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of the Chesapeake: Amsler, ten; Buckler, one.

Colorado and Wyoming.

Department of Colorado and Wyoming

Amsler, two.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Colorado and Wyoming: Amsler, two.

Department of Florida.

Department of Florida

Florida, Amsler, four.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Florida: Amsler, four.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina.

Department of Georgia and South Carolina

Amsler, four; Buckler, two.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Georgia and South Carolina: Amsler, four; Buckler, two.

Department of Illinois.

Department of Illinois

Buckler, two.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Illinois: Buckler, two.

Department of Indiana.

Department of Indiana

Buckler, three.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Indiana: Buckler, three.

Department of Kansas.

Department of Kansas

Amsler, four.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Kansas: Amsler, four.

Department of Kentucky.

Department of Kentucky

Department of Kentucky, two for Buckler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Kentucky: two for Buckler.

Department of Massachusetts.

Department of Massachusetts

Massachusetts, 11 votes for Brother Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Massachusetts: 11 votes for Brother Amsler.

Department of Michigan.

Department of Michigan

Department of Michigan, nine votes for Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Michigan: nine votes for Amsler.

Department of Missouri.

Department of Missouri

Eight votes for Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Missouri: eight votes for Amsler.

Department of Nebraska.

Department of Nebraska

Department of Nebraska and the Dakotas, three votes for Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Nebraska: three votes for Amsler.

Department of New Hampshire.

Department of New Hampshire

One vote for Amsler.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

One vote, oops, sorry... hit the wrong key. Department of New Hampshire: one for Amsler.

Department of New Jersey.

Department of New Jersey

Department of New Jersey [indistinguishable]; two votes for Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of New Jersey: two votes for Amsler.

Department of New York.

Department of New York

Amsler, three.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of New York: three votes for Amsler.

Department of North Carolina.

Department of North Carolina

North Carolina, two for Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of North Carolina: two for Amsler.

Department of Ohio.

Department of Ohio

One for Amsler, seven for Buckler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Ohio: one for Amsler; seven for Buckler.

Department of Oklahoma.

Department of Oklahoma

Department of Oklahoma: one for Amsler; four for Buckler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Oklahoma: one for Amsler; four for Buckler.

Department of Pennsylvania.

Department of Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania, one vote Amsler.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Pennsylvania: one for Amsler.

Department of Rhode Island.

Department of Rhode Island

Rhode Island: one for Buckler; four for Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Rhode Island: one for Buckler; four for Amsler.

Department of the Southwest.

Department of the Southwest

Department of the Southwest, Buckler, four.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Southwest: four for Buckler.

Department of Tennessee.

Department of Tennessee

The Department of Tennessee, four for Buckler; two for Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Tennessee: four for Buckler; two for Amsler.

Department of Texas.

Department of Texas

One for Amsler, 19 for Buckler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

I'm going to try to get this right now. Department of Texas: one for Amsler; 19 for Buckler.

And that brings us to Department of Vermont.

Department of Vermont

Department of Vermont, one for Amsler.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Vermont: one for Amsler.

Department of Wisconsin.

Department of Wisconsin

Amsler, three.

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Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Department of Wisconsin: Amsler, three.

I've got to roll it down.

Okay. The final vote: Brother Amsler, 83 votes; Brother Buckler, 61.

Encampment

[Applause and chatter.]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Okay. We're going to take a five-minute break in the room.

[one rap, *]

[break]

[one rap, *]

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

Brother Steve Michaels, come forward, please.

[three raps, ***]

[one rap, *]

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

I've been selected as the Installing Officer this afternoon. I'd like to remind the Brothers to offer some courtesy while the proceedings are underway, and also please be mindful that Ed Noris is taking pictures. This is probably the most photographed part of the National Encampment each year. So please be mindful of his position and don't step into his frame.

All right, Commander-in-Chief....

Kevin L. Martin, Commander-in-Chief

I didn't run away yet.

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

Commander-in-Chief, I'm relieving you of the command of the National Organization. On behalf of the Officers, I convey to you their thanks for the manner in which you have discharged your duties. I trust in that in surrendering your command of the National Organization, the interests that you have in the welfare of this Order will not cease. Having received the highest honors which your fellow members can confer upon you, your continued commitment will permit… will actually point the way for others who will serve the Order. Please be seated on my left.

Commander-in-Chief Elect, are you prepared to announce your staff appointments?

Kevin P. Tucker, Commander-in-Chief Elect

Yes, sir.

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Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer.

If so, the Guide will hand your list to the Secretary.

Unknown

He already has it.

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

Okay.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Alan Russ, National Secretary. I have that list.

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

Well, Secretary, you may call the roll of officers elect and staff appointees who as their names are called will rise.

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Thank you, sir.

Commander-in-Chief,	Kevin Tucker.
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief,	Dan Murray.
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief,	Robert Payne.
Secretary,	James Crane.
Treasurer,	D. Mike Beard.
Quartermaster,	Daryl VerStreate.
Council of Administration,	Gary Gibson.
Council of Administration,	Robert Amsler.

For the... pardon me, for the Appointed Officers…

Unknown

Don't you have the other Council of Administration?

Alan L. Russ, PDC, National Secretary

Do you need those even though they weren’t for this year?

Okay. Council of Administration,	Rod Fraser.
Dale Hann...	Dave Hann. Yeah, I know he's not here.
And	Shane Milburn.

Okay, thank you. It's a long day.

Then we are now ready for the Appointed Officers.

Blue Book Coordinator,	James B. Pahl.

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National Aide-de-Camp,	W. Faron Taylor.
National Battle Flag Preservation Officer,	Edward Norris.
National Chaplain,	Dexter Bishop.
National Chief of Staff,	Roderick Fraser, Jr.
National Civil War Memorials Officer,	Walter E. Busch.
National Color Bearer,	Charles Lewis.
National Counselor,	Edward Norris.
National, Assistant National Counselor,	Michael Pacquette.
National Eagle Scout Coordinator,	Michael Spaulding.
National GAR Officer,	Peter Hritsko.
National GAR Records Officer,	Dean Enderlin.
National Graves Registration Officer,	Henry Duquette.

National Guard will be a member of the Department of Pennsylvania.

National Guide,	Ronald Glidden.
National Historian,	Gary Gibson.
National Legislative Officer,	Daniel Earl.
National Liaison to MOLLUS,	Kevin Martin.
National Liaison to Cathedral of the Pines,	Charles Tucker.
National Membership-at-Large Coordinator,	Rocky Bartlow.
National Organization Expansion Officer,	John T. Buckler.
National Patriotic Instructor,	Jeffrey French.
National ROTC Coordinator,	Kenneth Jacobson.
National Signals Officer,	Jamie McGuire.

National Webmaster - Graves Registration, Graves registration database, Henry Duquette.

National Webmaster - Home,	Jason Black.
National Webmaster - Memorial University,	Jason Black.
National Website Monuments and Memorials,	Sumner Hunnewell.
National Webmaster - Quartermaster Store,	Kenneth Freshley.
National Parliamentarian,	James B. Pahl.
Assistant National Webmaster,	Kenneth Freshley.
Assistant Nat'l Secr. for Departments-at-Large,	James B. Pahl as Secretary/Treasurer.
Assistant National Secretary for Recordings,	John Vander Meulen.

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Assistant National Secretary for Transcriptions, Michael L. Lance.

Assistant National Treasurer 1, James B. Pahl.

Assistant National Treasurer 3, Michael Paquette.

Assistant National Quartermaster, Robert Welch.

Assistant National Quartermaster, Bruce Frail.

Assistant National… I think we've already done these. Oh, sorry.

Assistant National Treasurer 2... I'm sorry, Tim Sedmak.

And that completes the roll call of officers, sir.

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

Thank you.

[three raps, ***]

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

Brothers, these are your regularly elected and chosen Officers for the next term. If any Brother has any valid reason why any of them should not be installed, let them now speak or forever hold his peace.

[one rap, *]

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

I'll ask Brother Tad Campbell to act as Guide and present these Brothers before the Altar for installation, and I would ask that perhaps the Altar should be brought back a little bit from the Commander's station. We have a number of Brothers to be installed here. And perhaps the stations will need to be brought back as well. Do we have enough room for everyone?

Encampment

(chatter).

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

Officers, you have been selected to positions of great honor and trust. With the Commander-in-Chief, you will be responsible for the financial and material prosperity and interests of the National Organization, and the members of this Encampment confidently expect that your discharge of the duties and responsibilities resting upon you will be conspicuous for zeal, ability, and good works.

I trust that you appreciate the great confidence placed in you and that you remember that upon the manner in which you discharge the duties of your respected offices will depend very largely the success or failure of the administration of the National Order.

Are you willing now to pledge solemnly to the faithful performance of your several duties?

Officers (in unison)

I am.

[three raps, ***]

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Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

Officers at the Altar, you will raise your right hand, place your left hand on the Bible or in lieu of your left hand on the…

Unknown

Shoulder.

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

I'm sorry, the right… the right hand… left hand on the Bible, left hand on the shoulder if you cannot reach the Bible... and repeat after me using your name where I do mine. I…

Officers (in unison)

I…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

Stephen Michaels.

Officers (in unison)

(officers' names).

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

…having been regularly chosen…

Officers (in unison)

…having been regularly chosen…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

…as an officer of the National Organization…

Officers (in unison)

…as an officer of the National Organization…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

…Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War…

Officers (in unison)

…Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

…hereby renew…

Officers (in unison)

…hereby renew…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

…the sacred obligation…

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Officers (in unison)
…the sacred obligation…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…given at the time of my initiation…

Officers (in unison)
…given at the time of my initiation…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…and in the presence of Almighty God…

Officers (in unison)
…and in the presence of Almighty God…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…and the members of this Encampment…

Officers (in unison)
…and the members of this Encampment…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…here assembled…

Officers (in unison)
…here assembled…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…do furthermore…

Officers (in unison)
…do furthermore…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…solemnly and sincerely…

Officers (in unison)
…solemnly and sincerely…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…promise and declare…

Officers (in unison)
…promise and declare…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…that I will…

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Officers (in unison)
…that I will…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…to the best of my ability…

Officers (in unison)
…to the best of my ability…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…in word and deed…

Officers (in unison)
…in word and deed…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…and without fear or favor…

Officers (in unison)
…and without fear or favor…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…faithfully…

Officers (in unison)
…faithfully…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
honestly…

Officers (in unison)
…honestly…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…and impartially…

Officers (in unison)
…and impartially…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…perform all the duties of my Office…

Officers (in unison)
…perform all the duties of my Office…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer
…upon which am I about to enter…

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Officers (in unison)

…upon which I am about to enter…

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

…so help me God.

Officers (in unison)

…so help me God.

[one rap, *]

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

You may drop your hands.

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

Encampment, attention.

Guide, please conduct the Officers to their respective stations, acting Officers vacating.

And lastly, Guide, will you conduct the Commander-in-Chief to this station.

National Guide

Sir, may I conduct the Commander-in-Chief?

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

Commander-in-Chief... by the votes of the members of this Encampment, you have been elected to the highest honor within their gift. Your election to this honorable position is an evidence not only of their regard and appreciation of your work and ability as a Son of Union Veteran of the Civil War, but it is an assurance that your conduct of the affairs of this Order will be characterized by faithful, earnest, and conscientious devotion to the responsibilities resting upon you. Grave trusts and grave cares await you, and to their faithful performance, I now most solemnly direct you.

[three raps, ***]

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

As no work of this nature can be a success without the assistance of the Divine Provider, the Chaplain will ask His assistance and guidance. Chaplain...

Dexter A. Bishop, National Chaplain

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we humbly ask Your blessing on these Brothers assembled for installation. Grant them Your wisdom that they may daily perform the duties of them. Keep them in good health that they will not falter on the way. Bless them with Your great mercies that they might be competent to administer the many problems that will confront them. Bless their every action in Your name, through the meditation of Your Blessed Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Multiple Brothers

Amen.

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Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

Commander-in-Chief... your Officers are now at their respective stations, and I am about to place you in full command. But first, I give to your care the Charter of the National Organization. Prize it for the privileges it bestows, and guard it sacredly for the filial heritage that it represents.

Next, I place in your care the Ritual of our Order, and a copy of the Constitution and Regulations for the government of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, both of which I advise you to study with care, to be true to its principles, and faithful to its teachings.

Lastly, you will receive this gavel, the emblem of your authority. One rap, [one rap,*], calls the Encampment to order and seats the same when standing. Two raps, [two raps, **], calls the Officers to their feet. And three raps, [three raps, ***], calls up the entire Camp.

And now, by the virtue of the authority invested in me as the Installing Officer of the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I hereby declare the Officers of the National Organization legally elected and installed and qualified to enter upon the discharge of their duties for the term ending in July 2026, or until their successors are regularly elected, qualified, and installed.

Now, I am pleased to present you with the Badge of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief. And I understand that your wife is going to pin that on.

Encampment

[Applause].

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

Commander-in-Chief, assume your command. Be true to your faithful vows, and to your trust, unflinching in your loyalty, and rule with civility, impartiality, and firmness. And may your administration be successful.

[one rap, *]

Encampment

[Applause and chatter.]

Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, Installing Officer

But before we do that... at this time, the Past Commander-in-Chief's badge will be presented to our retiring Commander-in-Chief.

Rosemary, would you do the honors, please.

You got a big kiss?

Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Kevin P. Tucker, Commander-in-Chief

All right, Brothers. I know we're all in a hurry, but I'm going to say a few words if you don't mind. I only get to do this once, so....

Brothers, as you can imagine, this is a very emotional day for me. This moment finds me before you with deep gratitude, humility, and a profound sense of fraternal duty as I accept the honor of serving you as

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your Commander-in-Chief. To be chosen by men who share a sacred mission passed down by the Grand Army of the Republic is an honor beyond words. I fully understand that this is not a personal achievement; it is a shared trust. And I accept it not as a reward, but as a solemn responsibility to serve you, all of you, as a Brother among Brothers.

As I look out from this podium, I can't help but think of my father, Past Department Commander, Frank Tucker. There's been a lot of mentioned of Frank's name today, even 17 years after he passed. You'll find a brief outline of his service in that program book. Some of you older brothers may remember him. He was quite a character. Frank served our Order faithfully, often colorfully, for many years. I have no doubt he'd be astonished to see me here as Commander-in-Chief today.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin P. Tucker, Commander-in-Chief

And I'm sure he'd be pretty amused given his often, let's say, spirited history with some in the Order. But I also know he'd be proud. It was his spirit of service and his belief in the fraternal bond we shared that shaped my journey. I carry his example with me now, and I hope to honor it in the year ahead.

Over the nearly 30 years of serving in this Organization, what has meant the most to me more than offices I've held, the duties I performed, or even the education I've gained, has been the sense of true fraternity, the kind forged not just in ceremony, but around our campfires and quiet moments of shared remembrance, and in countless acts of brotherly kindness. I've come to know and deeply respect many of you, not just as fellow members, but as friends, as companions in a cause that reaches beyond any one of us. That fraternal spirit, that is the heartbeat of this Order. That is what makes us strong.

And so in the year to come, my highest priority will be to strengthen that spirit from within. Since the advent of COVID-19 reshaped how social bonds were maintained and redefined, the meaning of fellowship in a socially distant world has changed. It has changed our Order so deeply rooted in person-to-person connection. We have suffered a profound loss. Our cherished traditions of gathering, Camp meetings, Department and National Encampments, public ceremonies, and social events were suddenly curtailed, postponed, or shifted into virtual formats. We were fortunate to have Brother Ed Norris as Commander-in-Chief and a strong National Staff at the outset to lead this Organization through those very difficult times.

But while technology allowed us to continue our business and maintain some semblance of connection, it could not replicate the intangible essence of true fraternity. We lost more than some events. We lost some of the unspoken understanding that comes from standing shoulder to shoulder with Brothers in a room, the encouragement exchanged in a hallway conversation, the bonds strengthened over coffee after a ceremony, or something stronger.

Encampment

[Laughter.]

Kevin P. Tucker, Commander-in-Chief

The collective spirit felt during a shared moment of silence at a graveside. These experiences are not incidental to our work; they are the lifeblood of our fraternity. Now, in the wake of that disruption, we face a solemn responsibility and that is to regain what was lost.

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We must be intentional in our efforts to renew our fraternal spirit, not merely to resuming activities, but by deepening our commitment to one another. Let us call absent Brothers back into the fold. Let us extend the hand of fellowship to new members. Let us reinvigorate the sense of purpose and unity that defines who we are. We cannot allow the bonds forged by our ancestors and sustained through generations to fray in our time.

The trials of the pandemic tested our resilience. Now it's time for us to rise together with gratitude for what endures and determination to restore the strength of our Brotherhood. In that spirit, I want to speak directly to all of you Past Camp Commanders, Past Department Commanders, and our Past Commanders-in-Chief. You are the living memory of this fraternity. Your experience, your example, your guidance are essential. Our newer Brothers are watching, learning not just the rules, but the way to lead, the way to carry ourselves, the way to listen, the way to empower others. I urge you, reach out, be present, attend campfires, attend banquets, attend public commemorations and other gatherings. Offer encouragement, be visible, be accessible not just because you must, but because your continued involvement brings depth, inspiration, and meaning to every event. You are not just part of our history; you are vital to our present and our future.

When you stand beside us in these moments of fellowship and remembrance, you remind us of who we are and why we serve. Your presence is not only appreciated but profoundly needed. And to every Brother here today, this is your Order. Your voice matters. Your fellowship matters. Your commitment to our shared cause and to one another will determine the kind of future we build.

Let us not just be stewards of history, but builders of a living, breathing, fraternal community. Let us welcome, support, and lift one another just as our forefathers did over a century ago. We are not a passive organization. We are not meant to stand back and admire the past. We are meant to serve it, preserve it, and bring its values into the present.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a service organization dedicated to direct action and community engagement. Our members give their time, their skills, and their labor to support efforts like memorial ceremonies, historical education, veteran support, and cemetery restorations. We are a hands-on Order. We don't just talk about honoring the past, we get our hands dirty doing it. We restore headstones. We maintain monuments. We teach history. We care for historic sites. And through this personal involvement, we create an immediate, visible, meaningful impact on our communities.

This is service with sleeves rolled up. This is remembrance with boots on the ground. By serving together in the field, we build real relationships. We show the world and one another what this Order is truly about. Fraternity is not a word on a banner. It's built when Brothers labor side-by-side. Charity is not a line in a ritual. It's practiced when we give our time and our care. Loyalty is not abstract. It's proven through presence and through action. This work demands something real from us. It demands active participation. And the strength of our impact, the strength of our entire Order depends on one thing, you, your availability, your willingness, your heart.

When we serve, we honor. When we show up, we strengthen the ties that bind us. And when we labor in remembrance, we don't just fulfill our mission, we become the mission. I understand that I may be preaching to the choir. All the Brothers here in attendance who cared enough about this Organization to spend their own money, and more importantly their time, to attend this National Encampment, thank you. Your presence here is a powerful testament to your devotion. And it's my great hope that your example might inspire others so that when you return home to your Departments and Camps, you might encourage your fellow Brothers to do just one thing, give a little of their time in service to this Order, just a little, a couple of hours a month, attend a meeting, register graves, participate in ceremonies, serve on

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a Committee, serve as a Camp or Department officer, serve your Brothers as they perform the work of this Order because even a little time and a little effort when given in good faith can make a lasting difference. Let's never forget how our Order is not measured by the numbers on a roster, but by the Brothers in the field. Let's make that field a sacred place where fraternity lives, where history breathes, and where the spirit of the Grand Army of the Republic still marches on.

I want to extend my deep appreciation to our outgoing Commander-in-Chief, Brother Kevin Martin. Your steady leadership and calm presence have guided us with clarity, compassion, and a deep sense of purpose. In a time when our Order has faced both challenges and opportunities, you have led not with noise, but with wisdom, not with force, but with quiet strength. You reminded us that true leadership is often found in listening, and building consensus, and staying grounded in our core principles. Your thoughtful stewardship has left a lasting mark on this Organization, and we are stronger because of your example. On behalf of the entire Order, thank you for your dedication, your sacrifice, and your unwavering commitment to the mission entrusted to us by the Boys in Blue.

And finally, Brothers, I pledge to lead this Organization with humility and energy and with heart. I will listen. I will serve. And I will stand beside each of you as a fellow Brother in this great fraternal order. I do not take this responsibility lightly, and I will give it everything I have every day in service to you and to the mission we share. Let us move forward together linked not only by memory, but by mission; bound not only by duty, but by devotion; united not only by the past we honor, but by the future we build hand-in-hand, shoulder to shoulder, Brother to Brother.

Let us be visible in our communities, generous in our service, and steadfast in our remembrance. Let's lift up our Camps and Departments, support our fellow Brothers, and welcome those who seek to join our sacred cause. Let our actions reflect the values we hold dear, Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. Together, let us fulfill the charge left to us by the Grand Army of the Republic to preserve the memory of the heroic dead. Let us do so as Brothers, as Patriots, and as friends united in purpose, in spirit, and fraternity. Let us carry forward the flame entrusted to us not dimmed by time, but burning brighter through our dedication, our unity, and our love for this nation and one another.

May God bless each of you. May God bless our beloved country. And may God bless the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Thank you.

Encampment

[Applause and cheering.]

Kevin P. Tucker, Commander-in-Chief

All right. Now, we'll close. Sorry about that little sidetrack.

There being no further business to come before this National Encampment, we will proceed to close.

[three raps, ***]

Kevin P. Tucker, Commander-in-Chief

You will give your attention to the National Chaplain while the National Chaplain asks the blessing of God on our deliberations.

Parade rest.

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Dexter A. Bishop, National Chaplain

Our Father in Heaven, we pray you will deal with the events of this meeting as you deem proper and fitting. Please answer the heartfelt prayers of each one of us as permitted in Your perfect will. Preserve us in health, strength, and integrity while we remain here. And when our mission on earth is ended, take us to a better world. Amen.

Encampment

Amen.

Kevin P. Tucker, Commander-in-Chief

Brothers, we are about to leave this Encampment to retire to our respective homes. Let us regulate our conduct so as to bring honor and credit upon the great patriotic organization we represent. May we be faithful to our words, mindful of our duties and exhibit toward each other an unbroken Fraternity, a tender Charity, and an unswerving Loyalty.

Color Bearer, attend to the altars and station banners.

I now declare the 144th Annual Encampment of the National Organization Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War duly closed.

[one rap, *]

[End of Day 2]

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2025 National Encampment Attendees by Department *(Total 156)*

Department	*Name*	*CinC*	*PCinC*	*DC*	*PDC*	*Del*	*Alt*
Alabama	Martin, Scott			x			
Alabama	Sanderson, William					x	
Arkansas	Baker, Kent					x	
Arkansas	Bethel, Huston					x	
Arkansas	Rainey, Joseph			x			
Arkansas	Terry, John					x	
California & Pacific	Avila, Frank C.				x		
California & Pacific	Campbell, Tad D.		x				
California & Pacific	Earl, Daniel R.					x	
California & Pacific	Enderlin, Dean A.				x		
California & Pacific	Felton, Kenneth G.					x	
California & Pacific	Harrington, William C.					x	
California & Pacific	Hormel, Gary					x	
California & Pacific	LaRosa, Rick T.					x	
California & Pacific	Malaznik, Linn					x	
California & Pacific	Mayer, Robert					x	
California & Pacific	McKee, Scott F.					x	
California & Pacific	Stiles, Owen R.			x			
Chesapeake	Atkinson, Eric					x	

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2025 National Encampment Attendees by Department *(continued)*

Department	*Name*	*CinC*	*PCinC*	*DC*	*PDC*	*Del*	*Alt*
Chesapeake	Beard, D. Michael				x		
Chesapeake	Bogino, Charles					x	
Chesapeake	Horgan, Brian				x		
Chesapeake	Jones, Douglas P.					x	
Chesapeake	Martin, Kevin L.	x					
Chesapeake	Matthews, Arthur C.			x			
Chesapeake	Paquette, Michael A.		x				
Chesapeake	Sedmak, Tim					x	
Chesapeake	Stone, Lee D.				x		
Chesapeake	Taylor, W. Faron				x		
Chesapeake	Vance, Larry					x	
Colorado & Wyoming	Doryland, David					x	
Colorado & Wyoming	Jacobson, Ken					x	
Florida	Campaign, Timothy			x			
Florida	Garten, Jeffrey A.					x	
Florida	Manak, Edward J.					x	
Florida	Wilder, Richard					x	
Georgia & South Carolina	Born, Richard					x	
Georgia & South Carolina	Bryja, James			x			

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2025 National Encampment Attendees by Department *(continued)*

Department	*Name*	*CinC*	*PCinC*	*DC*	*PDC*	*Del*	*Alt*
Georgia & South Carolina	Hale, Mark A.				x		
Georgia & South Carolina	Jansen, Hamilton					x	
Georgia & South Carolina	Pierson, Brian C.		x				
Georgia & South Carolina	Reither, Michael B.				x		
Georgia & South Carolina	Solida, Philip					x	
Illinois	Kaup, Jeffrey					x	
Illinois	Kaup, Nicholas H.				x		
Illinois	Kowalski, Jerome W.					x	
Illinois	Lyon, James L.			x			
Indiana	Hutchinson, Dennis C.				x		
Indiana	LeMaster, Travis J.			x			
Indiana	Schmitt, Thomas L.				x		
Kansas	Bartlow, Rocky L.				x		
Kansas	Lafferty, Roy A.				x		
Kansas	Russ, Alan L.				x		
Kansas	Schmidt, Thomas E.				x		
Kentucky	Buckler, John					x	
Kentucky	Fortin, Bruce E.				x		
Massachusetts	Anderson, Daniel					x	

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2025 National Encampment Attendees by Department *(continued)*

Department	*Name*	*CinC*	*PCinC*	*DC*	*PDC*	*Del*	*Alt*
Massachusetts	Bishop, Dexter A.				x		
Massachusetts	Buckley, Henry R.					x	
Massachusetts	Davis, Joseph					x	
Massachusetts	Dupre, John J.				x		
Massachusetts	Fraser, Jr., Roderick J.			x			
Massachusetts	Glidden, Ronald					x	
Massachusetts	Lewis, Charles W.					x	
Massachusetts	Norris, Edward J.		x				
Massachusetts	Tucker, Charles H.					x	
Massachusetts	Tucker, Kevin P.				x		
Michigan	Gibson, Gary L.				x		
Michigan	Horning, Kim P.					x	
Michigan	Kimble, David W.			x			
Michigan	Lamphere, Jr., Lloyd D.				x		
Michigan	Lamphere, Sr., Lloyd D.					x	
Michigan	Pahl, James B.		x				
Michigan	Payne, Robert R.				x		
Michigan	Shull, Ronald G.					x	
Michigan	Worley, Charles L.				x		

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2025 National Encampment Attendees by Department *(continued)*

Department	*Name*	*CinC*	*PCinC*	*DC*	*PDC*	*Del*	*Alt*
Missouri	Amsler, Jr., Robert J.				x		
Missouri	Aubuchon, Robert			x			
Missouri	Busch, Walter E.				x		
Missouri	Coplin, Mark				x		
Missouri	Crandell, Dale E.				x		
Missouri	Hunnewell, Sumner G.				x		
Missouri	Krieser, Edward J.		x				
Missouri	Palmer, Jr., Donald D.		x				
Nebraska (w/Dakotas)	Hadley, Cliff					x	
Nebraska (w/Dakotas)	Hadley, Paul J.				x		
Nebraska (w/Dakotas)	Lahowetz, Paul					x	
New Hampshire	Murray, Daniel W.				x		
New Jersey	Higgins, Martin P.					x	
New Jersey	Wettstein, Dylan J.					x	
New York	French, Jeffrey			x			
New York	Phurriott, III, Henry					x	
New York	VerStreate, Daryl				x		
North Carolina	Cruise, Michael					x	
North Carolina	Duquette, Henry C.			x			

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2025 National Encampment Attendees by Department *(continued)*

Department	*Name*	*CinC*	*PCinC*	*DC*	*PDC*	*Del*	*Alt*
Ohio	Crane, James T.				x		
Ohio	Darby, Donald E.		x				
Ohio	Huffman, Jr., John M.				x		
Ohio	Martin, Donald L.		x				
Ohio	Milburn, Shane L.				x		
Ohio	Rish, David			x			
Ohio	Robinson, Jared D.					x	
Ohio	Spaulding, Michael A.				x		
Ohio	Wolz, Robert J.		x				
Oklahoma	Clapp, Steve				x		
Oklahoma	Handley, Terry D.			x			
Oklahoma	Kennedy, Jeffrey D.				x		
Oklahoma	Reichardt, Mark					x	
Oklahoma	White, Kevin D.					x	
Pennsylvania	Peter, Michael			x			
Rhode Island	Duchesneau, John T.			x			
Rhode Island	Frail, Benjamin J.				x		
Rhode Island	Frail, Bruce D.		x				
Rhode Island	Kennedy, Leo F.		x				

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2025 National Encampment Attendees by Department *(continued)*

Department	*Name*	*CinC*	*PCinC*	*DC*	*PDC*	*Del*	*Alt*
Rhode Island	McGuire, James P.				x		
Southwest	Bouchard, Scott					x	
Southwest	Clark, W. Mark					x	
Southwest	Moore, David C.					x	
Southwest	Stephens, Richard					x	
Tennessee (w/Mississippi)	Corey, Steve					x	
Tennessee (w/Mississippi)	DuBrucq, David M.				x		
Tennessee (w/Mississippi)	Holmes, Richard					x	
Tennessee (w/Mississippi)	Huffman, Chip				x		
Tennessee (w/Mississippi)	Huttick, George A.				x		
Tennessee (w/Mississippi)	Wright, Tom					x	
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Brock, Ronald 'Steve'						x
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Durham, Clifford 'Butch'						x
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Erder, Richard W.						x
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Gates, Donald L.				x		
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Glass, Brian R.				x		
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Hansen, George F.				x		
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Holcomb, Cody N.					x	
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Holmes, Stevenson T.				x		

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2025 National Encampment Attendees by Department *(continued)*

Department	*Name*	*CinC*	*PCinC*	*DC*	*PDC*	*Del*	*Alt*
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Lance, Michael L.				x		
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Moore, Beau B.				x		
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Moore IV, Harrison G.				x		
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Myers, William D.						x
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Phillips, Timothy M.				x		
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Pourreau, Daniel B.					x	
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Powers, Herbert W.					x	
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Rappe, Michael D.						x
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Reynolds, Larry Joe					x	
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Riley, Robert G.					x	
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Rudy, Blair G.				x		
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Schneider, Sr., John E.				x		
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Schneider, Michael K.					x	
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Schulze, Stephen D.				x		
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Sickler, Harold L.				x		
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Swafford, William L.						x
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Thomas, Brook J.			x			
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Vander Meulen, John C.					x	
Texas (w/Louisiana)	Wilber, Todd					x	

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2025 National Encampment Attendees by Department *(Total 156)*

Department	*Name*	*CinC*	*PCinC*	*DC*	*PDC*	*Del*	*Alt*
Vermont	Amsden, Bruce				x		
Wisconsin (w/Minnesota)	Carlberg, Gary					x	
Wisconsin (w/Minnesota)	Michaels, Stephen A.		x				
Wisconsin (w/Minnesota)	Hobbins, J. Ben					x	
Totals		***1***	***13***	***18***	***55***	***63***	***6***

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Encampment Roll Statistics by Department

Dept.	*Members Present*	*CinC*	*PCinC*	*DC*	*PDC*	*Del.*	*Alt.*
Alabama	2	0	0	1	0	1	0
Arkansas	4	0	0	1	0	3	0
California & Pacific	12	0	1	1	2	8	0
Chesapeake	12	1	1	1	4	5	0
Colorado & Wyoming	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
Columbia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Connecticut	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Florida	4	0	0	1	0	3	0
Georgia & South Carolina	7	0	1	1	2	3	0
Illinois	4	0	0	1	1	2	0
Indiana	3	0	0	1	2	0	0
Iowa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kansas	4	0	0	0	4	0	0
Kentucky	2	0	0	0	1	1	0
Maine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Massachusetts	11	0	1	1	3	6	0
Michigan	9	0	1	1	4	3	0
Missouri	8	0	2	1	5	0	0
Nebraska w/N. and S. Dakota	3	0	0	0	1	2	0
New Hampshire	1	0	0	0	1	0	0

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Department	***Members Present***	***CinC***	***PCinC***	***DC***	***PDC***	***Del.***	***Alt.***
New Jersey	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
New York	3	0	0	1	1	1	0
North Carolina	2	0	0	1	0	1	0
Ohio	9	0	3	1	4	1	0
Oklahoma	5	0	0	1	2	2	0
Pennsylvania	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Rhode Island	5	0	2	1	2	0	0
Southwest	4	0	0	0	0	4	0
Tennessee w/Mississippi	6	0	0	0	3	3	0
Texas w/Louisiana	27	0	0	1	12	8	6
Vermont	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Wisconsin w/Minnesota	3	0	1	0	0	2	0
Totals	***156***	***1***	***13***	***18***	***55***	***63***	***6***

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SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

144th National Encampment Reports

August 7-10, 2025

Houston, Texas

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1.0 Preface

This is a compilation of National Elected Officers, National Appointed Officers, National Standing Committees, National Special Committees, and Department reports to the National Encampment and Council of Administration for the August 7-10, 2025 meetings in Houston, Texas. This document contains the bodies of the submitted reports; the headings, salutations, valedictions, and signatures have been removed. An extensive amount of time was spent verifying and compiling this report and considerable flexibility was afforded to reporting officers in the completion of this report.

2.0 National Elected Officers and Executive Leadership

2.1 Commander-in-Chief; Kevin L. Martin, CinC

2024

After the fanfare subsided from the National Encampment in Lexington, Kentucky, and a vehicle full of both SUVCW and ASUVCW possessions, our car looked much like the Beverly Hillbillies truck. It was difficult to see outside to drive home. Luckily, we made it home safely!

On August 17th and 18th, we attended our first event at the Rose Hill Manor in Frederick, MD, which offers a unique glimpse into early American life through the lens of local history, agriculture, and transportation. Once the home of Maryland's first elected governor, Thomas Johnson, the historic property now serves as an educational museum and cultural landmark. Over the weekend, our SUVCW Camp and Auxiliary raised a tent full of Civil War displays and games for adults and children. It was a good opportunity for recruiting new members.

On the weekend of October 4-5, we traveled to Jasper, Indiana for the Central Region Association of the Allied Orders meetings. There were team building exercises to help educate the public of who we are and what we do. It was very informative and we came away with some useful ideas to spur public attention.

We were invited to address the MOLLUS/DOLLUS Congress at the Banquet in Richmond, VA on October 11-12.

Two weeks later, on October 26, the Department of the Chesapeake and its Auxiliary played host to a large gathering of the Allied Orders, guests and friends to pay tribute to both myself and National Auxiliary President, Rosemary S. Martin. It was held at a local Frederick, Maryland landmark, Dutch's Daughter restaurant. The testimonial luncheon was organized and co-emceed by the National Chiefs-of-Staff: Department Auxiliary President Denise Thompson and Brian W. Horgan, PDC.

A host of individuals and National officers, both past and present, representing groups comprising the Allied Orders, recounted many stories that chronicled the rise of the honorees to the highest office of their respective organizations.

At the completion of the testimonials, the guests of honor took to the lectern and proceeded to give attribution for their ascension to many individuals who were instrumental in guiding their path to the top. In recognizing the rarity of a husband-wife team occupying these honored posts, we again credited others with helping to motivate our ever-increasing involvement and instilling in them an unswerving devotion to the tenets of our respective Orders.

For the Gettysburg Remembrance Day weekend, a huge thank you to PDC Dave Hann and Don Darby for securing spaces in the carriage with President Lincoln for the Commander-in-Chief and the Auxiliary President to ride in during the parade. That evening, National ASUVCW Rosemary Martin and I led the first dance, The Grand March, at the Civil War Ball in Gettysburg.

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On Saturday, December 7, 2024, Rosemary and I participated in the Phoenix Arizona Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony to lay wreathes. Thank you to John and Paula Conrad for housing, chauffeuring, and feeding us. Later in the day, we visited with members of the local Camp and their significant others.

2025

January 30-February 2 - We attended the Mid-Winter Meeting and Patriotic Luncheon sponsored by the Department of Wisconsin. We were treated to a dinner at a German Restaurant, Irish Restaurant and pre-flight lunch and ice cream with Danielle Michaels and Denise Oman and PCinC Steve Michaels. Later that weekend, we were given a wonderful guided tour of Milwaukee and the Veterans cemetery/out grounds by PCinC Steve Michaels.

February 12 – Lincoln Birthday Ceremony. This year's event was somewhat unique as we had significant snowfall which prevented the laying of wreathes as usual. We were able the following day to informally present our wreathes. In addition, we attended the luncheon for the Allied Orders.

Saturday, February 22 – Institution of a new Utah Auxiliary – Salt Lake City, Utah. Brother Ken Jacobsen was instrumental in the forming of this Auxiliary.

March 6-9 – Department of California and Pacific Encampment – Bakersfield, California. The Department treated us to a wonderful banquet.

March 13-15 – Department of Tennessee Encampment. We were treated to our dinners. There was excitement throughout the day as Tornado Warnings were issued. At one point later in the day, the hotel called us to go to the lobby as a precaution. On a lighter note, we were introduced to Buck-ees stores. We took the opportunity to stock up on supplies for our long ride home.

March 28-29 – Department of Michigan Encampment – Okemos, Michigan. We were given pre-Encampment gifts at the Encampment. We were charged with bringing home pies from the Grand Traverse Pie Co!

April 4-5 – Department of the Chesapeake Encampment – Fredericksburg, Virginia. "There is no place like home."

April 12 – I participated with a speech and wreath laying at the Annual 69th Lincoln Tomb Ceremony/160th Anniversary commemorating the Death of President Abraham Lincoln. After a luncheon in Springfield, we participated in the Ceremony at Petersburg for the B.F. Stephenson Memorial. After dinner, the Council of Administration meeting was held at the Ramada hotel.

May 2 – Fredericksburg Internment Ceremony – It was a beautiful day and a very special ceremony in which I participated. After hearing the location of the remains, I wondered if they could have been those of my Great (x3) Grandfather, Capt. Adam B. Martin. How awesome would that have been as I honored these remains to be buried.

May 9-11 – Department of Texas and Louisiana Encampment – Houston, Texas. It was a great opportunity to meet with the Department Officers in advance of the National Encampment. We were able to preview the Encampment Hotel, discuss conference room layouts, and sample the food available at the hotel.

May 16-17 – Department of Vermont Encampment and Marker Ceremony in Cambridge, Vermont – Liam McKone arranged and led this ceremony and dedication of a GAR Highway Marker.

May 25 – Memorial at Hull Memorial GAR Church, Landsdowne, Maryland – I was given the opportunity to address the congregation of the Church. A light lunch and Brass Band performance was held afterwards.

May 26 – Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery, Virgina – No matter how many times I have attended this annual event; it is still one of my favorites. It was even more special this year as I was able to present a

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wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier along with my brothers, Tommy Chapman and Larry Vance.
May 30 – Decoration Day at Arlington – I laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Civil War Unknowns.

June 6-8 – Department of the Columbia Encampment – Chehalis, Washington. The brothers of the Department took us on a tour of the Veterans Memorial Museum in which the Encampment took place and pointed out the GAR-stained glass window.

June 13-14 – Department of Ohio Encampment – Clintonsville, Ohio. This Encampment was held in a suburb of Columbus, Ohio. A sit-down lunch was provided. The Department treated us to our lodging.

June 28 – Florida Auxiliary Institution – Tampa, Florida. A luncheon and meeting were held at the Ava Restaurant. New officers were installed and new members initiated. I welcomed the new Auxiliary into the Allied Orders fold.

We have received so many gracious and generous gifts and we are deeply grateful. It has been an absolute pleasure to be your Commander-in-Chief over my term. All of you have been a positive influence on me and our order. I have enjoyed interfacing with many of you throughout this past year. Thank you all for an outstanding year and your faithful service of our Order.

2.2 Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief; Kevin P. Tucker, PDC

It has been my distinct honor and privilege to serve the Order as your Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief during the 2024–2025 administrative year. Throughout this period, I have remained actively engaged in the operations and decision-making of the national organization while fulfilling all assigned responsibilities with diligence and dedication.

In addition to my duties as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, I have continued to serve as Commander of the First Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve. I have also maintained active participation in both Charles H. Bond Camp No. 104 and Col. Robert Gould Shaw Camp No. 54, as well as in the Department of Massachusetts.

Since my installation on August 3, 2024, in Lexington, Kentucky, I have represented the Order at the following events:

National and Department Activities:

- Participated in Department of Tennessee National Encampment Host Committee Zoom meetings on September 11, 2024, and February 18, 2025, offering guidance on their proposal to host the 2026 National Encampment.
- Attended the testimonial luncheon for Commander-in-Chief Kevin Martin and Auxiliary National President Rosemary Martin on October 25, 2024, in Frederick, Maryland.
- Represented the Commander-in-Chief at Department Encampments across the country:
    - Georgia and South Carolina (Marietta, GA – March 17–18, 2025)
    - Massachusetts (Wakefield, MA – April 25–26, 2025)
    - Illinois (Galena, IL – May 3, 2025)
    - North Carolina (Raleigh, NC – May 11, 2025)
    - Kentucky (Hodgenville, KY – May 16–17, 2025)
    - Maine (Camden, ME – June 7, 2025)
- Attended the Special Department Encampment of Tennessee on April 6, 2025, to assist in revising their National Encampment proposal timeline.

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- Participated in both Fall and Spring National Council of Administration meetings: November 17, 2024, (Gettysburg, PA) and April 11, 2025, (Springfield, IL)
- Attended the annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony (April 12, 2025) and the Benjamin F. Stephenson Memorial Ceremony (April 12, 2025) in Illinois.

Department of Massachusetts and Local Engagement:

- Attended Department of Massachusetts Officer meetings via Zoom (December 14, 2024) and Encampment planning sessions (December 30, 2024; February 11, 2025).
- Participated in the Department's annual Abraham Lincoln Birthday Brunch on February 16, 2025.
- Took part in the annual Memorial Ceremony for Maj. Gen. Benj. F. Butler on Nov. 2, 2024, in Lowell, MA.
- Supported a recruiting event hosted by General Darius N. Couch Camp No. 26 in Taunton, MA, on November 23, 2024.
- Attended the annual Memorial Day observance at Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne, MA, on May 25, 2025.
- Played an active role in planning and executing the rededication of Wakefield's restored Soldiers and Sailors Monument, attending planning meetings between October 2024 and May 2025, and participating in the public ceremony on May 31, 2025.
- Delivered the keynote address at Boston's first annual Juneteenth Memorial Ceremony at Mount Hope Cemetery on June 19, 2025.

Ceremonial and Heritage Events:

- Participated in the rededication of two restored cannons at the General Charles Russell Lowell GAR Plot in Mount Hope Cemetery, Boston, MA, on October 18, 2024.
- Attended the dedication of a Union Soldiers tablet in Concord, MA, on November 9, 2024.
- Joined the Department of Massachusetts on its Remembrance Day trip to Gettysburg, PA, November 14–17, 2024, including:
    - Visits to the Adams County Historical Society Museum, Shriver House, and Jennie Wade House.
    - Attendance at the SVR Breakfast and SUVCW Ceremony at the Albert Woolson Memorial.
    - Participation in the Remembrance Day Parade and the Original Civil War Ball.

Committee Involvement:

- Chaired a meeting of the National Program and Policy Committee via Zoom on November 19, 2024.
- Attended a Zoom meeting of the National Special Committee on the 250th Birthday of the USA on July 9, 2025.

The past year has been both productive and rewarding. It has been a privilege to meet and work alongside Brothers across the nation, and to represent the Commander-in-Chief at numerous Department Encampments and national events. I remain committed to the mission of our Order and look forward to continuing this sacred work in the year ahead.

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2.3 Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief; Daniel Murray, PDC

As of July 10, 2025, I have received and administered a total of 103 membership application queries since the last National Encampment. Below are the number of inquiries broken down by Departments. The information has been sent to the appropriate Department Junior Vice Commanders.

I did not receive a reply in the cases noted under "None given".

Department	***Number of Inquiries***	***Number of Inquires Springfield***	***Number of Inquiries Houston***	***Total***
Alabama	1	0	0	1
Arkansas	0	0	0	0
California & Pacific	1	0	0	1
Chesapeake	4	4	0	8
Colorado & Wyoming	0	12	0	12
Columbia	0	3	0	3
Connecticut	0	2	0	2
Florida	3	2	0	5
Georgia	0	0	0	0
Illinois	0	0	1	1
Indiana	1	0	0	1
Iowa	1	0	0	1
Kansas	0	0	0	0
Kentucky	0	0	0	0
Maine	0	0	0	0
Mem. At Large	0	0	0	0
Massachusetts	0	0	0	0
Michigan	0	0	0	0
Missouri	2	3	3	8
Nebraska	2	0	1	3
New Hampshire	1	1	0	2
New Jersey	2	1	0	3
New York	4	1	0	5
North Carolina	0	2	1	3
Ohio	2	2	1	5
Oklahoma	0	0	0	0
Pennsylvania	7	0	1	8
Rhode Island	1	0	0	1
Southwest	0	0	0	0
Tennessee	2	2	0	4
Texas	1	0	2	3
UK	0	0	0	0

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Vermont	0	0	0	0
Wisconsin	2	0	0	2
None given	1	11	9	21
Total	***38***	***46***	***19***	***103***

In addition to my duties as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, I am also the Adjutant of the First Military District. I am the current Treasurer for my Camp, attended all meetings of the Camp and am involved in activities with both the Department of New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

Participated in the Council of Administration post Encampment meeting in Lexington KY.

I attended the Testimonial for Commander-in-Chief Kevin Martin and National President Rosemay Martin in Frederick, MD on October 26, 2024.

As chairman of the National Committee on Membership, I updated the contact information for all Department Junior Vice Commanders in the Order. I have been in contact with many JVCs as part of my duties as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

On the Department level, I planned and coordinated the Massachusetts Department bus trip to Gettysburg, PA for Remembrance Day.

On November 2. 2024 I participated in the First Military Districts memorial ceremony honoring Union General Benjamin Franklin Butler at the Hildreth Family Cemetery in Lowell, Massachusetts.

On November 14–17, 2024, I participated in the SVR breakfast, ceremonies at the Woolson Monument and the Remembrance Day Parade, and the Council of Administration meeting in Gettysburg, PA.

On December 14 , 2024 I participated in the "Wreaths Across America" ceremony at the local cemetery in Brentwood, NH and helped placed wreaths afterward.

Also, on the evening of December 14, 2024, I attended and helped distribute food and gifts at the Annual Christmas Dinner at the Chelsea Soldiers Home for disabled veterans. The dinner is hosted by the Department of Massachusetts along with the local Camp.

On February 16, 2025, I attended the Department of Massachusetts Annual Lincoln Birthday Brunch in Wakefield, Massachusetts.

On March 14, 2025, I attended the 5th Annual Alabama Department Encampment in Cullman, AL and represented Commander-in-Chief Martin.

On March 27, 2025, I attended the 9th Annual Southwest Department Encampment in Tempe, AZ and represented Commander-in-Chief Martin.

On April 11–12 2025, I attended the SUVCW Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony event in Springfield, IL and the annual Benjamin F. Stephens ceremony in Petersburg IL. I also participated in the Council of Administration meeting on Saturday evening.

On April 19, 2025, I attended the 30th Annual Department of New Hampshire Encampment in Concord, NH and represented Commander-in-Chief Martin.

On April 25-26, 2025, I attended the 30th Annual Department of Massachusetts Encampment in Wakefield, MA.

On May 26, 2025, I attended and participated in Memorial Day exercises in Exeter, NH.

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On May 31, 2025, I participated in the rededication of the Wakefield Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Wakefield, MA.

On June 6 & 7, 2025, I attended the 30th Annual Department of Missouri Encampment in Fenton/ Valley Park, MO and represented Commander-in-Chief Martin.

On June 14, 2025, I attended the 143rd Annual Department of New Jersey Encampment in Toms River, New Jersey and represented Commander-in-Chief Martin.

I have monitored and participated in all online discussions and voting of the Council of Administration. I have no recommendations at this time.

2.4 National Secretary; Alan Russ, PDC

On August 3, 2024, I was elected to a one-year unexpired term as National Secretary. I am not running for re-election as National Secretary. I intend to support the incoming National Secretary in any way I am able to.

Since taking office, I attended the following:

- August 4, 2024 - Post-encampment Council of Administration meeting, Lexington KY.
- November 17, 2024 – Gettysburg Council of Administration meeting.
- April 5, 2025 – Department of Kansas Encampment.
- April 12, 2025 – Springfield Council of Administration meeting.
- June 7, 2025 – Department of Missouri Encampment.

EMAIL MOTIONS:

Motion 01: Motion by Brother Alan Russ to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2024, post-encampment Council of Administration meeting. Motion cancelled due to procedural error.

Motion 02 (Passed): Motion passed September 10, 2024. Motion by Brother Alan Russ to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2024, post-encampment Council of Administration meeting. Voting Yes: 7. Voting No: 0.

Motion 03 (Passed): Motion passed September 14, 2024. Motion by Brother Kevin Tucker to approve the publication of the ad, reached by the link above, on the RootsTech website and for use by the National Promotions and Marketing committee for similar purposes. Voting Yes: 7. Voting No: 0.
[Link] https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Awc7q-8gu-_NwC_AL4WrJn7RLz0gdYIx/view?usp=drive_link

Motion 04 (Passed): Motion passed September 23, 2024. Motion by Brother Alan Russ that the revised Form 12 be approved for use and posting on the National website. Voting Yes: 10. Voting No: 0.

Motion 05 (Passed): Motion passed October 12, 2024. Motion by Brother Dave Hann that the Fund Raising Committee be permitted to use the words "Sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War" on the front of a shirt that we will have available for a $20.00 donation during the Remembrance Day Parade.

Motion 06 (Passed): Motion passed December 21, 2024. Motion by Brother Alan Russ to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2024, Council of Administration Meeting (Gettysburg). Voting Yes: 8. Voting No: 0.

Motion 07 (Passed): Motion passed December 30, 2024. Motion by Brother R. Payne that the CofA adopts the Banner Advertising Rates set forth by PCinC Pahl in the attached document. Voting Yes: 9. Voting No: 0.

Motion 08 (Passed): Motion passed January 27, 2025. Motion by Brother R. Payne to appoint Brother Robert Amsler to act in the name of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to obtain the funds of the SVR Quartermaster located in the Commerce Bank in St. Louis, Missouri. Voting Yes: 9. Voting No: 0.

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Motion 09 (Passed): Motion passed February 3, 2025. Motion by Brother A. Russ to approve the Merchandise License Request submitted by Gettysburg Independent Blues to sell American Flags which have been flown over the historic GAR Post #9 in Gettysburg, PA. Voting Yes: 9. Voting No: 0.

Motion 10 (Passed): Motion passed February 15, 2025. Motion by Brother A. Russ to approve Merchandise License Request submitted by Hartranft Camp 15, Department of Pennsylvania, to sell polo shirts for camp 15 use for camp recruiting and camp outings. Voting Yes: 8. Voting No: 0.

Motion 11 (Passed): Motion as amended by Motion 11A passed March 14, 2025. Motion by Brother M. Beard, as amended by motion to amend by Brother A. Russ that Brother PCinC Ed Norris be allowed to sign all necessary documents to implement this directive and that copies of what he signs be forwarded to the CinC, the National Secretary, the Executive Director, the National Counselor, and the National Historian.

Motion12 (Passed): Motion that Douglas McMillin, PDC, be appointed as Assistant Executive Director, SUVCW. Voting Yes: 10. Voting No: 0.

Motion 13 (Passed): Motion to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2025, Council of Administration Meeting (Springfield). Voting Yes: 6. Voting No: 0.

Motion 14 (Passed): Motion to approve Merchandise License Request submitted by Franklin Camp 5, Department of Kansas, to sell polo shirts for Kansas camps to use for camp recruiting and camp outings. Voting Yes: 10. Voting No: 0.

Motion 15 (Passed): Motion to approve Merchandise License Requests submitted by Department of Oklahoma to sell challenge coins and submitted by Camp 54, Department of Massachusetts to sell Tee shirts to camp members. Voting Yes: 8. Voting No: 0.

Motion 16 (Passed): Motion to approve Merchandise License Request submitted by Department of Missouri, to produce yellow PCinC polo style shirt (twinkie shirt). Voting Yes: 9. Voting No: 0.

Motion 17 (Passed): Motion that Brother Hann be given permission to perform the two events in Gettysburg on June 27-28 and July 4-6 on behalf of the Order. Voting Yes: 9. Voting No: 0.

Motion 18 (Passed): Motion to approve the three t-shirt designs for sale as detailed by Brother Hann. Voting Yes: 9. Voting No: 0.

Motion 19 (Passed): Motion to grant permission to Brother Payne to proceed with the Drupal 10 upgrade estimated to cost $1,500 - $2,000. Voting Yes: 9. Voting No: 0.

Motion 20 (Passed): Motion to approve CinC recommendation for award of Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star.

