



the **Banner**

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No. 1



Lowell Varner Hammer
Commander-in-Chief

Commander-in-Chief Hammer was born in Ligonier, Pennsylvania. Educated in the public schools of Ligonier, Greensburg, and Johnstown, Pennsylvania, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Foreign Service from Pennsylvania State University in 1950. Commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Artillery he served in the Far East Command based in Japan until his release from active duty in 1953. Returning to the academic world, Commander-in-Chief Hammer attended the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Medford, Massachusetts, where he earned his Master of Arts degree in 1954. During his career of over thirty years in foreign affairs with the Federal Government, Commander-in-Chief Hammer served as an officer in Executive Branch agencies and departments including the U. S. Foreign Service of the Department of State.

This includes serving abroad in Africa and Europe. Retired from government service since January, 1985, he continues to serve as a consultant in international security affairs.

Commander-in-Chief Hammer's grandfather, great uncle, and two great grandfathers served in the Union Army with the Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. His grandfather, John B. Hammer, was a Sergeant with Company D of the 138th Regiment; his great uncle, Hezekiah Hammer, served as Captain of Company K of the 55th Regiment; and his great grandfather, Jacob G. Varner, served as a Private in Company A of the 107th Regiment. Another great grandfather, Thomas G. Walker, served as a Private in Company I of the 171st Regiment, as well as a Corporal in Company I of the 91st Regiment.

Commander-in-Chief Hammer is a Past Dept. Commander of Maryland and a Past Camp Commander of the Lincoln-Cushing Camp #2. At the National level, he has served as the G. A. R. Highway Officer, on the National Council of Administration, as Jr. Vice C-in-C, and as Sr. Vice C-in-C. He is a Colonel in the Sons of Veterans Reserve and serves as the Washington, D. C. Liaison Officer. Commander-in-Chief Hammer is also the Vice Chairman of the Lincoln Birthday National Commemorative Committee, the sponsor of the annual ceremony at the Lincoln Memorial on February 12th.

Additionally, he is on the Advisory Board of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites, a member of the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania, and the Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia.

Commander-in-Chief Hammer and

his wife Betsy reside in Potomac, Maryland. Betsy is a Past President of the Lincoln Cushing Camp Auxiliary and the current National Jr. Vice President of the Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States.



Ethel V. Carver

National Auxiliary President

Ethel V. Carver has been a member of Appomattox Auxiliary #2, of Wilmington, DE, for over 50 years.

Besides having held many offices in Auxiliary #2 and the Maryland-Delaware Department Auxiliary, she has also been the National Chief-of-Staff, National Press Correspondent, and escort.

Sister Carver gets her eligibility through her great grandfather, Samuel Suthel, who was a Private in Company F, 1st Delaware Infantry, and served three years in the Union Army.

Ethel is a member of the Eastlake United Methodist Church and serves on its Administrative Board.

Sister Ethel owns Alexander's Baby Sitting Agency in Wilmington, DE.

She has a son Robert of Bear, DE, and a granddaughter Tiffany.



GENERAL ORDERS NO. 1

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"With Firmness in the Right"

1. The confidence that the Brothers of this Order have placed in me by elevating me to our highest office is truly valued. I will do my best to justify that confidence and trust. We must keep in mind, however, that the Commander-in-Chief and National Officers are not the most important elements of the Order with respect to carrying out our objectives and assuring the future of the SUVCW. For this, we must look to the officers and members of each Camp and Department. The Commandery-in-Chief can provide the administrative structure for the Organization, set policy within the provisions of the C&R, and provide guidance to Camps and Departments, but it is really the latter elements upon which the future of our organization depends.

2. Although we honor the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic, we do not wish to follow that revered group into extinction. However, the SUVCW along with many other hereditary and patriotic societies face that possibility in our rapidly changing world unless we can reverse the trend of declining membership. To do this, we must be truly innovative in order to compete for the interest, time, and resources of prospective members of all ages who have many demands placed on them by their careers, families, and communities.

