

Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War

Office of the Commander-in-Chief

Donald D. Palmer Jr., Commander-in-Chief

147 Lucerne Place

Ballwin, MO 63011

cinc@suvcw.org

General Order #1

SERIES 2011-2012

26 August 2011

1. I am truly humbled by the honor you have bestowed upon me by electing me to the office of Commander-in-Chief. The faith you have placed in my abilities is remarkable and I will do my level best to discharge the duties of this high office. I am also humbled by the fact that in the 130 year history of our Order, I am the first Brother from the Department of Missouri to be elected Commander-in-Chief.
2. I wish to thank the Department of the Chesapeake for hosting an excellent 130th National Encampment in Reston, VA. The Brothers that attended this Encampment were treated to some special events that generated memories that will hopefully last a lifetime.
3. Congratulations go out to the newly elected Presidents of the Allied Orders. Our main objective is to perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and those that fought to preserve this great Union. To the Presidents of the Women's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic (WRC), Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865 (DUVCW), Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR) and the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (ASUVCW): We are all in this together. You have my full support and please feel free to call on me any time.
4. My focus this year will be on working toward a vision of what our Order should look like by the end of this decade. This vision is *"To be recognized by Government, academia and the general public as the leading source of information pertaining to: (1) history, genealogy and preservation initiatives associated with the Grand Army of the Republic and the Soldiers, Sailors and Marines who fought to preserve the Union and (2) patriotism, the duties of citizenship and honoring those that made the supreme sacrifice in defense of this Nation."*
I refer to it as 'Vision 2020'. This vision feeds off of our mission as defined by our Federal charter. It also focuses on outreach and growth rather than contraction and inward progression. But this cannot be "my" vision only. In order for it to become a reality, it must be a "shared" vision, with Departments and Camps adopting it as well. In addition, my successors must also be committed to seeing it through. Over the next several months, I will be working with the various officers and committees to develop a long term plan to help us achieve Vision 2020. This plan will involve organizational growth, data collection and research, development of youth programs, collaboration between Allied Orders, and

developing a sound financial strategy.

5. To support this initiative, I will be forming three new special committees. The Vision and Planning Committee will be tasked with pulling together the long term plan and tracking key metrics associated with that plan. The Committee on Juniors will be tasked with building on the current Memorial University program and developing a broader program for Juniors and Junior Associates. The Committee on Promotion & Marketing will be established to develop advertising and marketing strategies, as well as materials to promote our Order to the general public.
6. Also, the Civil War Sesquicentennial is now upon us. This past year, we rolled out the Signature Event process that resulted in a number of successful events across the country. We must also take advantage of the Sesquicentennial as we work towards our vision because we will not have an opportunity like this again for the foreseeable future.
7. The Headquarters for the Commander-in-Chief will be located at 147 Lucerne Place, Ballwin, MO, 63011 and all correspondence to may be mailed to this address. Correspondence may also be made by e-mail at cinc@sucvw.org or via phone at (636) 230-3656.
8. Correspondence with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War National Headquarters should be directed to David W. Demmy, Sr., Executive Director, at P. O. Box 1865, Harrisburg, PA 17105, (717) 232-7000; execdir@sucvw.org .
9. All correspondence regarding the finances of the Order should be sent to National Treasurer Richard D. Orr, PCinC, 153 Connie Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15214-1251; (412) 931-1173; treasurer@sucvw.org.
10. All communications, resolutions, requests for merchandise licenses and general correspondence should be directed to National Secretary Eugene G. Mortorff, 70 Curtis Drive., East Berlin, PA 17316, (717) 476-9573; secretary@sucvw.org.
11. The National Chief of Staff will coordinate the Commander-in-Chief's travel schedule. Departments should contact the Chief of Staff with Department Encampment dates before the November Council of Administration meeting, if possible. Planning for Department Encampment attendance must be done as soon as possible in order to make sure every Department Encampment is attended by either the Commander-in-Chief or his representative. Department Encampment dates and locations should be sent to National Chief of Staff Donald W. Shaw, 3914 Larchmont St., Flint, MI 48532, (810) 239-4785, p31713@aol.com .
12. Applications for Civil War Memorial Grants and requests for Eagle Scout Certificates should be directed to Robert M. Petrovic, PDC, 6519 Cherokee Lane, Cedar Hill, MO 63016-2527; (636) 274-4567, rpetro7776@aol.com.
13. All requests for the SUVCW ROTC awards should be sent to National Quartermaster, Danny L. Wheeler, PCinC, 5 Benny Lane, Ithaca, New York 14850, (607) 272-7314, QM@sucvw.org
14. All Departments are encouraged to submit articles for the BANNER. Articles should be submitted to Banner Editor Stephen Michaels, PCinC, 6623 S. North Cape Road, Franklin, WI 53132, (414) 425-4648 (phone and fax), banner@sucvw.org.
15. The death of a Brother should be reported to National Chaplain, Jerome W. Kowalski, 206 E. Grantley, Elmhurst, IL 60126, paptom@msn.com. Please include the deceased Brothers full name, date of passing, name of Camp and Department and the rank and unit of his Union ancestor.

16. All Camps are instructed to forward annual reports, per capita and officer installation forms to their Department Headquarters on time. All Departments are instructed to forward annual reports, per capita and officer installation forms to National Headquarters on time. It may be necessary to drop members and suspend Camps to complete this obligation. Our Camps and Departments must be firm in their obligations.
17. Please make every effort to keep Camp and Department websites up to date. These websites serve as a vital means of communication, and for some Camps and Departments, the only means of communication. It is imperative that schedules of meetings, events and other activities are maintained. These websites are also a resource for the general public, especially those that are contemplating membership in our Order. We must show that we are active and one way of doing that is properly maintaining our websites.
18. All National Officers and Committees shall file reports of their activities for the coming year, with one to support the November Council of Administration meeting, a second to support the Spring Council of Administration meeting and a final report for the 131st National Encampment. All Department Commander's shall file a report of activities occurring within their respective Departments upon the same schedule.
19. It is my intention to continue the tradition of recognizing Brothers who contribute to the growth of our Order. A Brother who recruits at least three new applicants during the 2011-2012 administrative year will be declared a National Aide in General Orders and be issued a ribbon with the National Organization's colors to be pinned behind his membership badge. A Brother who recruits five or more new applicants in that time frame will, in addition, receive a Certificate of Merit. All recruiting accomplishments are to be reported to the National Secretary through Department Secretaries.
20. Again, I want to thank all of the Brothers for electing me to this position and giving me the opportunity to lead this great Order. I am looking forward to meeting as many Brothers as possible and addressing the challenges that we will face over the next year. Hope to see everyone in August 2012 at the 131st National Encampment in Los Angeles, CA!

Ordered this 26th Day of August, 2011.

Donald D. Palmer Jr.
Commander-In-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Eugene Mortorff
Secretary,
National Order, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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