MINUTES:

- Minutes for the post-encampment Council of Administration meeting submitted and approved.
- Minutes for the Gettysburg Council of Administration meeting submitted and approved.
- Minutes for the Springfield Council of Administration meeting submitted and approved.
- Minutes for Email Motions 2 through 11 submitted and approved.
- Minutes for Email Motions 12 through 20 will be submitted to August 7, 2025, Pre-Encampment Council of Administration for approval.

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CHARTERS:

This past year I digitized all approved charter applications from 2006 through to the present in PDF documents. The paper copies were then placed into fiberboard covers in groups of five years, with each year having a list at the beginning of that year listing the charters contained in that section.

The five-year binders from 2006 through 2020, along with a USB drive containing digital records, were then taken to National Headquarters at Harrisburg, PA and turned over to the Executive Director in November 2024. The 2021-2025 binder, along with the digital images, will be turned over to the incoming National Secretary at Houston.

Charters Issued:

- George A. Cribbs Camp 276, Greensburg PA, Department of Pennsylvania, Date of ranking – July 19, 2024 (corrected charter).
- William Baumgartner Camp 33, Bluffton, Indiana, Department of Indiana, Date of ranking – August 10, 2024.
- Maj. Gen. Edward O. C. Ord Camp 3, San Antonio, Texas, Department of Texas, Date of ranking – December 5, 2024.
- Pittsburg Landing Camp 61, Shiloh, TN, Department of Tennessee, Date of ranking – May 21, 2025.
- Department of Arkansas, Date of ranking – to be announced.

Camps In Process of Forming:

- William Washington Hence Camp 1624, Natchez, MS, Department of Tennessee, EXPIRES August 26, 2025.
- Chief Petty Officer Frederick Morong Camp 24, Gloucester, MA, Department of Massachusetts, EXPIRES October 12, 2025.
- Private Emerson P. Gould Camp 119, Topsfield, MA, Department of Massachusetts, EXPIRES October 12, 2025.
- Bradley S. Osbon Camp 150, Cold Spring, NY, Department of New York, EXPIRES April 28, 2026.

2.5 National Treasurer; D. Michael Beard, PDC

1. Fund Status at June 30, 2025:

a. General Fund: The fund is projected of have a small operating deficit this year. Fund Balance is around $750,000.

b. Headquarters Fund: The fund had an $800 operating surplus (vs. a $18K deficit last year}. The fund currently receives $5 per capita dues for each member and revenues from its investments. Fund balance is $1,426.

c. The Permanent Fund received $12K in donations this year and did well in the stock market with investment income of $43K. Fund Balance is $448,000 vs. $408,000 last year.

d. Preservation Fund (AKA Monuments and Memorials Fund). This fund receives $1 per capita for revenue. It has not spent what has been allocated for several years and as accumulated a $42K surplus. Fund Balance is $45,000 (this is a paper balance, as the fund's only asset is what it is owed by the General Fund). The Fund had a $10,000 budget for grant awards – there was only one applicant this year and that camp was awarded their $2,000 request.

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e. Life Fund. The fund received $17K in life member fees this year. Fund Balance is $125,000 invested in equity stocks.

f. The Lincoln Fund. The fund broke even running the Lincoln Death Day Ceremony. Fund Balance is a negative $1,328.

2. **Recruiting and Finances.** Until our Endowment Fund produces significant revenue, we rely on our members – dues and donations – as the primary source of revenue. We must continue our focus on increasing membership. We are the oldest heritage organization and our ancestor pool exceeds 2 million. We have 5,857 dues paying members. The Mayflower Society has an ancestor pool of 110 and they exceed 30,000 members. They have their own headquarters building in Plymouth and they bought the First Church in Plymouth for its Tiffany windows featuring the Pilgrims. The same is true for SAR, DAR, & Jamestowne – they all have significantly smaller ancestor pools than us and all hover around 30,000 members. We can't blame our small membership on the Civil War – the SCV & the UDC both have 30,000 members. The resulting difference is stark. We should collect $193,000 in dues this fiscal year while the SAR collects $1,500,000. This year, we will attempt to register in the Combined Federal Campaign. If successful, we could receive donations from Federal employees which would enhance our revenues.

3. **Merrill Lynch Account**. For the 2025 fiscal year, we earned 9.84 percent on our investments with Merrill Lynch (including capital appreciation). Our balance at June 30, 2025 was $1,226,861. We have $450K in CDs earning at least 5 percent. The remainder of our funds are invested in moderate-risk equity stocks. We can expect to earn $21K in interest and $17K in dividends in fiscal year 2026.

4. **1881 Club**. The club currently has eleven members, Mark Day, Clay Hoffman, Tim McCoy, Michael Paquette, Glenn Martin, Kevin Martin, Brian McManus, Linn Malaznik, Michael Reither, Alan Russ, and Wayne Wehrheim. For calendar year 2024, the members contributed $7,155 to the SUVCW Endowment Fund.

5. **Form 990**. We filed our 2024 Form 990 in December. The IRS has yet to post the 2024 return to its website.

6. **Camp/Department 501(c)(3) Status**. The IRS has yet to reflect the subordinates as 501(c)(3) on their website. We have asked them correct the status on numerous occasions and so far, they have not. This is an ongoing project. IRS Publication 4573, Group Exemptions, state the National Organization controls the status of its subordinates. I file a report each year using the Forms 11s to add, delete, and report all of our subordinates. EVERY SUBORDINATE IS A 501(c)(3). I will provide any Camp, Department, or SVR unit wishing to prove its 501(c)(3) status with a letter addressed to any prospective donor. This year I proved such a letter to:
    a. George Cribbs Camp
    b. Department of Maine
    c. Department of Michigan

7. **New Camps and SVR units**. I add each new Camp and SVR unit during the year with a faxed letter to the IRS. So far this year, I have faxed letters for:
    a. Nathanial Lyon NJ#12
    b. MG Edward Ord TX#3
    c. Pittsburg Landing TN#61
    d. L.A. Tifft MA#15
    e. Co. H 15th Illinois SVR6
    f. George A. Cribbs PA#276
    g. North Star Volunteers SVR4

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8. **State Registrations**. Labyrinth, Inc., is currently filing our annual state registrations in the 36 states that require registration for charities that raise money within the state. We do not file in the District of Columbia (too expensive). The other states either do not require us to register or we are exempt. I, and the CinC, have signed the necessary forms, including a notary when required. This contract cost us $8,565 this fiscal year.

9. **Donations**.
    a. This fiscal year the Permanent Fund is receiving monthly donations from Brothers Mark Day, David Demmy, Clay Hoffman, Glenn Martin, Timothy McCoy, Michael Paquette, Michael Reither, Alan Russ, Wayne Wehrheim, & Danny Wheeler.
    b. the General Fund, through Brother David Hann's efforts, received $10,800 for Remembrance Day.

10. **Financial Statements** for fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Our auditors, Coulter & Justus, LLC, have issued our statements with a "clean opinion." I have provided the U.S. House of Representatives Judicial Committee with a copy of our statements as required by our former Charter. A copy is included as an attachment to the encampment annual reports.

11. **Form 1099NEC**. I filed our 1099NECs with the IRS and sent copies to our contractors for their returns.

12. **2024 Contributions**. I mailed acknowledgement letters to all our donors for their use in filing their income tax returns.

13. **Lincoln Death Day Ceremony**. I prepared the annual report on the finances of the Lincoln Death Day Ceremony for the MOLLUS & SUVCW Commanders. This year's ceremony had revenues of $2,235 and expenses of $2,234, breaking even.

14. **Council of Administration**. I attended and participated in the Council meetings held in Lexington, Gettysburg, and Springfield.

15. **Capital Campaign**. I have coordinated with the Fund-Raising Committee to continue our capital campaign to increase our Permanent Fund. The committee bought two ads in the National Encampment program book to promote fundraising. As mentioned earlier, we plan to register in the Combined Federal Campaign.

16. **Insurance Certificate**. I arranged for the following certificates of insurance:
    a. Gettysburg Remembrance Day (City)
    b. Gettysburg Remembrance Day (School District)
    c. Gettysburg Remembrance Day (State)
    d. Col. Francine Camp #7 for County Fair
    e. John T. Crawford Camp #43 Fort Armstrong Folk Festival
    f. Sons of Union Veterans National Encampment
    g. Col. G. L. Willard Camp #154 monument preservation work
    h. Cribbs Camp #276 Ceremony at St John's Church.
    i. Sons of Union Veterans recruiting booth on Remembrance Day
    j. John T. Crawford Camp #43 Veterans Appreciation Concert
    k. Sons of Union Veterans RootsTech Convention
    l. Willard Camp #54 for monument preservation
    m. Sons of Union Veterans recruiting booth at the Gettysburg Heritage Center.
    n. Crawford Camp #43 for a "Veterans Appreciation" concert at the Cadogan Township

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o. Crawford Camp #43 to hold a parade and ceremony in Kittanning.
p. Baldwin Camp #544 to hold meeting in Fire House.
q. Gettysburg Camp 112 to hold Memorial Day celebrations in Gettysburg PA
r. SVR and SUVCW to hold Lincoln Death Day ceremony at the Lincoln Tomb.
s. SVR Artillery School
t. Crawford Camp #43 Last Soldier Ceremony
u. Baldwin Camp #544 for meeting in local firehouse
v. Crawford Camp #43 Fort Armstrong Folk Festival.

17. Proposed Budget for FYE 2026:

Income

Donations to General Fund	$ 10,000
Fundraising – T-Shirts	1,500
Dividend Income	16,650
Interest Income	19,300
Quarter Master Sales	52,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	768
Banner Subscriptions	36
National Encampment Reg. Fees	2,050
New Camp & Dept. Appl. Fees	125
New Member Application Fees	2,100
Per Capita Dues	193,000
Reinstatement Fee	620
International Mailing Fees	10
Charter Application Fees	75
Lincoln Luncheon	2,300
Total Income	**$ 300,534**
Quartermaster Cost of Sales	48,500
Net Operating Income	**$252, 034**

Expense

CinC Expenses	$ 15,000
Nat'l Secr. Expenses	5,000
Nat'l Treasurer Expenses	5,000
Nat'l Quartermaster Expenses	5,000
CinC Representative Expenses	6,000
Banner Editor Expenses	5,000
J. Vice Expenses	500
Total Administrative Expenses	**$ 41,500**

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Accounting Fees	$ 5,000
Audit Fees	19,800
Brokerage Fees	8,500
Charitable Organization Fees	8,600
Rent	10, 320
Total for Contract Services	**$ 52,330**
Insurance National Officers	$ 1,100
Insurance General Liability	3,200
Surety Bond Insurance	230
Office Expenses	2,800
Software	1,750
Proceedings Transcription	1,300
Printing	200
Postage	1,800
Bank Charges	400
Telephone, Telecommunications	4,360
Website	8,000
Executive Director	21,000
Assistant Executive Director	12,000
Executive Travel	6,000
Contingency	4,000
Total for Operations	**$ 68,140**
Grants	$ 10,000
Scholarships	5,000
National Encampment Host Committee	3,500
National Encampment Site Committee	3,500
National Encampment Printing	3,000
National Encampment Awards	2,000
National Encampment Recorder Expense	1,500
National Photographer	3,000
Fund Raising	2,000
Memorial University	1,500
Programs and Marketing	11,500
Lincoln Birthday Committee	300
Grant's Tomb	250
Memorial Day at Arlington	600
Fraternal Relations	500
Grave Registrations	12,200
Banner	58,000
ROTC Program	6,000

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Remembrance Day Expenses	14,000
Life Member Reimbursements	300
Sons of Confederates Rep.	300
Lincoln Death Day	2,300
Total for Program Expenses	**$ 303,110**
Projected Deficit	**($ 51,076)**

2.6 National Quartermaster; Robert J. Welch, DC

I would like to thank the Brothers of the Order for their support over these past two years. This is a job that I do enjoy and will miss. As many of you know, I changed positions at work and my schedule and availability changed drastically. Due to these changes, I cannot provide the level of attention this position deserves. However, I am not going anywhere, I will continue to serve the SUVCW in any way I can and will support the incoming Quartermaster 110%.

For the fiscal year, period of 1 Jul 24 to 30 Jun 25, the Quartermaster Store has performed as follows:

Total Sales		$43,588.50
Gross Sales		$52,030.85
Items		$44,302.85
Service Charges (shipping and handling)		$7,728.00
Returns		($464.00)
Net Sales		**$51,566.85**
Taxes		$119.75
Refunds by Amount		($165.00)
Total Sales (727 transactions)		**$51,521.60**
Total Payments Collected		$51,521.60
Card	$43,953.60	
Cash	$1,401.00	
Cash App	$389.25	
Check	$5,268.75	
Other	$509.00	
Square Payment Processing Fees		($1,500.78)
Net Total		**$50,020.82**

While this report does look favorable, I have had to make significant purchases to refill stock as well as pay for the free programs/products such as ROTC, Eagle Scout, and the Promotional Pamphlet.

This year I also purchased five PCIC Badges (two of which will be given this year). These badges are solid gold and with the recent spike in gold prices, they have more than doubled in cost since the last time they were purchased. This order cost $8,254.25, with the per badge cost of $1,650.85. These will have to be reordered in two years, and I feel that a solid gold option is not sustainable. The price of gold is going to continue to rise, in the past 5 years the price has increased by 93%.

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RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend that the PCIC Badge be changed to vermeil/gilded silver (a heavy gold plating on a base of silver) to keep the prominence of the badge and at the same time reduce the expense.

2.7 Council of Administration – 2025; Robert R. Payne, PDC

It has been a privilege to be a part of the Council of Administration.

1. I have followed every email discussion since Lexington, participating as needed, including voting.
2. I have worked with the Signals Officer trying to resolve requests made by Brother Walt Busch concerning the storage of Monuments and Memorials information.
3. In April, I had the honor of representing Commander in Chief Martin at the Department of Indiana Encampment.
4. In June, I had the honor of representing Commander in Chief Martin at the Department of Wisconsin Encampment.
5. I have attended every Council of Administration meeting since Last National Encampment.
6. During this past year, I attended the following activities:
    a. Remembrance Day
    b. The Lincoln Tomb services
    c. The Dr. Stephenson service in Petersburg, IL
    d. Four Memorial Day services
    e. A Memorial Service for a GAR Comrade
    f. Dedications of 8 Civil War headstones
    g. Memorial/funeral service for a brother

2.8 Council of Administration – 2025; Dale E. Crandell, PDC

It has been my privilege to serve on the Council of Administration (CoA) since being elected to fulfill a one-year term at the 143rd National Encampment.

1. Attended the post-Encampment CoA meeting on 4 August 2024.
2. Attended the GAR Allied Orders Central Region Association (CRA) meeting on 5 October 2024.
3. Attended three Union Victory of Missouri 150th Anniversary Programs 5-26 October 2024: Pilot Knob, Jefferson City, and Westport/Kansas City.
4. Participated in the Remembrance Day parade on 17 November 2024.
5. Attended the Gettysburg CoA meeting on 17 November 2024.
6. Attended the Department of Kansas Encampment as the National Representative on 5 March 2025.
7. Attended the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony and Benjamin Stephenson Memorial on 12 April 2025.
8. Attended the Springfield CoA meeting on 12 April 2024.
9. Attended the Department of Iowa Encampment as the National Representative on 26 April 2025.

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10. Attended the Department of Missouri Encampment on 7 June 2025.
11. Attended the Department of Arkansas organizing meeting as the National Representative on 21 June 2025.
12. Participated in online discussion and voting for the CoA. I have no recommendations for the 144th National Encampment.

2.9 Council of Administration – 2026; Roderick J. Fraser Jr., DC

It is my honor and privilege to present this report of my activities over the past year as a member of the Council of Administration.

- Department Encampments:
    - I represented the Commander-in-Chief as Installing Officer at two Department Encampment: Department of Florida: February 28th and March 1st in Ft. Myers, Fl.
    - Department of New York: April 4th and 5th in Utica, NY.
    - The Annual Department of Massachusetts Encampment was held in Wakefield, MA April 26th and 27th.
- I attended all Zoom meetings of the Council of Administration.
- I voted on all issues that came before the Council of Administration.
- I attended all in person Council of Administration meetings except the meeting in Springfield on Lincoln's death day. I was unable to attend due to obligations at work.
- I joined the Department of Florida as a dual member joining the Major General Thomas J. McKean - Camp 3 in West Palm Beach, FL.
- I presided over the unveiling and dedication of the preserved and remounted cannon of the General Charles Russell Lowell GAR Cemetery Plot Mt Hope Cemetery on 18 October 2024 at 11:00 A.M.
- I attended the 68th Annual Remembrance Day Nov. 14 – 17, 2024. I participated in the Remembrance Day ceremony, laying a wreath at the Massachusetts burial plot and the reading of the names of the soldiers buried there in remembrance. Additionally, I marched in the parade as a color bearer in the 1st Military District SVR and attended the original Civil War Ball along with my wife, Angela.
- On March 25th, I participated in a Congressional Medal of Honor Day Ceremony with the Governor Elisha Dyer Camp 7 of the Department of Rhode island. We honored CMOH Recipient John Edwards (1831 – December 27, 1902) who was a Union Navy sailor in the American Civil War and a recipient of the Medal of Honor, for his actions at the Battle of Mobile Bay.
- On Saturday, May 31, 2025, I participated in the Rededication Event for the Town of Wakefield's "Soldiers and Sailors Monument" on the Upper Town Common in Wakefield, Massachusetts.
- I participated in the Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Massachusetts national Cemetery in Bourne, MA. I brought greetings from the SUVCW and read Past CinC Logan's General Order No. 11. Following the official ceremony, the Department conducted a memorial ceremony at the gravesites of the seven unknown soldiers of the Civil War buried at the cemetery.

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- I participated in the Annual Memorial Day Ceremony held by the Governor Elisha dyer Camp 7 in Rhode Island held at Pocasset Cemetery. It was well attended by the public and I read 75 of the names of the Civil War Soldiers buried there.
- For Juneteenth, I partnered with the local American Legion Post, the William E. Carter Post No. 16 of Mattapan, MA for a Remembrance Ceremony which we held on June 19th. The Carter Post is the first all-black American Legion Post in Massachusetts. The ceremony was held at the General Charles Russell Lowell GAR Post 8 Burial Plot in Mt. Hope cemetery in Boston, MA. Also participating was the 54th MA Infantry Reenactor group. I co-led the Ceremony along the Commander of the Carter Post, Mary-dith Tuitt. Speakers were National Senior Vice Commander Kevin Tucker and Boston Commissioner of Veterans Services Robert Santiago. The 54th Mass fired a three-volley salute. The Chaplains for the Day were Ronald Holley, Carter Post Chaplain and the Reverend Peter Preble, Department Junior Vice Commander. The event was covered by the local Community newspaper.
- I worked with the Hyde Park Historical society in Hyde Park, MA to identify Sons of Veterans Camps in photos they held as well as identify certain members of the GAR that they were searching for.

2.10 Council of Administration – 2027; Shane L. Milburn, PDC

- I would like to first thank the Brothers present at the 2024 National Encampment in Lexington, Kentucky for electing and allowing me to serve the Order for another three year term on the Council of Administration.
- I attended the Post Encampment Council of Administration meeting on Sunday.
- Participated in Remembrance Day ceremonies in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. I had the honor of escorting Wreath presenters at the Albert Woolson monument and marching in the Annual Remembrance Day Parade.
- On Sunday, I attended the Council of Administration meeting.
- Participated in the Annual Lincoln Tomb Observance in Springfield, Illinois. I had the honor of representing the National Organization, Sons of Veterans Reserve, by presenting a Wreath at the Tomb. Later in the afternoon, I attended the ceremony for Benjamin Stephenson. That evening, I attended the Council of Administration meeting.
- Commanded Co. C, 20th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, SVR during Memorial Day Ceremonies at two locations: Bloomingburg, Ohio and Lees Creek, Ohio.
- Attended the 143rd Annual Department of Ohio Encampment in Columbus, Ohio

2.11 Council of Administration – 2027; David Hann, PDC

It is an honor to submit this report. This is the list of my activities since my last report.

- April 1 – I was invited to give a talk on the Civil War at Merchantville Masonic Lodge #119. I spoke about the GAR and the Sons and handed out our brochures and wooden nickels. The talk was well received.
- April 10 - Sent over 50 letters to various businesses and hotels in Gettysburg trying to seek donations to help offset the cost of the Annual Remembrance Day Parade.
- April 12 - Attended my local Camp meeting.

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- May 10 - Helped to place over 1,500 flags on graves of Veterans in Greenmount, Holy Sepulcher and Greenmount cemeteries in Hammonton and Egg Harbor City Cemetery in Egg Harbor City in preparation of Memorial Day.
- May 26 - Marched in the Hammonton Memorial Day parade and as part of Company A, 7th New Jesey Infantry SVR fired volleys.
- May 30 - Participated in traditional Memorial Day services at Greenmount Cemetery at the location of the D.A. Russell Post # 68n GAR monument.
- June 14 - Attended the 143rd Department Encampment of the Department of New Jersey SUVCW.
- June 27-28 - Traveled to Gettysburg to solicit donations from businesses to help offset the cost of the Remembrance Day parade.
- June 30 - Held a Zoom meeting with the fund-raising committee.
- July 3-6 - Set up an information table at the 162nd Anniversary reenactment of the battle of Gettysburg. Provided information about the Sons, Remembrance Day and the original Civil War Ball. I would like to thank Gettysburg Camp #112 for their assistance.
- I have participated in all the online votes of the CoA.

I have one recommendation. That the incoming Commander-in-Chief appoints a special Committee to prepare for the 150th Anniversary of the Sons that will take place in the year 2031. While it is 5 years away, this would give the committee time to investigate special events and special commemorative merchandise for sale to our Brothers.

2.12 Council of Administration – 2025; Peter Hritsko, PCinC

It has been a pleasure serving the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War this past year as a member of Council of Administration, Council #1 as it is my last year as a voting member. It has been a pleasure serving the Order of the Sons, especially all the Brothers I have met through the years and making many new friends whom I call Brothers. I had enjoyed working with all the Officers of the CofA, appointed officers and all the committees I have been involved with.

I have voted on the majority of the motions. The reason I couldn't vote on some was due to my busy work schedule by time I got to them the dead line had passed.

Unfortunately, I was not able to attended the Lincoln's Tomb Ceremony and the CofA Meeting Saturday, April 12, 2025 in Springfield, IL due to a conflict in my work schedule not being able to get time off. I was excused by CinC Martin.

National C & R as member of the committee I voted on the recent proposal Resolutions for the upcoming 2025 National Encampment in Houston, Texas.

I have been excused by C-in-C Martin in attending the 2025 National Encampment being held in Houston, Texas during August 7-10th due to my conflicting work schedule, I am unable to get time off for travel.

I promote the SUVCW to others to join and I encourage more Brothers who are members to be more involved in the organization as we honor our Ancestors in doing so.

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2.13 Banner Editor; James B. Pahl, PCinC

As I submit this report, the Summer issue is in the hands of our printer and should be in the hands of the United States Postal Service soon. The Fall issue deadline is August 31. All other deadlines remain unchanged.

2.14 Executive Director; David W. Demmy, Sr., PCC

Since the 2024 encampment, I have been engaged in the following activities:

- Camp 15 monthly meetings at The Burg.
- Engaged in PA Commander's zoom meetings.
- Attended Nat'l Council meeting at Gettysburg.
- No meetings of Nat'l Headquarters committee.
- Attended new year Camp 15 monthly meetings at The Burg.
- Submitted new year newsletter to members of MAL Camp 300.
- During February solicited current dues from delinquent brothers of camp 300.
- Missed April 2025 National Council Meeting at Springfield IL, due to kidney stones.
- During April assisted new camp 15's secy with initiating camp form 27.
- April prepared camp 300 form 27 revealing no loss of brothers.
- Later Camp 300 gained 1 new brother.
- Continue to edit and publish camp 15's monthly newsletter.
- May 2025 attended Hartranft Camp annual Memorial Day events at historic Harrisburg Cemetery to honor our fallen veterans; and Lincoln Cemetery too, and then Indiantown Gap Nat'l Cemetery.
- Continue with the training our 2025 newly appointed assistant executive director.
- Added new Department of Arkansas to the national database.
- Recently prepared the mailing list for the Summer Banner.

I have no 2025 recommendations.

As executive director and in remembrance of my ancestors who served our country during the Civil War and other conflicts since the War of the Rebellion, it is an honor to continue to serve the brotherhood of our grand patriotic organization covering the last 3 decades.

2.15 Assistant Executive Director – Douglas P. McMillin, PDC

First, let me offer up my sincere appreciation to the National Officers and members of the Council of Administration who so enthusiastically supported my application to assume the position of Assistant National Executive Director to the SUVCW. Not a day goes by that I do not feel the weight of the trust placed in me to perform this job. It is my daily goal to endeavor to bring the very best work and efforts I can to this job.

It is indeed unfortunate that my first report must be submitted barely a month and a half after being placed officially in this position. Although I have been working in the headquarters since February as a volunteer, my view of listing items to report upon is in a very formative stage at this point.

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To date I have:

- Processed an enormous number of applications.
- Updated USPS addresses for the Banner mailing for two separate mailings.
- Processed easily more than 100 Form 30 Member information changes. Ranging from address changes, to status updates, discharges, drops, and reinstatement.
- Entered the Camp annual Officer Installation reports for the entire organization into the data base.
- Processed Department Roster updates in advance of Annual Reporting.
- Entered Department Officer Installation Reports into the database.
- Review and entry of Annual Reports by Department.
- Filing of hard copies of applications and supplemental ancestor forms.
- Researching information to meet requests form national officers.
- Updating office equipment for the Asst Exec Dir workspace for increased efficiency and cost effective operation.

This is an example of the work that has been done to date. There will be more as the year progresses. As an expert in process management and efficiency, I have been closely observing the methods and procedures at National Headquarters to see where improvements can be made to save both time and money. While this is a work in progress, I have already noticed a number of common issues that suggest where potential solutions might be found. Research into possible solutions is already in process.

Since I am only the Assistant in the HQ, I am not looking to implement any changes without the input and consent of the Exec Dir or the CofA. These suggestions will be forthcoming as I deem them viable and appropriate.

This concludes my report for the 2024-2025 year.

3.0 National Appointed Officers

3.1 National Chief-of-Staff; Brian W. Horgan, PDC

I have assisted in handling routine assignments and communications on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief.

I have met with the Commander-in-Chief and Deputy Chief-of-Staff at least weekly and as needed to review pertinent issues for the week and engage in strategic planning. I have met with the National staff in facilitating various efforts.

Regarding the submission of reports for this and future COA meetings, please make every effort to submit them in a timely fashion and in the format requested.

(Of note, the body of this report reflects the response to the call for reports issued to those officers and committee chairs of record as of the most recent listings available. Compliance with formatting and deadlines is beneficial in the attempt to convey the reports as intended. Deviation from these requests jeopardizes the integrity of the reporting.)

As always, your cooperation is greatly appreciated. An analysis of report submissions by type reveals the following:

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Report Type	Officers	Reports Received	Percent Complete
National Elected Officers	15	15	100%
National Appointed Officers	36	27	75%
National Standing Committees	19	15	79%
National Special Committees	7	6	86%
Department Reports	32	26	81%
Totals	**109**	**89**	**82%**

In closing, I wish to thank CinC Martin for his appointment to serve as Chief of Staff. It has been a privilege to serve in this capacity. I could not have completed my assignment without the strong support of a dedicated and committed staff of Brothers. I wish to specifically cite the efforts of W. Faron Taylor, PDC, and A. Clay Matthews, PCC, for their significant contributions.

3.1a Deputy National Chief-of-Staff; W. Faron Taylor, PDC

I have assisted in the daily activities of the Commander in Chief and assisted with his communications.

I have met with the Commander-in-Chief and the Chief-of-Staff weekly and as needed to discuss recent activities and facilitate advanced planning.

3.1b National Aides-de-Camp: Eric Atkisson, PCC; Clay Matthews, PCC; David Pyne, PCC; Tim Sedmak; Nathaniel Horgan

The National Aide staff has collectively served to assist with various administrative tasks in support of the CinC, including communications, document formation and collation, scheduling, and other duties as assigned.

3.2 National Chaplain, Douglas P. Jones

I have taken the following actions during the past four months.

1. I wrote 2 articles for the Banner.
2. Submitted a Camp article for the Banner.
3. I updated the National Chaplain's page on the SUVCW webpage with several orders from the Commander-in-Chief.
4. Sent a birthday card to Bro William Poole, the last surviving true son.
5. Where I received Form 49 from 18 Departments, I congratulated those brothers who were appointed as Department Chaplain and offered assistance.
6. I have responded to 77 death notifications with cards or other messages since my appointment.
7. I added those deaths to the National Chaplain's page reporting those deaths including date of death, name, department and camp number. They are sorted by date of death.
8. I participated in a field training with leadership of the Department of the Chesapeake in Fredericksburg, VA March 4th.
9. Attended the Department of the Chesapeake Encampment in Fredericksburg, VA March 4th and 5th.
10. Attended the ceremonies at the Lincoln Tomb on March 12th on Lincoln Death Day in Springfield, Illinois and offered prayers.

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11. Spoke at ceremonies at the Dr. Stephenson Monument on March 12th.
12. Organized Camp participation in 250th History Fair with DAR, SAR and other organizations in Frederick, MD on April 27th .
13. Conducted a Camp Meeting on May 18th .
14. Participated in Memorial Day Program at Mount Olivet Cemetery, home of Francis Scott Key, with other lineage organizations.
15. Hosted a Camp Picnic at my home on Sunday, June 22nd.

3.3 National Civil War Memorials Officer, Walter E. Busch, PDC

This year has been busy; the following have been accomplished:

1. Walt entered all the monuments and last soldier memorials listed below into the national database https://suvcw.org/national-monument-database.
2. Created suggested edits to the Constitution and Regulations concerning the job descriptions for Camp, Department, and National Memorial Officers. After finding out that a national officer cannot recommend such changes without a Department approving a resolution for such, obtain the Department of Missouri's resolution to make such changes. (text attached)
3. Sumner Hunnewell records monuments on his many journeys for other fraternal organizations. He has submitted the most monuments this year and should be commended for submitting 56. The department that has submitted the most is Missouri, well actually the new Department of Arkansas depending on when we count them as being submitted.
4. In preparation of creating a user manual for entry of monuments into the national database, Sumner Hunnewell and I met and he was trained to enter records into the database. This went well and I should be able to prepare a user manual before next encampment and am hoping to hold a Zoom training session with Department and Camp Memorials Officers.

The National Database for Monuments/Memorials holds the following number of files:

Monument Guidelines, Catalogs & Publications	22
Outside the U.S.	6
Alabama	2
Arkansas	68
Arizona	9
California	64
Colorado	7
Connecticut	13
Delaware	2
Florida	5
Georgia	26
Hawaii	1
Iowa	456
Idaho	10
Illinois	158

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Indiana	46
Kansas	18
Kentucky	22
Louisiana	4
Massachusetts	81
Maryland	7
Maine	14
Michigan	231
Minnesota	3
Missouri	574
Mississippi	26
North Carolina	12
North Dakota	2
Nebraska	7
New Hampshire	32
New Jersey	9
New Mexico	1
Nevada	6
New York	52
Ohio	77
Oklahoma	5
Oregon	11
Pennsylvania	66
Rhode Island	39
South Carolina	2
South Dakota	1
Tennessee	26
Texas	5
Utah	4
Virginia	37
Vermont	6
Washington	17
Washington, DC	9
Wisconsin	39
West Virginia	1
Wyoming	3
TOTAL	**2,346**

Officer's Report Recommendation

Resolution Supporting Changes to the Constitution and Regulations Concerning the Job Descriptions for Camp, Department, and National Memorial Officers:

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WHEREAS the job descriptions of the Camp, Department and National Memorials Officers in the Constitution and Regulations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War do not reflect changes to the current existing conditions within the organization; in that, these descriptions do not mention the National Memorials and Monuments Database; and

WHEREAS the job descriptions of the Camp and the Department Memorials Officers promote the keeping of records separate from the National Memorials and Monuments Database; and

WHEREAS these two job descriptions do not specify that these separate records be shared with the National Memorials and Monuments Database; and

WHEREAS one main purpose of the National Memorials and Monuments Database is to have all Memorials and Monuments records held by any unit of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to be held by the use of the entire organization; and

WHEREAS there are other revisions that the National Memorials Officer of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War recommends.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Department of Missouri in Encampment assembled, proposes to the 144th National Encampment, the following changes to National Regulations, Chapter I, Article III; Chapter II, Article IX; and Chapter III, Article VII.

[Adopted by the 30th Department of Missouri Encampment on June 7, 2025]

Chapter I ARTICLE VIII - Appointed Officers Job Descriptions & Duties

Section 6. Camp Memorials Officer - The purpose of the Camp Civil War Memorials Officer is to coordinate the locating, physical examination of, and recording of all memorials dedicated to Union Civil War soldiers and sailors (outside the care of the National Military Parks, and the U.S. Departments of Defense, or Veterans' Affairs) within their respective geographic boundaries. This includes all sizes of monuments (with or without sculpture), those with Civil War era cannon and inert ammunition, memorial fountains, memorial buildings, memorial windows (stained glass), historical markers, and even small plaques. Reports on the various memorials and monuments located within the Camp area shall be made from time to time to the Department Memorials officer upon appropriate form. To prevent a duplication of effort on the part of a Camp's membership, the Camp Civil War Memorials Officer should:

a) Coordinate the search for, physical examination of, photographing of, and recording of Civil War Memorials (as described above) located within the confines of the Camp's geographical boundaries.

b) Maintain observation of care and upkeep for "local" Civil War Memorials - and bring any shortcomings to the attention of the property owners and community government where the memorial is located.

c) Provide documentation of location and condition of Civil War Memorials (via SUVCW Form CWM 61) to the Department Civil War Memorials Officer.

d) Upon completion of training as provided through the National Memorials Officer, the Camp Memorials Officer shall be responsible for creating digital files and uploading them into the National SUVCW Civil War Memorials and Monuments Database. Upon request of the National Civil War Memorials Officer, any trained member may also be tasked to work on reviewing and uploading memorials information from outside their camp's designated area.

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Chapter II Article IX - Optional Appointed Officers Job Descriptions & Duties

Section 2. Civil War Memorials Officer. The purpose of the Department Civil War Memorials Officer include the locating, physical examination of, and recording of all memorials dedicated to Union Civil War soldiers and sailors (outside the care of the National Military Parks, and the U.S. Departments of Defense, or Veterans Affairs) in the Department. This includes all sizes of monuments (with or without sculpture), those with Civil War era cannon and inert ammunition, memorial fountains, memorial buildings, memorial windows (stained glass), historical markers, and even small plaques.

a) The Department Civil War Memorials Officer should coordinate a mutually agreeable Camp assignment of Counties within the state(s) represented by his Department.

b) The Department Civil War Memorials Officer should provide guidance to each Camp for the execution of activities including coordinating the search for, physical examination of, photographing of, and recording of Civil War Memorials (as described above) located within the confines of the Camp's geographical boundaries; maintaining observation of care and upkeep for "local" Civil War Memorials – and bring any shortcomings to the attention of the property owners and community government where the memorial is located; and providing documentation of location and condition of Civil War Memorials (via SUVCW Form CWM 61) to the Department Civil War Memorials Officer.

c) The Department Civil War Memorials Officer is encouraged to maintain a computer database from the information submitted by each Camp, on the SUVCW "Civil War Memorial Assessment Form" (CWM 61).

d) The Department Civil War Memorials Officer is encouraged to periodically review the Department's files within the National Civil War Memorials Database for out-of-date or missing information and correct himself or request a local Camp Civil War Memorials Officer to correct the situation in order to keep our database up-to- date.

e) Electronic cataloging and retrieval of Civil War Memorial photo-images is also encouraged.

f) Make recommendations to the National Civil War Memorials Officer intended for the improvement of the National Civil War Memorials Database or forms that are used.

g) The Department Civil War Memorials Officer will also forward this information to his Department's liaison on the National Civil War Memorials Committee.

h) Reports on the various memorials and monuments located within the Department shall be made from time to time to the National Civil War Memorials Officer upon appropriate form.

i) Upon completion of training as provided through the National Memorials Officer, the Department Memorials Officer shall be responsible for creating digital files and uploading them into the National SUVCW Civil War Memorials and Monuments Database. Upon request of the National Civil War Memorials Officer, any trained member may also be tasked to work on reviewing and uploading memorials information from outside their department's designated area.

Chapter III Article VII - Officers Job Descriptions & Duties

Section 21. The National Civil War Memorials Officer shall chair of the National Civil War Memorials & Monuments Committee. He will also provide leadership and direction to the National Organization, Departments and Camps regarding the locating, physical examination of, and recording of all memorials dedicated to Union Civil War soldiers and sailors. This includes all sizes of monuments (with or without sculpture), those with Civil

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War era cannon and inert ammunition, memorial fountains, memorial buildings, memorial windows (stained glass), historical markers, and even small plaques. He shall:

a) Oversee the collection, organization, and maintenance of a national listing (including a computer database) of Civil War Memorials (as described above), and make this information available upon request.

b) Develop and, once developed, maintain online monument information presented in a format approved by the Memorials and Monuments Committee.

c) Encourage Departments and Camps to establish and appoint a Civil War Memorials Officer, at each level, to oversee Department-wide and "local" memorial assessment and preservation activities. If deemed necessary by the organization, develop additional written instructions or training for people to use the Civil War Memorial Assessment Form.

d) Encourage Departments (or States) to maintain their own websites containing monument information maintain the files in the Civil War Monuments National Database pertaining to their Department. If/when all Departments meet our minimum standards, the National Monuments Officer will forward records sent into him and completed Form 62s scanned annually by him to the appropriate Departments. Then only records that are not connected with a specific Department will be kept by National (examples are those recorded from outside the U.S.).

e) Work with fellow National Civil War Memorials Committee members, to assist Department and Camp level efforts to locate, assess, and record the physical condition of Civil War Memorials.

f) Work with fellow National Civil War Memorials Committee members, to provide guidance to Departments and Camps regarding the observation of care and upkeep for Civil War Memorials - and to bring any shortcomings to the attention of the property owners and community government where the memorial is located.

g) Act as an advisor to the Civil War Monuments Grants Committee by providing instruction as to what is a memorial or monument and what is not, to help ensure funds of the Organization are used for their purposes intended. Collect the files from the Civil War Monuments Grants Committee on an annual basis and scan the documents for inclusion in the national electronic database.

h) Prepare and submit an annual written report to the Commander-in-Chief and National Encampment on the activities of the National Civil War Memorials Officer regarding the activities of the committee.

i) Review annually the national website to review all monument forms, links to Department (or State) monuments, and, if present, any national database that is on line to insure they are properly working.

j) Submit annually a digital backup copy of the national database to National SUVCW.

NEW j. Develop or maintain training manual for using the database. The manual demonstrates to trained Camp and Department Civil War Memorials Officers how to access and upload files to the database. Training on the proper use of the database and our forms should be developed with an eye to incorporating the training into the programs of Memorial University.

NEW k. Annually review the training manual and make updates.

NEW l. As needed, upload files to the database; review files uploaded by others to the database and edit; and evaluate the database and make recommendations to the National Signals Officer.

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3.4 National Color Bearer, Shane Milburn, PDC

Nothing to report.

3.5 National Counselor, Michael A. Paquette, PCinC

I provided guidance to the Department Commander of the Department of Colorado and Wyoming regarding multiple ongoing disciplinary actions in the department. Questions posed by the Department Commander primarily involved clarification of the disciplinary process and timelines defined in the C, C, and R.

3.6 Assistant National Counselor, Donald E. Darby, PCinC

No Report Received.

3.7 Assistant National Counselor (Blue Book), James B. Pahl, PCinC

The 2025 version of the C&R is currently on line and available. It contains all Regulation and annotation changes from the 143rd National Encampment (Lexington).

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3.8 National Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator, Michael Spaulding, PDC

Form 14, for requesting Eagle Scout Certificates directs applicants to send the form to either the Department Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinators (DESCC) or directly to me. I forward the ones I receive to the appropriate DESCC and follow-up to make sure all requests are processed. Not every Department has an active DESCC, so I have sent out 43 certificates to the new Eagle Scouts personally and have also presented 6 certificates to new Eagle Scouts here in Ohio.

Since the beginning of my current term in August 2024, I have personally processed 345 requests from 31 Departments. Some Departments have good contacts with the local Scout troops and have processed certificates without going through me as the middleman, so the total number of Eagle Certificates awarded in the past year is 672. Our records are not complete, but more than 90% of the reported Eagle Scouts who received our certificate were males, and 142 certificates were presented by an SUVCW Brother in person. (This is a great opportunity for us to meet and recruit potential new members!)

I commend the Department of New York generally, and the Moses A. Baldwin Camp #544 specifically. Camp 544 issued 135 (!) certificates in 2024 alone! In one Eagle Court of Honor, Camp Commander McMahon presented 11 certificates, the largest number at one ceremony I am aware of, and more than many Departments for the entire year. Good job!

I have combined my records with reports received from most of the Departments and here are the total numbers of certificates awarded:

Alabama	5
California and Pacific	16
Chesapeake	19
Colorado and Wyoming	3
Columbia	53
Connecticut	4
Florida	23
Georgia and S. Carolina	10
Illinois	14
Indiana	1
Iowa	1
Kansas	7
Kentucky	6
Maine	3
Massachusetts	14
Michigan	20
Missouri and Arkansas	17
Nebraska, N. and S. Dakota	2
New Hampshire	3
New Jersey	67
New York	257
North Carolina	4

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Ohio	19
Oklahoma	2
Pennsylvania	35
Rhode Island	3
Southwest	15
Tennessee and Mississippi	4
Texas and Louisiana	30
Vermont	0
Wisconsin and Minnesota	14
Unknown	3

I also worked with QM Bobby Welch to get the wording on the certificate updated to represent the latest name change of the old Boy Scouts to the new Scouting America.

3.9 National GAR Highway Officer, Peter J. Hritsko, Jr., PCinC

I have the pleasure of submitting my National GAR Highway Officer Report for 2025 National Encampment being held in Houston, Texas during August 7-10th

I would like to thank all the Dept. GAR Highway Officers for their hard work during this past year. Especially all their reports they have submitted during the course of the year.

I have contacted all brothers assigned as Department GAR Highway Officers that were listed on the National website that were listed on their Department contacts. The Department GAR Highway Officers consist of the Department of California, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania. I asked all Dept. GAR Highway Officers to submit a report and if they didn't to please respond by saying Nothing to Report.

I found the Department of Rhode Island GAR Highway Officer was vacant and the listing for Vermont GAR Highway didn't have a contact..

These GAR Highway Officers listed in this package are the ones who have turned in a report for their Departments. If you don't' see a Department listed, these officers didn't turn in a report for their Department.

I have been asked many times by Brothers how Dept. of Ohio was able to place signs on U.S. Route 6 known as the Grand Army of the Republic Highway. Because they were having the same issue that I had encountered dealing with the different State Department of Transportation (DOT). I explained in my State of Ohio the only 2 signs that the DOT of Ohio would allow a sign to be put up were located at 2 different rest stops only. I had mentioned the other locations and Ohio DOT reply was No. I went to the different cities in Ohio for whom I had spoken with their mayors and the Superintendent of their Street Department. They informed me that all signs that were posted within the city, village and township were their responsibility and it was their decision to allow them to be put up even though these were state routes they had jurisdiction over the state on sign postings. That is how I was able to have these signs installed and have each city pay for the signs and labor of installation. I organized a dedication ceremony with the mayor present for which I presented a plaque of recognition for each city.

Every Department GAR Highway Officer needs to look into their law of each state DOT and city, villages and townships how it's governed the placing of these sign which may be totally different from one to another.

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3.10 National GAR Records Officer, Dean A. Enderlin, PDC

It has been an honor to serve as your National GAR Records Officer for the 2024-2025 administrative year. This is my fifteenth consecutive term in this appointed office.

The number of known and uniquely named/numbered GAR Posts identified in our catalog rose to 10,904 this year. This is an increase of sixteen Posts since last year's report. The additions were primarily in the states of Georgia and Tennessee. There are undoubtedly still dozens – if not hundreds – of Posts throughout the country yet to be identified, particularly those that existed prior to 1879.

The highlight of the year was the addition of the Descriptive Record of the GAR Department of Tennessee to our catalog, which was digitized in 2020 by the Knox County Public Library (Knoxville, TN) and recently posted online. It is a master record book that was maintained by the GAR Department of Tennessee, containing extracted information from each Post's Descriptive Book. It's a remarkable and rare record. Although the collection is searchable by name, I browsed the entire collection of digitized pages to verify which images pertain to which Post. That information is now reflected in our catalog.

More details regarding our program are presented in the annual report of the National Committee on GAR Records.

RECOMMENDATIONS: No Recommendations.

3.11 National Graves Registration Officer, Henry Duquette, PDC

As of July 6, 2025, we have 914,764 records in the database, of which 860,367 are active and 54,397 have been deleted as duplicates or false records. The number of deleted records reflects the various clean-up efforts that several Departments have undertaken this past year but with much more clean-up to do. We have 1,900 registered accounts; 1,782 submitters, 114 administrators and 4 root accounts. Very few of the submitter accounts are active at this time. Only 5 have logged in since 1/1/2025. These 5 accounts have submitted 45,880 new records since their accounts were created. Accounts that have never submitted a record will be dropped from the system. In contrast, 66 Admin accounts have logged in to the system since Jan. 1, 2025.

Work on the Graves Registration Rewrite Project continues. Progress has slowed recently due to the developer's frequent schedule issues which has resulted in the project falling further behind schedule and is very frustrating to the committee.

Developer Ken Rahn is working on the “Service” and “Disposition of Remains” sections. Once these are completed, testing will begin by the committee. The Committee now meets with developer Ken Rahn every week to review progress when he is available. The committee has begun establishing testing plans for each process of the system and has identified issues with the conversion of the old database to the new format.

Clean-up efforts continue. Many of the errors found are due to data entry misspellings, etc. from before fields were selected from dropdown menus. I am the only one who has direct access to the database so I am often called upon to provide reports to Department Grave Registration Officers. The new Admin section will include a “Reports” section where some of the more common reports will be available to assist in their clean-up efforts. In addition, Admins will have the ability to create Ad Hoc reports.

The Committee has submitted proposed Website Policy Statements for the Graves Registration web pages: Terms and Conditions of Service and Privacy Policy to the Policy and Proceedings Committee for review. We are waiting for an official finding by the P & P Committee.

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Committee members continue to put in many hours of work every month with more effort required as we enter the testing phase. I applaud their dedication and commitment to making the Graves Registration database an outstanding product.

Recommendation: Purchase Cyber Insurance

During our conversion review of current free-form text fields in the database, we recognized that we have an exposure to malware and other potentially harmful input. Consideration must also be given to the fact that we gather contact information from people who sign up for a Submitter's Account. While we do not hold Social Security Account Numbers, we do capture enough personal information to make our database attractive to hackers.

3.12 National Guard, Lee Stone, PDC

Nothing to Report

3.13 National Guide

No Report required.

3.14 National Historian, Gary Gibson, PDC

No Report Received.

3.15 National Legislation Officer, Daniel R. Earl, PCC

The duties of the National Legislation Officer are to keep Brothers apprised of "legislation affecting the welfare of the Order or the Constitution or the welfare of the United States" (C&Rs Chapter III, Art. VII, §32). To that extent, this report is an overview of relevant federal legislation.

Below is a summary list of federal legislation that has been introduced during the first session of the 119th Congress (from 3 January 2025 through 10 July 2025), relevant to the purpose and objects of the Order. (Previous federal legislation that was introduced during the 118th Congress and was not passed, died when Congress adjourned sine die at 11:57 a.m. on 3 January 2025). Since the start of the 119th Congress on 3 January 2025 at 12 noon, I have reviewed over 7,700 federal bills and resolutions. Unless otherwise noted below, each measure is awaiting action in a House or Senate Committee.

Due to the vast quantity of continuously changing legislation, a limited amount of State legislation is researched and reported on by Assistant National Legislative Officer Steve Hammond (PDC).

Departments are encouraged to monitor legislation in their respective State and local government jurisdiction (G.O. #6 Series 2016-2017) and contact the National Legislation Officer about issues of interest and to assist with further review and/or advice.

Brothers may be particularly interested in legislation below that is denoted with an asterisk (*) and in bold print.

<u>BATTLEFIELDS, MONUMENTS/MEMORIALS, AND HISTORIC AREAS</u>

- *H.R.Res.63 – Redesignating the Robert E. Lee Memorial as the "Arlington House National Historic Site."
- *H.R.3056 – This legislation is known as the Camp Nelson National Monument Boundary Expansion Act. It would authorize the addition of approximately 132 acres to the Camp Nelson National

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Monument in Kentucky, bringing the total acreage of the monument to 597 acres. Camp Nelson was established by the Union Army on 29 April 1863 as a supply depot and hospital. It later became a recruitment and training center.

MISCELLANEOUS PATRIOTIC AND RELATED LEGISLATION

- H.R.51/S.51 – To provide for the admission of the State of Washington, DC into the Union.
- H.R.465 – To prevent the flying of any flag other than the United States flag over United States diplomatic and consular posts.
- *H.R.1087/S.498 – To posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively to the African Americans who served with Union forces during the Civil War, in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service.
- H.R. 1421/S.900 – These bills would forbid a U.S. flag from being displayed on federal property unless it was made in the United States. Additionally, federal funds could not be used to purchase U.S. flags that are not manufactured in the United States.
- H.R.1976 – To require $20 notes to include a portrait of Harriet Tubman.
- H.Res.222 – Recognizing the patriotism and contributions of veterans service organizations, veteran advocacy groups, and volunteers.
- *H.Res.373 – Expressing support for the month of May as “Fallen Heros Memorial Month” (with specific references to the American Civil War).
- H.Res.440 – Recognizing on Memorial Day, 26 May 2025 the denial of voting representation in Congress and full local self-government through statehood for active duty service members, National Guard members, reservists, veterans, and their families who are residents of the District of Columbia.
- *S.1858 – This bill would require national cemeteries administered by the DOD, VA, or NPS to be open to visitors on federal public holidays.
- *H.Res.444 – Calling upon all Americans on this Memorial Day, 2025, to honor the men and women of the Armed Forces who have died in the pursuit of freedom and peace.
- S.Res.290 – A resolution commemorating June 19, 2025, as “Juneteenth National Independence Day” in recognition of June 19, 1865, the date on which news of the end of slavery reached the slaves in the Southwestern States. [Agreed to in the Senate by Unanimous Consent.]

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

- *S.J. Res.58/H.J.Res. 101 – A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

3.16 National Liaison to Cathedral of the Pines, Perley E. Mellor, PCinC

No Report Received.

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3.17 National Liaison to MOLLUS, Jeffry C. Burden

No Report Received.

3.18 National Membership-at-Large Coordinator, Rocky Bartlow

I have sent out dues notices to the brothers of the NMAL and received four back. Four other brothers, which I have not heard from in two years, I have dropped. I have completed Form 35 for the NMAL and it has been received at national. I plan to complete the camp IRS 990N form in July.

I have also received correspondence and have provided help for brothers inquiring for membership in the NMAL. In all cases, they were eligible for membership in a department, and I have directed them to those various departments successfully.

I plan to be in Houston in August for the National Encampment.

3.19 National Organization Expansion Officer, John Buckler

No Report Received.

3.20 National Parliamentarian, James B. Pahl, PCinC

Brothers are reminded the 12th Edition of Robert's Rules of Order is the latest edition.

3.21 National Patriotic Instructor, Tad D. Campbell, PCinC

This serves as the annual written report for both the National Patriotic Instructor (NPI) and the National Special Committee on Memorial University.

Memorial University: Memorial University continues to take up much of the time allotted to the office of NPI.

Last year I designed a spreadsheet to track graduates of Memorial University, which I continue to maintain, and which will be passed along to my successor. The improved certificates I designed last year are working out well and have been positively acknowledged.

During this term, twenty (20) Brothers graduated from Memorial University. This is an increase of 25% from last year. Three of the graduates did not respond to emails seeking contact and other information and so did not receive a certificate and pin.

Unfortunately, the National Special Committee on Memorial University did not have any meetings. The intention was to hold a virtual meeting via Zoom, but scheduling conflicts and other obligations prevented this from happening. However, Committee members Steve Michaels (PCinC) and Kent Peterson (PDC) did conduct a virtual "Introduction to the SUVCW – Member Orientation" course on October 27, 2024, which was well- received. Their initiative and dedication are to be commended.

Patriotic Instructor Reporting:

I received Patriotic Instructor reports on Form 41 from the following Departments: Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, and Wisconsin. The Department of Arkansas was only organized on June 21, 2025 and is not included in this report.

Only 14 of the remaining 31 Departments submitted a Form 41, which is just 45% of the Departments, and a 10% drop in reporting from the previous year. This is very disappointing.

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Additionally, the Patriotic Instructor reporting forms at all levels (Forms 40, 41, and 42) remain confusing and convoluted, resulting in incomplete and likely inaccurate information. As an example, on the Form 41, in two columns for marking "Y" or "N" to indicate whether or not a Department participated in a particular activity, some Departments wrote "Y" or "N", some used an "X", and still others placed numbers in those columns. These numbers may have been the number of Camps for each response, but that was not at all clear, especially since the numbers did not match the number of Camps in the respective Departments.

