

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

National Council of Administration Meeting Minutes November 20, 2011 Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

The Council of Administration meeting was opened by Commander-in-Chief Donald Palmer at 8:03 AM. Chaplain Kowolski provided a moment of thought and prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. CinC Palmer thanked everyone for the support he was given during the Remembrance Day weekend.

The National Secretary called the roll and recorded the following members of the Council of Administration and Guests as present:

Voting Members Present:

Commander-in-Chief D. Donald D. Palmer Jr.	Council Member Steve Hammond
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Perley E. Mellor	Council Member Robert M. Petrovic
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Ken L. Freshley	Council Member Don Martin
National Secretary Eugene G. Mortorff	Council Member Tad D. Campbell
National Treasurer Richard D. Orr	Council Member William C. Vieira
National Quartermaster Danny Wheeler	

* PCinC Brad Schall was not present, but excused by the CinC.

Non-Voting Members Present:

Washington DC Rep. Andrew M. Johnson (PCinC)	Nat. Counselor James B. Pahl (PCinC)
Banner Editor Stephen A. Michaels (PCinC)	Exec. Director David W. Demmy Sr.
PCinC Elmer Atkinson	PCinC Charles Kuhn

Guests of the Council of Administration:

Jerome Kowalski, National Chaplain	Mark Day, Chesapeake Dept JVCdr
Don Shaw, Chief-of-Staff	Bruce D. Frail, Graves Registration
Ed Norris, Battle Flag Preservation	

PCinC Pahl reported that PCinC Loomis has Lung Cancer and is expected to only live up to six months. He is standing in need of our prayers and Brother Pahl will keep us posted.

- Brother Mark Day gave a short presentation concerning a camp request for producing a medal that would only be used within the Camp. The policy has been that a Camp does not have to request a Merchandise License in this case. However, the issue he brought up was that in most cases the vendor keeps "owns" the dies made to manufacture. Is there a copyright conflict in this? The company holds them in "trust," but they would still own them. PCinC Pahl asked if we should have a written policy. Should "copyright" by symbol, year and holder, be included on the product someplace? A lively discussion followed concerning whether there is a need for including copyright information on the actual medal (i.e. the CR symbol or the word "copyright.") There was general (not unanimous) agreement that it's ok to produce the medal for

camp use only without a license, but in the future, copyright info must be included on all products produced with SUVCW owned names, symbols etc. CinC Palmer referred to the Programs and Policy committee.

- Brother Freshley gave an update on the completion of encampment Proceedings. There now are only two years we do not have, 1993 and 1990. Brother Freshley recommends we do a General Info letter/page (Results of Elections and Installation of Officers) and submit it in place of the missing Proceedings. He indicated that some years are on the small booklet format and it will take a while to get them scanned. The 2011 Proceedings should be completed and printed by the end of 2011.

There have been 61 online applications. The youngest was age 15 and the oldest age 86. The average age was 56.

There have been over seventeen million hits on website from August 2010 through August 2011.

There was a discussion on how unwieldy it has become to add the recent, additional, items listed on the Quartermaster Store order form. It is becoming harder to get them onto the website. Danny Wheeler complained about how large the order form has become (4 pages).

National Treasurer Richard Orr received a check for \$60 for the National Website hosting websites for other SUVCW and Allied Order groups. We have not received the payment for hosting these pages for more than two years. There are many more groups being hosted than are paying for this service. Brother Freshley will come up with a new plan on this problem. One problem was that we did not invoice these other groups that we are hosting. The plan will include an adjustment to the program that will include sending regular bills to those groups. A question was also raised as to why we are not charging MOLLUS for their space.

- National Quartermaster Danny Wheeler had a small addition for his submitted Quartermaster's report. He recommends sending a letter to the owner of Battlefield Fries operating on Steinwehr Avenue in Gettysburg thanking them for allowing our Quartermaster to set up a merchandise table for at no charge and sharing his city license. Gettysburg Fries also invited us to do the same next year. The Secretary will contact the proprietor (Sam something) and send a letter containing our thanks. (Glen Knight put us onto him).

- Civil War Memorials Officer Report, with supplemental package was provided at the meeting. Bruce Bugereit has resigned the position. Walt Busch has agreed to take over that position and will look into restructuring the program to rely more on the departments, rather than the National organization, to manage the program. (Similar to what he did for the Patriotic Program over the last few years.) CinC Palmer referred recommendations put forth in the report to the Programs and Policies committee for review and action.

