



Kevin P. Tucker
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General Order No. 18
Series 2025-2026
1 August 2026

NATIONAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

By the authority vested in me as Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the following National Awards and Recognitions are hereby announced.

These awards recognize exceptional achievement, sustained service, effective leadership, membership growth, fraternal dedication, and significant contributions to the mission and principles of our Order.

1. Marshall Hope Award for Best Camp Newsletter

The Marshall Hope Award for Best Camp Newsletter is presented to the Camp judged to have produced the most outstanding newsletter in the Order.

The recipient is General George Stoneman Camp No. 18, Department of California and Pacific

2. Horace Greeley Award for Best Camp Website

The Horace Greeley Award for Best Camp Website is presented to the Camp judged to have maintained the most outstanding website in the Order.

The recipient is General Orlando Poe Camp No. 444, Department of Michigan

3. Abraham Lincoln Commander-in-Chief's Award

The Abraham Lincoln Commander-in-Chief's Award is presented to the Camp judged to be the most outstanding Camp in the Order.

The recipient is General Philip Kearny Camp No. 20, Department of New Jersey

4. Marshall Hope Award for Best Department Newsletter

The Marshall Hope Award for Best Department Newsletter is presented to the Department judged to have produced the most outstanding newsletter in the Order.

The recipient is the Department of Pennsylvania, for its newsletter, “The Battle Cry of Freedom”.

5. Horace Greeley Award for Best Department Website

The Horace Greeley Award for Best Department Website is presented to the Department judged to have maintained the most outstanding website in the Order.

The recipient is the Department of Kentucky

6. Under Forty Award

The Under Forty Award is presented to the Department that enrolled the greatest number of new Brothers under the age of forty during the year since the last National Encampment.

The recipient is Department of Pennsylvania with 10 new Brothers under the age of forty

7. U.S. Grant Cup

The U.S. Grant Cup is awarded to the Department achieving the greatest percentage increase in membership during the year since the last National Encampment.

The recipient is Department of Tennessee with a 30 percent increase in membership

8. Augustus P. Davis–Conrad Linder Award

The Augustus P. Davis–Conrad Linder Award is presented to the Department enrolling the greatest number of new Brothers during the year since the last National Encampment.

The recipient is the Department of Ohio with 46 new Brothers

9. Spirit of Fraternity Commander-in-Chief’s Award

The Spirit of Fraternity Commander-in-Chief's Award is presented to the Camp or Department whose sustained actions have strengthened the bonds among Brothers, fostered mutual respect, and encouraged a spirit of harmony throughout the Order.

It is my privilege to announce the first recipient of this award is the Department of the Chesapeake

10. Memorial University Certificates

Memorial University Certificates and pins are presented to Brothers who have successfully completed the Memorial University online training program.

The recipients are:

Brother Richard Holmes

Brother Charles Bogino

Brother Jeffrey D. Kennedy

Brother Jared Barber

Brother Cole Nicolas Anderson

Brother William Bray

Brother Trevor Taylor

Brother John Dupre

Brother Theodore Zeman

11. Chaplain William Corby Award—Camp

The Chaplain William Corby Award is presented to a Camp Chaplain nominated by his Camp in recognition of outstanding ministry and spiritual leadership.

The recipient is Brother Michael Witt, Department of Missouri

12. Chaplain William Corby Award—Department

The Chaplain William Corby Award is presented to a Department Chaplain nominated by his Department in recognition of outstanding ministry and spiritual leadership.

The recipient is Brother Michael Rusk, Department of Oklahoma

13. David R. Medert Award

The David R. Medert Award is presented to the Brother who recruited the greatest number of new Brothers during the year.

The recipient is Brother Jerry Sayre, Department of California and Pacific, with an outstanding 14 new Brothers recruited!

14. National Aide Award

The National Aide Award is presented to Brothers who recruited five or more new Brothers during the year.

