



143rd

National

Encampment

SUVCW

at

Lexington, Kentucky

August 1-4 2024

Commander in Chief

Peter J. Hritsko, Jr.

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COUNCIL

OF

ADMINISTRATION

REPORTS

Commander-in-Chief Report

It has been the foremost and greatest honor that you , my brothers have bestow upon me when you elected me to highest office of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War as the Commander-in-Chief last August of 2023 in Nashua, New Hampshire. I did my best to fill the shoes of the Past Commander-in-Chiefs that stood here before me. It has been a enormous duty and fulfillment of enjoyment honoring my ancestors as this is the reason that brings me to the Sons to carry on their legacy. I am currently still working full time working between 8-12 hours a day in the mechanical field in the steel industry, so it has not been an easy task, I feel the Commander is nothing without the support of his Brothers, Council of Administration, Departments and Camp Officers of the SUVCW so I thank you for your support and encouragement this past year.

During the course as Commander-in-Chief there has been some changes; Issues of General Orders and may motions as we continue to improve our policy as we go. Regarding the the Kid Carson Monument in Santa Fe, New Mexico as of today the GSA (General Servicer Administration) has not accepted our Deed of Gift. The last I heard from the GSA it looked like they will take in consideration the possibility of accepting the Deed Gift from the SUVCW and that the monument has been vandalize again and has been placed into a crate and remove from it's premises to prevent any more damage, as it's is in bad shape.

General Order #2 (Amendment) on Membership Qualification Ratification has PASSED. 19 Departments in favor, 10 Departments against it and 1 Department didn't vote.

Motion 14 was put into effect , it's called , Deposit Agreement which allows camp and departments to lend objects such as charters and items of a collection to be on public display such as in museums on loan. Also included was Policy of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Regarding the National Encampment Vendor/Display Program

One of the things as a Commander-in-Chief is having the unfortunate duties of disbanding camps within the organization. The list of camps being disbanded are; Colgrove-Woodruff Camp #22, Henry Wallace Camp #160 and Carpenter-Welch Camp #180 Dept of Michigan. Warren Camp #44 of the Dept. of CO/WY and well to the revocating of the Charters of the Richard Clark Camp # 210 and the Marshall Lefferts Camp #7 of the Dept. of New York.

I have signed the Form 55 Application for Camp Charter on 7 January 2024 Gen. John W. Sprague Camp #4, Tacoma, Washington, 29 January 2024 Richard Walter Goode Camp #10 Melbourne, Florida, 16th April 2024 for the Sgt. William C. Lilly Camp #66 Syracuse, New York and on. 5 May 2024 Chaplain William Earnshaw Camp #89 in Miami Valley, Ohio.

I have the pleasure of signing the Charters of the newly started camps of the SUVCW: the Gen James A. Garfield Camp #62 Department of Vermont, the Richard Walter Goode Camp #10 Melbourne, Florida, the Gen. John W. Sprague Camp #4 Tacoma, Washington, the Col Henry Carrington #3 Casper Wyoming, the Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Kane #15 Saint George, Utah and the Chaplain William Earnshaw Camp #89 Miami Valley, Ohio that I was able to present in person at my Department of Ohio held in Columbus, Ohio.

I've had the pleasure to travel to several States attending many different Encampments and events. I would like to thank all the National Officers that offered to represent me in the office of the Commander-in-Chief at these Encampments that I was unable to attend due to my work schedule. I also want to commend all Brothers and Sisters of the wonderful hospitality they showed to my wife Judy and myself. One of the most memorable was being at my Dept Encampment of Ohio. Having a picture taken with PC-in-C's Grim, Darby, Freshley and Martin any myself that I will treasure and also had a picture taken with my National Appointed Officers, PC-in-C Darby National Counselor and PC-in-C Freshley National Assistant Counselor and James Crane, PDC National Chief of Staff. I would like to thank them personally for all the dedication and hard work especially Brother James Crane for putting all these reports together, setting up meetings and communicating with all the Dept Commanders and Secretary's.

Also I mentioned I had the pleasure of serving with National Auxiliary President Sister Sue Freshley as we are from the same Dept. of Ohio and both members of the James A. Garfield Camp and Eliza Aux #142 Cleveland, Ohio both National Officer's representing the order at the same time.

Some of the most memorable events I attended was the National Encampment, Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, Remembrance Day in Gettysburg being at the Woolson Monument giving a few words during the ceremony and as I was speaking I was able to look over onto the Battlefield where the 8th O.V.I Monument stands representing the battle on the July 1st, 2nd and the 3rd of July 1863 where my Great-Great-Grandfather 1st Lieutenant Elijah Hayden Commander of Co H was in command of the skirmish line on the 3rd. Unfortunately he was killed on the 3rd day of the battle, buried in a shallow grave, later to be brought home and buried 2 weeks later after the battle by his men of 8th OVI and the people of his hometown Elyria, Ohio costing \$125.00 back then to bring him home and place a headstone. There was a GAR Post was also named after him called the Elijah Hayden Post 49 Elyria, Ohio. I felt his presence with me that day. It was a incredible feeling that I can't explain, As I felt he was watching over me and pleased to know that I would continue the memory of his legacy and do what was what is right keeping all those whom served memory alive.

Also the once in a life time highest point of the term was being at Arlington National Cemetery placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on Veterans Day and again Memorial Day.

I would like to acknowledge my wife Judy for all her support and interest with the Sons and Auxiliary as she accompanied me to all these events, I couldn't have done this without her support..

Again Brothers, I thank you again for all your support through this year. Brothers I salute and thank you.

I have one recommendation to present -

Recommendation 1: Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Awards and Recognition Policy.

The list of all Awards and Recognition Policies need to be sent out by the Brother in charge of having these awards made up for the brothers of whom are going to received them. When emailing them with the list of all awards and reminding them prior to due date to all Department Commanders and he needs to communicate with all camp commanders within their Departments. The information that needs to be sent out knowing that these awards has rules and time frames prior to the National Encampment.

All information regarding the Awards and recognition need to be change to May 15th instead of May 31. This will allow to have all these awards done in time for the National Encampment This gives the Council of Administration two weeks before the dead line to be able to vote on a Brother receiving the Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star and having more time to finalized all the awards. Making sure that these Brother that are submitting there request having proper Forms fill out such as For 17 Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Peter J. Hritsko Jr
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief – Kevin L. Martin, PDC

I actively performed the duties associated with being the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief including leading the Program and Policy (P&P) Committee. I monitored and participated in all discussions and votes (both in-person and virtual (Zoom) Council of Administration meetings) associated with issues and questions coming before the Council.

I participated in the following SUVCW related events:

- Participated in the post National Encampment COA meeting in Nashua, New Hampshire.
- Participated in the Joint Antietam #3 Meeting at the C. Burr Artz Library, Frederick, Maryland, 10 September 2023.
- Spoke at and toured Monocacy National Battlefield with the SUVCW Department of the Chesapeake Leadership Group, 16 September 2023.
- Participated in the ASUVCW Funeral Ritual Service in Hydes, Maryland for Department of the Chesapeake Antietam Auxiliary #3 Sister Ellie Leonard, 23 September 2023.
- Attended the Military of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS)/Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States (DOLLUS) Gettysburg Congress in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, 14 October 2023.
- Attended Funeral Mass for DOLLUS Past National President Florence Stanley in Georgetown, Washington D.C., 17 October 2023.
- Attended the National Veterans Day Ceremony and wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington Cemetery, Virginia, 11 November 2023.
- Attended the Antietam Camp and Auxiliary #3 Dinner at the Schmankerl Stube Restaurant in Hagerstown, Maryland on Veterans Day, 11 November 2023.
- Participated in the Gettysburg Remembrance Day SVR Breakfast, Woolson Monument Ceremony, Parade, and the SVR Civil War Ball, 18 November 2023.
- Participated in the Gettysburg Council of Administration meeting on 19 November 2023.
- Attended and supervised the annual Antietam National Battlefield Illumination setup in the North Woods, 2 December 2023.
- Attended the ASUVCW Department of the Chesapeake Civil War Christmas at the Carriage House Inn, Emmitsburg, Maryland, 10 December 2023.
- As Camp Commander, led the Joint SUVCW/ASUVCW Antietam #3 Meeting, elections, and installation on 7 Jan 2024 at the C. Burr Artz Library, Frederick, Maryland. A new Camp Commander was elected and installed.
- Attended the Lincoln Birthday Events sponsored by MOLLUS and the LBNCC at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC on the weekend of 11-12 February 2024.
- Represented the SUVCW by laying a wreath at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington D.C., 12 February 2024.
- Represented the Commander-in-Chief at the Florida Department Encampment in Sarasota, 17 Feb 2024.
- Attended Antietam Camp and Auxiliary #3 meeting on 10 March 2024 at the C. Burr Artz Library, Frederick, Maryland.
- Participated in National SUVCW Zoom Council of Administration Meeting, 10 March 2024.
- Represented the Commander-in-Chief at the Department of the Chesapeake Encampment on 5-6 April 2024 in Ellicott City, MD.
- Served as the Master of Ceremonies at the Lincoln Death Day Ceremony, 13 April 2024.
- Attended the SUVCW luncheon with keynote speaker, Gene Salecker, at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield, Illinois, 13 April 2024.
- Provided remarks on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief at the B. F. Stephenson Memorial Ceremony, Petersburg, Illinois, 13 April 2024.
- Participated with Antietam #3 at the America 250! History Fair on the Carroll Creek, Frederick, Maryland, 28 April 2024.

- Participated in the Joint Antietam #3 Meeting at the C. Burr Artz Library, Frederick, Maryland, 19 May 2024.
- Attended GAR Church Service in Lansdowne Christian Church (Hull Memorial), Maryland, 28 May 2024.
- Attended PCinC Eugene Mortorff's funeral, Dugan Funeral Home, Bendersville, Pennsylvania, 7 June 2024.
- Participated in the Last Union Veteran Ceremony in Frederick County, MD, 23 June 2024.

It has been an honor to represent our great organization as the SUVCW Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief during the 2023-2024 term. Thank you all for your support!

At this time, I have no recommendations.

Report of the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief

July 10, 2024

Brother Commander-in-Chief,

As of July 10, 2024, I have received and administered a total of 71 membership application queries. Below are the number of inquiries broken down by Departments and dates received. Inquiries where the applicant's state of residence was known were referred to the appropriate Department's Junior Vice Commander. Where no state of residence was given, I emailed the applicant and asked that they send me this information, so that I might refer them to the appropriate DJVC. I did not receive a reply in the cases noted under "None given", below.

Department	# of inquiries Gettysburg	# of inquiries Springfield	# of inquiries Lexington	TOTAL
Alabama	1	0	0	1
Arkansas	1	0	0	1
California & Pacific	1	1	0	2
Chesapeake	2	1	1	4
Colorado & Wyoming	0	1	0	1
Connecticut	1	0	1	2
Columbia	0	1	0	1
Florida	1	2	1	4
Idaho	0	1	0	1
Illinois	1	1	0	2
Kansas	1	0	1	2
Kentucky	0	1	0	1
Massachusetts	0	0	1	1
MAtL	0	1	0	1
Michigan	0	1	0	1
Missouri	0	2	0	2
New Hampshire	0	0	1	1
New Jersey	1	0	0	1
New York	2	0	1	3
Ohio	1	1	0	2
Oklahoma	0	0	1	1
Pennsylvania	0	2	0	2
Rhode Island	0	0	1	1
Southwest	0	1	0	1
Tennessee	4	2	0	6
Texas	0	3	0	3
UK	0	1	0	1
Wisconsin	0	1	0	1
None given	4	6	11	21
TOTAL	21	30	20	71

It has been my great honor to have been elected by the 2023 National Encampment to this office and I assure you that I have made every effort to live up to the trust they have placed in me.

Among the many Camp and Department activities I participated in over the past year, the following are some of note:

- I have monitored and participated in all online discussions and voting of the Council of Administration for the past year.
- On August 6, 2023, I attended the Council of Administration meeting in person at Nashua, New Hampshire.
- On August 14, 2023, I performed a presentation on Medal of Honor recipient Captain John G. B. Adams, which aired on Lynn, Massachusetts Cable TV.
- On August 25, 2023, I attended a National Encampment Site Committee tour and meeting at the Hyatt Hotel in Rochester, New York.
- On September 16, 2023, I attended a virtual meeting of the Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp No. 2, Department of Texas' monthly meeting.
- On September 17, 2023, as Commander of the 1st Military District, SVR, I participated in a Cemetery Rededication ceremony at Clark's Cemetery in Gloucester, Massachusetts
- On September 18, 2023, I performed a presentation on Union General William Francis Bartlett which aired on Lynn, Massachusetts Cable TV.
- On September 18, 2023, I performed a presentation on President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, which aired on Lynn, Massachusetts Cable TV.
- On October 22, 2023, as Commander of the First Military District, SVR, I participated in a Headstone Rededication ceremony for Major Thomas W. Osborn at Hillside Cemetery in North Adams, Massachusetts.
- On November 5, 2023, as Commander of the First Military District, SVR, I participated in the Department of Massachusetts annual ceremony honoring Union General Benjamin F. Butler at Hildreth Family Cemetery in Lowell, Massachusetts.
- On November 9, 2023, I attended a dinner for the Charlestown Veterans Committee in support of the restoration of the Abraham Lincoln Post #1 Grand Army of the Republic Hall in that section of Boston, Massachusetts.
- On November 16 – 19, 2023, I attended the Department of Massachusetts Annual Remembrance Day Weekend Trip to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. While in the area, I participated in a tour of Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, the annual Remembrance Day SVR Breakfast, the Remembrance Day ceremonies at Gettysburg National Battlefield and Cemetery, the Remembrance Day parade and the Council of Administration meeting.
- On November 24, 2024, I participated in a virtual meeting with United Kingdom Camp No. 10 concerning issues with similar organizations being perceived as having an association with the Camp.
- On December 9, 2023, I participated in hosting the Department of Massachusetts Annual Christmas Party for Disabled and Homeless Veterans at the Chelsea Soldiers Home in Chelsea, Massachusetts.
- On December 12, 2023, I performed a virtual presentation over Zoom on Civil War soldiers' Christmas observances during the Civil War for the National Society of Daughters of the Union.
- On February 11, 2024, I hosted the Department of Massachusetts Annual Abraham Lincoln Birthday Brunch in Wakefield, Massachusetts.
- On March 10, 2024, I participated in a virtual Council of Administration meeting over Zoom.

- On March 15 -17, I attended the Department of Tennessee Annual Encampment in Brentwood Tennessee, where I represented the Commander-in-Chief and performed the Installation of Department Officers.
- On April 1, 2024, I was the guest speaker at a dinner where I performed a presentation on the Emancipation Proclamation and Gettysburg Address for the Boston Baptist Social Union in Needham, Massachusetts.
- On April 5 -7, 2024, I attended the Department of California and Pacific Annual Encampment in Laughlin, Nevada, where I represented the Commander-in-Chief and performed the Installation of Department Officers.
- On April 12 – 14, 2024, I participated in the SUCVW Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony events in Springfield, Illinois. While in the area, I attended the spring Council of Administration meeting and the annual Benjamin F. Stephenson Monument Ceremony in Petersburg, Illinois.
- On April 20, 2024, I was a guest speaker at a virtual meeting of the Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp No. 2, Department of Texas' monthly meeting.
- On April 25, 2024, I attended a virtual meeting of the Department of Tennessee National Encampment Host Committee.
- On April 26 – 28, 2024, I attended the Department of Massachusetts Annual Encampment in Wakefield, Massachusetts, where I represented the Commander-in-Chief and performed the Installation of Department Officers.
- On May 3 – 5, 2024, I attended the Department of Texas with Louisiana Annual Encampment in Houston, Texas, where I represented the Commander-in-Chief and performed the Installation of Department Officers.
- On May 17, 2024, as Commander of the First Military District, SVR, I participated in a ceremony honoring Union Sgt. William H. Carney, the first African American Medal of Honor recipient, in New Bedford, Massachusetts.
- On May 18, 2024, I performed Honor Guard duties as part of the opening of the National Society of Daughters of the Union's annual National Congress. Later that evening, I attended the NSDU Banquet.
- On May 30, 2024, I performed a presentation on the Emancipation Proclamation for the Council on Aging at the Topsfield Senior Center in Topsfield, Massachusetts.
- That same evening, as Commander of the 1st Military District, SVR, I participated in a virtual meeting with the 1st Rhode Island Artillery Company, SVR.
- On June 1, 2024, I participated in the ongoing restoration of the Grand Army of the Republic plot at Lakeside Cemetery in Wakefield, Massachusetts.
- On June 8, 2024, as Commander of the First Military District, SVR, I participated in a headstone dedication ceremony for Hugh Cook in Rutland, Massachusetts
- On June 16, 2024, I, once again, participated in the ongoing restoration of the Grand Army of the Republic plot at Lakeside Cemetery in Wakefield, Massachusetts.
- On June 27, 2024, I performed a presentation on Lincoln's Gettysburg Address for the Council on Aging at the Topsfield Senior Center in Topsfield, Massachusetts.
- On June 28, 2024, I attended a virtual meeting of the Department of Tennessee National Encampment Host Committee.

- On June 29, 2024, I, once again, participated in the ongoing restoration of the Grand Army of the Republic plot at Lakeside Cemetery in Wakefield, Massachusetts.

Recommendations: I recommend that the National web site Membership page, Under Membership Application, in the sentence that reads, *“If you are not able to find a local Camp or Department, further questions regarding eligibility or the application can be directed to the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief at jvcinc@suvcw.org.”*, the link to the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief be replaced with a link to an internet form with required fields that forces the sender to 1. Name the state in which they reside, 2. Require their email address, and 3. Let us know how they were referred to the SUVCW.

This will assist the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief in knowing which DJVC to put them in touch with, have the ability to contact them with a follow up email, to make sure they were properly responded to, and to have a better idea where our recruiting efforts might be focused to maximize recruiting. The information in that form could be directed to the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief via email.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Kevin P. Tucker, PDC
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

National Secretary Report

MINUTES.

I prepared and submitted Minutes for the following Council of Administration meetings:

August 16, 2023 – Post Encampment Nashua, NH

November 19, 2023 - Gettysburg, PA

March 10, 2024 - Zoom meeting

April 13, 2024 -Springfield, IL

MOTIONS VIA ELECTRONIC BOARDROOM.

Motion 1 - Passed September 18, 2023

A motion was made by Brother Fraser and seconded by Brother Martin that the Charter of the Sons of Veterans of the USA, William L. Buchanan Camp #177, Indiana, PA, chartered April 25, 1914 be loaned to the Historical Society if it will be put on display and if they will sign a written contract regarding the terms of the loan and ultimate ownership of the artifact.

Motion 2 – Passed, September 23, 2023

A motion was made by Brother Bobby Welch and seconded by Brother Joseph Hall hat upon favorable review of the Council that the Quartermaster Store be moved to the Square E-Commerce platform.

Motion 3 – Passed September 26, 2023

A motion was made by Brother Welch and seconded by Brother Pierson that the insignia be replaced with the Logo on the Publication 70.

Motions 4 - Passed September 28, 2023

A motion was made by Brother Payne and seconded by Brother Murray that we secure an agreement with Drupal Connect to update our current site to Drupal 10. .

Motion 5 -- Passed October 5, 2023

A motion was made by Brother Welch and seconded by Brother Payne that "the SUVCW authorize the current ROTC Medal for all Cadets Corps program to include the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps, the Civil War Air Patrol, the Young Marines as well the JROTC, ROTC and NDCC currently on Form 7; that Form 7 be updated to show the changes; and that the title of Form 7 be changed to "Cadet Award Application".

Motion 6 – Passed October 15, 2023

A motion was made by Brother Frail and seconded by Brother Payne that " Whereas, all the changes, rights and confidentiality subjects that were discussed during the Council of Administration meeting (pre and post National Encampment, August 3rd and 6th 2023 in Nashua, New Hampshire), have been made and agreed to by RahnTech. As such and as stated above, I make a motion to accept this contract between RahnTech and the SUVCW." This motion concerns the Graves Registration Database

Motion 7 – No call for vote - On November 8, 2023, the Federal Government had already decided on removal.

A motion was made by Brother Pierson and seconded by Brother Frail that we accept the invitation to be a consulting party about the Confederate Memorial Removal in Arlington National Cemetery.

Motion 8 - Passed unanimously November 19, 2023 at CofA meeting Gettysburg

A motion was made by Brother Hall and seconded by Brother Welch that the missing proceedings of our Order not held by the Library of Congress be immediately transmitted so we will be in compliance with our own Constitution and that action be completed not to surpass the deadline of March 1, 2024

Motion 9 - No Second

To make changes to the Official, SUVCW Monument Protection Policy.

Motion 10 - Failed December 6, 2023

A motion was made by Brother Tucker and seconded by Brother Milburn that " After the 2024 Photographer Retainer Agreement is completed, all future photography services at our annual National Encampment be the responsibility of the Host Committees, and that they be given a budget of \$700 for this purpose, and that all future photography services at our annual Lincoln Death Day events and annual Remembrance Day events be the responsibility of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, and that they be given a budget of \$700 for this purpose.

Motion 11 - Failed January 18, 2024

A motion was made by Brother Frail and seconded by Brother Hall " to put together specifications for a transcriptionist to transcribe our audio, and if needed, our video records of our Annual National Encampment for the purpose of compiling our National Encampment Proceedings. These specifications should then be put out for bid, just as was done for our graves registration database contract.

Motion 12 - Passed January 29, 2024

A motion was made by Brother Beard and seconded by Brother Frail that " the CofA give permission to the BG Joseph Bailey SUVCW Camp #5 of the Department of Texas/Louisiana to use the SUVCW Logo on the State Marker of the proposed monument for the Battle of Sabine Crossroads. This is a one time use only to the Camp. "

Motion 13 - Passed February 6, 2024

A motion was made by Brother Beard and seconded by Brother Frail that " the CofA approve the Form 49 (corrected) submitted by the P&P Committee. "

Motion 14 - Passed March 25, 2024

A proposal for a Deposit Agreement and Loan and Deposit Policy was presented by the P & P Committee and a motion was made by Brother Martin and seconded by Brother Tucker " to accept the attached Policy documents as recommended by the Policy and Procedures (P&P) Committee."

Motion 15 - Passed March 25 ,2024

A proposal Regarding the National Encampment Vendor/Display Program was presented by the P & P Committee and a motion was made by Brother Martin and seconded by Brother Payne " to accept the attached Policy document as recommended by the Policy and Procedures (P&P) Committee."

Motion 16 - Passed May 8, 2024

A motion was made by Brother Welch and seconded by Brother Payne to approve the new membership certificates, Commendation Certificates and Patriotic Award (flag) Certificate

Motion 17 - Passed May 23, 2024

A motion was made by Brother Payne and seconded by Brother Beard to approve Veach Camp #30 request to use the SUVCW on T-shirts meant for members of the Camp.

Motion 18 - Passed June 19, 2024

motion was made by Brother Beard and seconded by Brother Frail that " Specifically: that the SUVCW define bullying, harassment, and intimidation within the Order as any intentional written, verbal, graphic or physical act that a member exhibits toward another member more than once, and that behavior creates an intimidation, threatening or abusive environment for the other member. Bullying includes electronically transmitted forms; "cyber bullying" occurs when a member conveys his message through the internet (email), or a cell phone (text messaging or voice), personal digital assistant (PDA) or another wireless device. Bullying may also be a verbal face-to-face confrontation over a period of time.

P&P should consider words to this effect be added to the National Policy on Harassment was well as

adding a new section to the C&R under Chapter IV Discipline Article 2 "Sixth: Conduct unbecoming a Brother toward another Brother of the Order" and the addition of subparagraph (d) to Article 3 of the Discipline section of the C&R referring to the National Policy on Harassment. The addition of this language defines Bullying and also could be charged under Article 1, Fourth, Fifth and the additional new Sixth subparagraphs."

Motion 19 - Passed June 20, 2024

It appears that TeeRudd is selling an SUVCW t-shirt without permission of the SUVCW. They have sold SIX so far. A cease-and-desist letter needs to be sent to them. A motion was made by Brother Frail and seconded by Brother Payne, " that the eBay committee and/or the National Counselor investigate this claim and if needed, authorize either to send a cease-and-desist letter to the person/company listed on the EBay site."

CAMP/DEPARTMENT CHARTERS.

CHARTERS ISSUED:

The following charters have been issued by Commander in Chief Hritsko since the National Encampment:

(2023-04) Maj Gen James A Garfield Camp 62, Department of Vermont.

Date of Rank: October 1, 2023

(2024-01) Gen John W Sprague Camp 4, Department of Columbia.

Date of Rank: January 7, 2024

(2024-02) Richard Walter Goode Camp 10, Department of Florida

Date of Rank: January 31, 2024

(2024-03) Brig. Gen Thomas L. Kane Camp 15, Department of Colorado and Wyoming

Date of Rank: March 23, 2024

(2024-04) Col Henry B Carrington Camp 3, Department of Colorado and Wyoming

Date of Rank: March 23, 2024

(2024-05) Chaplain William Earnshaw Camp 89, Department of Ohio

Date of Rank: May 6, 2024

(2024-06) Sgt William C Lilley Camp 66, Department of New York

Date of Rank: May 16, 2024

(2024-07) George W. Mears Camp 505, Department of Pennsylvania.

Date of Rank: July, 2024

(2024-08) George A. Cribbs Camp 276, Department of Pennsylvania

Date of Rank: July, 2024

CHARTERS REVOKED:

The following charters have been revoked by CinC Hritsko since the National Encampment:

August 20, 2023 - Colgrove-Woodruff Camp #22 Department of the Michigan

October 4, 2023 - Richard Clark Camp #210, Department of New York

November 14, 2023 – Henry Wallace Camp No. 160, Department of the Michigan

April 16, 2024 - Carpenter-Welch Camp #180 of the Department of Michigan

May 1, 2024 - Colonel Marshall Lefferts Camp #7, Department of New York

June 17, 2024 - Francis E. Warren Camp 44, Department of Colorado/Wyoming

ACTIVE APPLICATIONS: The following applications for permission to form a Camp are currently active.

William Bumgarner Camp 33. Department of Indiana. Expires 26 September, 2024
Maj. Gen. Edward O.C. Ord Camp 3, Department of Texas. Expires 12 December 2024
Spicely Camp 252. Department of Indiana. Expires 28 May 2025

EXPIRED APPLICATIONS: The following applications for permission to form a Camp expired on the date indicated.

Gen. Luther Stephenson Camp 512, Department of Massachusetts. Expired September 15, 2023

I attended the 2024 Department Encampments on behalf of the Commander in Chief:

Kansas – April 6th in LeCompton, KS

Nebraska – April 20th in Seward, NE

Vermont - May 18th in East Calais, VT

Maine – June 15th in Fairfield, ME

Pennsylvania – June 28th – 29th in King of Prussia

Respectfully Submitted

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Daniel Murray, PDC
National Secretary

Treasurer's Report 2024 Annual Encampment

1 Fund Status at June 30, 2024:

- a) General Fund: The fund had a \$11K operating surplus this year, primarily due to unrealized gains in the investment portfolio. Fund Balance is \$670,000.
- b) Headquarters Fund: The fund had a \$13K operating deficit. The fund currently receives \$8 per capita dues for each member and revenues from its investments. Fund Balance is \$659. This fund continually loses money.
- c) The Permanent Fund received \$11K in donations this year and did well in the stock market with unrealized gains of \$40K. Fund Balance is \$408,000.
- d) Preservation Fund (AKA Monuments and Memorials Fund). This fund receives \$1 per capita for revenue. It has not spent what has been allocated for several years and as accumulated a \$42K surplus. Fund Balance is \$42,000 (this is a paper balance, as the fund's only asset is what it is owed by the General Fund).
- e) Life Fund. The fund received \$22K in life member fees this year. Fund Balance is \$111,000.
- f) The Lincoln Fund. The fund lost \$852 to run the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony. Fund Balance is a negative \$1,328.

2 Recruiting and Finances

Until our Endowment Fund produces significant revenue, we rely on our members – dues and donations – as the primary source of revenue. We must continue our focus on increasing membership. We are the oldest heritage organization and our ancestor pool exceeds 2 million. We have 5,795 dues paying members. The Mayflower Society has an ancestor pool of 110 and they exceed 30,000 members. They have their own headquarters building in Plymouth and they bought the First Church in Plymouth for its Tiffany windows featuring the Pilgrims. The same is true for SAR, DAR, & Jamestowne – they all have significantly smaller ancestor pools than us and all hover around 30,000 members. We can't blame our small membership on the Civil War – the SCV & the UDC both have 30,000 members. The resulting difference is stark. We will collect \$191,000 in dues this fiscal year while the SAR collects \$1,500,000.

