

THE BANNER

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ETERNALLY VIGILANT

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2008





Photo at left: This Junior developed an early interest in the Civil War, thanks to his father. Who is he Really? Turn to page 13 to find out and discover other Juniors of distinction.

Inside The Banner



THE BANNER

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WELCOME NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Br. David W. Demmy, Sr. is the SUVCW's new paid staff officer, replacing PDC Lee Walters, who retired on September 30th. He's a retired research analyst from the PA Dept. of Revenue and served in both the US Coast Guard, the US Army, National Guard and Reserve. He and his wife Marilyn have three children.

Br. Demmy joined Harrisburg's Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp 15 in February 1999 and has served as Council member, Chaplain, newsletter editor and events organizer. He now serves as Camp Treasurer. He's descended from Pvt. David Demmy, Co. C, 127th PA Vol. Inf.

PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

Winter	Deadline—October 15
Spring	Deadline—January 15
Summer	Deadline—April 15
Autumn	Deadline—August 15

On the Cover: A soldier atop the 96th Pennsylvania monument watches over the field at Gettysburg. He reminds us not only of Union sacrifices, but of the constant vigilance needed in preserving our American heritage. The monument was sculpted by August Zeller from Quincy granite and dedicated June 21, 1888. It's located on Wheatfield Road, north of Little Round Top.



**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
GENERAL ORDERS SERIES 2008-2009**

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

DAVID V. MEDERT
72 Limestone Blvd.
Chillicothe, OH 45601
cinc@suvcw.org

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2

1. It has come to my attention that hand written reports and forms sent to the Exec. Dir., Nat. Treasurer, and Nat. Sec. are becoming too difficult to transcribe. This has resulted in inaccurate addresses, illegible names for Charters, illegible names of Officers for Camps and Departments, etc.

2. Therefore, in order to better interpret submitted forms, all reports and forms (less membership applications) submitted to the Nat. HQ shall be typewritten effective immediately. This can be accomplished by completing the forms online, printing a copy for file and printing another copy to be forwarded to the appropriate Nat. Officer. Camps or Departments that are unable to fill in the form online may download the form and fill in the appropriate information on a typewriter. Forms submitted as handwritten are no longer acceptable and will be returned to the Camp or Dept. to be resubmitted in accordance with this General Order.

So ordered this 1st Day of December 2008.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 3

Effective immediately, Br. Garry Brewer of the Dept. of Colorado is hereby appointed as the Camp and Department-At-Large Coordinator. Br. Brewer's contact information is as follows:

Garry Brewer
2722 Rincon Drive
Grand Junction, CO 81503
brewer62@bresnan.net
970-241-5842

If you are aware of Brothers wanting to form a Camp outside an existing Department's jurisdiction, please have them contact Br. Brewer.

Ordered this 7th Day of December 2008.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 4

1. As this issue of the Banner will be received after the holidays, I hope that all of you and your families had a blessed Christmas and safe New Year. It is hard to believe that 2008 has come and gone so quickly. As we enter the New Year, we will be faced with many challenges, both economically and within the Order. It is our duty as Sons

of Union Veterans of the Civil War to meet these challenges head on and to forge through them always remembering to assist others that are experiencing difficulty. This was one of the principles on which our Order was founded and it is incumbent upon us to carry on those principles.

2. I want to thank all the Brothers and Sisters of the Allied Orders who participated in the 52nd Ann. Remembrance Day ceremonies. It was a bitterly cold day with high winds and I know many of us had numb fingers and toes. Yet participation in the parade and ceremonies were high again this year. Following the parade, some of us joined our Confederate cousins at "The Wall" and participated with them in their ceremonies. They expressed a desire to once again join forces at the Wall for a joint ceremony. Hopefully this will come to fruition.

3. The Council Of Admin. held a very productive meeting in Gettysburg, of which you will read further on in this issue. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some very important items that did arise and which may need further explanation.

4. For many years, we have had problems with new members not receiving their copy of the Banner and when the Executive Director or Nat. Sec. have been queried regarding new member information, have discovered either the address is wrong or the member is not listed. The majority of the time the reason this occurs is the E.D. or Secretary has been unable to read the handwriting on the forms being submitted to them and enters the information as they are able to decipher them. If a street address or zip code is entered incorrectly, that member will not receive their Banner. Additionally, if a name is misspelled and you query a member's status, more than likely they will not appear as members of the Order. It was for this reason that I issued General Order 2 requiring all forms submitted to National be typed. If Camp and Dept. Secretaries do not have access to a computer in their home, other members of the Camp/Dept. should be willing to lend a hand in submitting these forms. It is acceptable to have "Assistant" secretaries at the Dept. and Camp levels to aid the secretary in the discharge of their duties and this would be one of them. I do believe you will find that by complying with this General Order, members will begin receiving their Banners.

5. Along those lines, the Program and Policy Comm. and the Nat. Webmaster are working diligently to develop an online tool which will be used to submit address changes of our members more rapidly. This tool will not replace Form 30, but is to be used to give the Executive Director a "heads up" of an address change. More information will be disseminated on this once it is completed.

(Continued on page 8)

MIRACLE ON STEINWEHR AVENUE

by Pvt. Jim Leaman - 11th PA Vol. Fife & Drum Corps

Remembrance Day 2008 began much as it had each year with the mustering and formation of the parade. Our unit, Gettysburg's 11th PA Vol. Fife & Drum Corps, formed near the front of the parade. All was going as expected, however, that was about to change.

We were forming behind the SUVCW and were asked to move up in the formation, as the band that normally marched with the SUVCW officers was late and they wanted to be sure there was a band to march with them. We moved up to our new position and worked out a routine, alternating songs with the late arriving brass band, now positioned behind us.

The parade began and we started our march through Gettysburg, just as we had done for the last 30 or so years. We made a half-left turn onto Steinwehr Ave. and as we approached Queen St., we were asked to slow down to a 'half-step.'

Sgt. David Swisher is our unit leader, snare drummer, and marches immediately in front of me. As bass drummer, I key on his verbal and visual signals while marching. Without warning, Dave stopped in his tracks and took two steps backward, hitting the front of my bass drum. I turned to my left, caught him with my right arm and got him down onto the street. It was evident that he had just suffered a major heart attack.

Within seconds, from the crowd of bystanders, emerged three people who immediately administered CPR. They were strangers to Dave and to each other, but they worked together as if they had practiced doing this for years.

We were near the beginning of the parade and so, were close to the lead Gettysburg Police car. In this car was a brand new portable AED (automated external defibrillator)...so new that the police officer was not yet trained in its use.

Again, out of the crowd, emerged a man who was trained to use this particular model of lifesaving equipment. The man using the AED yelled those terrifying words, "CLEAR!" The shock delivered through Dave's chest was powerful, but not powerful enough to start Dave's heart. This time the words that were yelled cut through me like a knife, "Get the AED ready again. He's still coded." I knew what those words meant and I could see flat lines on the AED output device.

"CLEAR!" was the shout again, as a second jolt ripped across Dave's chest. By this time, the ambulance arrived and the Gettysburg Hospital paramedics were on site. "He's still coded. Let's go again." The paramedics were now working directly with the current pick-up team of emergency respondents.



Drummer Sgt. Dave Swisher (center), as he appeared one block before he was stricken.

I mustered our unit together on the curb and each focused on the activity in the middle of Steinwehr Avenue. We stood together watching and praying for our fallen leader. After a third jolt was administered, Dave was placed on a gurney and wheeled to the ambulance. I saw the rise of Dave's chest as he took in oxygen and the paramedic yelled, "He's got a heartbeat. He's got respiration."

As the ambulance door closed, SUVCW Nat. Chaplain Jerry Kowalski approached me and

asked if he could offer a prayer for Dave and our unit. The ambulance left for the hospital and we all focused on the words of supplication and comfort that Jerry had for our unit.

Within 24 hours, we learned that Dave survived the heart attack and within 48 hours, he underwent emergency open-heart surgery at the Hershey Medical Center. The doctors said that if it weren't for the response team's quick and professional action, Dave certainly would not have survived. The damage to his heart was minimized.

I can see the logistics of this entire incident as nothing short of a miracle. First, we were moved up to the front of the parade, placing us in front of bystanders who were trained to respond in perfect unison and perform the necessary steps to save Dave's life. We were closer to the lead police vehicle, containing the lifesaving AED unit. It was attached to Dave and operating within minutes after he went down. Again, the AED was operated by a bystander that just happened to be at the right place at the right time, and just happened to be trained on this piece of equipment. The incident happened just two blocks from the hospital and their professional paramedic staff quickly attended to Dave. Finally, Chap. Kowalski was exactly in the best position to provide much needed prayer for Dave and our unit.

God has a plan for Dave, as He has a plan for us all. Anyone who was there will readily tell you that this Remembrance Day, there was a true miracle on Steinwehr Avenue.



COMMEMORATING

LINCOLN'S SPEECH REMEMBERED IN THE SOUTHEAST

by Br. Phillip R. Hinman

Remembrance Day continues to be observed annually by Florida's SUVCW. This year's ceremony at Mount Peace Cemetery, St. Cloud, was hosted by Lucius L. Mitchell Camp 4 on November 16th. The city of St. Cloud was founded by Union veterans and is known as the "Soldier City." St. Cloud's mayor and city council members along with members of Florida's Camps participated in this event. Pastor M. Butler, president of the St. Cloud Ministerial Association gave the invocation.

We were delighted to have the Central Florida Children's Home Choir lead us in the National Anthem and later serenaded us with a medley of patriotic songs. Lincoln impersonator, Camp 4's Sec./Tres. C.D. "Skip" Whitlam's rendition of Lincoln's train ride from Washington D.C. to Gettysburg. Skip's narrative was from a book by Geoffrey Perret and was the highlight of the day. The Allied Orders were given an opportunity to tell how each has historically commemorated Remembrance Day. Union and Confederate rifle squads fired a salute at their respective soldier's gravesites. Camps 3 and 4 and Amzi B. Harmon, SVR, were available to answer questions from schoolchildren and other attendees.

At the conclusion of the event, the senior members of the Union and Confederate came forward and extended their hands of friendship to each other and seal the commitment to work together to heal our nation.