Issues like this left many areas of the Form 41 up to the best interpretation of the NPI, undoubtedly introducing additional errors.

Last year at the 143rd Annual National Encampment in Lexington, Kentucky I made the following recommendation:

1. That the Patriotic Instructors' annual forms, namely Form 40 for Camps, Form 41 for Departments, and Form 42 for National, be reviewed by the National Standing Committee on Program and Policy with the following objects:

    a) Abolishment of the forms, should it be determined that they are no longer needed, or,

    b) If it is determined that the forms are still needed, that significant revision of the forms take place, to simplify them and add clearer language and instructions.

The National Encampment did not concur with recommendation 1a (abolishment of the forms), but voted to accept recommendation 1b (significant revision of the forms) and assigned the task to the National Committee on Program and Policy. To date, I have neither seen any revised forms, nor has the National Committee on Program and Policy contacted the NPI for input regarding the forms.

On May 29, 2025 the Commander-in-Chief issued General Order No. 18 regarding the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), which allows federal employees to donate directly to their favorite charities through the government pay system. This General Order requested additional information be included in the Camp and Department Patriotic Instructors' annual reports. Unfortunately, the timing of the General Order made compliance virtually impossible. It was issued nearly a month after the reporting deadline for Camps (April 1, not April 30 as stated in the General Order) and only 3 days before the reporting deadline for Departments (June 1, not June 30 as stated in the General Order). Most Departments that submitted reports had already done so before the General Order was issued.

Given the directives of General Order No. 18, it is even more critical that the forms receive significant revision, to include simplification and clarification, and to include specific wording that will successfully solicit the required data to comply with General Order No. 18.

Of the 14 annual reports (Form 41s) received, only 8 delineated the following activities, which may or may not meet the requirements of General Order No. 18:

Alabama

- Memorial Day Program in Oakwood Cemetery (Montgomery AL).
- Joint Meeting (multi camp) held in Cullman AL on May 11, 2024.
- Book Donations to the Old State Bank Museum in Decatur, AL.
- Participation in 2 Community Parades (in uniform).
- Participation in 3 Community Patriotic Commemorations.

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- Multiple JROTC Awards Presentations.
- Participation in the rededication of Old Ossian Cemetery in Ossian, Wells County, Indiana.
- Participation in the Camp of Instruction held by the North-South Skirmish Association held at Brierfield Iron Work State Park in Brierfield, Alabama on June 16, 2024.
- Dedication Service for grave marker of Private Hiram Matthews at Calhoun Community College in Athens, Alabama on July 31, 2024. He was a Union Soldier and served in Company H, 13th United States Colored Infantry. This event had approximately 60 people in attendance and was covered by 4 local television stations.
- Six brothers attended the National Encampment held in Lexington, KY in August 2024.
- Participation in the annual Tennessee Valley Round Table Bus Tour of the Chickamauga Battlefield in Georgia, September 21, 2024.
- Attendance of Multiple Events across southern Tennessee commemorating the Battles of Anthony Hill, Franklin and Nashville, including the dedication of a historical marker for the USCI on Peach Orchard Hill, November and December 2024.

Florida

- Memorial services at funerals.
- Memorial Day service at South Florida National Cemetery.
- Independence Day Celebration.
- Veterans Day Parade.

Illinois

- All eleven Department of Illinois camps submitted their reports for 2024. Members of the Camps spent nearly 1,500 volunteer hours in support of events and functions during 2024, while promoting education, history and patriotism. For this report, when applicable, the numbers listed in the Yes and No columns represent the number of Camps that either did or did not participate in the listed event depending on the question. These two columns will add up to eleven in each instance.
- Every Camp participated in a parade or other related function for Memorial Day, and nearly all participated in Veterans Day.
- Other major events were participated in by roughly half the camps.
- Brothers served at remembrance days for President Lincoln, Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman, and Benjamin Stephenson.
- Some Camps participated in Wreaths Across America.
- Another Camp is fully engaged in helping its namesake's family restore a monument in St. Louis, as well as signage in the namesakes adopted home in a small town where he is buried. There is international interest as these efforts will culminate in two larger events in September 2025 where a delegation from Germany will attend.
- Brothers set up historic displays at libraries.
- Brothers also provided an honor guard for at least one fallen brother posting at the casket.

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Kansas

- Wreaths Across America.
- Radio interviews to promote SUVCW.
- Placed flags on graves in Topeka and Lawrence.
- Emails to Camp members.
- Camp 5 monthly newsletter.
- Camp 5 Facebook page posting events and Civil War history.

Maine

- Dept. attended the sestercentennial [250th anniversary] in Union, Maine.

Ohio

- A number of grave markings throughout the state.
- The use of color guards, including musket firing and buglers.
- Strewing of petals on veterans' graves on Memorial Day.
- Dedication of Lincoln Statue at the Dayton Veterans Affairs.
- Many Camps had parades on holidays.
- Wreaths Across America.
- Many Camps had plaques placed for veterans, as well as information booths at fairs and holidays.

Oklahoma

- 200th Anniversary of Ft. Gibson.
- 8th Annual Dr. James G. Caster Symposium Civil War.
- Memorial Day.
- Re-Dedication of the Battle of Honey Springs.
- Colors for Muscogee Creek Indian Freedman Band "Unsung Heroes Freedmen of Civil War Exhibit!"
- Flag Day.
- July 4 (Neighborhood).
- 143rd National Encampment.
- Folks Life Festival.
- Re-Dedication for Union Veterans graves at Red Rock Cemetery, Calumet, OK.
- 24th Annual Department Encampment.
- Mourned the passing of DUVCW Carol Cox.
- Wreaths Across America.
- Presented JROTC award during the 18th annual Cadet Ball.
- Muscogee Creek Freedmen Band Cemetery Clean-up.
- Distributed flags at Union Soldiers Cemetery and at Rose Hill Cemetery.

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Pennsylvania

- Our Brothers throughout the department proudly promoted patriotism and the love of country throughout the 2024 calendar year. Many Brothers participated in national patriotic events in their local communities as well as the annual Remembrance Day Ceremony in Gettysburg. Our brothers participated in cemetery clean-up projects, replaced Civil War veterans' headstones, assisted in the Wreaths Across America project, created county-wide databases of Civil War veterans' gravesites and honored our Civil War soldiers by holding Last Veteran ceremonies.

  When possible, our Brothers helped to bring to light the spirit of patriotism by attending and presenting awards at Eagle Scout and ROTC ceremonies, participating in Flag and Flag Retirement ceremonies and presenting public programs on the importance of the Civil War and the SUVCW. Many camps opened their meetings to the public to show them the principles that we are founded upon.

Patriotic Instruction by the NPI:

- I composed the following patriotic writings for the national organization: "Voices of Patriotism" articles for The Banner:
  - Autumn 2024 (Edward Everett).
  - Winter 2025 (Creeds).
  - Spring 2025 (Grand Review).
  - Summer 2025 (Juneteenth).
- Monthly Patriotic Instructions:
  - September 2024 (R. C. Gridley and "That Sanitary Sack of Flour").
  - October 2024 (G.A.R. Ritual — Badge Presentation).
  - November 2024 (Thanksgiving).
  - December 2024 ("A Talented Boy–A Brave Soldier–An Uncompromising Patriot").
  - January 2025 (Description of the Grand Army Badge).
  - February 2025 (Anecdotes of Abraham Lincoln).
  - March 2025 (Medal of Honor Day).
  - April 2025 (Grand Illuminations).
  - May 2025 (Memorial Day).
  - June 2025 (A Poem for Flag Day).
  - July 2025 (Revenue Cutter Service).
  - August 2025 (Final Tribute to the G.A.R.).

The monthly patriotic instructions were sent to all Departments and posted to the NPI's page of the national website.

Other Activities: Additional SUVCW activities in which I have participated include the following:

- Council of Administration Meeting, Lexington, Kentucky – August 4, 2024.

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- Regular Camp Meeting, Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, Virtual – September 14, 2024.
- Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) Breakfast, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania – November 16, 2024.
- Remembrance Day Parade, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania – November 16, 2024.
- Council of Administration Meeting, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania – November 17, 2024.
- Installation Luncheon, Sgt. William Pittenger Camp No. 21, Fallbrook, California – December 7, 2024.
- Joint Camp Installation Luncheon, Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 & Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp No. 24, Fremont, California – January 18, 2025.
- 139th Annual Encampment, Dept. of California and Pacific, Bakersfield, California – March 7-8, 2025.
- Memorial Day Ceremonies (2), Los Gatos Memorial Park, San Jose, California – May 26, 2025.
- Special Camp Meeting, Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, Virtual – July 10, 2025.
- Council of Administration Meeting, Houston, Texas – August 7, 2025.
- National Encampment, Houston, Texas – August 8-9, 2025.

Recommendations:

Recommendation No. 1: That the direction of the 143rd National Encampment regarding the review and revision of the Patriotic Instructor reporting forms (specifically Forms 40, 41, and 42) be followed, and that the National Standing Committee on Program and Policy be directed to complete this task as soon as possible, and further that the detailed and accurate reporting required to be in compliance with General Order No. 18 be considered when recommending revisions to said forms.

Note: The National Patriotic Instructor is prepared to withdraw this recommendation if the National Standing Committee on Program and Policy has already completed these tasks.

Recommendation No. 2: That the reporting period for the Form 42 (National Patriotic Instructor) be changed from "January 1 through December 31" to "August 1 through July 31," a period that better matches the term of office of the National Patriotic Instructor.

With the current form using the prior calendar year as the reporting period, a first term National Patriotic Instructor has to try to report on 7-8 months of activity from before he assumed the office.

Recommendation No. 3: That a new appointive office of "Dean of Memorial University" (or other appropriate title) be created and that the administration of Memorial University and chairmanship of the National Special Committee on Memorial University be assigned to that office, and removed from the duties of the National Patriotic Instructor.

The administration of Memorial University and the special committee are important, but time consuming, and not necessarily best served by an educational officer whose main focus should be instruction, and the collection of data pertaining to the patriotic works of the Order as a whole.

3.22 Asst. Natl. Secretary (Dept-at-Large Secretary/Treasurer), James B. Pahl, PCinC

We have two Camps in the Department at Large: the Ensign John Davis Camp #10 located in London, England and the Pvt. Robert F. Dodd Camp 4 in Canada. Other Canadian Camps are being discussed.

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3.23 Asst. Natl. Secretary (Proceedings), John Vander Meulen, PCC

A good audio recording of the 2024 National Encampment in Lexington, Kentucky was provided to the Transcriptionist. From that recording, she produced a transcript of the Encampment business sessions. My Aide, Michael Lance, and I then received the transcript for review. During our review, we applied minor corrections for misspelled names and words, and improper punctuation.

In addition, where the Transcriptionist categorized some speakers as "Unknown" and some remarks as "Indistinguishable," we reviewed the video recording of the Encampment to attempt to identify the speaker's name, or the correct word or phrase spoken. The video recording proved helpful in this regard.

We also identified "side-bar" remarks in the transcription and recommended their removal. Two Zoom meetings were conducted with PCinC Hritsko and CinC Martin to review and explain our recommended edits. With their approval, we completed the final editing.

The final version of the Proceedings report was submitted for approval on March 10, 2025. When final approvals were obtained, the report was sent to Brother Robert Payne who in turn placed it on the National Website for public viewing. Brother Roger Leturno, Washington DC Representative, was also notified of the report's readiness for delivery to the Library of Congress.

3.24 National Signals Officer, Jamie McGuire, PDC

I wish to thank Commander-in-Chief Martin for entrusting me to return to the responsibilities as National Signals Officer after a four-year hiatus. It has been a year of reacclimating to the role and reconsidering how the office can best serve our Order.

I began by getting up to speed with the National Webmaster on how and where the website is both functioning properly and where it is still in need of development and support. Working with Brother Payne in this capacity over the course of the year has been very useful, as the various tasks he performed as Webmaster gave me a great refresher of the priorities and use of our public-facing technologies. The National Webmaster kept me very well informed and pulled me in for consultation and partnership on issues that he felt needed a different point of view.

I spent a great amount of time during 2024-2025 working to locate, vet, and recommend a qualified, capable, and willing Brother to nominate as a replacement for Brother Payne, who will be stepping down as National Webmaster.

I have worked with our Signals Corps to manage our various social media communications streams. We are still primarily on Facebook and Instagram. There is some LinkedIn and TwiXter engagement, but those platforms have fallen of dramatically. The SC receives photos and stories from Camps & Departments much as the Banner does and are able to share these stories out much more quickly and broadly than the quarterly publication.

We also receive occasional direct communication from those looking for historical research, offering resources, or seeking information on membership. Those queries are responded to, and when applicable, forwarded to the appropriate National Officer, Department, or Camp.

The YouTube channel does not fall under the Signals Corps, and content was neither developed, designed, nor distributed through such. When made aware, the social media administrators did indeed try to share out the YouTube content. There should me a more streamlined communication line between the National Committee on Marketing & Promotions and the Signals Corps.

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From its humble beginnings in 2015-2016, the Signals Corps has been proven to be a useful tool in advocating for, promoting the interests of, and recruiting for the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. For several years it was "seeing what sticks" and what would work best. It is clear now, after a decade-long run-in period, that the Signals Corps is best positioned as a Commander-in-Chief's special subcommittee of Marketing & Promotions, or, as I moved at Encampments in days of yore, a standing committee on its own that works hand-n-hand with M&P and Communications and Technology.

Most recently, I have been contacted by several committees seeking advice and support for web-based initiatives moving forward. I will assist all committees and Brothers as permitted by the C&R and within the purview of the office, and will continue to make myself available.

In 2017-2018, this office was in the process of being reimagined as a public-facing conduit for the dissemination of information on behalf of the National Organization through various communications streams, be it press releases, General Orders, CofA announcements and updates, good news stories, etc. In the interceding years between then and now, how we humans consume information has evolved rapidly, both as a result of emerging and evolving technologies as well as unfortunate necessities of COVID-era happenings that have permanently altered the landscape.

I have spent some time this year reflecting on how these changes have impacted the duties of the National Signals Officer, and what recommendations I would have to reshape it to a more efficient use of a position. I have nothing to recommend at this time, but will continue to consider anything up to and including a wholesale revision of the office.

3.25 Assistant National Treasurer #1, James Pahl, PCinC

Nothing to Report

3.26 Assistant National Treasurer #2, Danny L. Wheeler, PCinC

No Report Received.

3.27 Assistant National Treasurer #3, Michael Paquette, PCinC

Nothing to Report.

3.28 National Washington DC Representative, Roger Leturno, PDC

No Report Received.

3.29 National Webmaster, Robert R. Payne, PDC

It has been my pleasure to be the National Webmaster this year. I have completed many tasks needed to maintain the website and ensure proper electronic communication with the Council of Administration.

1. Re-aligned all the email redirects to the new officers.
2. Helped transition cinc@suvcw.org to the new Commander-in-Chief.
3. Added new email re-directs, as requested by the Commander-in-Chief.
4. Added the Commander's Assistant Chief-of-Staff to the cofa_group1@suvcw.org redirect.

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5. Updated the Commander-in-Chief page.
6. Transitioned PCinC Hritsko's Bio to the PCinC area of the Website.
7. Transitioned Last year's General Orders to a new location and created a location for this year's General Orders.
8. Dealt with a few display issues on the website.
    a. Issue with display and linking documents in the Monuments and Memorials area.
    b. Positioning issue with the "Governance and Forms" dropdown menu.
    c. Lost the redirects for getting to the website.
    d. The Server had to be restarted. This took a couple days to fix. During that time it was still accessible using https://suvcw.org
9. Worked with the Chaplain to give him access to edit his own page.
10. Posted all General Orders and Minutes as directed.
11. Posted any new forms approved by the Council of Administration and Programs and Policy Committee.
12. Worked with Drupal Connect to assist Brother Walt Busch with issues in the Monuments and Memorials Section of the National Website.
    a. This caused quite an increase in the cost of maintaining and updating the website. Due to file name handling and coding protocols which didn't accommodate:
        i. The number of records,
        ii. size of records,
        iii. format of file names desired to be used when inputting data,
        iv. additional display requests.
    b. I have allowed Drupal Connect to interact directly with The Monuments and Memorials Team and requested that updates and additional hours required to perform their requests be run through the Webmaster to help control cost overruns.
    c. This "fix" caused more than 600 file names, not in the Monuments and Memorials area, to have a "404" error. This has caused me to have to fix all these files, which include most of the Past National Encampments, Past Banner Editions, and Past General Orders.
    d. I consulted with Drupal Connect and discussed possible solutions. We have been able to correct the majority of the broken links. I have taken over the process of correcting the files in the main part of the website to reduce costs with Drupal Connect.
    e. This issue, caused by not knowing the file naming protocols, has resulted in around 10 extra hours of work by Drupal Connect implementing a permanent solution.
13. Corrected 404 errors as quickly as possible after being notified of them or finding them.
14. I have requested, from Drupal Connect, the cost estimate to incorporate some new content types to assist future Webmasters in ease of updating the website.

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15. Updated many PCinC Biographies, with the direct assistance of PCinC Ed Norris.
16. Under the request of PCinC Don Martin, I created a new area on the site covering the background on the names of some of our National Awards. National Awards - background | Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.
17. Uploaded Candidates for National Offices.
18. Forwarded many emails that have arrived through our "Contact Us" link on the National Website.
19. Handled email redirect issues concerning SVCinC.
20. Removed and updated forwarding emails as needed.
21. Worked with our contractor, Drupal Connect, to ensure updates to website security and Drupal coding updates were installed.
22. Created a new page addressing the Sons of Veterans March.
23. Updated the Lincoln Tomb page.
24. Added SVR Breakfast order forms for The National Encampment and Remembrance Day.
25. Worked with the Department of Texas updating National Encampment pages and information concerning, tours, Lodging, Registration, and Houston Attractions.
26. Uploaded the New Camp Secretary Handbook.
27. Created an extra field on the National Encampment pages listing Awardees receiving National Awards at the National Encampments. Currently this only extends back to 2022 but will be further extended as we gather more information.
28. I have added a new link in the What We Do drop down for Remembrance Day.
29. Worked with Drupal on the loss of SendGrid for our website contact forms. It has been covered.
30. Currently working with Promotions and Marketing on placing America250, Memorial Day, and Juneteenth items on the site for use by members.
31. Notified the Council of the need to upgrade from Drupal 10 to Drupal 11, this year.
32. Notified Drupal Connect that the Council approved the update to Drupal 11.
33. Created a link for the NEW Department of Arkansas. Once I have the Department's web address, it will be properly linked.
34. I received a high-quality image of the 1954 SUVCW Charter. I created a page for it, exhibiting the document and links to it under the Federal Charters link in the Who We Are tab.

3.30 Assistant National Webmaster, Ken L. Freshley, PCinC

No Report Received

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3.31 National Webmaster – Memorial University, Bruce D. Frail, PCinC

I have the honor to report that the issues presented to the Memorial University Webmaster were handled on a timely basis by myself either doing the work directly or explaining to the Brother who oversaw that area (ClassMarker) how to fix or correct the issue at hand.

There were four separate issues that came up throughout the year, all of which were Brothers who had taken the first test, passed and then couldn't get into the next lesson. All these issues were resolved when it was explained to each of them that when they completed the first lesson the system automatically sent them a certificate which stated their score and gave them the password for the next lesson.

Seemingly once this was explained to them, they must have gotten back into the system because I didn't hear anything from any of them in the future. Unfortunately, I cannot check within the ClassMarker to confirm this as that is not within my duties as Memorial University Webmaster. That discussion was made several years ago by the Committee when they assigned Brother Mark Day as the Curriculum Director position within Memorial University, since then Brother Day has resigned from that position and from the committee. This was done under the leadership of Brother Steve Michaels before Brother Benjamin Frail was assigned the duties of Director of Memorial University by virtue of his being appointed as National Patriotic Instructor.

It was determined that this Curriculum position would be retained with its list of duties by the committee. Again, Unfortunately, since Brother Benjamin Frail was removed as National Patriotic Instructor there has been no expansion, future development or meetings of Memorial University. In my opinion, this needs to be corrected as Memorial University should continue to grow and expand.

3.32 Assistant National Quarter Master, Ken Jacobsen

See National ROTC Coordinator Report.

3.33 National ROTC Coordinator, Ken Jacobsen

My sincerest thanks to Commander-In-Chief Martin for the opportunity to serve the order in administrating this unique program for young men and women in developing their leadership, civic, and academic talents through this unique and historic recognition.

Additional thanks to National Quartermaster Bobby Welch and National Treasurer Michael Beard for insuring we had sufficient medal sets and certificates to support the requests of the academic institutions via our Departments and Camps.

Processing of all requests for this past year will be processed by the National Encampment.

I utilized a Google phone number for greater accessibility. This was challenging in that I did not anticipate the volume of calls from coordinators and school staff.

The majority of Department and Camp designated ROTC / JROTC Coordinators are already doing what is desired by national. Submissions of Form 7 via a SUVCW point of contact for presentation at their end of the academic year awards ceremonies are not meeting with major objections once they understand the mission of the order to have representation at these award ceremonies.

Additionally, those requests for the award should come from the Department or Camp. While any ROTC or JROTC unit can reference the order's website and request the award. It is a challenge for those schools to not be aware of Departments or Camps in their vicinity.

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Further, they understand the requirement of the certificate getting the Camp or Department commander's signature to complete the process. This requirement demonstrates our desire to have a professional and appropriate certificate for presentation.

I printed all certificates with the cadet's name and award ceremony date per the submitted Form 7 for a uniform professional appearance.

While the presentation certificate has been formatted to have a Department or Camp commander's signature, in my conversations with those involved in this program under previous administrators, is that it is an administrative process impediment to route these to the appropriate officers for signature in time for their award ceremonies.

This takes valuable time to get these certificates for those making the presentation even when done with ample notice. This spring numerous colleges and high school's units newly learned of the program and made requests on short notice for their award ceremonies. I do not recommend making lead-time recommendations for such requests as the award ceremony dates can change and cadet award determination is made by the unit.

It should be an option to consider using the National CinC's signature on the certificate. This is appropriate for Departments and Camps with huge geographic areas, limited camps, and limited members to make the presentations.

Yes, every effort should be made to have a member of the order make the award ceremony presentation, but this should not be a limiting consideration for sending a medal set and certificate to a worthy and deserving cadet. See Enclosure (1) as a sample of this format.

Per the Council of Administration (COA) meeting held on November 17, 2024, at Gettysburg, PA, it was noted there was a conflict between Form 12 (its Form 7) (ROTC Medal) and the National Regulations. The name of the form will be changed to reflect ROTC/NDCC. Brother Beard moved to have P & P Committee make any minor changes to any form, and it does not require COA approval. Vote: 11 YES, 0 NO. Motion passed.

NDCC, in the context of ROTC, typically stands for the National Defense Cadet Corps. It is a program that offers similar experience to JROTC, but is primarily funded by the host school, rather than the military. While NDCC mirrors JROTC in its focus on leadership and citizenship, it is distinct in its funding model.

This certificate I rarely use, therefore because the Form 7 reflects the different program units using this form, I will submit to the Programs and Policies Committee to change the Form from "R.O.T.C. AWARD APPLICATION" to "CADET AWARD APPLICATION."

The use of CADET is appropriate because it is a ubiquitous term used across all the various programs we make this award too.

Brother Welch set me up with using an on-line shipping software program that is better fiscally and saves significant processing time with the post office It has the additional feature of when I complete the packaging of the award, I am able to notify the college, high school, Camp or Department recipient via their cell phone and email of a USPS or UPS tracking number and notification of its departure from my home city.

Total shipping costs ending 30 June 2025 -- $1,1175.00. Average cost per shipment -- $7.00

I held two zoom question answer meetings on February 6th and 7th with Department and Camp Cadet Coordinators. My intention is to conduct a follow-up zoom meeting in August with coordinators for lessons learned and feedback from this past academic year.

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Finally, my primary goal is to work for continued process improvement with this program and standardization of the application process.

In conclusion the following recommendations are submitted for consideration:

RECOMMENDATION #1 – The use of the current National Commander–in–Chief facsimile signature on cadet award certificates. See enclosure (1) samples for formatting styles.

RECOMMENDATION #2 – The addition of a "Form 7 Instructions" PDF on the National website under the ROTC/JROTC/NDCC Programs with the Form 7 PDF. The "Form 7 Instructions" would be created by the National Cadet Recognition Coordinator under the guidance and approval of the Programs & Policies Committee.

RECOMMENDATION #3 – Request change under the website from, ROTC and NDCC Programs. Cadet Recognition Programs (ROTC/JROTC) How the program works:

- Camp and Departments of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, through this program, are encouraged to participate in recognizing deserving cadets. Such participation is voluntary.
- Where a Camp and Department chooses not to participate, or in locales where no Camp or Department exists, the ROTC/JROTC/NDCC Cadet Award may be purchased requested by the unit using the Form 7 application / order form.

RECOMMENDATION #4 – I recommend and encourage the formal addition of the optional appointed officer at the Department and Camp levels for a Cadet Recognition Coordinator. The Departments may determine their respective duties and responsibilities. Some Departments and their respective Camps already have these officers; it would ease the administrative processing of these requests each spring at the end of the academic year to have these coordinators.

RECOMMENDATION #5 – Change of the title of the Form 7 from "R.O.T.C. AWARD APPLICATION" to "CADET AWARD APPLICATION."

3.34 National Battle Flag Preservation Officer, Ed Norris, PCinC

The activity has mainly been about awareness of our ancestors' battle flags. The "Union Civil War Battle Flags" Facebook page now has 5,080 followers. Since our 2024 National Encampment, sixteen articles about preservation efforts or events directly related to the battle flags have been posted.

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4.0 National Standing Committees

4.1 National Committee on Program and Policy, Kevin Tucker, PDC

We, the members of the National Committee on Program and Policy, are honored to have been appointed by you to serve the Order through this vital and ongoing work. It is a privilege to contribute to the stewardship and improvement of the administrative structure that supports the mission and day-to-day operations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Our committee is composed of the following Brothers:

Kevin Tucker, PDC, Chair
Robert Payne, PDC, Member
Benjamin Frail, PDC, Member
Chip Huffman, Member
Leo Kennedy, PCinC, Member

The Committee's principal focus remains the thorough review and, where necessary, the revision and modernization of the Order's official forms, policies, and published guidance. Our goal is to ensure that these resources remain accurate, accessible, and consistent—supporting both efficiency in administration and fidelity to our Constitution and Regulations.

Since the 2024 National Encampment in Louisville, we have updated the following forms:

- In August 2024: Form 5 – War Medal Application – was updated with changes to number of campaigns.
- In August 2024: Form 7 – ROTC Award Application – was revised with the form name changed to "Cadet Award Application Form" and updated address added for Ken Jacobsen.
- In August 2024: Form 9 – Life Member Application was updated with updated rate schedules.
- In September 2024 Form 30 – Camp Status Report – was revised with the form name changed to "Individual Brother's Personnel Status Action Report".
- In October 2024, Form 7 – ROTC Award Application – was again updated with the original name of the form restored.
- In October 2024, Form 30 – Camp Status Report – was again updated with the original name of the form restored.
- In October 2024, Form 3 – Membership Application – was updated with male gender declaration and the new supplemental application fee added.
- In January, 2025, Form 22 – Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers – was updated to include Camp and Department officers mandated in the C&R.
- In April, 2025, Form 9 - Life Member Application was updated to correct an error to the schedules.
- In April, 2025, - Form 10 – Life Member Reimbursement - was updated wording on the form changed from, "...whose Life Membership fee was paid in full on or before December 31, 2001." to "...whose Life Membership number is lower than 600.", to avoid Camps having to look up dates of Life Membership for Brothers before filling out the form.

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- In April, 2025, Form 3 - Membership Application - was updated with changes on Page 3 changing out the Certification statement for a "Geneology" (sic) statement. The form was later corrected for the spelling error.
- Form 11 - Certification Statement for EIN Reporting Statement – was revised with wording changes in both halves of the document.

On August 22, 2024, Brother Henry Duquette submitted a draft of "Website Policy Statements on the Graves Registration web pages: Terms and Conditions of Service and Privacy Policy" to the Committee for review and approval. Following some discussion, on October 25, 2024, the Committee held a Zoom meeting with Brother Duquette, to discuss the policies.

The Committee felt that we were not qualified to approve the legal language in the policy. I called on a few of the lawyers in the organization to review it, and they felt they were not familiar enough with this legal area to provide an opinion. We will ask the Council of Administration for direction with regard to where to go from here.

Brother Duquette also submitted a draft of "Headstone Policy", which outlined the steps for obtaining a new or replacement headstone for a Union veteran. The Committee felt that this was more of an instruction than a policy, and urged Brother Duquette to publish the document in a training booklet form to be published on the National website.

On August 23, 2024, the Committee approved two drafts of job descriptions for proposed appointed positions of Assistant National Secretary for Recording and Assistant National Secretary for Transcription. These two offices, if approved would replace the current Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings office.

In January, 2025, while researching changes to Form 22, the Committee noticed some wording errors in the C&R. These errors were submitted to the National Counselor, who codified the corrected text.

Throughout the year, the committee has been working on reformatting our National Policies in order to give each policy continuity of format. We have developed a loose template for that format, and so far, have created documents using it for Banner policy, Deed of Conveyance policy, Electronic Communications policy, Graves Registration Website policy, Veterans Headstones policy and Lobbying Policy.

We look for the incoming National Committee on Programs and Policies to continue this work in cooperation with the appropriate National authorities and, eventually, the approval of the Council of Administration.

4.2 National Committee on Civil War Memorials, Walter E. Busch, PDC

See National Civil War Memorials Officer report.

4.3 National Committee on Communication & Technology, James P. McGuire, PDC

The National Committee on Communications and Technology for 2024-2025 was comprised of:

Jamie McGuire, PDC, NSO	Chair
Robert Payne, PDC	Member
Ken Freshley, PCinC	Member
Tad Campbell, PCinC	Member
Benjamin Frail, PDC	Member
Henry C. Duquette, PDC	Aide

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The committee had a very low key year. At the 2024 post-Encampment Council of Administration meeting, the CofA tasked the Committee to research and recommend a "feedback mechanism for anyone opening the Membership page on the National website so we can obtain better metrics on where prospective members are hearing about our order." This topic was discussed and Brother Robert Payne, National Webmaster, identified and deployed a solution.

This committee remained steadfast in its desire to serve the Order to the best of its ability, but there were not an abundance of tasks assigned to us nor requests made of us in this past year. The incoming committee should use the 2025-2026 term to review the description of responsibilities of the Comm & Tech committee and suggest updates and changes.

It is imperative that the Social Media policy be reviewed in the coming year, as there has not been an update since 2017! In the past this has been Comm & Tech in partnership with P&P.

On behalf of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to serve our Order.

4.4 National Committee on Constitution and Regulations, Donald E. Darby, PCinC

RESOLUTIONS
TO THE 144th National Encampment

RESOLUTION
141st Annual Michigan Department Encampment
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Whereas, the current National Regulations require each brother to belong to a Camp or the Department MAL located within the Department where they reside, making no allowances for brothers who belong to Camps located in a department where they do not reside,

Therefore, be it resolved, The Department of Michigan in Encampment assembled, proposes to the 144th National Encampment, the following change to National Regulations, Chapter II, Article I, Section 13, by eliminating the language in strikethrough and in red below.

Chapter II, Article I Section 13

Section 13. Each Department shall make provisions for Department Members-at-Large (DMAL). DMAL shall include all Brothers (Members, Associates, Juniors and Junior Associates) residing within the jurisdiction of the Department who are not a Brother of a Camp ~~***within the Department.***~~ Such provision may be 1) Department MAL, 2) a Camp established by the Department for the purpose of administering the DMAL, or 3) a requirement in the Department bylaws that all Brothers belong to a Camp of their choice or assigned to the nearest Camp if the Brother does not choose a Camp.

C&R COMMITTEE CONCURS

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RESOLUTION
141ST Annual Michigan Department Encampment
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Whereas, the current National Regulations are unclear as to whether a Brother of the Order may attend and observe meetings of the Council of Administration,

Therefore be it resolved, the Department of Michigan in Encampment assembled, proposes to the 144th National Encampment, the following change to the National Regulations, Chapter III, Article VIII, Section 1(A) by adding the language in red [bold type] below.

Article VIII
Council of Administration

Section 1. (A) The Council of Administration shall consist of the Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice Commander in Chief, Junior Vice Commander-in- Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Quartermaster and the immediate Past Commander-in-Chief. All other Past Commanders-in-Chief, National Counselor, The BANNER Editor, the National Signals Officer, and the Washington D.C. representative shall be all non-voting members of the Council or Administration. Non-voting members of the Council of administration have full rights to attend all meetings and internet discussions of the Council of Administration (including while in executive session with the exception of the BANNER Editor and the National Signals Officer and be recognized and be heard on all issues before the Council of Administration. They shall not be counted for the purpose of stablishing a quorum, nor shall they be able to make or second motions. The Commander-in-Chief may invite other non-voting Brothers from whom he or the voting members wish to receive advice and counsel or information. ***Any Brother of the Order in good standing may attend and observe, without voice, any in person meeting of the Council of Administration, space permitting.*** The Council of Administration shall have and shall exercise all powers of the Board of Directors, except in so far as such powers may be assigned to other persons in these Regulations.

WITH A VOTE OF 3 TO 2 THE C&R , the C&R Committee does NOT Concur

RESOLUTION
141st Annual Michigan Department Encampment
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Whereas, the current Regulations allow for a Past Department Commander to add a top bar with appropriate device to the Past Department Commander Badge and there is a desire to allow the same to a Past Commander-in-Chief.

Therefore, be it resolved, The Department of Michigan in Encampment assembled, proposes to the 144th National Encampment, the following change to National Regulations, Chapter V, Article VI, Section 3 N by adding the flowing language in red [bold type] below.

N. Past Commander-in-Chief Badge. Brothers who have served a full term as Commander-in-Chief or who have been elected to fill a vacancy and who serve to the end of that term may wear the Past Commander-in- Chief badge and are entitled to use the suffix PCinC in conjunction with their name. This badge shall have a ribbon as prescribed for national Officers, without top bar. The drop shall be the gold star of the Order, with jewel. ***A Past Commander-in-Chief may at his own expense, attach a top bar to the badge, being a gold bar fashioned as a rank strap with gold border, black enameled background and bearing four silver stars. Such device shall be purchased from the National Quartermaster.*** A miniature Past Commander- in-Chief Badge with a regulation ribbon 5/8 inch in with may be worn in accordance with Article III.

WITH A VOTE OF 3 TO 2 THE C&R COMMITTEE DOES NOT CONCUR UNLESS TO GOES TO ALL LEVELS OF THE ORDER.

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RESOLUTION

Department of Kansas

A Resolution Amend National Regulations

Chapter III, Article IX, Section 8, item d

Whereas, during the Civil War with hundreds or thousands of men involved in the heat of battle, the significance of the color bearer and the color company cannot be overlooked. The flags set the line, rallied the troops, and because of their strategic value (and their visibility) the color sergeant was a ready target. It was a dangerous assignment. Yet the position and title held special honor amongst the troops. It was considered a high honor and usually reserved for the bravest and strongest soldiers. The flags they carried represented the reputation of the unit and were not to be surrendered; and

Whereas, the Department of Kansas believes that Union Civil War battle flags which meet the criteria should be eligible for grant money under this program.

Therefore, the Department of Kansas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, at the twenty-ninth annual department encampment on April 5, 2025, recommends National SUVCW Regulations, Chapter III, Article IX, Section 8 – Operating Funds Item d – Monuments/Memorials Grant Fund (aka Preservation Fund), be amended as follows:

"d. ***Monuments /Memorial Grant Fund (aka Preservation Fund).*** The Council of Administration created this fund in 1999 to assist Departments and Camps of the Order in the preservation, maintenance, and defense of Civil War Monuments and memorials. ***Documented Union Civil War battle flags shall be eligible for a grant for restoration or conservation, provided they are in the public domain not in private collections.*** The General Fund annually transfers a per capita amount determined by the Council of Administration to operate the fund. Camps and Departments will follow these procedures to apply for a grant. These procedures also established standards on how grant submittals will be evaluated. (Footnote: Last Veterans Grave markers are not eligible for grants from the Monuments Grant Committee."

Motion was unanimously passed by the Department of Kansas Encampment, this 5th day of April 2025.

C&R COMMITTEE CONCURS WITH THE CAVEAT "WHERE IS THE MOONEY COMING FROM?"

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RESOLUTION

Department of Massachusetts

RESOLUTION NO. 1

Renaming the National Committee on

Promotions and Marketing.

Whereas; SUVCW Regulations, Article X Standing Committees, Section 19 states, "The purpose/mission of the National Committee on Promotion and Marketing is to expand awareness and visibility of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, its activities and its brand to the broadest possible audience of organizations and individuals, through:

1. An increased active social media presence.
2. Develop and implementation of activity advertising campaigns.
3. Development of marketing tools, press releases and public educational campaigns.
4. To increase our visibility in mutual growth areas such as Genealogy Groups, Historical Societies, Preservation Associations and Veterans' Organizations.
5. Generate articles, essays and short story series to be offered for publication in free publications such as AARP Periodicals, Historical Newsletters, Genealogical Publications and other monthly or quarterly magazines, newsletters and publication.
6. Working with other programs and committees to generate a more cohesive and strengthened overall brand.
7. Develop a more efficient and effective campaign to develop, market and sell items to generate funding for programs and projects.
8. Introducing ourselves to K-12schools, Colleges and Universities, developing resources and curriculum education materials in areas of the American Civil Was and the Grand Army of the Republic, and,
9. Whereas; The National Special Committee on Fundraising was established to develop, market, and sell items to generate funding for programs and projects and
10. Whereas; This purpose of the National Special Committee on Fundraising is redundant with responsibilities in item #7 of the National Committee on Promotion and Marketing, and
11. Whereas; The National Committee on Promotions and Marketing has been successful in promoting the Order through social media applications, sponsorships of media podcasts, genealogical conventions, production of video and audio advertisements and other efforts over the past number of years and
12. Whereas, the National Special Committee on Fundraising has been successful with raising funds for the Order by focusing on the solicitation of donations, such as the 1881 Fund and other efforts, as well as the sale of merchandise at Remembrance Day,
13. Therefor be it resolved; That the Department of Massachusetts, sitting in convention approve the resolution calling upon the National Encampment of the fiscal year to approve an amendment to the Constitution and Regulations which changes the name of the National Committee on Programs and Marketing to the National Committee for the Promotion of the Order, and

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14. Be it further resolved; that the SUVCW Regulations, Article X, Standing Committees, Section 19 be amended to state, "The purpose/mission of the ***National Committee for the Promotion of the Order*** is to expand awareness and visibility of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, its activities and its brand to the broadest possible audience of organizations and individuals, through:

    a. An increased active social media presence.

    b. Development and implementation of active advertising campaigns.

    c. Development of marketing tools, press releases, and public educational campaigns.

    d. An increased visibility in mutual growth areas such as Genealogy Groups, Historical Societies, Preservation Associations and Veteran's Organizations.

    e. Generate articles, essays, and short story series to be offered for publication in free publications such as AARP Periodicals, Historical Newsletters, Genealogical Publications, and other monthly or quarterly magazines, newsletters or publications.

    f. Working with other programs and committees to generate a more cohesive and strengthen overall brand.

    g. ***Promotion of the Order*** to K-12 schools, colleges and universities, developing resources and curriculum education materials in areas of the American Civil War and the Grand Army of the Republic.

    h. Approved this 26th Day of April, in the year of our Lord 2025.

C&R COMMITTEE CONCURS

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RESOLUTION NO. 2

Department of Massachusetts

Expanding the number of miniature badges that

can be worn at formal events.

Whereas; SUVCW Regulations, Article VI, Badges and Medals, Section 2, Item (c) states, © While wearing dinner suit, dinner jacket, or tails, Members may wear upon the left breast lapel of the coat, about four inches below the top of the shoulder, a miniature badge of the Order without top bar, suspended from the regulation ribbons 5/8 inch in width. For the Commander-in-Chief, Past Commander-in-Chief, currently elected National officers and past National officers who have served a full term or who have been elected to fill an unexpired term and who served until the end of that term, the ribbon shall have a yellow center. For Presiding and Past Department Commanders, currently elected Department officers and Past Department officers granted emeritus status by their Department Encampments, the ribbon shall have a red center. For all other Members it shall have a blue center. Stars may be worn on the miniature badge as authorized elsewhere in this Article. Brothers who have served in the armed forces of the United States in time of war and have been awarded the War Medal of this Order, may wear a silver palm on the ribbon of their miniature badge. Brothers wearing the miniatures of the Order may only wear one such miniature badge except that the SVR miniature badge may be worn in conjunction with the miniature membership badge and

Whereas; the National Quartermaster and the Sons of Veterans Reserve have produced and have available for sale miniature Badges of the Order for wear at formal events, and,

Whereas: Current regulation allow only one miniature Membership Badge and one miniature SVR Badge to be worn at any time, despite having additional badges from Regulations, Article VI Badges and Medals, Section 5, Groups A, B, C, & D, available for purchase by Brothers of the Order

Whereas; It is only reasonable to allow miniature Badges of the Order that are produced by the SUVCW Quartermaster and the SVR, and available for purchase by the Brothers of the Order, to be worn in accordance with Regulations, Article VI Badges and Medals, Section 5

Therefor let it be resolved; Regulations Article VI, Badges and Medals, Section 2, Item © be changed to state, "© While wearing dinner suit, dinner jacket or tails, Members may wear upon the left breast lapel of the coat, about four inches below the top of the shoulder, ***miniature of the Badges*** of the Order without the top bar, suspended from the regulation ribbons 5/8 inch in width. For the Commander-in-Chief, Past Commanders-in- Chief, currently elected National Officers and past National officers who have served a full term or who have been elected to fill an unexpired term and who served until the end of that term, the ribbon shall have a yellow center. For Presiding and Past Department Commanders, currently elected Department officers and Past Department officers granted emeritus by their Department Encampments, the ribbon shall have a red center. For all other Members it shall have a blue center. Brothers who served in the armed forces of the United States in time of war and have been awarded the War Medal of this Order, may wear ***either a miniature of the war Medal or*** silver palm on the ribbon of their miniature ***Membership*** Badge. Brothers wearing the miniature Badges of the Order may only wear ***badges in accordance with order of precedence for badges as defined in Article VI Badges and Medals, Section 5.***

Approved this 26th Day of April, in the year of our Lord 2025.

C&R COMMITTEE CONCURS. BUT COMMENTED AS TO "SELF PROMOTION ISSUE."

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RESOLUTION NO. 3

Department of Massachusetts

Adding Life Membership fee for Members

Between the ages of 14 and 19.

Whereas: National Regulations, Chapter V, Article VIII Life Member Programs, ©(iii)(d) states:

(d) As of the 2024 National Encampment, the five fees based upon age of the participant is changed to eleven (11) fees based upon age and the amounts adjusted as follows:

Age 20-29	$ 1,880.00
Age 30-39	$ 990.00
Age 40-49	$ 826.00
Age 50-54	$ 740.00
Age 55-59	$ 652.00
Age 60-64	$ 563.00
Age 65-69	$ 476.00
Age 70-74	$ 386.00
Age 74-79	$ 298.00
Age 80-84	$ 221.00
Age 85 & +	$ 146.00

Whereas; Life Member Program is open to all Members who pay the required fees and

Whereas; The age range and Life Membership fee for members between the ages of 14 and 19 years be set at $2,200.00, and

Be it further resolved that; The National Regulations, Chapter V, Article VIII Life Member Programs ©(iii)(D) be amended to state:

"(d) As of the 2025 National Encampment, the five fees based upon age of the participant is changed to ***twelve (12)*** fees based upon age and the amounts adjusted as follows:

Age 14-19	***$2,200.00***
Age 20-29	$1,800.00
Age 30-39	$ 990.00
Age 40-49	$ 826.00
Age 50-54	$ 740.00
Age 55-59	$ 652.00
Age 60-64	$ 563.00
Age 65-69	$ 476.00
Age 70-74	$ 386.00
Age 75-79	$ 298.00
Age 80-84	$ 221.00
Age 85 & +	$ 146.00

Approved this 26th Day of April, in the year of our Lord 2025.

C&R COMMITTEE CONCURS

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RESOLUTION

Department of Columbia

It appears to the brothers assembled in annual Encampment, that the 143rd National Encampment in adopting new subsection (d) of Article VIII, Life Membership Programs, Chapter V, General Regulations of the National Regulations inadvertently eliminated the right of Members between the ages of 14 and 19 to become Life Members.

To rectify this oversight, The Department of the Columbia humbly requests the 144th National Encampment to amend new subsection (d) Article VIII. Life Membership Programs, Chapter V, General Regulations of the National Regulations that currently reads, in part:

Age 20-29, $1,880.00

To read

Age 14-29, $1,880.00

This action would restore the right of our members between the ages of 14 and 19 to become Life Members. Adopted June 7, 2025.

C&R COMMITTEE DOES NOT CONCUR. Department of Massachusetts 3 conforms with schedule.

RESOLUTION

Ohio Department

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Whereas, the current National Regulations, National Regulations Chapter 1, Article IV Meetings, Footnote 33, page 38 forbids "the posting to any Social Media outlet and or web site or any other means of communication, any live or video recording of selected video clips from any business sessions (including committee meetings) of a Camp, Department or National Encampment, with the explicit exception of the presentation of awards or special recognitions. There shall be no prohibition against the posting of still photography during and after any such meeting. Nothing in the Order shall be considered as any type of prohibition in the use of interactive video technology via Zoom or other such program for Brothers of the Order and invited guests attending meetings by electronic means consistent with National Regulations and/or National Policy." CinC Paquette, GO 7, Revised 141st 512.

Whereas many of our Past Commanders-in-Chief, and other long-time members of the Order are no longer able to travel, due to illness, doctor's orders, or infirmities. Those Brothers have spent years or decades supporting the work of the Order as well as maintaining the history of the Boys in Blue. It seems that these cherished brothers should be able to view the proceedings of the National Encampment, to listen to the work of the Order and to see many of old comrades and the young brothers moving up.

Therefore, be it resolved, the Department of Ohio in Encampment assembled proposed to the 144th National Encampment, the following change to the National Regulations, Chapter I, Article IV, Meetings, Section 1 Footnote 33 ***to permit the transmission of National Encampment meetings live to those infirmed Brothers. This would not permit the brothers to vote, nor would they be counted as an attendee for voting purposes.***

C&R COMMITTEE CONCURS WITH A 3 TO 2 VOTE. VIABILITY TO BE ASCERTAINED BY APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE.

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RESOLUTION
Department of Missouri

Resolution supporting changes to the Constitution and Regulations to allow Brothers to attend and Observe National Council of Administration Meetings,

Whereas the current National Regulations are unclear as to whether a Brother of the Order may attend and observe meeting of the Council of Administration,

Therefore, be it resolved, the Department of Missouri in Encampment assembled, proposes to the 144th National Encampment, the following change to National Regulations, Chapter III, Article VIII, Section 1(a) by adding the language in red below:

Article VIII
Council of Administration

Section 1. (A) The Council of Administration shall consist of the Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Quartermaster and five (5) elected members of the Council of Administration and the immediate Past Commander-in-Chief. All other Past Commanders-in-Chief, the National Counselor, The Banner Editor, The National Signals Officer, and the Washington D.C. representative shall be non-voting members of the Council of Administration. Non-voting members of the Council of Administration have full rights to attend all meetings and internet discussions of the Council Of Administration (including while in executive session with the exception of the Banner Editor and National Signals Officer) and be recognized and heard on all issues before the Council of Administration. They shall not be counted for the purposes of establishing a quorum, nor shall they be able to make or second motions. The Commander-in-Chief may invite other non-voting Brothers from whom he or the voting members wish to receive advice and counsel or information. ***Any Brother of the Order in good standing may attend and observe, without voice, and any in person meeting of the Council of Administration.*** The Council of Administration shall have and shall exercise all powers of the Board of Directors, except in so far as such powers may be assigned to other persons in these Regulations

C&R COMMITTEE DOES NOT CONCUR.

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Resolution

Department of Missouri

Resolution supporting changes to the Constitution and Regulations
concerning the job description for Camp, Department and National Memorials Officers.

Whereas the job descriptions of the Camp, Department and National Memorials Officers in the Constitution and Regulations of the sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War do not reflect changes to the current existing conditions within the organization; in that, these descriptions do not mention the National Memorials Database; and

Whereas the job descriptions of the Camp and Department Memorials promote the keeping of records separate from the National Memorials Database; and

Whereas these two job descriptions do not specify that these separate records be shared with the National Memorials and Monuments Database; and

Where one main purpose of the National Memorials and Monuments Database is to have all Memorials and Monuments held by any unit of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to be held by the use of the entire organization; and

Whereas there are other revisions that the National Memorials Officer of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War recommends.

Therefore, be it resolved, the Department of Missouri in Encampment assembled, proposes to the 144th National Encampment, the following changes to National Regulations, Chapter 1, Article III, Chapter II, Article IX, and Chapter III, Article VII:

Chapter I Article VIII
Appointed Officers Job Descriptions and duties

Section 6. Camp Memorials Officer – The purpose of the Camp Civil War Memorials Officer is to coordinate the locating, physical examination of, and recording of all memorials dedicated to Union Civil War soldiers and sailors ~~***(outside the care of the National Military Parks, and the U.S. Department of Defense, or Veterans' Affairs)***~~ within their respective geographic boundaries, This includes all sizes of monuments (with or without sculpture), those with Civil War era cannon and inert ammunition, memorial fountains, memorial buildings, memorial windows (stained glass) historical markers and even small plaques. Reports on the various memorials and monuments located within the Camp area shall be made from time to time to the Department Memorials Officer upon appropriate form. To prevent a duplication of effort on the part of the Camp's membership, the Camp Civil War Memorials Officer should:

a. Coordinate the search for, physical examination of, photographing of, and recording of Civil War Memorials (as described above) located within the confines of the Camp's geographical boundaries.

b. Maintain observation of care and upkeep for "local" Civil War Memorials – bring any shortcomings to the attention of the property owners and community government where the monument is located.

c. Provide documentation of location and condition of Civil War Memorials (via SUVCW Form CWM 61) to the Department Civil War Memorials Officer.

d. Upon completion of training as provided through the National Memorials Officer, the Camp Memorials Officer shall be responsible for creating digital files and uploading them into the National SUVCW Civil War Memorials and Monuments Database. Upon Request of the National

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Civil War Memorials Officer, any trained members may also be tasked to work on reviewing and uploading memorials information from outside their camp's designated area.

Chapter II Article IX
Optional Appointed Officers Job Descriptions & Duties

Section 2. Civil War Memorials Officer. The purpose of the Department Civil War Memorials Officer include the locating, physical examination of, and recording of all memorials dedicated to Union Civil War soldiers and sailors ~~***(outside the care of the National Military Parks, and the U.S. Departments of Defense, or Veterans Affairs)***~~ in the Department. This includes all sizes of monuments (with or without sculpture), those with Civil War era cannon and inert ammunition, memorial fountains, memorial buildings, memorial windows (stained glass), historical markers and even small plaques.

a. The Department Civil War Memorials Officer should coordinate a mutually agreeable Camp assignment of Counties within the State(s) represented by the Department.

b. The Department Civil War Memorials Officer should provide guidance to each Camp for the execution of activities including coordinating the search for, physical examination of, photographing of, and recording of Civil War Memorials (as described above) located within the confines of the Camp's geographical boundaries; maintaining observation of care and upkeep for "local" Civil War Memorials – bring any shortcomings to the attention of the property owners and community government where the memorial is located; and providing documentation of location and condition of Civil War Monuments (via SUVCWM Form CWM 61) to the Department Civil War Memorials Officer.

c. ~~***The Department Civil War Memorials Officer is encouraged to maintain a computer database from the information submitted by each Camp, on the SUVCW "Civil War Memorial Assessment Form" (CWM 61.***~~ © The Department Civil War Memorials Officer is encouraged to periodically review the Department's files within the National Civil War Memorials Database for out-of-date or missing information and correct himself or request a local Camp Civil War Memorials Officer to correct the situation in order to keep our database up to date.

d. ~~***Electronic cataloging and retrieval of Civil War Memorial photo images is also encouraged.***~~ Make recommendations to the National Civil War Memorials Officer intended for the improvement of the National Civil War Memorials Database or forms that are used.

e. The Department Civil War Memorials Officer will also forward this information to his Department's liaison on the National Civil War Memorials Committee.

f. Reports on the various memorials and monuments located within the Department Shall be made from time to time to the National Civil War Memorials Officer upon appropriate form.

g. Upon completion of training as provided through the National Memorials Officer, the Department Memorials Officer shall be responsible for creating digital files and uploading them into the National SUVCW Civil War Memorials and Monuments Database. Upon request of the National Civil War Memorials Officer, any trained member may also be tasked to work on reviewing and uploading memorials information from outside their Department's designated area.

