

**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
General Orders No. 3  
Series 1995/1996  
David R. Medert, Commander-in-Chief  
16 Shawnee Drive  
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601-1148**

To My National Staff, the Departments and Camps, and Brothers and Sisters of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic:

The year 1995 has become history. It has been an exceptionally good year for the SUVCW. The last administration under Keith G. Harrison did an outstanding job of launching our Order into the 21st century. All of the Brothers of Keith's administration are to be commended!

This administration is dedicated to the same goals! We must never again allow ourselves to become stagnated. At our peak, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War had a membership of 225,000 Brothers. Our ancestors in the Grand Army of the Republic organized us to pick up the Banner and carry on their important work when the last Union Veteran was called to the Grand Army above. We cannot let them down! We have excellent people on board who are doing fine work.

RECRUITMENT, RETENTION OF MEMBERS and COMMUNICATION with our membership are the three goals that we must maintain for the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to grow and prosper.

We must elect Brothers at the National, Department and Camp levels who want to work - not just hold a title. New officers means new ideas. Don't keep people in office too long. Give someone else the chance to pick up and advance our Banner.

This year we have established a National Legal Staff through the appointment of National Aides to assist the office of the National Counselor. Any Brother who is an attorney is invited to join our staff - contact me for an appointment.

Our Special National Committee on Communications and Technology, under the chairmanship of Brother Glenn Knight, has been doing an outstanding job of establishing a presence for the SUVCW in cyberspace.

We are doing research to establish a National Member Number which has many possibilities for us.

We now have established four awards for recruiting new members.

We are very near to establishing several new Departments. I urge all Brothers who are interested in doing this to make this a No. 1 priority. I would like to have the honor of installing the new Departments and their officers. Let's do it!

Another important goal is to develop a closer relationship with our Sister Orders of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic. We are Brothers and Sisters in our patriotic endeavors and we should strive to work together in harmony!

One of my strongest desires is to see a close relationship with our brethren in the Sons of Confederate Veterans. We all share similar goals and I would like to see another "Hands Across the Wall" relationship with our Confederate Compatriots!

Much more could be said. I wish to thank all of you for your work and dedication to our beloved Order. The only time that you need to look back over your shoulder is to reassure yourself that you are out in front!

God Bless all of you and God Bless the SUVCW!

By Order of:  
David R. Medert  
Commander-in-Chief

Attest:  
David F. Wallace  
National Secretary

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