- 3 **Merrill Lynch Account.** For the 2023 calendar year, we earned 10 percent on our investments with Merrill Lynch (including capital appreciation). Our balance at June 30, 2024 was \$1,153,126. We have \$450K in CDs earning at least 5 percent. The remainder of our funds are invested in moderate risk equity stocks. We can expect to earn \$21K in interest and \$15K in dividends in fiscal year 2025.
- 4 **Bank of America Account.** We added Quartermaster Bobby Welch as a signatory to the Quartermaster Checking account (and removed former QM Lyons).
- 5 **1881 Club.** The club currently has seven members, **Mark Day, Tim McCoy, Michael Paquette, Kevin Martin, Brian McManus, Linn Malaznik, and Alan Russ.** For calendar year 2023, the members contributed \$11,506 to the SUVCW.
- 6 **Form 990.** The IRS fined us \$1,400 for claiming we filed our 2021 return late. We appealed and the IRS withdrew the fine. We filed our 2023 Form 990 in December. The IRS has yet to post the 2023 return to its website.
- 7 **Camp/Department 501(c)(3) Status.** In accordance with IRS Publication 4573, Group Exemptions, the National Organization controls the status of its subordinates. I file a report each year using the Forms 11 to add, delete and report all of our subordinates. I will provide any camp or department wishing to prove its 501(c)(3) status with a letter addressed to any prospective donor. This also applies to SVR units and military districts. Thus far this year I provided such letters to the following:
 - a) Irish Brigade Camp #4
 - b) Department of Kentucky

- c) Nash-Hodges Camp #43
- 8 **New Camps and SVR units.** I add each new camp and SVR unit during the year with a faxed letter to the IRS. So far this year, I have faxed letters for:
- Barnard Camp #2
 - Sprague Camp #4
 - Garfield Camp #62
 - Gettysburg Blues
 - Farragut Camp #5
 - Lilly Camp #66
- 9 **State Registrations.** Labyrinth, Inc., is currently filing our annual state registrations in the 36 states that require registration for charities that raise money within the state. We do not file in the District of Columbia (too expensive). The other states either do not require us to register or we are exempt. I, and the CINC, have signed the necessary forms, including have a notary sign when required. This contract cost us \$9,035 this fiscal year.
- 10 **Grants.** \$6,905 in grants awarded as follows:
- \$1,200 to Legion of the West Camp #7 for work on Richard D. Mobley monument
 - \$1,500 check to Bryner Camp #67 for the 1866 Civil War Memorial at the Springdale Cemetery in Peoria, Illinois
 - \$205.67 check to the Humboldt Camp #9 for the 1823 McClurg Walking Stick at the Humboldt Historical Society in Humboldt, Kansas.
 - \$2,000 to BG Bailey Camp #5 for the Union Forces Marker in Marshfield, Louisiana.
 - \$2,000 to General Fletcher Camp #47 for the Louica Volker Monument in Potosi, Missouri.
- 11 **Donations.**
- This fiscal year the **Permanent Fund** is receiving monthly donations from Brothers **Mark Day, David Demmy, Clay Hoffman, Timothy McCoy, Michael Paquette, Alan Russ, & Danny Wheeler.**
 - The **General Fund**, through Brother **David Hann's** efforts, received \$6,055 for the Remembrance Day.
- 12 **Bonds.** Our \$49K in Series EE matured in January and no longer earn interest. It took me 12 business days to get the appropriate paperwork in the Treasury's hands to cash the bonds and deposit the cash in our bank. They have sent me an email saying it can take up to 20 weeks to process our request to transfer our money to our bank. Let that sink in. The bonds are a Permanent Fund asset. Once we get the cash, we will purchase medium risk equity investments.
- 13 **TechSoup.** I have merged our GoDaddy and TechSoup Microsoft 356 license accounts. Our monthly cost will go from \$44 to \$10. We also go from four licenses to 10.
- 14 **Zoom.** I have extended our Zoom account for one year using a half off coupon from TechSoup. I also upgraded. We have two licenses and our meetings can go on as long as we want. I hold one license and James Crane holds the other.
- I set up two zoom meetings for the CINC
 - I had one zoom meeting with the Department Treasurers – only two attended.
- 15 **QuickBooks.** I have migrated the General Fund to QuickBooks on line. Unfortunately, QuickBooks would not let us replace our 2018 Desktop version. They stopped supporting the 2018 version last year. The migration was successful. I have left the other funds on the desktop. Oddly, I could keep the books for all six funds using the desktop version, but not the online version – I would have to purchase six separate licenses. QuickBooks has told me there is a way to do fund accounting using the one account. Sometime in the future I will explore migrating the other five funds.
- 16 **Square.** Quartermaster Welch has moved our Quartermaster Store from PayPal to Square. A much better system. Square and QuickBooks can communicate. Brother Welch and I linked the two and

now Square sales transactions are automatically recorded in QuickBooks saving us both a great deal of time and paper.

- 17 **Financial Statements for fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.** Our auditors, Coulter & Justus, LLC, have issued our statements with a "clean opinion." I have provided the US House of Representatives Judicial Committee with a copy of our statements as required by our Charter. A copy is included as an attachment to the encampment annual reports.
- 18 **Form 1099NEC.** I filed our 1099NECs with the IRS and sent copies to our contractors for their returns.
- 19 **2023 Contributions.** I mailed acknowledgement letters to all our donors for their use in filing their income tax returns.
- 20 **Lincoln Tomb Ceremony.** I prepared the annual report on the finances of the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony for the MOLLUS & SUVCW Commanders. This year's ceremony had revenues of \$1,775 and expenses of \$2,627.27, resulting in a loss of \$852.27.
- 21 **Council of Administration.** I attended and participated in the Council meetings held in Nashua, Gettysburg, and Springfield.
- 22 **Capital Campaign.** I have coordinated with the Fund-Raising Committee to continue our capital campaign to increase our Permanent Fund. The committee bought two ads in the National Encampment program book to promote fundraising.
- 23 **Insurance Certificate.** I arranged for the following certificates of insurance.
 - a) Gettysburg Remembrance Day (City)
 - b) Gettysburg Remembrance Day (School District)
 - c) Gettysburg Remembrance Day (State)
 - d) Pvt John N Eckes Camp #10, Winfield KS camp meetings at the Cowley County Historical Society
 - e) Col. G.L. Willard Camp #154 Monument Preservation Work
 - f) Schuyler F. Smith Camp #193, Department of New York, for leasing space in the Spencer GAR Hall.
 - g) Admiral Farragut Camp # 5 for color guard at the Tampa Bay Rays
 - h) Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill, Camp #4, Department of Kansas, ceremony at Oak Hill Cemetery
 - i) Moses Baldwin Camp #544 monthly meetings at fire house.
 - j) Admiral Farragut Camp # 5 for Christmas Day Parade
 - k) Department of Georgia and South Carolina Department Encampment at the American Legion Post 233
 - l) SVR Lincoln Tomb Ceremonies
 - m) E.F. Dutton Camp #49 in Sycamore, Illinois monthly meetings at the DeKalb County History Center
 - n) Major Sullivan Ballou Camp #3 headstone celebration.
 - o) Irish Brigade Camp #4 National Memorial Day Parade.
 - p) Sheridan Camp #2 for ceremonies at West Aurora Cemetery
 - q) Col. Francine Camp #7, to clean up cemetery in Gloucester City, NJ

24 Proposed Budget for FYE 2025:

INCOME	
Donations to General Fund	\$7,000
Dividends on Investments	15,000
Interest on Investments	<u>21,000</u>
Total Donations and Investments	<u>\$43,000</u>

Quarter Master Sales	52,000
QM Cost of Sales	<u>45,000</u>
Net Quarter Master Sales	<u>7,000</u>
Program Income	
Supplemental Fees	150
Banner Subscriptions	75
Lincoln Tomb Luncheon	700
National Encampment Registration Fees	2,000
Charter Application Fees	250
Per Capita Dues	191,235
New Member Fees	2,500
Reinstatement Fees	<u>350</u>
Total Program Income	<u>197,260</u>
Total Income	<u>247,260</u>

EXPENSE

Administrative Expense	
CINC Expense	15,000
Nat. Secretary Expense	5,000
Nat. Treasurer Expense	5,000
Nat. QM Expense	5,000
CINC Representative Expense	6,000
JVC Expense	500
Banner Editor Expense	<u>5,000</u>
Total Administrative Expense	41,500
Contract Services	
Accounting and Tax Prep Fees	7,000
Audit Fee	19,800
Brokerage fees	7,000
State Certifications -	9,000
Rent	<u>10,320</u>
Total Contract Services	53,120
Operations	
Executive Director	21,000
Assistant Ex Director	12,000
Ex & Assistant Travel	6,000
Insurance	4,200
Office Expense	1,500
Software	2,100
Proceedings Transcription	1,900
Bank Fees	600
Postage	2,200

Telephone & Internet	4,400
Web Site	6,750
Contingency	<u>4,000</u>
Total Operations	66,650
Program Expense	
ROTC Medal Program	6,800
Life Member Reimbursements	300
Grants	15,000
Scholarships	5,000
National Encampment Site Cmte	3,500
National Encampment Host Cmte	3,500
National Photographer	3,000
National Encampment Printing	2,700
National Encampment Awards	2,200
Sons of Confederate Representative	300
Promotions and Marketing Cmte	5,000
Fund Raising Cmte	2,000
Memorial University	1,500
Grant's Tomb	250
Woolson's Monument	100
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier	500
Fraternal Relations Committee	1,000
Cathedral of the Pines	100
Graves Registration	12,200
Banner	56,000
Lincoln Memorial Ceremony	300
Remembrance Day	12,000
Lincoln Tomb Ceremony	<u>2,800</u>
Total Program Expenses	<u>136,050</u>
Total Expense	<u>297,320</u>
Projected Income (Deficit)	<u>(50,060)</u>

25 **Proposed changes to the National Regulations.** I have recommended to the C&R committee the following two changes to the Regulations.

1. Rename Chapter III National Organization, Article IX Finances Section 8 from Memorial/Monument Grant Fund to "Operating Funds" with the following language:

Section 8. Memorial/Monument Grant Fund

~~(a) The purpose of the Memorial/Monument Grant Fund is to assist Camps and Departments in their efforts to refurbish and restore Civil War related memorials and monuments. The following procedure provides some general guidelines as to how to apply for a grant and establishes standards on how grant submittals will be evaluated.79 (Last Veteran Grave Markers are not eligible for grants from the Monuments Grant Committee. DIR-137th, 38. © 1881-2022, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, A Congressionally Chartered Corporation. As amended through the 141st National~~

~~(b) Procedure~~

- ~~(1) Any SUVCW Camp or Department may request money from this fund.~~
- ~~(2) All requests will be handled individually on its own merit.~~
- ~~(3) Only one request from one entity (Camp or Department) can be accepted per monument or memorial. The request must include pictures, documentation as to appraisals and written estimates for the necessary work.~~
- ~~(4) Assessment form (CMW #61) must be submitted with the application.~~
- ~~(5) The maximum grant for any one project shall be \$2,000.00 (Two Thousand Dollars). If principle and interest remain in the fund after all grant applications are considered after April 30, the Council of Administration may grant additional funds to one or more grant recipients of up to 75% of the fund or to make grants of up to 75% of the fund to the one or more civil war sites under the auspices of the National Park Service, Department of Veterans Affairs or Department of Defense for preservation of civil war monuments.~~
- ~~(6) A Memorials Grants Committee consisting of three elected Council of Administration members excluding the Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer and National Quartermaster shall review the grant applications, determine which are worthy of support, which meet the criteria established for the grants and approve the grants within the limits specified in Chapter III, Article X, Section 16.~~

Section 8 Operating Funds.

- a. **General Fund.** This fund is used to account for revenues and expenditures related to the normal day-to-day operations of SUVCW; excluding expenditures to operate the National Headquarters, pay grants, and those revenues and expenses of running the annual ceremony held at Lincoln's Tomb. The fund also accounts for monies given or bequeathed for a specific purpose, most notably for the operation of the SUVCW Scholarship Program and the Annual Remembrance Day Parade in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.
- b. **Permanent Fund.**
 - i. This is the SUVCW's endowment fund established for perpetual support of the Order and is described in Article VIII of the Constitution.
 - ii. The fund accounts for monies that have been given or bequeathed to the National Organization that have not been designated for a specific purpose by the donor, and such other monies as may be added thereto by vote of the National Encampment or the Council of Administration.
 - iii. This fund also accounts for Life Membership fees received prior to August 15, 1996 (member numbers 001-599). The Permanent Fund may (at the discretion of the National Treasurer) annually distribute, for each aforementioned Life Member, interest and principal equal to the National Per Capita assessment then in effect for brothers of the Order to the National General Fund. The fund pays the annual reimbursement to each aforementioned Life Member's camp upon the camp's application in an amount set by the Council of Administration.
 - iv. The fund's monies shall be kept on deposit in one or more bank institutions whose deposits are fully insured to the amount of the deposit, or invested in obligations of the United States, or in the securities or mutual funds of corporations or trusts located in the United States, which securities are listed or admitted to trading privileges on the New York Stock Exchange, American Stock Exchange or NASDAQ.
- c. **Headquarters Fund.** This fund is used to record all transactions to operate the SUVCW headquarters. The General Fund annually transfers a per capita amount determined by the Council of Administration to operate the fund. Monies remaining in the fund after each year are left in the fund to establish a permanent headquarters.

- d. **Monuments/Memorial Grant Fund (aka Preservation Fund).** The Council of Administration created this fund in 1999 to assist Departments and Camps of the Order in the preservation, maintenance, and defense of Civil War monuments and memorials. The General Fund annually transfers a per capita amount determined by the Council of Administration to operate the fund. Camps and Departments will follow these procedures to apply for a grant. These procedures also establish standards on how grant submittals will be evaluated. (Footnote: Last Veteran Grave Markers are not eligible for grants from the Monuments Grant Committee. DIR 137th, 38. © 1881-2022, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, A Congressionally-Chartered Corporation. As amended through the 141st National Encampment August 2022, Grand Rapids, Michigan
- i. Any SUVCW Camp or Department may request money from this fund.
 - ii. All requests will be handled individually on its own merit.
 - iii. Only one request from one entity (Camp or Department) can be accepted per monument or memorial. The request must include pictures, documentation as to appraisals and written estimates for the necessary work.
 - iv. Assessment form (CMW #61) must be submitted with the application.
 - v. The maximum grant for any one project shall be \$2,000 (Two Thousand Dollars). If principal and interest remain in the fund after all grant applications are considered after April 30, the Council of Administration may grant additional funds to one or more grant recipients of up to 75% of the fund or to make grants of up to 75% of the fund to the one or more civil war sites under the auspices of the National Park Service, Department of Veterans Affairs or Department of Defense for preservation of civil war monuments.
 - vi. A Memorials Grants Committee consisting of three elected Council of Administration members excluding the Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer, and National Quartermaster shall review the grant applications, determine which are worthy of support, which meet the criteria established for the grants and approve the grants within the limits specified in Chapter III, Article X, Section 16.
 - vii. The Memorials Grants Committee will submit the approved grant to the National Treasurer for payment.
- e. **Life Member Fund.** The 2012 National Encampment established this fund to account for Life Members with numbers 600 and higher.
- i. The fund's monies shall be kept on deposit in one or more bank institutions whose deposits are fully insured to the amount of the deposit, or invested in obligations of the United States, or in the securities or mutual funds of corporations or trusts located in the United States, which securities are listed or admitted to trading privileges on the New York Stock Exchange, American Stock Exchange or NASDAQ.
 - ii. Annually, for each Life Member with a number 600 or higher, the National Treasurer shall transfer from the fund to the General Fund, interest and principal equal to the National Per Capita assessment then in effect for brothers of the Order.

2. Add 1881 Club Polo shirt to approved dress at Encampments:

Chapter III, Article III, Section 1 footnote 72

While attending any business session of the National Encampment all Brothers in attendance shall be in appropriate male business attire. This attire shall be as stipulated by General Order #3, Series 2016-2017 to include jacket, tie, long pants and membership badge. Jackets may be removed to prevent over heating but should be present. Brothers may optionally wear uniforms patterned after United States Armed Forces uniforms 1861-1865 or the current National Encampment polo shirt **or 1881 Club polo shirt** and long pants if a polo shirt is made available by the National Encampment Host Committee.

Membership badges shall also be worn on uniforms and the National Encampment polo shirt regardless of what may be embroidered on the polo shirt.

NOTE: the actual footnote is truncated in the adobe file on the website and most of this is not there – I took this from CinC Paquette's General Order # 19.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty
D. Michael Beard
National Treasurer

NATIONAL QUARTERMASTER REPORT

National Encampment, Lexington, KY

Brothers,

A full year has passed since I was elected and what a year it has been. On the 1st of October, The Quartermaster Store was migrated over to the Square Ecommerce platform and shipping was moved to "Pirate Ship" an online shipping broker for companies that print their own shipping labels. There have been a few speed bumps along the way but for the most part this was a well-received transition.

New and updated Certificates have been added to the inventory, templates created and added to the online store so Brothers can print directly onto the certificates, as well as the ability for the 11x14 certificates to have information printed onto them in-house.

There have been a few vendor hiccups with supply chain issues and our flag vendor has been less than prompt with their service, but we continue to move forward in a positive direction.

The sales summary for the year is as follows:

1 Oct 2023 – 30 Jun 2024

Traditional (Non-Square) Orders: 70

Traditional Sales: \$6,846.00

Square Online Orders: 607

Square Online Sales (Net Total): \$37,916.50

Total Orders: 677

Total Sales: \$44,762.50

Total Shipments: 676

Shipping Charges: \$3,938.49, this is \$1,889.45 below the retail cost.

Recommendations

- Recommend Council approval for the production and sale of a miniature War Service Medal
- Recommend Council approval for the production and sale of a service bar, for the War Service Medal that says "Expeditionary"
 - This would cover those Brothers who have received the following medals
 - Armed Forces Expeditionary
 - Navy Expeditionary
 - Marine Corps Expeditionary
 - Air and Space Expeditionary Service Ribbon With Gold Frame

- If approved, update pg. 2 of Form 5
- Recommend Council approval to upgrade the Quartermaster Store from the free version to Plus version of Square billed annually at \$348.00. This upgrade will allow for:
 - Better analytical tools
 - Customer accounts
 - Personalized ordering
 - Advanced item settings
- Bylaw recommendation - Ch. V, Article VI, Section 2(c) – Strike 5/8 inch in width and replace with 11/16 inch in width
 - This will conform to modern ribbon attachment brass findings.

While I absolutely love doing this job, I must step away at the end of my term and I will not be seeking re-election at the 144th National Encampment.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bobby Welch, PCC". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined.

Bobby Welch, PCC
National Quartermaster

**Council of Administration Member #1
Outgoing Past Commander-In-Chief
10 July 2024**

It is my honor to submit the following report on the activity of the Outgoing Past Commander-In-Chief. I have taken part in as many segments of this position as my health, scheduling and funding would allow.

I believe that we as an Order need to demand transparency in every area of the SUVCW including an accurate and detailed record of the actions of the Council of Administration members during meetings. We have the ability to record every word of all of our CofA meetings, this should be done and those recordings should be posted for everyone of our Brothers to hear/read.

Case in point, our current National Secretary, records every one of the CofA meetings but has no idea of how to download those recordings hence they cannot be used for anything. I have asked for and received permission from C-in-C Hristko to get copies of those recordings, which he gave, and I have yet to receive them.

Brothers, I have been attacked on a personal level by a couple other Brothers. This behavior should never have been allowed to happen, but did without any consequences to the Brothers involved. This will not stand, legal actions (SUVCW based as well as Civil action) will be taken on my part against these Brothers. I will endeavor to keep damage to the SUVCW to a minimum. I am very sorry that it has come to this.

Respectfully submitted In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,
Bruce D. Frail, PCinC
Council of Administration Member #1

Shane L. Milburn, PDC
Council of Administration

Attended the post Encampment CoA meeting in Nashua, New Hampshire.

Attended Remembrance Day in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania and participated in the Woolson Monument Ceremony as well as marched in the parade carrying the Commander-in-Chief Colors.

Attended the Council of Administration meeting in Gettysburg.

Participated in the ZOOM Council of Administration meeting in March.

Attended and participated in the Lincoln Tomb Observance by placing a Wreath on behalf of the National Organization of the Sons of Veterans Reserve in Springfield, Illinois.

Attended the Council of Administration meeting in Springfield.

Chair of the Civil War Monuments and Memorials Grant Committee with fellow members Joe Hall and PCinC Brian Pierson. Brother Walt Busch offered guidance when requested.

I have voted on all online issues that have come before the CoA except for one.

Other SUVCW related activities:

Participated in Wreaths Across America, joining Camp Members in placing Wreaths at 4 different cemeteries in Fayette, Clinton and Highland Counties in Ohio.

Re-elected Camp Secretary of Casey Camp #92 and Junior Vice Commander of Sherman Camp #93, Department of Ohio

Commander of Co. C, 20th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve.

Participated in two Memorial Day Ceremonies: Bloomingburg (Fayette Co.) and Lees Creek (Clinton Co.), Ohio

On May 19, 2024, Participated in a Civil War Headstone dedication in Miami County, Ohio

Continued to carry out duties as the Adjutant General of the Sons of Veterans Reserve.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Shane L. Milburn, PDC

Council of Administration Member Report
July 1, 2024

It has been a pleasure serving the Order this past year as a member of the Council of Administration.

- I have attended all in-person Council Meetings and every Virtual Meeting I was available for.
- I have been an active participant in the meetings.
- I have been an active participant on the P&P Committee.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Robert R Payne, PDC
Council of Administration

Council of Administration Annual Report

9 July 2024

Commander, Brothers,

I have the honor to submit the following report:

1. The Grant Cup has been refurbished. A new base is being made with up-to-date plaques (through 2023) with the names of the award recipients. Annual award trophies, streamers, and plaques have been procured.
2. Per CinC Hristko's direction, I provided the SUVCW's comments to Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) prior to the removal of the monument. The comments are summarized as follows: a recapitulation of the SUVCW's mission per our Congressional Charter (36 USC §200301); a statement regarding our national policy on monument protection; a statement of concern over the removal, to wit, that it appears to have been a rushed decision, that it risks disturbing or damaging graves in the vicinity and that any plans include risk mitigation to safeguard them; that it could result in an eyesore in the hallowed grounds of ANC in which thousands of Union soldiers and sailors are buried and that any removal plans include measures to ensure the beauty and dignity of the site; and that the final disposition ensures the preservation of the monument. As we know, the monument was removed a short time later. One of the corollary intents of providing these comments was to demonstrate and ensure that the SUVCW is recognized as a valuable participant in such matters.
3. I am continuing to work on having a 3' x 5' replica CinC flag produced for PCinCs, should they desire one, at no cost to the Order. Continued quotes have been cost prohibitive, and I am researching other vendors for a quality product at a reasonable price point.
4. I had the honor to represent CinC Hritsko at the Department of Georgia & South Carolina's, Oklahoma's, and Colorado & Wyoming's annual encampments and submitted a report of each encampment. The newly elected Department Commander of Colorado and Wyoming is dealing with the issues he inherited in a very fair and judicious manner.
5. As I am currently temporarily filling the C of A position of a duly elected Brother who is unable to discharge the duties of his office per CC&R (Chapter III, Article VI, Section 4 (b) and (c), p85), upon the request of the CinC at the April 2024 C of A meeting in Springfield, IL, I reached out to the Brother to learn whether he intended to either resign his position or resume his duties when he is able to do so. The Brother responded through his representative that he intends to retain his C of A position until his term expires at the 2025 National Encampment and resume his duties when able.
6. I have participated in COA online discussions and votes, and serve on the USA 250 committee, which is preparing commemorative medals and challenge coins. I also serve as Fraternal Relations and am happy to report that all appears well with the Allied Orders. It has been my honor and pleasure to serve the Order, CinC Hritsko, and Chief of Staff Jim Crane in whatever small way I could.

In FC&L,
BP
Brian C. Pierson, PCinC

Fraternal Relations Annual Report

9 July 2024

Covered in CoA report, para.6.



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
Roderick J Fraser Jr.
Council of Administration



162 Fiat Ave., Cranston, RI 02910 Tel: (617) 201-0105
Email: rjfraserjr@gmail.com

Subject: National Council of Administration Annual Officers Report 2024

I am honored to serve this order as a member of the Council of Administration. Since the 2023 National Encampment in Nashua, NH last August, I have performed the following on behalf of the SUVCW:

- I participated in the 2023 Remembrance Day activities in Gettysburg including a guided tour of Harper's Ferry, West Virginia with the Sons of Veterans Reserve Breakfast and the Woolson Monument ceremony, and I marched with the Sons of Veterans Reserve in the Remembrance Day Parade.
- On November 19, 2023, I attended the Gettysburg Council of Administration meeting.
- I voted electronically on all business before the Council of Administration since that meeting.
- I continued in my role as the National SUVCW YouTube channel administrator. We are now up to 390 subscribers and have 48 videos posted.
- I serve on the National Promotions and Marketing Committee. In that position, I coordinated the SUVCW sponsorship of the Podcast "The Civil War and Reconstruction; a History Podcast"
- I attended a meeting of the National Special Committee on Veterans of Wars of the United States.
- I completed the work at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Boston, MA that refurbished the cannon and cannon bases of the Gen. Charles Russel Lowell GAR Burial plot.
- I attended the Department of Massachusetts 24th Annual Lincoln Birthday Brunch on Sunday, Feb 11, 2024. The keynote speaker was John D. Warner, Jr., author of "Riders in the Storm: The Triumphs and Tragedies of a Black Cavalry Regiment in the Civil War." Video posted to Youtube channel.
- The Department of Massachusetts conducted our annual memorial ceremony honoring Union General Benjamin Franklin Butler at the Hildreth Family Cemetery, where we were joined by community members and descendants of General Butler.
- On March 10, 2024, I attended a Council of Administration Zoom meeting.
- I had the honor to represent Commander-in-Chief Peter Hritsko at the following annual Department Encampments:
 - Department of Connecticut - April 13
 - Department of New York - May 2-3.
 - Department of New Hampshire - April 20.
- I was honored to be elected Commander of the Department of Massachusetts at our Annual encampment.
- I sent the Camp 54 American flag to Beaufort National Cemetery where they flew the flag for 54 minutes in honor the Col. Robert Gould Shaw and the men of the 54th MA Infantry buried there. They were killed in the second battle of Ft. Wagner.

- I attended the National Society Daughters of the Union 1861-1865 112th Annual Congress in New Bedford. I served as the 1st Military District, SVR, color guard at the event.
- Along with the First Military District SVR, I attended and participated in a Ceremony of Rededication for Clark's Cemetery in Gloucester, Massachusetts. The rededication came after years of hard work reclaiming the cemetery from overgrowth and negligence.
- I represented the SUVCW in my capacity as Commander of the Department of Massachusetts at the Annual Memorial Day Service at the Massachusetts National Cemetery. I brought greetings from the SUVCW and read Past CinC Logan's General Order No. 11.
- Along with my Brothers of the Elisha Dyer Camp No. 7 Dept of RI, I flagged the graves of Union soldiers in the Pocasset Cemetery for Memorial Day.
- I attended the unveiling and dedication of the new exhibit at the New England Civil War Museum that displays the wartime uniform of Sgt. Seth Plumb and the GAR uniform of his brother, Will Plumb. Brought back together after 160 years, they present the lives of "The Two Brothers", with two fates, two experiences, but one united story. Seth was killed in action.
- Along with the First Military District, SVR, I attended and participated in a headstone dedication for Private Hugh Cook of the 40th Massachusetts Infantry, who is buried at Goose Hill Cemetery in Rutland, Massachusetts. Private Cook was in an unmarked grave but with the assistance of Willie Grout Camp 25, the Rutland Historical Society, and Brother William Stump, Commander of the Dept of NY, the Veterans Administration provided a headstone.
- I continue in my roles as:
 - Junior Vice Commander, Gov. Elisha Dyer Camp No. 7. Dept of Rhode Island.
 - Editor of the Department of Massachusetts Newsletter, "Clarion Call."

Submitted,
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty



Roderick J Fraser Jr.

Council of Administration
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
REPORT OF THE EDITOR OF THE BANNER
TO THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION and
THE DELEGATES TO THE 143RD NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT**

Submitted June 19, 2024

As I submit this report, the Spring issue is in final stages of layout and should be released to the printer shortly. All deadlines remain unchanged.

**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT NATIONAL SECRETARY –
NATIONAL CO-PARLIAMENTARIAN
TO THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION**

Brothers are reminded the 12th Edition of Robert's Rules of Order is the latest edition..

**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT NATIONAL SECRETARY –
DEPARTMENT AT LARGE SECRETARY/TREASURER
TO THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION**

We have two Camps in the Department at Large: the Ensign John Davis Camp #10 located in London, England and the Pvt Robert F Dodd Camp 4 in Canada. Other Canadian Camps are being discussed.

**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT NATIONAL TREASURER
TO THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION**

Nothing to report.

**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT NATIONAL COUNSELOR – C&R
TO THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION**

With the recent publication of the Proceedings of the 142nd National Encampment, I will be annotating the National Regulations and publishing the 2024 edition of the C&R once the appropriate approvals have been received. By the time of the Encampment, this should be completed.

Respectfully submitted in fraternity, charity and loyalty,

James B. Pahl, PCinC
Editor – The Banner
National Co-Parliamentarian
Assistant National Secretary – Department at Large Secretary/Treasurer
Assistant National Treasurer
Assistant National Counselor – C&R

Report of the National Signals Officer

During the past year, SUVCW's Signals Corps has continued to play a vital role in raising the public profile of the Order via our social media accounts. Collectively, and as detailed in the report of the National Special Committee on Social Media, SUVCW is daily reaching nearly 16,000 followers (more than 3000 more than at the time of the 2022 National Encampment) with quality information that presents how the National organization, Departments, Camps, SVR and the Allied Orders are preserving the history and legacy of the heroes who saved the Union during the Civil War. SUVCW also maintains a YouTube account that has almost 400 subscribers.

Social media continues to demonstrate its strengths as a vehicle for attracting new members, with Brothers who are managing our various social media accounts reporting a continuous flow of membership inquiries via our social media accounts, with more than a dozen such inquiries forwarded to relevant Camps during the past year. Other general informational requests about SUVCW were also regularly received during the past year.