The recipients are:

Brother Jerry Sayre, Department of California and Pacific — 14 recruits

Brother Ronald Seymour, Department of Iowa — 11 recruits

Brother Walt Busch, Department of Missouri — 6 recruits

Brother Jamie McGuire, Department of Rhode Island — 6 recruits

Brother Daniel Poureau, Department of Texas — 6 recruits

Brother Gary Carlberg, Department of Wisconsin — 5 recruits

Brother Dennis Duffy, Department of New York — 5 recruits

Brother Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., Department of Massachusetts — 5 recruits

Brother James Phillips, Jr., Department of Ohio — 5 recruits

Brother George Weinman, Department of New York — 5 recruits

Brother David Demmy, Department of Pennsylvania — 5 recruits

15. Certificate of Recognition

The Certificate of Recognition is presented to those whose significant contributions have advanced the work, mission, and principles of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The recipients are:

**Kimberly Sayre, Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,
Department of California and Pacific**

Brother Tom Latham, Department of Kentucky

Brother Benjamin Hobbins, Department of Wisconsin

Brother Matthew Nyquist, Department of Wisconsin

Brother George McGraw, Department of New York

Brother Liam McKone, Department of Vermont

16. John C. Clem Award

The John C. Clem Award is presented to a Junior demonstrating exceptional service or achievement in the promotion of the Order.

The recipient is Brother Cole Anderson, Department of Massachusetts

17. Elmer “Bud” Atkinson Lifetime Achievement Award

The Elmer “Bud” Atkinson Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to a Brother with more than thirty years of significant, continuous, and devoted service to the Order.

The recipient is Brother John Witt, Department of Kentucky

18. Meritorious Service Award

The Meritorious Service Award recognizes Brothers who have demonstrated exceptional service to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The recipients are:

Brother Vernon Barker, Department of Wisconsin

Brother Frank Kebelman, Department of Texas

Brother Daryl VerStreate, Department of New York

Brother Richard Nichols, Department of Massachusetts

19. Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star

The Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star is presented to Brothers who have served the Order for an extended period in an outstanding and exemplary manner. Recipients are selected by vote of the National Council of Administration.

The recipients are:

Brother D. Michael Beard, Department of the Chesapeake

Brother Jerry Sayre, Department of California and Pacific

20. Cornelius F. Whitehouse Award

The Cornelius F. Whitehouse Award is among the highest honors that may be bestowed upon a Brother of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. It recognizes not simply faithful participation, but extraordinary leadership, vision, service, and devotion to the Order.

The recipient is Brother Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., Department of Massachusetts

21. Doctor Mary Edwards Walker Award

The Doctor Mary Edwards Walker Award is presented to members of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic in recognition of outstanding, sustained, and conspicuous service to the National Organization of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in furtherance of its mission and goals.

The recipients are:

Sister Dorothy Prentiss, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861–1865

Sister Anna Frail, Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Sister Melissa Anderson, Woman's Relief Corps

Appreciation to the Commander-in-Chief's Special Committee on Awards

I extend my sincere appreciation to the members of the Commander-in-Chief's Special Committee on Awards for their diligence, impartiality, and devotion to the responsibilities entrusted to them.

The Committee carefully reviewed the nominations submitted for consideration, evaluated the qualifications and accomplishments of each nominee, and provided thoughtful recommendations reflecting the standards, traditions, and best interests of the Order.

The Committee's work required considerable time, careful deliberation, and sound judgment. Its members approached each nomination with fairness, discretion, and a sincere desire to ensure that exceptional service and achievement received appropriate recognition.

On behalf of the National Organization and all the Brothers of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I thank the members of the Committee for their faithful service and for the important role they performed in this year's awards process.

Appreciation of the Order

On behalf of the National Organization and all the Brothers of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I extend sincere congratulations and profound appreciation to each of these distinguished recipients.

Their accomplishments represent the finest traditions of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. Through their leadership, service, recruitment, communication, education, ministry, preservation work, and devotion to their fellow Brothers and Sisters, they have strengthened our Camps, our Departments, our relationships with the Allied Orders, and our entire Order.

I also extend my heartfelt gratitude to every Brother who served the Order during the 2025–2026 administrative year. Whether serving in elected or appointed office, leading a committee, organizing a ceremony, recruiting a new member, maintaining a website, publishing a newsletter, caring for a memorial, researching a Union ancestor, supporting a fellow Brother, or quietly performing the daily work upon which our Order depends, each has contributed to our shared success.

No award can fully measure the value of faithful service. Every Brother and Sister who gives time, talent, and devotion to our mission helps preserve the memory of the soldiers, sailors, and Marines who defended the Union and ensures that their sacrifices will be remembered by future generations.

To all our award recipients, to the members of the Commander-in-Chief's Special Committee on Awards, and to all the Brothers and Sisters who support the work of this Order, please accept the gratitude of a proud and grateful Commander-in-Chief.

Ordered this 1st day of August 2026 by:



Kevin P. Tucker
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:



James T Crane, PDC
National Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War