

# THE BANNER

*Volume 130, Number 2 • The Journal of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War • Winter, 2026*



*GETTYSBURG REMEMBERS*



# WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



*Legion of the West Camp 7, Department of Colorado/Wyoming*



*Major General Thomas J. McKean – Camp #3 and Private Lucius L. Mitchell – Camp #4, Department of Florida*



*Robert Mitchell Camp #206, Department of Iowa*



*James C. Welstead Camp #3, Department of Nebraska*



## THE BANNER

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Kevin P. Tucker

Publisher: Color Ink  
W250 N6681 Hwy 164  
Sussex, WI 53089  
Phone: (262) 246-5000  
e-mail: dave.milawski@colorink.com

Send material for publication to:  
PCinC James B. Pahl, Editor  
(517) 402-3304  
e-mail: banner@suvchw.org

Editorial Staff: Cher Petrovic & Dave Milawski

*Subscriptions and address changes:*  
*Br. David W. Demmy, Sr.*  
*Executive Director, SUVCW*  
*1 Lincoln Circle at Reservoir Park*  
*Suite 240 (Nat'l Civil War Museum Bldg.)*  
*Harrisburg, PA 17103-2411*  
*(717) 232-7000*  
*e-mail: EXECDIR@suvchw.org*

Further Information:  
<http://suvchw.org/bannerhome.htm>

### SUBMISSION SCHEDULE

Winter Deadline-December 15  
Spring Deadline-March 15  
Summer Deadline-May 31  
Autumn Deadline-August 31

# Inside The Banner



<b>Wreaths Across America</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>2026 National Encampment</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Voices of Patriotism</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>Civil War Sons of American Revolution Patriots</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>Final Muster</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Chaplain's Corner</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>CinC Tucker's General Orders 2025-2026</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>CofA Minutes</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>Honor Roll / New Life Members</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>The First Successful Sons</b> .....	<b>16</b>
<b>Remembrance Day</b> .....	<b>17</b>
<b>My Journey to Become a SUVCW Member</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>Department News</b> .....	<b>21</b>
<b>Our Heritage</b> .....	<b>27</b>

KUDOS - To Ed Norris, PCinC, for stepping in at the last minute to be the photographer at Remembrance Day in Gettysburg.

*On The Cover: From Left to Right*

*Robert Payne - Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Kevin Tucker - Commander-in-Chief, Daniel Murray - Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Remembrance Day Parade, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Photo by Ed Norris, PCinC*



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**THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT SITE COMMITTEE  
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**THE 2026 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT**



**GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA  
30 JULY - 2 AUGUST, 2026**

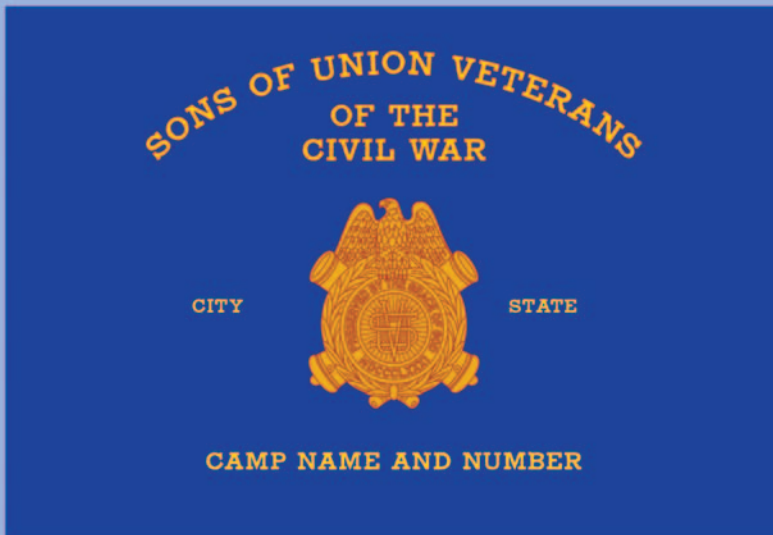
**FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE POSTED ON THE NATIONAL  
WEBSITE AND IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE BANNER**