The National Signals Officer expresses his gratitude to the dedicated and talented group of Brothers -- Ben Frail, George Huttick, Bill Stump, and Barrett Young – for their dedication in maintaining our various social media account. I also applaud the work of the National Webmaster, Br. Rob Payne, for his commitment to maintaining the National website as the single-most important public-facing source of detailed information about SUVCW. It has been the honor and pleasure of the National Signals Officer to maintain our "X" (formerly Twitter) account. We take this opportunity to applaud the Camps and Departments across our Order that have responded to our requests to share audio and visual materials for dissemination on the National website and social media platforms. We also encourage all Camps and Departments to do the same.

There are no recommendations. The National Signals Officer hereby endorses the recommendation of the National Special Committee on Social Media.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty
Timothy S. McCoy, PDC PCC
National Signals Officer

Executive Director Report

It is my honor to continue to operate national headquarters along with Assistant Executive Director, Susan Mitchell.

The 2024 annual reports season had some hiccups but we worked out any missing records with the Department Secretaries. One Department did not submit their annual report form 35 in a timely fashion and the Commander in Chief was requested to suspend that department.

Many queries to <https://suvchw.org/contact/feedback> are forwarded to headquarters by our national webmaster. Since the Council of Administration April meeting in Springfield, Illinois, I have answered over 50 such queries ranging from missing banners, notices of address changes, where can I find a suvcw form, how many grandchildren are there of civil war veterans, and what time will the Remembrance Day parade begin!

Of note, recently the 27,000th individual named brother was added to our nearly 40-year-old national database. As of the end of fiscal year 2023/2024 our *active* personnel strength is:

Associate	423
Combat Zone Service	6
Jr. Associate	1
Junior	66
Life Member	610
Member	4,762
Real Son	1
Total:	5,869

One recommendation:

Brothers who desire to report additional ancestral information to national must complete a new form 3 with a \$5.00 fee for each supplemental report of a civil war ancestor. Due to increased costs of postage, photocopying and handling, it is recommended that the fee be increased to \$15.00 for each submission of a supplemental ancestor application form 3. And that the camp may keep \$5.00 and the department keep \$5.00 fee for their handling. And subsequently, all supplemental ancestor applications must be reported from camp to department to headquarters.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

David W Demmy Sr

Executive Director

Assistant Executive Director Report

August 4, 2024, Lexington, KY

The following is a summary of how I spend my time at headquarters in Harrisburg, PA.

Scanning projects: The last few months I have been able to scan and develop a database for the storage of Banners and Charters stored at headquarters. I scanned over 250 copies of the Banner newsletter, which are now available on the SUVCW website for research purposes. Banner hardcopies are stored in binders on David Demmy's office bookshelf. I also completed scanning all department and camp charters that have been sent to headquarters (approx. two hundred). After digitizing and being added into the database, the paper charters are stored and labeled using lignin and acid-free museum quality materials and deposited in our storage space. I repurposed or discarded old, decaying framing and storage materials.

2024 Seasonal work: I am responsible for the scanning, naming, and database storage of Form 35 departmental packets, Form 27 camp reports, and Form 49s. Even with missing 11 days due to an unexpected medical event, I worked with David Demmy to enter and process part of the above-listed yearly paperwork. I maintain the membership files, mail out all international Banners, and complete research various requests from members or David Demmy.

Daily Ongoing work: 15 trips to the post office, 2 trips to Staples for supplies. I have personally processed 103 Form 3s, 455 Form 30s, 5 deaths, 16 new Lifetime memberships, prepared 11 deposits for the National Treasurer, as well as prepared 5 monthly credit card expense reports. I located, identified, and secured extra copies of all membership filing cabinet locks; we have duplicate keys to all membership filing cabinets.

In my spare time: I have been experimenting with scanning old, damaged, and faded local charters, enhancing their image quality, and making reprints for display purposes. By storing the originals in acid and lignin free museum quality storage boxes, they will not be exposed to further environmental damage from sunlight, temperature, and humidity fluctuations; while a vivid, colorful copy can be displayed.

Future Projects: I need to continue the ongoing thinning and splitting of membership files for ease of use. I am making permanent professional labels for the boxes in our storage area. David Demmy and I need to enter all Form 22s submitted with 2024 seasonal paperwork.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Susan W. Mitchell

Assistant Executive Director, Headquarters in Harrisburg, PA

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to reports+unsubscribe@suycw.org.

NATIONAL

APPOINTED

OFFICERS

REPORTS

NATIONAL AIDE de CAMP - PATRIOTISM REPORT

August 1, 2024 – Lexington, KY

Nothing to report.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

W. Faron Taylor, PDC

National Aide de Camp - Patriotism

National Chaplain Report

Brothers,

I have prayed for everyone this past year, God Bless !!!!

For the Allied Orders, In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty

Chaplain Emeritus Jerry

National Chief of Staff Report

Brothers,

I have completed all requests of me by the Commander in Chief, Peter J. Hritsko, Jr.

I have enjoyed working with all of the Council of Administration, National Appointed Officers, Committee Chairs and Department Commanders. Thank you for fulfilling my requests on writing your Reports to the Commander in Chief and to the Council. You have made my duties easier to fulfill in getting these Reports to them on a timely basis.

It was an honor for me when CinC Hritsko asked me to be his Chief of Staff. I expected nothing but received a lot in return accomplishing my daily duties. From a perspective of a Chief of Staff, you get to see all the interactions of all the Brothers who make up this wonderful Organization that our forefathers tasked us with many years ago. We do this work in the Departments, Camps, and National positions to honor our ancestors who fought and died in the Civil War. That is evident with speaking with many of you. God bless all of you fine gentlemen who make this Order what it is on a daily basis. I offer only a simple "Thank You" for honoring our Ancestors.

James T. Crane, PDC

National Chief of Staff

National Encampment Site Committee

05July2024

**National Civil War Memorials Officer &
The National Committee on Civil War Memorials
Combined Report**

Committee Members

Walt Busch, PDC – Chair Mike Flynn Dean Enderlin, PDC
Kevin Tucker, PDC Jay Rarick, PDC Aides: Tom Gaard & Dale Crandell, PDC

On July 5, 2024, I added the last of the files that I currently have to the national monuments database. This consisted of approximately 2,200 files. I am still processing about 42 monuments from my own travels.

This next year I will be developing a data input manual for the Monuments database so that the training of select state and camp monuments officers can do data entry themselves. Besides my committee, I would like to thank the National Committee on Civil War Grant Funds (Shane Milburn, PDC; Joseph Hall, Jr, PDC; & Brian Pieerson, PCinC) for all their work this past year.

A Quick Run Down By State for Monument Files Currently in The Database:

Outside the US – 6	Alabama – 2	Arkansas – 43	Arizona – 8	California – 65
Colorado -7	Connecticut – 6	Delaware – 1	Florida – 5	Georgia – 23
Hawaii – 1	Iowa – 457	Idaho – 10	Illinois -155	Indiana – 30
Kansas –18	Kentucky – 17	Massachusetts – 56	Maryland -6	
Maine – 10	Michigan – 230	Minnesota – 3	Missouri – 556	
Mississippi – 8	North Carolina – 12	North Dakota – 2	Nebraska – 7	
New Hampshire – 30	New Jersey – 9	New Mexico – 1	Nevada – 6	
New York – 50	Ohio – 72	Oklahoma – 5	Oregon – 10	
Pennsylvania – 44	Rhode Island – 39	South Carolina – 2	South Dakota – 1	
Tennessee – 21	Texas – 6	Utah – 4	Virginia – 28	
Vermont – 1	Washington – 16	Washington DC – 6	Wisconsin – 38	
West Virginia – 1	Wyoming – 3			

In addition to these files there are various monument catalogs online and links to monuments on websites in many states.

RECOMMENDATION: Currently about 25GB of monument files exist on my google drive. These consist of redacted files that go online and the original unredacted files. We need the original files still in case the National Committee on Civil War Grant Funds or other members doing research on various monuments need phone numbers and e-mails to contact persons concerning FORM 62 submissions o. These need to be moved to a cloud or FTP service that can serve as a backup to what we currently have online. The chairmen of the National Civil War Memorials Committee and the National Committee on Civil War Grant Funds should be the access points for these files. Therefore, I recommend the national webmaster create such a cloud/FTP system for the use of this committee and the grants committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Walter E. Busch, PDC
National Civil War Memorials Officer

NATIONAL EAGLE SCOUT CERTIFICATE COORDINATOR

August 2, 2024, Lexington, KY

Since a recent change to Form 14, all Eagle Scout Certificate requests come directly to me. I forward these to the appropriate Department Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinators (DESCC) and follow-up to make sure all requests are processed. Not every Department has a DESC, so I have sent out 18 certificates to the new Eagle Scouts personally.

Since the beginning of my term in August 2023, I have processed 126 requests from 24 Departments, and 15 more requests where the Department was unknown. These certificate requests have come from 107 male Eagle Scouts, 11 females, and 8 unknown. (This is not the total of all certificates issued, as some applications have gone directly to the DESCs.) A list of all Departments that I handled requests for is below.

California and Pacific	6	Massachusetts	5
Chesapeake	9	Michigan	9
Colorado and Wyoming	1	Missouri and Arkansas	2
Columbia	3	New Hampshire	1
Connecticut	3	New Jersey	11
Florida	4	New York	13
Georgia and South Carolina	3	Ohio	7
Illinois	2	Pennsylvania	7
Indiana	3	Southwest	2
Kansas	3	Tennessee and Mississippi	3
Kentucky	2	Texas and Louisiana	3
Maine	1	Wisconsin and Minnesota	8
		Unknown	15

I am also the DESC for Ohio, and I have personally presented 3 certificates, including one to my grandson, and forwarded 4 more to other Camps in my Department (or directly to the Scout as appropriate).

The Boy Scouts of America is changing its name to Scouting America. I have discussed changing the SUVCW Eagle Scout Commendation Certificate to reflect this change. I recommend the next NESCC to follow-up on this during their term of office.

Thank you and I remain,

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Michael Spaulding, PDC

National Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator

National G. A. R. Highway Officer Report

I had the pleasure serving as the National Grand Army of the Republic Highway Officer. The GAR Highway Signs are located along US Route 6 . Here is a list of Department G.A.R.Highway offices I have listed below. The Dept. of California & Pacific Charles L. Beal, Dept. of Illinois Wayne Wehrheim, Dept. of Indiana William R. Adams, Dept. Iowa, Dan Rittel, Dept. of Massachusetts George E. Maple, Dept. of New Jersey, Bruce Sirak, Dept. of New York, Matthew Hereford, Dept. of Ohio Peter J. Hritsko, Dept of Pennsylvania Dane A. Defebo.

The response from 6 Dept. GAR Highway Officers Reports for this 2024 National Encampment are listed below.

Department of California & Pacific

Recap: From 2019-2020, I determined the Latitude and Longitude coordinates on all GAR Highway signs and one plaque in the States of California and Nevada. Because the GAR Highway extends over 500 miles in length through the two States, this was a solution to be able to check on the status of the existing signs and plaque on a yearly basis with the updated Google Earth imagery.

In March 2024, I was able to verify the signs/plaque using Google Earth imagery. I see that the GAR Highway sign along State Route 6 when coming into the State of Nevada from the State of Utah was still missing that was initially reported in 2023.

I did also verify by driving by the GAR Highway sign on southbound Interstate 5 at State Route 14 overpass (California) last July that the sign is now missing. Confirmed by Google Earth imagery dated October 2022. I reported the missing sign in August 2023 via email to the CalTrans employee responsible for road signage in Los Angeles County, but I have not received reply from him.

The GAR Highway sign is missing on State Route 14 near the town of Mojave. There are two GAR Highway signs at this location, only the southbound shoulder sign is missing. The wood post that held the sign is still there. Email from CalTrans received on March 19, says a new sign has been installed. The email also reports that this is the most stolen sign usually 1-2 a year stolen by sign collectors.

I have been in contact with the CalTrans employee responsible for road signage for Kern, Inyo and Mono counties in California. From last year's correspondences with him, he said currently there is road construction along a portion of Highway 395. Upon completion of that road project, he said that there will be new GAR Highway signs installed along that portion of the roadway with another sign to be set at the California/Nevada State border when you enter California from Nevada. He also reported another missing GAR Highway sign at the Kern/Inyo County lines. He said CalTrans crews have it on their "to do list" to install a new sign.

My photographs, historical data and databases can be found at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/z2cjiu58vkgxg6v/AADVyUSWjwXq0M--zHG50VONa?dl=0>

Charles Beal, PCC
GAR Highway Officer

Department of Indiana

As of June 1, 2024 all GAR Highway signs are posted in proper locations in accordance with Indiana Law. That law requires that a GAR Highway sign be placed at all locations where a Federal or State highway intersects US 6. All GAR Highway signs are new or like new condition and are provided by the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT). US 6 is administered by two different Regional INDOT facilities. The eastern half is maintained by the Fort Wayne Regional office and the western half by the La Porte Regional office.

Since my last report for the 142nd National Encampment, there have been no issues or changes to the condition and location of GAR Highway signs across Indiana. All continues to be in excellent shape. I wish to thank Department Commander, Brother Tom Schmitt for his help as he continues to drive the eastern portion of Indiana's US 6 and provides updated reports on the condition of GAR Highway signage. It is with great pleasure I announce that GAR Highway signs proudly proclaim US 6 as the Grand Army of the Republic Highway across the Hoosier State of Indiana.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Adams PDC

GAR Highway Officer Department of Indiana

Department of Iowa

The River to River Retro Road Trip is organized by the Historic US 6 Iowa Association, of which I am on the Board of Directors. We print a tour book that we hand out during the road trip that lists the route and stopping points for everybody as well as some sponsorship advertising. This past year the Department of Iowa placed an advertisement in the tour book for the SUVCW and had printed in the book some information about the GAR Highway. The cost of the ad was \$40.

I continue to promote the SUVCW and GAR Highway via my Facebook page, "Grand Army of the Republic - Iowa" where I have 964 followers. I'm not sure how many of those followers are real or bots.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Daniel Rittel, PCC

G.A.R. Highway Officer

Dept. of Massachusetts

I am sorry Brother Peter, I have no report this year and asked to not be appointed this year.

George Maple

Dept. of Ohio:

In the month of June 2024 I had the opportunity to check on all the signs in Ohio. The two signs in Vermilion, 2 signs in Lorain, 3 signs in Sheffield Lake, 2 signs in Avon Lake, 2 signs in Bay Village and one sign in Downtown Cleveland at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument are in excellent condition. The County of Lorain in the State of Ohio there is a sign in every city of this county. It appears since the covid the cost of the signs/supplies have gone up significantly and I'm in the process of trying other vendors to help keep the signs affordable. So far haven't found a vendor yet for the signs. Also would like to place a QR label on each of the new signs and current signs so that anyone can scan it and tell the history and information regarding the GAR Highway Signs. I will be sending out letters to the city of Vermilion Township, Huron, Sandusky and Lakewood. Will follow up with my progresses with the other cities I mentioned in the sentences above.

Peter J. Hritsko
Dept. of Ohio GAR Highway Officer
Dept. of Wisconsin

Nothing to Report

Robert Koenecke, DC

Recommendation : Allowing to put together a sub committee of 2-3 Brothers for the future of the GAR Highway Signs to be incorporated on US Route 6 across USA for time frame of 2 years.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Commander-in-Chief

Peter J. Hritsko

National GAR Highway Officer

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**National GAR Records Officer
2023-2024 Report**

It has been an honor to serve as your National GAR Records Officer for the 2023-2024 administrative year. This is my fourteenth consecutive term in this appointed office.

Our GARrecords.org website continues to perform well, serving as a resource for researchers and others interested in the GAR. The online submission form proved to be particularly useful this year, with public institutions, SUVCW Brothers, and private researchers all sharing their knowledge of collections of GAR records throughout the country. National Webmaster Robert Payne also forwarded a number of inquiries that he received via the SUVCW National website. Between those messages, emails sent directly to the National GAR Records Officer at records_gar@suvchw.org, and submissions received via the online form, it has been a very busy year. The unprecedented volume of communications that I received during the pandemic has leveled off a bit, presumably now that people are back to focusing on other matters in life. I'm still dealing with a backlog, but I'm catching up!

The number of known and uniquely named/numbered GAR Posts identified in our catalog rose to 10,888 this year. This is an increase of fourteen Posts since last year's report. The additions were in multiple states in which I'd been focusing research this past year. I expect to see more additions and corrections as research continues. There are undoubtedly still dozens – if not hundreds – of Posts yet to be identified, particularly those that existed prior to 1879.

More details regarding our program are presented in the annual report of the National Committee on GAR Records.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

No Recommendations.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Dean A. Enderlin, PDC
National GAR Records Officer

**Combined report of the National Graves Registration Officer
and the National Committee on Graves Registration.**

August 1 - 4, 2024 Lexington, KY

As of today, we have 886,561 records in the database, of which 837,447 are active and 49,114 have been deleted as duplicates or false records. The number of deleted records reflects the various clean-up efforts that several Departments have undertaken this past year. Congratulations to all those who have participated in these clean-up efforts. We have 1,745 registered accounts; 1,641 submitters, 100 administrators and 4 root accounts. Very few of the submitter accounts are active at this time. Only 13 have logged in since 1/1/2024. Before implementation of the new system, all inactive accounts will be deleted.

Work on the Graves Registration Rewrite Project continues as previously reported. A copy of the current database and server code (PHP) and web pages have been copied to Digital Ocean and testing is ongoing. The license for Server207 has been renewed for another year to assure that we can back out of Digital Ocean if needed. Testing has uncovered a few problems due to the new level of PHP not being as forgiving as the old version. That code has been rewritten. Ken Rahn is in the process of incorporating the new fields into the DB and preparing prototypes of the new input form. Concurrently, the committee is working on building the many new dropdown menus needed for the add and search functions. State of Service and State of Burial are complete and Branch is nearing completion. Cemetery County is now ready for review. Minor adjustments have been made to the record prototype and have been turned over to Ken. This process has exposed many errors in the current DB that will need to be cleaned up. Next up is the task of building Cemetery City and Cemetery Name. Ken is working on a script which will be used to clean up and populate both the Cemetery and Service fields from existing records. I am in communication with Brother Dean Enderlin about using his GAR Post spreadsheets to build dropdown lists. The Committee is starting to compile policies and procedures for the new fields to be incorporated into the new Guidebook and Instructions and has started a task list for remaining work. Overall, the project is slightly behind schedule but we hope to be able to make up the time during the coming months.

Recommendations

- 1 - The Committee strongly suggests that we develop and publish the attached Website Policy Statements on the Graves Registration web pages: Terms and Conditions of Service and Privacy Policy. The attached draft proposal has been built from best practices used throughout the on-line world and has been built from examples found in use by major Internet entities. In addition, we advise looking into the purchase of Cyber Insurance.
- 2 - The Committee has rewritten the attached Headstone Policy and recommends that it be implemented.

Respectfully Submitted,

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty

National Graves Registration Officer



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIAN

GARY L. GIBSON, PDC
2339 HARMON AVE. KALAMAZOO, MI 49004
269-345-3827 GLGSUVCW@AOL.COM

Report of the National Historian
National Encampment, 2024

July 9, 2024

Commander-in-Chief Hritsko, Officers, Delegates & Brothers;

I wish to thank the Commander-in-Chief for appointing me to this office. It has been a very rewarding year. Four articles pertaining to our heritage were submitted to The Banner this term:

1. Flags of Our (Founding) Fathers
2. The Grand Army Badge: Protect it at All Costs
3. The Origin of Memorial Day – On the Local Level
4. The National Association of Naval Veterans

Several requests for information pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic were answered in a timely manner. I particularly enjoyed working with Brother Stephen Law of the Department of Pennsylvania, pertaining to the several different designs of GAR grave flag holders.

Whenever I receive an inquiry from someone not a member of one of the Allied Orders, I always make it a point to encourage them to consider applying for membership.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Gary L. Gibson, PDC
National Historian

NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR REPORT

August 2-3, 2024 – Lexington, Kentucky

The Commander-in-Chief appointed me National Patriotic Instructor mid-term (February 2024) to fill a vacancy. Since I am the fourth person to hold the office during this term, I have endeavored to improve organization and consistency over the past few months.

Memorial University:

Much of my time since taking this office has been involved with Memorial University. I had to quickly become familiar with ClassMarker, the online portal through which classes are presented and participants graded.

I received an ample supply of Memorial University recognition pins, but the blank Memorial University graduation certificates that I received were, in my opinion, of inferior quality (low resolution, fuzzy in appearance, and difficult to read) and not something that a Brother would be proud to hang on his wall. In addition, I was not provided with any sort of template to facilitate printing upon these blank certificates. Therefore I redesigned the Memorial University certificate, using the existing certificate as a model. These are now printed one at a time as needed from a template, with the graduate's name and date customized for each printing. The Commander-in-Chief graciously supplied me with a digital copy of his signature for use on the certificates. The certificates are printed using a color laser printer, which uses toner, rather than ink, and therefore will neither run nor smear. Finally, I secured a supply of premium parchment paper certificates on which to print. These activities have resulted in higher quality certificates worthy of the effort expended by the graduate, as well as representing Memorial University and the SUVCW.

In addition, I secured a supply of mailing tubes for sending Memorial University certificates and pins to the graduates. This greatly reduces the chances that the certificate will become damaged during shipping.

A database was needed to track graduates, along with the date(s) they were contacted, and when their certificates and pins were mailed. I established such a database using Microsoft Excel, which can now be passed along to my successor for consistency. Because of the frequent turnover in the office during the first half of the term, I contacted prior graduates to ensure they had received their certificates and pins. Several had not and were sent the missing items. Since taking the office I have sent out twelve certificates and pins to graduates.

Reporting:

I received Patriotic Instructor reports on Form 41 from the following Departments: California and Pacific, Chesapeake, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska (with the Dakotas), Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas (with Louisiana), and Wisconsin (with Minnesota).

Only 17 of the 31 Departments submitted a Form 41, which is just 55% of the Departments. There is certainly room for improvement.

As for the reports that were received, there were clearly significant issues with completing the form correctly. Particularly obvious examples include the following:

Question 1: How many Civil War history education events conducted to included Patriotism, Americanism, and Civic Responsibility? One Department reported that 48 Brothers participated with a combined time of .5 hour (30 minutes). If correct, then each participating Brother spent just 37.5 seconds at the event!

Question 5: Memorial Day participation? One Department reported that only one (1) Brother participated, but that he put in a total of 432 hours! If correct, that equates to 18 straight days and nights, or 54 full 8-hour work days!

The instructions on the reporting forms for all levels of Patriotic Instructor need to be improved and clarified. Providing examples of how to complete the form properly might go a long way toward increasing accuracy as well.

It has been claimed that the Patriotic Instructor's reporting forms are needed in order to document charitable activities and contributions for IRS purposes. Last year, during the 141st National Encampment at Nashua, New Hampshire, National Treasurer D. Michael Beard asserted that the IRS neither asks for nor requires the information reported on these forms. This assertion was echoed by Brother Theodore "Ted" Phillips, a CPA in the Department of New York, who works with a number of non-profit organizations and currently serves as the Chief Financial Officer for the American Kennel Club, a national non-profit that is nearly as old as the SUVCW.

If the data recorded on these forms is not needed, and no one does anything with the information, then why are we creating "busy work" for the Patriotic Instructors? The Form 42 that I submitted for this office took several hours to complete, was for a reporting period (January-December 2023) during which I did not even hold the office, and was based on inaccurate statistics from only half of the Departments in the Order. How is this valuable? A recommendation regarding this situation appears at the end of this report.

Patriotic Instruction:

I composed the following patriotic writings for the national organization:

"Voices of Patriotism" articles for *The Banner*:

- Spring 2024 (Fill the Need)
- Summer 2024 (The American Flag)

Monthly Patriotic Instructions:

- March 2024 (Patriotic Instructor Duties)
- April 2024 (Patriots' Day)
- May 2024 (Memorial Day)
- June 2024 (Flag Day)
- July 2024 (Preservation)
- August 2024 (National Encampment)

The monthly patriotic instructions were sent to all Departments and posted to the National Patriotic Instructor's page of the national website.

Other Activities:

SUVCW activities in which I have personally participated include the following:

- Council of Administration Meeting, Virtual – March 10
- Regular Camp Meeting, Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, Virtual – March 23
- 138th Annual Encampment, Dept. of California and Pacific, Laughlin, Nevada – April 6
- Council of Administration Meeting, Virtual – May 22
- Memorial Day Ceremonies (2), Los Gatos Memorial Park, San Jose, California – May 27
- Special Camp Meeting, Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, Virtual – June 21
- Independence Day Parade, Monterey, California – July 4

Recommendation:

- 1) **That the Patriotic Instructors' annual forms, namely Form 40 for Camps, Form 41 for Departments, and Form 42 for National, be reviewed by the National Standing Committee on Program and Policy with the following objects:**
 - a. **Abolishment of the forms, should it be determined that they are no longer needed, or,**
 - b. **If it is determined that the forms are still needed, that significant revision of the forms take place, to simplify them and add clearer language and instructions.**

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Tad D. Campbell, PCinC

National Patriotic Instructor

National Membership-at-Large Coordinator
Report

June 25, 2024

I filed the NMAL 990-N report with the IRS on January 23, 2024 and sent Form 11 to the National Treasurer as well. I completed and sent Form 35 for the NMAL before the due date.

I have also received correspondence and have provided help for brothers of the NMAL as they have requested it, usually on general questions of the order and searching for ancestral information.

I attended my camp's Memorial Day observance on May 25 at Topeka Cemetery in Topeka Kansas and I do plan to attend the National Encampment in Lexington in August.

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Rocky L Bartlow, PDC
National Membership-at-Large Coordinator

National Legislation Officer Annual Report

The duties of the National Legislation Officer are to keep Brothers apprised of legislation affecting the welfare of the Order, or the Constitution, or welfare of the United States. To that extent, this report is an *overview* of relevant federal legislation.

Below is a summary list of federal legislation that has been introduced during both the first and second sessions of the 118th Congress (**from 9 January 2023 through 8 July 2024**), relevant to the purpose and objects of the Order. During this period, I have reviewed over 16,100 federal bills and resolutions. Unless otherwise noted below, each measure is awaiting action in a House or Senate Committee.

Due to the vast quantity of continuously changing legislation, a *limited amount* of State legislation is researched and reported on by Assistant National Legislative Officer Steve Hammond (PDC). His report follows this federal legislation summary, below.

Departments are encouraged to monitor legislation in their respective states and local government jurisdictions (G.O. #6 Series 2016-2017) and contact the National Legislation Officer or Assistant National Legislation Officer about issues of interest and to assist with further review and/or advice.

*Brothers may be particularly interested in legislation below that is denoted with an **asterisk (*)** and in bold print.*

BATTLEFIELDS, MONUMENTS/MEMORIALS, AND HISTORIC AREAS

- ***H.R.1248/S.573** – The “Confederate Monument Removal Act” is a bill that would require the removal of all statues of individuals who voluntarily served the Confederate States of American from display in the United States Capitol. [Related bills.]
- ***S.1100** – This bill provides statutory authority for the inclusion of certain emblems on headstones or markers furnished for veterans by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Such headstones or markers may include an emblem from a list established by the VA (e.g., skill or combat badges), an emblem of belief, or no emblem.
- **H.J.Res.76/S.J.Res.35** – This would redesignate the Robert E. Lee Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery as the “Arlington House National Historic Site.” [Related bills.]
- ***S.3251** – The “Lincoln Home National Historic Site Boundary Modification Act.” This bill would expand the boundary of the historic site, while providing greater accessibility.

MISCELLANEOUS PATRIOTIC AND RELATED LEGISLATION

- **H.R.51/S.51** – The “Washington, D.C., Admission Act,” providing for the admission of the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth. [Identical bills.]
- **H.R.865** – To posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the African Americans who served with Union forces during the Civil War, in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service.
- **S.273** – The “United States Colored Troops Congressional Gold Medal Act” to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the African Americans who served with Union forces during the Civil War, in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service.
- **S.568** – This bill would require the Secretary of the Treasury to redesign \$20 Federal reserve notes to include a likeness of Harriet Tubman.
- **H.Res.444** – Calling on all Americans on this Memorial Day, 2023, to honor the men and women of the Armed Forces who have died in the pursuit of freedom and peace.
- **H.Res.455** – Expressing support for Black service members this Memorial Day who gave their lives to protect and defend the United States at home and abroad despite facing racism in the Armed Forces and systemic inequities on United States soil.
- **S.Res.236** – A resolution honoring the 125th anniversary of the Rough Riders in the *Spanish American War* and designating June 2, 2023, as “National Rough Rider Day.”

