



# the Banner

Published by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Organized 1881—the only male organization recognized by the Grand Army of the Republic—Chartered by Act of Congress

Volume 96

FALL, 1992

No. 1



**Commander-in-Chief  
Elmer F. Atkinson elected  
for 1992-1993 year**

Elmer F. Atkinson of Philadelphia, PA, was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at the 111th National Encampment held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 14-16, 1992.

Brother Atkinson is a life Member, basing his eligibility in our organization on two great-grandfathers: Pvt. Balthasar Moeckel, Co. G., 75th Pennsylvania Regiment Volunteers and Pvt. William Brown, U.S. Marine Corps. He is a veteran of World War II and a member of the Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the A-American Legion.

He joined Anna M. Ross Camp #1 in Philadelphia in 1938, serving all offices in the Camp including Commander and then subsequently Secretary-Treasurer for 19 years. He continued by serving the Department in many offices before being elected Pennsylvania Department Commander in 1985 and

1986. He filled both appointed and elective offices for the National Organization before attaining the office of Command-in-Chief.

A strong supporter of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, he holds the rank of Colonel in that organization and is the 2nd Military District Commander. Under his guidance, an active new unit, the 28th Pa. Vol. Inf., was organized in Philadelphia.

He has been the President of the G.A.R. Civil War Museum and Library for 11 years and instrumental in the revival of the museum and the expansion of its activities and programs. Many hours of his time are devoted to the preservation of the museum and in its outreach programs to schools and community groups.

"Bud", as he is better known, is descended from a long line of members of the Allied Orders. Many relatives, including grandparents, mother, aunts, uncles, sons, daughters, granddaughters, brother, nieces have been or are now members. He is the nephew of Past Commander-in-Chief Clarence Riddell and PNP Caroline Riddell of the Auxiliary. He has been married for 43 years to his wife, Margaret, who is currently serving as National Secretary of the Auxiliary. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

Brother Atkinson is retired from the Philadelphia Fire Department and the Army Reserves, having served in both organizations for 24 years. He was further involved in the community through his years as a Boy Scout Merit Badge Counselor and Pennsylvania Hunter Safety Instructor, and is currently serving on the Board of Directors of the Frankford Historical Society.



**Frances A. Murray  
elected 1992-1993 Aux-  
iliary National President**

Mrs. Frances A. Murray was elected National President of the Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at the 106th National Encampment held in August, 1992, at Pittsburgh, PA. Her Civil War heritage was through her great-grandfather John W. Waltz of Nobleboro, Maine. He was a member of the famed 21st Maine. He later served with the 6th Maine Battery Heavy Artillery.

Frances and her twin sister, Phyllis, joined the Auxiliary at Department Encampment held in Portland, Maine, in June, 1953, and that afternoon were installed Department Personal Aides to their Aunt Mildred Osborne Babine. Frances has served many offices in her Auxiliary and was Auxiliary President in 1960. She did not travel much for a few years because of young children at home, but after the death of her father in a car accident in 1972, she started traveling with her mother and became Department President (Please turn to page 3)



**GENERAL ORDERS NO. 1**  
Series 1992-1993  
Commander-in-Chief  
1016 Gorman Street  
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1. Having been elected and installed as Commander-in-Chief at the 111th National Encampment at Pittsburgh, PA, on August 15, 1992, command is hereby assumed with Headquarters established at the above address, personal communications to be directed to the same. Business correspondence should be referred to the National Secretary, Mr. James T. Lyons, 411 Bartlett Street, Lansing, MI 48915.

2. The Department of Pennsylvania is commended for the excellent arrangements and services rendered as host to the National Encampment August 14-16, 1992.

3. Standing Committee Appointments have been made and Chairmen have been notified. All previous appointees are hereby relieved of their duties with our sincere thanks. All retiring officers and chairmen are expected to transfer all information to their successors.

4. The Committee on Legislation, along with all Departments, Camps, and members will actively support the efforts of Rep. G.V. Sonny Montgomery (D-Miss.), Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, for introducing H.R. 2981, a bill which would return the federal observance of Memorial Day to May 30. Write your legislator asking support for this bill.

5. New members are the life blood of our order. Without them we cannot exist. As in past years, each Brother securing three new members will be appointed as a National Aide and issued a National ribbon for his badge. Those who recruit five new members will be awarded a Certificate of Merit.

6. Members are reminded of the

support needed by the National Patriotic Instructor for his fund for the continuance of our patriotic work and the Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief's fund to continue the promotion of our order.