(L to R): Camp 4's Buck Custer (CC Harmon Co. SVR), C.D. "Skip" Whitlam as Abe Lincoln, CC Phil Hinman (7th MD AG), ASUVCW Sr. Carolyn Hinman, Camp 8 CC Bob Chambers, and SVC Mike Farrell (FL Dept. Sec/Treas.)

IN THE NORTHWEST

by Randy Fletcher, Col. Edward D. Baker Camp 6

Like our brothers on the east coast, Oregon's SUVCW held this year's commemoration at Lone Fir Cemetery in Portland. Clear skies and crisp autumn weather greeted approximately fifty spectators who were treated to opening music by the Third Brigade Band of the Northwest Civil War Council. The ceremonial color and rifle squad was provided by Company B, 71st PA Inf., SVR. SVR Bugler Dan Miller played Taps. Speakers included Frank Krone of Portland State University's Civil War Round Table, Mike Burton of the Oregon Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, and Camp 6 Commander Tony Pasillas. The highlight of the event was the recitation of the Gettysburg Address by Lincoln impressionist and playwright Steven Holgate. Oregon's Remembrance Day commemoration was started three years ago by Camp 6 and has been organized each year by Br. Steve Betschart. This year's event was co-sponsored by Camp 6 with Portland State's Friends of History and Civil War Round Table; the Oregon Lincoln Bicentennial Commission; and Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery. Also participating were members of the Louis Renninger Camp and the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The event received prominent coverage in *The Oregonian* newspaper.



Important Abraham Lincoln Dates

February 12, 1809	Born near Hodgeville, KY—son of Thomas Lincoln & Nancy Hanks	April 15, 1865	Died at 7:22 am in Peterson House across from Ford's Theatre
February 27, 1860	Cooper union Address in New York City	April 16, 1862	Signed act, freeing slaves in District of Columbia
March 1, 1830	Moved from Indiana to Central Illinois	April 21, 1832	Elected captain of Illinois Militia in the Black Hawk War
March 1, 1837	Admitted to the Bar & became law partner with Maj. John T. Stuart	May 4, 1865	Buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, IL
March 4, 1861	Inaugurated as President	May 10, 1861	Proclaimed martial law
March 4, 1865	Second inauguration as President	May 18, 1860	Nominated for Presidency in Chicago
April 14, 1865	Shot by Booth at Ford's Theatre, Washington, D.C.		

THE LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL

LINCOLN'S ANNUAL BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE

The U.S. Congress created the Lincoln Monument Association in March 1867. In 1901, West Potomac Park, located at the end of the National Mall, was selected as the site for the memorial to the 16th President. In 1911, legislation was passed, authorizing funds for constructing the monument. On February 12, 1914, the 105th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, the ground breaking ceremony for the new memorial took place. Daniel Chester French was commissioned as sculptor of the seated Lincoln, and Henry Bacon was chosen as architect of the marble monument.

The cornerstone was laid in 1915, and the memorial was dedicated on Decoration Day, May 30, 1922, by William Howard Taft, who also served as chairman of the Lincoln Memorial commission. Robert Todd Lincoln, son of the late president, was among the notables who attended the ceremony.

The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) was founded by commissioned officers of the Union Forces on the day President Lincoln's death on April 15, 1865. President Harding requested that the Loyal Legion arrange the dedication ceremony.

Following the dedication, members of the loyal Legion resolved to commemorate the anniversary of Lincoln's birth each year at the memorial, commencing on February 12, 1923. the Lincoln Birthday National Commemorative Committee (LBNCC), formed in 1981, together with the Military District of Washington and the National Park Service, continues this tradition.

For more information on this year's program, visit <http://www.suvcw.org/mollus/oldsave/LincolnBD2009.pdf>

ELUDING HISTORY

by PCinC George L. Cashman

Abraham Lincoln once said, "We cannot escape history," but somehow, and with seemingly little effort, we do manage to escape a knowledge of it. One has but to visit any of our historic sites, and eavesdrop on the conversations and statements heard there, to be convinced that we can and do manage to escape a knowledge of history.

It is not only the average member of John Q Public who has, quite frequently displayed a woeful lack of knowledge and understanding of history, but many of our historians, or those who are paid to be historians, are prone, at times, to exhibit little knowledge in historical accuracy. Even the great Sandburg was not always concerned with historic fact.

Recently a gentleman called on me for the purpose of discussing Abraham Lincoln. He was bent upon obtaining material for the writing of a Lincoln article for a national magazine. During our conversation, he read the following excerpt taken from a book written by a prominent educator and author, and asked me to comment on it. This is the excerpt: "Lincoln was born to a Kentucky family of poor whites. They lived barely above the subsistence level in a crude, dirt-floored log cabin in which a bath was hardly possible during the winter months. Lincoln's mother, who died in his youth, was an illegitimate child and his father was essentially illiterate." That statement simply gives substance to my contention above.

In recent years, radio and television have presented sketches of what is termed, Lincoln history. In one of these presentations I recall the following utterly ridiculous statement, "...Lincoln visited the grave of his mother in Ohio." In another, "During the twilight hours, Lincoln and Ann Rutledge strolled hand in hand along the banks of the Mississippi River." There are a number of others that are equally as far off the mark and equally lacking in historical knowledge.

We recognize that there are scores of myths concerning Lincoln. Most of them have been given authenticity by historians who have not bothered to indulge themselves in proper research. Because they did not trouble to dig deep enough, some of these fables are honest mistakes, made with no intention to deceive. With some, however, we find that the writer has taken a snake-eye view of history, which we deplore. A competent historian is, above all else, a seeker of truth. As Lincoln once said, "History is not history unless it is the truth."

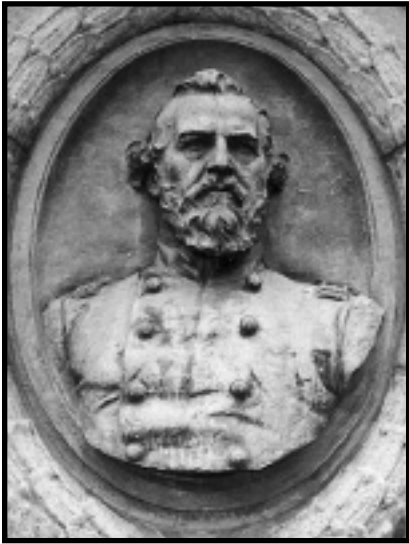
The above was first published in the April 1969 issue of the Banner. PCinC Cashman was an eminent Lincoln scholar and collector, who served as custodian of the Lincoln Tomb for over 25 years.

Read more about him at <http://www.suvcw.org/pcinc/cashman.htm>





CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



How important is a founder to an organization? What honors do we give to a person who starts a movement?

This April 18th, 2009, the Sons of Union Veterans – the sons of the members of the Grand Army of the Republic will have an opportunity to honor Dr. Benjamin Stephenson following the luncheon for the Lincoln Death Day Ceremonies. It is the perfect way to finish the day and honor the man who conceived the idea of a national, state and local organization to help veterans and their families after the Civil War. He was not a wealthy man and could not afford to accept the position of Commander-in-Chief because that was not a paid position. He rather accepted the post of Adjutant General – a paid position. He received a total of \$1,637.56 during his tenure, against bills twice that amount. He was a man of honor and integrity, and deserves to be honored. Come to the memorial at the Petersburg Cemetery on April 18th for a 3 pm service. You will be glad you did. Details and directions can be found on our website.

CHAPLAIN JERRY KOWALSKI

(Continued from page 4)

6. Many Camps and Departments have expressed concerns that the checks they have submitted to the Nat. Quartermaster, E.D., and Nat. Treas. are taking too long to be deposited. The Nat. Treas. investigated this concern and discovered that from the time the check is "written" to the time it is received by the Nat. Treas. and deposited is approximately 21 days which is an excepted time frame. Therefore, prior to calling and requesting the status of your check, please verify that you have allowed ample time for checks to clear.

7. If you are requesting a subscription to the Banner, please submit your requests and fees to the E.D. not the Nat. Treas. He is the one that controls the mailing list and subscriptions.

8. The Nat. Officers are preparing to travel to the various Departments for their annual Encampments. Please submit your invites, with itineraries and addresses where the Encampment will be held as far in advance as possible in order for the Brother attending to prepare. Also, if you have an issue you wish us to address, please submit that concern early enough for us to investigate it properly.

9. As I have stated on numerous occasions, one of the biggest challenges before us is to retain our members. The JVCinC has reported a large increase in membership applications he has received through our Nat. website.

Many of you are setting up recruiting booths and presenting the Order to the public and your efforts are to be commended. It is evident we are able to recruit new members, but what are we doing to retain new and existing members? If you know of someone that intends on allowing their membership to lapse, call or better yet, visit them and ask them what can we do to retain them as members. Many times you will find that the reason a member elects to leave is because no one has contacted them. Keep in mind, they are Brothers and we are here to make them welcome and to get them involved. Not necessarily as officers of the Order, but rather as a member of the Order.

10. This year we are celebrating the birth of one of best presidents we have ever had. I again encourage everyone to commemorate Pres. Lincoln's birthday during February. Have an open dinner for the public to attend. Request someone in the Camp to give a talk about Pres. Lincoln. Display artifacts at the dinner for the public to see, especially articles and photographs of what your Camp/Dept. is doing for the good of the Order. This is an excellent recruiting opportunity.

In closing, wish all of you a very successful year and look forward to meeting you during your Encampments.

So ordered this 10th Day

of December 2008.
David V. Medert
Commander in Chief

Attest:
PDC Donald Palmer
National Secretary

Amendment to Autumn 2008 Banner Roster:

National History Committee - PDC Bob Wolz' cell phone number is (305) 294-9911

Fraternal Relations Committee - Br. Michael Virts' phone number is (301) 466-5803

I REMEMBER THE GAR

FROM THE REMINISCENCES OF PCINC RICHARD O. PARTINGTON

One of the figures I remember in my early days was Col. Samuel P. Town. At the time, he was an important member of the Grand Army and the last surviving member of the original membership of Post 2. As the other posts in Philadelphia were disbanded, the remaining members would affiliate with Post. 2. in 1938, there were only three GAR Posts left in the city: Posts 1, 2, and 10. All met in Post 2 Hall.