- *H.R.4003* – The “Let Freedom Sign Act.” This bill would prohibit any regulations on the singing of the National Anthem on any federal property as long as it doesn’t interfere with the flow of official business.
- *H.R.4010* – This bill is known as the “Woman on the Twenty Act of 2023” and would require \$20 notes to include a portrait of Harriet Tubman.
- *H.Res.505* – Recognizing 19 June 2023 as this year’s observance of the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day.
- *H.R.4124* – This bill would limit the flags that may be displayed on Federal buildings or grounds.
- *H.R.4137/S.2001* – “Make American Flags in America Act of 2023” would require certain flags of the United States to be made in the United States. [Identical bills.]
- *S.1973* – The “All-American Flag Act.” This bill would require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States for use by the Federal Government with certain exceptions.
- *S.1985/H.R.4196* – A bill to prohibit the flying, draping, or other display of any flag other than a flag of the United States at public buildings. [Identical bills.]
- *S.2001/H.R.4137* – A bill to require certain flags of the United States to be made in the United States. [Identical bills.]
- *S.Res.252* – This resolution celebrates the 246th anniversary of the creation of the flag of the United States and expressing support for the Pledge of Allegiance. It was agreed to by unanimous consent in the Senate on 14 June 2023.
- *S.Res.263* – A resolution commemorating 19 June 2023 as “Juneteenth National Independence Day” in recognition of 19 June 1865, the date on which news of the end of slavery reached the slaves in the Southwestern States. This was agreed to by unanimous consent on 21 Jun 2023.
- ****H.Res.656*** – A resolution Honoring John Brown’s relentless endeavors in his pursuit of liberty for all human beings, his unyielding opposition to the institution of slavery, and his significant role in the abolition of this monstrous crime against humanity.
- *S.Res.365* – A resolution honoring the 50th anniversary of the National Cemetery Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- ****H.Res.855*** – Recognizing the service of all District of Columbia veterans, condemning the denial of voting representation in Congress and full local self-government for veterans and their families who are District of Columbia residents, and calling for statehood for the District of Columbia through the enactment of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act (H.R. 51 and S. 51), particularly in light of the service of District of Columbia veterans in every American war.
- *H.Res.859* – Honoring the service and sacrifice of America’s veterans on Veterans Day, 2023.
- ****H.R.7378*** – The “Frederick Douglass Congressional Gold Medal Act.” This bill would award, posthumously, a Congressional Gold Medal to Frederick Douglass in recognition of his contributions to the cause of freedom, human rights, and the abolition of slavery in the United States.
- *H.Res.1146* – Recognizing the enduring cultural and historical significance of emancipation in the Nation’s capital on the anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln’s *signing* of the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act, which established the “first freed” on 16 April 1862 and celebrating passage of the District of Columbia statehood bill in the House of Representatives.
- *H.Res.446/H.Res.1249* – Recognizing on Memorial Day, 27 May 2024 the denial of full participation in their Government through statehood by active duty servicemembers, National Guard members, reservists, veterans, and their families who are residents of the District of Columbia. [Identical bills.]
- *S.Res.732* – A resolution celebrating the 247th anniversary of the creation of the flag of the United States and expressing support for the Pledge of Allegiance. [Passed in the Senate by unanimous consent on 13 Jun 2024.]
- *H.R. 8766* – To allow for cemetery flags to be displayed in an upright position directly adjacent to the grave sites of deceased members of the Armed Forces or veterans. [Bill text not available at the time of this report preparation.]
- *H.Res.1312* – Expressing support for the designation of July 2024 as Veterans Appreciation Month.
- *S.4610/H.R.8800* – A bill to designate the bald eagle as the national bird. [Bill text not available at the time of this report preparation.]

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

- *H.J.Res.40* – Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit voting in Federal, State, or local elections by individuals who are not citizens of the United States.
- *H.J.Res.73/S.J.Res.34* – Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States giving Congress power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States. [Identical bills.]
- *S.Res.49* – This is a resolution designating 16 Dec 2023 as “National Wreaths Across America Day.” [Passed in the Senate by unanimous consent on 6 Dec 2023.]

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Daniel R. Earl, PCC

National Legislation Officer

9 July 2024

Webmaster Report August 2023 – August 2024

Brothers,

It has been a pleasure being the National Webmaster this past year. The National Site has provided a good platform for information about our order.

1. Updated the operating system from Drupal 9 to Drupal 10. This has caused some issues which we are currently working on. They include:
 - a. Some display issues in the Monuments and Memorials area. This is still being addressed.
 - b. Some Display issues when utilizing a small platform laptop, tablet, or phone, in Landscape mode, which causes a menu display which is hard to read. It is being addressed by our programmers.
 - c. I discovered an inability to post a file link as the only item on a page. I addressed this issue by just using a normal Link.
2. Continued to post all General Orders as they are sent out.
3. In April I was given 250 digital editions of The Banner, dating back to 1916, These have all been posted and are available on the Banner Editions page of the website.
4. Updated and maintained the National Encampment, The Remembrance Day, and The Lincoln Tomb Ceremony pages as information has become available.
5. Corrected issues which have been pointed out by Brothers, when it is in my capabilities.
6. Forwarding email communications received through the National Website to the appropriate Officers.
7. Worked to maintain an updated National Officers list.
8. Continue to post updates to National Policies.
9. Continue to Post Minutes for the CofA meetings.
10. Continued to monitor and update email re-directs for the National Officers.
11. Posted updated Forms, Policies, National Patriotic Instructions, and Banners as they have been provided.

Robert R. Payne, PDC
National Webmaster

ASSISTANT NATIONAL SECRETARY FOR PROCEEDINGS

2024 National Encampment, Lexington, Kentucky

I used the new recording/public address system to make audio recordings of the 2023 National Encampment in Nashua, NH. Video recordings were also made of the Encampment.

The audio recordings were sent to the Transcriptionist. She indicated the quality of the audio files were much better than those of the previous year. She produced a professionally written transcription of the business proceedings.

Brother Sumner Hunnewell served as an Aide in the process of reviewing the transcript and preparing the final Proceedings report. In some places where spelling and punctuation needed attention, the *Constitution and Regulations, Rituals and Ceremonies, and National Encampment Reports Packet* were consulted before corrections were recommended. Dialect and colloquialisms were maintained.

Knowing that a verbatim copy of the National Encampment deliberations must be ensured, great care was taken to safeguard the integrity of this requirement during the review process. In some places where the Transcriptionist could not determine a word or phrase, she inserted the term, "Indistinguishable." In such cases I went back to the audio and video recordings to see if the correct word or phrase could be identified – a process that produced the correctly spoken word or phrase approximately 25% of the time. Such corrections were noted for review and approval.

In cases where a word or phrase appeared questionable, e.g., "Quick Claim Deed" VS "Quit Claim Deed," a review of the audio/video recordings was conducted to determine which word or phrase was uttered, and where successful, a suggested correction was submitted for correction approval.

Sumner Hunnewell produced a 711-page Proceedings report that was approved by the C-in-C and PC-in-C. This report is viewable on the National website.

Going forward, I have three recommendations.

Recommendation #1:

New task going forward - look for places where personal side-bar comments were accidentally picked up by a hot microphone and subsequently included in the transcript. Such comments should be highlighted for review by the C-in-C and PC-in-C. Options are (a) removal of the comments, (b) leave the comments as is or (c) footnote the comments as not relevant to the business proceedings.

Recommendation #2:

Consider providing the transcriptionist with copies of the *National Encampment Reports Packet* as it can be reviewed whenever she encounters an unclear word in the audio recording. This also would allow the transcription to match words, phrases, and terms found in the Packet.

Recommendation #3:

After consulting with Chief of Staff, Jim Crane, it was determined that the job description for this position (Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings) no longer reflects the scope of work processes currently being performed. Therefore, it is recommended that this position be split into two positions, i.e., (a) Assistant National Secretary for Recordings and (b) Assistant National Secretary for Transcriptions. New job descriptions for these two positions have been submitted for approval.

Respectfully submitted In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

John Vander Meulen

John Vander Meulen

Assistant National Secretary for Proceedings

ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER/ROTC COORDINATOR REPORT

August 1 – August 4, 2024, Lexington, KY.

I am caught up on requests for ROTC award packages as of June 21, 2024. I have been communicating with National Quartermaster Bobby Welch regarding lessons learned from this year, so that the next assistant quartermaster can hit the ground running. Following the National Encampment in Lexington, Kentucky, I will transfer the remaining inventory and return the quartermaster debit card.

I want to thank the Commander-in-Chief for the appointment to this position for the 2023-2024 term, the National Chief of Staff for his counsel and help during the supply chain issues this past year, and especially the National Quartermaster for his guidance and support. I have appreciated the opportunity to serve the Order and to get a “glance behind the curtain” at how the national organization functions. My thanks to everyone who takes the extra steps to make the magic happen at camp, department and national levels.

My suggestion for the ROTC program is two-fold: first, at least charge for the cost of the medal and mailing expense; second, restrict ordering of award packages to SUVCW camps and/or departments. I believe this is how MOLLUS conducts there ROTC awards program. This would make the orders more manageable and would also tie the program more closely with the brothers of the Order (rather than just a source of a free award for a school with no apparent attachment to the local SUVCW).

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Brian Mexin

Assistant National Quartermaster/ROTC Coordinator

NATIONAL

COMMITTEE

CHAIR

REPORTS

National Committee on Program and Policy (P&P) – Kevin L. Martin, PDC

The P&P Committee met multiple times throughout our 2023-2024 term. The committee addressed several Form corrections and revisions, all of which were approved by the Council of Administration. These revised Forms were:

- Form 27 – Camp Annual Report
- Form 30 – Camp Status Report
- Form 35 – Department Annual Report

Form 12 – Scholarship Application has been approved by the P&P Committee and is in the process of being sent to the Council of Administration.

The Schedule of Reviewing SUVCW Forms and Publications was also brought up-to-date.

In addition, we created two new policies: 1) the National Encampment Vendor/Display Policy and 2) the Deposit Agreement and Loan and Deposit Policy which were approved by the Council of Administration. A special thank you to PCinC Jim Pahl for his advice in the construct of the Loan Agreement Policy.

The committee is currently addressing how bullying will be incorporated in our National Policy on Harassment.

It was a pleasure to work with P&P Committee members PDC Faron Taylor, PCinC Leo Kennedy, PDC Ben Frail, and special thanks to PDC Robert Payne for his abilities to make the actual Form changes.

At this time, I have no recommendations.

**National Civil War Memorials Officer &
The National Committee on Civil War Memorials
Combined Report**

Committee Members

Walt Busch, PDC – Chair Mike Flynn Dean Enderlin, PDC
Kevin Tucker, PDC Jay Rarick, PDC Aides: Tom Gaard & Dale Crandell, PDC

On July 5, 2024, I added the last of the files that I currently have to the national monuments database. This consisted of approximately 2,200 files. I am still processing about 42 monuments from my own travels.

This next year I will be developing a data input manual for the Monuments database so that the training of select state and camp monuments officers can do data entry themselves. Besides my committee, I would like to thank the National Committee on Civil War Grant Funds (Shane Milburn, PDC; Joseph Hall, Jr, PDC; & Brian Pierson, PCinC) for all their work this past year.

A Quick Run Down By State for Monument Files Currently in The Database:

Outside the US – 6	Alabama – 2	Arkansas – 43	Arizona – 8	California – 65
Colorado -7	Connecticut – 6	Delaware – 1	Florida – 5	Georgia – 23
Hawaii – 1	Iowa – 457	Idaho – 10	Illinois -155	Indiana – 30
Kansas –18	Kentucky – 17	Massachusetts – 56	Maryland -6	
Maine – 10	Michigan – 230	Minnesota – 3	Missouri – 556	
Mississippi – 8	North Carolina – 12	North Dakota – 2	Nebraska – 7	
New Hampshire – 30	New Jersey – 9	New Mexico – 1	Nevada – 6	
New York – 50	Ohio – 72	Oklahoma – 5	Oregon – 10	
Pennsylvania – 44	Rhode Island – 39	South Carolina – 2	South Dakota – 1	
Tennessee – 21	Texas – 6	Utah – 4	Virginia – 28	
Vermont – 1	Washington – 16	Washington DC – 6	Wisconsin – 38	
West Virginia – 1	Wyoming – 3			

In addition to these files there are various monument catalogs online and links to monuments on websites in many states.

RECOMMENDATION: Currently about 25GB of monument files exist on my google drive. These consist of redacted files that go online and the original unredacted files. We need the original files still in case the National Committee on Civil War Grant Funds or other members doing research on various monuments need phone numbers and e-mails to contact persons concerning FORM 62 submissions o. These need to be moved to a cloud or FTP service that can serve as a backup to what we currently have online. The chairmen of the National Civil War Memorials Committee and the National Committee on Civil War Grant Funds should be the access points for these files. Therefore, I recommend the national webmaster create such a cloud/FTP system for the use of this committee and the grants committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Walter E. Busch, PDC
National Civil War Memorials Officer

Proposed changes to the National Regulations.

Proposed by National Treasurer

1. Rename Chapter III National Organization, Article IX Finances Section 8 from Memorial/Monument Grant Fund to "Operating Funds" with the following language:

~~Section 8. Memorial/Monument Grant Fund~~

~~(a) The purpose of the Memorial/Monument Grant Fund is to assist Camps and Departments in their efforts to refurbish and restore Civil War related memorials and monuments. The following procedure provides some general guidelines as to how to apply for a grant and establishes standards on how grant submittals will be evaluated. ⁷⁹Last Veteran Grave Markers are not eligible for grants from the Monuments Grant Committee. DIR 137^a, 38. © 1881-2022, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, A Congressionally Chartered Corporation. As amended through the 141st National Encampment August 2022, Grand Rapids, Michigan Annotations amended through the 138th National Encampment August, 2019, Independence, Ohio~~

~~(b) Procedure~~

- ~~(1) Any SUVCW Camp or Department may request money from this fund.~~
- ~~(2) All requests will be handled individually on its own merit.~~
- ~~(3) Only one request from one entity (Camp or Department) can be accepted per monument or memorial. The request must include pictures, documentation as to appraisals and written estimates for the necessary work.~~
- ~~(4) Assessment form (CMW #61) must be submitted with the application.~~
- ~~(5) The maximum grant for any one project shall be \$2,000.00 (Two Thousand Dollars). If principle and interest remain in the fund after all grant applications are considered after April 30, the Council of Administration may grant additional funds to one or more grant recipients of up to 75% of the fund or to make grants of up to 75% of the fund to the one or more civil war sites under the auspices of the National Park Service, Department of Veterans Affairs or Department of Defense for preservation of civil war monuments.~~
- ~~(6) A Memorials Grants Committee consisting of three elected Council of Administration members excluding the Commander in Chief, Senior Vice Commander in Chief, Junior Vice Commander in Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer and National Quartermaster shall review the grant applications, determine which are worthy of support, which meet the criteria established for the grants and approve the grants within the limits specified in Chapter III, Article X, Section 16.~~

Section 8 Operating Funds.

- a. General Fund.** This fund is used to account for revenues and expenditures related to the normal day-to-day operations of SUVCW; excluding expenditures to operate the National Headquarters, pay grants, and those revenues and expenses of running the annual ceremony held at Lincoln's Tomb. The fund also accounts for monies given or bequeathed for a specific

purpose, most notably for the operation of the SUVCW Scholarship Program and the Annual Remembrance Day Parade in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

b. Permanent Fund.

- i. This is the SUVCW's endowment fund established for perpetual support of the Order and is described in Article VIII of the Constitution.
- ii. The fund accounts for monies that have been given or bequeathed to the National Organization that have not been designated for a specific purpose by the donor, and such other monies as may be added thereto by vote of the National Encampment or the Council of Administration.
- iii. This fund also accounts for Life Membership fees received prior to August 15, 1996 (member numbers 001-599). The Permanent Fund may (at the discretion of the National Treasurer) annually distribute, for each aforementioned Life Member, interest and principal equal to the National Per Capita assessment then in effect for brothers of the Order to the National General Fund. The fund pays the annual reimbursement to each aforementioned Life Member's camp upon the camp's application in an amount set by the Council of Administration.
- iv. The fund's monies shall be kept on deposit in one or more bank institutions whose deposits are fully insured to the amount of the deposit, or invested in obligations of the United States, or in the securities or mutual funds of corporations or trusts located in the United States, which securities are listed or admitted to trading privileges on the New York Stock Exchange, American Stock Exchange or NASDAQ.

c. Headquarters Fund. This fund is used to record all transactions to operate the SUVCW headquarters. The General Fund annually transfers a per capita amount determined by the Council of Administration to operate the fund. Monies remaining in the fund after each year are left in the fund to establish a permanent headquarters.

d. Monuments/Memorial Grant Fund (aka Preservation Fund). The Council of Administration created this fund in 1999 to assist Departments and Camps of the Order in the preservation, maintenance, and defense of Civil War monuments and memorials. The General Fund annually transfers a per capita amount determined by the Council of Administration to operate the fund. Camps and Departments will follow these procedures to apply for a grant. These procedures also establish standards on how grant

submittals will be evaluated. (Footnote: Last Veteran Grave Markers are not eligible for grants from the Monuments Grant Committee. DIR 137th, 38. © 1881-2022, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, A Congressionally-Chartered Corporation. As amended through the 141st National Encampment August 2022, Grand Rapids, Michigan

- i. Any SUVCW Camp or Department may request money from this fund.
 - ii. All requests will be handled individually on its own merit.
 - iii. Only one request from one entity (Camp or Department) can be accepted per monument or memorial. The request must include pictures, documentation as to appraisals and written estimates for the necessary work.
 - iv. Assessment form (CMW #61) must be submitted with the application.
 - v. The maximum grant for any one project shall be \$2,000 (Two Thousand Dollars). If principal and interest remain in the fund after all grant applications are considered after April 30, the Council of Administration may grant additional funds to one or more grant recipients of up to 75% of the fund or to make grants of up to 75% of the fund to the one or more civil war sites under the auspices of the National Park Service, Department of Veterans Affairs or Department of Defense for preservation of civil war monuments.
 - vi. A Memorials Grants Committee consisting of three elected Council of Administration members excluding the Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer, and National Quartermaster shall review the grant applications, determine which are worthy of support, which meet the criteria established for the grants and approve the grants within the limits specified in Chapter III, Article X, Section 16.
 - vii. The Memorials Grants Committee will submit the approved grant to the National Treasurer for payment.
- e. Life Member Fund.** The 2012 National Encampment established this fund to account for Life Members with numbers 600 and higher.
- i. The fund's monies shall be kept on deposit in one or more bank institutions whose deposits are fully insured to the amount of the deposit, or invested in obligations of the United States, or in the securities or mutual funds of corporations or trusts located in the United States, which securities are listed or admitted to trading privileges on the New York Stock Exchange, American Stock Exchange or NASDAQ.
 - ii. Annually, for each Life Member with a number 600 or higher, the National Treasurer shall transfer from the fund to the General Fund, interest and principal equal to the

National Per Capita assessment then in effect for brothers of the Order.

2. Add 1881 Club Polo shirt to approved dress at Encampments:

Chapter III, Article III, Section 1 footnote 72

While attending any business session of the National Encampment all brothers in attendance shall be in appropriate male business attire. This attire shall be as stipulated by General Order #3, Series 2016-2017 to include jacket, tie, long pants and membership badge. Jackets may be removed to prevent overheating but should be present. Brothers may optionally wear uniforms patterned after United States Armed Forces uniforms 1861-1865 or the current National Encampment polo shirt **or 1881 Club polo shirt** and long pants if a polo shirt is made available by the National Encampment Host Committee. Membership badges shall also be worn on uniforms and the National Encampment polo shirt regardless of what may be embroidered on the polo shirt.

NOTE: the actual footnote is truncated in the adobe file on the website and most of this is not there – I took it from CinC Paquette’s General Order # 19.

C&R Committee concurs with is change.

Department of Massachusetts resolution to Amend National Policy concerning Monuments and Memorial Fund

This would amend Section 8 of Finances Page 107 of the C&R

WHEREAS United States Code title 36. Patriotic and National Observances, Ceremonies and Organization, Part B, Organizations Chapter 2003, Son of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 36 USC 200301 (202), 200302. Purposes states, “To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union in 1861 to 1865; to assist in every practical way in the preservation and making available for research of documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic and its members...” and WHEREAS The Constitution of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Article II. Purpose and Objects: states “To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union 1861-1865; to assist in every practicable way in the preservation and making available for research of documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of the republic and its members...” and

WHEREAS The SUVCW National website states “The purpose of the Monuments and Memorial Grant Fund is to assist Camps and Departments in their efforts to refurbish and restore Civil War related monuments and memorials.” And

WHEREAS the National Committee on Civil War Memorials as ruled that the current policy of the SUVCW does not allow for the use of Monument & Memorial Grant Fund grants for the preservation of Grand Army of the Republic halls, Grand Army of the Republic and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War historical furniture, decorations, charters and other important documents.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the policy of the SUVCW concerning the Monuments and Memorial Grant Fund be amended to include that grants may also be used for the preservation of the Grand Army of the Republic and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War historical furniture, decorations, charters and other important documents.

****C&R Committee concurs with this change.**

Department of Pennsylvania Recommendations

Recommendation 1. Recommend that the National Organization know that Form 22 and Form 49 need be updated to be in line with the officers listed in the Regulations Chapter I, Article V, Article VIII and Article IX and Chapter II, Article IV, Article VIII and Article IX.

****Refer to Programs and Policy Committee.**

Recommendation 2. Recommend notifying the National Organization know about the officers from the C&R that are not included in the Installation of Camp Officers ritual in the blue book and to make sure that the officers are in rank order according to the Regulations, Chapter I, Article V, Section 4.

****Refer to Programs and Policy**

Recommendation 3.

Background A couple of National Encampments ago it was decided to not allow PCCs and PDC who earn their rank through 10 years of service as a Camp/Department Secretary Treasurer, to wear the PCC/PDC badge but they could still use the post-nominal letters.

Recommend that there be a special badge or device for the membership badge in recognition of 10 years as secretary or treasurer.

****C&R Committee did not concur.**

Department of Pennsylvania asked for the SUVCW Cadet Award eligibility addition. This matter was voted on by the 2023 Encampment, so the C&R Committee did not take action.

Department of New York

Background With instructions, Form 3 is now 6 pages. Since the oath page (page 4) was added, the instructions for Associates and Jr, Associates have been incorrect in that they omit the necessity to complete page 4 (Oath).

Resolution: 1. Paginate Form 3 at the bottom and change the instructions of the application in the Membership Type Section for Associates and Jr. Associates to say, "Complete pages 1 & 4 only."

****Refer to Programs and Policy**

Background: Everything on Form 30 is copied from membership Application, Form 3, so the Form 30 is a total duplication. It is unnecessary. If anyone needs or wants another copy of the applicants' information, they can make another copy of Form 3.

Resolution That the Department of New ask National to eliminate the requirement that a Form 30 be used when processing the applications of new brothers.

**** Refer to Programs and Policy.**

The Department of New York had three other Resolution but the wording was such that it asked the Department Commander to notify the CinC to take action. The C&R Committee did not rule on those requests.

Department of Michigan

The Department of Michigan, in Encampment assembled, proposes the following amendment to National Regulations, Chapter III, Article VI, Section 4c. Proposed additional language in **Red**. Eliminate language in 4c that is ~~crossed-out~~.

Recommendation:

Chapter III, Article VI, Section 4

(b) Whenever an elected officer of the National Organization declares to the Commander-in-Chief and the Council of Administration that he is unable to discharge the duties of his office, and until he declares to them the contrary, such duties shall be discharged by the appointment of a temporary officer serving in an Acting capacity, appointed by the Council of Administration. **If the elected officer is unable to declare he is now ready to resume office within six (6) months or the next National Encampment, which ever occurs first, in that event, he shall be deemed to have resigned from office. If the elected National Officer requests an extension beyond six (6) months or the next National Encampment, the Council of Administration may grant such a request, the extension not to exceed six (6) months.**

c) If the Commander-in-Chief determines that an elected national officer is unable to discharge the duties of his office or that a national officer is failing to discharge the duties of his office he shall notify the Council of Administration. Upon receiving such notification, the Council or Administration may ~~by three-fourths (3/4) vote of its elected members~~ appoint a temporary acting officer to discharge the duties of that office. The temporary acting officer shall hold his appointment until such time as the Council of Administration ~~by three-fourths (3/4) vote of its elected members~~ restores the effect officer to his duties. If the elected national Officer is unable to resume his duties within six (6) months of the Council of Administration vote, in the judgement of the Council of Administration, in that event, the National officer shall be deemed to have resigned from office.

**** C&R Committee concurs.**

Department of Rhode Island

That Chapter III, Article VIII Section 1 of the Constitution and Regulations of the National Order SUVCW be updated from:

That Chapter III, National Organization, Article VIII Council of Administration Section 1 (A) The Council of Administration shall consist of the Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Quartermaster, and five (5) elected members of the Council of Administration and the Immediate Past Commander-in-Chief.

To:

Chapter III, National Organization, Article VII, Council of Administration Section 1 (A) The Council of Administration shall consist of the Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Quartermaster and five (5) elected members of the council of Administration and the Immediate Past Commander-in-Chief (**No more than 3 Brothers from the same Primary Department can serve as voting members of the Council of Administration**).

Changes represented in **BOLD**. This update to the Constitution and Regulations of the National Order SUVCW would not affect sitting members at the time of its passing.

****4 Members of the C&R did NOT concur. One member concurred.**

Council of Administration

Based on minutes of a CofA meeting 14 August 2022 a motion was made that all elected National Officers be graduates of the Memorial University. This was to be referred to the C&R committee but was not completed.

****4 Members of the C&R committee did NOT concur. One member concurred.**

Department of Missouri

Whereas the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a federally chartered corporation; and

Whereas in addition to the federal charter of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War have a constitution and regulations for the government of the organization; and

Whereas the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War from time to time may require the services of an attorney and counselor when actions, issues, or proposals involve the provisions in the Order's governing documents and the proper interpretation of the provisions or other issues touching on the organization itself; and

Whereas the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War must keep abreast with policies and best practices for charitable organizations in practice good government; and

Whereas the Officers, elected and appointed and the Council of Administration would benefit from the advice of an attorney and counselor; and

Whereas an attorney trained in the interpretation of laws, charters, constitutions, and regulations and educated in legal matters including *stare decisis*; and

Whereas the position of national counselor is the equivalent of the position of an general consul or vice-president of legal affairs, a position held by an attorney in a corporation

Resolve that Chapter III, Article VII, Section 9 of the national regulations be amended to add after the first sentence:

The National counselor shall be an actively practicing attorney licensed in at least one state of the United States and at least one United States District Court.

Section 9. The National Counselor shall act as the legal advisor of the Commander-in-Chief and the National Organization. The National Counselor shall be an actively practicing attorney in at least one state of the United States and at least one United States District Court. He shall render advice and interpretation to the National Organization upon request on issues arising from questions concerning the Order's Constitution and Regulations and on parliamentary matters. He serves as a non-voting member of the Council of Administration. The National Counselor shall prepare and submit annually to the Editor of The BANNER (for publication in The BANNER) a listing of all opinions and interpretations regarding the Order's Constitution and Regulations rendered by the National Counselor.

Rationale: The position of national counselor requires interpretation of the United States Code, our Order's Constitution and Regulations, and the application of case law and precedent to guide the order. In addition, the position requires an understanding of the law as taught in law schools and experience by the practice of law to understand current legal issues and their implication on the order.

**** The C&R Committee does not concur**

Department of New Jersey

Resolution to create "The BANNER YEARBOOK

Now therefore, be it resolved:

Whereas the currently quarterly publication of "THE BANNER" offers limited space for stories and activities from Camps and Departments nationwide:

Whereas many valuable stories are condensed or excluded due to space constraints.

Whereas there is a desire to create a comprehensive yearly publication in the form of a digital yearbook to capture the unpublished works of the entire Order each year;

Whereas there is a growing sentiment that the SUVCW needs to publish and archive more information about the Order and its activities for current public awareness and genealogical research for our future descendants

Resolved that the National SUVCW shall establish a wholly new or special 5th Edition of "THE BANNER" each year to be published digitally;

Further Resolved, the editor shall not bear the sole responsibility for crafting the SUVCW yearbook in its entirety. Instead, each participating section is entrusted with the task of submitting their respective content fully edited and in the proper publishing format. This resolution aims to alleviate the editor's workload and facilitate the seamless inclusion of sections in the yearbook. The editor, however, maintains responsibility for the inclusion of the material submitted to "THE BANNER" that remains wholly unused or condensed by at least 50%, the placement of new advertising, cover art selection. Overall organization, compilation, digital publication processes, and the communication of pertinent announcements regarding deadlines and editorial requirements.

Further Resolved that the Yearbook will include.

All submissions sent to "The BANNER" that were wholly unused or condensed by at least 50%, unless rejected for reasons deemed unintelligible, inappropriate, or blatantly lacking factuality by the editor.

A dedicated section for each Department to submit from the Department Commander, their newsletters over the past year, any special content, or National Encampment material meeting a reasonable deadline set by the editor.

Messages from the National Officers and Committee Chairs, meeting a reasonable deadline set by the editor.

A section for the Commander-in-Chief, meeting reasonable deadline set by the editor.

A section on the SVR, meeting a reasonable deadline set by the editor.

A Section for each of the Allied Order, meeting reasonable deadline set by editor.

A section for the Council of Administration and its members meeting reasonable deadline set by editor.

An additional Section for anything the editor deems appropriate or necessary.

Further Resolved that the editor decides the Order of the content "Spaces" withing "The BANNER Yearbook.

**** The C&R Committee does not concur.**

Sons Of Union Veterans of the Civil War Calculation of Life Time Dues Key Assumptions and Inputs 2023

Prepared by: Jeffery J. Smith, FCAS, MAAA, CPCU

Notes

<p>2023 Annual National Costs Per Member \$ 33.00</p> <p>Annual Inflation Rate (See Note 1) 3.50%</p> <p>Rates in Force Period (Years) 3</p> <p>Annual Investment Rate From Funds 4.50%</p> <p>Over-all Selected Attrition Rate 9.5%</p> <p>Actual Average Attrition Rate 8.0%</p>	<p>Current National Dues Level</p> <p>Ten Year Treasury Rate (Proxy for Long Term Inflation)</p> <p>Assumes these rates will be updated every 3 years</p> <p>2 Year CD Rate (Investment Policy of SUVCW)</p> <p>Based on Age Group Selections</p> <p>Based on Actual Averages</p>
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Age	Life Membership (Calculated)	Life Membership (Proposed)
20-29	\$ 1,088	\$ 1,090
30-39	\$ 990	\$ 990
40-44	\$ 905	\$ 905
45-49	\$ 826	\$ 830
50-54	\$ 740	\$ 740
55-59	\$ 652	\$ 655
60-64	\$ 563	\$ 565
65-69	\$ 476	\$ 480
70-74	\$ 386	\$ 390
75-79	\$ 298	\$ 300
80-84	\$ 221	\$ 225
85+	\$ 146	\$ 145

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National Encampment Site Committee

Commander-in-Chief

The following report is submitted on behalf of the National Encampment Site Committee (NESC).

