



Kevin P. Tucker
Commander-in-Chief
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Special Message #5
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Answering the Call: Why We Must Stand Together at SUVCW Events

Brothers,

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is not merely an organization—it is a living testament to the courage, sacrifice, and unbreakable spirit of the men who preserved our Union. We wear our badges not as decorations, but as symbols of a solemn promise: to honor their memory, safeguard the truth of their struggle, and pass on their legacy to generations yet unborn.

That promise cannot be fulfilled in words alone. It requires our presence. It requires our hands, our voices, and our hearts—together—in the gatherings, ceremonies, and public events that keep the flame of remembrance alive.

When we attend an SUVCW event, whether it is a Camp meeting, a Department Encampment, a graveside memorial ceremony, or a national observance, we are not just marking a date on the calendar. We are sending a message to our communities, our nation, and to history itself: ***The men who saved the Republic are not forgotten.*** Our respectful dress, our uniforms, our rituals, and our shared stories breathe life into the past, transforming it from faded photographs into living heritage.

Your participation matters more than you may realize. A Brother who attends a memorial service may inspire a young onlooker to learn about the Civil War and their own family's history. A member who joins a recruiting booth at a local fair may spark a connection that leads to a lifetime of service within our Order. Even your simple presence in the ranks during a parade lends weight to our cause, showing the world that the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is strong, active, and enduring.

We are heirs to a noble lineage of service. Our forebears, the Grand Army of the Republic, did not falter in their duty, even when the years and the miles weighed heavily upon them. They gathered faithfully—at Encampments, memorials, and reunions—not because it was convenient, but because they knew the cause was greater than themselves. Can we do any less?

The truth is this: every event we hold is a bridge. It connects us to one another, strengthens our fraternity, and links our generation to those who came before. And every time you attend, you help build that bridge a little stronger, a little longer, reaching into the future.

Brothers, let us resolve today to be present. Mark the dates, make the arrangements, and come—not just for yourself, but for the Order, for our ancestors, and for the history we are sworn to protect. In our shared presence, we find our greatest strength. Let us answer the call—together.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kevin P. Tucker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "K" and "T".

Kevin P. Tucker
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