7. The Commander-in-Chief's travel itinerary will be planned in order to serve the Organization in the best possible way. Please extend invitations as early as possible to assist me in making up my schedule.

8. If your Department is having any situations or problems that require mediation and you desire the presence of the Commander-in-Chief, please telephone me. This request will take precedence over all other business.

9. Information regarding the ill and bereaved should be forwarded to my headquarters in order that proper attention may be given to the needs of the member or to his family.

10. Remembrance Day parade and ceremonies at Gettysburg are designed as a means of remembering the Grand Army of the Republic and paying them homage. Many of us will gather there on November 14, 1992. Those who cannot attend are urged to hold ceremonies in their Camps.

11. All Camps are requested to send their Department Secretary an up-to-date roster as soon as possible of all Camp members. The Department Secretary will forward this information to a newly created position of Membership Coordinator, Richard Williams, 1917 Teel Avenue, Lansing, MI 48910. Brother Williams must be kept up-to-date on all additions or deletions from the roster each quarter. We MUST have accurate lists to implement the new system of mailing the BANNER.

12. All members of the National Council of Administration are advised there will be a meeting of the Council at 1000 hours on Sunday, 15 November in Gettysburg, PA, at the Headquarter. (Ramada Inn)

13. Camps and Departments are urged to submit reports and pictures of their activities to The BANNER editor, James Lee, for publication. Let the membership know what you are doing. The information about your activities may help others in planning programs of events in their localities. Cut-off dates for submission of articles are: 1 September; 1 December, 1992; 1 March and 1 June, 1993.

14. Congratulations to Department and Camp 1992-93 elected officers on assuming your duties. May your efforts and inspiring leadership give you excellent results.

15. Veteran's Day, November 11th and Memorial Day as well as all patriotic holidays should be observed and local parades should be attended by members of our Order. Membership metals should be worn to display the badge of our Order before the public, enabling others to see clearly our Order's support of our patriotic holiday and memorial observances.

16. Warm congratulations and pledges of close cooperation are extended to National President of the Auxiliary, Frances A. Murray; National President of the Ladies of the G.A.R., Dolores Hubbard; National President of the Daughters of the Union Veterans, Betty Crozier; and National President of the Women's Relief Corps, Mrs. Anne L. Gerlt. My best wishes for successful administrations.

17. To all my elected and appointed Officers and Committees, my earnest wishes for a most successful year with a special plea—keep the lines of communication open. I extend my sincere thanks to all who helped me achieve this high honor. With your continued assistance, I will strive to use all my abilities to advance our Order.

By Order of

Elmer F. Atkinson  
Commander-in-Chief

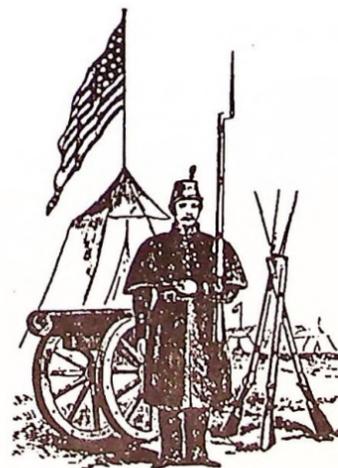
(Continued from page 1)  
of Maine in 1976-1977. She served the National Organization as Council Member, Patriotic Instructor and was National Secretary for seven years before being elected National President in August. Frances is also a Past President of the New England Regional Association and is currently its Treasurer and also serves as Secretary-Treasurer of her Auxiliary and the Department of Maine. She is a Past Worthy Advisory of the Rainbow Girls and is a Past President (twice) of the Bath Business and Professional Women. She and her husband are very active in the Salvation Army church activities, serving on its Advisory Board, Corps Council, Christmas giving, and cook for 70 children every Wednesday afternoon.

Frances has been a bookkeeper, legal secretary, secretary to the Assistant Treasurer at Bowdoin College, and has been Administrative Assistant to the Headmaster and Founder of Hyde School in Bath for the past 27 years. Hyde School was the home of General Thomas W. Hyde.

Frances and her husband, Sandy, have five children: Sandra, Gordon, Bruce, Craig and Reid, two-daughters-in-law and three grandchildren.

Craig and Reid are members of T.W. Hyde Camp #46 of Bath, ME.

Besides her activities in the Salvation Army, BPW and the Auxiliary, Frances enjoys reading, cooking, flea markets and shopping malls.