The contract with the ASUVCW for the 2025 National Encampment in Houston, TX was signed by the CinC and National President on 26 May 2024.

The host hotel for the 2024 National Encampment has recently withdrawn its contract with ITA Audio Visual Solutions. We were provided with contact information for the new A/V company, Encore, on 8 July. Brothers John Vander Meulen, Jim Crane, and I will be working diligently over the next two weeks to lock in a new contract for audio visual (A/V) support for the upcoming National Encampment in Lexington, KY.

In March the NESC expressed concerns to the Council of Administration in March regarding the escalating costs for A/V support. We have collected the following information on A/V costs for consideration:

- Reston, VA (2011) \$2,220
- Milwaukee, WI (2013) \$830
- Richmond, VA (2015) \$1,350
- Grand Rapids, MI (2022) \$632
- Nashua, NH (2023) \$1,962
- Lexington, KY (2024) \$2,343
- Houston, TX (2025) \$1,172 – using SUVCW A/V equipment supplemented with hotel equipment
- Rochester, NY (projected for 2026) \$4,140

Average cost 2011 – 2022: \$1,258

Average cost 2023 – 2026 (post COVID): \$2,404

The cost for A/V support has at least doubled since 2022. Additionally, we are being asked to pay a fee for SUVCW and ASUVCW meeting rooms. We have been able to avoid this cost up through 2025, but it is just a matter of time before it will become unavoidable. The NESC will develop recommendations over the next 6 months and present them to the Council of Administration for consideration on how address these new costs.

The committee currently has no recommendations.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Michael Paquette, PCinC and James Crane, PDC

**National GAR Records Committee
2023-2024 Report**

Progress Report and Accomplishments for the 2023-2024 Administrative Year

GAR Records Blog: Since December 2019, our committee has been using an invitation-only blog on Blogger as a forum for communication outside of email. Previously, we had been using a group on Yahoo! which was discontinued as a service in 2019. The Blogger site continues to serve as our archive for reports.

Department GAR Records Officer: Since the adoption of the revised SUVCW Form 49 in March 2020, we have seen improving results in the number of Departments reporting the appointment of a GAR Records Officer. The office is now a line item on the form, even though it has been in existence since 2004. Almost all Departments are now using the updated form. Twenty-one Departments (68%) reported the appointment of a Department GAR Records Officer this year, up significantly from last year's 55%.

Special recognition is due to the Department of the Columbia and the Department of New Hampshire for their outstanding efforts in locating GAR records this past year. The Department of the Columbia, under the guidance of Department GAR Records Officer Loran Bures, PDC, is making progress toward locating and assembling a full set of Journals of Proceedings of GAR Department Encampments within their jurisdiction. They have also facilitated efforts to digitize and make available some of these rare volumes for free public access online. The Department of New Hampshire had a remarkable year, thanks to the efforts of Department GAR Records Officer John S. "Steve" Dow. Over the course of the last couple years, he has located and negotiated the purchase of large collections of New Hampshire GAR charters and other records. Most of these items were in the hands of private sellers. He posts his remarkable finds regularly on the Department of New Hampshire Facebook page.

The following table shows the status of Departments who have and have not confirmed their GAR Records Officer (as of July 2024). Our thanks go to all the Departments who have filled the office!

Status of Departments with a Named GAR Records Officer			
Department	Reported Form 49	Department	Reported Form 49
ALABAMA	Joel S. Mize	MISSOURI	Walter E. Busch, PDC
CALIFORNIA & PACIFIC	David A. Davis	NEBRASKA	Marc Witkovski
CHESAPEAKE	(Vacant)	NEW HAMPSHIRE	John S. "Steve" Dow
COLORADO/WYOMING	James M. Barker, PDC	NEW JERSEY	Dylan Wettstein
COLUMBIA	Loran T. Bures, PDC	NEW YORK	(Vacant)
CONNECTICUT	Matthew Vallier	NORTH CAROLINA	(Vacant)
FLORIDA	Roger Heiple	OHIO	Richard A. Davis, PDC
GEORGIA & SOUTH CAROLINA	Hamilton Jansen	OKLAHOMA	Mike Rusk
ILLINOIS	Brian Conroy	PENNSYLVANIA	(Vacant)
INDIANA	Bruce R. Kolb, PDC	RHODE ISLAND	Bruce Frail, PCinC
IOWA	Daniel F. Rittel	SOUTHWEST	David A. Swanson, PDC
KANSAS	(Vacant)	TENNESSEE	(Vacant)
KENTUCKY	(Vacant)	TEXAS	Michael L. Lance
MAINE	(Vacant)	VERMONT	(Vacant)
MASSACHUSETTS	(Vacant)	WISCONSIN	John R. Decker, PDC
MICHIGAN	Gary L. Gibson, PDC		

Status of Previous National Encampment and Administrative Actions Relating to GAR Records:

There are currently no pending actions that need to be addressed.

GAR Records Project Five-Year Plan (2022-2027):

The National Committee on GAR Records is guided by an action plan, which is considered by the National Encampment every five years. The current plan was presented by our committee to the 141st National Encampment, and approved. Progress toward each of the action items is presented below.

- 1) Routinely manage the GAR Records website (www.GARrecords.org) and online GAR Records Catalog. **[STATUS: Ongoing.]**
- 2) Continue to expand the GAR Records website content to include:
 - a. Separate historical summaries for individual GAR posts, including but not limited to meeting locations, dates of muster and disbandment, details of consolidation with other posts, and any other noteworthy facts. **[STATUS: Ongoing.]**
 - b. Links to other SUVCW web pages (Camps and Departments) containing GAR Records information. **[STATUS: Links are added upon request, or when links of interest are discovered by the National GAR Records Officer.]**
 - c. Links to other online resources of interest, such as digitized library collections. **[STATUS: Ongoing.]**
 - d. Relevant bibliographic references. **[STATUS: Ongoing.]**
- 3) Continue to encourage and assist SUVCW Departments and Camps in developing and/or expanding their respective GAR Records programs. Support actions to include:
 - a. Preparation of a handbook to provide guidance in searching for and cataloging GAR records. **[STATUS: Sections of the handbook are in preparation, but no progress was made this year.]**
 - b. Providing personal guidance, as needed, to Department GAR Records Officers and other individuals when needed. **[STATUS: Ongoing.]**
- 4) Expand public awareness and involvement in the GAR Records Program. Actions to include:
 - a. Creation and/or participation in an online forum or message board that is specific to the topic of GAR records. **[STATUS: The "Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)" group on Facebook currently serves this function, although it is unofficial. It is an invitation-only group co-administered by committee member Bob Wolz, while others on our committee are members. Brother James R. Hanby is also an administrator.]**
 - b. Encouraging local libraries, museums, genealogical and historical societies, veterans' organizations, and other holders of GAR records collections to index and publish the contents of their collections. **[STATUS: Ongoing.]**
 - c. Support efforts (both within the SUVCW and external to our organization) to digitize and make publicly available collections of GAR records. **[STATUS: Ongoing.]**

Vision 2030 Strategic Plan Response:

In its report to the 2022 National Encampment, the National Committee on Vision and Planning summarized strides toward achieving the goals of the "Vision 2020" strategic plan, and proposed new goals for the current "Vision 2030" strategic plan. Under the heading of Research, it was noted:

During the 2010's, the GAR post records project completed listings for all GAR posts in 50 states, the District of Columbia and international posts, and documented at least one record for approximately 20-25% of the posts in the database. However, in the states of the former Confederacy, only 3% of the posts had at least one record documented. [141st National Encampment Committee Reports, p. 70]

Tracking metrics were added in our existing spreadsheets in August 2023 to help measure progress toward achieving the "Vision 2030" goals. A table summarizing the goals, status at the beginning and end of this administrative year, and target date is presented below.

Initiative	Goal	Status August 2023	Status August 2024	Target Date
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Initiative	Goal	Status August 2023	Status August 2024	Target Date
GAR Post Records	At least one record documented for 40% of GAR posts in database.	39%	46%	Aug. 2030
	At least one record documented for 10% of GAR posts in states of the former Confederacy (11 states: AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, TX, and VA).	4%	4%	Aug. 2030

Note: The above metrics don't include GAR departmental collections in which the contents have not been individually described. Large, uninventoried collections of GAR materials, such as those in Massachusetts and Ohio, are examples.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Dean A. Enderlin, PDC, Chairman

Civil War Monument and Memorials Grant Fund

Shane Milburn, Joe Hall and Brian Pierson

The following Grant request were received:

Humboldt Camp #9, Department of Kansas requested a reimbursement of \$205.67 for supplies used in restoration work performed on a 1823 McClurg Walking Stick Cannon located at the Humboldt Historical Society. This request was approved.

Bryner Camp #67, Department of Illinois, submitted a request to receive \$1500.00 in matching funds to place a descriptive plaque cast to detail the story of Peoria first Civil War Monument, affectionally known as "The Shaft." This request was approved.

March to the Sea Camp 135, Department of Michigan, requested \$2000.00 for repair of the 11th Michigan Infantry Monument at the Chickamauga National Military Park. The Statue of Col. William Stroughton sustained significant damage due to a storm, where a tree limb broke both hands and the sword. This request was denied due to the fact that monies received by the National Park Service would go into a general fund and it is not guaranteed that the money received would go to fix the 11th Michigan Infantry Monument. The Committee is not opposed to giving money to the NPS after all requests for Grants have been approved, provided there is still budgeted money in the fund.

Fletcher Camp #47, Department of Missouri requested \$2,000.00 for the erection of a new monument in honor of Louisa Volker, the first female telegraph operator west of the Mississippi River. She was at Mineral Point and warned Union Forces at Pilot Knob of approaching Confederates in the fall of 1864. She remained at her post after the Confederate Forces cut the telegraph lines, defending her sister and herself with a pistol as important buildings and bridges were destroyed. Volker was recognized by the U.S. Congress for her military service as a telegraph operator. This request was approved.

Bailey Camp #5, Department of Texas and Louisiana submitted a request for \$2,000.00 to place a memorial plaque, dedicated to Union Troops who fought in the Battle of Sabine Crossroads on the outskirts of Manfield, Louisiana on April 8, 1864. This request was approved.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Shane L. Milburn, PDC
Chair, Civil War Monument and Memorials Grants Fund

NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON EBAY SURVEILLANCE REPORT

Brothers, I have completed multiple searches for Union, Spanish American, Womans Relief Corps (WRC) and other grave related items for our Allied orders.

This is what I send to the eBay Vendors for GAR markers

Grand Army of the Republic, GAR grave markers are taken from honorably discharged Union Civil War Veterans. It is illegal in some states to sell these artifacts unless they are new and unused. Consider donating them to the local Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) so that it can be returned to a GAR grave.

I report these grave markers to eBay.

Grand Army of the Republic, GAR grave markers, are taken from honorably discharged Union Civil War Veterans. It is illegal in some states to sell these artifacts unless they are new and unused.

Other Veterans Grave Markers

Grave markers are taken from honorably discharged Veterans. It is illegal in some states to sell these artifacts unless they are new and unused. This was obviously taken from a grave. Consider donating it to the local Veterans organization so that it can be returned to a Veterans Grave.

I use other similar statements about the WRC, etc.

There is Michigan Law, and it states.

MARKERS FOR VETERANS' GRAVES

Act 63 of 1915

AN ACT to provide for the furnishing of suitable flag holders and United States flags for the graves of veterans who served in the armed forces of the United States for the marking and designation of the graves for memorial purposes; and to provide a penalty for the removal or destruction of the flag holders and United States flags when placed.

History: 1915, Act 63, Imd. Eff. Apr. 20, 1915; -- Am. 1979, Act 142, Imd. Eff. Nov. 8, 1979;-- Am. 1988, Act 263, Imd. Eff. July 15, 1988

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Deed of conveyance also give us the right for charters from past GAR Posts. I will also pursue this action and see what we as an organization can do. Thank you, Brother Rob Payne, PDC for leading me to this probability.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty

Terry McKinch, PDC

Department of Michigan
Patriotic Instructor

The People of the State of Michigan Enact:

Document	Type	Description
Public Act 100 of 1976	Act	Establishes the Michigan State Police, a law enforcement agency, and provides for the Michigan State Police to be a part of the Michigan State Police Department.
Public Act 101 of 1976	Act	Establishes the Michigan State Police, a law enforcement agency, and provides for the Michigan State Police to be a part of the Michigan State Police Department.
Public Act 102 of 1976	Act	Establishes the Michigan State Police, a law enforcement agency, and provides for the Michigan State Police to be a part of the Michigan State Police Department.
Public Act 103 of 1976	Act	Establishes the Michigan State Police, a law enforcement agency, and provides for the Michigan State Police to be a part of the Michigan State Police Department.
Public Act 104 of 1976	Act	Establishes the Michigan State Police, a law enforcement agency, and provides for the Michigan State Police to be a part of the Michigan State Police Department.

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**National Committee Scholarships Report
Aug 2024 National Encampment, Lexington, KY**

I wish to thank Brothers Garry W. Brewer, PDC, Brian McManus, PDC, John M. Huffman Jr., PDC, and Ken L. Freshley, PCinC for their assistance and work on this committee.

The Scholarship Committee received 7 applications this year. One was disqualified for lack of following application instructions: not signing their application, not placing reference phone numbers on the application form, and a reference not signing the envelope seal of their reference.

From the remaining 6 applicants, we are pleased to announce the following selectees to each receive a \$2,500 SUVCW Scholarship.

Brother George Huttick, Fort Doneslon Camp 62, Dept. of TN to attend Tennessee Tech. Univ.

Brother Titus Benfield, MG Judson Kilpatrick Camp 7, Dept. of NC to attend Liberty Univ.

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Donald L. Martin, PCinC, Chair
Garry W. Brewer, PDC
Brian McManus, PDC
John M. Huffman Jr., PDC
Ken L. Freshley, PCinC

Lincoln Tomb Observance Committee

July 1, 2024

The host hotel for 2025 is the Ramada Springfield North, 3281 Northfield Dr, P# 217-523-4000. The hotel offers free parking, free continental breakfast and complimentary shuttle service. The luncheon program and meal will be decided on by the end of October. The band contract will be signed in December. The ribbons and programs will be done by March. The permit for the Tomb will be signed by March.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Petrovic
Chairman
Lincoln Tomb Observance Committee

National Committee on Promotions & Marketing

Brother Commander-in-Chief

The National Committee on Promotions and Marketing has been diligently working on various initiatives to communicate the mission and activities of our Order to the public. Here's are the results of those efforts for the past year:

Complete Inventory of Committee Controlled Assets: The Committee conducted an inventory of all audio and video equipment under its care. Many of these devices and accessories were disbursed across the country by past Committees, and it was felt that an asset inventory was in order, so that we can identify and best utilize the equipment purchased by the order.

Department/Camp Media Guide: This document, initiated by Committee Member W. Faron Taylor, PDC, provides instructions and templates for crafting effective press releases. It was designed to help ensure consistent professional messaging and best practices for proper garnering of media attention to our public events. The link to this guide can be found at suvchw.org/handbooks-and-guidebooks.

About Our Organization Flyer: This document is a revision of the original “About Our Organization” handout crafted by Past Commander-in-Chief Steve Michaels. It is intended as a printed and/or digital introduction to the Order, designed to inform the public about the mission, organization, publications and history of our Order. It continues to be intended to be distributed at public events, printed and mailed out to the public, electronically shared via email or social media or distributed in advantageous locations, in order to reach a wide audience. A link to this document can be found at suvchw.org/forms/about-our-organization.

Video Documentaries and Interviews: These videos were written, performed, recorded and edited by Committee Aide John Vander Meulen, CC:

“An interview with Past Commander-in-Chief, Michael Paquette” – part of the series of on-going efforts to preserve the history our Order by interviewing all Past Commanders-in-Chief

“Why We Remember” – Remarks made by Brother Vander Meulen at the 2024 Commemoration Ceremony of the Battle of 1863 Galveston

“Caring for the Headstones of Union Civil War Veterans” – conducted at a G.A.R. plot in the Washington Cemetery in Houston, Texas

“Finding Margaret Carroll” – the story of Brother Vander Meulen’s great-great-grandmother who became a widow when her husband died as a Union soldier during the Civil War.

"A Solemn Pledge" - recording of elected and appointed National Officers taking the oath of office from the 2023 National Encampment's Installation of National Officers ceremony

These videos were recorded performed and edited by Committee Member Roderick Fraser, DC:

"2024 Lincoln Birthday Brunch" - Department of Massachusetts' annual President Abraham Lincoln Brunch featuring author Dr. John D. Warner, Jr. making a presentation on his book, "Riders in the Storm: The Triumphs and Tragedies of a Black Cavalry Regiment in the Civil War".

"Col Robert Gould Shaw Camp 54, Dept of Mass. Mt Hope Cemetery project" interviews conducted as Brother perform restoration work at the Grand Army of the Republic plot at Mount Hope Cemetery in Boston.

"Pvt. Hugh Cook 49th MA Infantry Headstone Dedication" ceremony for the dedication of a new headstone for a New York Union Veteran in a small rural cemetery in Rutland, Massachusetts.

These videos are powerful tools for storytelling and provide a deeper understanding of our Order's mission and impact. They allow for personal narratives and insights to be shared with both our Brothers and the general public.

Sponsorship of Civil War History Podcasts: Committee Member Roderick Fraser, DC, negotiated a contract to sponsor eight episodes of *"The Civil War & Reconstruction: A History Pod Cast"* with a 30 second advertising spot at the beginning of each episode and a 60 second advertising spot midway through them. This podcast averages 16,000 downloads per episode.

The advertising representative, LIBSYN Ads, offered us a price of \$345 per spot for sponsorship of the 16 spots, but Brother Fraser was able to negotiate, and they agreed to, \$280 for the 30 second spots and \$345 for the 60 second spots, and average of \$312 per spot, or \$5000 total for the contract, saving the order over 10% of the contract.

The eight episodes we sponsored were published on Sundays, beginning on May 12, 2024 and ran weekly until July 7, 2024. Our advertisements are a permanent part of the episodes we sponsored, and will be heard by anyone accessing them in their archive at civilwarpodcast.org, or on Spotify and other podcast publishers, going forward.

Podcasts are hugely popular and provide a platform to discuss topics in depth. As of July 7, 2024, "The Civil War & Reconstruction: A History Pod Cast" had broadcast its 462nd episode. By the SUVCW sponsoring this podcast, word of our Order is reaching the most interested and relevant audience concerned with our mission and works. The Civil War & Reconstruction: A History Podcast, as mentioned, can be found at <https://civilwarpodcast.org> or wherever listeners source their podcasts.

Recommendations:

The Committee recommends that its name be changed to better reflect our mission and the work it is charged with. We recommend the “National Promotions and Marketing Committee” be renamed “National Committee on Promoting the Order”.

The Committee recommends that the webmaster add a feedback mechanism for anyone opening the Membership page on the National web site, so we can obtain better metrics on where prospective members are hearing about our Order.

The Committee recommends raising our advertising budget to \$10,000. This past year, we spent \$5000 to advertise on “*The Civil War & Reconstruction: A History Pod Cast*”, which is less than .005% of our National budget. The national average for spending on advertising for 501c3 corporations is between 5% and 15% of their total budget. We propose bringing our current spending from less than .005% to up near 1% of our total budget.

This increase would allow for funding to expand exposure and recruitment to the public for the organization. For example, FamilyTree Magazine, a media outlet focused on genealogical research, has a number of print, website, newsletter and social media advertising offerings at relatively affordable rates, which would put our name in front of genealogical researchers who might wish to know about and join our Order.

On behalf of National Promotions and Marketing Committee Members D. Michael Beard, PDC, Roderick Fraser, PDC, David Jones, PDC, Michael Spaulding, PDC, and W. Faron Taylor, PDC, as well as Committee Aides William E. Johnson, Jr. and John Vander Meulen, we thank you for the opportunity to serve the Order, and for your trust and confidence in each of us in carrying out the important work of the committee.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Chairman
National Committee on Promotions and Marketing
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

SUVCW Fund Raising Committee

It is an honor to make the following report. The committee has met via Zoom and is working on the tasks assigned to it.

The letter that was drafted by the Committee for the Capital Campaign was sent out to well over 100 different major corporations. With each letter that went out we included the Capital Campaign letter, a brochure about the order and a Self-addressed envelope. So far, we haven't got much of a response, as we have only heard back from one Company with no donation. We hope to hear back from more companies but as of right now it is not looking too promising.

We found a grant that possibly the Graves Database Committee could use. Heard nothing from them whether they wish to pursue it or not.

Remembrance Day:

It seems that our largest expenditure is Remembrance Day in Gettysburg. This year the total expense was \$7,927.59. We were able to raise \$7,021.25 leaving a balance of \$ 776.34.

We have started to raise money for the 2024 parade and have raised \$1260.00 so far. We hope to raise more and have had an active Facebook campaign as well as getting the word out to the various Gettysburg merchants.

On June 24 I traveled to Gettysburg and dropped off 61 packets to various merchants about donating to the Remembrance Day Parade and set up on July 6-7 at the Daniel Lady Farm in hopes of raising more money to offset the cost of the parade.

This past Remembrance Day we set up a table at the Gettysburg Heritage Center which many of you might remember as the Gettysburg Wax Museum. We set out a donation jar, brochures about the SUVCW, wooden nickels, information about Remembrance Day 2024, flyers about the fund-raising committee and a Remembrance Day non logo tee-shirt. We plan to do the same thing this year.

Fund Raising ideas in the process:

1881 Club:

As of this report we have seven Brothers who have joined the 1881 Club. A special medal has been made that will be presented to these Brothers and they will also be given a special polo shirt with the logo of the 1881 Club. For more information, please visit <https://suvchw.org/1881club>.

PCinC Mark Day - 2023

PDC Tim McCoy - 2023

PCinC Micheal Paquette - 2023

PDC Kevin Martin - 2023

PDC Brian McManus - 2023

Linn Malaznik - 2023

Alan Russ – 2023

We do have one idea and that is to place a one-page ad in the Banner letting Brothers know about what funds they can donate to. We would like to do this in one issue per year as we know space is limited. The only other option would be a direct mailing of donation campaign for our roughly 6,000 brothers.

To be honest the only way to really generate funds is to increase membership in the SUVCW. While we have a tee shirt that was made available to the public at the Remembrance Day parade it seems that generosity comes from within our order.

I would be remiss if I did not thank the members of this committee, Don Gates, PDC, Kevin Tucker, PDC, Michael Paquette, PCinC, Jeffery French PDC, Michael Beard, PDC and Gary Carlberg CC, for their ideas and their wise council. It is an honor to serve with these Brothers.

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Dave Hann PDC

Chairman

National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning
10 July 2024

It is my honor to submit the following report on the activity of the National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning. As of this year we have completed Phase One of our two Phase Plan. Phase One has dealt with the re-organization of the current National Headquarters.

It was determined to institute an Internship program, this began as an unpaid internship. Which was changed to a paid internship after the generous donation of a Brother who wishes to remain unknown. The design of the internship was to train the intern in the operation of the National Headquarters, Research at the National Archives, Digitization of records and the development of an archives system at the SUVCW National Headquarters.

From this internship it was determined that a sub-contracted position be created, that of the Assistant Executive Director. This position was developed and a job description was created and send out as part of an application process to fill this position. It was determined that the best candidate for the office was that of Susan Mitchell the current intern at that time.

Since this position was created and filled, Mrs. Mitchell, has digitized all the past forms which were over-filling our available space within the National Headquarters. She has also provided assistance to the Executive Director to be able to process all incoming forms and documents in a timely manner and on schedule with no backlog as in years past. She has also developed a storage system which can be used for the next three years.

We are now able to start on the second phase of the two Phase Plan, that of the long term development of our current National Headquarters or the relocation of our National Headquarters to suit our needs for the future.

A detailed outlook of the second phase of this plan will be provided at the upcoming National Encampment as a continuation of this report. I would like to thank everyone on the committee for their work in the above work and look forward to working with them in the future.

Respectfully submitted In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,
Bruce D. Frail, PCinC
Chairman, National Special Committee on Headquarters Planning

National Special Committee on Social Media

Brothers,

I would like to thank all of the Brothers who day in and day out administrate our various social media accounts, without their help, we would not be able to keep our social media footprint as large as it is. We are currently live on the following applications:

- Facebook
 - 9,852 Likes 10,249 Followers
 - Primary Administrator: Br. George Andrew Huttick
 - Secondary Administrator: Br. Ben Frail
 - Account Name: Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War – National Organization
- Instagram
 - 1,718 Followers
 - Primary Administrator: Br. Ben Frail
 - Secondary Administrator: Vacant
 - Account Name: National Organization SUVCW
 - Account Handle: @suvcw_national
- Twitter
 - 1,305 Followers
 - Primary Administrator: Br. Tim McCoy (National Signals Officer)
 - Secondary Administrator: Br. Ben Frail
 - Account Name: SUVCW National HQ
 - Account Handle: @SUVCW
- Reddit
 - 1,782 Followers
 - Primary Administrator: Br. Bill Stump
 - Secondary Administrator: Br. Ben Frail
 - Account Name: r/SonsofUnionVeteransCW
- LinkedIn
 - 409 Followers
 - Primary Administrator: Br. Barrett Young
 - Secondary Administrator: Br. Ben Frail
 - Account Name: Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

I am proud to say that all 5 social media platforms has obtained more followers since the Gettysburg CofA meeting. We have also assisted in introducing over a dozen candidates to local Camps, or respective local level organizations of the Allied Orders. We have no recommendations at this time.

In Fraternity Charity and Loyalty,

Br. Ben Frail, PDC

Chairmen

National Special Committee on Social Media

Special Committee on Veterans of Wars
of the United States

In developing possible Recommendations, we request the support of the incoming Commander in Chief by issuing a General Order requesting that each Department Commander request of their Camps a list of their work with Veterans.

The collected information should be forwarded to Brother Dexter Bishop, Chair, at genord9@comcast.net.

We the members of the Special Committee on Veterans of Wars of the United States, support and offer for consideration of the following Recommendations:

1. Recommendation: That the National Special Committee on Veterans of Wars of the United States be made into a Standing Committee.
2. Recommendation: That the National Special Committee on Veterans of Wars of the United States become the approving authority for the Military Medal and the War Service Medal.
3. Recommendation: That the Committee keep a database of those Brothers approved to wear the Medals.

In F, C & L

Dexter Bishop, Chair

Jim Crane, PDC, Member

Roderick Fraser, CofA, Member

Lloyd Lamphere, Member

Bobby Welch, DC, Member

DEPARTMENT

COMMANDERS

REPORTS

Dept of Alabama Report

July 10, 2024 Huntsville, AL

The Department of Alabama has remained active with our five camps. Since our last report, our camps have participated in twenty Union grave identification and markings, four patriotic ceremonies (in Uniform) and two parades (in Uniform.) The Croxton camp has led the Department in ROTC medal presentations, despite a severe shortage of medals and certificates from National. The camp created its own design and medal as a stop gap. The Department may adopt the same medal for the 2025 school year.

Our Taylor Camp #53 has located two USCT graves in Decatur Alabama. Neither of these veterans have VA markers and the camp will work with the cemetery owners to have those markers emplaced. The camp is working with the history Department of Calhoun Community College where the graves are located to research these soldiers.

Our Spencer Camp #67 has continued its program of finding and marking the graves of former Department of Alabama GAR Commanders. Three have been identified and marked as of this time. Spencer Camp is also assisting other local NGOs in establishing the Historic Byler Road trail in western Alabama. The Byler Road was the first public road built after statehood in Alabama and was routed through the center of Union sympathetic citizens in this state. The road was used extensively by both Union and Confederate forces during the Civil War. A Department General Order officially endorsed the Historic Byler Road effort.

Three of our camps held a joint meeting and recruiting fair at Cullman Alabama on May 11th, 2024. Cullman is the center of the loyalist area of central Alabama. There are many descendants of the 1st Alabama Cavalry (US) in that area.

All of our camps participated in Memorial Day observances this year. The Pvt Richard Taylor camp honored the eighteen USCT veterans that are interred at Glenwood Cemetery. Glenwood is Huntsville, Alabama's historic African-American cemetery and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Department of Alabama Encampment was held on March 23rd, 2024 in Millbrook, AL. Brother Michael Beard was in attendance. The following officers were duly elected during the 4th Annual Department of Alabama Encampment, held on March 18th, 2023 at Millbrook Alabama.

Commander Mark Hubbs (Taylor)
Sr Vice Commander Tony Howell (Croxton)
Jr Vice Commander Scott Martin (Spencer)
Secretary/Treasurer Marshall McEuen (Croxton)
Council #1 Howard Poarch, PDC (Croxton)
Council #2 George Lauderbaugh (Wilson)
Council #3 Joe Sanderson (Spencer)

Additionally, the Commander appointed the following Officers. Other appointments

may be forthcoming.

Patriotic Instructor Thurston Norris (Spencer)
Graves Registration Scott Martin (Spencer)
Historian Richard Blanton (Taylor)
GAR Records Joel Mize (Spencer)
Counselor Ben Jones (Croxton)
Eagle Scout Eric Alford, PDC (Wilson)

Chaplain Bill Morgan (Farragut)

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty

Mark E. Hubbs
Commander
Dept of Alabama

Department of California and Pacific, Stephen E. Doyle, PDC

The Department of California and Pacific currently has 14 camps, with 11 being in California and 3 being in Nevada. All 14 of our camps were able to conduct Memorial Day services, with at least 3 camps conducting Veterans Day services and 3 camps participating in Wreaths Across America services.

