



Br. Benjamin J. Frail, PDC

Major Sullivan Ballou, Camp 3

Department of Rhode Island

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It is with the utmost respect and honor that I wish to announce my intent to run for the Council of Administration. I have been a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War since 2003, when I joined as an Associate Member of Elisha Dyer Camp #7.

I have since become a Lineal Member due to the research that I have completed with fellow Brother and Past Commander-in-Chief Br. Bruce D. Frail. I have three Civil War veterans in my family tree.

1. Hugh Frail Company B, 67th Pennsylvania Infantry, 10 Sept 1862 – 5 July 1865
2. Richard Handy Company E, 43rd New York Infantry, 15 August 1861 – 10 December 1862
3. John H. Handy Company D, 147th New York Infantry, 8 August 1863 – 18 November 1863 transferred to 6th Company, 1st New York Sharpshooters, 18 November 1863 – 10 July 1865 promoted to Corporal on 3 June 1865

I am a Charter Member of Major Sullivan Ballou Camp #3, which was formed in 2005. I have held every position within the camp, except for Treasurer, and was the Camp Commander for three and a half years, only stepping down when elected to be Department Commander in April of 2014. I have since served as Camp Secretary for the past nine years as well as coordinated multiple cemetery restorations. I also spearheaded the Pvt. Patrick Masterson Project, 3rd Rhode Island Cavalry, in which Camp 3 placed a Cenotaph for Pvt. Masterson, lost at sea in the sinking of the SS North America 1864, at the foot of his wife's grave and reunited them on what would have been their 157th wedding anniversary.

I have served as Department Commander for a total of 5 terms (2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023), Department Jr Vice Commander, Department Chief of Staff, Department Council and am currently serving my fourth year as Department Secretary. I also am currently the Department Patriotic Instructor and Department Signals Officer. I also was one of the SUVCW Brothers who became dual members of Abbott Camp#21 to give of his time to try to reorganize that Camp. For 2 years I was the point of contact with the Pawtucket Red Sox in coordinating the Departments Annual Paws for a Cause event at McCoy Stadium where the Department of Rhode Island would provide a Color Guard, Honor Guard, throw out the First Pitch, set up a table inside the stadium and be interviewed by the Broadcast team. I also was the Chairman of the 150th RIGAR Committee that established statewide Library displays and presentations as well as coordinated the Department marching in the Westerly Memorial Day Parade in 2018.

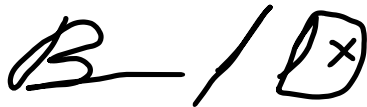
At the National level, I am currently the National Patriotic Instructor, and have served as the National Chief of Staff and Co-Interim Signals Officer for the 2022-2023 term. I also serve on the National Civil War Monuments and Memorials Committee, National Programs and Policy Committee, National Special Committee on the 250th Birthday of the United States of America, National Special Committee on Memorial University serving as the Chair, National Promotion & Marketing Committee serving as the Chair, The National Signals Corps as the Instagram Account Administrator serving as the Chair.

Outside of the SUVCW, I have portrayed a Private, Corporal, 2nd Sergeant, 1st Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, and hold the position of Regional Event Coordinator of Company B, 2nd Rhode Island Volunteer Infantry and have been the contact person for every Camp and just about every Department event that has needed a firing detail since I joined the SUVCW. Also, in this position I have worked closely with the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, Newport Public Schools, Westerly Public Schools, North Providence Public Schools, West Bay Christians Academy, and Coventry Public Schools in setting up school presentations. I was also a member of the State of Rhode Island Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee.

While a student at Rhode Island College, I was active with the Student Veteran Organization. As a member of this group, where veterans and students work together to promote and advocate for Veterans issues on campus, I served as their Treasurer for more than two years and took part in many Veterans' Day and Memorial Day events above and beyond those of the SUVCW. I earned my Bachelor of Arts Degree in History in 2011, with a focus on early American History.

I have now been employed with Lifespan Corporate Services as an Applications Analyst for 10 and a half years and am personally responsible for the development of the Operating Room and Anesthetists sections for multiple programs used within Lifespans Surgical Services.

Humbly Submitted in Fraternity Charity and Loyalty,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'B' followed by a diagonal slash and a square containing an 'X'.

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