Col. Town had enlisted in the 20th PA Cavalry in January 1864 at age 18 and had fought under Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley Campaign, and with Grant at the close of the war in Petersburg. He had three



Col. Samuel P. Town

cousins serving in the 95th PA, a Philadelphia regiment. At the battle of Salem Heights the 95th had every second officer and man killed or wounded, ranking with the 20th Mass. as having the largest number of field and staff officers of any regiment killed or wounded. Among these were Col. Gustavus W. Town, who was killed and Maj. Thomas J. Town and Lt. Samuel H. Town, who were wounded. All three men were brothers.

Col. Town was elected Commander-in-Chief in 1931 at Des Moines, Iowa and presided at the 1932 Encampment in Springfield, Ill. One of the things I remember about Col. Town was his request that a hundred uniform members of the Penn. Brigade, SVR, be sent to Springfield as his escort. Money was raised and arrangements made to fulfill his request. In those days, the Reserves were usually quartered at the local armory. At National Encampments, I frequently paraded with John Runkle's Harrisburg Fife and Drum Corps. They were usually quartered at the local armory, although I never stayed there.

When I became old enough to join the Sons, I also joined the Reserves and was given a uniform and a rifle. Our sergeant was Don Lewis. On one occasion, he made arrangements for us to have a practice drill before Memorial Day in a schoolyard in Frankford.

I remember traveling by trolley and "EI" all the way from my home in southwest Philadelphia to Frankford, quite a distance at the time for a boy of 16, to practice drilling. In those days, the Reserves would hold an annual picnic at Willow Grove Park. The various companies would have drilling competition and the winning company would be presented with a plaque or cup.



*Military Order of the
Loyal Legion
of the United States*

Attention

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War:

Help us honor the service and sacrifices of your
Union Civil War Officer Ancestor

The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) was established on April 20, 1865. Currently, the MOLLUS has 21 State Commanderies nationwide. *Hereditary Membership* is available to direct male descendants (18 years and older) of a commissioned officer in the United States Army, Navy or Marines who served during the Civil War, or male descendants of a brother or sister of any such officer.

For additional membership information, visit the MOLLUS Web Site at:
<http://suvcw.org/mollus.htm>

or

Email Keith G. Harrison (SUVCW PCinC and MOLLUS SVCinC) at:
pcinc@prodigy.net

RARE GOLD COINS

- 1862 U.S. Civil War Gold \$1.00 Coin - \$230.00
(recovered from jewelry - some rim damage, but very nice overall)
- 1861 U.S. Civil War Gold \$2&1/2 Coin - \$330.00
- 1861 U.S. Civil War Gold \$2&1/2 Coin - \$1,260.00
(This is a **Rare** "Old Style Reverse" XF/40 -
Little neck & rim damage, but real nice overall)

* Buy all 3 and get a 6% discount

Prices include S&H and Insurance

Civil War "Silver" Coins Also Available - Send Self Addressed Envelope
to Receive an Entire List of Coins

Reply to: Max Riekse, P.O. Box 82, Fruitport, Michigan 49415



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING MINUTES

23 November 2008 - Gettysburg, PA

The meeting was opened by CinC David V. Medert at 8:01 am. Nat. Chaplain Jerome Kowalski offered the opening prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll of officers was called, with the following recorded as present:

CinC David V. Medert, SVCinC Leo F. Kennedy, JVCinC James R. Hanby, National Secretary Donald D. Palmer, Jr., National Treasurer Max L. Newman, National Quartermaster Danny L. Wheeler, Council Members Perley Mellor, Henry Shaw, D. Brad Schall, Robert Petrovic, Eric Schmincke, Immediate PCinC Charles E. Kuhn, Jr., Nat. Counselor PCinC Robert Grim, Wash., D.C. Representative PCinC Andrew Johnson, Banner Editor PCinC Stephen A. Michaels and Exec. Dir. David Demmy. Also present were PCinCs Charles W. Corfman, Elmer F. Atkinson, Richard D. Orr, George L. Powell, Donald E. Darby and James B. Pahl.

Guests included Nat. Chaplain Jerome Kowalski, Nat. Signals Off. Ken Freshley, RI DC Bill Vieira, and MD PDC Michael Beard.

CinC Dave Medert opened the meeting by discussing his wife's illness and the uncertainty that it will bring in the coming months. He alerted the Council that his plans and schedule may change at a moment's notice.

He then introduced David Demmy, who succeeded Lee Walters as the SUVCW Exec. Dir. Br. Demmy commented that he was honored to hold this position and that he had "big shoes" to fill.

Old Business

Timely deposit of funds. Nat. Treas. Newman has been tracking the checks he's received. On average, he has been holding checks for 35 days, which, in his opinion, was not significantly long. He also relayed information from an auditor that changing the process for depositing checks (i.e., granting deposit authority to other officers) will increase the complexity of the audits. The CinC recommended that we keep the current check deposit process for the time being. There were no objections.

Anti-virus software. Nat. Signals Officer and Webmaster Freshley discuss options for the computers recently purchased by the Nat. organization. He stated the need for both anti-virus and anti-spyware software and recommended either Norton 360 or Zone Admin Internet Security Sweep. PCinC Kuhn commented that he has Norton 360 and is not happy with it. PCinC Orr recommended Trend Micro. The CinC tasked the Comm. & Tech. Committee to make an official recommendation by 27 November. PCinC Kuhn moved; Nat. QM Wheeler seconded to allocate up to \$800 to purchase anti-virus/anti-spyware software. **Motion passed.**

Protection of SUVCW logos and emblems. Nat. Sec. Palmer noted that the Federal charter has language protecting our logos and emblems. In discussions with a patent attorney, additional protection would require the use

of trademark language in the charter, or the filing trademark paperwork for each logo/emblem/badge requiring additional protection. The Boy Scouts are also a Title 36 corp. and their charter has similar language. However, given the market for Boy Scout merchandise, they have filed for a large number of trademarks to provide the necessary protection. The cost for initial trademark filing is \$375. Each renewal every 10 years costs \$400. Given the cost and the potential number of trademarks, the CinC concluded that trademark filing may not be value-added to our organization, and that the language in our federal charter will likely suffice. There were no objections.

War Medal criteria. SVCinC Kennedy mentioned that the Program & Policy Comm. has reviewed the criteria for the War Medal application. The proposed criteria will soon be ready for a boardroom vote.

BANNER Policy. SVCinC Kennedy presented recommendations made by the Program & Policy Comm. to keep the BANNER Policy as is with two minor changes on Pages 1 and 2 (typos). PCinC Orr mentioned that opinions of the Nat. Counselor must be published in the BANNER per the Constitution & Regulations. CinC Medert requested the the BANNER Policy be put back on the web site. Br. Kennedy moved, Br. Petrovic seconded to accept recommendations made by the Program & Policy Comm. PCinC Darby asked if the 2004 version of the BANNER Policy should be changed to ensure that the Nat. QM and the Charitable Fdtn. receive adequate advertising space as previously passed by vote of the Council. PCinC Kuhn moved to table the original motion until 29 December. **Motion passed.**

The CinC called for a break at 8:58 am – reconvened at 9:10 am.

Associate Certificate. SVCinC Kennedy circulated the certificate draft produced by Nat. QM Wheeler and recommended by the Program & Policy Comm. PCinC Orr noted the word "membership" must be removed as Associates are not "members" as defined by our Constitution. Br. Petrovic moved; Br. Schmincke seconded, to approve the Program & Policy Comm. recommendations. **Motion passed.**

Handwritten forms. There's occasional difficulty in transcribing handwritten forms submitted to National. The CinC noted that a General Order will soon be published requiring all forms (except membership applications) to be either typewritten or electronically filled-in on the computer. Handwritten form will no longer be accepted.

New SUVCW Nat. HQ. PCinC Kuhn reported that long range planning committee has agreed on requirements for a new facility, including 20 acres of land at a location significant to the Civil War. He mentioned that the committee listing on the web site should be modified to add Lee Walters and incorrectly listed SVCinC Kennedy.

Merchandise license for large banners. McCormick Camp 215 (MO) held the license prior to the 127th Nat. Encampment, but failed to submit a request for renewal to

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the Nat. Sec. At the post-Encampment Council meeting, the PA Dept. requested a license to produce these banners. However, PCinC Kuhn, noting that the Camp was relatively new and may not have fully understood the process. In a fraternal gesture, he offered to withdraw the PA Dept. request if the Camp was still interested in producing the banners. Nat. Sec. Palmer had inadvertently left the Camp off of the reminder notice distributed prior to the Nat. Encampment, so the need to submit a renewal request may have been overlooked. After the Nat. Encampment, Br. Palmer contacted the McCormick CC and a request to maintain the license was received from the Camp shortly thereafter. Br. Petrovic moved; SVCinC Kennedy seconded to allow the Camp to continue their license until the 2010 Nat. Encampment, at which point it must be renewed. **Motion passed by an 8-3 vote (Wheeler, Schmincke, Kuhn dissenting).** PCinC Kuhn moved, JVCinC Hanby seconded, to establish a policy that when a license is granted or renewed, the Nat. Sec. notify the license recipient: (1) that they have permission to produce the item requested, (2) when the license expires, and (3) of their renewal responsibility, along with the procedure for renewal. **Motion passed.** PCinC Orr offered his opinion that this issue should be put to a vote at the 2009 Nat. Encampment since the Camp failed to follow the process. He noted that the pre-Encampment reminder notice was a courtesy, not a requirement. CinC Medert granted PCinC Orr's request to hold this issue in abeyance. This action, combined with the Council vote, allows the Camp to produce the banners until the 2009 Nat. Encampment, when this issue will be brought to the Encampment floor. The Nat. Sec. was tasked with writing to the McCormick Camp, explaining the Council's action.

License to produce and sell embroidered hats. Br. Palmer noted that the license held by the V.P. Twombly Camp 2 (IA) was approved at the post-Encampment Council meeting. The Camp is requesting that this license be transferred to the IA Dept. In order to grant this request, the CinC stated the need for the IA Dept. to send a letter to the Nat. Sec., expressing their interest in accepting the license currently held by the Camp. Once received, the Council will take action.