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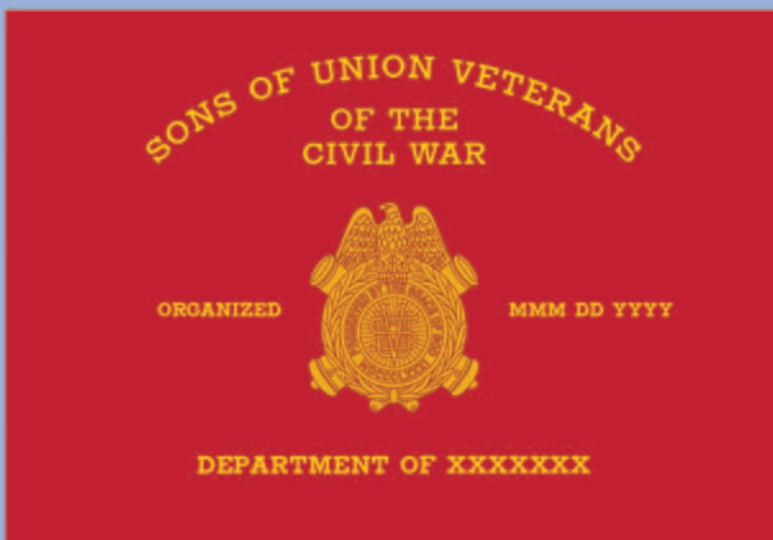
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For more information on how to become a member visit our website at:  
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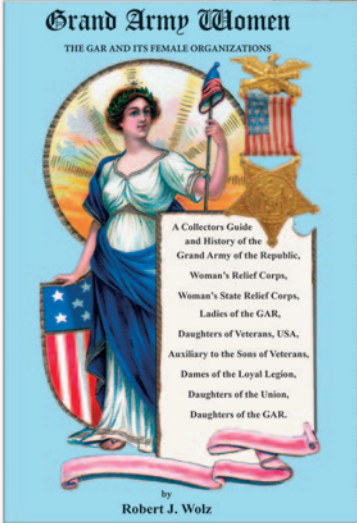


MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES

## History of the Grand Army & Allied Orders

Grand Army Women

THE GAR AND ITS FEMALE ORGANIZATIONS




A Collectors Guide and History of the Grand Army of the Republic, Woman's Relief Corps, Woman's State Relief Corps, Ladies of the GAR, Daughters of Veterans, USA, Auxiliary to the Sons of Veterans, Dames of the Loyal Legion, Daughters of the Union, Daughters of the GAR.

by Robert J. Wolz

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Quartermaster - Doug Gilchrist

General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 - Dept. of Michigan  
10449 Oakland Dr., Apt 2, Portage, MI 49024  
[dbgilx@gmail.com](mailto:dbgilx@gmail.com)



# VOICES OF PATRIOTISM

**Jeffrey French, PDC - National Patriotic Instructor**

The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was big on fellowship in a common cause. So , we as brothers should continue what the GAR did in fellowship. It was fellowship that encouraged me to be more active in the SUVCW. I met and forged friendships with more brothers because of the four brothers who mentored me and exemplified the meaning of fraternity.

Who were these four brothers that inspired me? Brother Charlie Kuhn PCinC, Brother Gene Mortorff PCinC, Brother Michael Paquette PCinC, and Brother Chuck O'Dell. My first Department Encampment in Maryland, they welcomed me with open arms. Brother Paquette and Brother O'Dell mentored me on my first headstone dedication which was a big help to me. Brother Mortorff made my wife, and I feel as though we were friends for years when travelling to the National Encampment in 2007. Since then, I met many brothers doing great work for the Sons such as Brother Mark Day and Brother Kevin Martin who later became PCinCs. Many brothers that will fill chapters, but I'll mention the ones from Department of NY that also guided me like Brother Jeffrey Albanese PDC, Brother Robert Pugsley, PDC, Brother Danny Wheeler PCinC, yes, I've been fortunate to have met these brothers that inspired and encouraged me to being active.