- The Canadian Monument committee is currently not a standing committee, and the committee believes they should be, and requests it. Discussion ensued regarding that there is already a defined ending date prescribed for this committee in the order that created it. It is a one year after the monument is completed.

Brother Orr, seconded by Brother Hammond, moved to table. Motion passed.

Chief Of Staff Don Shaw commented on how difficult it is to communicate with the Departments. Many Department websites are out-of-date, have little content, and/or the information is incorrect. CinC Palmer will secure a list of such websites sites and will contact each Department Commander concerning this problem.

- SVCinC Mellor will start putting the new National Organization mailing address onto new forms in order to hasten the closing of the Post Office Box. He then reviewed the recommended changes to forms provided in his packet (Forms: 9, 27(a), 30, 35, 49, 51, 61, Scholarship Application. Actions taken at the meeting:

FORMs 27(a) and Form 35:

- Reinstatement fee should NOT be on the Form 27(a) & Form 35 as it is already on Form 30.
- The lines for New Brothers is confusing and duplicates information received on Form 30. This needs to only reflect those new Brothers being submitted with the report, not those submitted during the year.

FORM 61:

- Change Address from Bruce Butgereit to Walt Busch.
- SUVCW Auxiliary should be included in the Affiliation Section.
- Place Affiliates in the proper order of precedence.

SCHOLARSHIP FORM:

- Change wording for female applicants to: "Female applicants must be a current member or associate of one of the following organizations:" Then, strike: "the Daughter or Grand Daughter of a current Member or Associate of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and a"

(The changes above to the Scholarship Form were ruled to be out-of-order by CinC Palmer on November 27, 2011 due to the fact that the current wording on the Scholarship Application Form was enacted by a National Encampment and the Council of Administration cannot overturn an action of a National encampment.)

FORM 9:

- Discussed Form 9, Life Member Application. Suggestion to clarify relationship to read: Ancestor's relationship to applicant.

Brother Orr, seconded by Brother Wheeler, moved to instruct the committee to make the recommended changes as amended by the Council of Administration. PASSED

There was a break at: 10:00 Reconvened at: 10:07

- The 2011 National Encampment at Reston, VA requested a Ladies Medal (a handout was provided) be created for presentation to members of the Allied Orders who meet the criteria to be determined. Senior Vice Commander, Department of Georgia Brian Pierson provided a proposal

for the Ladies Appreciation Medal. Discussion ensued, including the possibility of awarding to non-allied order members. Also adopting a neck-ribbon instead of a badge format and other methods to reduce the size/weight of the award should be considered. The recommendation of the Programs & Policies Committee is to approve the proposal.

Brother Mellor, seconded by Brother Wheeler, moved to approve the proposal with amendments:

- **Brother Orr, seconded by Brother Wheeler, amendment for a neck ribbon instead of a badge.**
- **Brother Vieira, seconded by Brother Wheeler, amendment to adopt the top design without the red/white/blue dots.**
- **Brother Martin, with multiple seconds, amendment to use a gold, or red, ribbon to denote Department Award or National Award of the Medal, and that the CinC can make up to 5 awards of the medal during their administration and Department Commanders can make up to three awards of the medal during their administration.**
- **Brother Wheeler, seconded by Brother Vieira, amendment to strike the oak leaf cluster and that an awardee may only receive one award by National and one award by Department.**

Brother Orr, seconded by Brother Mellor, made a substitute motion to approve the medal design without the dots, adding copyright info, and suspended from a neck ribbon of the Department or National color and refer to the Programs and Policy committee to complete work on the certificate and award criteria for presentation at the next Council of Administration meeting. Substitute motion was accepted by Brothers Mellor and Wheeler. Substitution Motion Passed with one dissent (CofA Member Steve Hammond)

Treasurer's Report by Brother Richard Orr:

- Reviewed the Treasurer's Report.

Motion by Brother Orr, seconded by Brother Wheeler, to make our donation to the Cathedral of Pines before the end of December in place of the 100 we normally give on Memorial Day. Motion Passed.

- It costs us 11 cents apiece to make the SUVCW wooden coins and we have 3,400 of them. Brother Orr suggested we provide each Department with 10 (Gratis) for each camp in the Department (Charged to the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Fund to Promote the Order) to give out and promote the order.