Forming new Camps. JVCinC Hanby discussed the high interest in OR, WA, NM and LA. Nat. Sec. Palmer had an e-mail exchange with an individual interested in forming a Camp in AK. The office of Dept./Camp-at-Large Organizer is vacant and CinC Medert will appoint Br. Gary Brewer (Dept. of CO & WY), who expressed an interest, as the new Dept./Camp-at-Large Organizer.

Certificate of Appreciation. CinC Medert recognized PCinC Kuhn for his service as CinC in 2007-2008.

New Business

Civil War Database access by the GR Comm. Nat. GRO James Davenport requested committee access to the database, using the same password. Cost is \$25/yr. Motion by SVCinC Kennedy moved; Br. Schall seconded to approve the request. **Motion passed.**

Lincoln Bicentennial Ball. PCinC Al Loomis, Lincoln Tomb Observance Comm. Chrmn., had canceled the ball due to lack of interest. It was to be one of the Lincoln Death Day events in Springfield, IL. Cost to get out of the hotel contract will be \$925. The Council and the Lincoln Tomb Observance Comm. were tasked to determine how the facilities could be used as opposed to surrendering the cancellation fee.

Remembrance Day program. Gettysburg Nat. Military Park Superintendent John Latschar was not in attendance due to the death of his father. Nat. Chaplain Kowalski was tasked with sending a sympathy card on behalf of the Nat. organization, SUVCW.

Nat. Policy on Electronic Communications. Nat. Signals Off. and Webmaster Freshley presented recommendations for changes associated with the Internet/World Wide Web, E-mail, Databases and Website Assistance and Authorizations were reviewed. Nat. QM Wheeler moved; Br. Schmincke seconded to accept the proposed changes. **Motion passed.**

Lincoln Birthday Ceremony. CinC Medert noted the schedule for 12 February 2009 in Washington, D.C. The start time has changed to 8:00 am due to other activities in Washington that day. The original start time was 11:00 am.

Factoryville, PA, GAR Post. The Factoryville borough was in the process of taking ownership of the building that served as a GAR Post from 1907-1947. Br. Shaw is currently awaiting info from the borough solicitor needed to prepare a Quit Claim Deed to the subject tract.

Civil War Sesquicentennial Comm. PDC Michael Beard, Chrmn., noted that the comm. was investigating medals and/or medal enhancements that could be worn to commemorate the sesquicentennial.

New member BANNER delays. E.D. Demmy noted that Camps and Depts. are not submitting Form 30's in a timely manner. PCinC Michaels noted that delivery timing also depends on where new members live and post office delivery schedules.

GAR Sesquicentennial Comm. PCinC Orr expressed the need to introduce a Bill in Congress, authorizing the U.S. Mint to strike commemorative coins by the year 2016. The Comm. is also drafting a letter for the membership to send to citizens advisory committees, urging the USPS to issue a stamp (09 April 2016 as the first day of issue).

The CinC called for a break at 10:28 am – reconvened at 10:40 am

Canadian communication. The Canadians wanted the SUVCW to fund a monument to Canadian soldiers who fought for the Union, estimated at \$1.2 million. The Council immediately dismissed this option.

SUVCW take over David Merchant's Memorial Day website. Br. Freshley recommended that the SUVCW take over www.usmemorialday.org and establish a committee to assist with maintaining it. CinC Medert recommended that this assistance be provided by the Comm. & Tech. Comm. PCinC Charles Kuhn moved, Br. Shaw seconded to have

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the SUVCW take over the Memorial Day website. **Motion passed.**

Permission to help recruit new members. A Washington state individual wanted to use these members to raise funds to help start a construction business. The Council was quick to state their disapproval.

Flag from the 1900 GAR Nat. Encampment in Chicago, IL. Eleanor Larson seeks info on the item. Br. Schmincke volunteered to contact Nat. Hist. Robert Wolz to see if information was available.

Timely submittal of new member information. SVCinC Kennedy moved; Br. Shaw seconded to establish a web link, recording new members in the Order, so that info would be provided to the Nat. organization immediately. The web-based info would be followed immediately by submittal of Form 30's per Nat. regulations. **Motion passed.**

Chaplain's Handbook. Nat. Chaplain Kowalski discussed the intended contents. He requested help in dealing with info provided to him in multiple formats and funds to produce the handbook. SVCinCKennedy moved; JVCinCHanby seconded to authorize up to \$300 to produce the handbook. **Motion passed.**

Lowell, MA man efforts. Br. Mellor presented info from MA Dept. GRO Steve Twining about man who refurbished cannons in a local cemetery and was keeping the cemetery presentable. A Certificate of Appreciation was requested to be presented for his exemplary efforts.

Memorial Grants Comm. Br. Schall noted that two grant requests were received since the Nat. Encampment. One of these requests was rejected.

Exec. Dir. Recommendations. (1) purchase a shredder to dispose of documents that contain sensitive information and (2) change the address of the Nat/. office from P.O box to that currently used by the Nat. Civil War Museum. The

Council voiced no opposition.

ROTC program. Nat. QM Wheeler reported that over 500 medals were sent out during the past administrative year and requested that Br. Mellor be allowed to serve as his assistant. No objections were raised by the Council.

New member applications. JVCinC Hanby summarized new member occupations, noting that the Order could benefit from occupational skills.

Abraham Lincoln Endowment Fund. JVCinC Hanby noted that \$27,000 has been pledged to date by the Lincoln Fellows.

New e-mail addresses for Council Members. Nat. Signals Off. Freshley has set up these and discussed the recent problems some Council members were having accessing the Electronic Boardroom. A process to fix the problem was sent to members of the Council.

Interest earned on SUVCW accounts. Nat. Treas. Newman reported that since the Nat. Encampment, the accounts have earned \$13,500 in interest. The estimate for the entire year was \$21,000, so interest income is well ahead of the year end projection.

Bronze medallion replacement. RI DC Bill Vieira presented info about his Dept.'s work on a RI GAR monument to veterans. The burial plot has been discovered to have two burials per plot (on top of each other) and have little or no names listed. RI is starting work on this project, led by the DC.

Next Council meeting - 18 April 2009 in Springfield, IL, at 6 pm. With no further business to come before the Council, CinC Medert asked Nat. Chap. Kowalski to provide a closing prayer and subsequently adjourned the meeting at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted in F, C and L,
PDC Donald D. Palmer, Jr., Nat. Sec.

GENERAL U.S GRANT BIRTHDAY COMMEMORATION

Hosted by New York City's Oliver Tilden Camp #26



The annual commemoration of General Ulysses S. Grant's birthday will be held on Sunday, April 26, 2009 at the National Monument on 122nd Street & Riverside Drive in Manhattan. The ceremony, which includes the initiation of the Oliver Tilden Camp's new members, begins at 11 AM.

Each year, "Memorials and Boosters" are solicited from members and organizations to defray the ceremony's cost. Memorials honor our Civil War ancestors or deceased brothers. "Boosters" allow organizations to show their support by having their name and address appear in the printed program. Your support is very much appreciated.

Contact Oliver Tilden Camp #26, SVC Arthur P. Kirmss, 78-05 82nd Street, Glendale, N.Y. 11385 (718-628-0818) before March 31st, 2009 or go to www.suvcw.org/ny/deptny.htm for more information.

YOUNG PEOPLE, OUR ORDER'S FUTURE

"...this (the SUVCW) is a perpetual organization and must be constantly infused with younger members if it is going to remain viable."

--CinC Keith G. Harrison - General Order No. 1, Series 1994-95

The SUVCW has long been interested in young people. In fact, in many ways, Juniors are to the Sons what our Order was to the Grand Army more than 125 years ago. Maj. A.P. Davis recognized the need to maintain the GAR's memory and traditions and, encouraged by his wife and 12-year old son, got together with eight boys on November 12, 1881, organizing the first Sons of Veterans camp.

Later, as a para-military organization of older men, the Sons lent its support to the GAR's push for universal military instruction. In 1901, Congress provided for retired military officers to teach in schools. Today, there are JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps) and ROTC programs in many communities.

In 1915, the Sons of Veterans authorized a Junior Order for boys ages 12 to 18. When the program was disbanded in 1924, the membership eligibility age was lowered to 16. At the 1949 Nat. Encampment, Junior Camp regulations were approved, but the youth program's revival was unsuccessful. In 1972, the membership age was lowered to 14. Then, in 1994, the Junior Order was again authorized, this time for boys 8 through 13. The minimum age was subsequently lowered to six and last year, Junior Associates were admitted for the first time.

Today, boys are brought into the Camp by their fathers and grandfathers to learn about Civil War history, to appreciate the Union soldier's sacrifices, and to participate in patriotic and public service activities. Indeed, it is through active participation and camaraderie with their fathers and other men that Juniors and Junior Associates learn team work, mission accomplishment, and volunteerism. All wear a Sons badge, fastened to a special ribbon, available from the National Quartermaster.

For more information on Juniors and Junior Associates, see Chap. 1, Art. X and XI of the SUVCW Regulations.

From **A Collection of Notations** by PCinC Richard C. Schlenker, Jan. 1995

Augustus Plummer Davis, Father & Fiunder of the SUVCW by PCinC Richard D. Orr, July 1999

Proceedings—114th Annual National Encampment SUVCW, August 10-13, 1995, May 2000

The Banner, Volume 53 Number 6, November 1949

Veterans in Politics: The Story of the GAR by Mary R. Dearing; Louisiana State Univ. Press 1952

JUNIORS OF DISTINCTION



Juniors shown here with the Gettysburg Blues prior to the Remembrance Day Parade are: **Matt Driscoll**, age 9, has been a Junior since 2007. He is in the 3rd grade in Langhorne, PA, and is descended from 2 GGG Grandfathers: Joshua Coryell of the 72nd. PA Inf. Vol. and Albert Duguay of the 15th. Inf., Regular Army. He is the grandson of Douglas Neal. Both are members of the Gettysburg Blues.

Robert "Bobby" Lusk, age 6, joined in Sept of 2008 and appeared in his first parade at Remembrance Day. He attends Kindergarten in Bermudian Springs, PA, and is the Grandson of SUVCW PCinC Charles E. Kuhn Jr. and the GGGG Grandson of Zechariah Oylar of the 91st Pa Vol. Inf. and Lewis Smith of the 184th Pa. Vol. Inf. as well as GGGGG Grandson of Capt. William Adams of the 184th Pa. Vol. Inf.

