

Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War

Office of the Commander-in-Chief

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General Order #17

Series 2007 – 2008

5 May 2008

Brothers,

1. On 5 May, 1868 General John A. Logan, Commander in Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, published General Order #11 “establishing the 30 th day of May for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in the defense of their Country during the late rebellion, and who’s bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet church yard in the land.” Today commemorates the 140 th anniversary of the signing of this magnificent piece of work.
2. This day was known as Decoration Day. Its name was changed to Memorial Day and the observance was to honor all who gave their lives in defense of this Nation during time of war.
3. We as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War have a sacred trust to uphold and observe this sacred day. We are the descendants of Union Soldiers, Sailors and Revenue Cutter Servicemen who preserved this Nation from certain destruction during this critical time in American history. Their blood courses through our veins. We are the legal and binding heirs to their legacy. We are sworn to uphold this day sacred to their sacrifice and deeds.
4. All Camps are strongly encouraged to participate in some form of appropriate observance of this day that we now call Memorial Day.

So ordered this 5th day of May, 2008;

Charles E. Kuhn, Jr.
Commander in Chief
National Order, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Donald Palmer
Secretary
National Order, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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