



Kevin P. Tucker
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Special Message #1
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Fall Forward: Renewing Our Legacy of Service

Brothers,

I hope that each of you, and your families, have enjoyed a rewarding and restful summer. As Labor Day weekend arrives, we are reminded not only of the works and contributions of laborers to the development and achievements in the United States., but also of the duty we share as Brothers of our Order.

The weeks ahead will pass quickly. In just six short weeks we will observe Columbus Day, followed swiftly by Halloween, and then Remembrance Day. The holiday season will be upon us before we know it. That means **now** is the time for us to focus our efforts, redouble our commitment, and ensure that our Order remains visible and active in our communities.

Redouble Your Commitment

I challenge each Brother to give a little more of your time this fall in service to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The ceremonies we perform, the events we host, and the presence we maintain in civic life are vital. They remind the public that the legacy of Union soldiers is still honored, and that the lessons of sacrifice, unity, and liberty remain alive in us today.

Show your pride in our Order. Attend meetings. Assist in the planning of events. Recruit and mentor new Brothers. Take part in public observances. Give your time and energy to strengthening the work we share.

The Importance of Fraternity

And do not forget the importance of fraternal social plans in the weeks ahead. Breakfast meetings, luncheons, Camp and Department dinners, backyard barbecues and other opportunities for fellowship are as essential to our Order as they are to any family. They strengthen the bonds between us and remind us that fraternity is the foundation of all we do.

A Call to Action for Leadership

National, Department and Camp Officers should already be deeply engaged in the performance of their duties. National committee Chairmen, if you have not yet done so, contact your committee

members and schedule a meeting without delay. At that meeting, elect a Secretary to record minutes, which will be invaluable when preparing reports. Let's get our committee work moving!

Departments should likewise be making firm plans for upcoming events and activities. Department Commanders are reminded that their reports will be due before Remembrance Day. I ask each of you to keep me informed of what your Department is doing, and to share any recommendations, issues, or queries so that we may work together to address them.

On my end, among other things, I am planning my schedule for the coming year. As soon as your Department confirms the date of your annual Encampment, please let me know. While I will not be able to attend every Encampment due to overlapping schedules, I would appreciate learning the dates of other significant Department events as well, so that I may try to attend if I cannot be present for your Encampments.

Our SVR Military Districts and Units, too, are looking at a busy Autumn season. You are the public face of the SUVCW in many cases. Make certain that plans are firmed up, volunteers are committed, and our work is carried out with the dignity and precision it deserves.

Brothers, Labor Day calls us to remember the value of hard work. Let us answer that call with renewed dedication to our mission, so that we may look back with pride on what we have accomplished together.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin P. Tucker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kevin P. Tucker

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