Joshua McMillin, age 9, has also been a Junior since 2007. He is in 4th grade in Boiling Springs, PA, and the GGG Grandson of Joseph McMillin of the 134th. PA Inf. Vol. He is a member of the Gettysburg Blues along with his father, Douglas McMillin and his grandfather Paul McMillin.



Calen Honig, PCinC Danny Wheeler's adopted grandson, is 9 years old and in the 4th grade. The two are active members of Ithaca, New York's Sidney Camp 41. Calen recently became a Junior Associate. He, along with three other Juniors, has attended Memorial Day and Veterans Day services and has served on the Camp color guard. He's put flags on graves for Memorial Day and comes to meetings when school permits. He tells everyone he is a son of a veteran.

In 2003, at age 12, **Johnny F.S. Maloney** joined the Sons as a Junior when his father, John O. Maloney, joined the new William B. Keith Camp 12 in Las Vegas. Johnny served as the Camp Color Bearer and Guide. He became a Member in 2005 and is now a high school honor student, a member of the Las Vegas Metro Police Dept. Explorers and a graduate of Boys State and a Senate internship. He holds a 2nd degree black belt in Taekwondo and a black sash in Kung fu. He's applied for the US Navy ROTC program.



WHO IS IT REALLY? (FROM PAGE 3)

Commander-in-Chief Dave Medert Junior was about nine when this photo was taken at an artillery show in Ohio.



NATIONAL COUNSELOR'S OPINIONS - SERIES 2007-08

OPINION 1 – JUNIOR ASSOCIATES

Referred to correct procedure for amending the Regulations adopted by the 2007 Nat. Encampment, re: creating Junior Associates. This class of Associates was created by a Special Encampment and the subsequent actions of the 2008 Nat. Encampment.

OPINION 2 – RELIGIOUS REFERENCES

Art. IV. Religion and Politics “The Order being strictly non-sectarian and non-partisan, the introduction or discussion of sectarian or partisan topics is strictly prohibited. Do we not violate this clause by adding the words Jesus Christ to some of our prayers in the ritual? Is that not the introduction of a particular religion? Would it not be better to pray using the word God since all religious beliefs recognize some type of creator or architect of the Universe?”

While this will not be readily accepted by many of our Brothers, it is my opinion that any reference to Jesus Christ in prayers or any other form in the ritual or our meetings is not in keeping with the above provision of the Constitution. Further, it is contrary to the principles of fraternity in as much as we have Brothers of the Jewish faith and other faiths who do not recognize Jesus Christ as the Son of God.

Note: By a vote of the 2008 Nat. Encampment, it was held that this opinion is not the official position of the SUVCW.

OPINION 3 – JUNIORS ON CHARTERS

The question regarding Juniors appearing on Charters now arises as a result of the amendment to Chap. I, Art. X, Sec. 2 adopted at the 2007 Nat. Encampment. The amendment to Sec. 2 has no distinction between a Junior as previously defined and a Junior Associate. As currently worded, a Junior cannot be shown on a Charter as a Charter member, as they are not required to have hereditary rights. If the conflict between the regulations and the constitution is resolved and the proposed amendments to the regulations adopted, then the situation will revert to the previous wherein a hereditary Junior may have his name placed upon the charter.

OPINION 4 – EXEC. DIR. AS DAL SEC/TREAS.

Recently, CinC's have not been appointing an Assist. Nat. Secretary to serve as the Sec/Treas. of the Dept.-at-Large as required by Chap. II Art. IX, Sec. 3. Don't the Camps-at-Large report directly to the Exec. Director? And if that is the case, then doesn't the Exec. Director's job description need to be changed to cover his actual duties?

When adopted, this section of the regulations was intended to relieve the Exec. Dir. of the necessity to have direct interaction with all the Camps-at-Large. Further, all departments, including the Dept.-at-Large, are required to have a secretary and a treasurer or a secretary-treasurer. Rather than having an election for the sec/treas., it was determined that the CinC would be empowered to appoint this Dept. Officer. There is nothing prohibiting the CinC from appointing the Exec. Dir. as the sec/treas. of the Dept.-at-Large.

The job description of the Exec. Director does not need to be amended to cover these duties, as the CinC can appoint him the secretary-treasurer of the Dept.-at-Large as long as the Exec. Dir. is a Brother.

OPINION 5 – PLURALITY VOTING

At this year's encampment, the 2 COA seats were contested by 4 men. In a plurality vote, when all of the votes are added up, do the highest two get the seats? What we did was a roll call vote for each seat. I thought that is why we went to a plurality vote to eliminate this type of thing when the extra seats were opened on council?

Each office is open for nominations and each office is subject to a vote. When multiple seats on the COA are open, each seat is an office and requires separate nominations and elections.

A plurality vote applies to the COA seats when more than two candidates contest the specific seat. In that case, the Brother with the greatest number of votes is elected. We adopted the plurality provision to prevent multiple votes for the same office until one candidate received a majority of the votes.

FOLLOW-UP TO OPINION 5.

Chap. III, Art. IV, Sec. 4 provided for the election of 2 COA members for 3 years and 1 COA member for 2 years. There are 5 elected members of the COA. This only provides for 4 of them. Was there one man that was not up for re-election at the time?

No. The other Brother was elected to a one-year term as provided in the last sentence of the section. The 2004 amendment was to add the fifth member of the COA. Prior to 2004, there were 4 elected members of the COA serving 3 year terms. This section probably needs to be amended to simply read “The term of office of the elected members of the Council of Admin. shall be for three years.”

OPINION 6 – DROPPING A DUAL MEMBER

A dual member would like to drop his membership to one camp and maintain his membership in another. He is fully paid in both Camps. Form 6, Honorable Discharge

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CALIFORNIA & PACIFIC

New Event Growing

by Pvt. Tim Reese, Co. C, 8th CA Inf., SVR. Lincoln Camp 10

The SUVCW hosted a Civil War Encampment at Fort Mervine on the lower quarter of the Presidio of Monterey. The tents were pitched on the turf in front of the Presidio Museum. The SUVCW displayed Civil War and GAR artifacts and period Ordnance. Lincoln Camp 10's Don Fuselier operated the Hospital Tent, assisted by the NCWA. Twenty-two re-enactors participated by giving lectures on the Union cavalry and the Mexican War period. There were two firing demos each days, conducted by Pvts. Paul Lavrischef, Timothy Reese, and Frank Avila of Co. C, 8th CA. Inf. fired.

FLORIDA

Soldier Receives Headstone 90 Years After Death

by Br. John C. Carter

22-year-old Cornelius Ridgeway of Co. C, 8th USCT lay wounded after the first day's fight at the Battle of Chaffin's Farm, New Market Heights, VA, one of 61 wounded soldiers. Shot in the left side of his chest, he was hospitalized and later transferred to the U.S. General Hospital in Ft. Monroe. He reunited with his regiment, in time to be mustered out in November 1865.

Ridgeway (and his older brother, Alfred, also a member of Co. C), had come from the town of Cheswold in Kent County, DE.

The Ridgeways also participated in the Battle of Olustee in February 1864, barely a month out of training camp, and in Deep Bottom in August 1864.

Ridgeway returned to his hometown, where he married, farmed and eventually became a cobbler. The community was largely Delaware "Moors." Descended from Native Americans, the Moors had intermarried with European Americans and/or African Americans, and were the subject of much speculation and lore. In 1895, The Philadelphia Press interviewed Ridgeway and referred to him as "the patriarch of the colony."

Ridgeway and his wife raised 11 children, seven of whom became adults. From these came countless descendants. The author is one of his great-great-grandchildren.

Ridgeway passed away in 1918, at age 76, he was buried in Manship Cemetery, now known as Immanuel Union. It's doubtful whether he ever had a grave marker. Receipts were discovered that identified his burial location (His brother Alfred, who passed away in 1883, rests only a few yards away).

Installed last March, nearly 90 years to the day after his death, the new stone now honors Ridgeway and his sacrifices. Another of Ridgeway's great-great-grandchildren, Richard Durham—himself now a trustee of the same church of which Ridgeway once served in the same role—spoke a few words in his honor during the church's March 23rd Easter service. When he asked all

members of the congregation descended from Ridgeway to stand, six pews of members arose.

IOWA

Atlantic's Kinsman Camp 23 dedicated a new monument, honoring Co. I, 23rd IA Inf. This company was mustered in on this spot at the courthouse square in Lewis. There were 97 men from Cass County in this company from a thinly populated region in Southwest Iowa.



Front Row (L to R): Brs. Andrew Braden, Mike Rowley, Tanner Creery and Dept. SVC Court Stahr.

Back Row (L to R): NE DC Norman Weber, Dept. JVC James Braden, Brs. Dan Yowell, Vern Damgaard, Michael Carr and Dennis Sasse.

ILLINOIS

Battle of Altoona Pass Commemorated

The Departments of Illinois and Iowa took part in the dedication ceremony October 4, 2008 of monuments representing each state at Altoona Pass, GA, outside of Atlanta. Br. Tom Gaard, Dept. of IA CW Memorials Officer, MC'ed the event. Br. Ray Wozniak, Dept. of GA/SC and PDC Stewart Stefany each spoke on behalf of the SUVCW. DC Steven Westlake presented a Lincoln bronze plaque to Ed Hill, President of the Etowah Valley Historical Society and Gary Wehner, Allatoona Pass Memorial Park Committee for their outstanding contributions. Br. Stefany was responsible for the design of the beautiful solid granite Illinois monument.



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The Battle of Altoona Pass took place on October 5, 1864 with Regiments of the 7th, 9th, 12th, 50th, and 93rd Illinois and the 39th Iowa thwarting the Rebels attempt to overtake a Union supply point and depot on the Western and Atlantic RR. With an estimated 706 Union and 799 Confederate casualties, it was declared a Union victory. The 30% casualty rate was one of the highest in the Civil War.

MARYLAND

The 63rd New York Infantry had the most casualties amongst all the Irish Brigade regiments. But at the Antietam battlefield monument dedication ceremony honoring the Irish Brigade 135 years later, the 63rd was not mentioned in any of the on-site speeches.