### The Legislative Report

By Thomas L. W. Johnson

**Civil War Coin Act of 1992**—In May of 1992, Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark) and Sen. John Warner (R-Va) introduced S. 2682, the Civil War Coin Act of 1992. This bill would authorize the U. S. Mint to design a coin to commemorate the centennial of the movement undertaken to protect Civil War battlefields a century ago. Earnings realized from the surcharge added to the projected price of the coins are estimated at \$10 to \$30 million and would be earmarked for the Civil War Battlefield Foundation, a private, non-profit organization begun in 1991 by the Secretary of the Interior to raise money for battlefield acquisition. A companion bill, H.R. 5126, has been introduced in the House by Rep. Bruce Vento (D-Minn) and Rep. Chalmers Wylie (R-Oh).

**Status of Civil War Battle Sites**—On December 10, 1991, President Bush signed PL 102-202 which provides additional appropriations for land acquisition for Monacacy National Battlefield in Maryland. Separate versions of a bill to expand the boundaries of Stones River National Battlefield in Tennessee have been passed by the Senate and House and agreement on a single measure is being sought.

In committee are bills relating to the Battle of Corinth, Mississippi, and measures that would expand

the boundaries of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Battlefield Park.

**Monday Holiday Legislation**—Rep. G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery (D-Miss), the chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, has introduced H. R. 2981, which would return the Federal observance of Memorial Day to May 30. Other bills on this subject have been introduced in the 102nd Congress but none has received a hearing or other committee consideration. Prospects for action are dim in the few weeks remaining in the life of this Congress.

**Preservation of Other Historic Sites**—In December of 1991, President Bush signed PL 102-201 which authorizes that a memorial be erected at the Custer Battlefield National Monument to honor Indians who fought at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. In June of 1992, the President signed PL 102-304 which established the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site in Texas in recognition of the first major engagement fought by US troops in the War with Mexico.

In June of 1992, the House passed H. Jt. Res. 320 which would authorize the District of Columbia to establish a memorial to African Americans who died as Union soldiers during the Civil War. The measure is now in a Senate committee. In July of 1991, the Senate passed S. 628 to authorize a study of historic forts in New Mexico. That bill is now in the House Interior Committee. Bills to authorize a study of frontier cavalry posts in Kansas are in committee as is H.R. 396 which would authorize land acquisition for the Andrew Johnson National Historic Site in Tennessee.

**Status of Federal Charters**—On April 8, 1992, Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass), chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations, rose on the House floor to announce that, henceforth, the time-honored practice of granting Federal charters to various private, (Please turn to page 6)

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SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR, INCORPORATED  
PROPOSED 1992-93 OPERATIONAL BUDGET

	General Fund	G.A.R. Fund	Permnt. Fund	Sr. Vice Fund
<b>Revenues</b>				
Per Capita Tax 2500 @ \$10.00	\$25,000.00			
National Encampment Registration Fee	300.00			
Sale of Supplies	7,000.00			
Auxiliary Gift	500.00			
New Camp Application Fee	100.00			
Interest Income	300.00	1,000.00	3,000.00	
New Member Registration Fee 200 @ \$5.00				1,000.00
National Patriotic Instructor Life Membership Payments		2,500.00		
Honor Roll Contributions			1,000.00	
Uncommitted Funds MAL			100.00	
Reserve Funds	100.00			250.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	375.00			250.00
	50.00			
<b>Total Revenues Collected</b>	<b>\$33,725.00</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>	<b>\$4,100.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Comander-in-Chief's Expenses	\$2,500.00			
National Sect. & Treas. Expenses	2,000.00			
Purchase of Supplies	5,000.00			
Office expenses (printing etc.)	2300.00		375.00	
Printing of Proceedings 1982-85, 1987-92	6,430.00		25.00	250.00
National Encampment Expenses	400.00			
Transcribing Proceedings 1982 - 92	2,000.00			
"THE BANNER"	8,500.00			
Past Commander-in-Chief Jewel	450.00			
Audit 1990, 1991, 1992	3,500.00			
Printing C & R	250.00			
Membership Drive				1,250.00
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		
Tomb of Unknown Civil War Soldier		50.00		
Jefferson Memorial		50.00		
Congress of Patriotic Organizations		25.00		
Sons of Veterans Reserve		500.00		
G.A.R. Campfire Program		400.00		
Fraternal Relations Committee		50.00		
Military Affairs Committee		25.00		
Patriotic Instructor Appeal Forms		200.00		
National Historian Expenses		50.00		
Life Member Payments			1,400.00	
National Officers Bond	375.00			
Miscellaneous Expenses	20.00	25.00	50.00	
<b>Total Expenses Paid</b>	<b>\$33,725.00</b>	<b>\$2,775.00</b>	<b>\$1,850.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
<b>Net Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$725.00</b>	<b>\$2,250.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