3. I urge the Brothers of all Camps to consider ways to acquire new members which are most likely to achieve success in their local communities. One way, of course, is to keep the SUVCW in the public eye by sponsoring and participating in ceremonies and activities in which it is appropriate for the SUVCW to participate. Many Camps are doing this now and have been successful in attracting new members. For those Camps which have neglected to carry on this type of activity, I highly recommend that re-

newed efforts be exerted in that direction.

4. Any organization which fails to pursue the objectives for which it was founded will soon find itself on the decline. Fortunately, the SUVCW has continued to keep its objectives in sight. Although the traditional luncheon and dinner meetings of our Camps and Departments have a valid role in our activities, we can scarcely satisfy our responsibility by simply holding a few lunches and dinners each year. If we are truly to honor the memory of the G.A.R. and those who fought to preserve the unity and indivisibility of our Republic as well as perpetuating the ideals of their wartime leader, President Abraham Lincoln, we must engage in a variety of activities. Programs on the G.A.R.; the preservation of G.A.R. and other Civil War artifacts, records, and memorabilia; the marking of the graves of Civil War veterans; the holding of wreath laying and memorial ceremonies; the erection, restoration, and maintenance of Civil War markers and monuments; and the support of battlefield preservation efforts are some ways in which we can carry out our objectives.

5. Hand in hand with the need to acquire new members is the equally pressing need to generate the revenue needed to carry on the work of the SUVCW. As costs rise, so do our expenses. This has led to an increase in the per capita fee paid to the National Organization by each Department as well as the addition of an application fee, both of which have, understandably, led to unhappiness in Camps and Departments. Because of the desire to keep fees at a minimum, no increase was made earlier when it should have been enacted. Consequently, by delaying any increase until the more recent change, the amount of the increase had to be higher to cover deficits and the financial requirements of the Order. Can budget cuts be made to avoid an increase in fees? Of course, they can. However, with every cut, we must sacrifice something! Do we wish to sacrifice our communications with the membership by further cutting back on the number of issues of THE BANNER or the manner of distribu-

tion? Do we wish to cut the funds expended on G.A.R. Remembrance Day and other ceremonies which respond directly to the fulfillment of our objectives? Or the small scholarship fund used to encourage the study of the Civil War and related topics by young people? We can cut the funds budgeted for travel and expenses of the Commander-in-Chief, but cannot expect every Commander-in-Chief to defray these expenses from his own pocket resulting in the curtailment of Commander-in-Chief visitation and support to Camps and Departments. These are difficult decisions. The real question is—do we wish to pay the price to remain an active and vibrant organization, or do we wish to reduce the SUVCW to a paper organization?

6. The Department of Indiana is commended for the splendid effort of all those Brothers who worked to make the National Encampment in Indianapolis a truly memorable event. I wish to congratulate and extend my best wishes to those who were elected to office for the coming year. Elected and appointed National Officers as well as Committee assignments are listed elsewhere in THE BANNER. Appreciation is extended to all current and past officers and committee members.

7. Procedures for the payment of the per capita fees, quarterly reports, and ordering of supplies remain in effect. Per capita fees and quarterly reports should be sent to the National Secretary within ten days of the close of each quarter. Requests for supplies should be sent to Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Elmer F. Atkinson.

8. Departments wishing the Commander-in-Chief to attend their Department Encampments or other activities are requested to provide early notice of the dates of such activities. I will do my best to attend as many of these events as possible or arrange for Commandery-in-Chief representation in instances where I cannot personally attend.

9. We will continue to appoint members as National Aides for securing 3 or 4 new members. Those securing 5 or more will receive a Certificate of Merit. Camp Secretaries should for-

ward the names of such members to this office.

10. I urge everyone to contribute something during the coming year to the G.A.R. Memorial fund administered by the National Patriotic Instructor and to the Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief's Fund so that we can continue the important projects made possible by these funds.