Our current membership is 321 Brothers, adding 43 Members and Losing 82, with a Net Loss of 39 Members. The majority of the Losses were due to "Drop-General Discharge" (40) and "Honorable Discharge" (24). The overall aging of the Brotherhood has also been a factor.

The 138th Department of California and Pacific's Annual Encampment was held on April 6, 2024 in Laughlin, Nevada, with 29 Brothers in attendance. Department Commander Steve Doyle was the Presiding Officer and Brother Kevin P. Tucker, Junior Vice C-in-C, presided over the installation of Department Officers. The Re-election of Department Officers included: Department Commander, Stephen E. Doyle; Department Senior Vice Commander, Dr. Wayne L. Eder; Department Junior Vice Commander, Owen R. Stiles, and Secretary/Treasurer, Randy Dhindsa. Brothers at the Encampment elected a Committee to Explore the Possibility of Hosting a National Encampment.

The Department Eagle Scout Commendation Coordinator reported 19 Eagle Scout Commendation requests, and these included three lady Eagle Scouts at their Court of Honor where over 400 people attended.

Brother Mike Emmett, of Camp 18, successfully registered 725 Civil War Soldiers graves during 2023 and reached a Lifetime Achievement of registering 7,500 Civil War Soldiers with the National Data Base. Also, Brother Charles Beal, of Camp 17 registered 342 Civil War Soldiers' Graves with the National Data Base for 2023.

On September 16, 2023, Camps 24 and 04 worked in conjunction with a local mortuary to conduct a graveside ceremony for a previously unmarked grave for United States Colored Veteran, Pvt. Henry L. Barnett. The ceremony included the installation of a Veteran's Administration headstone, local city officials from the Santa Cruz area, and a female Black Command Sergeant Major, who spoke about the contributions that Black Soldiers had made during the Civil War. The Ceremony was a mix of the Old and New. Per the GAR Ritual of 1909, a wreath of evergreens (a symbol of undying love of our Comrades), was placed at the headstone, along with a wreath of Grapevines (a symbol of Honor and Victory). A Bundle of White Roses was placed by "Camp Sister of the Day", Denise Keplinger, who wore the required white dress. The modern part of the ceremony included an Honor Guard detail from a local National Guard Unit, a military Gun Salute, Folding of the American Flag, and the Playing of Taps.

Best Wishes for Commander-in-Chief Hritsko for a successful and productive Encampment.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Stephen E. Doyle, PDC
Commander
Department of California and Pacific.
SUVCW.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTHWEST (DSW) REPORT
Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2024

- The Yavapai County Board of Supervisors nominated Commander Tim Prater to receive the Yavapai County Memorial Day Proclamation on behalf of the citizens and Veterans of Yavapai County to include the SUVCW. The proclamation was presented to Commander Prater on May 15, 2024, in Cottonwood, AZ. In return, Commander Prater visited and presented copies of the proclamation to Prescott area VFW and American Legion organizations.
- On May 26, 2024 (the day prior to Memorial Day), General U.S. Grant Camp sponsored for the third straight year, a clean-up event of Historic Citizens Cemetery, Prescott, AZ. SUVCW/DUVCW Brothers & Sisters plus DAR ladies and other volunteers participated in the event to prepare the cemetery for the May 27th Memorial Day Observance. On Memorial Day, General U.S. Grant brothers marched the procession honoring our fallen brothers. 50+ union veterans are buried at this cemetery. Commander Tim Prater was honored to recite the Gettysburg Address to the gathering of 200 attendees.
- Picacho Peak Camp and R.H.G. Minty Camp participated in 2024 Memorial Day activities, including grave decoration and parade participation.
- PDC David Swanson attended the observance of Memorial Day at Camp Navajo - the Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery. As in years past, Brother Swanson recited the Gettysburg Address.
- PCC Dale Enlow attended the observance of Memorial Day at the Prescott National Cemetery, Prescott, AZ. As in years past, Brother Enlow recited the Gettysburg Address.
- DSW submitted its annual Eagle Scout Report to National for the time period 7/1/23 - 6/30/24. A total of 18 certificates/patches were awarded for this reporting period. This compares to only 2 certificates/patches presented for the previous period 7/1/22 - 6/30/23. This represents an 800% increase.
- Brother Eugene McCarthy, Past Chaplain, General U.S. Grant Camp No. 3, passed away on 6/27/24. A Memorial Service will be held on 7/13/24 at the General U.S. Grant Camp quarterly luncheon.
- Brother John Lyons presented 5 SUVCW Flag certificates during this reporting period. A total of 16 Flag certificates were presented since January 2024
- **DSW membership as of Jun 30, 2024:**
 - **Total DSW members: 119** (includes dual/triple members)
 - Picacho Peak Camp No. 1: 57 (primary 56)
 - R.H.G. Minty Camp No. 2: 21 (primary 16)
 - General U.S. Grant Camp No. 3: 41 (primary 36)
 - Life Member: 1
- On May 4, 2024, General U. S. Grant Camp held the "Last Soldier Ceremony" of Yavapai County at Mountain View Cemetery, Prescott, AZ. Honors paid to Union Veteran William Cooper by members of Grant Camp and Cooper's dependents from Skull Valley, AZ. Mr. Cooper was born Nov 17, 1846, in Indiana. His family moved to Kansas. Oct 10, 1861, he enlisted as a Private with Co I, 6th Kansas Cav. He then served briefly with the 3rd Kansas Inf. For the rest of the war he served in Co E. 14th Kansas Cav, where they were fighting Quantrill's Raiders (including Jessie James). He was discharged on Jun 25, 1865. William Cooper passed away from pneumonia in September 1939 in Prescott, AZ.

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER REPORT
Department of the Chesapeake
Fredericksburg, Virginia
July 3, 2024

As the newly elected Department Commander, I have communicated with my past and present officers and Council, and completed and submitted the required documentation and reports to the National Office. I have issued Department Orders to provide pertinent and timely information to Brothers of the Order, and posted information regarding Department activities and events to the Department Facebook page, and web site page. The Brothers of the Department have participated in numerous recruiting efforts, living history presentations, reenactments, Eagle Scout Certificate presentations, tours, and field talks. A strong representation was present at the funeral of our Past Commander-in-Chief, Eugene Mortorff in June, and were well-received by his family, and other mourners. Members of the order marched as a SUVCW color guard in the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C., and also provided a color guard with the current Commander-in-Chief on Memorial Day, at Arlington National Cemetery. I joined with Past Commander-in-Chief Michael Paquette, and Brothers of local Camps, the Ladies, U.S. Army music, and a U.S Air Force Color guard, for a Decoration Day remembrance ceremony in Arlington Cemetery. Afterward, another small ceremony and wreath-laying was conducted at the Tomb of the Civil Wars Unknowns in Arlington Cemetery. Brothers of the Department of the Chesapeake are looking forward to attending the upcoming National Encampment, in Lexington, Kentucky.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty

Andrew W. Johnson, PCC
Commander
Department of the Chesapeake
SUVCW

Department of Florida Report

July 1, 2024

The department of Florida has been very active this past year. The department encampment was held in Sarasota Florida in February. Brother Kevin Martin SVC Nat. was kind enough to attend the encampment. We elected officers for 2024-25. We heard reports from the Florida camps to learn they have been busy recognizing ROTC graduates and eagle scouts. The camps have also participated in Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies. Wreaths across America has also been a focus of the Florida camps. I have received reports of camps cleaning headstones and making improvements in Union cemeteries. Members of the department have participated in various parades throughout Florida. The department will be sending brother Edward Manak to the national encampment in August.

The department is proud to announce the formation of a new camp in Melbourne, Florida. The new camp is Richard Walter Goode camp #10. This camp will allow us to expose the SUVCW to potential new members on the east coast of Florida.

Unfortunately, I had to suspend the L.L. Mitchel camp # 4 in Saint Cloud for failure to submit the camp's form 27. That camp faced an issue with a secretary who was not keeping records appropriately. The camp treasurer has been working with the department secretary to remedy this issue and is very close to coming off suspension. The camp commander has plans to replace the secretary.

I have been monitoring an issue with camps 3 in West Palm Beach and Camp 2 in Fort Meyers. These camps are working with the IRS to resolve problems with their 501 c 3 status. The camps have been unable to file their annual postcards as they are not listed on the site. The camps have informed me that they have worked with national and have secured an IRS representative who is assigned to assist them to remedy the issue.

Respectfully submitted, I remain in Fraternity, Charity, and loyalty,


Timothy E. Campaign DC

Department of Florida

DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS REPORT

National Encampment, Lexington, KY

Brothers,

It was with a feeling akin to reverence that I accepted the honor of being elected Department Commander at the 141st Annual Encampment of the Department of Illinois held at Aurora on May 18, 2024. Since being elected, I hit the ground running and the Department has forged a relationship with the Department of Illinois, Veterans of Foreign Wars and was able to set up a recruiting booth at their 105th Annual Convention in Springfield, IL. We will continue to do this annually as well as work with other VSOs to do the same at their annual conventions.

On the 1st of June we were able to secure from a local American Legion, that was selling their building, the Post Charter, Flags, Gavels, Bible and assorted records of Columbia Post No. 706, Illinois Grand Army of the Republic. These items will be turned over to the GAR Museum in Aurora, IL for display and safe keeping. The flags, having been hanging from their poles in a cabinet for more than 90 years, are in bad shape and are falling apart. They will be documented and then stored in archival boxes before being turned over to the museum.

On the 23rd of June, Sheridan Camp No. 2 dedicated a headstone for James Cleggett, a US Navy Landsman who for over 90 years lay in an unmarked grave in Blue Island, IL. Mr. Cleggett's story was brought to the Camp's attention by Gina Denham, an English woman, who was researching Mr. Cleggett for her book *The Landsman and the Lieutenant*. When she found out that he did not have a headstone, she reached out to Camp 2, and they immediately went to work to get a proper marker for Mr. Cleggett. Several of the local camps and myself were in attendance for the dedication.

As of the last Annual Report, the Department has 11 Camps and a total membership of 270. We will work diligently to increase our numbers this coming year as well as work on the programs that define who we are as an organization with an emphasis on completing the Last Soldier Project in IL.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty



Bobby Welch, PCC
Department Commander
Department of Illinois

Department of Indiana

The Department of Indiana has a membership of 219 brothers, these are divided over eight camps. We are happy to report that we have two new camps coming on board with the department.

A lot of work is being done by members of the department to honor three civil war nurses from the state of Indiana. There will be a plaque and a dedication ceremony for each nurse at her gravesite or at some appropriate location where this will be permitted. The first of which will be unveiled and dedicated on her birthday in October on the birthday of the nurse.

All camps have held headstone cleaning days and ceremonies for the dedication of new headstones and monuments

The department had one brother attend the Lincoln tomb ceremony in Springfield, Ill. On April 13th

The Departmental mid-year encampment was held April 27 at the Indiana Veterans Home in West Lafayette, Indiana. The meeting took place in the Commandants home. This is a civil war era style building that was put up by the Grand Army of the Republic in 1898. This is a very appropriate place for the department to meet and we are planning to meet there next year. The Department voted to give a considerable donation to the Veterans Home for the care and maintenance of this historic building.

All of the Department camps held some type of ceremony on Memorial Day.

The work on the last soldier project is almost completed with only a few Indiana counties left.

Many of the Department of Indiana camps participated in educational programs with other groups, educating younger people and recruiting new members.

Submitted by: Thomas L Schmitt Commander Department of Indiana

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Officer, Danny Krock, PDC, for his time to make the transition and keep Brother Gaard's valuable resource available.

The Department was alerted in late May by Brother James Dixon to a Minutes Book from Lyman Post #502, Department of Iowa G.A.R., that was listed for auction on eBay. Our Department G.A.R. Records Officer, Dan Rittel, along with other members of the Department determined the Department should work to acquire the book. Brother Rittel made contact with the seller (an SUVCW member!) who wanted to keep the auction going to avoid eBay account problems. Rittel bid on the item and was successful in winning it. The Lyman Post Minutes Book is now in the custody of Brother Rittel while we determine where best to deposit it. It should be noted that most of the Department of Iowa G.A.R. Post records (including Charters, Minutes Books, etc.) were acquired by the State Historical Society and are housed in the archive at the State Historical Museum Research Center in Des Moines where they are accessible to the public for research purposes.

On a sad note, we recently lost a dear Sister of the Kinsman Camp ASUVCW. Debra Carr passed away on June 6. Debra was the wife of Past Department Commander Michael Carr of Kinsman Camp #23. Mike and Deb were married at the Department Encampment in Waterloo in 2018. Debra joined the Kinsman Camp Auxiliary and served for a time as Treasurer of the Kinsman Auxiliary. She will be missed.

Charles Boeck, PCC, Department Commander

Daniel Rittel, PCC, Department Secretary

Report of the Department of Iowa For the 2024 National Encampment

Membership in the Department of Iowa is currently 110 Members (including 18 Life Members) and 2 Junior Members. There are five (5) Camps in the Department and all are now in good standing. We were pleased to welcome Brother Bobby Welch, National Quartermaster, to our Department Encampment, this past April 20th, at the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum located on the grounds of Camp Dodge in Johnston, Iowa. We thank Brother Welch for his attendance and for his dedicated service to the Order.

Since our report to the 2023 National Encampment, our Department, its Camps, and Members continue to represent the SUVCW and do the work of the Order with great dedication and exuberance. Included here is a summary of just some of the activities of the Department of Iowa this past year.

- Department members attended and took an active part in two (2) programs with the Missing in America Project to recognize and honor veterans buried at the Clarinda Mental Health Institute and the Independence Mental Health Institute. Together, 28 veterans, including several from the Civil War, buried at these facilities were finally recognized and honored for their service.
- The combined work of several Brothers in the Department led to the marking of more than 20 Civil War veteran's graves across the State of Iowa this past year and they have submitted applications to the VA for many more. In addition, graves of other American veterans and a WRC member were marked with assistance from members of the Department. Several Civil War Nurses buried in Iowa were also identified this year.
- Department members volunteered or worked to educate the public about the Civil War and the G.A.R. Special recognition goes to:
 - Frank Hanna of Dodge Camp #75 for his continued hours of service donated to the State Historical Museum in Des Moines where he dresses in Civil War uniform and talks with visitors in the museum's Iowa in the Civil War exhibit.
 - Joshua Dyer, PCC, of Dodge Camp #75 is a school history teacher and has encouraged his students to work on a Civil War veteran biography project in his county and also spent a day with his students cleaning gravestones of Civil War veterans.
- Mitchell Camp #206 completed their project to mark the grave of Henry Rose last October. They continue to work on a project to mark the site of Camp Union/Franklin, a Civil War camp in Dubuque, Iowa. They have received permission from the property owner to place a historical marker and are hoping to have the marker in place sometime this fall. Mitchell Camp is also trying to organize a Civil War Roundtable in the Dubuque area.
- Many in our Department have participated in local Veterans Day ceremonies, Memorial Day ceremonies and other civic events related to honoring our veterans. Brothers from Dodge Camp #75 read the names of the "Last Union Veterans" of each county during a Veterans Day program in Des Moines. Brothers of Mitchell Camp #206 participated in a "Welcome Home" event for Honor Flight veterans returning to Dubuque from visiting their memorials in Washington D.C.
- Many other members have worked to raise awareness of the SUVCW. Members have presented at genealogical society meetings and events and have also participated in local community festivals and parades across the State. Members have contributed to news stories and magazine articles about their efforts.

Other items to mention:

The website that Department Memorials Officer, Tom Gaard, had created to catalog the various Civil War & G.A.R. monuments across the State of Iowa, was in danger of losing its host and therefore was merged into our Department website (iowasuvchw.org) this past year. Special thanks go to Department Signals

Department of Kentucky

Mike Flynn, DC

The Department of KY includes four camps and membership of approximately 100 brothers. The department has participated in a variety of activities, all to honor our ancestors who wore the Union Blue.

Rather than focusing on individual camp activities, I will highlight some.

1. National Encampment was a main focus of the department officers.

John Buckler – Host Chairman (Jr. Vice Commander)
Bruce Fortin – Program Book (Sec/Treasurer) PDC
Todd Early – Banquet Reservation (Sr. Vice Commander)
Jack Mills – Polo Shirts, Medals (Historian) PDC
Mike Fynn – Vendor Tables (DC)
John Buckler – Tours (Jr. Vice Commander)

2. Ky Department Encampment was held in Hodgenville, KY, the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln. C-in-C Peter Hritsko installed the department officers. Chief of Staff Jim Crane was also in attendance.

3. Department Officers and camp highlight of activities:

- A. Wreaths Across America
- B. Memorial Day services
- C. Tombstone dedications
- D. Cemetery cleaning, tombstone cleaning and re-setting
- E. Veterans Day Service
- F. Medal of Honor Service
- G. Juneteenth Services
- H. Attending National Encampment in New Hampshire
- I. 160th Anniversary of Gettysburg Address, Mt. Zion Church, Richmond, KY
- J. Color Guard Events
- K. Vote on G.O. #2
- L. ROTC Awards
- M. Eagle Scout Awards
- N. Sultana victims and survivors services

These highlights are only a portion of actual camp activities. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

6/2024



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Roderick J Fraser Jr.
Department Commander

162 Fiat Ave., Cranston, RI 02910
Email: rjfraserjr@usn@gmail.com

Subject: Department of Massachusetts Annual Report 2024

It is my honor and privilege to present this, my first report as Commander of the Department of Massachusetts. The Department of Massachusetts has been very active over the past year and continues to gain members, this year resulting in a net gain.

I have appointed PDC Dexter Bishop as Department Camp Organizer and he is working with two groups who wish to start Camps in Gloucester and Topsfield, Massachusetts.

Over the past year, the Department of Massachusetts Brothers conducted the following business:

- Participated in the 2023 Remembrance Day activities in Gettysburg including a guided tour of Harper's Ferry, West Virginia with the Sons of Veterans Reserve Breakfast and the Woolson Monument ceremony and marched with the Sons of Veterans Reserve in the Remembrance Day Parade.
- Camp 54 completed the work at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Boston, MA that refurbished the cannon and cannon bases of the Gen. Charles Russel Lowell GAR Burial plot.
- Held the 24th Annual Lincoln Birthday Brunch on Sunday, Feb 11, 2024. The keynote speaker was John D. Warner, Jr., author of "Riders in the Storm: The Triumphs and Tragedies of a Black Cavalry Regiment in the Civil War." Video posted to YouTube channel.
- Conducted our annual memorial ceremony honoring Union General Benjamin Franklin Butler at the Hildreth Family Cemetery, where we were joined by community members and descendants of General Butler.
- Held our Annual Department Encampment Lakeside Inn, Wakefield, MA April 26TH & 27TH. The number of Brothers attending increased from 2023. Elections were held and the following Brothers were elected:
 - Roderick J. Fraser, Department Commander
 - John Wilder, Senior Vice Commander
 - Rev. Peter Preble, Junior Vice Commander
 - John Dupré, Secretary/Treasurer
 - Council. a. Kevin Tucker b. Dexter Bishop c. William Naughton
- The following brothers were appointed to office.
 - a. George Maple; Patriotic Instructor
 - b. Chaplain; Dexter Bishop
 - c. Graves Registration Officer; William Naughton
 - d. Historian; Rev. Peter Preble
 - e. Civil War Memorials Officer; Kenneth London
 - f. Eagle Scout Coordinator; Michael Terry
 - g. Councilor; Kevin Tucker
 - h. GAR Highway Officer; George Maple

- i. ROTC Officer; Albert Smith
 - j. Guide; Charles Lewis
 - k. Communications Officer; Ronald Glidden
 - l. Department Quartermaster; John Wilder
 - m. Guard; Henry Buckley
- A group of Brothers including myself attended the National Society Daughters of the Union 1861-1865 112th Annual Congress in New Bedford. The 1st Military District, SVR, served as color guard at the event.
 - At the invitation of the National Society Daughters of the Union 1861-1865, we participated as color guard for a wreath Laying at the Grave of Sgt. William H. Carney Friday, May 17, 2024, in New Bedford, MA. Sgt. Carney was a member of the GAR and a soldier in the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War. Born as a slave, he was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1900 for his gallantry in saving the regimental colors during the Battle of Fort Wagner in 1863. Because his actions preceded those of other medal honorees, he is the first African American Medal of Honor recipient.
 - Brothers of the Department and the First Military District SVR, participated in a Ceremony of Rededication for Clark's Cemetery in Gloucester, Massachusetts. The rededication came after years of hard work reclaiming the cemetery from overgrowth and negligence.
 - Department Archivist Brother John Wilder, In conjunction with Department Historian, Peter Preble, has made great progress on the Department Archives. After receiving a donation of a large collection of annual proceedings of the WRC Department of Massachusetts, they were compiled with the records already in our collection and all were digitized. Thanks to a budget granted by the Department, a number of early Camp photos as well as a matching GAR Post Commander medal and photo all from Massachusetts have now been acquired for our archives.
 - Under the leadership of Brother Ronald Glidden of Camp 54, we have a new redesigned website at www.suvmass.org.

I created two new Departmental Awards to encourage Recruiting:

- **PDC Stuart H. Chambers Award for Camp Recruiting**
This Award is named in honor of past Department Commander Stuart H. "Chip" Chambers (October 9, 1946 - February 3, 2021). Chip passed away while in office serving as Department Commander. After taking office as Department Commander, Chip challenged all Brothers to recruit one new member. This award will be given to the Camps that report a net positive gain in members over the previous year defined as more gains than losses from the previous year as reported on Form 27. The award will be a special flag streamer that can be flown from the Camp's colors.
- **Governor John Albion Andrew Award for Individual Recruiting**
This award will be presented to the Brother who recruits the most new Brothers in one year defined as the period of time between Department Encampments. If there is a tie between Brothers, each of the Brothers will be presented the award. In addition to the award recognition, the awardee will also receive a one-year print and online subscription to "The Civil War Monitor" magazine.
- Richard J Tucker received recognition for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout from Camp 15 on 6/2/24 in Barre MA.
- Willie Grout Camp 25 Received a Veteran's Heritage grant from the State Historic Records Advisory Board, which combined with a previous grant from the Department of Massachusetts, allowed the original 1897 charter of the camp to be conserved by the Northeast Document Conservation Center along with an early 1930s copy.

- General George L. Hartsuff Camp 50 participated in the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Rockland, entering a float in the parade. Several members rode along engaging the public and bringing attention to our cause. The feedback has been extremely positive, not only for describing who we are, but also what we do.
- General George L. Hartsuff Camp 50 supported a Civil War Encampment and Battle at our namesake park- Hartsuff Park- to bring attention to the history of our brave soldiers. Although shortened by the forecast of thunderstorms and lightning, it was an amazing success and calls to do it again have already begun.
- The L. A. Tift Camp 15 Brothers SVC William Cote, Gene Theroux, Major Steven Sawyer USA ret, Robert Howe and Thomas Howe spent the past year working in various cemeteries in cities/towns documenting, resetting, cleaning, repairing and obtaining new gravestones.

Memorial Day 2024

- The Department of Massachusetts and the 1st Military district SVR Lead the parade of Veterans organizations at the Annual Memorial Day Service at the Massachusetts National Cemetery. As Department Commander, I brought greetings from the SUVCW and read Past CinC Logan's General Order No. 11.
- The L. A. Tift Camp 15 performed a service at Island Pond Cemetery in Ludlow MA on Sunday, May 26 followed by assisting the Commonwealth of Mass and the Friends of Quabbin at their service for the 4 lost towns at Quabbin Park Cemetery. On Monday, May 27, 2024, Camp 15 Lead the Memorial Day Services as well as provide the host Color Guard for the Town of Belchertown at their Memorial Day service.

Veterans Day

- Willie Grout Camp 25 participated in the annual Worcester Veterans Day Parade. The parade was almost doubled in length from previous years. Brothers Bruce Stone, PCinC Ed Norris, and PDC George Maple marched in the second position behind the Marine Corps League. The United States Marine Corps celebrated its 248th birthday the day before. It was the 70th observance of the day by the Worcester Veterans Council, and the 104th observation of Armistice Day, the day World War I ended

Grave Dedications: The Department conducted the following Grave Dedications over the past year

- Willie Grout Camp No. 25 rededicated the grave of Ira Cote, 4th Vermont Cavalry at the Notre Dame Cemetery in Worcester, Massachusetts. A descendant of Ira had found his grave in disrepair and reached out to the camp for assistance in having it reset. On the 16th of March Brothers George Maple, Daniel Anderson, Cole Anderson and Matthew Sargent rededicated the grave with members of the family present and with help from members of the allied orders.
- The Lewis Tift Camp 15 participated in a headstone rededication for Major Thomas W. Osborn at Hillside Cemetery in North Adams MA on Sunday, October 22nd. Thomas Osborn was a US Senator. Born in Scotch Plains, New Jersey, he moved to New York in 1842, graduated from Madison University in 1860, studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1861. With the advent of the Civil War, he enlisted in the Union Army and rose to the rank of Colonel in command of Battery D, 1st Regiment, New York Light Artillery. After the war, he moved to Florida, commenced the practice of law and was appointed assistant commissioner of the Bureau of Refugees and Freedmen for Florida, (1865-66). He was appointed register in bankruptcy in 1867 and was a member of the Florida State constitutional convention in 1868. In 1868, he was elected as a Republican to the United States Senate and served until 1873. Not a candidate for reelection, he served as United States commissioner at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. In 1876, he moved to New York City and resumed the practice of law until his death at age 65.
- Willie grout Camp No, 25, along with the First Military District, SVR, conducted a headstone dedication for Private Hugh Cook of the 40th Massachusetts Infantry, who is buried at Goose Hill

Cemetery in Rutland, Massachusetts. Private Cook was in an unmarked grave but with the assistance of Willie Grout Camp 25, the Rutland Historical Society, and Brother William Stump, Commander of the Dept of NY, the Veterans Administration provided a headstone. PVT Cook died in a fire attempting to retrieve his pension paperwork from a house fire.

- L. A. Tiff Camp 15 held Gravestone Dedication services for First Lieutenant Lyman F. Hooker and Sergeant David Benson Furber at Pine Hill Cemetery at 140 W. Silver St. in Westfield, MA on Saturday, June 22nd. The following Brothers and Sisters were assigned:
 - Commander: Gene Theroux
 - Chaplain: Barbara Davis
 - First Brother: Christopher Collins
 - Second Brother: Robert Howe
 - Third Sister: PDP MaryEllen Seiffert
 - Color Guard: Nathaniel Knight, PCC Joseph A. Nadeau, Timothy Barnes, William Cote
 - Bugler: PCC Edward T. Knight
 - Photographer: PDP MaryCatherine Knight
- General Darius Nash Couch Camp 26 (Taunton) Commander Michael Rice and Secretary-Treasurer Van Jabagjorian participated in the GAR Plot Dedication Ceremony at Oak Grove Cemetery in Falmouth, Massachusetts on June 10th. Brothers Rice and Jabagjorian marched in the procession to the plot. In lieu of the full dedication ceremony with an honor guard, Commander Rice set up a chair with a kepi and greatcoat and recited "The Vacant Chair" followed by providing a formal reading to dedicate the plot. Immediately following the dedication ceremony, the procession passed by the grave of Falmouth's last surviving GAR member, Andrew W. Davis.

William Gould Memorial Dedicated in Dedham, MA

- The town of Dedham, MA dedicated a statue to William B. Gould, an escaped slave who joined the US Navy during the Civil War. He also served as Commander of the Charles W. Carroll Post 144 of the Grand Army of the Republic. Through the work of the Col. Robert Gould Shaw Camp 54, the project received a grant from the SUVCW National Civil War Memorial Fund. The Department could not attend the dedication as it was held on Memorial Day and the Department and Camps were engaged in other Memorial Day activities.

Private George Duggan Memorial Dedication

- The First Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve participated in a dedication of a monument to Private George Washington Dugan, "the only native colored man who went to the Civil War from Concord," in Concord, Massachusetts on Saturday, July 15th. Dugan was listed as "Never accounted for" after the battle at Fort Wagner, and his name was left off of the Concord Civil War Monument, where men from Concord who were killed in action were engraved.

ROTC Awards

The Department worked with four ROTC Units to present awards. We are working to increase this number next year. The four units are;

- North Quincy High School; Mass 841st AF ROTC Program Quincy, Mass.
- Dept of Military Science ARMY ROTC Mass Institute of Technology Medford, Ma
- South Boston ROTC EXCEL High School Roxbury, Mass.
- John D O'Bryant School of Math & Science, Roxbury, Mass.

Additionally, Department Commander John Dupre' presented Cadet Sargent John Walsh of Hudson, MA with the SUVCW ROTC Award on August 19, 2023, on behalf of Camp 25 Commander Matty Sargent. Cadet Walsh is a student at Norwich University in Northfield, VT and is contracted with Marine ROTC.

Eagle Scout Awards

- We distributed ten Eagle Scout Recognition Certificates in the period 1 July 2023 through 30 June 2024. They were as follow:
 - Sumner James Jordan
 - Landen James Jorgensen
 - Satoshi Conway
 - Zachary Chad Brigham
 - Alex Matson
 - John Mitchell
 - Renby Fernald
 - Aush Aggarwal
 - Ryan Christopher Moran
 - Brian Miller

Submitted,
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty



Roderick J Fraser Jr.

Council of Administration

Department of Michigan, Steven S. Martin, DC

Current Membership and Camp Status

As of the Annual Report dated May 2nd, 2024, the Department of Michigan had a total of 377 Members including Associates, and Junior Members. As of June 26th, 2024, we currently have 360 Members. Over the last two years, the Department of Michigan has unfortunately closed three camps. The closures came as the camps began aging out. The Department of Michigan currently has 20 Camps which includes a Camp-At-Large. We currently are assisting a Camp that has been under suspension for a period in restoring their camp standing.