1992 SUVCW National Encampment  
"With Firmness in the Right"  
111th Annual National Encampment  
Pittsburgh, PA August 14-16, 1992  
73 Delegates present, 10 not present, 83 registered  
**Approved:**  
Certificate of Merit  
Certificate of Recognition  
Revise information brochure  
Redesign application form  
Prospective member packet  
Expand advertising  
Support battlefield preservation  
Produce roster of membership

Rotate program and policy committee members  
Committee to study alternate investment options  
Publish opinions of CinC & CofA  
Appoint GAR Highway Officer in Departments along U.S. Route 6  
Condemn railroad cut action at Gettysburg, PA  
Condemn disinterment of Civil War soldiers  
Include Buffington Island, OH, in preservation efforts  
(Continued on page 8)

**DINNER NOTICE**

The 62nd Annual Dedication Day Dinner will be held at the Ramada Inn on U.S. Bus. Route 15 approx. 4 miles South of Gettysburg, PA. on November 14, 1992, at 6:30 p.m.

Reservations are \$16.00 per person (please name each person attending). Reservations must be made no later than November 7, 1992, to George W. Long, 222 Lincoln Street, Lancaster, PA 17603-2718 Phone: (717) 393-2788.

(Continued from page 7)

Create Task Force to locate GAR & SUVCW records

Past Cdrs may wear neck ribbon on informal occasions

Membership as of June 30, 1992

2715 members (+63)

118 Camps (-6)

257 Members-at-large (-24)

Howland Award—PA Dept. 124 new members

Grant Award—WI Dept 61% increase of new members

Under 40 Years Old Award—PA Dept 39 new members

GAR Memorial Fund \$3377 contributions

SVCC Fund \$700 contributions

Honor Roll \$65 contributions

112th Nat'l. Encampment, Portland, ME, August 13-15, 1993 Friday - Saturday - Sunday Ramada

113th Nat'l. Encampment, Lansing, MI, August 12-14, 1994 Friday - Saturday - Sunday

114th Nat'l. Encampment, Providence, RI, August, 1995

115th Nat'l. Encampment, Ohio, August, 1996

**Elected:**

CinC Elmer F. Atkinson, PA

Sr. Vice CinC Allen W. Moore, IN

Jr. Vice CinC Keith G. Harrison, MI

Council of Administration Joseph S. Rippey, NY to 1994

Peter A. Dixon, MD to 1993

Lowell V. Hammer, MD to 1993

Secretary James T. Lyons, MI to 1995

Treasurer Richard D. Orr, PA to 1995

Elected by Council of Administration: BANNER Editor James Lee, IA

MAL Coordinator Douglas Parks, MI National President Aux to SUVCW

MRS. FRANCES A. MURRAY

P.O. Box 734

Bath, ME 04530

National President LGAR

MRS. DOLORES HUBBARD

4444 Westridge Rd.

Kansas City, MO 64133-2006

National President DUVCW

MRS. BETTY CROZIER

801 S. 4th Street

Knoxville, IA 50138

National President WRC

MRS. ANNE L. GERLT

P. O. Box 221

W. Farmington, OH 44491

Council of Administration:

Pre-Encampment meeting Thursday 13 August 1992

Receive reports of CinC, Secretary and Treasurer

Reviewed audits of previous years now published

Appoint audit and budget committee

Receive BANNER Ed and MAL Coord reports and referred to encampment

Review resolution of MA camp division

Reviewed resolution of 1991 election of JVCinC

Review printing of past proceedings

Reviewed results of advertising

Approved 1992-93 proposed budget for referral to encampment

Receive MAL donation of \$1,000.

Reviewed situation of Florida Camp-at-Large

Reviewed situation of IL Dept. arrearages etc., CinC to call reorganizing meeting, Nat'l. Sec. to obtain Dept records

Post-Encampment meeting Sunday 16 August 1992

Set NPI goal at \$2500

Set life Member rebate to camps at \$10.00.

Seek bids for upgrading of appls and certs

Elected Banner Ed and MAL Coord CinC, Sec & Treas to attend IL Reorganizing meeting

Nat'l. Sec. to install SVCinC

Review 112th Enc arrangements

Discussed Committee for 1999

Set next meeting for Sun 15 Nov 1992 at Gettysburg

## 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

RICHARD A. WILLIAMS

1917 Teel Avenue

Lansing, MI 48910

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

