

# **National Patriotic Instructors Page January 2012**

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### **A New Beginning: A New Year**

Perhaps it is all nature that allows us to see each new year as a fresh start, a new beginning. A new page to our lives, a new start to rededicate ourselves to the things we believe in. In The SUVCW we can reexamine and ponder what it is that makes us belong to our great organization. The courage and bravery of common citizens called to a higher purpose than themselves to help save our Union is a quality we all look at and admire with great respect. After a Century and a half, we study what they did and how they did it. From Fort Sumter in 1861 to Appomattox Courthouse in 1865, we are mesmerized by the the individual, Famous and not, who decided the fate of our United States. As we enter 2012, The second year of The American Civil War Sesquicentennial,

We, the descendants of "Our" Union Defenders" can pledge ourselves to do more, to set an example of remembrance of their sacrifice to all we know. Talk about The Union and the Civil War to all you know! Tell family members, friends about Grant ,Sherman, Hancock, Meade,etc. Talk to them about your Civil War Ancestor., perhaps a little less known, but just as important. If we can pass on to others the stories and Histories of men and Women who helped shape and save our Union, we will at least be able to honor their memories and sacrifices by perpetuating their deeds.

Talk to Students, seniors, and all who will listen about The People of The Union who gave us what we have today. As President Abraham Lincoln spoke in his Inaugural Address of 1861, "The Mystic Chords of Memory, stretching from every Battlefield, and every patriot grave, to every living heart and hearthstone,all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature." Wise and prophetic words from our Greatest President. Words for us all to to remember and live by. May it always be so.