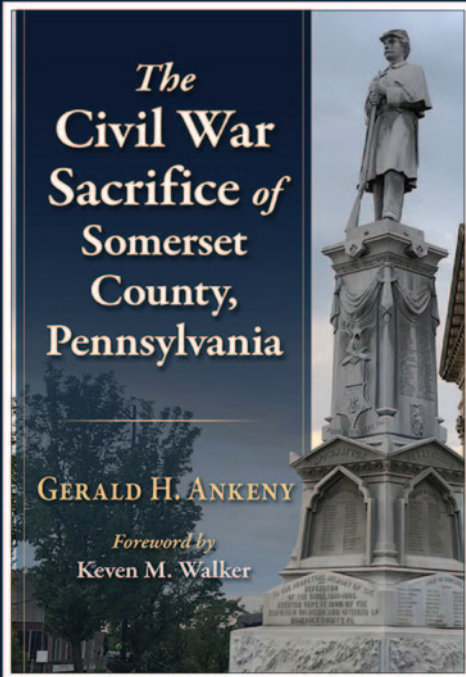
Brother Kuhn and Brother Mortorff had campfire meet once a year where we sit around the fire tell stories, drink, and just enjoy the friendship we forge. Any brother was invited. In my mind these two brothers were giants in the SUVCW because they lived the motto, Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

My fellow brothers, this is what each of us needs to do. Let's welcome the new brothers as they were friends for a decade. Let's develop fellowship so they feel important to our Order, which they are, and foster active growth in doing our mission in keeping the memories of the Boys in Blue alive for many generations to come.

Fellowship is the foundation for us to grow and accomplish our mission to educate the public, restore statues and monuments, headstones, parades, and so on. For us to be successful it'll take all of us to be like the four brothers that made an impact on me.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty  
Jeffrey French, PDC  
National Patriotic Instructor  
patrioticinstructor@suvchw.org





978-1-4766-9906-6  
McFarlandBooks.com

### Brothers

Keep your finger on the daily pulse of SUVCW National by following / liking us on social media.

Have photos from your Department/Camp/SVR District or Unit activities to share on social media?

Send them to [SignalsCorps@suvchw.org](mailto:SignalsCorps@suvchw.org) for posting on National's social media, which reaches an audience of 11,000+.

Every vidclip, post or tweet helps honor the Boys in Blue and recruit new members. Huzzah!"

Scan QR code below for more info.



## GIFTS TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE

Brothers: As you consider your charitable giving, please keep in mind the good works of the Order. As National now has 501(c)(3) status, gifts to the National Organization are tax deductible as allowed by law. Your donations can be used in many areas. Please check out the link at [suvchw.org/give](http://suvchw.org/give) for more information and the giving form. Always consult with your own tax professional.



### America 250 Medals Available in the QM Store!

Group D medal, approved for wear through 30 June 2033!

Front: American flag, Civil War Federal and Revolutionary War soldiers to show their common commitment to freedom

Back: Eagle and laurels motif with the quote from the Declaration of Independence "we hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal."





## CIVIL WAR SONS OF AMERICAN REVOLUTION PATRIOTS

### COLONEL PAUL J. REVERE

Colonel Paul Joseph Revere was a Union Army officer in the Civil War and a grandson of the famous Revolutionary War patriot Paul Revere. His military career was marked by extraordinary bravery, multiple injuries, and a deep commitment to the Union cause, which ultimately cost him his life.

Born in Boston on September 10, 1832, Paul J. Revere was a namesake and descendant of the legendary Paul Revere. He attended Harvard University and, like his grandfather, was an active member of the Sons of Liberty.

### CIVIL WAR SERVICE

When the Civil War began, Revere enlisted and was commissioned as a major in the 20th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, known as the “Harvard Regiment” because of the number of Harvard alumni serving as its officers. He fought in major campaigns, including the Peninsula Campaign and the Battles of Antietam and Fredericksburg.

Revere’s military service was especially challenging. He was wounded and captured during the Battle of Ball’s Bluff in October 1861 and spent several months as a prisoner of war before being paroled. After his exchange, he rejoined his regiment and continued to fight, sustaining a second wound at the Battle of Antietam.

### THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG AND FINAL SACRIFICE

By July 1863, Revere was a colonel and commander of the 20th Massachusetts Infantry. On July 2, during the Battle of Gettysburg, he was mortally wounded by artillery fire. He died two days later, on July 4, 1863, at the age of 30, a poignant end for the grandson of a man who helped secure the nation’s independence. His brother, Edward H. R. Revere, who was a surgeon, was also killed at Antietam.