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Chapter III Article VII
Officers Job Descriptions & Duties

Section 21. The National Civil War Memorials Officers shall Chair the National Civil War Memorials & Monuments Committee. He will also provide leadership and direction to the National Organization, Departments and Camps regarding the locating, physical examination of, and recording of all memorials dedicated to Union Civil War soldiers and sailors. This includes all sizes of monuments (with or without sculpture, those with Civil War era cannon and inert ammunition, memorial fountains, memorial buildings, memorial windows (stained glass), historical markers and even small plaques. He shall:

a. Oversee the collection, organization, and maintenance of a national listing (including a computer database) of Civil War Memorials (as described above) and make this information available upon request.

b. Develop and once developed, maintain online monument information presented in a format approved by the Memorials and Monuments Committee.

c. Encourage Departments and camps to establish and appoint a Civil War Memorials Officer, at each level, to oversee department-wide and "local" memorial assessment and preservation activities. ***If deemed necessary by the organization, develop additional written instructions or training for people to use the Civil War Memorials Assessment Form.***

d. Encourage Departments (or states) to ~~***maintain their own websites containing monument information***~~ ***maintain*** files in the Civil War Monuments National Data Base pertaining to their Department. ~~***If/when all departments meet our minimum stardards, the National Monuments Officer will forward records sent into him and complete Form 62s scanned annually by him to the appropriate Departments. Then only records that are not connected with a specific Department will be kept by National (examples are those recorded outside the U.S.***~~

e. Work with fellow National Civil War Memorials Committee members, to assist Department and Camp level efforts to locate, assess, and record the physical condition of Civil War Memorials.

f. Work with fellow National Civil War Memorials Committee members, to provide guidance to Departments and Camps regarding observation of care and upkeep for Civil War Memorials – and to bring any shortcomings to the attention of the property owns and community government where the monument is located.

g. ***Act as an advisor to the Civil War Monuments Grants Committee by providing instruction as to what is a memorial or monument and what is not, to help ensure funds of the Organization are used for their purposes intended.*** Collect the files from the Civil War Monuments Grant Committee on an annual basis and scan the documents for inclusion in the national electronic database.

h. Prepare and submit an annual written report to the Commander-in-Chief and National Encampment on the activities of the National Civil War Memorials Officer regarding the activities of the committee.

i. Review annually the national website to review all monument forms, links to Department (or state) monuments, and if present, any national database that is on line to insure they are properly working.

j. ~~***Submit annually a digital backup copy of the National Database to National SUVCW.***~~
New j. Develop or maintain training manual for using the database. The manual demonstrates to trained Camp and Department Civil War Memorials how to access and upload files to the database. Training on the proper use of the database and our forms should be developed with an eye to incorporating the training into the programs of Memorial University.

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New k. Annually review the training manual and make updates.

New i. As needed, upload files to the database, review files uploaded by others to the database and edit; and evaluate the database and make recommendations to the National Signals Officer.

C&R COMMITTEE CONCURS PROVIDED THERE WILL NOT BE A CONFLICT WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES

Assistant National Secretary for Transcriptions (ANST)
Reports to: Commander-in-Chief

Purpose: The Assistant national Secretary for Transcriptions, (ANST) shall review the transcripts of the National Encampment and prepares it for approval and inclusion in a National Encampment Proceedings document, which he also creates.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. The ANST shall, upon receipt of an electronic copy of the National Encampment transcript from the Assistant National Secretary for Recordings (ANDR) conduct a review for needed corrections for capitalization, spelling, and punctuation. The review process will be conducted so that it ensures a verbatim copy of National Encampment proceedings.
2. The ANST shall, in cases where certain questionable spellings and/or punctuation be found, consult the Constitution and Regulations, ritual and Ceremonies, and National Encampment Reports packet as a guide for proper appearance. Dialect and colloquialism should be maintained.
3. The ANST, shall, in cases where certain questionable words or phrases appear, or when sections of the transcript are marked as “indistinguishable” or “unknown” by the transcriptionist, seek a review of the audio/video recordings by the ANSR to validate or clarify what was spoken.
4. The ANST shall, in these cases and after concurrence with the ANSR, review and recommend wording changes to the Commander-in-Chief and the immediate Past Commander-in-Chief.
5. The ANST shall forward the reviewed transcript with recommended changes to the Commander-in-Chief and the immediate Past Commander-in-Chief for the review.
6. The ANST shall make changes to the transcript as directed by the Commander-in-chief and immediate Past Commander-in-Chief and resubmit the edited document to the Commander-in-Chief and the immediate Past Commander-in-Chief for final approval.
7. The ANST shall, upon approval of a final version of the transcript by the Commander-in-Chief and the immediate Past Commander-in-Chief, prepare a National Encampment Proceedings document, which shall include the following:
    - Cover Page.
    - Approval page (place holder).
    - Table of Contents (place holder, awaiting pagination.
    - Elected- Appointed Officers.
    - National Committee Rosters.
    - Commander-in-Chief biography and photo.
    - National Encampment Transcript.
    - Images of National Encampment Ribbons, Badges, etc.

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- Image of Joint Memorial Service Program.
- Image of Banquet Program.
- Image of Voting Card.
- Image of cover of National Encampment Program Book.
- List of National Encampment Attendees.
- National Encampment Reports Packet.
- Council of Administration Minutes.
- Council of Administration Electronic Motions
- General Orders, Special Orders, etc.
- National Counselor Opinions.
- Past Commanders-in-Chief and Past Encampments.

Note: The National Encampment Proceedings document will be finalized as set forth in U.S. Code, Title 36, Chapter 24, Section 546.

The Proceedings shall not include personal contact information

8. The ANST shall, upon completion of the National Encampment Proceedings document, provide a copy of the document to the Commander-in-Chief. Immediate Past Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, and National Webmaster.

   Required Knowledge, Skills, Abilities Report writing skills: Knowledge of English language rules, including spelling, capitalization and punctuation Attention to detail. Computer efficiency and use of Microsoft Word Program Time management skills

C&R COMMITTEE DID NOT ACCEPT THIS AS IT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH C&R SUBMISSION RULES

Assistant National Secretary for Recordings (ANSR)
Reports to: Commander-in-Chief

Purpose: The Assistant National Secretary for Recordings, (ANSR) shall make audio and video recordings of the National Encampment, and other meetings and events of the SUVCW, as directed by the Commander-in- Chief.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. The ANSR shall act as custodian for SUVCW audio/video electronic recording equipment required for recording a National Encampment, including public address system, mixer board, cameras, microphones, tripods, cabling, traveling case, etc.
2. The ANSR shall transport SUVCW audio/video electronic recording equipment required for the recording of a National Encampment to and from each National Encampment, and other SUVCW events as directed by the Commander-in-Chief.
3. The ANSR shall position and connect recording equipment for recordings of National Encampment business sessions and other events of the SUVCW as directed by the Commander-in-Chief.
4. When required to support an SUVCW project or event, the ANSR may rent, purchase or borrow supplemental equipment (P.A. Speakers, mic/camera stands, memory cards, cabling, etc.) which are not currently in his equipment inventory, at his discretion, up to a monetary limit established by the Council of Administration.

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5. The ANSR shall administer the audio and video recordings of the National Encampment, and other meetings and events of the SUVCW, as directed by the Commander-in-Chief.
6. The ANSR shall ensure that a electronic copy of the National encampment audio/video recording is provided to the contracted transcriptionist and shall maintain a close relationship with this transcriptionist.
7. The ANSR shall review audio and video recordings of the National Encampment prior to delivery to the transcriptionist.
    a. Segments which were recorded before the Commander-in-Chief gaveled the meeting to order or after the Commander-in-Chief gaveled the meeting to close, may be deleted to save space on the recording.
    b. In some cases, where discussions which were obviously outside of Encampment business are identified in the recordings, the ANSR may, where technically possible, delete such remarks before sending the recording to the transcriptionist. However, in most cases such "side bar" remarks may Remain in the recording that are sent to the Transcriptionist.
    c. When the transcript of a National Encampment is received from the transcriptionist, the ANSR, along with the Assistant National Secretary for Transcriptions (ANST) shall conduct a review of the transcript in order that such comments may be identified and highlighted for review by the Commander-in-Chief, with recommendations for removal.
    d. In places marked by the transcriptionist as, "indistinguishable" or "unknown", the ASNR may listen to the audio or video recordings to determine, if possible, the correct word or phrase THAT WAS UTTERED. After such determination are made, he shall then submit recommended corrections to the ANST. All changes to the Transcript must be approved by the Commander-in-Chief and the immediate Past Commander-in-Chief.
8. The ANSR shall perform post-production editing of the National Encampment video recordings for the purpose of SUVCW promotions, historical archives and education.
9. The ANSR shall process and store recordings of the National Encampment and other events or meetings as directed by the Commander-in-Chief and/or the Council of Administration.
10. The ANSR will train assistants in how to perform the duties and responsibilities listed in this job description.
11. The ANSR shall assist the National Encampment Site Committee by negotiating audio/visual arrangements with the National Encampment host hotels.

Required Knowledge, Skills, Abilities: Familiarization with Zoom LiveTrak L12 Mixer/Recorder board, knowledge of Rode Wireless GO II Dual Channel Wireless Microphones, experienced in using Cannon Camcorder and GoPro cameras, skilled with postproduction audio/video editing tools, e.g. Shotcut.

C&R COMMITTEE DID NOT ACCEPT THIS AS IT DID NOT MEET WITH C&R SUBMISSION RULES.

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4.5 National Encampment Credentials Committee, Daryl VerStreate, PDC

1. NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT PRE-REGISTRATION

   As of July 12, 2025, there are currently 132 Brothers preregistered for the National Encampment in Houston, Texas.

   It has been a pleasure to work with and assist the hosting committee. Great team of brothers along with the Chairman.

2. CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE FOR UPCOMING NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

   The Committee will consist of the following:

   - Daryl VerStreate, PDC, Chairman
   - Walter E. Busch, PDC, Committee Member
   - Dale Crandell, PDC, Committee Member
   - Cameron Lowery, Committee Member
   - Thomas J. Brown, PDC, Committee Member

4.6 National Encampment Site Committee, Michael Paquette, PCinC

During the course of the year the committee has made site visits to hotels in Franklin, TN and Gettysburg, PA. Contracts have been signed with the hotels visited. The 2026 National Encampment will be held at the Aspire / Eisenhower hotel in Gettysburg and occur 30 July through 2 August 2026. This encampment will be planned and executed by the National Organization with support from the Pennsylvania Department and the Department of the Chesapeake. The 2027 National Encampment will be held at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs hotel 12 – 15 August 2027.

The Department of Indiana and the Department of Michigan have notified the NESC that they are interested in hosting the 2028 National Encampment. The Department of Michigan has submitted their initial proposal. The committee awaits a proposal from the Department of Indiana.

The Department of Missouri and the Department of Kansas have contacted the NESC announcing their intent to sponsor a joint National Encampment.

I have no recommendations.

4.7 National Committee on Fraternal Relations, Brian C. Pierson, PCinC

No Report Received

4.8 National Committee on GAR Post Records, Dean A. Enderlin, PDC

Progress Report and Accomplishments for the 2024-2025 Administrative Year:

GAR Records Blog: Since December 2019, our committee has been using an invitation-only blog on Blogger as a forum for communication outside of email. Previously, we had been using a group on Yahoo! which was discontinued as a service in 2019. The Blogger site continues to serve as our archive for reports.

Department GAR Records Officer: Since the 2020 adoption of the revised SUVCW Form 49, which included for the first time a line item for the Department GAR Records Officer, we have seen general improvement in the number of Departments reporting an appointment to that office. All Departments are now using the updated

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form. Twenty-one Departments (66%) reported the appointment of a Department GAR Records Officer this year, down from last year's 68%.

The following table shows the status of Departments who have and have not confirmed their GAR Records Officer (as of July 2025). Our thanks go to all the Departments who have filled the office!

Status of Departments with a Named GAR Records Officer			
Department	***Reported Form 49***	***Department***	***Reported Form 49***
ALABAMA	Joel S. Mize	**MICHIGAN**	Gary L. Gibson, PDC
ARKANSAS	Paul Dolle	**MISSOURI**	Walter E. Busch, PDC
CALIFORNIA & PACIFIC	David A. Davis	**NEBRASKA**	Marc Witkovski
CHESAPEAKE	(Vacant)	**NEW HAMPSHIRE**	(Vacant)
COLORADO/WYOMING	James M. Barker, PDC	**NEW JERSEY**	Dylan Wettstein
COLUMBIA	Loran T. Bures, PDC	**NEW YORK**	(Vacant)
CONNECTICUT	Matthew Vallier	**NORTH CAROLINA**	(Vacant)
FLORIDA	(Vacant)	**OHIO**	Richard A. Davis, PDC
GEORGIA & SOUTH CAROLINA	Hamilton Jansen	**OKLAHOMA**	Kevin White
ILLINOIS	Brian Conroy	**PENNSYLVANIA**	(Vacant)
INDIANA	Bruce R. Kolb, PDC	**RHODE ISLAND**	Scott Reese
IOWA	Daniel F. Rittel	**SOUTHWEST**	David A. Swanson, PDC
KANSAS	Gregg L. Talkington	**TENNESSEE**	(Vacant)
KENTUCKY	(Vacant)	**TEXAS**	Michael L. Lance, PDC
MAINE	(Vacant)	**VERMONT**	(Vacant)
MASSACHUSETTS	(Vacant)	**WISCONSIN**	John R. Decker, PDC

A critical matter resulting from the issuance of a new National Policy was brought to the attention of the National GAR Records Committee in late August 2024. Titled, "Policy regarding the loan and/or deposit of artifacts and any and all object, including, but not limited to, charters, memorabilia, ephemera, etc.", the 2024 policy was accompanied by a new form (Form 80) and General Order (No. 22, Series 2023-24). Unfortunately, the combined effect of the three documents led to unintended consequences affecting the GAR Records program. In particular, it prevented the donation of GAR records to suitable local institutions, as directed by other SUVCW regulations. First reports of a problem came to the attention of the Commander-in-Chief and the National GAR Records Officer in an email from the Department of Iowa, dated 29 August 2024. In September, the Department of the Columbia contacted the National GAR Records Officer to point out similar problematic wording. At issue were conflicts between the new National Policy (2024) with wording in the National Policy on GAR Records (2013), the GAR Deed of Conveyance, and the SUVCW Congressional Charter.

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A full explanation of the issues, and recommendations to temporarily resolve them, was provided in our report to the Council of Administration in November 2024. Hearing our recommendations, which were supported by points made in the reports of the Departments of Iowa and the Columbia, the Council of Administration and CinC Martin acted on the matter at the November meeting by issuing General Order No. 7. The sequence of events is tabulated below. A review of the rescinded "Loan/Deposit" Policy and Form 80 is currently underway by the National Committee on Program & Policy. The National Committee on GAR Records has offered to assist with this task, but as of 10 July 2025, we are uncertain of the status of the review.

Status of Previous National Encampment and Administrative Actions Relating to GAR Records:

Year	*Recommendation*	*Action*	*Status*
2024	**Recommendation from Nat'l GAR Records Committee**: That the CofA work with the CinC to issue a new General Order rescinding items 1 and 3 of General Order No. 22, Series 2023-2024, until such time as the "Loan/Deposit Policy" (and its associated Form 80) can be further examined and modified as necessary to remove verbiage that might be in conflict with the SUVCW Congressional Charter, the GAR Deed of Conveyance, and sections within the SUVCW Constitution and Regulations (particularly National Policies) that pertain to the handling of GAR records).	Completed	**COMPLETE**. Heard and acted upon at the 17 Nov. 2024 CofA Meeting. Motion passed: Yes 11 votes, No 0 votes.
2024	**Recommendation from Nat'l GAR Records Committee** That the CofA remand the "Loan/Deposit Policy" to the National Committee on Program & Policy for further review, so that a new policy (or policies) and form (or forms) can be crafted to account for the separate and distinctly different conditions of ownership as they apply to SUVCW versus GAR records.	Completed	**COMPLETE**. Heard and acted upon at the 17 Nov. 2024 CofA Meeting. Motion passed: Yes 11 votes, No 0 votes.
2025	**General Order No. 7, Series 2024-2025 issued** in follow-up to the 17 Nov. 2025 actions of the Council of Administration. The following items pertain to GAR records: Sections 1 and 3 of General Order #22, Series 2023 – 2024, Policy Loan and/or Deposit of Artifacts Policy Vendor Tables Deposit Agreement Form 80 is rescinded. The National Committee on Program & Policy is instructed to conduct a thorough review of the rescinded National Policy regarding the loan and/or deposit of artifacts and any and all objects including, but not limited to, Charters, memorabilia, ephemera, etc. along with the rescinded Form 80 and report their findings and recommendations to the Council of Administration. The National Committee on Program & Policy is encouraged to consult with National Officers and	Pending	**UNDER REVIEW**. General Order issued by CinC Martin. Awaiting confirmation from the National Committee on Program & Policy on next steps to revise the wording in the National Policy.

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	Committees along with subject matter experts who may provide relevant input germane to the issue.		

GAR Records Project Five-Year Plan (2022-2027):

The National Committee on GAR Records is guided by an action plan, which is considered by the National Encampment every five years. The current plan was presented and approved at the 141st National Encampment (2022). Progress toward each of the action items is presented below.

1. Routinely manage the GAR Records website (www.GARrecords.org) and online GAR Records Catalog. ***[STATUS: Ongoing.]***
2. Continue to expand the GAR Records website content to include:
    a. Separate historical summaries for individual GAR posts, including but not limited to meeting locations, dates of muster and disbandment, details of consolidation with other posts, and any other noteworthy facts. ***[STATUS: Ongoing.]***
    b. Links to other SUVCW web pages (Camps and Departments) containing GAR Records information. ***[STATUS: Links are added upon request, or when links of interest are discovered by the National GAR Records Officer.]***
    c. Links to other online resources of interest, such as digitized library collections. ***[STATUS: Ongoing.]***
    d. Relevant bibliographic references. ***[STATUS: Ongoing.]***
3. Continue to encourage and assist SUVCW Departments and Camps in developing and/or expanding their respective GAR Records programs. Support actions to include:
    a. Preparation of a handbook to provide guidance in searching for and cataloging GAR records. ***[STATUS: Sections of the handbook are in preparation, but no progress was made this year.]***
    b. Providing personal guidance, as needed, to Department GAR Records Officers and other individuals when needed. ***[STATUS: Ongoing.]***
4. Expand public awareness and involvement in the GAR Records Program. Actions to include:
    a. Creation and/or participation in an online forum or message board that is specific to the topic of GAR records. ***[STATUS: The "Grand Army of the Republic (GAR") group on Facebook currently serves this function, although it is unofficial. It is an invitation-only group co-administered by committee member Bob Wolz, while others on our committee are members. Brother James R. Hanby is also an administrator.]***
    b. Encouraging local libraries, museums, genealogical and historical societies, veterans' organizations, and other holders of GAR records collections to index and publish the contents of their collections. ***[STATUS: Ongoing.]***
    c. Support efforts (both within the SUVCW and external to our organization) to digitize and make publicly available collections of GAR records. ***[STATUS: Ongoing.]***

Vision 2030 Strategic Plan Response:

In its report to the 2022 National Encampment, the National Committee on Vision and Planning summarized strides toward achieving the goals of the "Vision 2020" strategic plan, and proposed new goals for the current "Vision 2030" strategic plan. Under the heading of Research, it was noted:

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During the 2010's, the GAR post records project completed listings for all GAR posts in 50 states, the *District of Columbia and international posts, and documented at least one record for approximately 20-25% of the posts in the database. However, in the states of the former Confederacy, only 3% of the posts had at least one record documented. [141st National Encampment Committee Reports, p. 70]*

Tracking metrics were added in our existing spreadsheets in August 2023 to help measure progress toward achieving the "Vision 2030" goals. A table summarizing the goals, status at the beginning and end of this administrative year, and target date is presented below.

Initiative	*Goal*	*Status August 2024*	*Status August 2025*	*Target Date*
GAR Post Records	At least one record documented for 40% of GAR posts in database.	46%	47%	Aug. 2030
	At least one record documented for 10% of GAR posts in states of the former Confederacy (11 states: AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, TX, and VA).	4%	26%	Aug. 2030

Note: The above metrics don't take into account GAR departmental collections in which the contents have not been individually described. Large, inventoried collections of GAR materials, such as those in Iowa, Massachusetts, and Ohio, are examples.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None.

4.9 National Committee on Graves Registration, Henry C. Duquette, PDC

See National Graves Registration Officer Report

4.10 National Committee on History, Gary Gibson PDC

No Report Received.

4.11 National Committee on Lincoln Tomb Observance

No Report Received.

4.12 National Committee on Membership, Daniel W. Murray, PDC

See report of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

4.13 National Military Affairs Committee, Ken L. Freshley, PCinC

The Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) continues to represent the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in many ceremonies, monument dedications, parades and community events throughout the nation. Brig. General

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Donald E. Darby and his General Staff officers and District Commanders as well as local unit commanders and their members have been very busy this year returning the SVR to its busy pre COVID-19 schedule.

The 4th Military District continues to post the Colors at the Lincoln Tomb ceremony in April commemorating the death of President Lincoln.

The SVR will continue with our normal Remembrance Day program this year.

1. Brig. General Don E. Darby, PCinC has made arrangements for the annual SVR Remembrance Day breakfast at the Eisenhower Hotel in Gettysburg.
2. Captain Ken L. Freshley, PCinC will be responsible for the SVR wreath laying ceremony at the Albert Woolson GAR memorial located in Ziegler's Grove on the Gettysburg Battlefield which had over 200 attendees last year and also the SVR Remembrance Day Breakfast.
3. SVR Provost Marshal Lt. Col. David K. Hann will conduct the 69th annual Gettysburg Parade, and
4. SVR Inspector General Col. Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC will conduct the annual Original Civil War Ball. Last year we had many dancers that attended the Ball.

Last year (2024) The Borough of Gettysburg Parade permit cost $5,570.00 . Lt. Col David Hann collected $7,519.00 in donations and estimated the bill for the parade at $8,061.56, leaving us $542.56 in the red. Col. Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC, collected donations valued at over $1,000 to help pay for the Civil War Ball. The proceeds from the Ball are donated to the Gettysburg Military Park during the Albert Woolson GAR ceremony to help pay for battlefield monument and memorials restoration and preservation. To date the SVR has donated $93,000.

Remembrance Day is scheduled for Saturday November 15, 2025. Last year the SVR headquarters hotel was changed. This year it will also be at the Eisenhower/Aspire Hotel, located at 2634 Emmitsburg Road, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325. Phone: 717-334-8121.

For reservations, please use the following links:

- Eisenhower https://bit.ly/3ThvnqQ
- Aspire https://bit.ly/4dWq3Tr

The Eisenhower will be also the location of the Original Military Ball that will take place later on the evening on Saturday November 15, 2025. Tickets are $20/person in advance, $25/person at the door and are available by sending stamped, self-addressed envelope and check payable to "SVR Ball" to: Col. Steve Michaels, SVR 6623 S. North Cape Road Franklin, WI 53132-1227 Cell: (414) 712-4655 Lt.col.sm@gmail.com

The Eisenhower/Aspire Hotel complex has completed its $9M total renovation since the last time we used it as our headquarters. The special room rate for the Sons of Veterans Reserve Group is $149.00 per night at the Eisenhower and $152.00 per night at the Aspire (plus taxes). A free breakfast is provided at both locations for all hotel guests.

The SVR breakfast will be held in a private dining room on Saturday morning November 15, 2025.

Schedule of Events for Saturday, 15 November 2025:

1. SVR Breakfast at Eisenhower Hotel, details $6 a person, no sales at door.
2. Woolson Monument Ceremonies in Zeigler's Grove at 11:00 a.m.
3. Parade Briefing at Unity Park on Lefever Street at 12:00 noon.

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4. Parade Form-Up on Lefever Street between Baltimore Street and East Confederate Avenue at Noon.
5. Parade Commences at 1:00 p.m.
6. Original Civil War Ball at Eisenhower Hotel at 8:00 p.m.

Formal letters of invitation will be sent out to the SVR Commanding General, SUVCW CinC and all the other heads of National Allied Orders, National and Pennsylvania MOLLUS Heads and all Pennsylvania Allied Orders Heads, requesting each to present a wreath in the course of the Memorial Service at the Woolson Monument.

SVR General Staff Promotions

The Commanding General has tasked us with these 5 items to be voted upon:

- **Item #1**: Promotion of Major Leo Kennedy to the rank of Lt. Colonel, SVR, effective from 20 December 2024 until properly relieved. -- APPROVED
- **Item #2**: Appoint Lt. Colonel Leo Kennedy to the vacant position of National Chief-of-Staff, Sons of Veterans Reserve effective from 20 December 2024 until properly relieved. - APPROVED
- **Item #3**: Appoint Captain Ken Freshley to the position of Public Information Officer, Sons of Veterans Reserve effective from 20 December 2024 until properly relieved. This is in addition to his current appointment as Adjutant General, there will be no change of rank. – APPROVED
- **Item #4**: to review and vote upon the request to promote Brother Bobby to the Rank of Major. – APPROVED.

  In accordance with the SVR Regulations:

  SUVCW Regulations CHAPTER II
  Article XIV Military Department,
  Sons of Veterans Reserve
  Article II – National Headquarters
  Item 5. National Positions

  The National SVR Quartermaster should be appointed as the rank of Major.

- **Item #5**: There will need to be an appointment of the following two Brothers with Expiring appointments this year for the Military Affairs Committee.

Chair	Ken L. Freshley, PCinC (expiring 2026)
Member	Shane Miburn, PDC (expiring 2026)
Member	John M. Huffman Jr., PDC (expiring 2026)
*** Member	Alan Teller, PDC (expiring 2025)
*** Member	Donald Martin, PCinC (expiring 2025)

The Commander-in-Chief will need to confirm the appointment of the committee members

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4.14 National Committee on Civil War Memorial Grant Fund, Shane Milburn, PDC

Request approved:

A grant of $2,000.00 was awarded to BG Joseph Bailey Camp # 5, Shreveport, LA., Department of Texas and Louisianna for a marker that was placed on April 7, 2025 at the Battle of Pleasant Hill Memorial Park. Battles took place on April 8 & 9, 1864 also known as the Battle for Sabine Crossroads. The monument is located on LA. State Hwy 175.

Requests under consideration:

General George H. Thomas Camp No 19, Department of Pennsylvania, has submitted a request for the following: The Reynolds Restoration Project seeks to preserve the memory of Lancaster natives Major General John Fulton Reynolds, Admiral William Reynolds, and the other members of the Reynolds family interred at Lancaster Cemetery through the repair, rehabilitation, and stabilization of the family plot and its grave markers, utilizing the services of professional monument conservators.

Fort Duffield Camp #1, Department of Kentucky for a 7 foot bronze African American Civil War Union Soldier statue that will be located in Madisonville, Kentucky

4.15 National Committee on eBay Surveillance, Terry McKinch

I have the following information to report:

1. I have yet to form a committee, but I am watching eBay GAR and SUVCW items on a weekly basis.
2. I have contacted about thirty eBay vendors about “used” GAR grave markers.
3. I have had success with about 70% with them removing the listings.
4. I review listings for other used Veterans’ makers and contact those eBay vendors. They have taken ten of them down.
5. I have had about 50% success rated with the other Veterans’ grave markers being pulled from eBay.
6. I helped an eBay vendor who incorrectly identified a post card as GAR, to properly identify the people as those in a confederate uniform.
7. I recently helped a vendor who had incorrectly identified a WRC badge as GAR.
8. I try to help others eBay vendors correctly identify GAR & SUVCW items.

4.16 National Committee on Scholarships, Donald L. Martin, PCinC

I wish to thank our committee members for their assistance and work on this year.

The Scholarship Committee received 11 applications this year. We are pleased to announce the following selectees who each received a $2,500 SUVCW Scholarship.

- Hamilton Loring Jansen - Kennesaw Mountain Camp #3 Department of Georgia and South Carolina. To attend Virginia Polytechnic and State University, Blacksburg, VA.
- Harold Edgar Trafford - Major Sullivan Ballou Camp #3, Department Rhode Island. To attend Rhode Island College, Providence, RI.

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Recommendation: **Make following Revisions to Form 12: Scholarship Application**

Page 1 - Application Check-list

- Sentence 1: Add word between $2,500 “undergraduate” scholarships.
- Item 6: Change sentence 3 to bold all capital letters.

  EACH RECOMMENDATION MUST BE IN A SEPARATE, SEALED ENVELOP, COUNTER-SIGNED ON THE ENVELOP FLAP BY THE RECOMMENDER.
- Address/Information Line: Reformat and add all capital last line sentence concerning how not to mail.

  SUVCW Scholarship
  c/o Donald L. Martin, PCinC
  6025 State Route 772,
  Chillicothe, OH 45601

  Direct electronic-mail questions to Don Martin at scholarships@suvcw.org. Place “SUVCW Scholarship” in subject-line. DO NOT SEND APPLICATIONS CERTIFIED MAIL, REGISTERED MAIL OR SIGNATURE SERVICE.

Page 2 - Instruction Sheet:

- Heading: Change page title and sentences 1-5 to read:

  Closely Follow These Directions To Complete Application.

  The Committee reserves the right to disqualify any application failing to follow these directions!

  All application information must be typed.

  If items 1-11 or A-F are left blank, explain why. Use Item F if needed.

  No additional information beyond that described in this application should be included.

  Applicants selected to receive the award will be asked to provide their Social Security Number.
- Item 5: Change to read:

  5. Type full name and mailing address of the institution you attend or are planning to attend.
- Item 9: Change 1st Line to read in bold text:

  Type names, title, and telephone number of references as requested.
- Following item 9d. add:

  *NOTE: Lack of a required letter of reference is a potential reason for disqualification. If a letter in a required category is not available, contact the Scholarship Committee Chair for approval of a substitute.
- Add: Space below item 11, then add:

  Your Activities in bold and underlined between that space and item A.

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- Item H: Delete.
- References Item 7: Replace with bold type sentence:

  7. Each letter must be sealed and counter-signed on the envelope flap by the recommender.

Page 3 - SUVCW Scholarship Application Form:

- Item 5: Change to read:

  5. Name & address of college, university, vocational/institute, trade school, or technical school to attend.

- Item 9: Change whole section to read:

  9. Three References Name Title Telephone

  1. Counselor/Advisor (or equivalent) _____ _____ _____
  2. Teacher (of an academic course) _____ _____ _____
  3. Responsible person in community _____ _____ _____

All Pages - Replace 2024 with 2025 on form information line on page bottom to:

Form 12 (Rev. 2024 2025).

4.17 National Committee on Promotion and Marketing, Kevin Tucker, PDC

We, the members of the National Committee on Promotions and Marketing, consider it a distinct honor to have been entrusted with the responsibility of serving the Order through this important committee.

The composition of the committee is as follows:

- Kevin Tucker, PDC Chair
- Rodrick Fraser Jr. Member
- David Jones, PDC Member
- W. Faron Taylor, PDC Member
- Michael Spaulding, PDC Member
- D. Michael Beard, PDC Member
- William E. Johnson, Jr. Aide
- Ben Block Jones II, PDC Aide
- John Vander Meulen Aide

The National Committee on Promotions and Marketing remains steadfast in its mission to advance public awareness and understanding of the work and purpose of our Order. To that end, the committee provides consultative resources to our Brothers, including templates for press releases, informational brochures, video documentaries and interviews, and support for appropriate public events.

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YouTube Channel

Our National YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/@SUVCW/videos) now features 62 videos, with 482 subscribers and a total of 10,568 views.

Since the 2024 National Encampment, the committee released a dozen new video presentations, including:

- Last Union Soldier Cumberland County Marker Dedication May 2025
- Rendering Honors to the G.A.R. Departed in Houston, Texas
- Memorial Ceremony for Unknown Soldiers 2025
- 2025 National Encampment Invitation
- William Poole – Last Remaining Real Son of a Union Veteran
- 2025 Battle of Galveston Commemoration Ceremony
- Welcome to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW)
- Capt. Isaac Conroe Remembrance Ceremony
- Dedication of the Grave of Private James Schobel White, London, England
- Honoring Past Commander-in-Chief Eugene G. Mortorff (1954-2/2024)
- Installation of Officers of the National Order 2024
- Hugh Cook Headstone Dedication

Credit for these outstanding productions goes primarily to Brothers John Vander Meulen and Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., whose dedication, creativity, and technical skill were instrumental throughout the entire process. They were ably assisted by Brother Steve Michaels, whose professional narration added valuable depth to the project. Together, this core team worked with Brothers from multiple Departments across the organization.

From the early stages of planning and scriptwriting to the recording sessions, editing, and final publication, each step reflected their shared commitment to accuracy, quality, and the values of the Order. The result is a series of polished, informative, and inspiring videos that elevate the public image of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and honor the legacy we strive to preserve.

RootsTech 2025

The Committee proudly supported the SUVCW's highly successful participation at RootsTech 2025, held in Salt Lake City, Utah. Hosted annually by FamilySearch, RootsTech is recognized as the world's largest family history conference—a truly global hybrid event that welcomed approximately 15,000 in-person attendees while reaching millions more through its extensive online platform.

Our involvement in this landmark gathering was spearheaded by Brothers Monroe McBride and Ken Jacobsen of the Department of Colorado and Wyoming. Their initiative and leadership were central to securing the SUVCW's presence at both a physical and virtual exhibitor booth. With support from their Department, they coordinated a full team of knowledgeable volunteers to staff both venues, ensuring that our organization was well represented throughout the event. In collaboration with the National Committee on Promotion and Social Media, a professional video advertisement was developed and featured on the RootsTech website to promote our virtual booth in advance of the event.

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The physical booth, open during the live portion of the conference from March 6–8, was strategically positioned in a double-sized space - an advantage that paid dividends in terms of visibility and consistent foot traffic. Interest in the booth was strong and sustained, with over 450 brochures distributed—surpassing the total from the previous year by the second day alone. In contrast to prior appearances that emphasized artifacts and memorabilia, this year's focus shifted toward helping visitors trace and honor their Civil War ancestors, aligning perfectly with RootsTech's mission of family connection through history.

This refined focus not only deepened attendee engagement but also yielded tangible results: the booth generated 32 individual follow-up contact requests from prospective members and interested parties across 10 Departments, including Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, North Carolina, and Ohio. All inquiries were compiled and forwarded to Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Daniel Murray for appropriate referral to Departments and Camps nationwide.

Our participation also garnered valuable media exposure. Brothers Ken Jacobsen and David Rainey were interviewed for the official FamilySearch podcast, helping introduce the SUVCW to a broader genealogical audience. In addition, KTVX (ABC Salt Lake City) featured our booth in a televised news segment, and a future podcast interview is scheduled with the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana - one of the nation's foremost genealogy resources—facilitated by Committee Chair Kevin Tucker.

Meanwhile, the SUVCW's virtual booth remains active through Fall 2025, extending our reach well beyond the conference dates. It features a warm welcome video, three polished promotional videos hosted on YouTube, a downloadable brochure, and direct links to our website, YouTube channel, and Facebook page. The booth can be accessed at: https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/expohall/sons-of-union-veterans-of-the-civil-war

Notably, though not part of the original plan, FamilySearch generously provided the SUVCW with a free live chat room connected to the virtual booth. Staffed in real time by Brothers from the Department of Colorado and Wyoming, this feature enabled instant interaction with online visitors, further enhancing outreach and responsiveness during the live days of the conference.

RootsTech 2025 marked a significant milestone in the SUVCW's public engagement strategy. It demonstrated how digital tools, strong volunteer coordination, and targeted messaging can meaningfully connect our mission with audiences eager to rediscover and honor their Civil War heritage.

Brothers Monroe McBride and Ken Jacobsen of the Department of Colorado and Wyoming deserve our sincere appreciation and commendation for their outstanding leadership and tireless efforts in planning, organizing, and staffing SUVCW's participation at RootsTech 2025.

The Civil War Monitor Magazine Ads

On June 24, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the purchase of an advertising package with The Civil War Monitor, one of the most respected and widely read publications focused on the American Civil War. The package includes a series of full-page advertisements that will appear in the Fall 2025, Winter 2025, Spring 2026, and Summer 2026 issues. Each issue of the magazine reaches an average of 30,000 dedicated subscribers, many of whom are scholars, educators, reenactors, genealogists, and history enthusiasts— precisely the audience we aim to engage.

This advertising initiative represents a key component of the Committee's broader strategy to raise national awareness of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) and to promote membership across a wider and more diverse demographic. A sample of the full-page advertisement that will appear in The Civil War Monitor is included below for reference.

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Civil War Curious Podcast

In addition to the print ads, the package also includes two 30-second audio spots that will air on upcoming episodes of the magazine's companion podcast, Civil War Curious. While a more niche platform, this podcast garners approximately 1,400 downloads per episode, representing a focused and highly engaged listenership. These podcast listeners are often early adopters and content sharers, and the medium allows us to speak directly to them in a voice that reflects the SUVCW's values and mission.

To expand this reach even further, the Committee authorized the purchase of eight additional 30-second audio ads to air on future episodes of Civil War Curious. All of these ads will be read by Brother Steve Michaels, Past Commander-in-Chief, whose authoritative and friendly tone lends credibility and familiarity to our message. The audio script reads:

> "This episode of the podcast is sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.
>
> "Looking to connect with history and serve your community? The SUVCW is a fraternal, patriotic, and charitable organization honoring the Union soldiers and sailors who fought to preserve the nation and end slavery.
>
> "Whether you're a descendant or simply inspired by their legacy, you'll find brotherhood, purpose, and tradition with us.
>
> "Join a community built on Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. Visit www.suvcw.org or email join@suvcw.org to learn more.
>
> "Views expressed in this podcast do not necessarily reflect those of the SUVCW." Civil War and Reconstruction Podcast."

Following the success of last year's campaign, the Committee also renewed its sponsorship of The Civil War and Reconstruction: A Podcast, which features deep-dive episodes on topics related to the war and its aftermath.

This podcast boasts an impressive monthly download average of 100,000, with more than 500 episodes in its catalog. As part of our sponsorship, both a 30-second and a 60-second audio ad will be embedded in every episode downloaded during the sponsorship month, (July-August 2025) ensuring broad and repeated exposure to listeners with a demonstrated interest in Civil War history.

Taken together, these advertising efforts place the SUVCW front and center before an audience that is not only historically literate, but also highly likely to appreciate and support our mission. These ads are part of a data-informed outreach strategy, and we are actively tracking their effectiveness.

Tracking the Effectiveness of Promotions

To assess the return on investment, the National website's Membership page includes a brief webform asking visitors how they heard about the SUVCW. The responses are being monitored and analyzed to determine how well these podcast and magazine placements are driving engagement and membership inquiries. This feedback loop is essential as we continue refining our outreach tactics to ensure that every dollar spent brings us closer to our goals of growth, visibility, and long-term impact.

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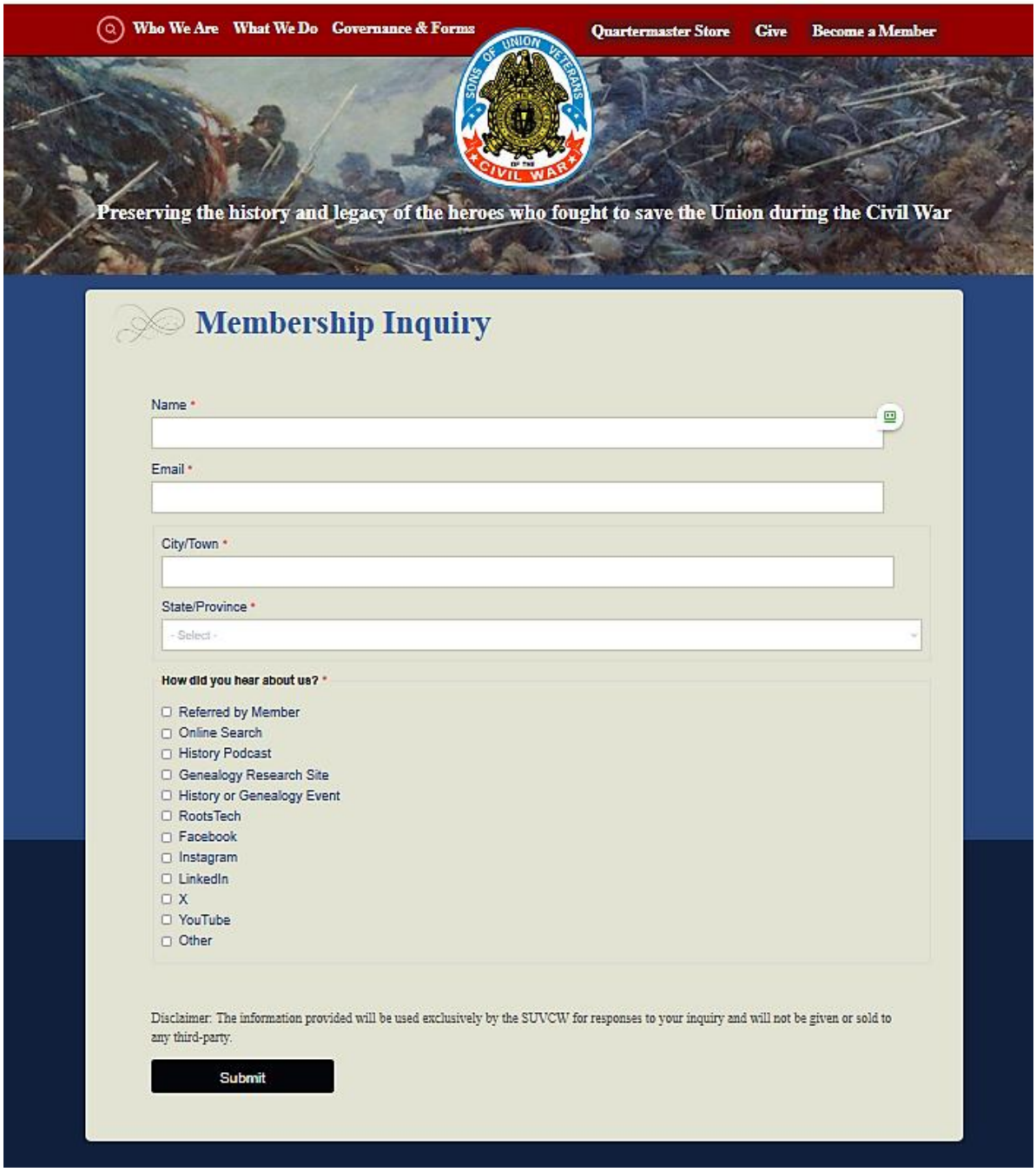

Future Proposals

In February, National Historian Brother Gary Gibson proposed that the Committee reach out to Matt Callery, host of the rapidly growing Addressing Gettysburg podcast. The show covers not only the Battle of Gettysburg, but also the broader Civil War community and related topics. Since November, the podcast's subscriber base has increased from 9,000 to nearly 15,000, featuring guests such as Licensed Battlefield Guides, authors, and Gettysburg Park Rangers.

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Last November, Mr. Callery livestreamed the Remembrance Day Parade, but Brother Gibson noticed that he - and likely much of his audience - appears unaware of the event's true origins and significance, beyond being a parade for reenactors and the anniversary of the Gettysburg Address. Few seem to know, for instance, that the Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) has contributed over $90,000 to the Gettysburg National Military Park in recent years.

Brother Gibson believes Mr. Callery and his listeners - whom he affectionately calls "Gettys-Nerds" - would be highly receptive to learning more about the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and its mission. Podcast comments are frequently filled with people expressing pride in their Civil War soldier ancestors.

FULL PAGE AD WHICH WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT 4 ISSUES OF CIVIL WAR MONITOR MAGAZINE\\

Join the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Organized November 12, 1881

FRATERNITY*CHARITY*LOYALTY

www.suvcw.org

Are you looking for a deeper connection to your heritage, a sense of belonging, and a way to make a real impact in your community? The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War offers all this and more. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) is a congressionally chartered 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable and fraternal organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of the Union veteran heroes who fought and worked to save the Union and end slavery in the American Civil War.

From the powerful bonds of brotherhood to the rich traditions and rituals that connect you to our nation's past, we offer a unique space to form meaningful relationships, contribute to important causes, and become a leader in your community. Together, we preserve the legacy of the Civil War and ensure that the lessons of history live on. Membership is open to both descendants of Union Civil War soldiers and non-descendants who share an interest in preserving Civil War history.

Join us today and be part of something greater. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War—where heritage meets purpose, and brotherhood lasts a lifetime.

1 Lincoln Circle at Reservoir Park
Suite 240 (National Civil War Museum)
Harrisburg, PA 17103-2411

Scan the QR code to go directly to the SUVCW web page!

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4.18 National Committee on Vision and Planning, Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PCinC

No Report Received.

4.19 National Committee on Real Sons & Daughters, Jerome L. Orton, PDC

There is only one known son of a Civil War veteran alive, Union or Confederate.

He is William Pool, son of Charles Parker Pool, Co. D, 6th WV Vols. Brother Pool celebrated his 100th birthday, January 14, 2025. He is a veteran of WW II having taken part in the Battle of the Bulge. Many thanks to our members who made this day memorable and to the editor of the Banner who placed a picture of Brother Pool in the Banner. His address is Fairview Health Care, 119 W. Forrest St., #114B, Bolivar, MO 65613.

There are 2 known real daughters. One wishes to remain unknown, but her family keeps us informed about her. Emogen C. Horton, a DUVCW member is the daughter of Jackson Cassell, Co, M, 2nd Regt. AR Cav. Her address is 140 Jelly Lane, Marshall, AR 72650.

Both individuals enjoy receiving cards. At one time there were millions of children of Civil War veterans, and now 160 years after the war there are only three known.

5.0 Special Committees

5.1 National Special Committee on Veterans of Wars of the United States (2028), Dexter Bishop, PDC

No Report Received.

5.2 National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning (2026), Bruce D. Frail, PCinC

I have the honor to report that the National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning has stabilized the current office and staff of the National Headquarters located at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

I am also honored to report that Susan Mitchell has completed her work with the SUVCW and has moved on to Colorado with her family. She has been replaced by Brother McMillan of the Department of Pennsylvania by a vote of the Council of Administration, he is being trained in the back-up duties of the Executive Director and if needed could step in. As Susan Mitchell's duties were primarily to digitize archived National records which are located at the National Headquarters, so will be the primary duties of Brother McMillan. In addition, the duties of the Assistant Executive Director are to establish and maintain both an intern program and volunteer program.

As stated before, this completes the short-term Headquarters solution that was part of this committee's ten (10) year plan, now we are ready to move into our long-term solution.

Even though it has been reported by our National Executive Director that this committee held no meetings during this fiscal year, that statement is misleading - as we did meet three times in person at the National Headquarters and telephone conversations throughout the year to accommodate all the members of the committee schedules. I also traveled to the National Headquarters to meet with Brother David Demmy, Susan Mitchell and Brother Dane DeFebo on other occasions to discuss the vision of the committee looking into the future to formulate ideas for our long-range plans. This would include conversations with Brother Bryan Sigmund as well, who has been very active on the committee.

Thank you to all that are serving on this committee.

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5.3 National Special Committee on the 250th Birthday of the United States of America (2026), Ben Block Jones II, PDC

This special committee was created on or about July 6, 2023. Following my late appointment as Chair, I drafted an agenda and held a briefing and policy assessment via Zoom on January 20, 2024. This report covers the committee's activities from 2024 to present and includes initial recommendations and next steps for the committee to consider.

Since April 2021, I have been a volunteer resource with the America250 organization drafting legislation and conducting presentations as a registered lobbyist for creation of Mississippi's America 250 Committee. Miss. Code § 39-41-1 (eff. July 1, 2023) added by Laws 2023, Ch. 451 (S.B. No. 2139); see also H.B. No. 1266 (Reg. Sess. 2023), S.B. No. 2873 (Reg. Sess. 2022), H.B. No. 1325 (Reg. Sess. 2022).

In early February 2024, I contacted various representatives of the America250 Foundation. The Foundation is the non-profit operational arm of the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, a government agency. See Pub. L. 114–196 (July 22, 2016), 130 Stat. 685, as amended.

According to Foundation staff, an extensive October 2023 performance audit resulted in significant leadership changes, thus some outreach staff assignments and advisory councils would not be finalized until late-spring or early summer 2024. With 44 states and territories with state-level America250 organizations and only 16 states with executed partnership agreements, at that time completing partnership engagement with the states was a pressing issue for 2Q 2024. Nonetheless, it was stated that outreach and engagement of partnerships with private, corporate, and non-profit sectors would accelerate in the third quarter.

Consistent with the Bicentennial of the mid-1970s, America250 unveiled a new logo, name change, website, and branding in September 2023. Like the Bicentennial in the mid-1970s, although the stated window for events ends June 30, 2027, the actual window for events will end soon after July 4, 2026. Initial 2024 was to be a planning and "rehearsal" year for 2025 and 2026 promotions and events. For the America250 national organization, the first "test" for their "playbook" was the December 2023 Boston Tea Party, "America's Invitation." As a result of that event, a new revised "Playbook" was proposed but not published.

Following our January committee meeting, as suggested by various Foundation officials, I submitted our partner-brand ambassador application on January 22, and again on March 19, 2024, via the new America250 Partner Signup portal followed by follow-up emails to info@america250.org. Our submission included an online form giving an overview of our organization and proposed activities accompanied by our then-most recent Form 990 along with IRS determination letters and the committee's January meeting minutes. Our application was submitted again on July 13, following the first America250 State and Territory meeting in D.C.

On July 30, 2024, Foundation Interim Executive Director Jen Cordon distributed to the states a new updated licensing agreement, national brand guidelines, and sample state-specific lockups with the America250 logo were distributed to meeting attendees and state advisors. This was to ease the former restrictions and recognize that many states and territories want to use the words "America250" as part of a different, homegrown designed logo that reflects their unique identity instead of primarily using the designated state or territory logo lockup designed by America250. Since these guidelines would probably mirror the restrictions placed on our usage, these materials were forwarded to the SUVCW executive.

Following our 2024 report to the SUVCW executive, after brief telephone contact with another Foundation official, our application package was forwarded for comment on September 27. In October 2024, the Atlantic monthly magazine published an article on the "disfunction" of the Commission and America250 Foundation. "America is Suffering an Identity Crisis," Atlantic (October 14, 2024). In mid-November between the national election and Thanksgiving holiday, I made an informal inquiry of a mutual acquaintance of a former America250 executive and received a confidential reply.

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On January 30, 2025, President Trump issued Executive Order No. 14189 "Celebrating America's 250th Birthday" [90 FR 8849] and Commission secured continued funding. A White House 250 Task Force was established. See H.R. 2377 (119th), "National Garden for America's 250th Anniversary Act." With seemingly renewed enthusiasm, the Foundation began sorting through unattended matters. Monthly briefings and meetings with the state and territorial commissions were ramped up the week of February 4- 11, with prospective conference dates and times scheduled nine months forward. States were asked to provide a list of their top 3-5 initiatives between now and July 4, 2026 - whether they are events, educational programs, community initiatives, or other events. On February 27, I informed our committee that the National Society Sons of the American Revolution got their agreement approved on February 13. Given knowledge of that organization's application, efforts were redoubled and contact with the Commission eventually established.

On April 9, 2025, I had a productive conversation with the Commission's Director of Operations and his staff. Our 2024 submissions were located and forwarded to the Foundation's new public relations consultants for vetting. Following MSTeams meetings on April 29 and May 1 with the Foundation's consultants and lobbyists to discuss specifics of co-branding and strategic initiatives for the proposed MOA, the SUVCW's proposal was approved on May 15. The proposed agreement was received forwarded on May 19 and, due to technical difficulties, again on May 30. Under the White House 250 Task Force, America250 was officially launched on Memorial Day, May 26, 2025, with kickoff state and national celebrations on June 14 and July 3. Following approval of the Council of Administration, the executed MOA was returned to the Foundation on June 30. Currently, the Foundation is engaged in the production of revised guidelines for all partners and media promotion of our national agreement. The committee held a briefing and policy assessment via Zoom on July 9, 2025, in anticipation of this report.

In the May-June interim, I represented our organization as an America250 Partner at two seminars hosted by the CivxNow Coalition in partnership with American Association for State and Local History, a national nonprofit serving history organizations and professionals since 1940. These sessions focused on America250 initiatives centered around K–12 youth and civic engagement. The inclusion of America250 Partners in their members' materials was discussed extensively.

Recommendations:

Using the SUVCW Civil War Sesquicentennial for guidance, the Committee strongly recommends that any SUVCW America250 events should be planned and coordinated in advance with consideration to legal liabilities, insurance coverage, and appropriate permissions. Participation in the events of other organizations should receive the same due consideration, planning, and advance approvals.

As with Sesquicentennial, the Departments should submit requests to designate official Signature Events to the Committee. This will enable the Departments and Camps to qualify for bulk purchases and be eligible for National Encampment awards and recognitions, as well as banner streamers.

Consistent with the Council of Administration's considerations, the proposed SUVCW America250 branding should merge the existing SUVCW brand with the America250 brand. An example is shown below in Figure 1.

As with Sesquicentennial, we recommend a SUVCW America250 member participation medal which can be recognized by C-in-C General Order. See Figure 2; see C-in-C Schall, GO 12, Series 2010-2011, and 130th Proceedings, Page 216 of 433. Additionally, due to popularity we recommend the design and creation of a SUVCW America250 lapel pin. However, due to slow sales and investment in inventory, we specifically discourage the commission of a challenge coin. These items may be approved and commissioned by the Committee on Promotions & Marketing.