Department Encampment for 2025

The Department of Michigan Encampment Committee has already secured the date and location for the 141st Department of Michigan Encampment which is listed on the Department of Michigan SUVCW web page.

Graves Registration Officer and Editor of the Michigan Messenger

It is with great sorrow that I report the Department of Michigan long time Graves Registration Officer and Editor of the Michigan Messenger Richard Danes, PCC passed away June 22nd, 2024. Brother Danes served the order for many years. As of June 29th, 2024, I have appointed two brothers to fill each position. Brother David Smith, PDC and new Editor of the Michigan Messenger. Brother Charles Worley, PDC and new Graves Registration Officer.

Keith G. Harrison Award

The Department of Michigan Bylaws were amended at the 140th Michigan Department Encampment to include the latest award. The Keith G. Harrison Most Outstanding Social Media On-Line Presence Award. The award will be given to the Camp that has the best visual aesthetics and design of the website, functionality of the website, inclusion of interesting information, ease of contracting the Camp social media channels, new features, etc..

Outreach Committee

The Department of Michigan has included in the Bylaws an Outreach Committee. This standing committee's purpose is to cultivate activities related to the Outreach needs of the Department of Michigan, including liaison with Civil War Roundtables, genealogy clubs, veteran's organizations and other such organizations, for our mutual benefit.

Department of Nebraska and the Dakotas

April 1 – June 30, 2024

It has been a busy year for the Department of Nebraska and the Dakotas. Some of our members also belong to the First Nebraska Volunteer Infantry Civil War reenacting unit and together we cover a lot of ground. This includes living history presentations, parades, Civil War reenactments, demonstrations, working with museums to promote Civil War living history. This gives us an opportunity to speak with the public and recruit. Also our ROTC program is very active and has covered numerous schools. Listed below are our events that our members participated in from April 1st until June 30th of this year:

April 6, 2024 – Fort Donelson exhibit at the Nebraska National Guard Museum in Seward Nebraska

April 12 - 14, 2024 – Civil War camp and muster at Fort Atkinson in Fort Calhoun Nebraska

April 20, 2024 – Department of Nebraska and the Dakotas Department Encampment at the National Guard Museum in Seward Nebraska

April 26 – 28, 2024 – Civil War reenactment in Galena, IL with First Nebraska Volunteer Infantry

Listing of ROTC Schools covered in Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota:

Chadron State College – Army After April 20, 2024

Creighton University – Army TBD

University of NE Kearney – Army TBD

University of NE Lincoln – Army April 18, 2024

University of NE Lincoln – Navy April 18, 2024

University of NE Lincoln – USAF April 18, 2024

University of NE Lincoln – USMC April 18, 2024

University of NE Lincoln – Space Force April 18, 2024

Omaha Public Schools Junior ROTC

North High School – Army April 18, 2024

Northwest High School – Army April 17, 2024

Bryan High School – Army After April 20, 2024

Burke High School – Army After April 20, 2024

Central High School – Army After April 20, 2024

South High School – Army April 16, 2024

Benson High School – Army After April 20, 2024

Westview High School – Army April 17, 2024

Buena Vista High School – Army After April 20, 2024

Other Omaha Area High Schools Jr. ROTC

Boys Town High School – US Army After April 20, 2024
Bellevue West High School – USAF After April 20, 2024
Papillion LaVista South HS – Navy April 18, 2024
Bellevue East High School – USAF April 17, 2024
Plattsmouth High School – USAF After April 20, 2024
Millard South High School – USAF After April 20, 2024
South Dakota Jr. ROTC
Washington High School – USMC After April 20, 2024
Douglas High School – USAF After April 20, 2024
Central High School – Army After April 20, 2024
Roosevelt High School – USAF After April 20, 2024
South Dakota ROTC
Black Hills State University – Army After April 20, 2024
South Dakota Tech University – Army After April 20, 2024
South Dakota State University – Army April 10, 2024
South Dakota State University – USAF April 10, 2024
North Dakota ROTC
North Dakota State University – USAF After April 20, 2024
North Dakota State University – Army After April 20, 2024
University of North Dakota – Army After April 20, 2024
University of North Dakota – USAF After April 20, 2024
North Dakota Jr. ROTC
Fargo South High School – USAF After April 20, 2024
Minot High School – USAF After April 20, 2024
Grand Forks High School – Army April 4, 2024
Devil's Lake High School – Army After April 20, 2024
Red River High School – Army April 4, 2024.
Grand Central High School – After April 20, 2024
May 15, 2024 – Last Union Veteran of the County dedication for Jefferson C. Meyers 33rd IA Infantry Co. A by members of Harrison Camp #53-2.
May 31 – June 2, 2024 – Civil War reenactment in Hopkinton, IA

June 14 – 16, 2024 – 160th anniversary Battle of Carthage Missouri Civil War Reenactment.

June 22, 2024 – SUVCW / SAR dedication for Gilbert Cole 29th IA Infantry Co. E in Beatrice Nebraska.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Keith Rockefeller

Department Commander

Department of Nebraska and the Dakotas

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Headquarters, Department of New Hampshire

Michael C. Shklar, Dept. Commander

PO Box 807

Newport, NH 03773

On behalf of the Department of New Hampshire respectfully submit the following Quarterly Report, as requested:

This quarter features, as usual, the beginning of the “campaign season” as very little happens this far North during the (many) winter months. Steel heel plates and frozen water are a bad combination.

The Department held its annual encampment on April 20, 2024. All camps were represented and Br. Frazier from the Department of Massachusetts represented the National Organization. The meeting was pleasant and cordial, and as all matters were acted on unanimously, the only point of difference was the lunch order from Moe’s Subs. A number of Brothers seem to plan on attending the National Encampment so the Department will be represented.

All Department reports have been filed. Department Secretary Dow deserves an immense amount of credit for his perseverance, and his efforts succeeded in clearing up a years-old problem of correcting membership rolls. General Halleck and Secretary Stanton would be proud of him.

Members of the Department attended the ceremony at General Grant’s Tomb in New York City on April 28, helping out the 2d Military District, the Department of New York and Oliver Tilden Camp. It was a grand event, as usual. A wreath was presented on behalf of the Department.

Memorial Day events were observed in Fremont, New Hampshire., Salem New Hampshire, Woodstock, VT., Manchester, New Hampshire and Lebanon New Hampshire(my own camp, Major McKinley #9 is based directly on the Vermont border, and therefore attends events nearby)

There will, of course be events on the Glorious 4th, but there was an early parade in Hanover Center, NH on June 29 which is being attended by members of the Department.

Plans are being made by Camp 10 and Camp 9 to engage in a talk in conjunction with the Peterborough Players (a professional theatre) in Peterborough NH for a play entitled “Ben Butler” about the events at Fortress Monroe and the classification of enslaver persons as “contrabands”. They have asked for our help with proper costuming and props and a meeting occurred on June 16. It is hoped that a post show talk by uniformed members will get the order some badly needed public visibility (and perhaps even some recruits)

We do anticipate a rather active summer, as the region continues to move forward and fairs and other events resume. I do not anticipate a truly “normal” year, as events even for the Glorious 4th have not yet resumed as the advance planning required could not be accomplished given the uncertainties prevalent during the last months.

In F,C, and L,

/s/Michael C. Shklar ,Department Commander.

Report of the New Jersey Department

Dear Brothers,

It is an honor to make this report. The current strength of the New Jersey Department is 271 Brothers, with all our Camps maintaining very active events. Here are just some of the activities our Camps are involved in.

Camp 4 - President James A. Garfield Camp is the oldest Camp in our Department is busy recruiting new members

Camp 7 - Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp

September 16th Brothers helped at the Woodstown Church Cemetery to reset gravestones damaged during a recent storm. Many of these stones are those of USCT veterans.

October 15th was the Annual Country Living Fair held at Historic Batsto Village. This is the 30th year that the Camp has participated in it and we spoke to a number of prospective members.

On November 11th we participated in a GAR marker installation and dedication for Pvt. Peter Joseph Schwickerath of the 23rd New Jersey Infantry. We were honored to have members of the family in attendance.

November 18th, we had a great turnout at Gettysburg for Remembrance Day. The parade was led by PDC Dave Hann serving as on staff of the SVR as Provost Marshall, with the rank of Lt. Colonel and PDC Fred Mossbrucker now serving as Deputy Provost Marshall with the rank of Captain.

On December 4th the Camp delivered over 150 toys for the Toys for Tots program. This year we selected the Gloucester County Marine Toys for Tots as we have several Brothers from Gloucester County.

On May 10th we participated in the annual Confederate Memorial Day service at Finns Point National Cemetery. We do this in conjunction with Private Pool Camp #1505 Sons of Confederate Veterans. This joint ceremony honors both the 136 Union soldiers serving as prison guards, and the 2, 436 Confederate POWs that died at nearby Fort Delaware. Our SVR unit provided Brothers for the rifle salute.

Wednesday May 22nd the Camp helped to place flags at Egg Harbor City, Greenmount, and Oak Grove Cemetery. Brothers from the Camp placed well over 300 flags.

On May 27th the Camp participated in the annual Hammonton Memorial Day parade, and our SVR unit provided Brothers for the rifle salute.

On Thursday May 30th we held traditional Memorial Day services at Greenmount Cemetery. This is the 33rd year that we have done this, and we hold the event rain or shine.

Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon Camp #10

The Camp began a new cemetery cleanup project at Ambury Hill Cemetery, a cemetery of forgotten veterans of the United States Colored Troops. A committee was formed to work on the project. Dylan J. Wettstein was elected as CC, Bryan Sigmund as SVC, and Morell Wolf PCC as JVC. Robert Wilhelm PDC was reelected to serve as Secretary-Treasurer.

The Camp worked diligently in its project at the Cemetery and after gaining permission from the property owners set out to host a cleanup and restoration event at the cemetery in cooperation with Francine Camp #7. The Camp was also notified of two forgotten veterans in a nearby abandoned cemetery in Springtown, who were John Dean and Howard Hall, runaway slaves who enlisted in the 45th USCT and 22nd USCT respectively.

At the headstone event, the two Camps joined together and collaborated and cleaned well over fifteen headstones in Ambury Hill, and the two USCT Veterans in nearby Springtown. The Camps were also delighted to be joined by Robin Winrow of the Bethel AME Church who gave the party a tour of the building, the same building where Harriet Tubman had lived for a few years. The event ended in a great success.

On May 29th, Patricia Wilhelm PDP, the Chaplain of Cornelia Hancock Auxillary 10, Placed a new GAR Grave Marker and Flag on the grave of a previously unmarked civil war veteran. Joshua Nickerson (her Great-Grandfather) a member of Co B, 33rd Massachusetts Infantry and a Past Commander of Shin Post #6 GAR buried in Port Norris Cemetery just before Memorial Day.

Camp 17 - Major General George Armstrong Custer Camp

Custer Camp continues on the signage of GAR post across various parts of NJ in the Camps boundaries along with Kearny Camp And Winfield Scott Camp.

Custer Camp has also started a new campaign to get shirts, hats and jackets made to promote the order in public view.

Custer Camp had its Memorial Day service at the Fairview Cemetery in Middletown NJ.

Starting with a Memorial service at the 29th NJ monument at the entrance of the cemetery, then onto the Arrowsmith Gar post 61 plot. PCinC Grand Army of the Republic Nevins final resting place was saluted as we progressed to our final stop of Revolutionary war veteran's graves

Camp 20 - Major General Phillip Kearny Camp

The regular camp meeting was held on May 11 at the Abraham Clark SAR House Museum. Camp members and officers attended the annual New Jersey Department Encampment on June 8. A sign unveiling ceremony was held memorializing the location of the former Brig. Gen. Paul GAR Post #101 in Westwood at the current American Legion / VFW post. The event was well attended by members of both posts, town officials, and the town's historic commission. We have finalized plans for a sign placement and ceremony at the former GAR post #17 in Carlstadt to be held in September. Kearny Camp presented seven ROTC/JROTC metals to cadets.

Camp members participated in Memorial Day events, flag ceremonies, wreath-laying, placement, and veterans' grave decoration at 12 cemeteries: Fairmount in Newark (formal ceremony), Holy Cross and Arlington in North Arlington, East Ridgelawn in Clifton, Rosedale in West Orange, First Presbyterian, Westfield, Fairview in Middletown, George Washington in Paramus, Hollywood in Union, Springfield Methodist Church, East Hanover Cemetery, and Restland in East Hanover. Members also participated in the clean-up activity at the Castner-Compton Cemetery in Bridgewater. Work continues on graves registration with significant progress at the Westwood Cemetery.

Camp 73 - Major General Winfield Scott Camp

Brother Robert Meyer PDC was awarded the Legion of honor pin upon his selection to the Legion Of Honor, Chapel of the Four Chaplains. Brother Robert was recognized for his many works of charity and service, not only for the SUVCW, and SAR, but for Veterans and the community too. Winfield Scott Camp had a cemetery clean up on 5-11-24 and plans to follow up with a 2nd during the summer months.

Camp 82 - James S. Stratton Camp

We performed at Philadelphia's Laurel Hill Cemetery for the traditional Memorial Day ceremony on Sunday, May 26. After performing a concert, we honored the graves of General Meade as well as 2 recently discovered graves of Civil War soldiers. A ceremony was held to honor them at the Silent Sentry memorial.

We performed in the Glassboro, NJ Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 27.

We performed in the Malvern, Pa. Memorial Day parade on Sunday, June 2.

We performed in the Evesham Twp. July 4 parade.

We performed in the Cape May, NJ Independence Day parade on Saturday, July 6.

Camp 100 - President Abraham Lincoln Camp

Has been meeting and are planning a few events including a presence at the Monmouth Battlefield recruiting on behalf of the Sons.

Camp 104 - Sergeant Hiram W. Pursell Camp

Has been busy doing many patriotic events and recruiting on behalf of the Sons.

On June 8th the New Jersey Department met for the 142nd year. The following Brothers were Frank Tomasello from Francine Camp # 7 was elected Department Commander, Peter Lindsay from Kearney Camp 20, Bryan Sigmund from Francine Camp # 7 as Department Junior Vice Commander and Dr. David G. Martin PDC from Lincoln Camp #100 as Secretary/Treasurer We were honored to have Past C-in-C Mike Paquette in attendance who provided us with his wise council and installed our new Officers. One of the tasks that is planned for my administration is to identify and mark the last Civil War Veteran in each county in New Jersey and to make sure that they are marked.

In closing it is an honor to serve my Department and the Sons.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Francis A Tomasello Jr.

Commander

Department of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO ENCAMPMENT REPORT

June 24, 2024

The 2023-2024 Department of Ohio encampment was held on June 1, 2024. Encampment officiated by Department Commander John Huffman Jr. In attendance was CinC Peter Hrisko.

The Department of Ohio consists of 15 camps with 387 members. Present at the encampment were 47 Brothers representing 12 of the camps.

Memorial was held for departed brothers. The department lost the following:

Randall Staley Sherman Camp 93

Fredric Lynch PDC Sherman Camp 93

Richard Haudenschild Sherman Camp 93

Tim Graham PDC Garfield Camp 142

Raymond Nagel PDC Lytle Camp 10

James Litzenberg Parrott Camp 33

CinC Peter Hrisko was introduced and briefly addressed the encampment.

The encampment approved the continuation of the "Department Monument and Memorials Fund" and dictated that any funds remaining each year will roll over to the next year. Interest from the permanent fund and designated donations will also comprise the fund. A committee will be formed year 2024-2025 to review and update this article.

Steve Ball was elected the Department of Ohio's new Commander. Commander Ball is a Lifetime Member of the Order, and a dual member of Dennison Camp #1, and Enderlin Camp #73. He has served as Dennison Camp Commander, Patriotic Instructor, and Chaplain.

Stephen W. Ball

Department Commander

Department of Ohio

Department of Oklahoma, Terry D. Handley, DC

Current Membership and Camps Status

As of the Annual Report dated May 25, 2024, the Department of Oklahoma has 41 Members including Associates. The Department of Oklahoma currently stands at 3 Camps. All camps have regular meetings and conduct events and ceremonies in communities around the state.

Department Encampment

The Department of Oklahoma Encampment was held on May 11, 2024 at the Honey Springs Battlefield Visitor's Center. Department Commander, Terry Handley and all the Department Officers were installed for the year 2024-2025 by PCinC Brian "BP" Pierson. During the Encampment Mrs. Lana Cooper was presented with the Dr. Mary Edwards Walker award.

Special Committee's Review of Membership Qualifications Report

It was proposed and approved at the Department Encampment that the following amendment be recommended: Add a single definition of the qualification for membership in the SUVCW in the "Constitution of the Order," rather than inserting numerous qualification descriptions throughout the Constitution of the Order. "For the purposes of this Constitution, and all regulations, orders, and other official acts of the National Organization, Departments, and Camps, "male" shall be defined as a person who was biologically male at birth and identifies as a male."

Ceremonies, Events, and Presentations

During the past year the members of the Department conducted several ceremonies in conjunction with the DUVCW Sisters of the Department of Oklahoma Brothers provided Honor Guard for Memorial Day ceremony at the Union Soldiers Cemetery on May 29, 2023. Brothers attended the dedication of Honey Springs Battlefield July 15, 2023. Brothers assisted the Sisters of the DUVCW with their National Convention held at the Embassy Suites in Oklahoma City. Brothers provided Color Guard, Escorts, and assisted with tours of the 45th Infantry Museum. July 18 – July 23, 2023. Brothers of the Department attended the Seventh Annual James Caster Symposium on the Civil War at Randall University, Moore, OK October 4, 2023. Brothers conducted education with dozens of visitors about Civil War history at the Oklahoma Department SUVCW display at the Folklife Festival at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City on October 21, 2023. Brothers conducted Remembrance Day ceremonies at cemeteries in Oklahoma City and Tulsa which were held in collaboration with the Sisters of the DUVCW on November 18, 2023. Wreaths Across America in conjunction with the Oklahoma City Regents Council of the DAR and the Oklahoma City SAR. Placed 120 wreaths placed and 3 volley salute fired by a combined Sons of Veteran Reserve Co. L 3rd Indian Home Guard and Sons of the American Revolution firing team on December 16, 2023. Brothers dedicated 5 Union Veterans Graves at the Gower Cemetery (a small family cemetery) in Arcadia, Oklahoma and placed GAR flag markers and fired three (3) volleys. May 6, 2023.

Pennsylvania Department 2024 National Encampment Report

I was honored to be elected as Pennsylvania Department Commander on 29 June 2024, and congratulate now-PDC Dane DiFebo on his service as commander for the past two years.

Despite the PA Dept facing many challenges since the pandemic, including losing 200 Brothers over the past two years to a variety of reasons, including but not limited to the 2022 National per capita increase, the department remains steadfast in its commitment to honoring our Boys in Blue, those who saved the United States from 1861 to 1865. PA Dept strength as of 29 May 2024 stood at 561 Brothers.

On a particularly positive note, I anticipate receiving at this National Encampment two charters for new dept camps, one in southwest PA and the other in north central PA, and in early July I signed off on Forms 51 and 52 for another new camp to form, to be based in Valley Forge. Once these three camps are chartered, the PA Dept will have 26 active camps. This is a visible demonstration that dept Brothers are getting out into their communities, and beyond, to share with the public that the sacrifices made during the American Civil War remain relevant and worthy of remembrance. Often, such work is conducted with Sisters from PA's Allied Orders.

Dept Brothers regularly participate with outside organizations such as the American Battlefield Trust, National Civil War Museum, Gilder Lehrman Institute, History Camp, Gettysburg College's Civil War Institute, Wreaths Across America, George Meade Society, GAR Civil War Museum and Library (Philadelphia), Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum (Pittsburgh), the GAR Memorial Assn Museum and Library (Scranton), and National Park Service units in PA, among others. But focus remains centered on our camps' home and surrounding counties, particularly to perform ceremonial, remembrance, and graves work, as well as recognizing outstanding youth through SUVCW's Eagle Scout and Cadet Award programs.

Notable activity during 2023-2024 includes:

- Holding a Special Encampment to address "membership qualifications."
- Last Veteran ceremonies for Huntingdon, Lehigh, Montgomery, and Montour Counties, making 16 Last Veterans recognized among 67 PA counties. Several more are in the works for 2024-2025, and another 24 potential Last Veterans have been identified but need more research to confirm their status.
- At least 39 Eagle Scouts were recognized with Eagle Scout certificates, with some camps not reporting their efforts.
- The PA Dept and its camps are actively engaged in supporting the Cadet Award for ROTC, JROTC, and NDCC units, and have started to make connections with the 60+ Civil Air Patrol, USN Sea Cadet Corps, and Young Marine units in the Commonwealth.
- Gen Thomas Camp 19 annually holds a 30 May Memorial Day remembrance service at the GAR Plot in Lancaster Cemetery.
- PA Dept Graves Registration Certificates of Achievement were presented to ten camps or individuals for outstanding graves-related work. Particularly notable:
 - Davis ★ Camp performed 2,000+ hours on graves activities: adding nearly 1000 new PA entries to our database along with scores in other states, 24 new vet headstones, worked with the SUVCW Find-A-Grave team on PA issues, and assisted cemetery associations in identifying Civil War vets buried in their

cemeteries.

- Gen Thomas Camp 19 is working with the Lancaster Cemetery Assn to raise funds to rehabilitate the Reynolds family plot, which includes Gen John F. Reynolds and his brother, Adm William Reynolds, and hosted a registered American Battlefield Trust Park Day event cleaning the Greenwood Cemetery GAR plot.
 - John T. Crawford Camp 43 continues to replace missing, damaged, or illegible Civil War vet headstones, leads local Memorial Day activities, and continues to sponsor the Kittanning "Wall of Flags," this year honoring 104 local vets, first responders, and others who have been positive influences in the community.
 - Pvt Silas Gore Camp 141 continues its efforts to photograph and geocoordinate record every Civil War vet in Bradford Co PA.
- The PA Dept has purchased a Zoom Pro account for virtual dept officer/council meetings and for the dept comdr to host meetings with camp comdrs/sec'ys.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. & L.

William E. Fischer, Jr., PCC
Commander

Department of Tennessee Report to National Encampment

August 1-4, 2024 Lexington, KY

On June 27, 2024, I issued Department Order #5 authorizing George Huttick, PDC to begin the formation of a new Camp in Savannah, TN in the vicinity of the Shiloh Battlefield. Much interest has been developed in this area. The Camp is tentatively using the moniker of Pittsburg Landing Camp #61 during its Organizing Stage with George Huttick as Camp Organizer.

The Department is actively working with a possible Camp Organizer for a Camp in Mississippi. This would be the first Camp in Mississippi if it comes to fruition.

Activities:

The Fort Donelson Camp was asked to be a consulting partner for the National Endowment for the Humanities regarding Section 106 Consultation Invitation for the Vanderbilt University Archaeological and Ethnographic Field Research award, RFW-292005-23, titled:

“Descendant-led Excavation at the Reconstruction-Era Black Civil War Veteran Community at Bass Street, Fort Negley Park”.

This process was approved on October 19, 2023 By Commander-In-Chief Peter J. Hritsko Jr.

On June 18, 2024, the National Endowment for the Humanities provided us with a Final Draft Copy of the MOA (Memorandum of Agreement which was forwarded to Commander-In-Chief Peter J. Hritsko Jr for comments or concerns.

The Department continues to research the possibility of hosting a National Encampment with a target date of the 2026 Encampment. George Huttick has been appointed as Chairman of the Host Committee and has appointed several Sub-Committees to work on various aspects of this project. Several Zoom Meetings with Committees and interested Department Members have been held with great success. We are optimistic that this goal can be reached.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Chip Huffman
Commander
Department of Tennessee (with Mississippi)
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Department of Wisconsin

Sir, As Commander I installed officers at several camps this year. Some via zoom. Have given 2 civil war presentations at 2 different schools. I continue to clean headstones at several cemeterys. I am also on the Burlington wis. Cemetery board I help with maintaining the cemetery doing repairs, straightening headstones and cleaning them. I attended our department mid winter meeting. Also the Lincoln tomb ceremony in April. I aiirnded the calvary cemetery event on May 27.and our camp 15 honor guard which I am a member fired mustets. Our camp 15 continues to do restoration projects at the Lafayette church. I did several electrical repairs at the Walworth county veterans museum and also at the historic Sharon Town hall building on the fair grounds.i have been assisting the SAR with installation of a plaque and planting a tree honoring a Rev War veteran (Aaron Smith) in the city of Burlington wis.. I attended a dedication for several civil war soldiers grave sites wit Camp 1 in Milwaukee. The Graves were unmarked and camp 1 got new flat government plaques for them . Good job camp 1! I was asked to be department Commander for another term due to the passing of our SVC Sam Kieth.i attended the department Encampment at Boscobel GAR hall and was reinstalled as Department Commander by our National Commander. All positions in our department are filled at this time. Camp 15 honor guard will have a float at the Waterford Lions club parade on the 4th and we will fire muskets during the parade. It's always a big hit with parade goers. And afterward we have a camp 15 picnic at brother Dave Daleys farm. I will install officers again this year at various camps in our department and continue the work of the order. Department Commander Robert Koenecke.

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

Department of Texas/Louisiana

2024

Commander-in-chief Hritsko and members of the Council of Administration, it is my privilege to present this report of the Department of Texas/Louisiana for the first half of 2024.

General James J. Byrne Camp 1

Camp 1 is in a period of transition and searches for its identity. The camp's home will be split between Fort Worth and Bell County to better accommodate its demographics. The camp observed Memorial Day at the GAR monument in Oakwood Cemetery in Fort Worth, followed by a visit to the grave of its namesake in Pioneer's Rest Cemetery. Graves Registration Officer Todd Wilber continues his successful search for Federal graves in North Texas not included in our database. The camp is led by commander Butch Durham. They are experimenting with alternate Zoom and live meetings. The great distances for which Texas is famous present a major challenge to Camp 1.

Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp 2

Camp 2 counts 105 members and meets the 3rd Saturday of each month. The camp annually commemorates the Battle of Galveston where their namesake lost his life. At this year's rendition eleven other patriotic hereditary organizations participated, after which the brothers indulged in monument restoration. The camp stayed quite busy, with appearances twice on Memorial Day, Wreaths Across America, and Juneteenth.

The camp website continues to expand its coverage with an ancestor page and links to other historical information. Camp 2 maintains two Facebook pages – one for members only and one for public access. Their award winning newsletter, *The Harriet Lane*, is published quarterly.

SVC Dan Pourreau began a project to commission and fund a historical marker for the GAR lot in Washington Cemetery.

Future plans include:

Grave marker installation for Captain Mahlon Davis of Co A, 21st Infantry, USCT

Graveside ceremony for Capt. Isaac Conroe

Veterans Day

Wreaths Across America.

Brig. Gen. Joseph Bailey Camp 5

Camp 5 participated in Memorial Day services at Oakwood Cemetery in Louisiana. They moved their meeting location to Marshall, TX, to better meet the needs of camp members.

One Army cadet at Northwestern State University in Louisiana was presented with the Order's ROTC award. Four Eagle Scouts were presented with the SUVCW Commendation.

The camp caused a plaque to be made, which they later installed, to honor Union forces at the Battle of Sabine Crossroads April 8-9, 1864.

Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth Camp 18

Camp 18 regular meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. They have featured:

10 Patriotic Instructor presentations

2 speakers on Civil War topics

Election of 7 new members

Election and installation of a full slate of officers.

The camp has participated in Wreaths Across America and the Medal of Honor parade in Gainesville, TX. They are selling commemorative medals as a fundraiser.

A **New Camp** is in the formation process in San Antonio under the direction of Camp Organizer Blair Rudy. Stay tuned for updates as the process moves along.

The Leadership Staff Roundtable begun under Commander Michael Lance continues via Zoom on the 4th Thursday evening of each month. It has been a source of great good in facilitating acquaintance of numerous members and in getting much work done. This is especially true in planning for the 2025 National Encampment at Houston. One thing in particular the Roundtable has helped bring about is the program of awarding certificates of appreciation to military veterans.

The department is excited about hosting next year's National Encampment. The planning committee, led by Bro. John Schneider, is working hard on all the logistics, tours, and fund raisers required. Treue der Union!

Respectfully submitted 6/29/2024



Timothy Phillips, Commander

Dept. of Texas/Louisiana

SUVCW

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

- a. Financial Statements & Supplementary Information**
- b. National Patriotic Instructor Forms**
- c. Recommendations**

Financial Statements and
Supplementary Information

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

*Year ended June 30, 2023
with Independent Auditor's Report*

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Financial Statements and
Supplementary Information

Year ended June 30, 2023

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Independent Auditor's Report

Council of Administration
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc. (SUVCW) (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2023, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of SUVCW as of June 30, 2023, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under GAAS are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of SUVCW and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about SUVCW's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are issued.



Council of Administration
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of SUVCW's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about SUVCW's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Council of Administration
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The combining statements of financial position and activities are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Coulter & Justus, P.C.