# FINAL MUSTER

Heavenly Father, we stand before you and ask your blessing on our Brothers and their families. As members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War they passed and are answering your call to duty. We ask that you cover their families with your Love, that You sustain them with your comfort and peace, grant them strength in this time of sorrow. We ask these things in Your Holy Sons Name. Amen.

*Dexter A. Bishop  
National Chaplain*

**Conrad Max Fisher, PDC**  
Old Abe Camp #16 (Kansas)  
9/18/2025

**Richard A. Williams, PCC**  
George W Anderson Camp #58 (Michigan)  
9/17/2025

**Drew C. Godby, PCC**  
Orlando A. Somers Camp #1 (Indiana)  
8/9/2025

**Ernest E. Stone**  
Benjamin Harrison Camp #356 (Indiana)  
8/12/2025

**Gerald N. Bloom, PDC**  
Life Member 949  
Picacho Peak Camp #1 (Southwest)  
8/31/2025

**Kenneth F. Smith**  
George Armstrong Custer Camp #1 (Illinois)  
6/23/2025

**Robert E. Heath, PCC**  
Irish Brigade Camp #4 (Chesapeake)  
10/17/2025

**Cary Williams Holmes**  
Bay State Camp #61 (Massachusetts)  
8/29/2025

**John T. Goodnough, PCC**  
Col. David Ireland Camp #137 (New York)  
11/16/2025

**James David Cobb**  
Gen William Lytle Camp #10 (Ohio)  
10/18/2025

**Kerry I. Langden, PDC**  
Gen William Lytle Camp #10 (Ohio)  
11/3/2025

**Jack E. Coffey**  
Nash-Hodges Camp #43 (Michigan)  
8/24/2025

**Mark S. Schreiber**  
Lillie Camp #6 (Missouri)  
11/17/2025

**Cabot Huntington Clark**  
Col. Edward D. Baker Camp #6 (Columbia)  
3/5/2025

**George Reed Howard**  
Jones Bradbury Camp #149 (Pennsylvania)  
11/8/2025

**Earl Harvey Lippert**  
Brindel Camp #50 (Pennsylvania)  
9/30/2024

SVR Brothers - If a member of your SVR unit passes, please notify the Banner Editor at banner@suvcw.org, so that information may be included with the brother's listing in the Final Muster.

### LAST SOLDIER MARKER



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State \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

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e-mail at suvlastvet@gmail.com

### SUVCW

*"Building a Leadership Program"*

#### Workshop

If you are a Camp or Department leader looking for ideas and strategies you can use to build your own unique leadership programs, you are invited to attend a workshop during the 2026 National Encampment, hosted by the Department of the Chesapeake.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Thursday, July 30, 2026**





## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

### A short history of Union Civil War chaplains.

“Very early on, Abraham Lincoln and the War Department recognized the value of religion and need for chaplains for Union troops. Beginning in 1861 (with Orders #15 and #16), a series of wartime regulations were passed which dealt with various aspects of chaplain life—from their commissioning and purpose, to details like pay, forage, clothing, professional standards, etc. Since the military chaplaincy had been small prior to 1861, many special issues had to be worked through gradually such as pay scales, officer status, and non-Christian chaplains. For the first year of the war, Jewish rabbis were ineligible for official chaplaincy, because of legislation defining chaplains as “regularly ordained ministers of a Christian denomination.” After public agitation, and a personal interview between Rabbi Arnold Fischel and President Lincoln in December 1861, the words “religious denomination” were substituted for “Christian denomination,” and the issue was resolved.

There were three types of Union chaplains: post (connected to a specific military post or facility), regimental (one specific regiment), and hospital (one specific hospital). Wherever they ministered, great flexibility was required, because chaplains were confronted with a wide variety of needs and duties. As Warren Armstrong remarks in his excellent book *For Courageous Fighting and Confident Dying*, “the duties of the chaplaincy demanded endless energy and unlimited patience, devotion to duty, and constancy of conviction,” this “the man who could not bend to the extraordinary circumstances . . . could not gain the confidence of his men and ultimately found himself rejected by those whom he had hoped to serve.” Many Union chaplains did resign in disgust, disappointment or disillusionment, but “far greater was the number who remained to serve . . . and captured the affections and respect of their comrades.”