Given the "wasps' nest" nature of social media, our SUVCW America250 messages and posts should be consistent across all social media platforms. "One organization, one message" is vital for our organization and brand. Members should be reminded of our national policies regarding the same. No other formal or informal

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partnerships or co-branding with other groups or organizations are necessary at this time and any such considerations will be left to the discretion of the C-in-C, Council of Administration, and Committee on Fraternal Relations. A list of potential educational programs and social media coverage topics is included below.

Next Steps:

We've discussed several exciting items, but there are more options available to us: an SUVCW America250 promotional minute video; placing or rededicating Civil War plaques, monuments, grave sites; and incorporating SUVCW America250 into a marker program. After initial promotion of the upcoming national agreement, our next steps include an activation of our organization's resources. Pursuant to the enabling act, the Commission and most states' commissions will end in 2027. See e.g., Wis. Stat. §45.13(6)(b) [The commission shall cease to exist on January 1, 2027…]; Miss. Code §39-41- 1(15) [This section shall stand repealed on June 30, 2027.]; Congressional Research Service, "Congressional Involvement in the Celebration of Anniversaries of the Declaration of Independence" (March 27, 2025).

- The Committee on Promotions & Marketing should develop promotional materials, ceremonial events, contests, and education programs in conjunction with the Committee on History and Committee on Scholarships. We have suggested several suitable events and topics for social media: "Soldier Snapshots;" "This Day in Civil War History;" etc. Also, the SUVCW should develop and endorse an essay/poem/artwork program for the America's Field Trip contest for the 2025-2026 season.
- Committee on Communication & Technology and Special Committee on Social Media Management should design and coordinate social media event push with Committee on Promotions & Marketing.
- Compose and distribute articles and materials to Department PIs and Camp PIs.
- Departments should approach and coordinate with their respective state America250 Committees for promotions and events. America250 branding and promotion will open doors to state groups and agencies as well as other not-for-profit groups and events.

Our committee should coordinate with three primary actors:

1) National Committee on Promotions & Marketing
2) National Patriotic Instructor
3) National Committee on Communication & Technology

SUVCW should promote America 250 on the organization's web pages and social media, as well as our quarterly magazine, "The Banner." The National Patriotic Instructor's page should include promotion and branding. We already have several resources available:

- The National Patriotic Instructor's page has learning resources and patriotic education
- https://suvcw.org/civil-war-learning-resource
- https://suvcw.org/patriotic-education https://suvcw.org/Banner-Editions

Publications and brochures could be revamped. One brochure finds its way into our many Eagle Scout programs.

https://suvcw.org/sites/default/files/2023-02/FlagFactsFlyer.pdf

https://suvcw.org/sites/default/files/2023-01/TeacherAdopt-a-School.pdf

https://suvcw.org/sites/default/files/2023-01/SUVCWAdopt-a-School-camps.pdf

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Support committees should include:

1) National Committee on Scholarships
2) National Committee on Civil War Memorials
3) All Department & Camp Patriotic Instructors
4) All Other National, Department & Camp Officers

Recommendation: Allocate $6,000.00 in the 2025-2026 Budget to cover the up-front cost of purchasing the 250th Anniversary Commemoration Medals and Lapel Pins.

Potential Educational Programs & Social Media Coverage Topics:

January – Emancipation Proclamation (1863)

February - Sherman Marches through North and South Carolina (1865)

March - Lincoln's Inauguration (1861); Liberation and Freedom Day (March 3 Holiday)

April – Attack on Fort Sumter (1861); Shiloh (1862); Surrender & Assassination (1865)

May – Vicksburg Campaign (1863); Wilderness Campaign/Spotsylvania (1864); Memorial Day (Holiday); MOLLUS organized (1865)

June – Petersburg Campaign (1864)

July - First Battle of Bull Run (1861); Gettysburg (1863)

August – Atlanta Campaign (1864); Final GAR Encampment (1949)

September – Antietam (1862); United States Colored Troops (1862)

November – Chattanooga (1863); March to the Sea/Lincoln Re-Election (1864)

December – Fredericksburg (1862); Nashville (1864); Thirteenth Amendment ratified (1865)

Andrew Johnson	(December/July)
Ulysses S. Grant	(April/July)
Rutherford B. Hayes	(October/January)
James A. Garfield	(November/September)
Chester A. Arthur	(October/November)
Benjamin Harrison	(August/March)
William McKinley	(January/September)
Medal of Honor	December (Navy), July (Army)
Dr. Mary Edwards Walker	(November/February)
Dorothea Lynde Dix	(April/July)
Clarissa Harlowe Barton	(December/April)
Pauline Cushman-Fryer	(June/December)

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Harriet Tubman	(March)
Cathay Williams	(September)
Sarah Edmonds	(December/September)
Hannah Reynolds	(April)
Anna Etheridge	(May/January)
Marie Brose Tepe Leonard	(August/May)
Charlotte Elizabeth McKay	(August/April)

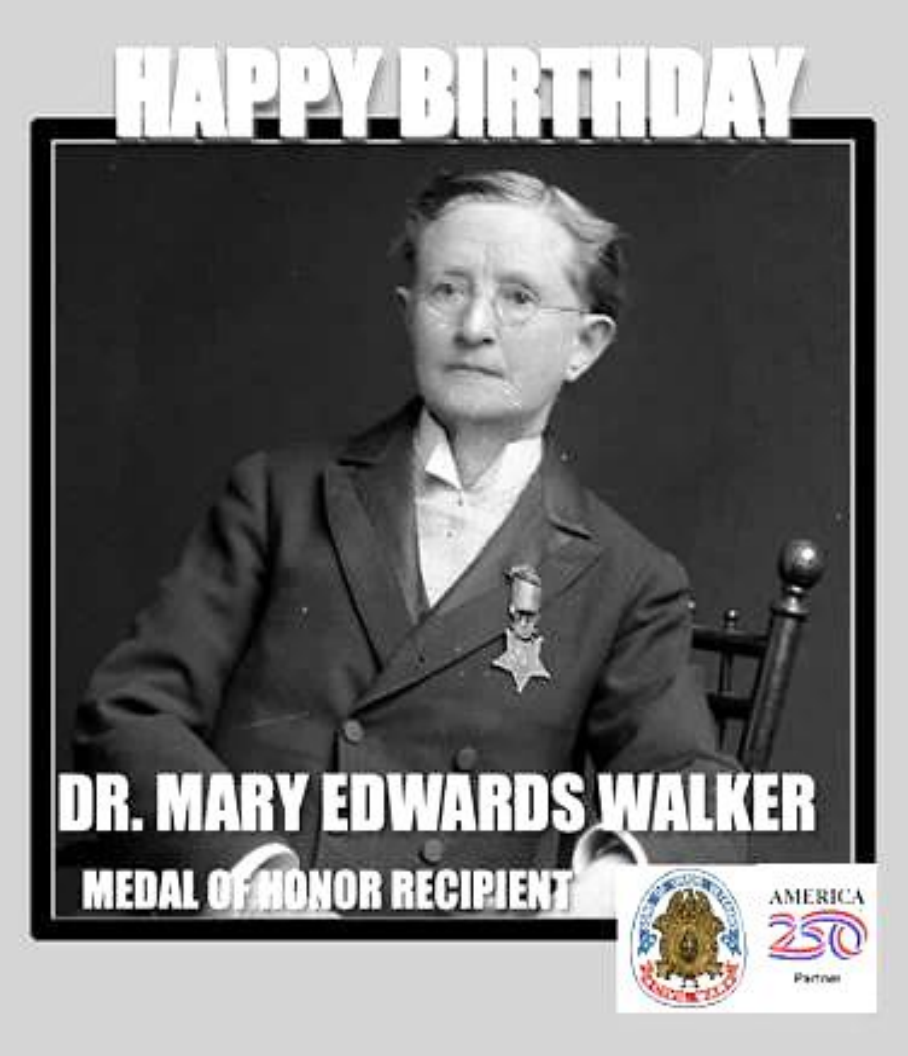

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Figure 1: Proposed SUVCW America250 Branding

Figure 2: Proposed SUVCW A250 member participation medal

5.4 National Special Committee on Memorial University (2027), Tad Campbell, PCinC

See National Patriotic Instructor's report.

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5.5 National Special Committee on Fundraising (2027), Dave Hann, PDC

As the Chairman of the Fund-Raising Committee, I would like to submit the following report.

We have started advertising for the tee-shirts for sale that were approved by the Council of Administration. We met via Zoom on June 30 and would like to make the following **2 recommendations:**

1. **If the Banner editor could make the change the current statement in the Banner as space in the Banner is limited.**

   From: "GIFTS TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE

   Brothers: As you consider your charitable giving, please keep in mind the good work of the Order. As National now has 501(c)(3) status, gifts to the National Organization are tax deductible. Your donations can be used in two areas. The first is our Monuments and Memorials fund, where National can give grants to Departments and Camps.

   Your donations would allow for more grants to be awarded. The second area would be our scholarship fund. Currently, we are limited to two scholarships of $2,500. Your gifts can make additional scholarships available to our college bound brothers and sisters".

   To: "GIFTS TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

   Brothers: As you consider your charitable giving, please keep in mind the good works of the Order. As National now has 501(c)(3) status, gifts to the National Organization are tax deductible as allowed by law. Your donations can be used in many areas. Please check out the link at suvcw.org/give for more information and the giving form or scan the QR code.

2. **We would like to ask the Council of Administration permission to see if we can get a commemorative Henry Rifle made to raise funds. The company has a special fund-raising sheet. There will be a one-time small charge for us to put the graphics on it. It would require nothing from us as all sales would have to go through an FFL dealer.**

It is an honor to serve on this committee, and I would like to thank the Brothers on the Committee for their guidance and wisdom.

5.6 National Special Committee on Medals/Badges, Bobby Welch, PDC

See Quartermaster's report.

5.7 National CinC Appointed Committee on Chaplain Affairs, Doug Jones

See National Chaplain's report.

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6.0 Departments

6.1 Department of Alabama, Scott A. Martin, DC

All five Camps of the Alabama Department held a Memorial Day Service including placement of flags on the graves of Union Veterans in area cemeteries. Between the five camps, 25 JROTC/ROTC awards and certificates were presented to eligible cadets. The SUVCW ROTC-JROTC Award asks, "Cadet selected for this award should display a high degree of patriotism to his or her Nation and have demonstrated a high degree of academic performance and leadership."

Two camps have been diligent in setting up recruitment tables at local genealogical seminars and military events. All five camps continue to update their records of Union Soldiers interred in their covered counties and updating the National Graves Registration of Union Soldiers Database.

To date I have visited the Croxton, Spencer & Taylor Camps and have very much enjoyed the fellowship. I had the honor of presenting an Eagle Scout Certificate to Thomas Allen on May 17, 2025 in Fyffe, AL. It's important that the Alabama Department is active in the Scout program. Each camp should develop relationships in their area and issue Eagle Scout awards and letters of commendation.

On May 31, 2025 I attended a Grave Dedication Ceremony in the historic Oakwood Cemetery in Tuscumbia, AL. The event was sponsored by the Spencer Camp and honored 3 Union Veterans, Pvt. Asher E. Bresler, Co. L, 1st Arkansas Cavalry Regiment (1840 -1926), Pvt. Albert E. Eggleston, Co. A, 55th U.S. Infantry Regiment, U.S.C.T. (1844- 1941) and Pvt. James N. Sampson, Co. A, 41st New York Infantry Regiment (1843-1907). We can't do enough to honor the memory and sacrifice of our Union ancestors. These type of grave markings are an excellent example of preserving their memory and promoting the Sons of Union Veterans in Alabama.

The Alabama Department will hold its first annual Department Campfire on August 23, 2025 in Pelham, AL.

6.2 Department of Arkansas, Joseph Rainey, DC

The Department of Arkansas was approved at the Department of Missouri's encampment, on June 7, 2025.

The bylaws of the new Department of Arkansas have been accepted by members of the 4 camps at the organization meeting of June 21, 2025.

Our charter has been approved by Commander-in-Chief Martin.

I have visited all 4 camps in the last several weeks since the Department's founding.

6.3 Department of California and Pacific

No Report Received.

6.4 Department of the Chesapeake, A. Clay Matthews, DC

April, 2025 - Beginning with the installation of new officers, the Department of the Chesapeake has been working to re-vamp and improve its presence on the internet. Under the leadership of Signals Officer James Mazars de Mazerin, a new website has been designed and is in progress. It will be unveiled later in the summer of 2025.

May 2, 2025 – Representatives of the Department of the Chesapeake including the Department Commander, immediate Past Department Commander, and a color guard, along with Commander-in-Chief Kevin Martin and

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National Auxiliary President Rosemary Martin participated in a military burial service for the re-internment of the remains of Union soldiers found during a construction project in the City of Fredericksburg, VA. Special permission was granted by the National Park Service to inter the remains in the Fredericksburg National Cemetery, the internment being the first since 1945. PDC Andy Johnson deserves special recognition for his ten-year effort to unite all stakeholders including the City of Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania County, the United States Army, the National Park Service and The Allied Orders, to give the remains of the Union soldiers a proper burial with military honors.

May 30, 2025 – Lincoln-Cushing Camp held a Decoration Day service at the James Tanner Amphitheater in Arlington National Cemetery. Representatives from the Department of the Chesapeake, as well as Commander-in-Chief Kevin Martin, National Auxiliary President Rosemary Martin, and Karen Lyddane, President of the Elizabeth Van Lew Detached Tent 1, DUVCW, participated. Following the program, a wreath- laying was held at the Tomb of Civil War Unknowns.

July 8, 2025 - The first Camp Commander Roundtable was held via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. Information was provided to all Camp commanders regarding a new welcome and information packet developed by James A. Garfield Camp No.1 JVC Steve Bonning. The packet provides new brothers to the camp with basic information about the Order, Department and Camp. The majority of the evening's discussion revolved around the question What is one thing that you can do with your camp that is unique or different than anything that your camp has done before? The question stimulated much thought about how things may be done differently from recruitment to camp activities and publicity.

The Chesapeake Leadership Program will be enrolling its 3rd class this summer. Brothers from throughout the Department participate in the program to improve understanding of SUVCW history and operations, as well as enhance our opportunities to build fraternity, communication, and collaboration within our Department. The CLP uses a hybrid educational format including virtual sessions and a field experience, in order to promote engagement and leadership development. In addition, the CLP promotes participation in the Memorial University program.

6.5 Department of Colorado & Wyoming, Jim Barker, DC

As Department Commander, I attended the meetings (in person or virtual) of five out of the eight camps in the Department. Additionally, I've personally contacted all the Camp Commanders and found that seven of the eight Camps are all actively involved promoting the Order's purposes and one, Camp 15, is still in its infancy and is perfecting its organization. The Department has held four Department Officer meetings to discuss ongoing plans & projects.

The concerning aspect when listening to the Camp Commanders in conversation revolves around membership. This prompted me to contact numerous past members within the Department, from whom I've gleaned insights. These include feelings of distance (Montana, Wyoming examples), the fact that most camps have a large number of older members and personality differences with other members. These views contribute to a low average participation in Camp meetings, excluding virtual participants, underscoring the need for implementing virtual or any form of digital media to maintain the Camps' activity and engagement. As a Department Commander, I recognized the need to call for increased flexibility in meeting formats, encouraging a blend of virtual gatherings as this brings in those who cannot attend personally.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at National level sponsored RootsTech 2025, the largest family history and genealogy conference annually in the entire world. As part of the sponsorship, the SUVCW had both a physical booth at the Salt Lake convention center and a virtual booth. Camp 1 Brother's Ken Jacobsen and Monroe McBride were instrumental in setting up and managing the booth, and virtual room, as well as setting

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up, scheduling, managing other members within this Department to help. A complete after action report is attached to this report.

The Department is actively researching bonding requirements for officers at the Camp and Department level.

Our GAR Highway Officer, PCC Monroe McBride, performed a comprehensive survey of the highway as it transits the states of Utah and Colorado. His report is appended to this report. Camp 3 Commander Tom Harper attended a presentation on the Bozeman trail at Ft. Phil Kearny where Camp 3's namesake Col. Henry B. Carrington served as Post Commander. Camps and individual members participated in Memorial Day Veterans Day and Flag Day events across the five states that comprise the Department.

Additionally, Brothers participated in four different living history events and Wreaths Across America. Brothers performed maintenance on CW veterans headstones on nine different occasions. GAR grave markers were placed on four veterans' graves. Thirty-two CW veterans' graves (including one Medal of Honor recipient) were added to the database. Nine ROTC medals and seven Eagle Scout Certificates were presented.

We regret to report that two Brothers of the Department answered the final muster. Sympathy cards were sent to the families. Brothers in ill heath were sent get well cards.

Department strength as of 31 March 2025 stood at 94 members.

RECOMMENDATION: Pursuant to a vote of the Department Encampment on 21 June 2025, we recommend that the National Organization continue sponsorship of the RootsTech Conference for 2026.

Addendum 1: RootsTech After Action Report

Report to the Encampment of the Department of Colorado and Wyoming On RootsTech 2025:

At RootsTech 2025 in Salt Lake City, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War had two booths: a physical booth on the floor of the exhibit hall which operated for the duration of the live conference, March 6-8, and a virtual booth that continues until late this year. Approximately 15,000 individuals attended RootsTech 2025 in person and "several million" viewed online.

The physical booth experienced excellent traffic and interest. Location was excellent with a double-sized space at the end of a block. More than 450 brochures were taken by conference patrons. Thirty-two requests for follow-up contact were received at the physical booth, representing individuals from around the nation in ten different departments' territories. These requests were e-mailed to Junior Vice-Commander-in-chief Daniel Murray for distribution to department junior vice commanders and, from them, to officers of camps nearest the hometowns of the requesters.

There was media exposure, too. Two brothers were interviewed by FamilySearch Social Media for a podcast and booth staff was interviewed by KTVX, ABC's Salt Lake affiliate. Allen County Library's (Fort Wayne, Indiana) request for a podcast interview was forwarded to Brother Kevin Tucker for further handling. The virtual booth is found at https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/expohall/sons-of-union-veterans-of-the-civil-war. It includes a welcome video created by the National Committee on Promotions and Marketing, three YouTube videos that well illustrate the purpose and activities of the Order, a downloadable recruitment brochure, and links to our website, our YouTube channel, and our Facebook page. It is through the website link that we hope users will be requesting membership information leading to personal contact and application for membership.

Activity in a connected chat room was negligible.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
MONROE MCBRIDE
KEN JACOBSEN

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Supplemental Report

Since submitting the initial report, there have been further developments in the project's progress that I will now share with you.

Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief Daniel Murray advised me that he has forwarded to the respective Departments the contact information concerning requests for membership received at the physical booth. In at least the case of our Department, this was in the form of e-mails sent to each of the men who made requests, copying the Department junior vice-commander. I suspect he did likewise for the other Departments.

Presumably, also, he did not e-mail women who requested more information, although they may have eligible fathers, husbands, sons, brothers, and so forth. For that reason, I suggested that the women be contacted as well.

I also asked confirmation that the Excel file with the contact information, in some instances including telephone numbers, be sent to each Department so that it could be forwarded to the appropriate Camp. This is part of the original plan. In at least the case of our Department, that was not sent. This may be, of course, because he knows our Department Junior Vice Commander Ken Jacobsen already has the original contact sheets from the physical booth.

In addition, Brother Murray informed me that he has also received, as of May 21, thirteen other requests through the National website since the virtual booth went live. These were referred to the Departments in which they lived, a total of seven different departments.

We do not know whether these 13 are a result of RootsTech. In an early discussion with Chairman Kevin Tucker, RootsTech was to be added to the checklist as a source on the National website for inquirers to designate; at some point, the decision was made at the National level not to add RootsTech to the checklist after all.

As for the contacts within our Department's territory, we know that 16 persons signed the sheet requesting membership information.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
MONROE MCBRIDE

Addendum 2: GAR Highway Report

Report to the 2025 Encampment of the Department of Colorado and Wyoming
on the Grand Army of the Republic Highway.

For clarity in this report, references to "government signs" mean standard highway signs provided and installed by the governments of Colorado and Utah. "SUVCW signs" means signs privately produced and installed by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Surveys of United States Highway Six since the last Department encampment confirm that all inspected SUVCW signs are in place and in very good condition. The government sign in Utah at the Colorado border is in very good condition, while its counterpart at the Nevada border is in good condition, showing some signs of weathering. No government signs were found in Colorado at its borders with Nebraska and Utah.

I inspected the Utah signs on the route west of Interstate 15 on January 10, 2025, and the Utah signs east of Interstate 15 and in Mack, Colorado on April 1, 2025. The sign near Holyoke, Colorado was not inspected during the year. A photograph and description of each sign will be found in the appendix to this report. The picture of the SUVCW sign east of Holyoke is taken from December 2022 correspondence from the Colorado Department of Transportation and may not reflect the sign's current condition.

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Incidentally, the Wikipedia article "U.S. Route 6" records, "In 2015, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) approved a request from the Colorado Department of Transportation to eliminate US 6 through the city of Rifle, meaning that US 6 is now discontinuous between Rifle and Grand Junction, although current signage does not reflect this change.* I note this only to make a record of it in the proceedings of this Department encampment.

I recommend to my successor and to the Department the following measures.

1. That the Department, from time to time as the political environment, law, and regulations change, renew its efforts with Colorado state legislators favorable to our cause for legislation to establish government signs at Colorado's borders with Nebraska and Utah, visible to motorists entering the state. Colorado designated Highway Six as the Grand Army of the Republic Highway on April 24, 1939. (Incidentally, Utah so designated its portion on March 12, 1949.)
2. That the Department's Grand Army of the Highway officer annually cause a survey of all signage to be performed to ensure that signs are repaired, replaced, and otherwise properly maintained.
3. That this report with all photographs be appended in its entirety to the minutes of the Department encampment. I believe it has value as documentation of the currently existing signs and their conditions as a baseline reference for future administrations.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty, MONROE CLARK MCBRIDE
Grand Army of the Republic Highway Officer Department of Colorado and Wyoming

* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U.S._Route_6#cite_note-25. Retrieved April 2, 2025. The footnote there reads, "Special Committee on U.S. Route Numbering (May 14, 2015). "Special Committee on U.S. Route Numbering Spring 2015 Report to the Standing Committee on Highways" (PDF) (Report). Washington, DC: American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. Archived from the original (PDF) on June 3, 2019. Retrieved June 6, 2015."

6.6 Department of the Columbia

No Report Received.

6.7 Department of Connecticut

No Report Received.

6.8 Department of Florida, Timothy Campaign, DC

The Dept. of Florida Secretary (Larry Scovotto) has been very busy updating our website. Larry has also homogenized communications with the Florida camps by developing Excel spreadsheets making it much easier to update records and enhance the flow of information between the camps and the department.

Our new Treasurer (Bob Humker) has been working with Larry to develop the department budget. The Florida camps have been very active this quarter. Please note activities by camp below:

Winfield Scott Whitehurst Camp 1's activities:

- April 6, 2025 - We had 2 local authors on Tampa Bay history, Charles Spicola and Richard Sanchez, speak at a joint event with the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Sons of the American Revolution and Tampa Rough Riders at the Tampa Historical Society building. Mr. Spicola spoke on local Civil War history, including the Battle of Tampa. He displayed a cannon ball that was recovered from the battle. Mr.

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Sanchez spoke on his new book about Confederate Secretary of War, Judah Benjamin's escape through Florida after the Civil War, coming to Bradenton from Georgia, then sailing to the Bahamas to catch a sloop to London.

- April 19, 2025 - We had a joint work day with the Sons of Confederate Veterans at historic Greenwood Cemetery in downtown St. Pete, cleaning both Union and CSA graves.
- April-May 2025 - We presented many medals to JROTC members at local high schools (big thanks to Brother Brabazon)
- May 18, 2025 – We had our Camp 1 meeting at the Tampa Historical Society building. We will break for the Summer and resume meeting on September 21, 2025 at the meeting room at Mission BBQ on Waters Ave.
- May 26, 2025 - We participated in American Legion Post 5's Memorial Day ceremony at the Post 5 Cemetery in Tampa by laying a wreath. We also visited the grave of our Camp's namesake. Winfield Scott Whitehurst

Camp 2 in fort Myers:

- Jack Bovee led the charge to bring members of the other Camps together to form a youth program offering awards to high school students participating in Florida history day projects related to the causes, course, or consequences of the Civil War. Jack donated $500 to offer the first of two awards.
- The Camp coordinated a Memorial Day observation with the American Legion Post 38 in Fort Myers.

Camp 3 in West Palm Beach:

- SUVCW- Dept of FL - Camp #3 General Thomas J. McKean, SVR - 7th Military District - Harmon Company Camp Report- 2nd Qtr. 2025:
- We attended and presented SUVCW JROTC awards to 7 high schools in Palm Beach County during month of April.
- SVR Honor Guard attended and performed duties to Honor our Brother Mike Urell at his "Celebration of Life" ceremony in St. Cloud, FL.
- On May 24, Camp #3 members and SVR Honor Guard conducted a Memorial Day Ceremony per SUVCW Rituals & Ceremonies handbook at the Woodlawn Cemetery, West Palm Beach. Brother Wysong played Taps and his son fired our newly acquired mini cannon. Brothers placed 37 U.S. flags by Union headstones in 4 cemeteries in Palm Beach County.
- On May 25, Cpt. Garten and Cpl. Wysong played Taps to start "Flags for Forgotten Veterans" activity at South FL National Cemetery, Lake Worth, FL.
- On May 26, Brothers from Camp #2, Camp #3, Camp #4 and SVR Harmon Company attended the Memorial Day ceremony at the South FL National Cemetery, Lake Worth, FL. Brothers fired a cannon salute to close the ceremony.
- SVR Harmon Company gained 3 new Brothers.

Camp 4 – Saint Cloud and Camp 5 – Webster:

- April 11, 2025 – Funeral service for PDC, PCC Michael Urell – Camps 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10.
- April 19, 2025 – Eagle Scout Presentation – Camp 4.

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- April 24, 2025 – JROTC Award Presentation – Camps 4 & 5.
- April 29, 2025 – Eagle Scout Award Presentation – Camps 4 & 5.
- April 30, 2025 – JROTC Award Presentation – Set up recruiting table - Camps 4 & 5.
- May 3, 2025 – Winter Haven Heritage Festival – Set up recruiting table - Camps 4 & 5.
- May 4, 2025 - Wreaths Across America – Camps 4 & 5.
- May 7, 2025 – JROTC Award Presentation – Camps 4 & 5.
- May 18, 2025 - Gifford Historical Museum – Camps 4 & 5 – Set up recruiting table.
- Camp 4 has also formed an active committee to plan and execute the 2025 Christmas Ball in Saint Cloud which raises donations for local disabled Veterans.
- May 24, 2025 – NAACP Memorial Celebration – Camps 4 & 5.
- May 26, 2025 – Mt. Peace Memorial Day Celebration – Camps 4 & 5.
- May 31, 2025 – Eagle Scout Award Presentation – Camps 4 & 5.
- June 14, 2025 – Flag Day – VFW Post 8002 – Camps 4 &5.

Camp 7 Pembroke Pines:

- Participated in Memorial Day services at the South Florida National Cemetery with the SVR.

Camp 9 Jacksonville:

- Camp has offered to host the 2026 Department encampment in Saint Augustine.

Camp 10 Melbourne:

- Camp 10 Is newly established and working to grow its membership. The camp members have been participating in events with other camps.

Camp 25 MAL:

- Dept. Secretary, Larry Scovotto has been working to bring our MAL community together in hopes of establishing a new camp in the panhandle. We foresee an opportunity to have these members active in presenting JROTC and Eagle Scout Awards in their geographical areas.
- The camp currently consists of twenty members.
- Larry is developing a strategic plan to increase membership participation.

6.9 Department of Georgia and South Carolina

No Report Received.

6.10 Department of Illinois, Mike Zafran, DC

I am pleased to report that the Department of Illinois is doing the work of the order. Here are our activities.

- Lincoln Death Day: 7 Camps represented.
- Petersburg Ceremony: 7 Camps represented.

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- Memorial Day Ceremonies: Held at Rosehill Cemetery, Union Ridge Cemetery, Jewell Grove Cemetery, Oakwood Cemetery, Wilton Center Cemetery, Greenmount Cemetery, Summerville Cemetery, Walnut Cemetery, Elmhurst Cemetery, St Peter's Cemetery, Springdale Cemetery, Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, West Aurora Cemetery.
- Memorial Day Parades: Belleville: Elmhurst, Aurora.
- Cemetery Work: Bluff City Cemetery, St Charles Cemetery, Oakwood Cemetery, Elmhurst Cemetery, Springdale Cemetery, Greenmount Cemetery, Walnut Cemetery, Summerville Cemetery. A total of 6 new stones set and numerous stones raised and cleaned.
- Eagle Scout SUVCW programs completed: 7
- Civil War Shows presented at: 6 shows with 5 Camps represented.
- Flag Day Ceremonies: Palatine Historical Society and Rosehill Cemetery: 5 Camps represented.
- Field Trip by one Camp for high school students to Gettysburg.
- ROTC presentations: 2 Camps.
- Commander activities: Lincoln Death Day, Petersburg Ceremony, Presented at the GAR Hall Aurora for 62 Fifth Graders. MC at Jewell Grove Cemetery, Pleasant Hill Cemetery, and West Aurora Cemetery. Sang at Abraham Lincoln Cemetery in Elwood, for the 18th year. Five Camp meeting visits. Attended 3 living history events. Attended 2 GAR events. Represented the Order at 2 GAR Commissioner's meetings.

6.11 Department of Indiana, Travis J. LeMaster, DC

It is my pleasure and privilege to submit this report on the activities of the Department of Indiana Commander, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, for the period of April 26, 2025 to July 1, 2025.

The Department of Indiana has a membership divided among nine camps.

The Department continues work on the Last Soldier Project and the Civil War Nurses project.

- On April 26, 2025, I participated in the 139th Annual Encampment of the Department of Indiana held in West Lafayette, Indiana, where I was honored to be elected Department Commander.
- On April 27, 2025, issued Department Order 2025-1: First Department Orders, Appointments, Committees, etc.
- On April 27, 2025, issued Department Circular 2025-1: Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation.
- On April 28, 2025, I sent an email to the Department Commander of the Department of Tennessee and Mississippi regarding the 26th Indiana Monument at Vicksburg.
- On April 28, 2025, I sent out letters of introductions to historical and genealogical societies throughout the State of Indiana.
- On April 29, 2025, issued Department Order 2025 -2: Establishing Oliver P. Morton and Lew Wallace awards for brothers and Camps with most recruitment during year.
- On May 2, 2025, I requested that Brother Taylin Allen, Legion Editor, be given access to the Department Facebook account.

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- On May 2, 2025, I was able to confirm with Department Signals Officer Beckman that we have control of the Department Twitter account.
- On May 13, 2025, I forwarded on a report from the inspection of the 26th Indiana monument at Vicksburg done by Brothers of the Department of Tennessee and Mississippi to our committee.
- On May 14, 2025, I sent out an email to the Department Records committee thanking them for their service and suggesting a Zoom meeting.
- On May 7, 2025, attended Zoom meeting of the Indiana 26th Monument at Vicksburg Committee.
- On May 10, 2025, I sent an email to Brother Taylin Allen thanking him for the excellent work with the Indiana Legion and we exchanged ideas for future editions.
- On May 14, 2025, answered Brother Taylin Allen's question about using the Facebook boost feature to promote posts on the Department page.
- On May 14, 2025, I sent out an email to the Department Projects committee thanking them for their service and giving them a vision of the committee's role.
- On May 14, 2025, I received an email forwarded from National regarding the Annual Call for Nomination of Awards.
- On May 17, 2025, I attended the Orlando A. Somers Camp # 1 meeting.
- On May 17, 2025, issued Department Order 2025-3: Establishing Committees on Bylaw Review and Civil War Nurses Project.
- On May 18, 2025, I asked all Brothers through our email list to submit photos of their Memorial Day events to the Legion and Banner.
- On May 19, 2025, I attended the Madison County, Indiana Civil War Roundtable.
- On May 20, 2025, I attended the John W. Foster Camp # 2 meeting via Zoom.
- On May 22, 2025, I received an email forwarded from National regarding possible destruction of a Civil War cemetery in our jurisdiction.
- On May 23, 2025, I began correspondence regarding preservation of a Civil War cemetery in Wheeler, Indiana, the Janes Cemetery. Received correspondence from SVC Hoesli that there are at least 8 Civil War veterans buried in this cemetery.
- On May 25, 2025, I participated in a Memorial Day ceremony at Crown Point Cemetery in Kokomo, Indiana with Orlando A. Somers Camp # 1.
- On May 25, 2025, I visited the gravesite of John C. Adams, the last Union Veteran of Indiana in Riverside Cemetery in Gas City, Indiana.
- On May 26, 2025, I participated in a Memorial Day ceremony in Marion, Indiana with the Mississinewa Battlefield Society.
- On May 26, 2025, I sent out an email to the Bylaw committee thanking them for their service and providing some thoughts on potential revisions to our Department Bylaws.

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- On May 27, 2025, I sent out an email to Camp Commander of the Porter Camp regarding the preservation of the Janes Cemetery in Wheeler, Indiana and recommended we find out more about proposed plans for development in the area.
- On May 28, 2025, I attended the Zoom meeting of the Department Records Committee.
- On May 28, 2025, I sent an email concerning the background and history of Orlando A. Somers to the Kokomo Parks Department.
- On May 31, 2025, I attended the Indiana Commandery MOLLUS meeting at Vincennes, Indiana held at Grouseland, home of William Henry Harrison. Later toured George Rogers Clark National Military Park and the Indiana Military History Museum.
- On June 4, 2025, I began correspondence with the Boone County Historical Society regarding participation in their upcoming Lincoln's Lebanon celebration in September.
- On June 5, 2025, I submitted the Commander's Letter for publication in the latest edition of the Indiana Legion.
- On June 14, 2025, I shared the latest edition of the Indiana Legion with the mailing list of the Madison County Civil War Roundtable.
- On June 14, 2025, I attended a presentation on the 19th Indiana Infantry at the Continental Chapter SAR meeting in Muncie, Indiana.
- On June 28, 2025, I participated in the grave dedication ceremony for Pvt. John Boyer of Co. 29th Indiana at Pleasant Lake, Indiana with the 27th Indiana SVR and 14th Michigan SVR.

6.12 Department of Iowa, David L. Thompson, DC

1. Elected to the Position of Dept Commander April 26, 2025 at the 142nd Annual Department Encampment.
2. Attended Headstone Rededication at Blanchard, Iowa, May 17, 2025.
3. Attended School Days event at Gold Star Museum, at Camp Dodge, Iowa, May 20, 2025.
4. Participated in the 250 Anniversary of the U.S. Army at Camp Dodge, Iowa, May 22, 2025.

I plan to attend as many, Camp Meetings, as I can as Dept. Commander this Year.

6.13 Department of Kansas, Kent M. Melcher, DC, PDC

In my official visits to our Kansas Camps, I have found a great deal of excitement for, and commitment to, our work. Without exception, our camps are preserving our heritage in their work at cemeteries across the state. Our brothers are teaching the true history of the Civil War to young and old alike. They are providing excellent examples of patriotism for our communities. They are "keeping green the memory of the Boys in Blue."

Attendance at the Department Encampment on April 5 was above expectations. With that fact and from my official visits, I perceive that the Department of Kansas is stronger in many ways than in the recent past.

Although our total numbers have grown only by one brother this year, our Camps have reported new members received, with possibilities of others. At its May meeting, the Department Council adopted a challenge for all Camps to receive at least three new members in the coming year. The challenge honors a recently deceased

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Past Department Commander, brother Robert Dean Boyd, II, who focused his energy and enthusiasm on bringing new brothers into our fraternity.

I was privileged to make an official visit to the Encampment of the Department of Missouri in June. Both Encampments of the Departments of Kansas and Missouri have authorized the formation of a joint committee to make application to co-host the National Encampment at the next available date.

I was also privileged to visit the Department of Kansas Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861 - 1865 and delivered greetings and brief remarks at its Annual Convention. I plan to continue to build ties with our Sisters so that as opportunities arise we may work together on projects.

At its Encampment in March 2026, the Department of Kansas will celebrate the 30th Anniversary of its reconstituting.

6.14 Department of Kentucky, Mike Flynn, DC

The Department of KY includes four camps and memberships of 100 brothers. The Department has participated in a variety of activities, all to honor our ancestors who wore the Union Blue.

1. The KY Department Encampment was held in historic Hodgenville, KY, birthplace of Abraham Lincoln in May with Sr. Vice Cmdr.-in-Chief Kevin Tucker who was present to install the department officers.
2. At the National Encampment held in Lexington, Ky in August 2024, several awards were presented. These include:
    - **Meritorious Service Award** presented to John Buckler, Jr. Vice Cmdr. and Mike Flynn, DC.
    - **Certificate of Recognition** presented to Jack Mills, PDC and Bruce Fortin, PDC.
    - One of the most prestigious awards given by the National CinC is the "Cornelius F. Whitehouse Award" which was presented to Robert Moody Department of KY, Camp 5. It was given to Bob for all his hard work in the preservation of the Battlefield at Richmond, Ky.
3. Department and Camp highlight activities:
    a. Memorial Day Flag Placement at various cemeteries across the state.
    b. Memorial Day ceremonies
    c. Juneteenth ceremonies
    d. Tombstone dedications
    e. R.O.T.C. awards
    f. Eagle Scout awards
    g. Cemetery cleaning, tombstone cleaning and re-setting.

These highlights are only a portion of actual Camp activities.

6.15 Department of Maine

No Report Received.

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6.16 Department of Massachusetts, Roderick J. Fraser Jr., DC

It is my honor and privilege to present this report as Commander of the Department of Massachusetts.

The Department of Massachusetts has been very active over the past year but unfortunately, we have lost four Brothers who passed away in the past year, ten Brothers who were dropped and four who were granted Honorable Discharges. We gained five Brothers which resulted in a net decrease in Department membership. Our strength now stands at 154.

After 100 years, the General Darius Couch Camp 26 Charter was revoked. This Camp did not actively recruit new members and continuously dwindled down to four members and was thus untenable as a Camp.

Department Encampment - we held our Annual Department Encampment at the Lakeside Inn, Wakefield, MA April 26th and 27th. Installing Officer was the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Kevin Tucker. Elections were held and the following Brothers were elected:

- Roderick J. Fraser, Department Commander
- John Wilder, Senior Vice Commander
- Rev. Peter Preble, Junior Vice Commander
- John Dupré, Secretary/Treasurer
- Council:
    - a. Daniel Murray
    - b. Matthew Sargent
    - c. William Naughton

The following brothers were appointed to office:

- George Maple; Patriotic Instructor
- Chaplain; Dexter Bishop
- Graves Registration Officer; William Naughton
- Historian; Rev. Peter Preble
- Civil War Memorials Officer: Kenneth London
- Eagle Scout Coordinator; Michael Terry
- Councilor; Kevin Tucker
- GAR Highway Officer; Roderick Fraser
- ROTC Officer; Albert Smith
- Guide; Charles Lewis
- Communications Officer; Ronald Glidden
- Department Quartermaster; John Wilder
- Guard; Henry Buckley

The Past Department commander of the Department of Maine, Peter Redman, joined us at our encampment again this year.

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Departed Brothers.

Saturday morning began with our Annual Memorial Service. We remembered the following Brothers who passed away the previous year:

- Ronny Petit, Camp 5
- Calvin Pixley - Camp 15
- Elisha Mallory "Mal" Grant - Camp 25
- Allerton Bonney - Camp 3188

The Department Commander sent a death certificate to the next of kin of all Brothers. May they rest in peace.

Department Awards

The Roger L. Olsen Award for the Most Outstanding Brother of the Order for the year 2024-2025 was presented to Brother Ronald Glidden, Camp 54 Commander.

The PDC Stuart H. Chambers Award for Camp Recruiting was awarded to the following Camps of the Department for their positive growth in Camp membership for the year 2024.

- Col. Robert Gould Shaw Camp 54
- Gen Frederick Lander Camp 5
- Charles H. Bond Camp 104

Work by the Department

I presided over the unveiling and dedication of the preserved and remounted cannon of the General Charles Russell Lowell GAR Cemetery Plot Mt. Hope Cemetery on 18 October 2024 at 11:00 a.m. We had the honor of being joined by Commissioner Robert Santiago, Commissioner of Veteran Services for the City of Boston, Mr. Troy Hencke, the Senior Vice Commander of the Massachusetts Veterans of Foreign Wars, Mary-Dith Tuitt, Commander of the William E. Carter Post 16 American Legion in Boston and Mr. Robert Gold, past President of the Military Historical Society of Massachusetts.

The Military Historical Society of Massachusetts awarded Camp 54 a grant towards the cost of the project. The cannon had to be removed from the old broken brick foundations and taken to a metal shop in Boston where they were properly cleaned and preserved. The new granite bases were manufactured to fit the cannon, delivered and then the cannon were put in place to continue to stand as protective sentinels over the men whose bodies are laid to rest in that plot.

The cannon were originally on wooden gun carriages which eventually rotted away and were disposed of. The cannon were then placed haphazardly on top of a brick and mortar foundation which had deteriorated and the cannon themselves were rusting. A special thanks to Brother Ron Glidden of Camp 54 and his wife Sue for providing fife and drum music as part of the ceremony. The General Charles Russell Lowell GAR Post 7 was the second largest Post in Boston and had 384 members. It was chartered 11 March 1867 and surrendered its Charter in 1937. Our guest speaker was Boston Commissioner of Veteran Services, Robert Santiago.

I and the Brothers of the Department attended the 25th Annual Remembrance Day Weekend Trip, Nov. 14 – 17, 2024. I participated in the Remembrance Day ceremony, laying a wreath at the Massachusetts burial plot and also the reading of the names of the soldiers buried there in remembrance. Additionally, I marched in the parade as a color bearer in the 1st Military District SVR and attended the original civil War Ball along with my wife Angela.

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The Department held our Annual General Butler Memorial Ceremony, along with Brothers of the First Military District, on Saturday, November 2nd, 2024. General Butler was a Major General of the Union Army, accomplished politician, famous lawyer, and successful businessman from Lowell. The ceremony was attended by descendants of General Butler and General Ames, as well as Friends of Hildreth Cemetery and local media, who published a story in the Lowell newspaper.

The Department of Massachusetts held its annual Christmas Party for Veterans residing at the Soldiers Home in Chelsea on Saturday, December 14th. It was a wonderful evening of Chinese food, baked goods and sweets, music and presents. Special thanks to Alicia Nutile and Winchester Savings Bank for providing some special gifts, as well as Linda Murray for organizing quilt and Afghan donations.

On December 14, Department Junior Vice Commander, Rev. Peter Preble and his assistant, placed a wreath on the grave of Benjamin and Carrie Loring. Carrie Loring, Past President of the Woman's Relief Corps established a fund in the name of her husband to be used to further the mission of the Sons.

In January of 2025, the Department sent a Birthday Card to Real Son brother Bill Pool for his 100th Anniversary. Along with the card we sent and a handmade lap quilt with a U.S. Army motif made by Sister Jean Sheehan, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Mary Edwards Walker Tent 12, Port St. Lucie, FL.

We held our 25th Annual Abraham Lincoln Birthday Brunch Held in Wakefield On Sunday, February 23rd. The Brunch, originally scheduled for February 16th, was postponed for one week due to storm conditions on that day. Special guests included:

- National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution and the Vice President General and Regent of the Sergeant William H. Carney Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of the Union Paula Renkas.
- American Legion District 7 Senior Vice Commander and William E. Carter Post 16, American Legion Commander Mary-dith Tuitt.

Past Department Commander John Bates III was the Master of Ceremonies for the program, and the Featured Speaker was Christian G. Samito, PhD., author of "Lincoln and the Thirteenth Amendment" who presented an amazing talk on why and how President Lincoln pushed for a Constitutional amendment to end slavery over all other legal and legislative means. Dr. Samito is a professor of eighteenth and nineteenth century American history, with a focus on constitutional and legal history, political history, military history, economic history, and ethnic history. at Boston University School of Law.

On Saturday, May 31, 2025, the 1st Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve and the Department of Massachusetts participated in the Rededication Event for the Town of Wakefield's "Soldiers and Sailors Monument" on the Upper Town Common in Wakefield, Massachusetts. The fife and drum musicians from the New England Brigade, (our own Brother Ron Glidden, Camp 54 Commander and his wife, Sue) entertained the public with some military tunes.

Department of Massachusetts and Sons of Veterans Reserve Brothers manned an information and recruiting booth, with Brothers from Charles H. Bond Camp No. 104, Willie Grout Camp No. 25, Gen. Frederick W. Lander Camp No. 5, Col. Robert Gould Shaw Camp No 54 and Department of Rhode Island, Maj. Gen. Thomas West Sherman Camp No. 1 participating.

At 3 p.m., all participating groups and hundreds of local citizens gathered on the Upper Common for are dedication program MC'd by Former Naval Commander Robert Vincent and a formal Ceremony of Rededication by the First Military District, SVR, with speakers that included national, and state elected officials, Department Commander Roderick Fraser and Department Guide Charles Lewis.

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Town Administrator Stephen Maio turned the town's Civil War monument over to the First Military District, who performed a "Vacant Chair" style ceremony for the rededication for the South Reading, (now Wakefield) Soldiers and Sailors Monument led by Department of Massachusetts Commander Roderick J. Fraser, Jr. and Department Chaplain Dexter Bishop, PDC. After a solemn ceremony, a rifle salute by the New England Brigade, and "Taps" performed by the Providence Brigade Band, the event was closed by a few more musical performances by the band and the last cannon firings by the 5th Massachusetts Battery.

It is my intention to visit every Camp in the Department during my term as Commander. Thus far I have visited Camp 54, Camp 104, Camp 50, and Camp 15.

Work by the Camps

Willie Grout Camp 25

Camp 25 received a letter from Brother Roy Henry formerly of Camp 18 and a long time SUVCW brother. Roy lives in Uxbridge and with the Historic Cemetery Committee of Uxbridge they placed 12 boxes of flags at 144 flags per box in Prospect Hill and St. Mary's Cemeteries for Memorial Day. Roy went on to place flags in smaller cemeteries around town and in squares and the town common. Roy recently celebrated his 82nd birthday. I think he shows how any brother can contribute by acting locally. Camp Commander Matty Sargent recently got together with Commander Matt Ahern and the brothers of Camp 104 to aid them in restoring the Lakeside Cemetery GAR plot in Wakefield. Commander Sargent learned about how to straighten and reset gravestones and is excited to spread his knowledge. He recently worked with the approval of Marlborough's Public Works department to reset several stones in Marlborough and his report on that has elicited many grateful responses in Marlborough and surrounding towns from other veteran's service groups wanting to do the same for veterans of all eras. Plans are developing to create plans to aid any group in the correct way to reset gravestones.

On May 3, Willie Grout Camp #25, in conjunction with the 15th MA Inf. of the First Military District of Sons of Veterans Reserve, held a grave dedication ceremony at Pine Grove Cemetery in Grafton MA for Private Josiah (Joseph) Warren Houghton, a Civil War veteran and former Grafton resident who was buried in an unmarked plot in 1908. Brother Andy Kjellberg of Grafton discovered the oversight and worked diligently to correct it.

Pvt. Houghton enlisted in the Army on August 4, 1862, in Albany, NY, with the NY 113th Infantry. He fought in the Civil War and was wounded in battle in Cold Harbor, VA, on June 3, 1864. He was mustered out of the Army in 1865. Camp #25 Commander Matty Sargent led the ceremony. In attendance were Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Sons of Veterans Reserve, representatives of all four allied orders (Women's Relief Corp, Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861- 1865, and Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic), the VFW, the American Legion, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, State Representative David Muradian, several local dignitaries, and dozens of residents. Pvt. Houghton will now be remembered by Grafton as one of their veterans.

Camp #25 conducted a Grave Rededication Ceremony on December 7th for James Doak at Maplewood Cemetery. Sgt. Doak served with Co. K, 4th Maine Infantry from June 15, 1861 until July 19, 1864. His family had been searching for his grave during the past two decades and recently discovered it at Maplewood Cemetery, Marlborough, Massachusetts. Sgt. Doak died on June 9, 1898.

Charles H. Bond Camp 104

Camp 104 continues Restoration of Lakeside Cemetery's GAR Plot. Camp Commander Matthew Ahern reports that the heavy lifting is done! Over the past year, the members of Camp #104 have been working hard at restoring the four howitzer cannons and resetting and cleaning the headstones at Lakeside Cemetery's GAR Plot. The Camp is pleased to report that the work was completed on May 4, 2025. While they were at the cemetery, Brothers from the Camp also placed flags on every Civil War veteran's grave ahead of Memorial Day. Commander

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Ahearn stated that the next and final step of the restoration project is to erect a new marker at the site, sharing the history of the GAR and honoring the Civil War veterans interred here.

Camp 104 represented the SUVCW on May 24, 2025, at Minuteman National Historic Park during their special Minutemen of 1861 event. The day was filled with programs and displays of original Minutemen of 1861 artifacts from the Massachusetts National Guard Museum. The Camp's booth had a lot of attention and highlighted the Camp's partnership with the Massachusetts National Guard in returning the over 700 unissued Minutemen Medals to their descendants. Numerous brochures were handed out, and multiple Civil War buffs expressed interest in joining the SUVCW.

Minutemen of 1861 Medals In the days following Southern rebels firing on Fort Sumter, President Lincoln called upon the states to send their militias to defend Washington, DC, and put an end to the rebellion. A handful of states answered the call, but none as swift and as robust as Massachusetts. Within a week, the Commonwealth sent over 3,800 men from the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th Massachusetts Volunteer Militia Regiments, 3rd Battalion Massachusetts Rifles, and 1st Massachusetts Battery of Light Artillery. In the early days of the war the 6th was attacked by a riotous mob in Baltimore in the first blood of the War, the 8th secured Annapolis and provided defenses for the USS Constitution, and the 5th served in the thick of the First Battle of Bull Run. For their service and swift action, these men would become known as the Minutemen of 1861 in the same spirit as their predecessors in 1775.

In 1902, over 40 years since Lincoln's call, the Commonwealth authorized the Minuteman of 1861 Medal to be issued to these men or their families. Given the time between their service and the medals being struck, hundreds of these medals were never claimed. Today, over 700 medals are in the possession of the Massachusetts National Guard Museum. Through a partnership with Camp Charles H. Bond #54, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Massachusetts, these medals can now be claimed by descendants of these men. To apply for one of these medals, a person must submit a complete application and submit necessary genealogical proofs. The application and a full list of remaining medals are present on the Department of Massachusetts' website.

Gen. George Hartsuff, Camp #50

Camp 50 helped with Hurricane Relief In the aftermath of hurricane Helene, General George L. Hartsuff Camp #50 in Rockland, MA made a direct donation to the brothers in the Virginia Division SCV to assist with their relief efforts. Every penny of the donations went to purchase necessities for those in need, and we were proud to support our Southern Brothers and sisters. The Virginia Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans posted on social media that "One of those donors who reached out to the Virginia Division and was assisted in finding the correct contacts for donations was members of General Hartsuff Camp, SUVCW, located in Rockland, MA. What a kind gesture from our northern countrymen and women."

Memorial Day 2025

The Department of Massachusetts and the 1st Military district SVR Lead the parade of Veterans organizations at the Annual Memorial Day Service at the Massachusetts National Cemetery. Department Commander Roderick Fraser brought greetings from the SUVCW and read Past CinC Logan's General Order No. 11. Following the official ceremony, the Department conducted a memorial ceremony at the gravesites of the seven unknown soldiers of the civil war buried at the cemetery.

The L. A. Tifft Camp 15 was busy presenting the colors at four services over a two-day period over the Memorial Day weekend. Brothers from Camp 15 led the Memorial Day parade for the Town of Belchertown. Camp 15 also held Memorial Day services at Quabbin Park. Participation by Camp 15 in the Memorial Day observances also made the front page of the local paper, The Sentinel. Congratulations!

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Juneteenth

On June 19th, Juneteenth, the Department held a Juneteenth Remembrance Ceremony, in partnership with the local American Legion Post, the William E. Carter Post No. 16 of Mattapan, MA. The Carter post is the first all-black American Legion Post in Massachusetts. The ceremony was held at the General Charles Russell Lowell GAR Post 8 Burial Plot in Mt. Hope Cemetery in Boston, MA. Also participating was the 54th MA Infantry Reenactor group.

The Ceremony was led by the Department Commander Roderick Fraser and the Commander of the Carter Post, Mary-dith Tuitt. Speakers were National Senior Vice-Commander Kevin Tucker and Boston Commissioner of

Veterans Services Robert Santiago. The 54th Mass fired a three-volley salute. The Chaplains for the Day were Ronald Holley, Carter Post Chaplain and the Reverend Peter Preble, Department Junior Vice Commander. The event was covered by the local Community newspaper.

ROTC Awards

The Department worked with four ROTC Units to present awards. We are working to increase this number next year.