Knoxville, Tennessee
October 31, 2023

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2023

Assets

Current assets:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 167,782
Accounts receivable	96
Inventory	35,052
Prepaid expenses	22,676
Total current assets	<u>225,606</u>

Certificates of deposit	394,131
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Investments, at fair value:

U.S. Savings Bonds	48,264
Common stocks	407,080
Mutual funds	205,636
Total investments, at fair value	<u>660,980</u>

Fixed assets:

Website, furniture, and equipment	72,617
Less accumulated depreciation	(31,961)
Net fixed assets	<u>40,656</u>

Right of use asset, net

	<u>19,788</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 1,341,161</u>

Liabilities and net assets

Current liabilities:

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 4,736
Deferred revenue	158,577
Current portion of operating lease liability	10,033
Total current liabilities	<u>173,346</u>

Operating lease liability, less current portion

	<u>9,755</u>
Total liabilities	<u>183,101</u>

Net assets:

Without donor restrictions:

Designated	500,867
Undesignated	657,193
Total net assets	<u>1,158,060</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 1,341,161</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Statement of Activities

For the year ended June 30, 2023

Revenues:	
Per capita dues	\$ 144,200
Life member fees	38,700
Registration and application fees	5,820
Quartermaster sales	40,393
Shipping and handling	6,410
Banner subscriptions and advertising	60
Donations	68,350
Lincoln tomb observance	1,710
Other	3,322
Total revenues	<u>308,965</u>
Expenses:	
Officer allowances and per diem expense	31,062
Executive director and assistant executive director	31,000
Cost of quartermaster sales	26,795
Shipping and handling	10,131
ROTC program	5,981
National encampment	8,320
Printing and Remembrance Day expenses	14,738
Banner	52,911
Lincoln tomb observance	2,958
Life member payments to camps	1,081
Awards, grants, and scholarships	16,272
Accounting and professional fees	34,790
Office, telephone, and postage	19,080
Rent	10,320
Insurance	4,104
Depreciation and amortization	3,990
Miscellaneous expense	5,832
Total expenses	<u>279,365</u>
Change in net assets without donor restrictions before investment income	29,600
Net investment income	<u>32,523</u>
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	62,123
Net assets without donor restrictions, beginning of year	1,095,937
Net assets without donor restrictions, end of year	<u><u>\$ 1,158,060</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended June 30, 2023

Cash flows from operating activities	
Change in net assets	\$ 62,123
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities	
Depreciation and amortization	3,990
Net investment income	(32,523)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	
Accounts receivable	512
Prepaid expenses	(2,128)
Inventory	1,913
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	4,577
Deferred revenue	50,956
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>89,420</u>
Cash flows used by investing activities	
Purchases of fixed assets	(17,444)
Purchases of certificates of deposit	(400,000)
Net sales of investments	364,965
Net cash used by investing activities	<u>(52,479)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	36,941
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>130,841</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 167,782</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2023

1. Description of Organization

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc. (SUVCW) is a nonprofit corporation founded in 1881. SUVCW was incorporated by an Act of Congress on August 20, 1954.

The purpose of SUVCW is to perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of The Republic and the men who saved the Union between 1861 and 1865; to assist in every practicable way in the preservation of and availability of documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of The Republic and its members; to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war; to teach patriotism and the duties of citizenship, the true history of our Country, and the love and honor of our flag; to oppose every tendency or movement that would weaken loyalty to, or make for the destruction or impairment of our constitutional union; and to inculcate and broadly sustain the American principles of representative government, of equal rights, and of impartial justice for all.

Membership in SUVCW is limited by an act of Congress to male, blood relatives of persons who served between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865, as soldiers or sailors of The United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Revenue Cutter Service, and of such state requirements as were called into active service, and were subject to orders of United States General Officers between those dates, and were honorably discharged from such service or who died in service.

SUVCW consists of Camps, Departments, and the National Organization. The National Encampment of the National Organization has the supreme power and authority of the Order of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. These financial statements include only the activities of the National Organization. SUVCW is classified as an organization exempt from income tax under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) as a public charity. SUVCW has a group exemption that covers its Camps and Departments. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes has been included in the accompanying financial statements.

SUVCW is governed by a twelve (12) member Council of Administration. The National Encampment elects all Council of Administration members to oversee and administer the day-to-day operations of SUVCW.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

SUVCW reports information regarding its financial position and activities according to the following classes of net assets:

Net assets without donor restrictions – Includes revenue and donations received without donor-imposed restrictions.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Basis of Presentation (continued)

Net assets with donor restrictions – Includes revenue and donations, if any, subject to donor-imposed stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets and where the restriction is not met within the same fiscal year. When a donor restriction expires in a subsequent fiscal year, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the Statement of Activities as net assets released from restrictions. Donor restricted gifts are classified as unrestricted if the restriction expires in the same fiscal year.

Basis of Accounting

SUVCW uses the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

Fund Accounting

The accounts of SUVCW are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting. Under fund accounting, resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds established according to their nature and purpose. Separate accounts are maintained for each fund; however, in the accompanying financial statements, fund balances and activity are classified as net assets with or without donor restrictions in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

The following funds are used by SUVCW:

General Fund

This fund is used to collect revenues and disburse funds for expenses related to the normal, day-to-day operations of SUVCW.

National Headquarters Fund

This fund is used to account for funds to establish a National Headquarters. The National Headquarters is located within the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Headquarters will be used for the National Executive Director's office and to store records. Annual rent is \$10,320. As of June 30, 2023, the Council of Administration designated \$13,711 for these purposes.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Fund Accounting (continued)

Preservation Fund

This fund was created by action of the Council of Administration in 1999 to assist Departments and Camps of the Order in the preservation, maintenance, and defense of Civil War monuments and memorials. As of June 30, 2023, the Council of Administration designated \$39,175 for these purposes.

Permanent Fund

This fund was established by vote of the National Encampment of SUVCW and is authorized by Article VIII of SUVCW's Constitution. This fund accounts for Life Membership fees received prior to August 15, 1996. The fund also accounts for monies that have been given or bequeathed to the National Organization in memory of a Civil War veteran, monies given or bequeathed to the National Organization that have not been designated for a specific purpose by the donor, and such other monies as may be added thereto by vote of the National Encampment or the Council of Administration. The Permanent Fund may annually distribute, for each Life Member, \$18 to the National General Fund; \$3,993 was distributed to the National General Fund during 2023. The annual reimbursement sent to each member's camp upon application is set by the Council of Administration. The Council of Administration sets the amount based upon the earnings of the Permanent Fund in the previous fiscal year. Earnings on the monies may be transferred to the National General Fund and used for the operations of the National Organization. Except as may be provided by the donor, no portion of the principal may be disbursed without a vote by the National Encampment. As of June 30, 2023, the Council of Administration designated \$357,701 for these purposes.

Lincoln Tomb Observance Fund

This fund was established by the vote of the National Encampment of SUVCW in 2007 to account for monies designated for the annual ceremony held to honor Abraham Lincoln at the Lincoln Tomb in Springfield, Illinois. As of June 30, 2023, there were no net assets designated by the Council of Administration to be used for this purpose.

Life Membership Fund

This fund was established by the vote of the National Encampment of SUVCW in 2012 to account for the life membership fees. As of June 30, 2023, the Council of Administration designated net assets of \$90,280 for this purpose.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Cash and Cash Equivalents

SUVCW considers highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. Cash on deposit at financial institutions is federally insured to certain limits. SUVCW routinely has cash on deposit with financial institutions with these limits, and balances in excess of these limits are subject to the risk that the financial institution will not pay upon demand.

Certificates of Deposit

SUVCW's certificates of deposit are recorded at cost.

Accounts Receivable

Due to the nature of the activities and services, SUVCW's policies do not require collateral for receivables. The allowance method is used to determine uncollectible accounts receivable, if any, based on prior years' experience and management's analysis of specific accounts receivable. Credit losses, when realized, have been within management's expectations. Accounts receivable as of July 1, 2022 totaled \$608.

Inventory

Inventory consists of items for sale to members and is charged as an expense at the time of sale. Inventory is stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value. Cost is determined using the average cost method.

Fixed Assets

Website development costs are capitalized to the extent the project is substantially complete and ready for its intended use. Furniture and equipment over \$500 is capitalized and stated at cost, if purchased, or at fair value, if donated. Depreciation and amortization is provided over the estimated useful lives, which range from three to ten years, of the related assets using the straight-line method. The costs of normal maintenance that do not add to the value of assets or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized.

Investments

The investment portfolios are held and managed by investment advisors and stated at fair value (*Note 3*). Investment income, including unrealized gains and losses, is reported as an increase in net assets, depending upon donor restrictions, if any.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Revenue Recognition

SUVCW recognizes revenue when control is transferred to its members in an amount that reflects the consideration SUVCW expects to be entitled to in exchange for those products and services. SUVCW memberships run from June 1 to May 31. Membership dues (per capita dues and life member fees) represent a single performance obligation. Progress toward satisfaction of the performance obligation is measured based on time elapsed, and revenue is recognized as the member receives and consumes the benefits of the services performed. Membership dues are reported as deferred revenue and recognized during the period of membership. Registration and application fees consist of one performance obligation. Registration and application fees received in advance are recorded as deferred revenue and recognized at the time of the encampment. Quartermaster sales consist of one performance obligation and are recognized upon the transfer of the goods or services to the customer. Deferred revenue was \$107,621 as of July 1, 2022.

Donations

All donations are considered to be available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor. Donations subject to donor-imposed stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets, and for which the restriction is not met within the same fiscal year, are classified as net assets with donor restrictions. When a donor restriction expires in a subsequent fiscal year, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions. Donor restricted gifts are classified as net assets without donor restrictions if the restriction expires in the same fiscal year.

Donated Materials and Service

The amount of donated materials and services is not considered to be significant by management. Accordingly, no values have been recorded in the financial statements.

Right-of-Use Assets and Lease Liabilities

The FASB issued ASU 2016-02, *Leases (Topic 842)*, which supersedes previous lease accounting guidance and required lessees to recognize leases on the statement of financial position and disclose key information about leasing arrangements. SUVCW adopted ASU 2016-02 and related amendments using a modified retrospective transition approach as of July 1, 2022. SUVCW elected to adopt the package of transition practical expedients and, therefore, did not reassess (1) whether existing or expired contracts contain a lease, (2) lease classification for existing or expired leases, or (3) the accounting for initial direct costs that were previously capitalized and (4) made an accounting policy election to use published U.S. Treasury rates as the risk-free rate rates as the discount rates for all leases. As a result of adopting ASU 2016-02, SUVCW recognized a lease liability of \$30,108 with a corresponding right-of-use (ROU) asset of \$30,108 as of July 1, 2022.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Right-of-Use Assets and Lease Liabilities (continued)

SUVCW determines if an arrangement is or contains a lease at contract inception and recognizes an ROU asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date.

For operating leases, the lease liability is initially and subsequently measured at the present value of the unpaid lease payments at the lease commencement date. Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability include fixed payments owed over the lease term. SUVCW discounts its unpaid lease payments using published U.S. Treasury rates.

The lease term includes the noncancellable period of the lease plus any additional periods covered by either a SUVCW-option to extend (or not to terminate) the lease that the SUVCW is reasonably certain to exercise or an option to extend (or not to terminate) the lease controlled by the lessor.

The ROU asset is initially measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability (adjusted for lease payments made at or before the lease commencement date), plus any initial direct costs incurred, less any lease incentives received, and adjusted for the carrying amount of any deferred rents. The ROU asset is subsequently measured throughout the lease term at the carrying amount of the lease liability less any accrued lease payments. Lease expense for operating lease payments is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Variable lease payments associated with the SUVCW's leases, if any, are recognized when the event, activity, or circumstance in the lease agreement on which those payments are assessed occurs. Variable lease payments arising from fixed lease payments, if any, are presented as operating expenses in the accompanying statement of activities.

The Company monitors for events or changes in circumstances that require a reassessment of one of its leases. When a reassessment results in the remeasurement of a lease liability, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the corresponding ROU asset.

Liquidity and Availability of Resources

SUVCW has a policy to structure its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due.

As of June 30, 2023, SUVCW has approximately \$1,223,000 of financial assets, including approximately \$168,000 of cash and cash equivalents, \$394,000 of certificates of deposit, and \$661,000 of investments available to meet cash needs for general expenditures that will be available within one year of the statement of financial position date. None of these financial assets are subject to donor or other contractual restrictions that make them unavailable for general expenditure within one year of the statement of financial position date.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts of assets and liabilities and related disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Subsequent Events

In preparation of the accompanying financial statements, management has evaluated subsequent events through October 31, 2023, the date the financial statements were available for issuance.

3. Investments

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

- Level 1 Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that SUVCW has the ability to access.
- Level 2 Inputs to the methodology include:
 - Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
 - Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
 - Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
 - Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.
- Level 3 Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The fair value measurement level of the asset or liability within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. Investments (continued)

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for investments measured at fair value:

U.S. savings bonds: Valued using pricing models maximizing the use of observable inputs for similar securities.

Common stocks: Valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded.

Mutual funds: Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by SUVCW are registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily NAV and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by SUVCW are deemed to be actively traded.

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although SUVCW believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, SUVCW's investments as of June 30, 2023:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
U.S. savings bonds	\$ —	\$48,264	\$ —	\$ 48,264
Common stock	407,080	—	—	407,080
Mutual funds	205,636	—	—	205,636
Total investments, at fair value	<u>\$660,980</u>	<u>\$48,264</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$660,980</u>

The total return on certificates of deposit, U.S. savings bonds, common stocks, and mutual funds for the year ended June 30, 2023 is summarized as follows:

Interest and dividends	\$17,309
Net realized and unrealized investment income	15,214
Net investment income	<u>\$32,523</u>

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

4. Right-of-Use Assets and Lease Liabilities

SUVCW leases office space under an operating lease agreement that expires on June 30, 2025. The lease agreement does not include any renewal options, termination options, or restrictive financial or other covenants. Annual payments of \$10,320 are due under the lease agreement.

Amounts reported in the balance sheet as of June 30, 2023 are as follows:

Operating right-of-use asset	\$19,788
Current portion of operating lease liability	\$10,033
Long-term portion of operating lease liability	<u>9,755</u>
Total operating lease liability	<u>\$19,788</u>

Future minimum lease payments and maturities for noncancellable operating leases consist of the following as of June 30, 2023:

2024	\$10,320
2025	<u>10,320</u>
Total minimum lease payments	20,640
Less present value discount	<u>(852)</u>
Total operating lease liabilities	<u>\$19,788</u>

Lease costs for the year ended June 30, 2023 totaled \$10,320.

Other information related to leases as of December 31, 2023 is as follows:

Supplemental cash flow information:	
Operating cash flows from operating leases	\$10,320
Weighted average remaining lease term	2.0 years
Weighted average discount rate	2.82%

5. Endowment

SUVCW's endowment consists of the internally designated Permanent Fund established for perpetual support of the Order. As required by GAAP, net assets associated with endowment funds are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

Interpretation of Relevant Law – SUVCW classifies the original and subsequent value of funds designated for the endowment as net assets without donor restrictions. The Council of Administration of SUVCW has determined that the long-term preservation of the real value of the assets is the current goal of the endowment. As such, SUVCW has not chosen to be governed by the spending rate as permitted by the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

5. Endowment (continued)

The following represents the change in endowment funds for the year ended June 30, 2023:

Endowment net assets, beginning of year	\$278,957
Donations	63,090
Investment income	18,462
Lifetime memberships reimbursed	(4,301)
Other	1,493
Endowment net assets, end of year	<u>\$357,701</u>

Return Objectives and Risk Parameters – SUVCW has adopted an investment policy for endowment assets that attempt to achieve a real total return, resulting from income and capital appreciation, which will assist SUVCW in achieving its long-term funding objectives. Under this policy, the endowment assets are invested in a manner that, after examining the historical relationships of risk and return among asset classes, is designed to provide the highest probability of meeting or exceeding the return objectives at the lowest possible risk.

Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives – To satisfy its long-term rate of return objectives, SUVCW relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). SUVCW targets a diversified asset allocation to achieve its long-term return objectives within prudent risk constraints.

Spending Policy and How the Investment Objectives Relate to Spending Policy – Currently, the Council of Administration of SUVCW has determined that the long-term preservation of the real value of the assets is the current goal of the permanent endowment. As such, there has been no approved spending policy, as the current objective of the endowment is to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets held in perpetuity. Current period interest and dividends may be considered to be payment of life membership reimbursements.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

6. Functional Expenses

The costs of providing the various programs and other activities have been allocated among program and management and general based primarily upon direct charges and were as follows during 2023:

	Program	Administrative	Total
Officer allowances and per diem expense	\$ 31,062	\$ —	\$ 31,062
Executive director and assistant executive director	—	31,000	31,000
Cost of quartermaster sales	26,795	—	26,795
Shipping and handling	10,131	—	10,131
ROTC program	5,981	—	5,981
National encampment	8,320	—	8,320
Printing and web page	14,738	—	14,738
Banner	52,911	—	52,911
Lincoln tomb observance	2,958	—	2,958
Life member payments to camps	1,081	—	1,081
Awards, grants, and scholarships	16,272	—	16,272
Accounting and professional fees	—	34,790	34,790
Office, telephone, and postage	—	19,080	19,080
Rent	—	10,320	10,320
Insurance	1,642	2,462	4,104
Depreciation and amortization	—	3,990	3,990
Miscellaneous expense	5,832	—	5,832
Total functional expenses	\$177,723	\$101,642	\$279,365

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Combining Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2023

	General Fund	National Headquarters Fund	Preservation Fund	Permanent Fund	Lincoln Tomb Observance Fund	Life Membership Fund	Total Before Interfund Eliminations	Interfund Eliminations	Total
Assets									
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 150,996	\$ 3,399	\$ 571	\$ 5,982	\$ 361	\$ 6,473	\$ 167,782	\$ -	\$ 167,782
Accounts receivable	96	-	-	-	-	-	96	-	96
Due from other funds	-	-	48,162	3,222	-	1,301	52,685	(52,685)	-
Prepaid expenses	6,106	16,570	-	-	-	-	22,676	-	22,676
Inventory	35,052	-	-	-	-	-	35,052	-	35,052
Total current assets	192,250	19,969	48,733	9,204	361	7,774	278,291	(52,685)	225,606
Certificates of deposit	394,131	-	-	-	-	-	394,131	-	394,131
Investments, at fair value:									
U.S. Savings Bonds	-	-	-	48,264	-	-	48,264	-	48,264
Common stocks	113,144	-	-	293,936	-	-	407,080	-	407,080
Mutual funds	75,789	41,044	-	6,297	-	82,506	205,636	-	205,636
Total investments, at fair value	188,933	41,044	-	348,497	-	82,506	660,980	-	660,980
Fixed assets:									
Website, furniture, and equipment	59,973	12,644	-	-	-	-	72,617	-	72,617
Less accumulated depreciation	(20,887)	(11,074)	-	-	-	-	(31,961)	-	(31,961)
Net fixed assets	39,086	1,570	-	-	-	-	40,656	-	40,656
Right of use asset, net	-	19,788	-	-	-	-	19,788	-	19,788
Total assets	\$ 814,400	\$ 82,371	\$ 48,733	\$ 357,701	\$ 361	\$ 90,280	\$ 1,393,846	\$ (52,685)	\$ 1,341,161

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Combining Statement of Financial Position (continued)

June 30, 2023

	General Fund	National Headquarters Fund	Preservation Fund	Permanent Fund	Lincoln Tomb Observance Fund	Life Membership Fund	Total Before Interfund Eliminations	Interfund Eliminations	Total
Liabilities and net assets									
Liabilities:									
Accounts payable	\$ 4,736	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,736	\$ -	\$ 4,736
Due to other funds	27,346	24,978	-	-	361	-	52,685	(52,685)	-
Deferred revenue	125,125	23,894	9,558	-	-	-	158,577	-	158,577
Current portion of operating lease liability	-	10,033	-	-	-	-	10,033	-	10,033
Total current liabilities	157,207	58,905	9,558	-	361	-	226,031	(52,685)	173,346
Operating lease liability, less current portion	-	9,755	-	-	-	-	9,755	-	9,755
Total liabilities	157,207	68,660	9,558	-	361	-	235,786	(52,685)	183,101
Net assets:									
Without donor restrictions:									
Designated	-	13,711	39,175	357,701	-	90,280	500,867	-	500,867
Undesignated	657,193	-	-	-	-	-	657,193	-	657,193
Total net assets without donor restrictions	657,193	13,711	39,175	357,701	-	90,280	1,158,060	-	1,158,060
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 814,400	\$ 82,371	\$ 48,733	\$ 357,701	\$ 361	\$ 90,280	\$ 1,393,846	\$ (52,685)	\$ 1,341,161

See Independent Auditor's Report.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Inc.

Combining Statement of Activities

For the year ended June 30, 2023

	General Fund	National Headquarters Fund	Preservation Fund	Permanent Fund	Lincoln Tomb Observance Fund	Life Membership Fund	Interfund Eliminations	Total
Change in net assets without donor restrictions:								
Revenues without donor restrictions:								
Per capita dues	\$ 103,103	\$ 29,355	\$ 11,742	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	144,200
Life member fees	-	-	-	-	-	38,700	-	38,700
Registration and application fees	5,820	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,820
Quartermaster sales	40,393	-	-	-	-	-	-	40,393
Shipping and handling	6,410	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,410
Banner subscriptions and advertising	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	60
Donations	4,012	-	-	63,090	1,248	-	-	68,350
Lincoln tomb observance	-	-	-	-	1,710	-	-	1,710
Other	18,948	-	601	1,579	-	-	(17,806)	3,322
Total revenues without donor restrictions	178,746	29,355	12,343	64,669	2,958	38,700	(17,806)	308,965
Expenses:								
Officer allowances and per diem expense	31,062	-	-	-	-	-	-	31,062
Executive director and assistant executive director	-	31,000	-	-	-	-	-	31,000
Cost of quartermaster sales	26,795	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,795
Shipping and handling	10,131	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,131
ROTC program	5,981	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,981
National encampment	8,320	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,320
Printing and Remembrance Day expenses	14,738	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,738
Banner	52,911	-	-	-	-	-	-	52,911
Lincoln tomb observance	-	-	-	-	2,958	-	-	2,958
Life member payments to camps	-	-	-	4,301	-	14,586	(17,806)	1,081
Awards, grants, and scholarships	8,272	-	8,000	-	-	-	-	16,272
Accounting and professional fees	34,790	-	-	-	-	-	-	34,790
Office, telephone, and postage	8,883	10,111	-	86	-	-	-	19,080
Rent	-	10,320	-	-	-	-	-	10,320
Insurance	4,104	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,104
Depreciation and amortization	3,126	864	-	-	-	-	-	3,990
Miscellaneous expense	5,804	-	-	-	-	28	-	5,832
Total expenses	214,917	52,295	8,000	4,387	2,958	14,614	(17,806)	279,365
Change in net assets without donor restrictions before investment income	(36,171)	(22,940)	4,343	60,282	-	24,086	-	29,600
Investment income	3,693	4,795	-	18,462	-	5,573	-	32,523
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	(32,478)	(18,145)	4,343	78,744	-	29,659	-	62,123
Net assets, beginning of year	689,671	31,856	34,832	278,957	-	60,621	-	1,095,937
Net assets, end of year	\$ 657,193	\$ 13,711	\$ 39,175	\$ 357,701	\$ -	\$ 90,280	\$ -	1,158,060

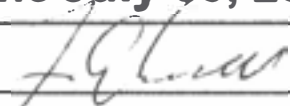
See Independent Auditor's Report.



NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR ANNUAL REPORT

Annual report
Report Deadline July 30, 2024

National Patriotic Instructor Signature:



CinC or by direction the Chief of Staff:

By direction of Chief of Staff (James Crane)

INSTRUCTIONS: Reporting period is 1 January through 31 December. Complete form and send to Commander in Chief for inclusion in National Encampment Reports. Report numbers, hours volunteered and money spent. Hours are calculated by multiplying the number of hours for an event by the number of Brother participating. (e.g. 10 hours x 3 Brothers = 30 hours reported) Fill in box or write narrative as applicable. Do not fill in shaded boxes.

KEY: Y = Yes. N = No. # = Number. Hrs = Hours. Amt = Dollar amount spent.

		Y	N	#	Hrs	Amt
1	How many Civil War history education events conducted to include Patriotism, Americanism, and Civic Responsibility?			372	2,992	\$7,525
2	How many Civil War history education events conducted via living history or other venues?			281	3,116	\$11459
3	How many flags given or sent to military troops?			6	3	\$20
4	Armed Forces Day participation?	Y		48	93	\$44
5	Memorial Day participation?	Y		499	2,140	\$3,448
6	Flag Day participation?	Y		31	101	\$85
7	July 4 participation?	Y		127	494	\$1,079
8	Remembrance Day participation?	Y		163	1,642	\$5,809
9	Veterans Day participation?	Y		155	397	\$359

10	How many community events involving Patriotic Holidays?			386	1,134	\$1,820
11	How many Patriotic / Americanism Essay Contest participation?			2	0	0
11a	Number of schools participating?			12	37	\$70
11b	Number of Youth Groups participating?			10	12	\$40
11c	Number of students involved?			112	49	\$40
11d	Scholarships awarded if any?			2	4	\$220
12	<p>How did you promote the SUVCW throughout the Order? (continue on page 6 if necessary)</p> <p>(see #18 on page 3)</p>					
13	Did SUVCW members wear and display member badges?	Y				
14	How many Flag Etiquette programs did you provide to the community, businesses, and schools?			?	?	?
15	Did you actively promote Patriotic Holidays participation in the National Organization and to the Departments?	Y		?		
16	Did you actively support the Eagle Scout Award program?	?	?	?		
17	Did you actively support the JROTC/ROTC Cadet program?	?	?	?	?	

18	<p>What events or functions did the NPI participate in by showing how important Patriotism / Americanism is to our organization, community, state, and nation? (continue on page 6 if necessary)</p> <p>For the reporting period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, there were three Brothers appointed as NPI, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benjamin J. Frail, PDC (January-October 2023) • Donald L. Martin, PCinC (October 2023) • Brian D. McManus, PDC (October-December 2023) <p>I do not have a record of the activities of the above-named NPIs that served during the reporting period, which occurred prior to my appointment.</p>					
19	Did National include our Sisters from the Allied Orders?	Y				
20	How many events were the Sisters of the Allied Orders included?	Y		?		
21	Were Patriotic Instructors appointed in all Departments?		N			
22	If not, how many were appointed? Which Departments did not have PIs appointed? (use page 4)	?	?			
23	National Patriotic Instructor provided patriotic and/or educational presentations at National meetings?		N			
25	How many Departments submitted Annual Reports? List those that did not on page 4.			17		
26	How many members enrolled in Memorial University?			46		
27	How many completed Memorial University?			21		

28	How many MU Certificates presented at Department Encampments?			?		
29	How many MU Certificates presented at National Encampment?			6		
30	Did Departments receive monthly Patriotic Instructions from the National PI?	Y				
31	Did Camps receive monthly National Patriotic Instructions from the Department PI?	?	?			
32	<p>Assess communication from National PI to Department PIs. What forms of communication were used? (continue on page 6 if necessary):</p> <p>Email, telephone, website, social media, and print.</p>					
34	<p>Assess communication from Department PI to Camp PIs. What forms of communication were used? (continue on page 6 if necessary):</p> <p>In person (speech and Power Point), email, website, telephone, text message, social media, and print.</p>					

35	<p>Recommendations for Department and Camp PIs to improve the Patriotic Instructor program (continue on page 6 if necessary): Suggestions from DPI Annual Reports (Form 41):</p> <p>"Having monthly or semi-monthly Zoom meetings with all of the Camp Patriotic Instructors might help establish better relationships amongst Brothers and help facilitate what is expected of the position of being a Camp Patriotic Instructor."</p> <p>"Having simpler Form 40 and Form 41 forms might be helpful, along with brief descriptions and examples of each category to be filled out. This might also help with clarifying what exactly is expected in some of the categories."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(continued on page 6)</p>
36	<p>National PI recommendations to improve the Patriotic Instructor program (continue on page 6 if necessary):</p> <p>(see written report of NPI)</p>

No.	Narrative Continuation
35	<p>Suggestions from DPI Annual Reports (Form 41) - continued:</p> <p>"The Patriotic Instructor position is very important. We should never stop learning about the war to save the Union and abolish slavery."</p> <p>"Keep more precise records of what your camp does."</p> <p>"Continue to present Patriotic Instruction to Camps and visit various Camps whenever possible. Make oneself available for public presentations wearing the usual SUVCW attire and plain[sic] such to the public whenever an appearance is made."</p> <p>"To continue to engage in Civic Activities and the SUVCW's Website for monthly news and Events."</p> <p>"Department Patriotic Instructors should be sure to maintain contact with their camp counterparts through emails and Department websites. All must keep the contact information for their Patriotic Instructors updated."</p> <p>"Utilize any help offered by Brothers in the Department and cross collaborate with outside organizations to spread SUVCW's footprint."</p> <p>"To make sure all Camp PJ's have information to see it is shared at all Camp's meetings."</p> <p>"Share PI Info & discussions within the Dept. Have Camp members talk about their Ancestor at Camp mtgs and to the public. The National PI should have Quarterly Zoom mtgs with Dept PI's."</p> <p>"Have a training program given by the Department Patriotic Instructor. Concentrate on new and younger members."</p>

RECOMMENDATIONS

By Whom Page numbers

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Recommendations total 22. Page numbers of Recommendations are listed for quick readings.

10 June 2024

Brothers

I respectfully make the following Recommendation for consideration by the appropriate SUVCW authority:

That the SUVCW add a **Campaign Bar** for wear on the **War Medal** that reads

EXPEDITIONARY

There are many Brothers who have served in US military operations that are authorized to wear one of several different Expeditionary medals that are not covered under larger military campaigns such as Operation Enduring Freedom [Afghanistan] or Operation Iraqi Freedom, nor under the more generic Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. **The Air Force Personnel Center states that the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM)**

was established on Dec. 4, 1961, to be awarded to members of the United States armed forces who, after July 1, 1958, have participated in a United States Military Operation and encountered foreign armed opposition, or were in danger of hostile action by foreign forces,

Further, the AFEM and other Expeditionary medals qualify service members for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Having an EXPEDITIONARY campaign bar for our War Medal will be a point of pride for Brothers with such service.

In F. C. & L.



William E. Fischer, Jr., Major, USAF, Retired
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