Thousands of chaplains enlisted when the war began, one per regiment, and headed south with their units. Given the antagonism of a few officers, the irreligion of others, and other early challenges in defining their duties, “they were hardly there for the pay [but] believed their service would be needed, and that religion was an imperative part of the soldier’s life.” As the largest Northern religious denomination, Methodists had the largest contingent of chaplains (more than a third), but all major denominations were represented. Baptists were at least equal in membership to Methodists, but preferred to stay away from the church-state involvement that the chaplaincy represented, instead preferring to serve as “volunteer missionaries” for their denomination. By the end of the Civil War, 2398 ministers, priests and rabbis had rendered service to the Union armies—including over seventy Catholics, and seventeen blacks.”

*[Robert J. Miller, Both Prayed to the same God – Religion and Faith in the American Civil War (Lanham MD: Lexington Publishers, 2007), p. 99]*

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty  
*Deacon Dexter A. Bishop, PDC,*  
*National Chaplain*

### SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF KEVIN P. TUCKER

58 Forest Street,  
 Wakefield, MA 01880  
 cinc@suvcw.org  
 (SERIES 2025-2026)

(This notice provides a brief synopsis of the General Orders. Please consult the published General Orders for complete substantive information.)

#### GENERAL ORDER #2

Strategic Priorities for the Strengthening and Advancement of the Order.

1. Reinforcement of Fraternity and Fellowship
2. Membership Growth and Retention
3. Promotion of Public Awareness and Outreach

4. National Connection and Department Visitation
5. Modernization and Communication

#### GENERAL ORDER #3

Proper Wearing of the Badges of the Order. Brothers in Camp, Department or National Encampment, on parade or while performing other duties of the Order including while representing the Order in any public event (other than while performing manual labor) SHALL (emphasis supplied) wear an appropriate Badge of the Order upon the left breast.

#### GENERAL ORDER #4

Commemoration of POW/MIA Recognition day – September 19, 2025

*(continued on page 18)*

THE NATIONAL CIVIL WAR ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION  
and the  
**SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE**  
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
present a

# SCHOOL OF THE PIECE

**MAY 9, 2026**

on the grounds of the Boscobel Wisconsin Sportsman's Club  
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Hosted by the 4<sup>th</sup> Military District Headquarters Company, SVR

**Registration Deadline: April 18, 2026**



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**"Before Manassas, there was Mexico"**

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*The Descendants of Mexican War Veterans is an organization of men and women who have an ancestor or interest in the Mexican War of 1846-1848.*

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**Descendants of Mexican War Veterans**  
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**SYNOPSIS OF COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION  
MEETING**

**Gettysburg, Pennsylvania**

November 16, 2025

(Note from the Editor) This is a synopsis of the minutes as edited by the Banner Editor. The full minutes, when approved, will be posted on the Order's website and is the official version)

Meeting was called to Order by CinC Kevin Tucker at 8:00am.

Minutes from Houston, Tx. August 10, 2025 CofA Meeting - Approved.

Special National Committee on Memorial University recommends that the Memorial University becomes a Standing Committee - Referred to P&P for job descriptions then to C&R in time for the 2026 National Encampment.

National Committee on Civil War Memorials & Monuments requested modifications to their section of the web site. Referred to Comm & Tech committee.

Civil War Memorials & Monuments asked for a decision should we allow people outside the Sons to be able to enter monuments information into the database after being trained? Referred back to committee so they can develop and publish a training program with associated materials for internal use. Once complete, the program will return to the CofA for approval and then need to be referred to C&R for National Encampment consideration.

National Committee on eBay Surveillance. The committee recommends adding the surveillance of Facebook Market place to the job description of the Committee. Referred to P&P.

Assistant Executive Director: Recommendation: That the Assistant Executive Director Douglas McMillin be permitted to develop weekly podcast program to be shared within the Brothers of the Order. Approved.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Several issues brought forth by the National Counselor PCinC Ed Norris and referred to appropriate committee:

QM Daryl VerStreate made a presentation as to the top bar proposals for PCinC badges.

QM presented less expensive options for Camp Flags.

Motion # 7 & # 8 (dealing with suspension of Charitable Foundation) ruled out of order as the Foundation is in compliance with the State of Ohio and the IRS.

Discussed the Graves Registration database progress. Will request an update from Brother Duquette, tabled.

The Commander-in-Chief has designated Ed Norris, PCinC as the official photographer for 2025 Remembrance Day, 2026 Lincoln Tomb and 2026 National Encampment.