- North Quincy High School Quincy, MA. Contact person MSGT John DeLorenzo. The award was presented to Cadet Kathy Yu. The ceremony was held on May 15, 2025.
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology Department of Military Science, Medford, MA. the contact person is Gina Muller. The award was presented to Nilfur Mistry Sheasby. The ceremony was held on April 30, 2025.
- John D. O'Bryant School of Math and Science Boston, MA. Contact person is Alexander Barros. The award was presented to Mateo Gonzalez. The ceremony was held on May 29, 2025.

Eagle Scout Awards

We distributed sixteen Eagle Scout Recognition Certificates in the period 1 July 2024 through 30 June 2025. They were as follows:

- Britain W. Russo, Jr. 9/24
- Nathaniel P. Galvin 10/24
- Alexandra E. Galvin 10/24
- George R. Borden 10/24
- Greg C. Alberty 1/25
- Axel Robert Erickson 4/25
- Andrew Robert Hart 4/25
- Ethan Joseph Salvadore 4/25
- Connor Jackson 5/25
- Gordon Luke Noble 6/25
- Richard Lucien Zaloom 6/25
- Ryan Carter Jurewicz 6/25
- Owen Thomas Brough 6/25
- Alexander Smith Brough, IV 6/25
- Aneurin Hullah 6/25
- Gerran Hullah 6/25

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6.17 Department of Michigan, David W. Kimble, DC

Here in Michigan we have been very busy as a Department. In March, we had our Department Encampment. It was well attended. CinC Kevin Martin was in attendance also and swore in the new officers for the upcoming year.

In May, the Camps were all busy with Memorial Day Ceremonies in numerous cemeteries throughout the state, on the Federal Holiday as well as on the REAL Memorial day May, 30th. Brothers of the SVR 14th Michigan Co. A were and continue to be busy doing ceremonies for new headstone placements throughout the state as well as out of Michigan helping our brothers from abroad.

We have a very special young man named Austin Ingall, member of Nash-Hodges Camp #43 who was selected as one of ten high school students in the country (first from Michigan) to represent the American Battlefield Trust Youth Leadership Team for 2024-25. He visited Washington, DC in April to lobby Congress for American Battlefield protection. He is what this organization needs.

We are currently working on a proposal to hold the 2028 National Encampment here in Michigan. It looks to be a busy summer for many of the camps, with headstone cleaning, different festivals to set up at advertising our order for new membership as well as educating folks on the Civil War and helping them learn of their ancestors who took part in the war. Many of our camps put out excellent newsletters keeping us informed of their Camp's activities. Looking forward to a successful National Encampment.

6.18 Department of Missouri, Mark A. Coplin, DC

Over the past year, The Department of Missouri has been very active in promoting the history of the Civil War in both Missouri and Arkansas.

We are excited to see our Brothers in Arkansas preparing to form a new Department. Several Missouri members are planning to travel to Arkansas to help with their Organizational Meeting to be held June 21. The Department of Missouri is giving our Brothers in Arkansas $500.00 for seed money along with an Arkansas State Flag and other items needed to get their Department up and running.

The Department held multiple “Victory in Missouri 1864” events around the state to remember General Sterling Price’s Raid and how the efforts of the Union forces in Missouri denied Price of his ultimate goal of having Missouri join the Confederacy. Several camps around the state sponsored events.

The “Victory in Missouri 1864” started out in Pilot Knob - the sight of Fort Davidson. U.S. Grant Camp #68, Thomas Fletcher Camp #47, and members of Felix St. James Camp #326 assisted in this event. This was followed by a symposium held in Jefferson City and headed up by Lillie Camp #6.

The third event took place in Kansas City as we spent time going over the various homes and areas of the Battle of Westport. This event was sponsored by Westport Camp #64 and assisted by U.S. Grant Camp #68. The final event was held in Newtonia, Missouri, and was hosted by Phelps Camp #66. Each event had a booklet of Roll of Honor containing soldier casualties, compiled by Gary Scheel, PDC. Each name of those Union Soldiers that were lost during this campaign was read aloud followed by the ringing of a bell. Past CinC Don Palmer, along with others, organized and executed on this program.

Each camp continued their traditions during Memorial Day. Last year, Department Commander AuBuchon and other members of various camps attended an event in St. James, Missouri, at the Missouri Veterans Home. It was an honor to share our passion about remembering our “Boys in Blue” to those who also served in WW II and the Wars since.

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St. James Camp #326 had their annual Union Bank Raid, grave marker dedications, and educational program for schools.

Fletcher Camp# 47 in DeSoto participated in local parades, collected money/food for the local food bank, and assisted with the events at Pilot Knob and Grant Remembrance Day.

Many camps continue to find and submit 100s of graves registrations. Wilhelmi Camp #17 led the Department in the number of graves located and documented. They also joined forces in the rededication of Captain Benjamin Palmer 21st Missouri Infantry grave site.

Along with U.S. Grant Camp #68, Tiger Camp #432, and Wilhelmi Camp #17 also had members attend a Preservation Day at Bible Grove School.

Phelps Camp #66 did an outstanding job in setting up the Newtonia event.

U.S. Grant Camp #68 continued its tradition of holding a Sherman Day remembrance at his place of internment in Calvary Cemetery, hosting a Grant remembrance at the Grant National Historic Site in St. Louis, organizing the 56th Colored Infantry Remembrance at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, and traveling to tour the U.S. Grant Presidential Library in Mississippi.

Fletcher Camp #47 held events in the DeSoto area educating young people about what happened during the Civil War.

Lillie Camp #6, besides holding the symposium for "Victory in Missouri 1864," sent a Missouri flag to our Brothers across the pond in London, England – The Ensign John Davis Camp #10.

Our Arkansas Camps led the way in attending and personally awarding ROTC/JROTC awards to deserving High School students across the State of Arkansas.

Spradling Camp #72 issued the most ROTC/JROTC awards from the Department of Missouri.

Twenty Scouting USA certificates and patches were presented across the two states, some personally by Brothers from the Westport Camp #64, St. James Camp #326, and Murphy Camp #2.

Over 50 monuments across a half-dozen states were submitted for inclusion in the National Monument Database.

Commander AuBuchon made a few trips to Bolivar, Missouri, to visit with and interview the last Real Son, William Pool, who celebrated his 100th birthday last year. He was made a member of the Department and given a certificate by the Commander along with greetings from National.

The Department Encampment was held in Fenton, Missouri, near St. Louis. Brother Murray, National JVC, attended our encampment to install officers. We had members of the Department of Kansas attend including Kent Melcher, DC, and National Secretary Alan Russ, as our two Departments are looking to share the duties of holding a National Encampment in the Kansas City in the future.

Over the course of the year, we lost a few Brothers:

- Emmett Taylor III, PDC, died on June 7, 2024.
- Robert Petrovic, PDC, and longest serving member to the Department died on November 28, 2024.
- John Rutherford, PDC, died on March 8, 2025.

Each member that was lost gave to the department so much. Each helped the organization to grow and move forward.

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Recommendations:

1. Resolution for Organizational Efficiency

WHEREAS the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a fraternal organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of the heroes who saved the Union. Organized in 1881 and chartered by Congress in 1954, they are the lawful successors to the Grand Army of the Republic; and

WHEREAS the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a 501(c)(3) Federally chartered organization now; and

WHEREAS the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Charitable Foundation was started as a 501(c)(3) organization to accept donations as well as raise funds for the National organization; and

WHEREAS it now makes sense to eliminate the charitable foundation and bring all fundraising efforts and programs under the Office of Treasurer for the Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Department of Missouri in Encampment assembled, proposes to the 144th National Encampment that the charitable foundation will be dissolved in all functions of charitable foundation be managed by an Assistant Treasurer under the direction of the Treasurer of the Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War.

2. Resolution Supporting Changes to the Constitution and Regulations to Allow Brothers to Attend and Observe National Council of Administration Meetings

WHEREAS the current National Regulations are unclear as to whether a Brother of the Order may attend and observe meetings of the Council of Administration,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Department of Missouri in Encampment assembled, proposes to the 144th National Encampment, the following change to National Regulations, Chapter III, Article VIII, Section 1(A) by adding the language UNDERLIGNED below. [Adopted by the Department of Missouri Encampment on June 7, 2025].

Article VIII

Council of Administration

Section 1. (A)The Council of Administration shall consist of the Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Quartermaster and five (5) elected members of the Council of Administration and the immediate Past Commander-in-Chief. All other Past Commanders-in-Chief, the National Counselor, The Banner Editor, The National Signals Officer, and the Washington D.C. representative shall be non-voting members of the Council of Administration. Non-voting members of the Council of Administration have full rights to attend all meetings and internet discussions of the Council of Administration (including while in executive session with the exception of the Banner Editor, and the National Signals Officer) and be recognized and heard on all issues before the Council of Administration. They shall not be counted for the purposes of establishing a quorum, nor shall they be able to make or second motions. The Commander-in-Chief may invite other non-voting Brothers from whom he or the voting members wish to receive advice and counsel or information. ***Any Brother of the Order in good standing may attend and observe, without voice, any in person meeting of the Council of Administration****. The Council of Administration shall have and shall exercise all powers of the Board of Directors, except in so far as such powers may be assigned to other persons in these Regulations.*

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3. Resolution Supporting Changes to the Constitution and Regulations Concerning the Job Descriptions for Camp, Department, and National Memorial Officers.

WHEREAS the job descriptions of the Camp, Department and National Memorials Officers in the Constitution and Regulations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War do not reflect changes to the current existing conditions within the organization; in that, these descriptions do not mention the National Memorials and Monuments Database; and

WHEREAS the job descriptions of the Camp and the Department Memorials Officers promote the keeping of records separate from the National Memorials and Monuments Database; and

WHEREAS these two job descriptions do not specify that these separate records be shared with the National Memorials and Monuments Database; and

WHEREAS one main purpose of the National Memorials and Monuments Database is to have all Memorials and Monuments records held by any unit of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to be held by the use of the entire organization; and

WHEREAS there are other revisions that the National Memorials Officer of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War recommends.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Department of Missouri in Encampment assembled, proposes to the 144th National Encampment, the following changes to National Regulations, Chapter I, Article III; Chapter II, Article IX; and Chapter III, Article VII.

4. Resolution Supporting Rescinding General Order #4 (Series 2024-2025) Council of Administration Meetings – Attendance and Participation.

WHEREAS we feel it is important that any member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in good standing be able to attend any Council of Administration meetings (excluding executive sessions), and

WHEREAS it is considered a best practice for non-profit corporations to be open to its members in order to promote transparency and trust in the leadership, and

WHEREAS attendance at such meetings will allow those members of the Order the opportunity to witness and understand how the leadership of the organization operates, and

WHEREAS attendance will inform future leaders of our Order first-hand experience on how to continue the meetings in the future, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Department of Missouri in Encampment assembled, asks the 144th National Encampment, rescind General Order No. 4 (Series 2024-2025): Council of Administration Meetings – Attendance and Participation. We feel that General Order #4 creates a lack of transparency throughout the Order.

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6.19 Department of Nebraska, Keith Rockefeller, DC

The following are a list of recent events the Department of Nebraska and the Dakotas have been involved in since April 5, 2025:

- April 5, 2025 - 25th annual Department Encampment in Fremont, Nebraska.
- April 25 - 27, 2025 - Civil War living history camp and reenactment in Galena, Illinois.
- May 3, 2025 - Last Union Veteran of the County ceremony for Dawson County in Sumber, Nebraska.
- May 15, 2025 - Victor Vifquain Camp meeting.
- May 18, 2025 - Shiloh Camp meeting.
- May 24, 2025 - Patriot's Day parade in Omaha, Nebraska.
- May 26, 2025 - Memorial Day observances in Wyuka, Memorial and Calvary cemeteries in Lincoln, Memorial Park in Omaha and Wisner Pilger area.
- June 6 - 8, 2025 - Civil War living history and reenactment in Hopkinton, Iowa.
- June 14, 2025 - Flag Day and 250th anniversary of the U.S. Army observance at National Guard Museum in Seward, Nebraska.
- June 19, 2025 - National observance of Juneteenth.
- July 4, 2025 - Annual 4th of July parade in Ralston, Nebraska.
- July 6, 2025 - Raising of the Colors at the Lincoln Municipal Band Concert in Antelope Park in Lincoln, Nebraska.

6.20 Department of New Hampshire, Michael C. Shklar, DC

The last quarter encompasses the very beginning of what I tend to call the “campaign season” in New Hampshire as it has stopped snowing as of 24 May.

The Department held its annual encampment on 5 April. All non-suspended camps were present, and Br. Daniel Murray represented the National Organization. Officers were duly elected, or re-elected as the case may be and were installed by Br. Murray.

On April 27, members to two camps travelled to Springfield, Massachusetts to visit the Springfield Armory (a National Park) and were given a special and detailed tour of the impressive facility.

On May 13, Dept. Treasurer Joel Cameron and Br. Matt Augieri participated in the Junior ROTC event at Pinkerton Academy and presented a medal to a cadet.

Camps did observe Memorial Day, including participating in a parade in Salem, NH welcoming over 100 visitors to the Soldier’s Building in Lebanon, NH (it was the GAR hall and has wonderful Civil War-themed stained glass windows and historical exhibits).

There are events planned in the course of June, including a parade in Etna New Hampshire. There are also, of course, plans to observe the glorious 4th in various locations, but those events will have to be recorded in the next report.

I do expect that (as is usually the case) the third and fourth quarterly report will have much more information, as there are so many town or regional events during the summer months. Simply from the perspective of my own camp, there will be events in Belmont, Vermont, Lempster, New Hampshire, Jamaica, Vermont; Tunbridge, Vermont, and at least one more in the works.

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6.21 Department of New Jersey, Francis A. Tomasello, Jr., DC

It is an honor to make this report. The following are some of the activities the New Jersey Department and our Camps have engaged in since the last report.

Department of New Jersey – On 14 June 2025, the Department held its 143rd annual encampment at the Clarion Hotel in Toms River, New Jersey. We were honored to have the current Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Daniel Murphy as our distinguished guest and installing officer.

Elected officers for 2025-26 were:

- Department Commander Francis A. Tomasello, Jr.; PCC;
- Senior Vice Commander Peter Lindsay, PCC;
- Junior Vice Commander Bryan Sigmund;
- Secretary-Treasurer Dr. David Martin, PDC 1993-94;
- Council Robert Meyer, PDC 2018-20;
- Council Gary DeSiver, PDC 2020-22;
- Council Jay J. Godin, PDC 2022-24;
- Patriotic Instructor Christopher Sands;
- Chaplain Frederick A. Mossbrucker, PDC 2016-18;
- Graves Registration Officer Francis A. Tomasello, Jr., PCC;
- Historian Dr. David Martin, PDC 1993-94;
- GAR Records Officer Dylan Wettstein;
- Eagle Scout Coordinator Charles F. Morgan, Jr., PCC;
- Civil War Memorials Officer Clark D. McCullough, PDC 2000- 02;
- Camp Organizer Robert C. Meyer, PDC 2018-20;
- Color Bearer Clifford J. Laing, PCC;
- Assistant Secretary Charles F. Morgan, Jr., PCC;
- Recruiting Officer Bryan Sigmund;
- Signals Officer Gary DeSiver, PDC 2020-22;
- Assistant Treasurer C. Jeffrey Heagy, PDC 2014-16;
- Counselor David Hann, PDC 1995-97;
- Guide James J. Halloran Jr.;
- Guard Clifford Bebout;
- Editor NJ Telegraph newsletter Peter Lindsay, PCC.

Department Commander Tomasello awarded the Good Citizen certificate to Russel P. Dodge, II, a non-member. Russ Dodge has made a life work of locating and photographing the graves of Civil War Veterans in 23 states to-date. He also researched their biographies, meriting him our thanks and this award. In all, it was a successful Department Encampment.

Camp 4 - President James A. Garfield Camp

Camp Commander Timothy Murphy has continued his program of bringing authentic Civil War items to each meeting of the Camp. Brothers of the Camp can handle the items and ask question and discuss them. This activity is a great learning opportunity for the Brothers of the Camp.

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Camp 7 - Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp

On 10 May, 2025, brothers of the Camp and Veterans of Foreign Wars Passalaqua Post 1026, and Scouting America Troop 58 of Hammonton, New Jersey participated in "Operation Flag Drop" which placed approximately 1,800 American flags in Hammonton's three cemeteries in observance of Memorial Day.

On 20 May 2025, Brothers placed flags on 400 graves at Egg Harbor City Cemetery.

On 26 May 2025, Brothers marched in the annual Memorial Day Parade and provided a memorial rifle salute in Hammonton, New Jersey.

On 31 May 2025, Brothers conducted their traditional Memorial Day Service at Greenmount Cemetery in Hammonton. This consist of the original GAR Decoration Day Service and the later SUVCW service as well as a placing flower on Civil War veterans' graves.

Camp 10 - Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon Camp

On 13 March 2025, the Camp met to plan events for the current year. The is Camp working hard on updating their unique and extensive on-line database of local GAR records.

Camp 17 - Major General George Armstrong Custer Camp

On 28 June 2025, Brothers of the Camp, with Brothers of Kearny Camp, manned at recruitment table at the Revolutionary War Battle of Monmouth Commemoration at the Battle of Monmouth Battlefield.

Camp 20 - Major General Phillip Kearny Camp

On 27 March 2025, Brother Bob Gula was recognized in the Milburn-Short Hills Monthly for his work with the Milburn-Short Hills Historical Society's program, "Milburn and the Civil War: Lives and Legacies".

On 15 May 2025, Brothers of the Camp gave a lecture to Boy Scout Troop 17 (St. Rose of Lima – Short Hills) on the Battle of Gettysburg in advance of their trip there.

On 24 May 2025, Brothers of the Camp placed 2000 flags and a wreath at Fairmont Cemetery in Newark, New Jersey.

On 31 May 2025, a Brother of the Camp conducted a wreath laying at the Civil War Monument in Haverstraw, New York.

On 28 June 2025, with Custer Camp, Brothers of the Camp manned at recruitment table at the Revolutionary War Battle of Monmouth Commemoration at the Battle of Monmouth Battlefield.

Camp 73 - Major General Winfield Scott Camp

Continues its work with the Society of the Grand Army of the Republic, Private Frederick S. Westlake Post #1 Department of New Jersey on placing markers at the site of former GAR Post buildings. They join Custer and Kearny Camp in this worthy endeavor.

Camp 82 - James S. Stratton Camp (a/k/a Beck's Philadelphia Brigade Band)

On 26 May 2025, the Camp played for the Laurel Hill Cemetery Memorial Day Observance in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

On 1 June 2025, the Brothers played in the Memorial Day parade in Malvern, Pennsylvania, fearlessly being pulled along in an open trailer.

The Camp eagerly awaits providing the music for the upcoming Civil War Ball as part of Remembrance Day festivities.

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Camp 104 - Sergeant Hiram W. Pursell Camp

On 11 April 2025, Camp Brothers visited the grave of its namesake, MOH Sgt. Hiram Pursell, buried in White Haven, Pennsylvania. An SUVCW memorial service was properly conducted. Afterwards, the attending brothers adjourned to a local authentic "Jersey" diner where their April business meeting was conducted during the luncheon. New brother John Hill was duly initiated. He declares direct descendancy from his 3rd Great Grandfather, Pvt. John M. Hill, 1st NY Engineers.

On 27 May 2025, Musician Ed Yarmark, Auxiliary Sister Ellen Higgins, and PDC Jeff Heagy participated in the Annual Memorial Day service at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

In closing it is an honor to serve my Department and the SUVCW.

Resolution passed by the New Jersey Department, SUVCW, at their Annual Encampment, June 14, 2025

> **RESOLVED:** "We the Brothers of Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp #7, Department of New Jersey, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, respectfully ask that the National Webmaster create an area on the National Website to serve as a repository for all Camp and Department newsletters, that can be accessed by all visiting the website and that these newsletters be archived for posterity."
>
> The reason behind this is that the National Website can serve as a hub for all newsletters that could be accessed by anyone visiting the website that might not realize that some Departments and/or Camps publish their own.

6.22 Department of New York, Jeffrey French, DC, PDC

Prior to 5 April 2025, Brother William Stump was Department Commander. Under his tenure the Department of NY, our newest Camp, the **Sgt. William C. Lilly Camp #66** of Syracuse, New York is off to a running start.

Lyons, New York will soon be the home of a massive new monument dedicated to the flag bearers of the 111th New York who laid down their lives to preserve the National Colors on July 2, 1863. The monument with statues sculpted by Gary Casteel is the largest to be completed in the state of New York in a century and is through the generosity of Brother George McGraw of Judson Hicks Camp #11 of Palmyra, NY and Company A, 126th New York Volunteers Composite SVR. Brother McGraw's ancestor was one of the flag bearers that day. Brother McGraw also generously donated to the New York Military Museum to have the 111th New York's battle flag conserved.

The Col. George L. Willard Camp #154 of Albany, NY has secured a grant of over $10,000 of American Rescue Plan funds to be used to rehabilitate and preserve Mount Ida Cemetery in Troy, NY, which is the final resting place of many Union soldiers.

Capt. Oliver Tilden Camp #26 of New York City hosted their annual Grant Birthday celebration with the National Park Service at General Ulysses S. Grant's Tomb. They also marked in NYC's Flag Day parade.

Moses A. Baldwin Camp #544 of Hempstead, NY has conducted numerous gravestone dedications with 5 new headstones being placed at Cedar Grove Cemetery in Flushing, Queens.

Walter H. French Camp #17 of Watertown, NY has conducted a number of new gravestone placements in the area around Watertown, NY, including ceremonies involving the descendants of the soldiers honored.

Abraham Lincoln Camp #6 of Rochester, NY has dedicated Pomeroy Foundation New York State Historic markers at the GAR Hall in Hunt, NY and Wolf Run Cemetery in Coldspring, NY. They plan to place markers at Mount Cavalry Cemetery in Lockport, NY, Mount View Cemetery in Pekin, NY and the GAR Hall in Halsey Valley, NY.

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David G. Caywood Camp #146 of Ovid, NY is refurbishing with local grant money the Baby Bear GAR Hall in Ovid, NY which they use as a meeting place.

Col. Augustus van Horne Ellis Camp #124 marked the unmarked grave of Dr. Edward Percy, Surgeon of the 156th New York Infantry in Brooklyn's Evergreen Cemetery.

Cpl. James Tanner Camp #134 conducted a rededication of the headstone of Union soldier Jacob Christman, which the camp helped repair at Lutheran Church Cemetery in Argusville, NY.

Our Graves Registration team has added 3,010 graves of soldiers from New York units to the Sons Graves Database.

Junior Vice Commander has forwarded 5 membership inquiries to Camps for follow up.

We held our Department of NY 142nd Encampment in Utica, NY where I was elected as Department Commander.

Since the Department Encampment, the Oliver Tilden Camp organized and executed the General Grant Tomb ceremony. You, CinC Martin, attended and Brother Stump, PDC, represented our Department at this event.

Memorial Day weekend was busy for all the camps that flagged the cemeteries and did memorial service and Parades on Memorial Day.

The Moses Baldwin Camp conducted nine more headstones dedication ceremonies. Brother Stump is currently organizing a new Camp within the Department of NY.

Our Department is continuing to preserve and perpetuate the memory of the Boys in Blue.

The DUVCW and ASUVCW in NY have been working closely with our Department of NY in our effort to Host Department Encampments, and events honoring the Boys in Blue. We greatly appreciate their help and support.

6.23 Department of North Carolina, Henry Duquette, DC

The Department of North Carolina held its 18th Annual Encampment May 10, 2025 at the Page-Walker Arts and History Center in Cary, North Carolina. Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Kevin Tucker brought the greetings of Commander-in-Chief Kevin Martin and Installed the new slate of Department Officers.

The Gibbon-Burke Camp No. 2 voted to disband and surrender their Camp Charter. The Department Treasurer received the money from Camp No. 2. And the Camp Charter, Flag, and Records have been turned over to the Department. We are awaiting the Commander-in-Chief's General Order revoking Camp No. 2's Charter. Several members of Camp No. 2 have requested transfers to other Camps within the Department. Otherwise, all Camps are in good standing and reports have been filed in a timely manner.

Throughout this past year several members and Camps have participated in 160th Commemoration Ceremonies of various Civil War Battles that occurred in our State, in particular the 160th Anniversary of the Battle of Bentonville held on March 15th, 2025.

I want to thank the Officers and Brothers of The Department of North Carolina Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for electing me Department Commander and putting their faith and trust in me.

We have no recommendations.

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6.24 Department of Ohio, David A. Rish, DC

The 2024-2025 Department of Ohio Encampment was held on 14 June 2025. Encampment was officiated by Department Commander Steve Ball. In attendance was CinC Kevin Martin.

The Department of Ohio consists of 16 camps and 363 members. Present at the encampment were 40 brothers representing 12 camps. A memorial was held for departed brothers. The Department lost the following:

- James Houston PDC
- Don Glen Amrine

CinC Kevin Martin was introduced and gave brief remarks. The encampment approved a change in the By-Laws for the Monuments and Memorials and a permanent committee appointed by Department Commander Ball with the Sr. Vice Commander as Chairman.

David A. Rish was elected Department of Ohio Commander. Commander Rish is a charter member of Jacob Parrott Camp #33 in 2008. He has served as Camp Commander for 5 different terms since 2012. He has served as Department Patriotic Instructor. Also served as Department Jr. and Sr. Vice-Commander.

6.25 Department of Oklahoma, Terry Handley, DC

- March 5 - Represented the Department of Oklahoma at the 18th Annual JROTC Military Awards and Cadet Ball. Presented the JROTC Award to the Mustang High School Cadet.
- April 12 - Attended the Jeremiah Smith Camp #1 meeting.
- May 3 - Attended the Oklahoma History Symposium on the Civil War at the Oklahoma History Center.
- May 10 - Attended the Department of Oklahoma Encampment held at the Honey Springs Battlefield where I was re-elected as the Department Commander. The goals for this year are to grow the Department and Grow the Camps.
- May 19 – Request for and approval of the SUVCW license application sent to David Denny for use of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War on an Oklahoma Department Challenge Coin.
- May 26 – Participated in placing flags on the graves of Civil War soldiers buried at the Union Soldiers Cemetery in Oklahoma City and participated in SUVCW/DUVCW Memorial Day Service at the Cemetery.
- June 14 – Participated in the Retirement of over 100 Flags at the Jones, Oklahoma City Park with members of the local community, Cub Scouts, and the Oklahoma City Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution.

Upcoming Events

- July 19 – Honey Springs Battlefield Memorial Service.
- August 7– 11 – National Encampment Sonesta Hotel Houston IAH Airport.

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6.26 Department of Pennsylvania, Michael E. Peter, DC

I was honored to be elected as Pennsylvania Department Commander on June 21, 2025, and congratulate now-PDC William E. Fischer, Jr. on his service as commander for the past year. I'm humbled by the Brothers of the Pennsylvania Department's confidence in me and look forward to continuing to facilitate the relationships between the Camps with the Department and the Department with National.

The Pennsylvania Department has over 600 brothers, and my hope is to continue to grow the Department. Our brothers have been very active in participating in various events, such as history fairs, local art festivals and harvest days. Our Department brothers belong to several other organizations that facilitate keeping the history of our forefathers alive and speaking about our order. These include, the American Battlefield Trust, National Civil War Museum, Gilder Lehrman Institute, History Camp, Gettysburg College's Civil War Institute, Wreaths Across America, George Meade Society, GAR Civil War Museum and Library (Philadelphia), Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum (Pittsburgh), the GAR Memorial Assn Museum and Library (Scranton), and National Park Service units in PA, among others. But focus remains centered on our Camps' home and surrounding counties, particularly to perform ceremonial, remembrance, and graves work, as well as recognizing outstanding youth through SUVCW's Eagle Scout and Cadet Award programs.

Notable PA Dept activity during 2024-2025 include:

- Presenting Charters to Capt. Geo. A. Cribbs Camp 276 and Geo. W. Mears Camp 505.
- CinC revoked Capt. Theodore H. Howell Camp 48 Charter for failure to address suspension.
- Participating in the GAR/Woolson ceremony and having many PA Dept Brothers march in the Remembrance Day parade at Gettysburg.
- Congratulating PDC Doug McMillin on his selection as Asst Exec Dir to work with Br. Demmy.
- Adding the "Likeness" Disclaimer notice (G.O. 7, Revised, Series 2021-2022) as a footer to every page of the PA Dept website.
- Holding a Special Encampment to restore PCC honors for several brothers.
- Holding Department elected officer and Camp Comdr./Sec'y Zoom calls on alternating months in improving communications across the Dept. Up to 30 were in attendance. Much positive feedback.
- Conducting Last Veteran ceremonies for Adams, Bucks, Cumberland, Lawrence, Jefferson, Mercer, Perry, and Westmoreland, Counties, making 24 Last Veterans recognized among 67 PA counties. Several more are in the works for 2025-2026, and additional potential Last Veterans have been identified but need more research to confirm their status.
- Brothers doing the hard work, with dozens of unmarked/illegible/damaged Civil War soldier gravesites having new VA grave markers installed across the Commonwealth. Nearly all Camps actively schedule cemetery workdays to catalog, clean and repair Civil War graves.
- Brother Greg Zaborowski, a National Park Service education specialist, writing a play entitled, "12 Days: The Search for John Wilkes Booth," which was presented as a fundraiser for Col. Jacob M. Campbell Camp, with Brothers and Sisters as cast. The play was later presented as the Campfire program at the PA Dept Encampment, receiving much praise during both performances.
- Gobin and Eaton Camps host the annual Lincoln and Appomattox Luncheons, respectively.
- A new camp, to be named the Pvt. Jesse C. Mattson Camp 506, in Valley Forge, failing to form.

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- Actively supporting the SUVCW Cadet and Eagle Scout Awards across the Commonwealth.
- Ensuring that Nat'l was made aware that a beaver dam and pond below Little Round Top will threaten the stability of several battlefield monuments at Gettysburg National Military Park.
- Gen. Thomas Camp 19, working with Lancaster Cemetery officials and fundraising to restore the Reynolds family plot, which holds the remains of Maj. Gen. John F Reynolds, KIA at Gettysburg.
- The Camp was also a registered American Battlefield Trust Park Day Host for cleaning headstones in the cemetery's GAR plot.
- John T. Crawford Camp 43 sponsoring Kittanning's "Wall of Flags" which honors veterans, first responders, educators, and family members during the entire month of May and culminating in Memorial Day activities. The event gets extensive media coverage.
- Brother Sean Bersell was appointed as the Deputy Manager for the SUVCW Find-A-Grave Project. Br. Bersell, as Davis ★ GRO, oversees a team that provides 2,000+ hours on graves work.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The Cadet Award Form 7 MUST be overhauled immediately to prevent continuing confusion. "R.O.T.C." must be removed and changed to "Cadet" since the award is open to CAP, USNSCC, and Young Marines, which have no association with ROTC/JROTC. Also, fix instructions on what address goes on the form since it can no longer be mailed directly from the QM to cadet units.
2. Have the CinC signature imprinted on the Cadet Award certificate instead of leaving it blank to reduce confusion and for ease of presentation.

6.27 Department of Rhode Island, John T. Duchesneau, DC

On October 16, 2024 the Department of Rhode Island participated in the internment of the cremated remains of Hospital Steward Byron R. Johnson at the Oak Grove Cemetery in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. Johnson's remains were discovered at a funeral home in Seattle, Washington and were returned to Rhode Island by the Missing in America Project.

The Department of Rhode Island held its annual encampment in April 2025 and elected officers for the ensuing year. Appointed positions were filled by the Department Commander and all mandatory reports have been filed with the National Headquarters. The awards for the Department's Brother of the Year and Citizen of the Year were presented at the encampment.

In May 2025, all four camps in the Department had Memorial Day observances and participated in the flagging of graves of Veterans.

The Department will be represented at the upcoming National Encampment by several of its members.

6.28 Department of the Southwest, Todd T. Hoffay, DC

The Department of the Southwest consists of three Camps in AZ:

- Picacho Peak Camp #1 located in Phoenix,
- General R. H. G. Minty Camp No. 2 in Tucson
- General U. S. Grant Camp No. 3 in Flagstaff.

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The Department currently has approximately 120 Brother Members between the three Camps. In the Last quarter, Brothers from the Department participated in:

- Individual Camp meetings.
- The Parada Del Sol Parade in Scottsdale, AZ.
- Eagle Scout Boards of Review and Courts of Honor.
- Ceremonies for JROTC students, presenting the SUVCW ROTC award to multiple students throughout the state of AZ.
- Several Memorial Day services and ceremonies in the Phoenix, Flagstaff and Tucson areas, including cemetery 'clean-up' activities.
- Performed the "Last Union Soldier Buried in Navajo County" ceremony in Winslow, AZ for 1st Lt. David Fullerton Hart.
- Prepared for our Brothers participation in the 144th National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Allied Orders in Texas.

6.29 Department of Tennessee, Chip Huffman, DC

The Department remains in fair health and is actively expanding with one new Camp being Chartered this year and two others in the process of being organized. We have five (5) active Camps. They meet regularly, and to varying degrees have activities. A new Camp in Shiloh, TN on the Shiloh Battlefield has been approved and the Charter received. Plans are underway on August 23rd for me to present the Charter to Pittsburg Landing Camp #61 and install George Huttick as Commander. We are told that this is the first new Camp in 2025. We will officially then have six (6) active Camps.

Brothers continue to work on a new Camp which is tentatively using the moniker of William Washington Hence Camp #1624 in Natchez, MS during its Organizing Stage with Royal Hill as Camp Organizer. To my knowledge this is the very first Camp in Mississippi.

Brothers continue to work on a new Camp which is tentatively using the moniker of Loyal Mountaineers Camp #39 in Maryville, TN during its Organizing Stage with Craig Taylor Brown as Camp Organizer.

Our 2025 Department Encampment was held on March 15, 2025, at the American Legion Post #004 in Livingston, Tennessee hosted by The Army of the Tennessee Camp #64. Commander-In-Chief Kevin Martin was in attendance and inducted new Department Officers, including myself as Department Commander. His lovely wife, ASUVCW National President Rosemary Martin, joined him and oversaw the Annual Meeting of our TN ASUVCW at Large Joseph H. Rider #62, including the induction of new officers.

The Department of Tennessee presented the Doctor Mary Edwards Walker Award to Julie Huttick, Past President of the Tennessee ASUVCW and presently National ASUVCW Council #2. It was a great day of business and camaraderie and a perfect representation of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty!

Activities:

Our Department continues to support National with the commentary and memo of understanding with Vicksburg National Cemetery restoring the graves of USCT disrupted by storms nearly 4 years ago. Br. Ben Block Jones, PDC, is our boots on the ground and has been working closely with Br. Henry Duquettte.

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The Fort Donelson Camp continues to be a consulting partner for the National Endowment for the Humanities regarding Section 106 Consultation Invitation for the Vanderbilt University Archaeological and Ethnographic Field Research award, RFW-292005-23, titled: "Descendant-led Excavation at the Reconstruction-Era Black Civil War Veteran Community at Bass Street, Fort Negley Park". The excavation has not yet begun.

The Department has been approved to host the National Encampment at the Marriott Cool Springs in Franklin, TN on August 12–15, 2027. George Huttick has been appointed as Chairman of the Host Committee and has appointed several Sub-Committees to work on various aspects of this project. Several Zoom Meetings with Committees and interested Department Members have been held with great success. We are excited to host the very first National Encampment in Tennessee.

The focus of the Department is currently:

- Development and Training of Department and Camp leaders to strengthen the Department. The focus is on Commanders, Senior Vice-Commanders, Junior Vice-Commanders, Secretary/Treasurers, Patriotic Instructors and Chaplains.
- Improvement of communication between the Department and the Camps and building the Fraternity between Camps and the Department.
- Developing Leaders in the Camps.
- Intentionally improving the health of our Camps.

I intend to continue the practice of visiting each Camp in the Department as the opportunity arises.

6.30 Department of Texas, Brook J. Thomas, DC

I have the honor of reporting on the activities of the Department of Texas and Louisiana this past year. It has been busy and exciting down here, with most of our energy focused on National Encampment 2025 in Houston. The planning committee, led by Bro. John Schneider of Camp 18 has met many challenges in bringing this to fruition. We believe that those attending Treüe der Union 2025, the inaugural National Encampment in Texas, are in for a treat.

The year has been particularly fulfilling for the commander. I had the rare privilege of signing the charter for a new Camp, the Edward O. C. Ord Camp 3 of San Antonio.

I also continued my predecessor's practice of monthly Senior Staff Roundtable Meetings on Zoom. These have been a fantastic means of communication and of getting to know the leaders in the Department. I also started the Department Commander's Letter as a means of recognizing those brothers who have gone above and beyond for the good of the order.

Department Signal Corps

Our Signals Officer continues to make expert use of Zoom for virtual meetings of senior staff and to negate the negative effects of the great distances of our state. Our website has generated several inquiries about membership.

Our Department newsletter, The Unionist, remains a world-class publication loaded with information.

Our Facebook page is public-facing as well as possessing a members-only feature.

Our talented video production section has recorded and produced professional grade recordings of many of our public events.

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General James J. Byrne, Camp No. 1 of Fort Worth

A tumultuous year for Camp 1 has ended with brighter prospects. The camp has a meeting place, an energetic Commander, and plans for the future. Equally noteworthy is the addition of five new members. Camp G.R.O. Todd Wilbur continues his search for unregistered Federal graves in Tarrant County. The current count is 86.

Other noteworthy events of the past year are:

- 2024 Memorial Day at Oakwood Cemetery drew eleven members to honor our Union ancestors.
- 2024 General Byrne Remembrance was held November 11 at his grave in Pioneers Rest Cemetery.

Lt. Commander Edward Lea, USN, Camp No. 2 of Houston

Camp 2 counts 111 members, including 10 Life members. Monthly meetings occur the third Saturday of each month except August and December. As of January 31, 2025, the camp had $4,272.43 in the bank. Events of the past year:

- Capt. Isaac Conroe Graveside - The Camp joined with Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary No. 1 and Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth Camp 18 in a major event to honor the founder of Conroe, Texas.
- Veterans' Day - Participated in ceremonies at Houston City Hall and marched in parade through downtown Houston.
- Wreaths Across America - Participated in wreath laying at Houston National Cemetery and the Washington and Glenwood cemeteries in Houston.
- Battle of Galveston Commemoration – Hosted the event which included several hereditary patriotic organizations for the 31st consecutive year to mark the anniversary of the January 1, 1863 battle. The ceremony was front page news in the Galveston paper.
- DAR State Convention – The Camp was one of many lineage organizations gathered to share information and generate interest in membership, the Camp shared a table with the local DUVCW tent.
- Memorial Day - The Camp participated with a Color and Honor guard at Houston National Cemetery, and later in the day at the GAR plot in Glenwood cemetery in Houston.
- ROTC/JROTC Awards – The Camp facilitated the presentation of 6 awards at Texas high schools.
- Sarah Emma Seelye Aux. No. 1 - The ladies were busy attending several Lea Camp meetings and participating in the Conroe function and the Battle of Galveston ceremony.
- Camp Website - camplea.org Webmaster Robert Riley continues to improve the site, keeping it fresh, current, and informative.
- Camp Newsletter - The award winning *Harriet Lane* continues quarterly, with issues ranging from March 2003 to February 2025 available for viewing on the Camp website.

General E.O.C Ord Camp No. 3 of San Antonio

The camp has elected its first slate of officers, opened a bank account, and obtained an EIN number. Officers will be installed at a March 22, 2025 meeting.

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Brigadier General Joseph Bailey Camp No. 5 of Shreveport, Louisiana

Camp membership remained rock-steady this past year. A memorial was made for Union forces that fought at Mansfield, LA. A similar memorial is in the works for the battle of Pleasant Hill, LA. Research is under way regarding placing a marker for Union POW's held at Camp Ford, Tyler, Texas.

Colonel Elmer E. Ellsworth Camp No. 18 Camp 18 of Dallas - reports these activities:

- Meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of the month with these highlights:
    - 10 Patriotic Instructor presentations
    - 2 Speaker presentations
    - 1 New member
    - Officer elections.
- Memorial Day with SVR at Pecan Grove Cemetery
- Participation in other events:
    - Battle of Galveston memorial
    - Captain Conroe memorial
    - Wreaths across America
- The Camp Commander and others participated in many National Encampment planning meetings.

Department Encampment

The Department of Texas and Louisiana held a successful 31st Encampment on May 10, 2025 in Houston, Texas. The event was held at the Holy Cross Lutheran Church and commenced at 1 p.m. The encampment was preceded by a brunch at a nearby Barbeque Restaurant. The night before, a reception was held for Commander-in-Chief Martin and ASUVCW National President Rosemary Martin. Commander-in-Chief Martin attended the Encampment as the National representative and installing officer. The Encampment conducted important business for the department and included spirited voting for National Encampment Delegates, eight were elected.

Two resolutions were presented to the Encampment and were followed by motions, both of which passed. The issue behind the first resolution came to the attention of Department members earlier this year. It was their belief that the inclusion of form names in addition to the form numbers was not only superfluous but created an administrative nightmare whenever it became necessary to revise or modify the form name.

They presented this resolution to the Encampment and it was moved that the Department of Texas and Louisiana endorse the changes outlined in the resolution and recommend that it be voted on at the National Encampment. It was passed unanimously and on behalf of the Department of Texas and Louisiana. I am recommending that it be scheduled for a vote at the 144th Encampment of the SUVCW in August 2025.

To this end, I ***"Move that the changes found in the attached resolution to the various National Regulations cited, to allow the National Programs and Policy Committee the ability to change form names by removing all form names from National Regulations, so all references to forms shall be by number only. Such changes eliminating the language shall be noted in strikethrough and additions (if any) in red in the attached resolution.***

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And be it further moved, should it be discovered after the conclusion of the 144th National Encampment that one or more sections were missed, the Assistant National Counselor-C&R be allowed to administratively make any and all changes to National Regulations so as to come into compliance with the intent of this Resolution.

The second resolution was resurrected from the 28th Department Encampment when a version of the current resolution was passed. It was revised to account for the changes in the Charter, Constitution and Regulations, but still supports the same intent to accept all collateral descendants of veterans of the Civil War (1861-1865) for full membership in the Order.

It was moved and passed unanimously and on behalf of the Department of Texas and Louisiana I am recommending that it be scheduled for a vote at the 144th Encampment of the SUVCW in August 2025.

To this end, I ***"Move that the definition found in Chapter V, Article XXI, Section 1 of the Charter, Constitution and Regulations adopted at the 143rd National Encampment and its annotations be deleted from the National Regulations of the SUVCW."***

RESOLUTION

Accept All Collateral Descendants of Veterans of the Civil War (1861-1865) for Full Membership in the Order

WHEREAS Article III (Eligibility to Membership) of the Constitution of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) clearly states "All male descendants, whether through lineal or collateral line of ages specified in Article VII of this Constitution who are blood relatives of soldiers, sailors, marines or members of the Revenue Cutter Service, who were regularly mustered and served honorably in, were honorably discharged from, or died in the service of the Army, Navy, Marine Corp or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States of America or such State Regiments as were called to active service and were subject to orders of United States general officers, during the War of the Rebellion between April 12, 1861 and April 15, 1865; who have never been convicted of any infamous or heinous crime; and who have, or whose ancestors through whom membership is claimed, never voluntarily borne arms against the Government of the United States of America shall have eligibility to membership.";

WHEREAS The Merriam Webster Dictionary defines "collateral relative" as "belonging to the same ancestral stock but not in a direct line of descent";

WHEREAS The preceding definition of collateral relative clearly includes brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts and cousins.;

WHEREAS The Merriam Webster Dictionary defines "blood relative" as "someone who has the same parents or ancestors as another person // Your sister is a blood relative, but your brother-in-law is not.";

WHEREAS The only contradiction to this interpretation of either collateral relative or blood relative is based on a definition found in Chapter V, Article XXI, Section 1 of the Charter, Constitution and Regulations adopted at the 143rd National Encampment and its annotations;

RESOLVED The definition found in Chapter V, Article XXI, Section 1 of the Charter, Constitution and Regulations be deleted from the National Regulations of the SUVCW.

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RESOLUTION

Whereas, the current National Regulations list the various forms used by the Order by both name and number, and

Whereas, the National Committee on Program and Policy has in the past, changed the names of some of the forms as those forms are updated, and

Whereas, such changes inadvertently violate the National Regulations in not having a National Encampment approve the changes in the names of the forms,

Therefore be it resolved, The Department of Texas in Encampment assembled, proposes to the 144th National Encampment, the following changes to the various National Regulations cited below, to allow the National Programs and Policy Committee the ability to change form names by removing all form names from National Regulations, so all references to forms shall be by number only. Such changes eliminating the language shall be noted in strikethrough and additions (if any) in red ***[BOLD/ITALICS]*** below.

And be it further Resolved, should it be discovered after the conclusion of the 144th National Encampment that one or more sections were missed, the Assistant National Counselor-C&R be allowed to administratively make any and all changes to National Regulations so as to come into compliance with the intent of this Resolution.

The following section of the National Regulations be changed (pg. 142)

Chapter V – General Regulations
Article 5 – Records Retention

At the end of their retention period, these documents (hard copy only) may be destroyed.

a. Form 1: Quartermaster Supplies – Order forms MUST be retained Permanently.
b. Form 2a: SUVCW Annual Encampment Credential Card, No retention required.
c. Form 3: Membership Application, MUST be retained permanently.
d. Form 4: Transfer Card Form, Camp Retention Only, Must be retained for no less than three (3) years. National Retains Permanently as part of the Membership History.
e. Form 5: War Medal Application Form, Camp Retention Only, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years, DD-214 or other separation document MUST be redacted.
f. Form 6: Honorable Discharge Form, MUST be retained Permanently as part of the Membership History.
g. Form 7: R.O.T.C. Award Application Form, MUST be retained permanently.
h. Form 8: Military Service Medal Application Form, Camp Retention Only, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years, DD-214 or other separation document MUST be redacted.
i. Form 9: Life Member Application Form, MUST be retained Permanently as part of the Membership History.
j. Form 10: Life Member Reimbursement Form, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.
k. Form 11: EIN Reporting Form & Certification Statement, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

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l. Form 12: Scholarship Application Form (applications only accepted from January 1 to March 31), MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

m. Form 13: Officer's Expense Report, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

n. Form 17: Meritorious Service Award and MSA with Gold Star Application, MUST be retained Permanently as part of the Membership History.

o. Form 22: Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers, MUST be retained for no less than seven (7) years.

p. Form 27: Camp Annual Report, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

q. Form 30: Camp Status Report, MUST be retained Permanently as part of the Membership History.

r. Form 35: Department Annual Report, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

s. Form 40: Camp Patriotic Instructor Annual Report, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

t. Form 41: Department Patriotic Instructor Annual Report, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

u. Form 42: National Patriotic Instructor Annual Report, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

v. Form 49: Certification of Election and Installation of Department Officers, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

w. Form 50: Instructions for Forming a Camp, No retention required.

x. Form 51: Application for Permission to Form a Camp, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

y. Form 52: Camp Organization Authorization, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

z. Form 54: New Camp Data Sheet, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

aa. Form 55: Application for Camp Charter, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

bb. Form CWM-61: G.A.R. Monuments/Civil War Memorials Assessment Form, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

cc. Form CWM-62: SUVCW Memorial Grant Application Form & Instructions, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

dd. Grave Registration Form and Information Packet, No retention required.

ee. Photographs or videos, MUST be retained permanently.

ff. Charters, Camp or Department, MUST be retained permanently.

gg. Legal Correspondence, MUST be retained until reviewed by a licensed attorney.

hh. Standard Correspondence, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years and after which time MUST be reviewed by the Executive Director to be determined if needs to be retained longer.

To be changed to:

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Chapter V – General Regulations
Article 5 – Records Retention

At the end of their retention period, these documents (hard copy only) may be destroyed.

a. Form 1: ~~Quartermaster Supplies~~ – Order forms MUST be retained Permanently.
b. Form 2a: ~~SUVCW Annual Encampment Credential Card~~, No retention required.
c. Form 3: ~~Membership Application~~, MUST be retained permanently.
d. Form 4: ~~Transfer Card Form~~, Camp Retention Only, Must be retained for no less than three (3) years. National Retains Permanently as part of the Membership History.
e. Form 5: ~~War Medal Application Form~~, Camp Retention Only, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years, DD-214 or other separation document MUST be redacted.
f. Form 6: ~~Honorable Discharge Form~~, MUST be retained Permanently as part of the Membership History.
g. Form 7: ~~R.O.T.C. Award Application Form~~, MUST be retained permanently.
h. Form 8: ~~Military Service Medal Application Form~~, Camp Retention Only, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years, DD-214 or other separation document MUST be redacted.
i. Form 9: ~~Life Member Application Form~~, MUST be retained Permanently as part of the Membership History.
j. Form 10: ~~Life Member Reimbursement Form~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.
k. Form 11: ~~EIN Reporting Form & Certification Statement~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.
l. Form 12: ~~Scholarship Application Form (applications only accepted from January 1 to March 31)~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.
m. Form 13: ~~Officer's Expense Report~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.
n. Form 17: ~~Meritorious Service Award and MSA with Gold Star Application~~, MUST be retained Permanently as part of the Membership History.
o. Form 22: ~~Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers~~, MUST be retained for no less than seven (7) years.
p. Form 27: ~~Camp Annual Report~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.
q. Form 30: ~~C amp Status Report~~, MUST be retained Permanently as part of the Membership History.
r. Form 35: ~~Department Annual Report~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.
s. Form 40: ~~Camp Patriotic Instructor Annual Report~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.
t. Form 41: ~~Department Patriotic Instructor Annual Report~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.
u. Form 42: ~~National Patriotic Instructor Annual Report~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.
v. Form 49: ~~Certification of Election and Installation of Department Officers~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.
w. Form 50: ~~Instructions for Forming a Camp~~, No retention required.

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x. Form 51: ~~Application for Permission to Form a Camp~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

y. Form 52: ~~Camp Organization Authorization~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

z. Form 54: ~~New Camp Data Sheet~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

aa. Form 55: ~~Application for Camp Charter~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

bb. Form CWM-61: ~~G.A.R. Monuments/Civil War Memorials Assessment Form~~, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

cc. Form CWM-62: ~~SUVCW Memorial Grant Application Form & Instructions,~~ MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years.

dd. ***Form 80: Must be retained as long as item is on loan***

ee. Grave Registration Form and Information Packet, No retention required.

ff. Photographs or videos, MUST be retained permanently.

gg. Charters, Camp or Department, MUST be retained permanently.

hh. Legal Correspondence, MUST be retained until reviewed by a licensed attorney.

ii. Standard Correspondence, MUST be retained for no less than three (3) years and after which time MUST be reviewed by the Executive Director to be determined if needs to be retained longer.

This is to facilitate the changing of Form Names without having to have National Encampment approval **and** to include the new Form 80, which concerns the loaning of artifacts to outside entities for display.

Other locations where forms are referred to by name and number or just a name:

- Pg 37 Notes – Honorable Discharge Form
- Pg 38 Sect 11 – Application Form
- Pg 42 Section 2 - Installing Officer's Report (Form 22)
- Pg 44 Section 4
  - (b) - Installing Officer's Report (Form 22) (x2)
  - (c)
    - (6) - Form 22
    - (7) - Form 10
    - (8) - Form 27
- Pg 45 (g) - Form 30
- Pg 46
  - (h) -Form 27
  - (i) - Life Membership Reimbursement Form (Form 10)
- Pg 52 Article XI Sect 1 - Form 30
- Pg 56 Section 11 - Form 35
- Pg 66 Section 4(f) – Form 10
- Pg 77
  - (b) – Form 61
  - (c) – Form 61
- Pg 89 (c) – Internet Website Application (Form 3)

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- Pg 94 Sect 15 e. – Form 10
- Pg 97 2 – Form 30, Form 27, 35,49
- Pg 99 (m) b. – Form 30, 27, 35,49
- Pg 112 – d. iv. – Form 61
- Pg 123 Sect 15.2.c – Form 12
- Pg 124 2 – Form 62
- Pg 128 c. Delegate Form – Should be Form 2

6.31 Department of Vermont

No Report Received.

6.32 Department of Wisconsin, Jeffrey M. Graf, DC

I was elected by my Department and duly sworn in by CoA Payne. PCinC Freshley and Michaels in attendance.

All officers were duly sworn in and appointments made. Forms sent.

I approved of and signed a resolution to be forwarded to National for consideration concerning support for a monument for Wisconsin troops at Antietam.

The Department's Camps will be participating in many patriotic events including the 4th of July and our Minnesota brothers will also be working on completion of the Last Soldier Project in their state.

I would personally like to commend Camp 56 commander, Gary Carlberg, for his exceptional effort in this area. Also, in his organizational skills, and his ability in recruitment. If he is properly supported by National, we could see a Minnesota Department in the near future.

I will continue to do my various duties to the best of my ability in the coming year.

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Financial Statements and Supplementary Information

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Year ended June 30, 2024
with Independent Auditor's Report

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Financial Statements and
Supplementary Information

Year ended June 30, 2024

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Independent Auditor's Report

Council of Administration
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc. (SUVCW) (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2024, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of SUVCW as of June 30, 2024, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under GAAS are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of SUVCW and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about SUVCW's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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C&J COULTER & JUSTUS, P.C.