11. I hope that all of the questions concerning the shortened 1992 National Encampment were answered or clarified at the immediate past National Encampment in Indianapolis. It is important for everyone to understand that the SUVCW was not being purposely insensitive to the views of the Auxiliary and Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic in planning for the 1992 Encampment. Any lapses in coordination were truly inadvertent. Our purpose in shortening the duration of the National Encampment and moving to a weekend period is to (1) minimize the every mounting cost of attending the National Encampment so that we might attract a greater attendance, and (2) reduce the number of days required and utilize the weekend to provide those who cannot absent themselves from work responsibilities for a longer period with an opportunity to attend the Encampment. Although some of the traditional events of the Encampment will have to be combined, we will still have three days for our business meetings. Even so, those organizations desiring additional time may begin earlier and end later if they wish since the conference rate at the hotel will be in effect for Thursday and Sunday nights.

12. This year marked the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic. For those Departments and Camps that have not yet held some activity or sponsored some program to commemorate the occasion, I hope that you will take some action before the end of the year. Your participation in the G.A.R. Remembrance Day activities is especially important during this 125th anniversary year. All Brothers are encouraged to attend this event which will take place in Gettysburg on 16 November.

13. All members of the National

Council of Administration are advised that there will be a meeting of the Council at 0900 on Sunday, 17 November in Gettysburg at the Headquarters hotel.

14. Camps and Departments are urged to submit items and photographs pertaining to their activities to THE BANNER Editor for publication. You may be engaging in some very worthwhile programs and projects, but if we don't know about them, the impression is received that you aren't doing anything. Although space limitations may prohibit the publication of all photographs received, the Editor will, hopefully, be able to publish the articles covering your activities. Four issues of THE BANNER are planned this year.

15. I extend my best wishes for a fruitful and memorable year to all members of the Allied Orders and in particular to the following new heads of these organizations: Mrs. Ethel Carver, National President of the Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; Mrs. Bonnie Weld, National President of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic; Mrs. Irene Berg, National President of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War; and Mrs. Anne L. Gerlt, National President of the Women's Relief Corps.

16. I ask all of the National Officers and Committee Chairmen and members to dedicate themselves to their responsibilities and the task ahead of us. To paraphrase Abraham Lincoln on the occasion of his departure from Springfield for Washington, "Without the assistance of that Divine Being,....., we cannot succeed. With that assistance we cannot fail."

By Order of
 Lowell Varner Hammer
 Commander-in-Chief

"With Firmness in the Right"

A synopsis of the 110th Annual National Encampment held at Indianapolis, IN August 11-14, 1991

66 Delegates present,
 14 not present, 80 registered

Approved

Support of usual annual ceremonies
 Create a Publications Committee

Commending editors of Camp and Department newsletters
 Support Association for Preservation of Civil War Sites
 Update War Medal qualifications
 Print new brochure when funding available
 Update application and quarterly report when restocked
 Waive fees for Real Sons
 Petition states to erect G.A.R. Highway signs
 Support return of Memorial Day to May 30th
 Support lawful use of firearms
 Create committee to implement locating G.A.R. records
 Balanced budget of \$33,155.

Elected

Commander-in-Chief: Lowell Varner Hammer, MD
 Sr. Vice C-in-C: Elmer F. Atkinson, PA
 Jr. Vice C-in-C: Roger A. Wheeler Sr., IA

Council of Administration: George W. Long, PA to 1992; Joseph S. Rippey, NY to 1992; Peter A. Dixon, MD to 1993
 Secretary: James T. Lyons, MI to 1995
 Treasurer: Richard D. Orr, PA to 1995
 By Council of Administration: MAL Coordinator Keith G. Harrison, MI
 Banner Editor: James O. Lee, IA