Brother Orr, seconded by Brother Wheeler, moved to initially provide 10 coins per camp, plus 10 for the Department, paid for out of the Senior Vice CinC's fund to give out and promote the Order. A friendly amendment by Brother Vieira, seconded by Brother Campbell, that the JVCINC provide criteria and intention of the program, was accepted by Brother Orr. Motion Passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- Work is continuing on the Life membership reimbursement program, and continuation of the life member program. The Committee will have a proposal for the Springfield CofA meeting.

- CinC Palmer's National Membership Survey Results: Two sets were sent out, one at the National Encampment in Reston and the other for Camps to respond to individually. A preliminary report was sent out by Email. We could have up to about 300 responses so far. Results were consistent between the National Encampment group and the Local Camp group, except for charitable and GAR Records. They didn't know about, or understand, those programs. CinC Palmer will provide a summary of the surveys and send the useful information to the different committees and officers dealing with those areas.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Allied Orders Leadership Meetings: CinC Palmer discussed the importance of coming together with the Allied orders, especially at times when they are meeting in the same locality. Can we come into a similar relationship status that our Confederate cousins have with other hereditary organizations. Brother Palmer believes that if we can build better relationships with the ladies, it would help things in the long run. The recent survey indicates a desire for our organization to work closer with the Allied Orders. He discussed his meeting with them in Reston, Virginia where the focus was on:

- Communications in general, and communications breakdowns in Key programs (i.e. Sesquicentennial Events Program – some didn't know what it was.)
- Youth Programs – Junior Programs. Some don't have them. Kids who are involved at a young age, tend to come back when they are older and through college. Commander-in-Chief Palmer established a special committee chaired by PDC Michael Bennett to investigate options for expanding our Juniors program.
- 2016 National Encampment, trying to have ALL allied orders together. At this point, the organizations, including the Women's Relief Corps, are positive towards this. Great feedback was received from the ladies.
- MOLLUS will be discussing the possibility of joining us for the 2016 Encampment also.

VISION 20/20 Vision Program: We are ready to move on to the next phase (Membership surveys were the first phase.) Hopefully we will have a draft of the program in place for the Springfield CofA meeting and then have the full program ready for the Los Angeles National Encampment.

CinC Palmer went over the schedule for National Officers attending Department Encampments. Additions and changes were made as necessary.

Going Around Room:

- CofA Member Steve Hammond Presented a mint-condition program from the 1980 Remembrance Day Program. The program was given to Executive Director Demmy who will take it back to Harrisburg

- Is there a way to posthumously reinstate a member whose camp was physically destroyed before the camp could do their annual report? This request is made so he can be buried as a member (camp did not renew on time because of the disaster.) The Camp did renew late, but the

member died before the renewal was complete. The request is to reinstate him so he can have burial rites. Brother Vieira, seconded by Brother Wheeler, moved to allow this member to be considered a member and be eligible to receive the burial rites. Motion withdrawn. It was decided that in as much as the camp was suspended and the Dept Commander has the power to issue a transfer card in this situation, that the DC issue a transfer card which predates the death of the Brother. The transfer card keeps him a member of the Order for 1 year if he does not transfer to another camp. Thus he was a member at the time of his death and is eligible for SUVCW burial rites.

Brother Petrovic discussed the Tony Fry sculpture. Six-foot tall bronze case of a Union Soldier in New York. The commission was \$25,000, but Mr. Fry can provide them on order for \$8,500. A great opportunity to get a quality statue at a very low price. Contact Brother Bob Petrovic for more information.

- Brother Tad Campbell made a “Welcome to California” presentation.
 - Brother Orr mentioned that train service is already booked already for California.
 - Don Shaw: Running for Council of Administration in California.
 - Thank you for prayers – Steve Michael
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- Brother Hammond stated that he is attempting to get headstones on two unmarked graves of victims of the Washington Arsenal Explosion in 1864. The Secretary of War at that time ordered the War Department to pay all expenses for the burial of these women, but their graves were never marked. He attempted over two years ago to get headstones for the graves, but he has not received any response from the VA. He plans to take this to the next level (possibly going to a Congressman) and if he does, he may need a letter of support from the Order.

With no further business to come before the Council, Commander-in-Chief Palmer asked National Chaplain Jerome Kowalski to provide a closing prayer and subsequently adjourned the meeting at 12:00 Noon.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Eugene G. Mortorff, DC, National Secretary, SUVCW