Council of Administration
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of SUVCW's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about SUVCW's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control–related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The combining statements of financial position and activities are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Coulter & Justus, P.C.

Knoxville, Tennessee
November 5, 2024

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2024

Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	$	192,519
Accounts receivable		600
Inventory		39,024
Prepaid expenses		18,595
Total current assets		250,738
Investments, at fair value:		
Certificates of deposit		399,616
U.S. Savings Bonds		49,236
Common stocks		482,917
Mutual funds		169,010
Total investments, at fair value		1,100,779
Fixed assets:		
Website, furniture, and equipment		75,727
Less accumulated depreciation		(40,440)
Net fixed assets		35,287
Total assets	$	1,386,804
Liabilities and net assets without donor restrictions		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$	2,903
Deferred revenue		153,855
Total current liabilities		156,758
Net assets without donor restrictions:		
Designated		561,930
Undesignated		668,116
Total net assets without donor restrictions		1,230,046
Total liabilities and net assets without donor restrictions	$	1,386,804

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Statement of Activities

For the year ended June 30, 2024

Revenues:		
Per capita dues	$	181,598
Life member fees		22,775
Registration and application fees		4,994
Quartermaster sales		42,839
Shipping and handling		8,334
Banner subscriptions and advertising		75
Donations		20,151
Lincoln tomb observance		675
Other		2,845
Total revenues		284,286
Expenses:		
Officer allowances and per diem expense		29,260
Executive director and assistant executive director		33,000
Cost of quartermaster sales		41,947
Shipping and handling		9,468
ROTC program		6,815
National encampment		9,295
Rememberance Day expenses		12,071
Banner		56,390
Website		17,935
Lincoln tomb observance		2,602
Awards, grants, and scholarships		14,187
Accounting and professional fees		45,655
Office, telephone, and postage		13,955
Rent		10,320
Insurance		4,141
Committee expenses		8,984
Depreciation and amortization		8,479
Miscellaneous expense		754
Total expenses		325,258
Change in net assets without donor restrictions before investment income		(40,972)
Net investment income		112,958
Change in net assets without donor restrictions		71,986
Net assets without donor restrictions, beginning of year		1,158,060
Net assets without donor restrictions, end of year	$	1,230,046

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended June 30, 2024

Cash flows from operating activities		
Change in net assets	$	71,986
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash used by operating activities		
Depreciation and amortization		8,479
Net investment income		(112,958)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable		(504)
Prepaid expenses		4,081
Inventory		(3,972)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		(1,833)
Deferred revenue		(4,722)
Net cash used by operating activities		(39,443)
Cash flows used by investing activities		
Purchases of fixed assets		(3,110)
Net purchases of investments		(13,018)
Net cash used by investing activities		(16,128)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(55,571)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		248,090
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	$	192,519

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

1. Description of Organization

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc. (SUVCW) is a nonprofit corporation founded in 1881. SUVCW was incorporated by an Act of Congress on August 20, 1954.

The purpose of SUVCW is to perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of The Republic and the men who saved the Union between 1861 and 1865; to assist in every practicable way in the preservation of and availability of documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of The Republic and its members; to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war; to teach patriotism and the duties of citizenship, the true history of our Country, and the love and honor of our flag; to oppose every tendency or movement that would weaken loyalty to, or make for the destruction or impairment of our constitutional union; and to inculcate and broadly sustain the American principles of representative government, of equal rights, and of impartial justice for all.

Membership in SUVCW is limited by an act of Congress to male, blood relatives of persons who served between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865, as soldiers or sailors of The United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Revenue Cutter Service, and of such state requirements as were called into active service, and were subject to orders of United States General Officers between those dates, and were honorably discharged from such service or who died in service.

SUVCW consists of Camps, Departments, and the National Organization. The National Encampment of the National Organization has the supreme power and authority of the Order of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. These financial statements include only the activities of the National Organization. SUVCW is classified as an organization exempt from income tax under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) as a public charity. SUVCW has a group exemption that covers its Camps and Departments. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes has been included in the accompanying financial statements.

SUVCW is governed by a twelve (12) member Council of Administration. The National Encampment elects all Council of Administration members to oversee and administer the day-to-day operations of SUVCW.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

SUVCW reports information regarding its financial position and activities according to the following classes of net assets:

Net assets without donor restrictions – Includes revenue and donations received without donor-imposed restrictions.

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Basis of Presentation (continued)

Net assets with donor restrictions – Includes revenue and donations, if any, subject to donor-imposed stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets and where the restriction is not met within the same fiscal year. When a donor restriction expires in a subsequent fiscal year, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the Statement of Activities as net assets released from restrictions. Donor restricted gifts are classified as unrestricted if the restriction expires in the same fiscal year.

Basis of Accounting

SUVCW uses the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

Fund Accounting

The accounts of SUVCW are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting. Under fund accounting, resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds established according to their nature and purpose. Separate accounts are maintained for each fund; however, in the accompanying financial statements, fund balances and activity are classified as net assets with or without donor restrictions in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

The following funds are used by SUVCW:

General Fund

This fund is used to collect revenues and disburse funds for expenses related to the normal, day-to-day operations of SUVCW.

National Headquarters Fund

This fund is used to account for funds to establish a National Headquarters. The National Headquarters is located within the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Headquarters will be used for the National Executive Director's office and to store records. Annual rent is $10,320. As of June 30, 2024, the Council of Administration designated $7,827 for these purposes.

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Fund Accounting (continued)

Preservation Fund

This fund was created by action of the Council of Administration in 1999 to assist Departments and Camps of the Order in the preservation, maintenance, and defense of Civil War monuments and memorials. As of June 30, 2024, the Council of Administration designated $42,546 for these purposes.

Permanent Fund

This fund was established by vote of the National Encampment of SUVCW and is authorized by Article VIII of SUVCW's Constitution. This fund accounts for Life Membership fees received prior to August 15, 1996. The fund also accounts for monies that have been given or bequeathed to the National Organization in memory of a Civil War veteran, monies given or bequeathed to the National Organization that have not been designated for a specific purpose by the donor, and such other monies as may be added thereto by vote of the National Encampment or the Council of Administration. The Permanent Fund may annually distribute, for each Life Member, $18 to the National General Fund; $3,927 was distributed to the National General Fund during 2024. The annual reimbursement sent to each member's camp upon application is set by the Council of Administration. The Council of Administration sets the amount based upon the earnings of the Permanent Fund in the previous fiscal year. Earnings on the monies may be transferred to the National General Fund and used for the operations of the National Organization. Except as may be provided by the donor, no portion of the principal may be disbursed without a vote by the National Encampment. As of June 30, 2024, the Council of Administration designated $407,930 for these purposes.

Lincoln Tomb Observance Fund

This fund was established by the vote of the National Encampment of SUVCW in 2007 to account for monies designated for the annual ceremony held to honor Abraham Lincoln at the Lincoln Tomb in Springfield, Illinois. As of June 30, 2024, there were no net assets designated by the Council of Administration to be used for this purpose.

Life Membership Fund

This fund was established by the vote of the National Encampment of SUVCW in 2012 to account for the life membership fees. As of June 30, 2024, the Council of Administration designated net assets of $110,794 for this purpose.

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Cash and Cash Equivalents

SUVCW considers highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. Cash on deposit at financial institutions is federally insured to certain limits. SUVCW routinely has cash on deposit with financial institutions with these limits, and balances in excess of these limits are subject to the risk that the financial institution will not pay upon demand.

Accounts Receivable

Due to the nature of the activities and services, SUVCW's policies do not require collateral for receivables. The allowance method is used to determine uncollectible accounts receivable, if any, based on prior years' experience and management's analysis of specific accounts receivable. Credit losses, when realized, have been within management's expectations. Accounts receivable as of July 1, 2023 totaled $96.

Inventory

Inventory consists of items for sale to members and is charged as an expense at the time of sale. Inventory is stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value. Cost is determined using the average cost method.

Fixed Assets

Website development costs are capitalized to the extend the project is substantially complete and ready for its intended use. Furniture and equipment over $500 is capitalized and stated at cost, if purchased, or at fair value, if donated. Depreciation and amortization is provided over the estimated useful lives, which range from three to ten years, of the related assets using the straight-line method. The costs of normal maintenance that do not add to the value of assets or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized.

Investments

The investment portfolios are held and managed by investment advisors and stated at fair value *(Note 3)*. Investment income, including unrealized gains and losses, is reported as an increase in net assets, depending upon donor restrictions, if any.

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Revenue Recognition

SUVCW recognizes revenue when control is transferred to its members in an amount that reflects the consideration SUVCW expects to be entitled to in exchange for those products and services. SUVCW memberships run from June 1 to May 31. Membership dues (per capita dues and life member fees) represent a single performance obligation. Progress toward satisfaction of the performance obligation is measured based on time elapsed, and revenue is recognized as the member receives and consumes the benefits of the services performed. Membership dues are reported as deferred revenue and recognized during the period of membership. Registration and application fees consist of one performance obligation. Registration and application fees received in advance are recorded as deferred revenue and recognized at the time of the encampment. Quartermaster sales consist of one performance obligation and are recognized upon the transfer of the goods or services to the customer. Deferred revenue was $158,577 as of July 1, 2023.

Donations

All donations are considered to be available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor. Donations subject to donor-imposed stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets, and for which the restriction is not met within the same fiscal year, are classified as net assets with donor restrictions.

Donated Materials and Service

The amount of donated materials and services is not considered to be significant by management. Accordingly, no values have been recorded in the financial statements.

Liquidity and Availability of Resources

SUVCW has a policy to structure its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due.

As of June 30, 2024, SUVCW has approximately $1,297,000 of financial assets, including approximately $196,000 of cash and cash equivalents and $1,101,000 of investments available to meet cash needs for general expenditures that will be available within one year of the statement of financial position date. None of these financial assets are subject to donor or other contractual restrictions that make them unavailable for general expenditure within one year of the statement of financial position date.

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts of assets and liabilities and related disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Subsequent Events

In preparation of the accompanying financial statements, management has evaluated subsequent events through November 5, 2024, the date the financial statements were available for issuance.

3. Investments

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

Level 1	Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that SUVCW has the ability to access.
Level 2	Inputs to the methodology include: - Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; - Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets; - Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; - Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.
Level 3	Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The fair value measurement level of the asset or liability within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. Investments (continued)

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for investments measured at fair value:

Certificates of deposit: Valued at the cash redemption amount at the maturity date based on quoted market prices.

U.S. savings bonds: Valued using pricing models maximizing the use of observable inputs for similar securities.

Common stocks: Valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded.

Mutual funds: Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by SUVCW are registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily NAV and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by SUVCW are deemed to be actively traded.

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although SUVCW believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, SUVCW's investments as of June 30, 2024:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Certificates of deposit	$ –	$399,616	$ –	$ 399,616
U.S. savings bonds	–	49,236	–	49,236
Common stock	482,917	–	–	482,917
Mutual funds	169,010	–	–	169,010
Total investments, at fair value	$651,927	$448,852	$ –	$1,100,779

The total return on certificates of deposit, U.S. savings bonds, common stocks, and mutual funds for the year ended June 30, 2024 is summarized as follows:

Interest and dividends	$ 14,732
Net realized and unrealized investment income	98,226
Net investment income	$112,958

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

4. Endowment

SUVCW's endowment consists of the internally designated Permanent Fund established for perpetual support of the Order. As required by GAAP, net assets associated with endowment funds are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

Interpretation of Relevant Law – SUVCW classifies the original and subsequent value of funds designated for the endowment as net assets without donor restrictions. The Council of Administration of SUVCW has determined that the long-term preservation of the real value of the assets is the current goal of the endowment. As such, SUVCW has not chosen to be governed by the spending rate as permitted by the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act.

The following represents the change in endowment funds for the year ended June 30, 2024:

Endowment net assets, beginning of year	**$357,701**
Donations	**11,109**
Investment income	**42,392**
Lifetime memberships reimbursed	**(4,223)**
Other	**951**
Endowment net assets, end of year	**$407,930**

Return Objectives and Risk Parameters – SUVCW has adopted an investment policy for endowment assets that attempt to achieve a real total return, resulting from income and capital appreciation, which will assist SUVCW in achieving its long-term funding objectives. Under this policy, the endowment assets are invested in a manner that, after examining the historical relationships of risk and return among asset classes, is designed to provide the highest probability of meeting or exceeding the return objectives at the lowest possible risk.

Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives – To satisfy its long-term rate of return objectives, SUVCW relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). SUVCW targets a diversified asset allocation to achieve its long-term return objectives within prudent risk constraints.

Spending Policy and How the Investment Objectives Relate to Spending Policy – Currently, the Council of Administration of SUVCW has determined that the long-term preservation of the real value of the assets is the current goal of the permanent endowment. As such, there has been no approved spending policy, as the current objective of the endowment is to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets held in perpetuity. Current period interest and dividends may be considered to be payment of life membership reimbursements.

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

5. Functional Expenses

The costs of providing the various programs and other activities have been allocated among program and management and general based primarily upon direct charges and were as follows during 2024:

	Program	Administrative	Total
Officer allowances and per diem expense	$ 29,260	$ –	$ 29,260
Executive director and assistant executive director	–	33,000	33,000
Cost of quartermaster sales	41,947	–	41,947
Shipping and handling	9,468	–	9,468
ROTC program	6,815	–	6,815
National encampment	9,295	–	9,295
Remembrance Day expenses	12,071	–	12,071
Banner	56,390	–	56,390
Website	17,935	–	17,935
Lincoln tomb observance	2,602	–	2,602
Awards, grants, and scholarships	14,187	–	14,187
Accounting and professional fees	–	45,655	45,655
Office, telephone, and postage	–	13,955	13,955
Rent	–	10,320	10,320
Insurance	1,656	2,485	4,141
Committee expenses	8,984	–	8,984
Depreciation and amortization	–	8,479	8,479
Miscellaneous expense	754	–	754
Total functional expenses	$211,364	$113,894	$325,258

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Combining Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2024

	General Fund	National Headquarters Fund	Preservation Fund	Permanent Fund	Lincoln Tomb Observance Fund	Life Membership Fund	Total Before Interfund Eliminations	Interfund Eliminations	Total
Assets									
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 171,942	$ 5,844	$ -	$ 8,523	$ 830	$ 5,380	$ 192,519	$ -	$ 192,519
Accounts receivable	600	-	-	-	-	-	600	-	600
Due from other funds	3,366	-	47,152	-	-	-	50,518	(50,518)	-
Prepaid expenses	2,025	16,570	-	-	-	-	18,595	-	18,595
Inventory	39,024	-	-	-	-	-	39,024	-	39,024
Total current assets	216,957	22,414	47,152	8,523	830	5,380	301,256	(50,518)	250,738
Investments, at fair value:									
Certificates of deposit	399,616	-	-	-	-	-	399,616	-	399,616
U.S. Savings Bonds	-	-	-	49,236	-	-	49,236	-	49,236
Common stocks	132,256	-	-	350,661	-	-	482,917	-	482,917
Mutual funds	-	48,695	-	-	-	120,315	169,010	-	169,010
Total investments, at fair value	531,872	48,695	-	399,897	-	120,315	1,100,779	-	1,100,779
Fixed assets:									
Website, furniture, and equipment	63,083	12,644	-	-	-	-	75,727	-	75,727
Less accumulated depreciation	(28,495)	(11,945)	-	-	-	-	(40,440)	-	(40,440)
Net fixed assets	34,588	699	-	-	-	-	35,287	-	35,287
Total assets	$ 783,417	$ 71,808	$ 47,152	$ 408,420	$ 830	$ 125,695	$ 1,437,322	$ (50,518)	$ 1,386,804

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Combining Statement of Financial Position (continued)

June 30, 2024

	General Fund	National Headquarters Fund	Preservation Fund	Permanent Fund	Lincoln Tomb Observance Fund	Life Membership Fund	Total Before Interfund Eliminations	Interfund Eliminations	Total
Liabilities and net assets without donor restrictions									
Current liabilities:									
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 2,903	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,903	$ -	$ 2,903
Due to other funds	-	34,297	-	490	830	14,901	50,518	(50,518)	-
Deferred revenue	112,398	36,851	4,606	-	-	-	153,855	-	153,855
Total current liabilities	115,301	71,148	4,606	490	830	14,901	207,276	(50,518)	156,758
Net assets:									
Without donor restrictions:									
Designated	-	660	42,546	407,930	-	110,794	561,930	-	561,930
Undesignated	668,116	-	-	-	-	-	668,116	-	668,116
Total net assets without donor restrictions	668,116	660	42,546	407,930	-	110,794	1,230,046	-	1,230,046
Total liabilities and net assets without donor restrictions	$ 783,417	$ 71,808	$ 47,152	$ 408,420	$ 830	$ 125,695	$ 1,437,322	$ (50,518)	$ 1,386,804

See Independent Auditor's Report.

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Combining Statement of Activities

For the year ended June 30, 2024

	General Fund	National Headquarters Fund	Preservation Fund	Permanent Fund	Lincoln Tomb Observance Fund	Life Membership Fund	Interfund Eliminations	Total
Change in net assets without donor restrictions:								
Revenues without donor restrictions:								
Per capita dues	$ 141,633	$ 29,684	$ 10,281	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 181,598
Life member fees	-	-	-	-	-	22,775	-	22,775
Registration and application fees	4,994	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,994
Quartermaster sales	42,839	-	-	-	-	-	-	42,839
Shipping and handling	8,334	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,334
Banner subscriptions and advertising	75	-	-	-	-	-	-	75
Donations	7,942	-	-	11,109	1,100	-	-	20,151
Lincoln tomb observance	-	-	-	-	675	-	-	675
Other	20,431	383	2	1,307	852	-	(20,130)	2,845
Total revenues without donor restrictions	226,248	30,067	10,283	12,416	2,627	22,775	(20,130)	284,286
Expenses:								
Officer allowances and per diem expense	29,260	-	-	-	-	-	-	29,260
Executive director and assistant executive director	-	33,000	-	-	-	-	-	33,000
Cost of quartermaster sales	41,947	-	-	-	-	-	-	41,947
Shipping and handling	9,468	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,468
ROTC program	6,815	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,815
National encampment	9,295	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,295
Remembrance Day expenses	12,071	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,071
Banner	56,390	-	-	-	-	-	-	56,390
Website	17,935	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,935
Lincoln tomb observance	-	-	-	-	2,602	-	-	2,602
Life member payments to camps	-	-	-	3,927	-	16,203	(20,130)	-
Awards, grants, and scholarships	7,275	-	6,912	-	-	-	-	14,187
Accounting and professional fees	40,339	436	-	4,013	-	867	-	45,655
Office, telephone, and postage	6,086	7,217	-	652	-	-	-	13,955
Rent	-	10,320	-	-	-	-	-	10,320
Insurance	4,141	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,141
Committee expenses	8,984	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,984
Depreciation and amortization	7,609	870	-	-	-	-	-	8,479
Miscellaneous expense	728	1	-	-	25	-	-	754
Total expenses	258,343	51,844	6,912	8,592	2,627	17,070	(20,130)	325,258
Change in net assets without donor restrictions before investment income	(32,095)	(21,777)	3,371	3,824	-	5,705	-	(40,972)
Investment income	43,018	8,726	-	46,405	-	14,809	-	112,958
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	10,923	(13,051)	3,371	50,229	-	20,514	-	71,986
Net assets without donor restrictions, beginning of year	657,193	13,711	39,175	357,701	-	90,280	-	1,158,060
Net assets without donor restrictions, end of year	$ 668,116	$ 660	$ 42,546	$ 407,930	$ -	$ 110,794	$ -	$ 1,230,046

See Independent Auditor's Report.

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National Council of Administration Meeting
Lexington, Kentucky
August 4, 2024 (Post Encampment)

MINUTES

1. A regular meeting of the National Council of Administration was held August 4, 2024, for the purpose of discussing and acting upon the business that came before it.
2. The meeting was called to order at 8:07 AM by Commander-in-Chief Kevin L. Martin. The attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Chaplain Jerome Kowalski giving the invocation.
3. The following brothers were in attendance:
    a. **Voting Members Present**:
    CinC Kevin L. Martin
    SVCinC Kevin P. Tucker
    JVCinC Daniel W. Murray
    Secretary Alan L. Russ
    Treasurer Michael D. Beard
    Quartermaster Bobby J. Welch
    Immediate PCinC Peter J. Hritsko, Jr.
    CofA Member Dale Crandell
    CofA Member Shane Milburn
    CofA Member Robert R. Payne
    CofA Member David Hann
    CofA Member Roderick Fraser

    b. **Non-voting Members Present**:
    PCinC James Pahl
    PCinC Tad D. Campbell
    PCinC Michael Paquette
    PDC Jamie McGuire
    Executive Director David Demmy, PCC

    c. **Guests Present**:
    Chaplain Jerome Kowalski, IL
    John Vander Meulen, TX
    W. Faron Taylor, CH
    Brian W. Horgan, CH
    Robert J. Ansler, Jr., MO
    John Dupre, MA
    Ken Jacobsen, CO/WY
    Lee Adkins, CO/WY

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4. CinC Martin moved Brother John Buckler, Department of Kentucky, to be the National Organization Expansion Officer. Vote 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
5. Brother Russ moved Brother Rocky L. Bartlow, Department of Kansas, to be the National Membership-at-Large Coordinator. Vote 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
6. Brother Russ moved the NMAL dues for 2025 be continued at the current rate of $50.00. Vote 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
7. Brother Fraser moved that the ROTC Medal must be procured through a camp or department, with the camp or department coordinator being able to order more than one at a time. Following discussion, the motion was voted on. Vote 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
8. Brother Payne moved to leave the ROTC charges as they are. Following discussion, the motion was voted on. Vote 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
9. CinC Martin directed the P&P Committee to revise the ROTC Medal form accordingly.
10. Brother Robert Amsler, Department of Missouri, requested to speak about a program called "Grouper." This program might be beneficial for the older brothers of the organization. PCinC Paquette and Treasurer Beard are to research the program and bring the information to the Gettysburg CofA meeting.
11. Brother Beard moved to allow the National Quartermaster to proceed with production of a miniature War Medal. Following discussion, the motion was voted on. Vote 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
12. Brother Welch moved to allow the production of "Expeditionary" bar for the War Medal. Following discussion, the motion was voted on. Vote 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
13. CinC Martin directed the P&P Committee to revise the War Medal form to include provisions for the "Expeditionary" bar.
14. Brother Welch moved to update the Quartermaster from the free version of Square to the Plus version, billed annually at $348. Following discussion, the motion was voted on. Vote 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
15. The recommendation to the National Encampment by the National Committee on Promotions and Marketing that the webmaster add a feedback mechanism for anyone opening the Membership page on the National website so we can obtain better metrics on where prospective members are hearing about our order. (Referred to CofA by Encampment Reports Committee) CinC Martin is sending this to the Communications and Technology Committee for action.
16. The recommendation to the National Encampment by the National Committee on Promotions and Marketing to raise the advertising budget to $10,000 will be discussed later in the meeting as part of the budget process. (Referred to CofA by Encampment Reports Committee)

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17. Brother Beard discussed the budget. It was then open for discussion and recommendations.
    a. Brother Fraser moved we reimburse John Vander Meulen (recording secretary) for travel expenses to the encampment, not to exceed $1,500, upon the treasurer receiving an officer expense report and receipts. Following discussion, the motion was voted on. Vote 11 yes, 1 no. Motion passed.
    b. It was also discussed the travel expenses for the recording secretary should be added to the budget for the next fiscal year.
    c. CinC Martin moved the life member reimbursement for pre-2002 life member programs be kept the same as last year. Following discussion, the motion was voted on. Vote 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
    d. The budget for ROTC Medals was to be dropped by $2,000.
    e. The budget for grants was to be dropped to $10,000.
    f. Site committee budget to be increased to $5,000.
    g. Brother Tucker recommended future contracts with the ASUVCW be reviewed and approved by the CofA before presenting with ASUVCW. Following discussion, the motion was voted on. Vote 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
    h. The budget for Promotions and Marketing Committee to be raised to $11,600.
18. Brother Beard moved the budget, as adjusted, to be approved. Vote 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
19. Brother Robert Payne announced his candidacy for JVCinC.
20. There being no further business to come before the Council of Administration, the meeting was adjourned at 10:43 AM.

/s/ Alan L. Russ
Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary

[These minutes were approved by vote of the Council of Administration on September 10, 2024.]

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National Council of Administration Meeting
EMAIL MOTIONS

MINUTES

Motion 02

1. These minutes are prepared and submitted in accordance with National Regulations Chapter V, Article XXII, Section 6.
2. Brother Alan Russ moved the minutes of the August 4, 2024, post-encampment Council of Administration meeting be approved.
3. CinC Kevin Martin placed the motion before the CofA at 11:08 AM, September 4, 2024, as Motion 02.
4. PCinC Peter Hritsko noted an error in the voting for Item 17a. Correction was noted and was incorporated into the final approved minutes. *(There were two previous errors noted when the minutes were first submitted under Motion 01. These were corrected before the minutes were resubmitted as Motion 02.)*
5. Voting on Motion 02 ended on September 9, 2024. The National Secretary reported the results to CinC Martin as seven (7) votes in favor of the motion and zero (0) votes opposed to the motion.
6. CinC Martin declared the motion as passed and closed the motion at 11:16 AM, September 10, 2024.

These minutes are submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary

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National Council of Administration Meeting
EMAIL MOTIONS

MINUTES

Motion 03

1. These minutes are prepared and submitted in accordance with National Regulations Chapter V, Article XXII, Section 6.
2. Brother Kevin Tucker moved to approve the publication of the ad, reached by the link below, on the RootsTech website and for use by the National Promotions and Marketing committee for similar purposes. [Note: Link is shown below in these minutes.]

   [Link] https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Awc7q-8gu-_NwC_AL4WrJn7RLz0gdYIx/view?usp=drive_link
3. CinC Kevin Martin placed the motion before the CofA at 11:31 AM, September 5, 2024, as Motion 03.
4. Voting on Motion 03 ended on September 14, 2024. The National Secretary reported the results to CinC Martin as seven (7) votes in favor of the motion and zero (0) votes opposed to the motion.
5. CinC Martin declared the motion as passed and closed the motion at 9:30 AM, September 14, 2024.

These minutes are submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary

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National Council of Administration Meeting
EMAIL MOTIONS

MINUTES

Motion 04

1. These minutes are prepared and submitted in accordance with National Regulations Chapter V, Article XXII, Section 6.
2. Brother Alan Russ moved that the revised Form 12 be approved for use and posting on the National website.
3. CinC Kevin Martin placed the motion before the CofA at 6:27 PM, September 16, 2024, as Motion 04.
4. Voting on Motion 04 ended on September 23, 2024, at Noon. The National Secretary reported the results to CinC Martin as ten (10) votes in favor of the motion and zero (0) votes opposed to the motion.
5. CinC Martin declared the motion as passed and closed the motion at 12:51 PM, September 23, 2024.

These minutes are submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary

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National Council of Administration Meeting
EMAIL MOTIONS

MINUTES

Motion 05

1. These minutes are prepared and submitted in accordance with National Regulations Chapter V, Article XXII, Section 6.
2. Brother Dave Hann moved that the Fund-Raising Committee be permitted to use the words "Sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War" on the front of a shirt that we will have available for a $20.00 donation during the Remembrance Day Parade.
3. CinC Kevin Martin placed the motion before the CofA at 11:31 AM, October 9, 2024, as Motion 05.
4. Voting on Motion 05 ended on October 12, 2024, at Noon. The National Secretary reported the results to CinC Martin as ten (10) votes in favor of the motion and zero (0) votes opposed to the motion.
5. CinC Martin stated that although the discussion period and the voting period were erroneously given as the same due to a time constraint for action after the motion was passed, there were no objections from the voting members of the Council. As such, CinC Martin ruled this to be a valid vote on the motion.
6. CinC Martin declared the motion as passed and closed the motion at 10:39 AM, October 13, 2024.

These minutes are submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary

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National Council of Administration Meeting

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
November 17, 2024

MINUTES

1. A regular meeting of the National Council of Administration was held at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on November 17, 2024, for the purpose of discussing and acting upon the business to come before it.

2. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by Commander-in-Chief Kevin L. Martin. National Patriotic Instructor Tad Campbell led the attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. The following brothers were in attendance:

   a. Voting Members Present:

      CinC Kevin L. Martin
      SVCinC Kevin P. Tucker
      JVCinC Daniel W. Murray
      Secretary Alan L. Russ
      Treasurer D. Michael Beard
      Quartermaster Bobby J. Welch
      CofA Member (I-PCinC) Peter J. Hritsko Jr.
      CofA Member Dale Crandell
      CofA Member Roderick Fraser
      CofA Member David Hann
      CofA Member Shane Milburn
      CofA Member Robert R. Payne

   b. Non-voting Members Present:

      PCinC Tad D. Campbell, National Patriotic Instructor
      PCinC Edward J. Kreiser
      PDC Jamie McGuire, National Signals Officer
      PCinC James Pahl, Banner Editor
      PCinC Michael Paquette, National Counselor

   c. Others Present:

      Executive Director David Demmy
      Daryl VerStreate, Credentials Chairman
      Brian W. Horgan, National Chief of Staff
      W. Faron Taylor, Assistant National Chief of Staff
      James Crane, PDC, Department of Ohio
      John Huffman, PDC, Department of Ohio

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4. Brother Russ moved the Minutes for Email Motions 2 through 5 be approved as a group. It was noted by Brother Murray the Minutes of the August 1, 2024, pre-encampment meeting had not yet been approved. Brother Russ restated the motion to include the August 1, 2024, CofA minutes, along with minutes for Email Motions 2 through 5, be approved as a group. There being no objections, the vote was called to approve the minutes as a group. Vote: 11 YES, 0 NO. Motion passed.

5. Brother Russ moved the following License Renewal Applications which were not able to be voted on at the August 1, 2024, pre-encampment CofA meeting be approved. Vote: 11 YES, 0 NO. Motion passed.

    a. 2024-006: SUVCW License Plate (Department of Pennsylvania)
    b. 2024-008: SUVCW or GAR Address Labels (Grant Camp 68, Department of Missouri)
    c. 2024-009: SUVCW Name Badges (Grant Camp 68, Department of Missouri)
    d. 2024-010: Brass Membership Card (Grant Camp 68, Department of Missouri)

6. Brother Russ stated there were two new License Applications for consideration.

    a. Brother Russ moved a new license be granted for a Pocket Slide-In Nametag (Grant Camp 68, Department of Missouri). Vote: 11 YES, 0 NO. Motion passed.

    b. Brother Russ moved a new licensed be granted for a Memory Box (Col. Kinsman Camp 23, Department of Iowa). Vote: 11 YES, 0 NO. Motion passed.

7. The resignation of Susan Mitchell as Assistant Executive Director was discussed. It was decided to advertise the position as had been done last time. CinC Martin will follow up after the meeting.

8. It was noted there was a conflict between the Form 12 (ROTC Medal) and the National Regulations. The name of the form will be changed to reflect ROTC/NDCC. Brother Beard moved to have P & P Committee make any minor changes to any form, and it does not require CofA approval. Vote: 11 YES, 0 NO. Motion passed.

9. Brother Welch moved updated certificates be accepted, specifically, the updated Ancestor Certificate, updated Eagle Scout Certificate, and updated Death Certificate. Vote: 11 YES, 0 NO. Motion passed.

10. Brother Welch presented a new, special order Membership Certificate with design based on the original 1890's design and size. Brother Welch moved to approve a new special order Membership Certificate with design based on the original 1890's design and size, and, included that he is not retaining any intellectual rights to the design. Vote: 11 YES, 0 NO. Motion passed.

11. Brother Demmy discussed the need for someone to transport the National Charter to Houston for 2025 National Encampment and then return it to Harrisburg. CinC Martin stated he would take it to Houston, with the new CinC to return it to Harrisburg.

12. Camp and Department seals were reviewed. CinC tasked P&PC to look into this item. CinC Martin referred it to P&PC to develop a graphic example of the CinC seal, Department seal, and Camp seal to be put in the C&R.

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13. Possibility of membership dues being covered by health insurance. At the post-encampment CofA meeting on August 4, 2024, Brothers Beard and Paquette were appointed to look into a proposal from Grouper. Brother Paquette provided a brief discussion. CinC Martin will assign this to a committee for reporting at Springfield CofA meeting. Brothers Tucker and Murray agreed to serve on the committee.

14. Officer Report Recommendations. (Numbering is from the consolidated officer reports.)

Item 2.7 – Brother Payne. As this had already been discussed, no further action was needed.

Item 3.3 – National Civil War Memorials Officer, Walter E. Busch, PDC (page 20):

"RECOMMENDATION MADE AT THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT, AND STILL RECOMMENDED: Currently about 25GB of monument files exist on my google drive. These consist of redacted files that go online and the original unredacted files. We need the original files still in case the National Committee on Civil War Grant Funds or other members doing research on various monuments need phone numbers and e-mails to contact persons concerning FORM 62 submissions. These need to be moved to a cloud or FTP service that can serve as a backup to what we currently have online. The chairmen of the National Civil War Memorials Committee and the National Committee on Civil War Grant Funds should be the access points for these files. Therefore, I still recommend the national webmaster create such a cloud/FTP system for the use of this committee and the grants committee."

The estimated cost is to be checked on by Brother Payne. CinC Martin assigned this matter to Comm & Tech Committee.

Item 3.10 – National GAR Records Officer, Dean A. Enderlin, PDC (Page 24). [Recommendation in 6.11 by Department of Iowa, Charles Boeck, DC (Page 46) was included with Brother Enderlin's recommendation because they addressed the same issue.]

"1) That the Council of Administration work with the Commander-in-Chief to issue a new General Order rescinding items 1 and 3 of General Order No. 22, Series 2023-2024, until such time as the "Loan/Deposit Policy" (and its associated Form 80) can be further examined and modified as necessary to remove verbiage that might be in conflict with the SUVCW Congressional Charter, the GAR Deed of Conveyance, and sections within the SUVCW Constitution and Regulations (particularly National Policies) that pertain to the handling of GAR records.

"2) That the Council of Administration remand the "Loan/Deposit Policy" to the National Committee on Program & Policy for further review, so that a new policy (or policies) and form (or forms) can be crafted to account for the separate and distinctly different conditions of ownership as they apply to SUVCW versus GAR records."

Brother Fraser moved the CofA accept Brother Enderlin's recommendations 1 and 2. Vote: 11 YES, 0 NO. Motion passed.

CinC Martin will issue General Order No. 7, which will also clarify that any existing Forms 80 remain in effect.

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Item 3.28 – National Washington DC Representative, Roger Leturno, PDC (Page 32):

"Recommendations: Issue the Washington DC Representative 1 U.S. flag w/pole and cover and 2 baldrics/flag carrier harnesses to support SUCVW events in the Washington, DC area.

"Increase emphasis for volunteers. CinC contact the Department Commander via phone call or email. Recognize volunteers (coin, letter, certificate, etc.)."

Motion by Brother Tucker as amended by Brother Russ to provide 4x6 U.S. Flag and matching pole for CinC flag, along with 2 baldrics/flag carrier harnesses, to the DC Representative for use by SUVCW. Tucker moved to accept. Amendment passed 11 YES, 0 NO. Vote for motion as amended: 11 YES, 0 NO. Motion passed.

The second recommendation will be taken care of by CinC Martin.

15. Brother Hann moved to send out a fund-raising form for further distribution by the National Secretary to departments, for the departments to further distribute the form to all camps and all brothers. Vote: 10 YES, 1 NO. Motion passed.

16. **Other New Business.**

    a. Camp Secretary Handbook. Brother Murray noted there was an application fee discrepancy in the handbook concerning the distribution of the application fee. This will be corrected by the Secretary. The National Councilor is to provide an opinion on this matter.

    b. Brother Welch moved to acquire a 10 ft. x 10 ft. storage unit for Quartermaster use at $104 for the first 3 months, then about $205 per month after. This will be through August 2025. Vote: 10 YES, 1 NO. Motion passed.

17. **Good of the Order.**

    a. Brother Pahl recommended G.O. 4 be amended to allow any member of our Order in good standing to attend and observe in person CofA meetings only. CinC Martin will consider revising G.O. 4 for in-person meetings.

    b. Brother Hann stated the 2025 Remembrance Day will be held November 15, 2025.

    c. 2025 Department Encampment Schedule for use in planning for attendance by National Representatives is being compiled. CinC Martin has stated which ones he will attend. Secretary Russ will email the schedule to SVCinC Tucker and JVCinC Murray for them to express their choices. After that, the Chief of Staff will be contacting other members of the CofA for their preferences.

18. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary

Minutes approved by CofA as of December 21, 2024 (Motion 6-Email)

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National Council of Administration Meeting

Springfield, Illinois

April 12, 2025

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the National Council of Administration was held at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on April 12, 2025, for the purpose of discussing and acting upon the business to come before it.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Commander-in-Chief Kevin L. Martin. Chaplain Kowalski gave the invocation, followed by the attendees reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following brothers were in attendance:

a. Voting Members Present:

CinC Kevin L. Martin
SVCinC Kevin P. Tucker
JVCinC Daniel W. Murray
Secretary Alan L. Russ
Treasurer D. Michael Beard
CofA Member Dale Crandell
CofA Member Shane Milburn
CofA Member Robert R. Payne

b. Voting Members Absent and Excused:

Quartermaster Bobby J. Welch
CofA Member (I-PCinC) Peter J. Hritsko Jr.
CofA Member Roderick Fraser
CofA Member David Hann

c. Non-voting Members Present:

PDC Jamie McGuire, National Signals Officer
PCinC James Pahl, Banner Editor
PCinC Michael Paquette, National Counselor

d. Others Present:

W. Faron Taylor, Deputy National Chief of Staff
Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Department of Kansas
Jerry Kowalski, Chaplain Emeritus, Department of Illinois

1. Brother Russ moved the minutes for Email Motions 6 through 11 be approved as a group. There being no objections, the vote was called to approve the minutes as a group. Vote: 7 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

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2. Brother Russ stated there was one new License Applications for consideration.

    a. Brother Russ moved a new license be granted for use of SUVCW name on a polo shirt by Cribbs Camp 276, Department of Pennsylvania. Vote: 7 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

3. Kevin Tucker and Dan Murray presented information concerning membership dues covered by health insurance through Grouper.

    a. Brother Tucker moved the council approve Grouper adding the SUVCW to its list of organizations. Vote: 7 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

    b. Brother Tucker moved Grouper be offered the opportunity to set up an information table in the vender room at the National Encampment. Vote: 7 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

4. Sister Cher Petrovic reported on the Lincoln Tomb ceremony. She stated it looks like it did better this year than last year. She recommends the committee contract the hotel for five years. Also, the luncheon was successful, with approximately 31 attending. Using the new luncheon facility also allowed the luncheon to cover all costs plus provide excess funding for the Lincoln tomb ceremony.

5. OFFICER REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS.

    a. National Treasurer Beard's Recommendation 1 concerning a change in wording on the Form 10 from "whose Life Membership Fee was paid-in-full on or before December 31, 2021" TO: "whose Life Membership number is lower than 600". Sent to PPC.

    b. National Treasurer Beard's Recommendation 2 concerning a change to the Form 11 EIN reporting sent to PPC, followed by C&R. Proposed changes are:

        1) Change "That each Camp listed on this Form 11 is in good standing with the Internal Revenue Service except for the following SUVCW Camps who lack the resources to apply for the reinstatement of their tax-exempt status, and as such are currently operating as not-for- profit unincorporated associations without formal tax status". TO: "That each camp listed on the front of this Form 11 is in good standing with the Internal Revenue Service. The camps listed here are either camps in the process of reinstating with the IRS, camps operating as unincorporated associations without formal tax status, or camps who have their own 501(c)(3) determination letter and choose not to be part of the group exemption."

        2) Change "That each SVR Unit listed on this Form 11 is in good standing with the Internal Revenue Service except for the following small SVR units who lack the resources to apply for the reinstatement of their tax-exempt status, and as such are currently operating as not- for-profit unincorporated associations without formal tax status". TO: That each SVR unit listed on the front of this Form 11 is in good standing with the Internal Revenue Service. The SVR units listed here are either units in the process of reinstating with the IRS, units operating as unincorporated associations without formal tax status, or units who have their own 501(c)(3) determination letter and choose not to be part of the group exemption."

    c. National Treasurer Beard reported that some departments have not yet submitted their EIN Form 11. The National Treasurer will contact those departments and give 15 days from today (April 12, 2025) to submit the form or be suspended.

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d. CofA Member & Massachusetts Department Commander Roderick Fraser's recommendation for assistance to camps to get correct paperwork submitted and accepted by the IRS was forwarded to National Treasurer.

e. National Washington DC Roger Leturno restated a previous recommendation concerning needing flags, flagpoles, and baldrics/flag harnesses to support SUVCW events in the Washington DC area. Funding was approved at the Gettysburg CofA meeting. He will be contacted in this regard.

6. PCinC Paquette provided an update on the ASUVCW contracts for the upcoming National Encampment. He recommends the audio-visual portion be pulled out of contract until actual numbers are available. Brother Russ so moved. Vote: 7 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

7. Presidential Designation of GAR/SUVCW month. Russ moves we do not pursue presidential designation of GAR/SUVCW month. Vote: 7 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed. Brother Russ is to send email to Brother Hann concerning this.

8. Other New Business.

   a. Question from PCinC Norris: "Should we correct the US Grant Cup and Linder/Davis Award?" Motion by Brother Russ to correct the awards. Vote: 7 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed. PCinC Pierson will take care of this issue.

   b. Question from PCinC Norris: "Has the 2023 NE Proceedings been sent? And, we're past the March 1 deadline for the 2024 NE Proceedings; does a better process need to be defined?" This will require a change to the regulations, and it will require a department encampment to pass such a resolution. The Department of Massachusetts will submit the appropriate resolution to its encampment.

   c. Question submitted by Timothy J. O'Neal, Secretary/Treasurer, Department of Columbia; and Secretary/Treasurer, Logan's Brigade, WRC to use the ribbon used on the Junior medal by "Grant's Guards." The CofA has no objection. The Secretary will advise them.

   d. PCinC Paquette stated an issue from Loren Burris, Department of Columbia concerning the Form 80. What process is there for divestment of material a camp or department can no longer use or need? CinC directed this to PPC.

   e. PCinC Paquette stated an issue from Loren Burris, Department of Columbia concerning Life member rates for those between ages 14 and 19. This would need to go to National Encampment as a change to the regulations. The Department of Columbia should present a resolution to amend C&R at their upcoming department encampment so it may be properly submitted.

   f. PCinC Paquette discussed issues concerning suspended brothers. Shouldn't suspended still receive the Banner because they are still required to pay dues? Should suspended status be reported up the line? What mechanism is there to report numbers? The CofA recommended to CinC that he form a special committee for the purpose of developing recommendations concerning this problem.

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g. PCinC Pierson stated an organization wants to get the Confederate monument back at Arlington. The recommendation is the CinC take no action on this.

h. Brother Tucker stated Brother Fraser informed him about questions from Florida concerning GO 14 (2020-2021). No action to be taken.

i. CinC Martin stated Brother Rob Payne would be the National Representative to the Department of Wisconsin encampment on June 7.

j. Good of the Order. The floor was open to general discussion. No motion was made, no actions taken.

k. Chaplain Kowalski gave the benediction.

9. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary

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Email Motions by Council of Administration August 4, 2024, through August 9, 2025

ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN TIME ZONE

No.	Motion	Date of Motion	Made By	Votes Yes	Votes No	Pass / Fail	Results CofA Sent to CinC	Motion Closed	Remarks
1	Minutes of the August 4, 2024, post-encampment Council of Administration meeting be approved.	09/01/2024 16:32	A. Russ	0	0	N/A	N/A	09/03/2024 12:13	Motion cancelled due to procedural errors.
2	Minutes of the August 4, 2024, post-encampment Council of Administration meeting by approved.	09/03/2024 11:08	A. Russ	7	0	PASS	09/10/2024 11:26	09/10/2024 11:26	Motion Passed
3	Approve the publication of the ad, reached by the link above, on the RootsTech website and for use by the National Promotions and Marketing committee for similar purposes.	09/04/2024 09:24	K. Tucker	7	0	PASS	09/14/2024 09:30	09/14/2024 09:30	Motion Passed
4	Revised Form 12 be approved for use and posting on the National website.	09/16/2024 18:27	A. Russ	10	0	PASS	09/23/2024 12:06	09/23/2024 12:51	Motion Passed
5	The Fund Raising Committee be permitted to use the words "Sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War" on the front of a shirt that we will have available for a $20.00 donation during the Remembrance Day Parade.	10/07/2024 10:14	D. Hann	10	0	PASS	10/12/2024 18:10	10/13/2024 10:31	Motion Passed
6	To approve the minutes of the November 17, 2024, Council of Administration Meeting (Gettysburg).	12/07/2024 11:12	A. Russ	8	0	PASS	12/21/2024 12:18	12/21/2024 16:54	Motion Passed
7	The CofA adopts the Banner Advertising Rates set forth by PCinC Pahl in the attached document.	12/18/2024 17:10	R. Payne	9	0	PASS	12/30/2025 12:18	12/30/2024 18:04	Motion Passed
8	to appoint Brother Robert Amsler to act in the name of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to obtain the funds of the SVR Quartermaster located in the Commerce Bank in St. Louis, Missouri.	01/22/2025 09:21	R. Payne	9	0	PASS	01/27/2025 00:14	01/27/2025 12:33	Motion Passed
9	to approve the Merchandise License Request submitted by Gettysburg Independent Blues to sell American Flags which have been flown over the historic GAR Post #9 in Gettysburg PA.	01/27/2025 15:14	A. Russ	9	0	PASS	02/03/2025 12:03	02/03/2025 15:10	Motion Passed
10	Merchandise License Request submitted by Hartranft Camp 15, Department of Pennsylvania, to sell polo shirts for camp 15 use for camp recruiting and camp outings.	02/10/2025 08:02	A. Russ	8	0	PASS	02/15/2025 12:19	02/15/2025 16:58	Motion Passed
11	[AS AMENDED] Brother PCinC Ed Norris be allowed to sign all necessary documents to implement this directive and that copies of what he signs be forwarded to the CinC, the National Secretary, the Executive Director, the National Counselor, and the National Historian.	02/28/2025 11:28	M. Beard	9	0	PASS	03/14/2025 12:21	03/14/2025 12:30	Motion Passed

Email Motions by Council of Administration

No.	ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN TIME ZONE Motion	Date of Motion	Made By	Votes Yes	Votes No	Pass / Fail	Results CofA Sent to CinC	Motion Closed	Remarks
11A	Amend Motion 11 from "to appoint Brother PCinC Ed Norris to be authorized to file necessary documents and forms with the Library of Congress to get our past proceedings filed" to read: Brother PCinC Ed Norris be allowed to sign all necessary documents to implement this directive and that copies of what he signs be forwarded to the CinC, the National Secretary, the Executive Director, the National Counselor and the National Historian	03/01/2025 08:38	A. Russ	10	0	PASS	03/05/2025 12:03	Motion 11 Amended	Motion Passed
12	Douglas McMillin, PDC, be appointed as Assistant Executive Director, SUVCW	04/16/2025 17:04	A. Russ	10	0	PASS	05/04/2025 12:06	05/04/2025 13:09	Motion Passed
13	To approve the minutes of the April 12, 2025, Council of Administration Meeting (Springfield)	04/22/2025 18:26	A. Russ	6	0	PASS	05/11/2025 12:07	05/13/2025 11:01	Motion Passed
14	Merchandise License Request submitted by Franklin Camp 5, Department of Kansas, to sell polo shirts for Kansas camps to use for camp recruiting and camp outings.	05/11/2025 00:13	A. Russ	10	0	PASS	05/19/2025 11:28	05/19/2025 14:24	Motion Passed
15	Merchandise License Requests submitted by Department of Oklahoma to sell challenge coins and submitted by Camp 54, Department of Massachusetts to sell Tee shirts to camp members.	05/19/2025 11:31	A. Russ	8	0	PASS	05/23/2025 16:28	05/23/2025 21:49	Motion Passed
16	Merchandise License Request submitted by Department of Missouri, to produce yellow PCinC polo style shirt (twinkie shirt).	05/23/2025 00:00	A. Russ	9	0	PASS	05/29/2025 12:36	05/29/2025 12:58	Motion Passed
17	Brother Hann be given permission to perform the two events in Gettysburg on June 27-28 and July 4-6 on behalf of the Order.	06/03/2025 15:49	K. Tucker	9	0	PASS	06/10/2025 12:22	06/11/2025 16:55	Motion Passed
18	Moved that we approve the three t-shirt designs for sale as detailed by Brother Hann.	06/08/2025 07:39	R. Fraser	9	0	PASS	06/21/2025 12:09	06/21/2025 12:34	Motion Passed
19	Moved we grant permission to Brother Payne to proceed with the Drupal 10 upgrade estimated to cost $1,500 - $2,000.	06/17/2025 09:44	M. Beard	9	0	PASS	06/24/2025 12:03	06/24/2025 13:30	Motion Passed

Votes on Email Motions by Council of Administration

6/24/2025

August 4, 2024 through August 9, 2025

Office	Name	MOTION																													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11A	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
CinC	Kevin L. Martin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-										
SVCinC	Kevin P. Tucker	-	Y	-	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
JVCinC	Daniel W. Murray	-	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Secretary	Alan L. Russ	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Treasurer	D. Michael Beard	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Quartermaster	Bobby J. Welch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-										
IPCinC	Peter Hritsko Jr.	-	-	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	-	Y	-	Y	-	-	-										
Member	Shane L. Milburn	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Member	Robert R. Payne	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Member	David Hann	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Member	Dale Crandell	-	-	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y										
Member	Roderick Fraser Jr.	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
	TOTAL YES	0	7	7	10	10	8	9	9	9	8	9	10	10	6	10	8	9	9	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL NO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL VOTES	0	7	7	10	10	8	9	9	9	8	9	10	10	6	10	8	9	9	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

8209 Skipwith Drive
Frederick, Maryland 21702
CinC@SUVCW.org

General Order #1
Series 2024-2025
3 August 2024

Congratulatory Wishes and Transferal of Command

1. Having been elected and installed as Commander-in-Chief by the delegates assembled at the 143rd Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I am humbled by the trust and confidence you have placed in me. As such, I will endeavor to perform each of the duties of the office in a manner befitting our Order and our forefathers.

2. My earnest and genuine compliments are afforded to our outgoing Commander-in-Chief, Brother Peter Hritsko. Brother Peter's daily management of the business of the Order on issues, both large and small, serves as an example for all. Peter, thank you for your service and your friendship. I wish you good health and fortune in the years ahead.

3. On behalf of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I extend our congratulations to the incoming National Presidents of the Allied Orders: Cher Petrovic, Woman's Relief Corps; Madeline Rock, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic; and Rosemary Martin, Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. It has also come to my attention that the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War will be announcing their incoming National President very soon and I will reach out to her personally, offering our most sincere best wishes. I truly am looking forward to our organizations working together and strengthening our relationships during the coming year.

4. The Commander-in-Chief's headquarters is hereby transferred to 8209 Skipwith Drive, Frederick, Maryland 21702-9499. Correspondence for the Commander-in-Chief may be posted to the same address. Electronic communications are the preferred method of correspondence and email is available at CinC@suvcw.org. Matters of an extremely urgent **and** emergency nature can be transmitted by text or telephone at 240-285-7603; 24/7.

Ordered this 3rd Day of August, 2024

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:
Alan Russ, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

8209 Skipwith Drive
Frederick, Maryland 21702
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General Order #2
Series 2024-2025
3 August 2024

Call to Action

The founding of the Grand Army of the Republic in April, 1866 came with an inescapable truth – the ever-marching progression of time itself would eventually bring its existence to a close. Their action to endorse the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War as their successor came with great responsibility – to perpetuate the memory and legacy of the Boys in Blue. With great reverence and admiration, we embrace that honorable duty, but we must recognize and meet head-on current challenges, and those in the future, that face our beloved Order. As we rapidly approach the quarter-point of the 21st century it should be obvious to all – we have no time to lose.

With that, I want you to know what you can count on in the months to come. As your Commander-in-Chief, you have elected someone who is **fully committed** to the business of our Order – every, single, day. You can rest assured that this commitment has not been taken lightly and I am fully prepared and look forward to all of us meeting the challenges ahead. Also rest assured, each of our officers, both elected and appointed, along with our National Committee Chairs, have committed to giving their best to you. We are ready to serve each and every one of you, the Brothers of our Order.

As important as these commitments are to the health and vitality of our Order, our successes will also be incumbent on you, our Brothers at the Camp and Department level. Therefore, as your Commander, I am asking you to give a bit more of yourselves. Our Order is filled with Brothers who possess a wide and valuable array of talents; special skills and levels of expertise that are the key to success and growth. Brothers, take the step forward and make yourselves known. In a word, share. The final victory achieved by the Union depended on commitments from the most lowly of Privates to the highest echelon of command. Our country needed every one of them and now, more than ever, our Order needs you. All of you.

Join us. Celebrate by being an important part of our Order that honors our Union heroes of the past. Be a part of our future.