Appointed

By Commander-in-Chief:
 Counselor: Richard D. Orr, PA
 Chief of Staff: Norman R. Furman
 Chaplain: Frank A. Foight, III, MD
 Patriotic Instructor: James Lee, IA
 Historian: Jerome L. Orton, NY
 History Book Coordinator: Gary Gibson, MI
 Graves Registration: Charles E. Sharrock, CO-WY
 G.A.R. Highway Officer: Alan C. Peterson, RI
 Washington (DC) Rep.: Richard C. Schlenker, MD
 Personal Aide: Peter A. Dixon, MD

Council of Administration:
Pre-Encampment meeting Sunday 11 August 1991
 Referred proposed budget to encampment
 Audit being conducted by CPA
 Years 87-88, 88-89 cannot be audited, lost records
 Treasurer reports good financial condition
 (Please turn to Page 7)

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Was Your Ancestor at Fisher's Hill?

On March 12, 1991, the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (APCWS) contracted to purchase 194.39 acres of the Fisher's Hill Battlefield in Shenandoah County, Virginia for \$222,000 payable on December 31, 1991. Although large grants are being sought to help defray the required cash. Campaigns are being mounted in Civil War oriented organizations to encourage to preserve the battlefield. The following Union units were engaged at Fisher's Hill: NJ: 14th; MD: 6th; VT: 10th; PA: 67th, 87th, and 138th; OH: 122nd, 110th, 126th; NY: 9th, 106th, 151st, 184th Battalion.

Brothers and Sisters of the Auxiliary are urged to support this effort by sending contribution to the G. A. R. Memorial Fund earmarked for the Fisher's Hill Battlefield Fund. Checks should be made payable to the Nat'l. Org. SUVCW and sent to the Nat'l. Treasurer, Richard D. Orr, 153 Connie Dr. Pittsburgh, PA 15214. A check will be sent to the APCWS for the total amount received.

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**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR, INCORPORATED
1991-92 OPERATIONAL BUDGET**

	General Fund	G.A.R. Fund	Permnt. Fund	Sr. Vice Fund
Revenues				
Per Capita Tax 2200 @ \$10.00	\$22,000.00			
National Encampment Registration Fee	\$300.00			
Sale of Supplies	\$5,500.00			
Auxiliary Gift	\$500.00			
Transfer of Int. From Permanent Fund	\$800.00			
New Camp Application Fee	\$100.00			
Interest Income	\$300.00	\$1,000.00	\$3,000.00	
New Member Registration Fee 100 @ \$5.00				\$500.00
National Patriotic Instructor		\$2,500.00		
Life Membership Payments			\$1,000.00	
Honor Roll Contributions			\$100.00	
Uncommitted Funds MAL	\$250.00			
Allocated from G.A.R. Fund	\$3,355.00			
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$50.00			\$250.00
Total Revenues	\$33,155.00	\$3,500.00	\$4,100.00	\$750.00
Expenses				
Comander-in-Chief's Expenses	\$2,500.00			
National Secretary's Expenses	\$1,000.00			
National Treasurer's Expenses	\$1,000.00			
Purchase of Supplies	\$4,500.00		\$375.00	
Printing, Stationery, Postage, Telephone & Office Supplies	\$2,300.00		\$25.00	
Printing of Proceedings **	\$6,430.00			
National Encampment Expenses	\$300.00			
Transcribing Proceedings **	\$2,000.00			
"THE BANNER" 4 issues	\$8,500.00			
Past Commander-in-Chief Jewel	\$450.00			
Audit 1989, 1990	\$3,500.00			
Printing C & R	\$475.00			
Membership Drive				\$1,000.00
Student Scholarship		\$500.00		
Lincoln Memorial Ceremony		\$75.00		
Lincoln Tomb Ceremony		\$400.00		
G.A.R. Remembrance Day		\$400.00		
Memorial Cathedral of the Pines		\$25.00		
Sons of Veterans Reserve		\$500.00		
G.A.R. Campfire Program		\$400.00		
Fraternal Relations Committee		\$50.00		
Patriotic Instructor Appeal Forms		\$200.00		
National Historian Expenses		\$50.00		
Life Member Payments			\$1,400.00	
Allocated to General Fund		\$3,355.00	\$800.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$200.00	\$150.00	\$100.00	
Total Expenses	\$33,155.00	\$6,105.00	\$2,700.00	\$1,000.00
Net Gain (Loss)	\$0.00	(\$2,605.00)	\$1,400.00	(\$250.00)