(L to R): PCC William Rose, DC Neil Hanlon, Patricia Vaticano, and CC Donald Wells)

Four years ago, PCCs William Rose and Neil Hanlon formed Col. James D. Brady Camp 63 in southeastern Virginia. Col. Brady, Commander of the 63rd NYV Inf., was a native Virginian who fought for the Union, but later lived in and was buried in Petersburg. Brs. Rose and Hanlon, steeped in research and inspiration, encouraged Williamsburg's Patricia Vaticano to bring the 63rd Regiment into historical focus.

Ms. Vaticano, a former teacher with a master's degree in English and a site supervisor at Colonial Williamsburg, required a thesis topic to complete her Masters Degree in American Civil War History from the University of Richmond. She recently finished [A Defense of the 63rd New York State Volunteer Regiment of the Irish Brigade](#), describing a regiment as colorful in camp as they were competitive in combat.

For more information on Ms. Vaticano's thesis paper, please contact unionirishbrigade@yahoo.com



Recently, CC Randy Ours & Br. Josh Ours, 7th. WV Inf. Camp 7 (shown in photo) and their families toured Gettysburg Battlefield. While at the 7th. WV Infantry monument, honoring the "Men of the Mountains," they placed a flag in honor

of the unit. The 7th. was called upon on July 2, 1863, to help repel a Confederate attack by the Louisiana Tigers on an artillery position on the right flank of the Union Army (East Cemetery Ridge) and did so successfully.

MICHIGAN

On a cold and windy November 8th, and in a show of Civil War camaraderie, Sgt. John S. Cosbey Camp 427, the North-South Skirmish Assoc.'s(N-SSA) 8th MI Cav., 24th MI Inf. and the 5th MI Inf., and the 4th MI Inf. re-enactors participated in the headstone dedication for Sgt. John Hills of Co. I, 4th MI Inf. at Wyandotte's Oakwood Cemetery.



Standing: Richard Bower, Br. Rick Danes, Anita Andes, Jerry Olson, Don Koch, Br. Aaron Schrader, Mike Baker, Br. Ed Binkley, Br. Jerry Radloff, Br. George Boller, Br. Jerry Jacobs, Chris Einowski, and Bill Hanusik
Kneeling: Dave Difatta, Bob Wooley, Richard Gondok, Br. Jon Reed, Ken Roberts, and Paul Lipka

During the ceremony, the names of all 37 Civil War veterans buried in the small cemetery were read aloud and a bell was rung. Two great-great-grandnieces of Sgt. Hills, Beth Kowaleski and Barbra Overbeck were present. Barbara, is also the president of the Oakwood Cemetery Association. The Wyandotte Historical Society president spoke during the ceremony and presented an historical perspective of the event.

The Society discovered the unmarked grave of this Civil War veteran, worked with the Camp 427 and arranged for a headstone to be engraved and dedicated. An online slideshow of this event may be viewed at: <http://photoshow.comcast.net/defyke>

MISSOURI

A ceremony was held recently, unveiling a marker commemorating the Battle of Dug Springs, August 2,



(L to R): Phelps Camp 66 Br. Larry Toll, Evangel College Prof. of History and CWRTO member; MO DNR's Jim Denny and Alison Dubbert; and Br. Tom Clanton. Photo courtesy Ted Roller.

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1861. Phelps Camp 66, Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks and MO DNR participated.

NEW YORK

Abraham Lincoln Camp 6, Rochester, sponsored Life Scout Tyler Breen's Eagle Scout Project. The project was placement of an historical plaque marking the location of Civil War "Camp Fitz John Porter." The Camp provided \$900 and supporting historical information. The scout raised over \$ 1,500, partly due to the increased cost of aluminum and partly because the words needed to do justice to the information. He worked with volunteers, planting a small garden and ornamental trees at the site.



Abraham Lincoln Camp 6, Sisters of the DUVCW, and Cushing's Battery gather with Boy Scout Tyler Breen at the new marker.

According to a 1933 article in the Rochester Union and Advertiser, the SUVCW was going to "mark appropriately old camp sites where men fresh from civilian occupations were hastily trained for battle. It is thought appropriate to mark the sites at this time as Nov. 19 will be the 70th anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg speech." Three sites were cited to receive a marker. One was placed and still exists today at another location.

The new plaque marks the place where area troops were mustered and trained before marching to the train station for the seat of war in 1861. It was the initial training ground for Monroe County's 108th and 140th NY Inf. regiments and Mack's 18th Ind. "Black Horse" Art. Batt. Monroe County sent 10,372 soldiers into the Union ranks. 1,374 of them died of wounds or disease.

PENNSYLVANIA

Camps join forces at Gettysburg

By Br. Douglas McMillin

Recently, Gettysburg Camp 112 and the Jenny Wade Auxiliary, joined with Antietam Camp 3 (MD) to help the National Park service. Many Camps, Auxiliaries and DUVCW tents volunteer in the Battlefield each year. This year was the first time in recent memory that Camp 112 volunteered with another Camp. Afterwards, the Brothers and Sisters retired to the Gettysburg GAR hall for lunch, a tour and a meeting. Camp 112 works for the Park service twice a year, in April and October, assisted by the Jenny Wade Auxiliary. Their work has included painting, clearing brush, mending and rebuilding fences.



This year, Gettysburg has hosted two visiting Camps that came to view an SUVCW ritual meeting in this historic setting. Baltimore's James A. Garfield Camp 1 visited this past spring. If your Camp is interested in visiting Camp 112 in Gettysburg to tour the GAR hall and experience an SUVCW ritual meeting, please contact Camp Sec. Bob Dorsey at eng128@yahoo.com.

TEXAS

Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp 2 participated in the annual Liendo Plantation Civil War Weekend on November 22nd. SVC David La Brot, PCC Stephen Schulze and Sec/Treas. Gary White man the Sons booth during the event. Photo by Linda LaBrot.



WISCONSIN

Old Abe Camp 8 participated in an international event at the Oshkosh Public Museum recently. The Camp presented the colors during an opening ceremony, which welcomed Russian diplomats to a new exhibit on the Tsar of Russia and President Lincoln. The exhibit, which included several rooms of paintings and artifacts, described the embattled lives of both leaders.



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The Russian visitors could not wait to have their photos taken with the Sons. Once they discovered there was an ancestral connection with Union soldiers, they took an instant liking to the Sons and made the ceremony more meaningful to them.



A newly-restored Civil war cannon was recently unveiled in the historic section of Camp Randall in Madison. Henry Harnden Camp 2, which solicited funds for the restoration, was also present for the rededication. During the event, University of Wisconsin representatives spoke in laudatory tones about the Camps dedication and generosity.

The cannon honors more than 70,000 Union soldiers, who trained at Camp Randall. After the war, Madison's

"Before Manassas, there was Mexico"

Many Civil War leaders like Grant, Sherman, McClellan and soldiers they commanded saw action in the Mexican War.

The Descendants of Mexican War Veterans is an organization of men and women who have an ancestor or interest in the Mexican War of 1846-1848.

Visit www.dmwv.org or send request SASE to:
D.M.W.V. Membership Dept., Box 830482, Richardson, TX, 75083

Descendants of Mexican War Veterans

GAR was responsible for establishing a memorial park on their former training ground. The park and nearby stadium are now part of the UW campus.

The restoration included a new all-metal reproduction carriage for the cannon. The Camp continues to raise \$25,000 so that the two remaining smoothbores at Camp Randall may be restored.



Central Region Meets

The Allied Orders of the GAR Central Region Association (CRA) held their annual Conference, Saturday, October 4th, in St. Louis, Indiana, Missouri and Kansas were represented. On Friday evening, members enjoyed a social gathering at Growlers Pub. Saturday morning, they visited the Arch and the Old Court House in downtown St. Louis. Guest speaker Dr. Randy McGuire of St. Louis University spoke about archiving materials for our respective organizations. The business meeting was elongated by the review, deletion, revising, and reorganizing of the proposed bylaws. The end product was passed unanimously at the conference. The conference schedule was also established: October 3, 2009 in Indianapolis; October 2, 2010 in Kansas; and October 1, 2011 in Missouri.

The newly elected officers for 2008-09 are Commander Walter Busch, MO; SVC Lee Ann Teller, IN; JVC Michael Beck, IN; and Sec/Treas. Jack Shaw, IN. The appointed officers are Patriotic Instructor Bob Petrovic, Chaplain Barbara Stone, Color Bearer Cody Shaw, Guide Alan Russ, and Historian Alan Teller.

FINAL MUSTER

David A. Putnam
Dept of Massachusetts
August 26, 2007

John Epley
David D. Porter Camp 116 (IN)
May 3, 2008

Henry L. Voudren
L.A. Tiff Camp 15 (MA)
May 4, 2008

Clair F. Tallman
Austin Blair Camp 7 (MI)
July 7, 2008

Gerald Parker
Dept of New Hampshire
July 15, 2008

Fred L. Knoodle
Robert Finch Camp 14 (MI)
August 21, 2008

Arthur J. Brett
Antietam Camp 3 (MD)
August 22, 2008

Herbert W. Tice
W.S. Whitehurst Camp 1 (FL)
August 26, 2008

Jon A. Reilly
Wm. T. Sherman-Billy Yank 65 (MO)
October 22, 2008

George Williams (Real Son)
U.S. Grant Camp 68 (MO)
October 25, 2008

John Brandon, Jr. (Real Son)
Grenville Dodge Camp 75 (IA)
November 7, 2008

John Brockway
Grenville Dodge Camp 75 (IA)
November 13, 2008

Paul E. Leistriz
Wm. T. Sherman-Billy Yank 65 (MO)
November 19, 2008

Raphael E. Moak, Jr.
Wm. P. Benton Camp 28 (IN)
December 21, 2008

Ernst A. von Frankenberg
MG John Gibbon Camp 4 (WI)
January 1, 2009

BRAVING THE COLD!

Remembrance Day was one of the coldest most frigid in a long time. Our Auxiliary ladies marched in the parade with gusting winds causing skirts, capes and shawls to fly! NP Janice Harding and PA Dept. VP Barbara Indan placed wreaths at the Woolson Memorial along side the SUVCW.