Ordered this 3rd Day of August, 2024

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:
Alan Russ, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Frederick, Maryland 21702
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General Order #3
Series 2024-2025
30 August 2024

2024 – 2025 National Elected and Appointed Officers And National Committee Membership

Brothers are hereby notified that the listing of the National elected and appointed officers, along with National Committee membership, has been posted on the website of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War:

https://suvcw.org/national-officers-and-committees

As we work together to build an even stronger and more robust Order, please give these Brothers your utmost support and cooperation.

Ordered this 30th Day of August, 2024

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

8209 Skipwith Drive
Frederick, Maryland 21702
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General Order #4
Series 2024-2025
27 September 2024

Council of Administration Meetings – Attendance and Participation

In the interest of greater efficiency and productivity, attendance at, and participation in, any and all official meetings of the Council of Administration of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, to include, but not limited to, in-person gatherings, electronic meetings, discussions, consultations, etc. shall be limited to members of the said Council of Administration as defined in the Charter, Constitution and Regulations, Chapter III, Article VIII, §1 (A).

Exception: Brothers in good standing who bring specialized subject matter expertise on particular topics germane to issues at hand shall be admitted attendance and participation at the sole discretion of the Commander-in-Chief or his designee.

Ordered this 27th Day of September, 2024

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Alan Russ
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

8209 Skipwith Drive
Frederick, Maryland 21702
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General Order #5
Series 2024-2025
10 October 2024

Disasters In The Southeast – How We As Sons Can Help

1. Brothers, by now, you are all well aware of the tragic events that occurred as a result of Hurricane Helene throughout the Southeast. And just yesterday, Hurricane Milton's wrath has befallen Florida. The devastation is unimaginable and widespread. Currently, we are unaware of any particular Brothers in need, however it is clear that our fellow citizens and their communities are suffering and in dire need of assistance.

2. Therefore, I urge all Brothers to look to one of the most important tenets of our Order, Charity, and consider making a contribution to the Hurricane Relief Fund of your choice.

3. Additionally, I have directed our National Chaplain, Brother Douglas Jones, to be the point-of-contact for Brothers directly affected by these natural disasters and gather any and all pertinent information regarding their situation and/or needs. Chaplain Jones will update our National leadership team who will work diligently to provide assistance to the fullest extent possible. Chaplain Jones can be contacted via email:

chaplain@suvcw.org

4. Finally, in light of these catastrophes, I call on each Brother to keep the fate of those affected at the fore of our prayers and meditations.

Ordered this 10th Day of October 2024

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW)

Attest:

Alan Russ
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #6
Series 2024-2025
22 October 2024

Passing of Past Department of Ohio Commander James H. "Jim" Houston, Jr.

It is with great sorrow and sadness that I have the duty to report the passing of Past Department Commander James H. "Jim" Houston on Saturday, October 19, 2024. Also known by many as "Tex," PDC Houston served the National Organization of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Department of Ohio with distinction, notably serving as Commander of our Ohio Brothers in 2002.

Brother Houston's deep love for and commitment to the Order was reflected on multiple levels. Brother Jim served as Chair of the National Encampment Site Committee for eleven years from 2001 until 2012. A reliable fixture at many National Encampments, Brother Jim's deep obligation to the Order was mirrored in his having held numerous offices in the General Lytle Camp 10 and his dual membership in the Richard Enderlin Camp 73 of Chillicothe, Ohio. Of particular note at the time of his passing, Brother Jim was the Secretary – Treasurer of the SUVCW Charitable Foundation.

Brother Jim's demise is not only a tremendous loss to our Order, but it leaves an enormous void in his community. A stalwart and proud citizen of great distinction, Brother Jim will be mourned far and wide. We stand with his beloved family and friends lamenting the loss of a good, good man.

A Memorial Service will be held on **Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 12:30pm** at:

Sycamore Presbyterian Church
11800 Mason Road
Cincinnati, OH 45249
(Of note – there will be NO visitation)

In homage to our departed Brother it is hereby ordered that the National Website, Charters of all Department and Camps and membership badges be draped in black for a period of 30 days from the date of this General Order.

So ordered this 22nd Day of October, 2024

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

8209 Skipwith Drive
Frederick, Maryland 21702
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General Order #7
Series 2024-2025
17 November 2024

Regarding General Order #22, Series 2023 – 2024:

Policy Loan and/or Deposit of Artifacts Policy Vendor Tables Deposit Agreement Form 80

Sections 1 and 3 - RESCINDED

It has come to the attention of the Commander-in-Chief and the Council of Administration that certain properties, specifically, Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) records may be in or come into the possession of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). Provisions exist in the SUVCW Congressional Charter, the Deed of Conveyance between the G.A.R. and the SUVCW, and the National Policy on Records of the Grand Army of the Republic (August 2013) which directs the SUVCW to return said records to the communities where Grand Army posts were located, so far as possible, for the use and benefit of the communities where such posts were located. As such, in addition to other concerns, Sections 1 and 3 of General Order #22, Series 2023 – 2024, Policy Loan and/or Deposit of Artifacts Policy Vendor Tables Deposit Agreement Form 80 present potential conflicts with the aforementioned documents.

Therefore, it is hereby ordered:

- Sections 1 and 3 of General Order #22, Series 2023 – 2024, Policy Loan and/or Deposit of Artifacts Policy Vendor Tables Deposit Agreement Form 80 is **rescinded**.
- The National Committee on Program & Policy is instructed to conduct a thorough review of the rescinded National Policy regarding the loan and/or deposit of artifacts and any and all objects including, but not limited to, Charters, memorabilia, ephemera, etc. along with the rescinded Form 80 and report their findings and recommendations to the Council of Administration. The National Committee on Program & Policy is encouraged to consult with National Officers and Committees along with subject matter experts who may provide relevant input germane to the issue.
- Any Form 80 completed and executed prior to the issuance of this General Order remain in full effect.

(continued)

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Of special importance, **this Order does not affect the National Policy regarding the National Encampment Vendor/Display Program.** Said Policy remains in place.

Ordered this 17th Day of November, 2024

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Alan Russ
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #8
Series 2024-2025
1 December 2024

Passing of Past Department of Missouri Commander and Charitable Foundation Chairman Robert M. Petrovic

My Brothers, I have the sad obligation to convey to you the passing of Past Department Commander Robert M. Petrovic on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday November 28, 2024. PDC Petrovic was also the Chairman of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War - Charitable Foundation. Known by most as simply "Brother Bob," he was a force at the Camp, Department and National Organization levels. His superb management of the Foundation helped provide much needed funding for the many worthy charities and projects our Order supports.

While it would be impossible to note all of his many achievements, in 1996 Brother Bob became the first Commander of the reorganized Department of Missouri. In a few short years he helped organize the memorable 2001 National Encampment in Springfield, Missouri and again he was instrumental in hosting the 2007 event in St. Louis. For well over a decade Brother Bob, with able assistance from his beloved wife Cher, steered the annual President Lincoln Tomb Ceremony and associated gatherings. This signature event shines a bright and very complimentary light on our Order and Brother Bob's tireless work helped make that happen.

There is one particular aspect of Brother Bob's membership that I find especially poignant, and this is something that speaks directly to his character, pride and sense of duty. Many of you may not know that for a significant period, Brother Bob's membership in our Order was that of an Associate. As we honor the courage and sacrifice of all those who helped preserve the Union most of us have a familial relation to one or more of these brave men. But Brother Bob came in to our Order without that bond, and yet that did not detract from his dedication to our tenets of venerating those heroes. It was not until 2012 that he was able to discover a Union ancestor. And although his membership status may have changed, Brother Bob's resolve and dedication to serve remained steadfast.

No one should be surprised that Brother Bob's dedication to service was far from limited to just our Order. A devoted first responder, Brother Bob had an illustrious career in the fire service retiring from the Affton, Missouri Fire Department as a Captain. We join together as Brothers with his family and his community mourning his passing.

(continued)

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Cards of condolence may be addressed to his wife (Sister) Cher Petrovic at:

6519 Cherokee Lane
Cedar Hill, MO 63016-2527

In homage to our departed Brother it is hereby ordered that the National Website, Charters of all Department and Camps and membership badges be draped in black for a period of 30 days from the date of this General Order.

So ordered this 1st Day of December, 2024

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

8209 Skipwith Drive
Frederick, Maryland 21702
CinC@SUVCW.org

General Order #9
Series 2024-2025
14 December 2024

Real Son and Brother William Pool Approaching his 100th Birthday

It gives me great pleasure to announce the upcoming 100th birthday of Real Son and Brother William Pool of Bolivar, Missouri. Brother Pool is the son of Charles Pool who served in Company "D" of the 6th West Virginia Volunteers. Of great importance, Brother Pool is the last remaining son of a Union veteran who holds membership in our Order. Brother Pool, a World War II veteran, will celebrate his birthday on Monday, January 13, 2025.

In this joyous holiday season, we as an Order have much to be thankful for and Brother Pool's upcoming birthday milestone is a poignant reminder of our connection to all of those who put their lives on the line for the cause of Union. It is the link that binds us together as Brothers. By recognizing his upcoming birthday, we demonstrate our deep respect and admiration for all who honorably served, and, it is a defining statement of how we value our beloved brotherhood.

Therefore, as Brothers all, I respectfully ask each one of you to consider sending a card with your birthday wishes to Brother Pool. It is my understanding he enjoys receiving mail! Please address your card of happy birthday wishes to:

Brother William Pool
Parkview Health Care Facility
119 W Forest St
Bolivar, MO 65613-1316

So ordered this 14th Day of December, 2024

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #10
Series 2024-2025
1 January 2025

NEW YEAR'S "REVEILLE"

As we enter into 2025, we will soon be attending our Department Encampments to conduct business for the benefit of our Order. It is noble work to continue the process which makes our organization strong and preserves the memory of the "Boys in Blue." We are all called to this task and you will make a difference. In addition to forging and strengthening friendships that will last a lifetime, you will learn how our Order works, participate in the process, contribute to our mission, and, make a big difference. We need you. **All of you!**

Great praise goes out for the work of our Brother Officers at every level who dedicate their time, efforts, and expertise to conduct our daily business, as well as those who come together to legislate our efforts. My sincere thanks go to all who will gather at Department Encampments across the nation, over the next several months, to do good for our Order.

As for me, I will be attending a host of Department Encampments and I am looking forward to personally meeting as many of you as possible. I have also charged other National officers to attend Encampments to represent me and the office of the Commander-in-Chief. It is a special privilege for us to do so. We cherish the opportunity to share these events with you as together we do the work to preserve the history and legacy of the Union Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and members of the Revenue Cutter Service who honorably served to preserve our Nation during those tumultuous times.

Thank you again for your dedication and hard work. I wish each of you a healthy and Happy New Year!

Ordered this 1st Day of January, 2025

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #11
Series 2024-2025
6 January 2025

Passing of Former President Carter

My Brothers, as I am sure you are aware, the 39th President of the United States, James Earl "Jimmy" Carter, Jr. died on December 29, 2024. Former President Carter was 100-years-old at the time of his death. Having held one of, if not *the* most difficult offices in government, he is entitled to respectful acknowledgment of his service to our country and his passing.

In remembrance of former President Carter, this coming Thursday, January 9, 2025, has been declared a National Day of Mourning. Therefore, in conjunction with this National Day of Mourning, I hereby Order that the SUVCW National Web Site and the Charters of all SUVCW Departments and Camps be draped, and that all brothers attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badges.

This Order shall remain in effect for 30 days from January 9, 2025.

Ordered and issued this 6th Day of January, 2025

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Commander in Chief
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General Order #12
Series 2024-2025
27 February 2025

160th Anniversaries of the Civil War

With the advent of Spring a mere few weeks away, it is poignant to note that just days ago marked the 160th anniversary of the fall of Wilmington, NC, which arguably marked the beginning of the final chapter of the Civil War. In acknowledgement of this milestone, we are called to recognize and honor the 160th anniversaries of the events that delivered the eventual end to that bloody affair. The months of March and April, 1865, delivered historic successes and indescribable tragedies that would forever shape our Nation's history.

We, as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, are charged to perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union from 1861 to 1865. Over the next few months, we have unique opportunities to bring awareness to our communities these historic events which occurred 160 years ago.

Therefore, as Commander-in-Chief, I encourage our individual Brothers, Camps, and Departments to host and participate in community events that pay homage to our hero-ancestors, their deeds, and their sacrifices. I also charge our Brotherhood with employing every possible opportunity, including social media, to share these moments in history and our various events and observances. Let us make a concerted effort to shed a bright light on the successes of our forefathers from 160 years ago. In doing so, we will raise awareness about our ongoing mission to preserve the history and legacy of the heroes who fought to save the Union during the Civil War.

To that end this General Order is issued this 27th Day of February, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #13
Series 2024-2025
4 March 2025

Passing of Woman's Relief Corps Past National President Cynthia L. Norton

It is my sad duty to report the death of Woman's Relief Corps Past National President Cynthia L. Norton on Sunday, March 2, 2025.

PNP Norton served as the WRC National President with distinction in 2010 and 2011. Of note, for many years PNP Norton chaired the annual Memorial Day parade in Wellington, Ohio. PNP Norton leaves an admirable legacy of selfless service and patriotism that is a credit to the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic.

In solemn recognition of her dedicated service, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War's social media platforms, and the Charters of all Departments and Camps will be draped in black. All Brothers will attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badges in remembrance of PNP Norton.

This Order shall remain in effect for 30 days from this date, March 4, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #14
Series 2024-2025
11 March 2025

Passing of Past Department of Missouri Commander John Charles Rutherford

It is with great sorrow and sadness that I have the duty to report the passing of Past Department Commander John Charles Rutherford on Saturday, March 8, 2025. PDC Rutherford served his Department and the National Organization with excellence. Of particular note, PDC Rutherford was the Host Committee Chair for the 2001 National Encampment in Springfield, Missouri.

Brother Rutherford's lifelong love of history and the Civil War drew him to our Order, becoming a Charter Member of the Phelps Camp 66 and serving as Missouri Department Commander in 1999 and 2000. Over the years, Brother John worked for the National Park Service at Stones River National Battlefield, Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, and Antietam National Battlefield. He retired in 2022 after a decades'-long career in the Springfield-Greene County Library's Local History Department.

We stand with our Missouri Brothers in this time of sorrow, mourning the loss of an esteemed Brother and gentleman.

An opportunity to remember Brother John will be held on **Thursday, April 17 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. - with tributes at 2:30 p.m.** at:

828 S. Delaware Avenue
Springfield, Missouri 65802

In homage to our departed Brother it is hereby ordered that the National Website, Charters of all Department and Camps and membership badges be draped in black for a period of 30 days from the date of this General Order.

So ordered this 11th Day of March, 2025

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #15
Series 2024-2025
17 March 2025

Revocation of Captain Theodore H. Howell Camp 48, Department of Pennsylvania

Commander William E. Fischer, Jr. of the Department of Pennsylvania has requested that the Charter of Captain Theodore H. Howell Camp 48 be revoked. (Regulations, Chapter I, Article I, Section 13)

According to Department Commander Fischer, in response to Captain Theodore H. Howell Camp 48's failure to submit required Forms, Past Department Commander Dane DiFebo suspended said Camp on March 6, 2023. Additionally, Department Commander Fisher reports no per diem payments were made for either 2023 nor 2024 and, repeated attempts to date to contact the Camp Commander and Camp Secretary have been made and no response has been received.

Therefore, based on the above, Department Commander Fischer's request is approved and the Charter of Captain Theodore H. Howell Camp 48, Department of Pennsylvania is hereby revoked. (Constitution, Article VI, Section 2)

Any and all property and assets of Captain Theodore H. Howell Camp 48 shall be turned over to the Department of Pennsylvania Commander, acting as the representative of the Commander-in-Chief to collect and hold all such property in trust for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, an organization exempt from taxes under section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code. (Regulations, Chapter I, Article I, Section 5). The Department Commander shall provide a detailed report to the Commander-in-Chief when this has been accomplished.

So ordered this date, March 17, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:
Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #16
Series 2024-2025
17 March 2025

Revocation of General Darius N. Couch Camp 26, Department of Massachusetts

Commander Roderick Fraser of the Department of Massachusetts has requested that the Charter of General Darius N. Couch Camp 26 be revoked. (Regulations, Chapter I, Article I, Section 13)

According to Department Commander Fraser, Camp 26 no longer has the minimum five Brothers to keep the Camp functioning. Additionally, the Camp Commander resigned and requested transfer to the At-large Camp. Further, the Camp was unable to hold elections and notified the Department of their desire to close. They did not submit a Form 22.

Therefore, based on the above, Department Commander Fraser's request is approved and the Charter of General Darius N. Couch Camp 26, Department of Massachusetts is hereby revoked. (Constitution, Article VI, Section 2)

Of note, all property and assets of General Darius N. Couch Camp 26, have been turned over to the Department of Massachusetts Commander, acting as the representative of the Commander-in-Chief to collect and hold all such property in trust for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, an organization exempt from taxes under section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code. (Regulations, Chapter I, Article I, Section 5). The Camp's Charter, now in the possession of the Department Commander, shall be forwarded to the Executive Director.

So ordered this date, March 17, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:
Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #17
Series 2024-2025
23 May 2025

Shining a Brighter Light on Memorial Day

My Brothers, we are on the cusp of the day our country has chosen to honor the memory of our fallen heroes – those brave members of our armed forces who made the ultimate sacrifice so that our nation would endure. It is a solemn time, and one that we as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War hold most dear as it was originally designated to honor our fallen forebearers, the courageous "Boys in Blue."

As Sons our charge is to honor the service of all who defended the Union during that terrible conflict – and not just on Memorial Day, but every day of the year. However, and of significance, with that duty comes acknowledgement that not all of our fellow citizens keep that commitment in the fore of their thoughts on a daily basis. It is because of this that our ultimate charge is to constantly engage our communities and work tirelessly to remind them of the sacrifice of the fallen.

With Memorial Day being the day when the national spotlight shines brightest on why we as Sons exist, no greater opportunity presents itself to us to carry the banner and celebrate their memory in every corner of the communities in which we live. To help us reach "every corner," we have developed a very beneficial Department/Camp Media Guide chocked full of suggestions and tips that can exponentially extend the reach of our message:

https://suvcw.org/sites/default/files/2023-11/Department_Camp_Media_Guide2_0.pdf
https://suvcw.org/sites/default/files/2023-11/Media_Advisory.docx
https://suvcw.org/sites/default/files/2023-11/Media_Release.docx

During your Memorial Day programs and events, look beyond those in attendance to those folks who for whatever reason are absent. Seek out and engage the many media resources at your disposal. Give them the opportunity to carry our banner to everyone. My Brothers, I believe you will find them to be willing partners.

So ordered this date, May 23, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #18
Series 2024-2025
29 May 2025

Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will apply to participate as an eligible charity in the 2026 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). This is a government program that allows federal employees to donate **directly** to their favorite charities through the government pay system. Unfortunately, attempts to join CFC in the past have failed. To get accepted in 2026, we need to establish we are an educational service organization that conducts services throughout the USA.

My Brothers, we need your help. Every camp and department Patriotic Instructor will be completing reports of service activities for the calendar year ended December 31, 2024 (due April 30 for camps and June 30 for departments). We ask that each member of the Sons report his activity to their appropriate camp or department patriotic instructor. This includes, but is not limited to, participation in Memorial/Decoration Day events, Remembrance Day Events, Lincoln Death Day Events, Scholarships, Memorial University, Patriotic Instruction, Adopt-a-School Programs, Flag Disposal Ceremonies, ROTC and Boy Scout events, Flag Facts Flyer, Lesson Plans for Teachers, Graves Registration, Last Union Veterans Project, GAR Records Maintenance, grave markers for Civil War Veterans, Monument maintenance and construction, and educational events. Remember to also include your Sons Veterans Reserve activities.

We ask that each Patriotic Instructor list some events (at least three to five) the camp or department have held with specific information as to how you provided the service, who benefited from the service, what the service was, where the service occurred (city, state), and when the service occurred. To accomplish this, use the narrative sections of the Form 40 and Form 41. Brothers, it was a lack of specificity that resulted in our last CFC application rejection.

Direct questions to the National Patriotic Instructor or the National Treasurer.

This General Order is issued this 29th Day of May, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #19
Series 2024-2025
18 June 2025

Getting to Juneteenth – Challenges Then and Challenges Now

Tomorrow, June 19, marks that day in 1865 when Major General Gordon Granger ordered the final enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation in Texas. Although well over two years after President Lincoln's issuance of that famed Executive Order in January of 1863, our brave ancestors had remained stalwart and steadfast to the very end of the bloody conflict. Their commitment to the Union cause showcased what I believe clearly defines the "American Spirit" - facing and overcoming challenges – no matter how daunting.

My Brothers, as an Organization committed to honoring the service of the courageous and valiant "Boys in Blue," we too face many formidable challenges. The ever-increasing economic, societal and familial demands placed on us in our communities are a reality which we must recognize as we develop strategies to not only recruit but also retain new members in our Order. To be successful, we must ensure that our approaches offer Brothers pursuits they feel worthy of their time and energy – things of value to them that they will willingly embrace and commit their time to.

Therefore, I ask you to take a fresh and close look at those endeavors your Camps currently conduct. Do they inspire active participation? Are our activities giving our Brothers a personal sense of accomplishment that they are proud to share with their neighbors and community? These and other questions are necessary elements in any legitimate assessment – and the answers to those questions must be earnestly embraced for us to successfully meet head-on the challenges of today and tomorrow. Frankly, the future of our Order depends on it.

So Ordered this 18 Day of June, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #20
Series 2024-2025
30 June 2025

Independence Day – An Opportunity to Grow

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same."
Governor Ronald Reagan, January 5, 1967

Brothers, as July 4 nears, these sage words are a solemn reminder to each of us that the struggle for liberty is never-ending. Those patriots of the American Revolution laid the foundation for freedom that our ancestors fought to preserve during the darkest days of the Civil War. The words are also a stark reminder to us, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, that our charge to honor the service and memory of the "Boys in Blue" in perpetuity cannot rest on bloodlines alone. While membership in our Order depends mightily on the recruitment of descendants of our Union heroes, it is the good works we as an Order **do** that attracts and retains new blood. It is our **actions** that define us, making us truly worthy of our name.

Therefore, with Independence Day on the horizon, I charge each of you as Brothers to celebrate the freedoms we enjoy as Americans. Wherever possible, do so with the Brothers of your Camp. Whether marching together in parades, participating collectively in community celebrations or ceremonies, or simply attending these events as a group, do so proudly wearing the badge of our Order. Demonstrate to your family, your friends, and your community the commitment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to the ideals of freedom and patriotism – not only now, but for generations to come.

So Ordered this 30 Day of June, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #21
Series 2024-2025
8 July 2025

Tragedy in Texas

Brothers, the loss of life and devastation from the recent catastrophic flooding in Texas is now coming into focus. Currently, we are unaware of any Brothers whose immediate families have been touched, but we are sparing no efforts to determine the impact it may have had on our Texas members. Regardless, this tragedy is one that affects all of us as Americans, and it is our duty to keep the victims in our minds and offer to them our heartfelt sympathy and prayers.

Therefore, I implore every Brother of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to consider a contribution, no matter the amount, to one of the many charities dedicated to providing direct relief to the victims of this terrible disaster.

Further, should we become aware of any Brother personally touched by this calamity, we will work to provide support to the fullest extent possible.

Brothers, again please join with me in keeping the fate of those affected in our hearts and minds.

Ordered this 8th Day of July 2025

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW)

Attest:

Alan Russ
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #22
Series 2024-2025
9 July 2025

Establishment of the Department of Arkansas

On June 21, 2025 the Department of Missouri (including Arkansas) heartily endorsed the creation of the Department of Arkansas. Their organizational meeting was conducted that same day, with CofA member Dale Crandell attending as a National Representative.

All required documentation has been submitted therefore the Department of Arkansas officially becomes our 32nd Department.

For the 2025 National Encampment, the Department of **Arkansas** will have following vote count:

1 Department Commander
3 Delegates (elected 3 at their organization meeting)

The adjusted vote count for the Department of **Missouri** will be:

1 Department Commander
2 Past Commanders-in-Chief
16 Past Department Commanders
7 Delegates

Congratulations to the Brothers of the Department of Arkansas! Brothers, please join me in extending our best wishes to our newest Department!

Ordered this 9th Day of July 2025

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW)

Attest:

Alan Russ
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #23
Series 2024-2025
12 July 2025

Revocation of William B. Keith Camp 12, Department of California and Pacific

Commander Owen R. Stiles of the Department of California and Pacific has requested that the Charter of William B. Keith Camp 12 be revoked. (Regulations, Chapter I, Article I, Section 13)

According to Commander Stiles, William B. Keith Camp 12 is no longer sustainable as no Brothers of the Camp are willing or able to take on the duties and responsibilities necessary to maintain the Camp. Documentation provided by Commander Stiles indicates there has been no activity or meetings of the Camp in well over a year-and-a-half. Multiple offers of assistance in the submission of long-overdue required Forms and other documentation by Commander Stiles and his predecessor, PDC Steve Doyle, have received no response. As recently as June 1, 2025, Commander Stiles and the Department Secretary reiterated the offer of assistance to the Camp as a whole and again, no response was received.

Therefore, based on the above, Department Commander Stiles request is approved and it is hereby ordered that the Charter of William B. Keith Camp 12, Department of California and Pacific is revoked. (Constitution, Article VI, Section 2)

Any and all property and assets of William B. Keith Camp 12 shall be turned over to the Department of California and Pacific Commander, acting as the representative of the Commander-in-Chief to collect and hold all such property in trust for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, an organization exempt from taxes under section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code. (Regulations, Chapter I, Article I, Section 5). The Department Commander shall provide a detailed report to the Commander-in-Chief when this has been accomplished.

So ordered this date, July 12, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:
Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #24
Series 2024-2025
13 July 2025

Passing of Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans Past National President Margaret Atkinson

It is my sad duty to report the death of Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans Past National President Margaret Atkinson on Saturday, July 10, 2025.

PNP Atkinson served as the Auxiliary National President with excellence from 1994 to 1996. Over the years, PNP Atkinson served in a multitude of both elected and appointed National Auxiliary officer positions. A woman of remarkable talent, PNP Atkinson served the Auxiliary for over 80 years. Her wisdom and experience in the Auxiliary were an invaluable resource to a host of Auxiliary National Presidents. As most of you know, Sister Margaret was the devoted wife of Past Commander-in-Chief Elmer "Bud" Atkinson. Brother PCinC Bud, who served as CinC in 1992, passed in 2017 at the age of 92.

A Life Celebration will be held in her honor on Saturday, July 19th, from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM, followed by the funeral service at 12:00 PM at Bethesda Presbyterian Church, 808 Red Lion Rd, Philadelphia, PA 19115. Interment services will be held privately. A luncheon in PNP Margaret's memory will be held at Bethesda Presbyterian Church following the service.

In solemn recognition of her dedicated service, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War's social media platforms, and the Charters of all Departments and Camps will be draped in black. All Brothers will attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badges in remembrance of PNP Atkinson.

This Order shall remain in effect for 30 days from this date, July 13, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #25
Series 2024-2025
17 July 2025

Their Sense of Duty, Our Sense of Duty

My Brothers, as my term of office as your Commander-in-Chief is rapidly coming to a conclusion, my thoughts have been drawn even closer to the history of our Order, the Grand Army of the Republic and more so, to the legacy and vestiges of all the men who fought for the Union cause. In doing so I remembered that tomorrow, Friday, July 18, marks the 162nd anniversary of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment's fateful 1863 assault on Fort Wagner. Although repulsed, the attacking troops were heralded for their valor and received widespread praise. Highly-regarded historians credit this with encouraging many more African-Americans to enlist, allowing the Union to utilize manpower the Confederacy simply could not match. One fact is irrefutable - the bravery, heroism, courage and gallantry of that storied regiment was on full display that momentous day, but what strikes me most about them is illustrated by one phrase – their sense of duty.

That "sense of duty" endures today with the work of our Order. Although storming a well-defended position is not in the cards for us, our obligation to honor each and every defender of the Union cause is no less noble. This past year I have personally witnessed countless examples of Brothers going "above and beyond the call of duty" to achieve that very goal. Our ranks are blessed with those who have committed themselves to our Order, asking nothing in return. This, my Brothers, is that "sense of duty" of which I speak.

Every man who stood proudly in our nation's time of need mattered – regardless of rank. Brothers, in that same vein, it makes no difference your rank or position in our Order. Each of you bring tremendous value to our organization. Therefore, be it at the Camp, Department or National level, I appeal to you to join with your fellow Brothers by engaging and giving of yourself as much as you can. The ultimate success of our forefathers depended so much on their commitment and I am convinced our Order's future accomplishments rely on yours.

So Ordered this 17th Day of July, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

8209 Skipwith Drive
Frederick, Maryland 21702
CinC@SUVCW.org

General Order #26
Series 2024-2025
5 August 2025

Passing of Past Commander-in-Chief Donald Braden "Brad" Schall

It is my sad duty to report Past Commander-in-Chief Donald Braden "Brad" Schall recently passed away at age 85.

PCinC Schall was elected Commander-in-Chief on August 14, 2010 at the 129th annual Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in Overland Park, Kansas. Brother Schall served the Order at the Camp, Department and National levels in a multitude of progressively vital positions with particular distinction. At the time of his election Brother Schall was the fifth Californian to be elected Commander-in-Chief.

Born in Hutchinson, Kansas, Brother Brad was introduced to his family's Civil War history and the Joseph Hooker GAR Post 17 by his "Nana Schall." As a child, his family participated in Memorial Day services with descendants of members of the Hooker Post, of which his great-grandfather had been a member.

After a notable career in the food industry, in 2002 Brother Brad retired to Lincoln, California. Having joined the Phil Sheridan Camp 4 in San José in the mid-1990s, over the years he held nearly every position in the several Camps to which he belonged. Brother Brad was the organizer of the Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp 24 in 1999 and elected Commander of the Department of California and Pacific in 2002 and 2003.

Services for PCinC Schall will be held at The Watermark at Rosewood Gardens, 35 Fenton Street, in Livermore, California on Thursday, August 14, 2025 from 2-4 pm.

In solemn recognition of his dedicated service, the SUVCW social media platforms, and the Charter, including those of all Departments and Camps will be draped in black. All Brothers will attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badges in remembrance of PCinC Schall.

This Order shall remain in effect for 30 days from this date, August 5, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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General Order #27
Series 2024-2025
9 August 2025

National Awards and Recognitions

By the authority vested in me as Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the National Charter, Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby Ordered that the following Awards and Recognitions be bestowed at the 144th National Encampment in Houston, Texas:

Doctor Mary Edwards Walker Award: ASUVCW PNP Ramona Greenwalt, Department of Ohio

Abraham Lincoln Commander-in-Chief Award (Best camp): General Orlando Poe Camp 444, Department of Michigan

Cornelius F. Whitehouse Award (Brother of the Year): Brother W. Faron Taylor, PDC, James A. Garfield Camp 1, Department of the Chesapeake

Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star: Brother Michael S. Emett, General George Stoneman Jr. Camp 18, Department of California and Pacific

Meritorious Service Award:
Brother John Decker, PDC, Col. Henry Hamden Camp 2, Department of Wisconsin.
Brother Tad Campbell, PCinC, Phil Sheridan Camp 4, Department of California and Pacific

Elmer (Bud) Atkinson Lifetime Achievement Award: Brother George Shadman, David C. Caywood Camp 146, Department of New York

David R. Medert Award (Most new members recruited in the past year): Brother Brandon Villardi, Department of California and Pacific

National Aide Award (Recruit five or more new members in the past year): Brothers Brandon Villardi, Department of California and Pacific; Gary Carlberg, Department of Wisconsin; Timothy O'Neal, Department of the Columbia

Augustus P. Davis – Conrad Linder Award (Department with greatest number of new members): Department of Pennsylvania

U.S. Grant Cup (Department with greatest percentage increase): Department of Oklahoma

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General Order #27
Series 2024-2025
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Under Forty Award (Department with the greatest number of new members under age forty):
Department of Pennsylvania

Marshall Hope Award (Best newsletter):
Camp: General Orlando Poe Camp 444, Department of Michigan
Department: Department of Ohio

Horace Greeley Award (Best website):
Camp: General Orlando Poe Camp 444, Department of Michigan

Certificate of Recognition: Brothers Terry Handley, PDC, Jeffrey Kennedy, PDC, Clint Anderson, PDC, of the Department of Oklahoma; Brothers Kenny Jacobsen and Monroe McBride of the Department of Colorado and Wyoming; Brothers Dennis J. Duffy, Jerome Orton, PDC, Darryl VerStreate Jr., PDC, Danny Wheeler, PCinC, Department of New York; National Secretary Alan Russ, PDC, Department of Kansas; Chief of Staff Brian W. Horgan, PDC, Deputy Chief of Staff W. Faron Taylor, PDC, National Aides de Camp Arthur C. "Clay" Matthews, DC, Eric Atkisson, PCC, David Pyne, PCC, Tim Sedmak, CC, Nathaniel Horgan, Department of the Chesapeake

In conferring the above Awards and Recognitions, I take great pleasure in congratulating the recipients and extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude for their extraordinary performance. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War admire each of you and hold you in high esteem. Well done Brothers!

So ordered this 9th day of August, 2025 in Houston, Texas.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Rosemary S. Martin
National President
Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

26 November 2024

Our Thanksgiving Message

Having entered this week of thanks and gratitude, we want to express our sincere appreciation for the opportunity to serve you and our Orders as Commander-in-Chief and National President. We are deeply grateful.

In his Thanksgiving Proclamation of 1864, President Abraham Lincoln called for the Nation to pray for healing, harmony, and tranquility. His words stirred the hearts and minds of our ancestors, girding them with courage and resolve.

As we observe this Thanksgiving, may we celebrate their bravery, dedication and commitment to the cause of the Union. Let us re-dedicate ourselves to honoring their memory and their selfless service.

To you, our Brothers and Sisters, it is our hope you enjoy a bountiful harvest with family and friends this Thanksgiving! God speed and safe travels on your journeys.

Given unto our hands this 26th Day of November 2024.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Rosemary S. Martin
National President
Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Rosemary S. Martin
National President
Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

23 December 2024

Season's Greetings!

At this very special time of year, we reach out to you in the spirit of our forefathers who saved our beloved Union. Much like our ancestors who came from every background and faith imaginable, we as Brothers and Sisters come together as one to celebrate the holidays. It is a time of giving and remembering, and it is also a time to support one another.

We all know this time of year can be busy and overwhelming. It also can be very stressful for those who do not share the merriment of the season. Whether it be the sadness of losing a loved one, illness or other personal challenge, we, as your Brothers and Sisters, are here for you. Always remember, our fraternal ties bind us together as one. The Boys in Blue depended on and needed each other – let that same spirit of reliance and togetherness manifest itself fraternally in each of our lives today.

As we reflect on this time of year and the fraternal bonds we have built, may this holiday season bring you joy, happiness, and the good health that you truly deserve. It has been an incredible journey thus far with all of you, and we thank you for your positive inspiration and support. We look forward in the new year to continue forging with you our paths of achievements. May you enjoy the holidays to their fullest. We wish you glad tidings.

Given unto our hands this 23rd Day of December 2024.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Rosemary S. Martin
National President
Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Kevin L. Martin
Commander in Chief
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Special Message #3
Series 2024-2025
14 March 2025

Lobbying – A Reminder to our Order

Recently, I have received a number of thoughtful inquiries regarding lobbying from both the Camp and Department levels. Being watchful of current events that may have an effect on our mission is our duty as Brothers and I am personally grateful to all who cherish this obligation. Directly related, an important facet to remember when representing our Order are those requirements we as a 501 (c) (3) entity are also bound to follow. Fortunately, General Order #14, Series 2020 – 2021, issued on April 13, 2020 by then Commander-in-Chief Brian C. Pierson entitled "Lobbying" is an excellent resource as it speaks directly to what we as an Order can and cannot do.

Therefore, I strongly encourage every Brother to take time to refamiliarize themselves with each feature of General Order #14. We have made great strides to position our Order as a highly respected and professional organization. Therefore, as we formulate and employ strategies, now and in the future, to honor our ancestors and their noble service, we recognize and embrace that total compliance with General Order #14 is not an option – it is a must.

Again, please review General Order #14 and take each provision into full consideration. For your convenience, you may follow the below link to access and carefully read the Order. Thank you again for your continued commitment to the tenets our Order and as always, I personally thank you for your support.

https://suvcw.org/sites/default/files/2022-11/GO-14-Lobbying.pdf

This Special Message is issued this 14th day of March, 2025.

Kevin L. Martin
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:
Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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Past Commanders-in-Chief

Year	***Name***	***Department***
1881	Harry T. Rowley	Pennsylvania
1882	Harry T. Rowley	Pennsylvania
1883	Frank P. Merrill	Maine
1884	Harry W. Arnold	Pennsylvania
1885	Walter S. Payne	Ohio
1886	Walter S. Payne	Ohio
1887	George B. Abbott	Illinois
1888	George B. Abbott	Illinois
1889	Charles F. Griffin	Indiana
1890	Leland J. Webb	Kansas
1891	Bartow S. Weeks	New York
1892	Marvin E. Hall	Michigan
1893	Joseph B. Maccabe	Massachusetts
1894	William E. Bundy	Ohio
1895	William H. Russell	Kansas
1896	James L. Rake	Pennsylvania
1897	Charles E. Darling	Massachusetts
1898	Frank L. Shepard	Illinois
1899	A. W. Jones	Ohio
1900	Edgar W. Alexander	Pennsylvania
1901	Edward R. Campbell	Maryland
1902	Frank Martin	Indiana
1903	Arthur B. Spinks	Rhode Island
1904	William C. Dustin	Illinois
1905	Harvey V. Speelman	Ohio
1906	Edwin M. Amie	Pennsylvania
1907	Ralph Sheldon	New York
1908	Edgar Allan, Jr.	Maryland
1909	George W. Polliet	New Jersey
1910	Fred E. Bolton	Massachusetts
1911	Newton J. McGuire	Indiana
1912	Ralph M. Grant	Connecticut
1913	John E. Sautter	Pennsylvania
1914	Charles F. Sherman	New York
1915	A.E.B. Stephens	Ohio
1916	William T. Church	Illinois
1917	Fred T.J. Johnson	Pennsylvania
1918	Frances Callahan	Pennsylvania

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Past Commanders-in-Chief

Year	***Name***	***Department***
1919	Harry D. Sisson	Massachusetts
1920	Phelam A. Barrows	Nebraska
1921	Clifford Ireland	Illinois
1922	Frank Shellhouse	Indiana
1923	Samuel S. Horn	Pennsylvania
1924	William M. Coffin	Ohio
1925	Edwin C. Irelan	Maryland
1926	Ernest W. Homan	Massachusetts
1927	Walter C. Mabie	Pennsylvania
1928	Delevan B. Bowley	California
1929	Theodore C. Cazeau	New York
1930	Allen S. Holbrook	Illinois
1931	Frank C. Huston	Indiana
1932	Titus M. Ruch	Pennsylvania
1933	Park F. Yengling	Ohio
1934	Frank L. Kirchgassner	Massachusetts
1935	Richard F. Locke	Illinois
1936	William A. Dyer	New York
1937	William A. Dyer	New York
1938	William L. Anderson	Massachusetts
1939	Ralph R. Barrett	California
1940	J. Kirkwood Craig	Minnesota
1941	Albert C. Lambert	New Jersey
1942	Henry Towle	Maine
1943	C. Leroy Stoudt	Pennsylvania
1944	Urion W. Mackey	Michigan
1945	H. Harding Hale	Massachusetts
1946	Neil D. Cranmer	New York
1947	Charles H. E. Moran	Massachusetts
1948	Perle L. Fouch	Michigan
1949	John H. Runkle	Pennsylvania
1950	Cleon E. Heald	New Hampshire
1951	Roy J. Bennett	Iowa
1952	Frederick K. Davis	Washington & Oregon
1953	U.S. Grant III	Maryland
1954	U.S. Grant III	Maryland
1955	Fredrick G. Bauer	Massachusetts
1956	Fred E. Howe	New York

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Past Commanders-in-Chief

Year	***Name***	***Department***
1957	Albert B. DeHaven	Maine
1958	Earl F. Riggs	California
1959	Harold E. Arnold	Rhode Island
1960	Thomas A. Chadwick	Vermont
1961	Charles L. Messer	New York
1962	Chester S. Shriver	Pennsylvania
1963	Joseph S. Rippey	New York
1964	Joseph S. Rippey	New York
1965	W. Earl Corbin	Ohio
1966	Frank Woerner	California
1967	William H. Haskell	Massachusetts
1968	Frank M. Heacock, Sr.	Pennsylvania
1969	Fred H. Combs, Jr.	New Jersey
1970	George L. Cashman	Illinois
1971	Norman R. Furman	New York
1972	John C. Yocum	Pennsylvania
1973	Allen B. Howland	Massachusetts
1974	John H. Stark	Pennsylvania
1975	Clarence J. Riddell	Pennsylvania
1976	Kenneth T. Wheeler	New Hampshire
1977	Harold T. Beilby	New York
1978	Richard L. Greenwalt	Ohio
1979	Elton O. Koch	Pennsylvania
1980	Richard E. Wyman	New Hampshire
1981	Harry E. Gibbons	New York
1982	Richard C. Schlenker	Maryland
1983	William L. Simpson	Pennsylvania
1984	Eugene E. Russell	Massachusetts
1985	Donald L. Roberts	New York
1986	Gordon R. Bury II	Ohio
1987	Richard O. Partington	Pennsylvania
1988	Clark C. Mellor	Massachusetts
1989	Charles W. Corfman	Ohio
1990	George W. Long	Pennsylvania
1991	Lowell V. Hammer	Maryland
1992	Elmer F. Atkinson	Pennsylvania
1993	Allen W. Moore	Indiana
1994	Keith G. Harrison	Michigan

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Past Commanders-in-Chief

Year	Name	Department
1995	David R. Medert	Ohio
1996	Alan R. Loomis	Indiana
1997	Richard D. Orr	Pennsylvania
1998	Andrew M. Johnson	Maryland
1999	Danny L. Wheeler	New York
2000	Edward J. Krieser	Indiana
2001	George L. Powell	Pennsylvania
2002	Robert E. Grim	Ohio
2003	Kent L. Armstrong	Michigan
2004	Stephen A. Michaels	Wisconsin
2005	Donald E. Darby	Ohio
2006	James B. Pahl	Michigan
2007	Charles E. Kuhn Jr.	Pennsylvania
2008	David V. Medert	Ohio
2009	Leo F. Kennedy	Rhode Island
2010	D. Brad Schall	California
2011	Donald D. Palmer Jr.	Missouri
2012	Perley Mellor	New Hampshire
2013	Ken L. Freshley	Ohio
2014	Tad D. Campbell	California
2015	Eugene Mortorff	Chesapeake
2016	Donald L. Martin	Ohio
2017	Mark R. Day	Chesapeake
2018	Donald W. Shaw	Michigan
2019	Edward J. Norris	Massachusetts
2020	Brian C. Pierson	Georgia and South Carolina
2021	Michael A. Paquette	Chesapeake
2022	Bruce D. Frail	Rhode Island
2023	Peter J. Hritsko, Jr.	Ohio
2024	Kevin L. Martin	Chesapeake

Honor Conferred by the Commander-In-Chief

1883	Augustus P. Davis	Pennsylvania
1899	Richard M. J. Reed	Pennsylvania
1939	Horace H. Hammer	Pennsylvania
1953	Albert H. Woolson	Minnesota
2023	Robert J. Wolz	Ohio

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Past Commanders of Sons of Veterans

1881	Alfred Cope	Pennsylvania
1882	Albert Cope	Pennsylvania
1883	Edwin M. Earp	Massachusetts
1884	Edwin M. Earp	Massachusetts
1885	Louis M. Wagner	Pennsylvania
1886	Louis M. Wagner	Pennsylvania
1887	Louis M. Wagner	Pennsylvania

Past Post System Commanders

1889	George W. Marks	New York
1890	George T. Brown	New York

Past Grand Division Commanders *

Isaac S. Bangs	Maine
Ahiman V. Bohn	Colorado
Elliott Howard Gilkey	Ohio
William J. Maskell	Illinois
William E. W. Ross	Maryland
Raphael Tobias	New York
Leland J. Webb	Kansas
Charles M. Catt	Ohio
Augustus Plummer Davis	Pennsylvania (Honorary)
Frank H. Challis	New Hampshire
Lucian F. Burpee	Connecticut

* The following four men were also listed as Past Grand Division Commanders in *Grand Army Men – The GAR and its Male Organizations* (pg. 42), 2014, by *SUVCW* Past National Historian, Robert J. Wolz.

Horace P. Kent **	Massachusetts
Walter S. Payne	Ohio
R. M. J. Reed	Pennsylvania (Honorary)
Charles S. Crysler	Missouri

** Horace P. Kent was elected as the Commander of the First Grand Division. However, before he assumed that position, it was discovered that he had been dropped from the rolls of his Camp, reason unknown. Kent was then replaced by Lucian F. Burpee, who served as Commander of the First Grand Division during that term.

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National Encampments of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

No.	***Year***	***Dates***	***Location***
1st	1882	October 18	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
2nd	1883	August 6-7	Columbus, Ohio
3rd	1884	August 27-30	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
4th	1885	September 17	Grand Rapids, Michigan
5th	1886	August 31-Sept. 2	Buffalo, New York
6th	1887	August 17-19	Des Moines, Iowa
7th	1888	August 15-17	Wheeling, West Virginia
8th	1889	September 10-13	Paterson, New Jersey
9th	1890	August 26-29	St. Joseph, Missouri
10th	1891	August 24-29	Minneapolis, Minnesota
11th	1892	August 8-12	Helena, Montana
12th	1893	August 15-18	Cincinnati, Ohio
13th	1894	August 20-23	Davenport, Iowa
14th	1895	September 16-18	Knoxville, Tennessee
15th	1896	September 8-10	Louisville, Kentucky
16th	1897	September 9-11	Indianapolis, Indiana
17th	1898	September 12-14	Omaha, Nebraska
18th	1899	September 7-9	Detroit, Michigan
19th	1900	September 11-13	Syracuse, New York
20th	1901	September 17-18	Providence, Rhode Island
21st	1902	October 7-9	Washington, D.C.
22nd	1903	September 15-17	Atlantic City, New Jersey
23rd	1904	August 17-19	Boston, Massachusetts
24th	1905	September 18-20	Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
25th	1906	August 21-23	Peoria, Illinois
26th	1907	August 20-22	Dayton, Ohio
27th	1908	August 25-27	Niagara Falls, New York
28th	1909	August 24-26	Washington, D.C.
29th	1910	September 20-22	Atlantic City, New Jersey
30th	1911	August 22-25	Rochester, New York
31st	1912	August 27-29	St. Louis, Missouri
32nd	1913	September 16-18	Chattanooga, Tennessee
33rd	1914	September 1-3	Detroit, Michigan
34th	1915	September 28-30	Washington, D.C.
35th	1916	August 30-31	Kansas City, Missouri
36th	1917	August 22-23	Boston, Massachusetts
37th	1918	August 21-22	Niagara Falls, New York
38th	1919	September 9-11	Columbus, Ohio

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National Encampments of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

No.	***Year***	***Dates***	***Location***
39th	1920	September 22-24	Indianapolis, Indiana
40th	1921	September 21-29	Indianapolis, Indiana
41st	1922	September 26-28	Des Moines, Iowa
42nd	1923	September 4-6	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
43rd	1924	August 12-14	Boston, Massachusetts
44th	1925	August 31-Sept. 3	Grand Rapids, Michigan
45th	1926	September 21-23	Des Moines, Iowa
46th	1927	September 13-15	Grand Rapids, Michigan
47th	1928	September 18-20	Denver, Colorado
48th	1929	September 10-12	Portland, Maine
49th	1930	August 26-28	Cincinnati, Ohio
50th	1931	September 15-17	Des Moines, Iowa
51st	1932	September 20-22	Springfield, Illinois
52nd	1933	September 19-21	St. Paul, Minnesota
53rd	1934	August 14-16	Rochester, New York
54th	1935	September 10-12	Grand Rapids, Michigan
55th	1936	September 22-24	Washington, D.C.
56th	1937	September 6-9	Madison, Wisconsin
57th	1938	September 5-8	Des Moines, Iowa
58th	1939	August 29-30	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
59th	1940	September 9-12	Springfield, Illinois
60th	1941	September 16-18	Columbus, Ohio
61st	1942	September 15-17	Indianapolis, Indiana
62nd	1943	September 21-22	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
63rd	1944	September 12-14	Des Moines, Iowa
64th	1945	October 1-4	Columbus, Ohio
65th	1946	August 26-29	Indianapolis, Indiana
66th	1947	August 10-14	Cleveland, Ohio
67th	1948	September 26-30	Grand Rapids, Michigan
68th	1949	August 28-31	Indianapolis, Indiana
69th	1950	August 20-24	Boston, Massachusetts
70th	1951	August 19-23	Columbus, Ohio
71st	1952	August 24-28	Atlantic City, New Jersey
72nd	1953	August 23-27	Buffalo, New York
73rd	1954	August 8-13	Duluth, Minnesota
74th	1955	August 21-25	Cincinnati, Ohio
75th	1956	September 9-13	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
76th	1957	August 18-22	Detroit, Michigan

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National Encampments of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

No.	***Year***	***Dates***	***Location***
77th	1958	August 17-21	Boston, Massachusetts
78th	1959	August 16-20	Long Beach, California
79th	1960	August 21-25	Springfield, Illinois
80th	1961	August 20-24	Indianapolis, Indiana
81st	1962	August 19-23	Washington, D.C.
82nd	1963	August 18-22	Miami Beach, Florida
83rd	1964	August 16-20	Providence, Rhode Island
84th	1965	August 16-19	Richmond, Virginia
85th	1966	August 14-18	Grand Rapids, Michigan
86th	1967	August 6-10	Chicago, Illinois
87th	1968	August 18-20	Wilmington, Delaware
88th	1969	August 17-21	St. Louis, Missouri
89th	1970	August 23-27	Miami Beach, Florida
90th	1971	August 15-19	Boston, Massachusetts
91st	1972	August 13-17	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
92nd	1973	August 5-9	Palm Springs, California
93rd	1974	August 18-21	Bretton Woods, New Hampshire
94th	1975	August 10-14	Rochester, New York
95th	1976	August 15-19	Columbus, Ohio
96th	1977	August 14-18	Des Moines, Iowa
97th	1978	August 13-17	Grand Rapids, Michigan
98th	1979	August 12-16	Hartford, Connecticut
99th	1980	August 17-21	Richmond, Virginia
100th	1981	August 9-13	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
101st	1982	August 15-18	Providence, Rhode Island
102nd	1983	August 14-18	Portland, Maine
103rd	1984	August 12-16	Akron, Ohio
104th	1985	August 10-15	Wilmington, Delaware
105th	1986	August 11-13	Lexington, Kentucky
106th	1987	August 9-12	Buffalo, New York
107th	1988	August 14-17	Lansing, Michigan
108th	1989	August 13-18	Stamford, Connecticut
109th	1990	August 12-15	Des Moines, Iowa
110th	1991	August 11-14	Indianapolis, Indiana
111st	1992	August 13-17	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
112th	1993	August 13-15	Portland, Maine
113th	1994	August 11-14	Lansing, Michigan
114th	1995	August 10-13	Columbus, Ohio

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National Encampments of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

No.	***Year***	***Dates***	***Location***
115th	1996	August 8-11	Columbus, Ohio
116th	1997	August 7-10	Utica, New York
117th	1998	August 6-9	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
118th	1999	August 19-22	Indianapolis, Indiana
119th	2000	August 17-20	Lansing, Michigan
120th	2001	August 9-12	Springfield, Missouri
121st	2002	August 8-10	Springfield, Illinois
122nd	2003	August 7-9	Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky
123rd	2004	August 12-15	Cedar Rapids, Iowa
124th	2005	August 10-13	Nashua, New Hampshire
125th	2006	August 9-12	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
126th	2007	August 9-12	St. Louis, Missouri
127th	2008	August 7-10	Peabody, Massachusetts
128th	2009	August 13-16	Louisville, Kentucky
129th	2010	August 12-15	Overland Park, Kansas
130th	2011	August 11-14	Reston, Virginia
131st	2012	August 9-12	Los Angeles, California
132nd	2013	August 9-12	Brookfield, Wisconsin
133rd	2014	August 14-17	Marietta, Georgia
134th	2015	August 19-23	Richmond, Virginia
135th	2016	August 11-14	Springfield, Illinois
136th	2017	August 10-13	Lansing, Michigan
137th	2018	August 9-12	Framingham, Massachusetts
138th	2019	August 8-11	Independence, Ohio
139th	2020	October 24	Virtual (Atlanta, Georgia)
140th	2021	August 5-7	St. Louis, Missouri
141st	2022	August 11-13	Grand Rapids, Michigan
142nd	2023	August 3-5	Nashua, New Hampshire
143rd	2024	August 1-4	Lexington, Kentucky
144th	2025	August 7-10	Houston, Texas

---------- **END OF 2025 PROCEEDINGS REPORT** ----------

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