Total decrease in assets \$1405.00

** The number of proceedings actually printed and transcribed will depend on the availability of funds.

"With Firmness in the Right"
(Continued from Page 3)
On time quarterly reports needed for steady cash flow
Accepted reports of Secretary, Treasurer, Banner Editor, MAL Coordinator and referred to encampment
Approved printing of missing proceedings
Secretary to forward CWTI ad re-

sponses to Jr. Vice C-in-C
Renew ad in CWTI
Recommend to encampment that three Departments are not in good standing and delegates should not be seated
Heard factions involved in disputes in two Departments and made recommendations for solution
Post-encampment meeting Wed 14

August 1991
Set NPI goal at \$2500
Set Life Member rebate to Camps at \$6.00. Camps must apply before June 30
MAL fees, \$15 application, \$15 annual dues
C&R revision ready for approval at next encampment
(Please turn to Page 8)

"With Firmness in the Right"

(Continued from Page 7) Loose leaf format approved for C&R Set scholarship at \$500. Approved CinC flag replacement Set next meeting for 17 November 1991 at Gettysburg

Current Membership 2652 members, 124 Camps 281 Members at Large Patriotic instructor Raised \$2,422. Sr. Vice C-in-C Fund Raised \$959.

Howland Award To PA Dept. for 104 members Grant Award To CA-PA Dept. for 160% increase New Members Under Age 40 Award To NY Dept. for 15 members 111th National Encampment, Pittsburgh, PA August 14-17, 1992 112th National Encampment, Portland, ME August 13-15, 1993

Editor's Note....The deadline for information, articles and pictures to be placed in the Fall Banner is September 1st of each year.

The deadline dates for the upcoming Banners are December 1, 1991, March 1, 1992 and June 1, 1992.

If you have an article for the Banner, I must receive it before these deadline dates, otherwise it will be held over for the next Banner, space permitting.



AUXILIARY HONOR ROLL

The National Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War have a Honor Roll Book, which is a living Memorial to our deceased Sisters and Brothers. Names are placed in the Honor Roll Book by donations of \$5, \$10, \$15 or \$25, to the Permanent Fund of the National Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

To place a Sister or Brother on the Honor Roll send donation, with name, title, and Department, Auxiliary or Camp name and number to Jo an Wheeler, Treasurer, 3109 East 9th Street, Des Moines, IA 50316.

In Memory of Thelma Crawford, PDP, CA-PA: California-Pacific Dept. \$15., PNP Esther G. Peiper \$10.

In Memory of J. Elmer Wohgemuth, Secy-Treas. CA-PA: California-Pacific Dept. \$15.

In Memory of Janet N. Cross, PDP IA: James and Anita Lee \$10, PNP Esther G. Peiper \$10., and Isabelle's Liberty Girls \$10.

In Memory of Steve E. Thurman, Camp Commander Grenville M. Dodge Camp #75, Des Moines, IA: James and Anita Lee \$10.

In Memory of Maria Ebert: Col. Ellsworth Aux. #2, Union City, NJ \$10.

In Memory of Ruth Lawson, Aux.

#7, Hillsboro, NH: PNP Emma Wheeler \$10.

In Memory of Nellie H. Hawley, PNP IA: PNP Marion E. Combs \$10., PNP Anne O. Clayton, \$10., and PNP Association \$10., and Minnie's Whaiers \$5.

In Memory of Alice D. Thompson, PDP, NJ: PNP Margaret D. Schroeder \$10.

In Memory of Helen Hall, PDP, PA: Pennsylvania Dept. \$10.