Meanwhile, sisters from the Allied Orders were raising funds to support the charities they help throughout the year. And elsewhere, PNP Margaret Atkinson, PDP Anne Jaster and Sr. Josey Matty were decorating for the annual Blue & Gray Ball at the Eisenhower Hotel. The Ball raises money for the Nat. Park Service to make needed maintenance and repairs to the Gettysburg Battlefield. Proceeds from last years' ball, over \$4,000, was given to the Park Service this year.

At 6 P.M., the Past Presidents and Past Commanders Dinner was held. Plates piled high with roast beef and roasted potatoes, vegetables, and cheesecake were enjoyed by all. The current heads of the various Allied Orders sat at the head table. Mr. Richard Lacey sang a variety of songs and ended with a medley of train songs with his guitar.

Nine PM arrived and the Ball had finally come. It was an elegant affair. The 28th PA Reg. Brass Band played and the Victorian Dance Ensemble helped everyone understand and follow the dance master's instructions, thus ensuring no mishaps during the graceful greetings and turns. When it came time for PCinC Bud Atkinson to do the "Cake Walk" there were four circles of ladies! Gifts and door prizes went to several lucky recipients, the final prize being a reproduction calvary sword. The magic of the evening came to an end all too quickly, but with the promise of next years' ball waiting in the air.



AUXILIARIES HELP VETS

Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary (TX) recently completed a very successful sock drive, providing nearly 500 pairs of socks to the patients of Houston's Michael DeBakey Veterans Hospital. The sisters then presented patients with handmade patriotic goodie bags, which contained six pairs of socks and Halloween candy treats. Walmart and Denny's made generous donations to the drive. The Auxiliary then collected Christmas gifts for 38 vets at the VA and sent Care packages to soldiers in Iraq.



Shown are: Srs. Diane Campbell and Jane Marsh, VA Lead Recreation Therapist Elizabeth Nealy and Aux. Pres. Vali Reyes.

Sisters of Wisconsin's **Ammi Hawks Auxiliary 5** purchased and gather donations of 150 pairs of socks, 104 bars of soap, 37 packages of coffee, three boxes of tea, one box of cookies, six shampoos and three bottles of lotion and gave these to Milwaukee's Zablocki VA Medical Center just before Christmas. C.K. Pier Badger Auxiliary 4 added six lap robes and \$200 to the gift for the Veterans Emergency Fund. The fund helps returning Iraqi War veterans in need.

Charles W. Canney Auxiliary 5, Rochester, NH, attended a program on Veteran's Day and gave out 32 afghans to residents of the Veteran's Administration Medical Center (nursing home). The Sisters were invited back on January 28th to set up a display and host a talk by the Sons. Following the talk, the Sisters lead an open discussion with the residents about their service to our country and gave out token thank you gifts and cards.

NEW AUXILIARY FORMS IN NORTH SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

On November 15th, CA & Pac DP Rachele M. Campbell officially instituted Ivy Stiers Aux. 23 of Santa Rosa, installed its officers and presented the Sisters with their Charter. The Auxiliary is named for Union Army Nurse Ivy Stiers who is buried in the Santa Rose Rural Cemetery and is associated with Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp 23.

Pictured (L to R) are Srs. Linda Pollard, Mary Lou Christian, Kari Eckholt-Mowrey, AP Ann Schleeter, DP Rachele Campbell and Cindy Eddy.





(Continued from page 14)

doesn't seem to fit because of the wording, "Being in good standing in this Camp, and having paid all indebtedness, is at his own request, HONORABLY DISCHARGED From the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War." He doesn't want to be discharged from the SUVCW. Form 4, Transfer also doesn't seem to fit, as he isn't transferring to another Camp. I couldn't find anything in the C&R and Nat. Digest to cover this.

You report him as discharged from your camp at his request without issuing an Honorable Discharge form. He is still a member of the Order and thus cannot be given an Honorable Discharge, but he is discharged from your Camp.

OPINION 7 – GETTYSBURG SPECIAL MEETING CREDENTIALS

Delegations will be limited as they are for the annual Encampment. This is required by the Congressional Charter — representative form of government. We cannot pack the meeting with pro or con delegates and disregard the representation limits.

The delegates will be the same elected at the last Dept. Encampment since they need to be elected and no Dept. Encampment for the purpose of election will have taken place to change the delegates. That does not preclude a Dept. that has provisions for a Special meeting in its by-laws from exercising that option to elect delegates to the Special Encampment if they have a burning desire to do so. If a Dept. does not have such a procedure in the Dept. by-laws, then there is no way for them to hold a special meeting to elect new delegates.

Yes, the Nat. Sec. will provide credentials to the PCinCs and the elected Nat. Officers.

OPINION 8 – BLOOD RELATIVES

No one may be admitted to the SUVCW on the service of a cousin. The C&R and charter are very clear on this matter. The Regulations define collateral as being a direct descendant of a sibling of a veteran.

Chap. V, Art. I. Sec. 3: Definitions.

(a) For purposes of administering Sec. 5 of the Articles of Incorporation, blood relative is defined as a direct descendent, or a 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.

The definition does not apply prior to adoption because some Brothers had been admitted as cousins preceding the adoption of this provision to clarify the long standing working definition of collateral.

Anyone admitted as a cousin since that date is not a Member but an Associate and all restrictions on Associates apply. An error on the part of a camp in

admitting a Brother as a member who does not meet these qualifications does not vacate the regulations. The status of such a Brother must be immediately changed and reported on the proper form to the Dept. and the Exec. Director. The number of permitted associates in a camp still applies.

OPINION 9 – CAMP RECOGNITION

Dept. Commanders have the same authority as the CinC at the Nat. level to create and present awards, provided the Dept. by-laws do not restrict you. From the Nat. point, the only restriction is the creation of a permanent medal or appliance for an SUVCW medal similar to the Nat. Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star. Permanent medals and appliances attached to any SUVCW medal are regulated in the C&R. Certificates, plaques or trophy-like items are not. The same holds true for camps.

OPINION 10 – ADOPTED SONS AS HEREDITARY MEMBERS

The Congressional Charter defines members as blood relatives. The charter authorizes the Order to further define the classes of membership. Without a change to the Congressional Charter, adopted sons cannot be full members as they are not direct or collateral descendants of a Union veteran. They can qualify as Associates unless they have eligibility through their biological parents.

OPINION 11 – TRANSFER OF PCC RANK

In this particular case the charter of the granting camp was revoked. It is unclear if the Brother in question transferred to the NMAL or another camp upon revocation of the camp charter. It is clear that he never sought restoration of rank as a PCC in his current camp.

The CinCs, Judge Advocate Generals and Nat. Counselors have steadfastly maintained that while the title once bestowed it is for life unless revoked as part of a disciplinary procedure, the actual rights of a Past Commander are connected to the bestowing entity. While the title is transportable, the automatic seat at a Dept. Encampment does not travel with a Brother even within the same Dept. when he transfers, his camp is dropped or disbanded. Further dual membership does not grant past honors in each dual camp.

OPINION 12 – CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE POWERS

Can the Credentials Committee issue Credential Cards when the Dept. Sec. has failed to do so or the Brother in question does not have his Credential Card with him for another reason?

The C&R is very clear on who can issue Credential Cards to either a Dept. Encampment or the Nat. Encampment.

1. Credentials to a Dept. Encampment can only be

(Continued on page 22)



NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT KUDOS

The Commanding General wishes to extend a WELL DONE to the members of the 1st Mil. Dist. who served on the Color Guard and as Provost for the 127th SUVCW Nat. Encampment. The following provided their services:

Maj. Peter N. Rotando, Commander 1st Mil. Dist., Provost

1st Sgt. Robert H. Knight, Co. E, 15th MA Vol. Inf.

Pvt. Stephen J. Twining, Co. E, 15th MA Vol. Inf.

Pvt. Reynaldo Rodriguez, Co. E, 15th MA Vol. Inf.

Pvt. Edward T. Knight, Co. E, 15th MA Vol. Inf.

1st Sgt. Eric Boothroyd, Co. F, 11th ME Vol. Inf.

BG Robert E. Grim
Commanding Officer, SVR



Capt. George Weinmann (right) accepts the SVR Unit Citation Award from BG Grim on behalf of his unit, Co. I, 83rd NYVI, during the SVR Breakfast in Gettysburg.

SVR PERSONNEL ACTIONS

The following are promoted to the grades indicated:

National Headquarters

Col. Donald E. Darby, Adj. Gen.

6th Military District

1st Lt. William E. Tisch, Dist. PIO

Co. H, 37th OVI has joined the 6th Mil. Dist. with 1st Sgt. Harold Slavik commanding.



Br. Darby (left) is promoted to Colonel during the SVR Breakfast at Gettysburg

NEW SVR REGULATIONS

New SVR Regulations were approved by the 127th SUVCW Nat. Encampment. All previous amendments are included in the new Regulations, as well as Chap. IV of the SUVCW Constitution and Regulations, which relates to the SVR. There have been several additions and changes incorporated into the new Regulations. All Commanders are strongly encouraged to acquaint themselves with the aforementioned changes.

BROTHERS' 2009 DATE BOOK

12 February	Abraham Lincoln's Birth Bicentennial National Ceremony	Lincoln Memorial, Wash., DC
15 April	144th Anniversary of Lincoln's Death	
18 April	52nd Annual Lincoln Death observance Dr. B. F. Stephenson Ceremony	Springfield, IL Petersburg, IL
25 May	Memorial Day (observed)	
30 May	Memorial Day (traditional)	
27 June	4th MD SVR Artillery Safety School	Jefferson Barracks, MO
13-16 August	128th National Encampment	Crowne Plaza, Louisville, KY
21 November	Remembrance Day observance	Gettysburg, PA



(Continued from page 20)

issued to elected delegates and alternates by the Camp Sec. and any vacancy among the elected delegates to the Dept. Encampment can only be filled by a vote of the elected delegates in attendance from among the elected alternates. Credentials to a Dept. Encampment for PCinCs, PDCs and elected and appointed Dept. officers can only be issued by the Dept. Sec.

2. Credentials to the Nat. Encampment can only be issued by the Dept. Sec. to the elected delegates and elected alternates. Any vacancy among the elected delegates to the Nat. Encampment is to be filled by the Dept. Commander from among the elected alternates or in the absence of the DC by the Chairman of the delegation. Credentials for all PCinCs and elected Nat. Officers shall be issued only by the Nat. Sec. Appointed Nat. Officers are not automatic delegates to the Nat. Encampment. If they are not elected delegates or do not have standing credentials as a PDC they are not entitled to vote.