In Memory of Louisa Daubert, PDP NJ: NJ PDP Association \$10., PNP Anne O. Clayton \$10., PDP M. Helen Loll \$10., NJ Dept. \$15., and P C-in-C Fred and PNP Marion Combs \$15.



NOTICE

The 61st Annual Dedication Day Dinner will be held on Saturday, November 16th, at 6:30 p.m. Ramada Inn, 2634 Emmitsburg Road, Gettysburg, PA (Bus. Route 15 South.)

Price for the dinner is \$14.00 per person. Please include the names of each person.

Send reservations to George W. Long, 222 Lincoln St., Lancaster, PA 17603-2718 or call (717) 393-2788, no later than November 8, 1991.

Room rates are \$42. single, \$47 double, add \$5. for each additional person You must specify G. A.R. group to get this room rate.

Banner Subscriptions

The BANNER is published by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc. — the only male organization recognized by and representing the Grand Army of the Republic. Founded in 1881 and incorporated by Act of Congress as a non-profit patriotic, fraternal historical society. SUVCW members receive the BANNER at no additional charge. Subscriptions are welcome at \$4.00 per year. ALL subscriptions expire January First.

Name _____ Street _____ City, State, Zip _____ Dept., Aux. (Name & No.) _____

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

THE BANNER

JAMES O. LEE - EDITOR 1609 S.W. Leland Ave. Des Moines, Iowa 50315-4946

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



1992

Requisition for Supplies (Form 1)

To: Elmer F. Atkinson, Asst. to Nat'l. Treas. Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1016 Gorman St., Philadelphia, PA 19116-3719

Enclosed please find \$ _____ Please send the following supplies to:

Name _____ Street _____ City and State _____ Zip _____ Telephone No. _____

Table with columns: Quantity, Form No. and Name, Amount. Multiple rows for listing items.

Please allow several weeks for shipment.

ONLY ORDERS RECEIVED ON CURRENT YEAR REQUISITIONS WILL BE HONORED

Camp Installing Officer's Report — Form 22 — will be mailed to Dept. Headquarters as requested as long as the remaining supply lasts.

Dept. Secretary-Treasurer Quarterly Report — Form 35, 37, 38 — and Certificate of Election of Department Officers — Form 49 — will be mailed without request to Department Headquarters at the appropriate times.

MEMBERS: Keep your badges, ribbons and numerals updated. Wear them proudly. CAMPS and DEPARTMENTS: Order your supplies before your stock runs out. Check your credentials, badges and other supplies monthly.

(To be filled in by National Treasurer)

Req. No. _____ Received _____ Date _____ Amount _____ Shipped _____ Shipping Cost _____

To: James O. Lee, National Patriotic Instructor 1609 S. W. Leland, Des Moines, IA 50315

Enclosed please find \$ _____ as a contribution to the 1992 Grand Army of The Republic Memorial Fund:

Name _____ Street _____ City, State, Zip Code _____ Camp or Auxiliary # _____ Department _____



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR 1992 Appeal For The G.A.R. MEMORIAL FUND

DEPARTMENTS — CAMPS — BROTHERS: Once a year, you are asked to support this fund. Only with your help can we keep alive the memory of the G.A.R. and continue the patriotic work we undertake in their memory. This fund finances many national projects, including the G.A.R. Scholarship, the Lincoln Memorial and the Lincoln Tomb Services, the G.A.R. Remembrance Day observance at Gettysburg, the G.A.R. Camp Fire Program, and the Sons of Veteran Reserve.

Our task to carry on the memory of the G.A.R. is great. This is your pledge to carry on their work — your investment in our Order. No donation is too small. May I count on you? Send \$1, \$5, \$10, or more. It is a wise investment for it pays dividends in patriotism. Please send your check to me (payable to National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War) and my annual report will record you as a shareholder.

James O. Lee, National Patriotic Instructor 1609 S. W. Leland, Des Moines, IA 50315 Ph: 515-287-5962 Contributions are deductible for Income Tax purposes — Sec. 170 of the Code of 1954.