3. Neither the Credentials Comm. nor the Chairman of the Credentials Comm. has any authority to issue credential cards.

4. The Nat. Encampment has the final authority to seat a Brother as a delegate. Each case where a Brother does not have credentials must be brought before the Encampment for a vote to seat or not seat the Brother with voting rights.

5. As always any Brother may attend any Encampment provided he is in good standing.

6. A Camp that is not in good standing has no right to representation at the Dept. Encampment nor does any Brother representing said Camp have a right to vote at a Dept. Encampment. This does not apply to the elected officers of the Dept., PDCs, PCCs or PCinC (see NC Howard, Op III, 57th, 62.)

7. Any Dept. which is not in good standing has no right to representation at the Nat. Encampment nor does any Brother representing said Dept. have a right to vote at a

Nat. Encampment. This does not apply to the elected officers of the Nat. Encampment, PDCs or PCinCs (see NC Howard, Op III, 57th, 62).

OPINION 13 – LIFE MEMBER PAYMENTS & ANNUAL CAMP DUES

A Brother is not a Life Member until the fee has been paid in full [Chap. III Art. VI, Sec. 3(b)(i)]. As such it follows that he is still subject to the Nat. per capita tax until the fee is paid in full. None of this has anything to do with Camp dues as neither the Camp nor the Dept. are under any obligation to forego dues on Life Members. It is customary for camps to forgive, at a minimum, the amount collected to pay the Nat. Per capita dues but there is no requirement to do so in the regulations.

OPINION 14 – SETTING THE \$10 APPLICATION FEE

The action of the Council of Admin. on 12 August 2007 applies only to NMAL applicants as the minutes of the COA meeting clearly indicate. The Camps and Departments continue to be governed by the provisions of the Regulations.

The annual dues and application fee for those applicants seeking membership through the office of the JVCinC have not been established by either the Nat. Encampment or the COA as of the date of this opinion. Thus, the application fee and dues last imposed by action of the Nat. Encampment or COA remain in effect.

The Nat. Order is entitled to one-half of the application fee imposed by the camps (departments in the cast of Dept. Members-at-Large) on new members. Traditionally, this fee has been based on one-half of the minimum application fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00). Therefore, any amount submitted with the application to the Nat. Order which is at least Five Dollars (\$5.00) continues to meet this requirement unless it can be proven that the Camp/Dept. imposes a greater application fee.

Richard D. Orr, PCinC
National Counselor

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COLLECTING THE SONS

MILITARY INSIGNIA, PART I

by PDC Robert Wolz, National Historian



*Wearing Sons of Veterans Guard
Insignia*



SVR Brass collar Insignia



Type I



Type II

The Sons of Veterans, USA, was originally intended to be a military training component, similar to today's National Guard. Our members were required to drill at least twice a month. Camps were organized both as armed and unarmed. Armed Camps were given weapons by the US government and trained in their use. Summer training encampments were a required part of membership. Whole Camps volunteered for service in 1898 for the Spanish American War. In a few cases, the members and their officers were federalized as a unit of their state's National Guard. In many cases, members were taken individually and assigned as needed.

As can be imagined, this certainly appealed to a young man of 18 or 20. Its appeal lessened with advancing age. Those who joined in the 1880s were into middle age by 1893. In 1893, the Sons organization realized there was a need for both a civilian and military division. The civilian Order (SV, USA) created within itself, the Sons of Veterans Guards (SVG). It only lasted a year or two due to conflicts between its military officers and the civilian Order's officers. Only photos have been found with SVG on collars and caps. In 1903, the civilian body created the Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR). The Chief of Staff of the Sons of Veterans, USA, was named Commanding General of the SVR to avoid the previous conflicts. SVR units were still, in most cases, regarded as a military component and trained as part of their state's National Guard. SVR members wore the 1903 US Army regulation uniform with distinct brass hat and collar insignia to distinguish themselves from the National Guard.

At its tenth anniversary in 1914, the SVR had 346 officers and 4,997 enlisted men.

Shown here are some of the pre-1930s SVR insignia.

SVR collar brass- 1904 to 1930s

All officers wore collar insignia described as "a coat of arms of the United States of bronze metal, with the following modifications: The shield on the breast of the eagle shall bear a monogram composed of the letters, in bold relief, S.V. and R.; the sunburst will be replaced by a scroll rising from the eagle's beak, bearing the words 'Fili Veteranorum.' To be worn on the collar, one inch from the end." All officers were instructed to wear the 1903 US Army regulation collar insignia in addition to the SVR eagle.

Type I. Solid Brass "SVR" eagle as described above

Type II. Solid Brass "SVR" eagle as described above. Letters "SVR" enameled in red, white and blue on solid brass eagle as above.

i. Sons of Veterans USA The Sons of Veterans Reserve Annual Report 1914 Gettysburg, Pa: Henry Stewart, AAG

ii. Sons of Veterans USA The Sons of Veterans Reserve Regulations 1917 Gettysburg, Pa: Henry Stewart, AAG

THE SONS OF THE UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



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GREAT EMANCIPATOR**



**APRIL 18, 2009
SPRINGFIELD,
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In keeping with the tradition set by the GAR in 1909 during the Lincoln Centennial, the SUVCW Charitable Foundation is proud to issue this medallion. It has been endorsed by the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission and is available for purchase from the SUVCW Charitable Foundation.

This is a good fund raising opportunity for individuals, Camps or Departments.

Contact: Robert M. Petrovic

P# 636-274-4567, fax# 636-274-4568

e-mail- sales@suvcw-cf.org



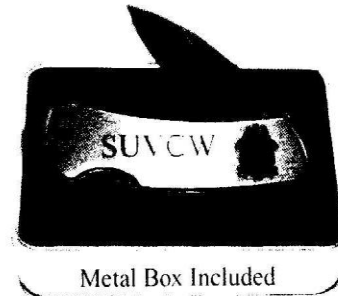
NEW PRODUCTS FROM THE NATIONAL QUARTERMASTER

Jack Knife with SUVCW letters and logo

This item sells for \$15, is in stock and ready to ship.

Comes in a medal presentation box (Item 524).

The knife can be engraved on the reverse side and makes an excellent gift. Or make it your own by having your own name and title engraved on it for a total cost of \$35 (Item 525). Please allow 2 to 3 weeks turn around time for engraving.



Junior membership certificates (Item 206B) and
Junior Associate membership certificates (Item 206C) 3-color
Camp use only - \$4 each.

From Turner Publishing Company....

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War History, copyright 1996, containing the 1996 roster of Departments and bios of most brothers from that time. Originally \$50...now, on a first come basis, \$15 plus \$5 postage. While supply lasts!

Coming soon...

10, 15, and 20 Year Numeral Pins, to be worn centered on the ribbon of the Badge of the Order. They'll be listed on the online order form when they become available.

All items are available online at www.suvcw.org at the "Quartermaster Store."

Don't have a computer and can't get someone to download the forms? Call PCinC Danny Wheeler at 607-272-7314.

Please note that the National Quartermaster has moved. His new address is:
1395 Danby Rd. Lot 4
Ithaca N.Y. 14850

Orders Honor Lincoln at Annual Tomb Ceremony

All are invited to participate in the 53rd Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, commemorating the 144th anniversary of President Lincoln's death. It'll be held at the Lincoln Tomb in Springfield, Illinois' Oak Ridge Cemetery at 10 AM on Saturday, April 18, 2009.

The Headquarters Hotel: State House Inn, 101 East Adams Street. Room rate is \$96.99 for double or single. A full breakfast buffet is included. Call 1-217-528-5100 for reservations and mention "Sons of Union Veterans."

Reserve your room by March 19, 2009. After this, the remaining blocked rooms will be released.
Ground level parking near the hotel lobby and across 1st Street is free.

Shuttle service will provide transportation between the tomb and the hotel.

Wreaths may be ordered from local Springfield florists. Instruct the florist to have the wreath delivered o/o The Lincoln Tomb, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, by 9 AM on Saturday, April 18th.

The Luncheon will be held in The Inn at 835 at 12 noon. The Inn, located at 835 S. Second St., is about four blocks south of Adams St. The luncheon program will feature Mr. & Mrs. Max Daniels, Abraham & Mary Todd Lincoln presenters.
Luncheon cost is \$25 per person. Send registration form below to:

Lincoln Tomb Observance Committee
P.O. Box 65
Valparaiso, Indiana 46384

Make check payable to "National Organization, SUVCW." Cancellation of lunch reservations must be made no later than April 1st.

The Dr. Benjamin Stephenson Memorial Service, hosted by the Dept. of Illinois, will take place at his grave in Rose Hill Cemetery, Petersburg, Ill., at 3 PM. The cemetery is located on Illinois Hwy. 123 on the east side of town. Traveling to Petersburg from Springfield, use highways 29 and 123 or 97. Additional information will be available at the hotel and luncheon.

For event info, go to the SUVCW web site (suvchw.org) or contact PCinC Alan Loomis at: arlsvchw@aol.com or 219-464-1332.

OBSERVANCE WREATH PRESENTATION
(please print clearly)

Organization name in full: _____

Name and title of wreath bearer: _____

e-mail address: _____

If no e-mail, give home address: _____

City, State and Zip Code: _____

To insure listing in the program this notice must be received no later than April 4th at address shown below.

I would like to reserve _____ seats on the shuttle bus from the headquarters hotel to the Tomb Ceremony, the ceremony to the luncheon, and return to the headquarters hotel.

Please circle YES or NO if you will ride the bus to the Dr. Benjamin Stephenson ceremony near Petersburg after the luncheon.

OBSERVANCE LUNCHEON

Please accept _____ luncheon reservation(s). Please list the name, e-mail address, home address and phone number of the person responsible for picking up these tickets at the door.

Name : _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Include remittance of \$25.00 per person for each luncheon reservation payable to National Organization SUVCW. Reservations must be made by April 4th and cancellations by the same date in order to receive refund. There will be no extra tickets sold at the door. Make a copy of this form for your records and send original with remittance.