Discussed potential change of address for the Springfield Lincoln Death Day payments will discussed with committee chair Brother Kaup.

Department of the Chesapeake will hold a Leadership training seminar on Thursday of the National Encampment in Gettysburg.

Charter printing change approved.

A commendation proposed for Cher Petrovic for a lifetime of service to our Order.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Discussed a proposal to raise funds for the repair of the landscaping around the Woolson Monument. Brother Ken Freshley, PCinC to contact the ASUVCW for their permission and agreement.

Brother David Hann, PDC New Jersey has announced that he will be a candidate for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief next August.

Brother Ben Frail, PDC Rhode Island has announced that he will be a candidate for Council of Administration next August.

Meeting Adjourned.







## HONOR ROLL OF FINANCIAL DONORS TO THE ORDER

### Permanent Fund

Joel Butler  
Mark Day  
David Demmy  
Bruce Frail  
Clay Hoffman  
Glen Martin  
Timothy McCoy  
Brian McManus  
Michael Paquette  
Richard Reed  
Johnathan Reilly  
Michael Reither  
Alan Russ  
Wayne Wehrheim

### General Fund - Remembrance Day Parade

Company F 14th CT Volunteers  
James Crane  
Best Western Gettysburg  
Gaslight Inn  
Jeffrey Garten  
The Horse Soldier, LLC  
The Maryland Sutler  
Steinwehr Ave Heart of Gettysburg

Quality Inn Gettysburg Battlefield  
Douglas Racz  
Robert Gould Shaw Camp #54  
Borough of Gettysburg  
Kevin Sekula  
Lucas Holsopple  
ISAAC Eaton Camp  
Gettysburg Travel Council  
Kenny Jacobsen for Kevon Martin  
Franklin Blouch  
Charles Gordinier  
Karen Quinn Wisniewski  
Emily Renkin  
Krista Bannak  
Stacy Yednock  
Middle Village Veterans Day  
Brian Withrow  
150 PA/22nd VA Vol Infantry  
26th PA Vol  
Rose Graskemper  
Beth Null, PNP LGAR  
Kevin Sekula  
Richard McGeary  
Auxiliary of Mt Union Camp #502

## LIFE MEMBERS

Since Autumn Banner Vol 130, No 1

### New Life Members

1241	Powers, Paul Josphe	Ulysses S Grant Camp 68 Missouri
1242	Wilhelm, Robert John	Gen Nathaniel Lyon Camp 10 New Jersey
1243	Golladay, Walter D	Gen William Lytle Camp 10 Ohio
1244	Scanlan, Dennis Paul	Gen R H G Minty Camp SW 2 Southwest
1245	Harriman, Chris Lee	Gen. William T. Sherman MAL Camp 25 Florida
1246	Davis, Daniel Yeo	Gen William Lytle Camp 10 Ohio
1247	VanOver, Kash	William Baumgartner Camp 33 Indiana
1248	Price, Joshua Daniel	Col William Colvill Camp 56 Wisconsin
1249	McGraw Jr, Donald Charles	Gen William Lytle Camp 10 Ohio
1250	Bogino, Charles Hoover	Lincoln-Cushing Washington DC Camp 2 Chesapeake
1251	Lewis, Mark W	Maj T B Griffith Camp - MAL 22 Massachusetts
1252	Corey, Steven John	Fort Donelson Camp 62 Tennessee
1253	Hall, Frederick George	Sgt William Pittenger Camp 21 California
1254	Born, Richard K	Jacob Parrott Camp 33 Ohio
1255	Seymour, Ronald F	Robert Mitchell Camp 206 Iowa
1256	McGaha, Matthew Shane	TN Member at Large 0 Tennessee
1257	Simpson, William P C	Capt Lot Smith [Utah] 01 Colorado
1258	Gates, Donald Leidy	Elmer E. Ellsworth Camp 18 Texas
1259	Minor, John H	Gov Henry Crapo Camp 145 Michigan
1260	Austin, Andrew James	James J. Byrne Camp 1 Texas
1261	McMahon, David Edward	Missionary Ridge Camp 63 Tennessee
1262	Collins, Christopher Scott	L A Tiff Camp 15 Massachusetts
1263	Worden, Robert L	Oliver Tilden Camp 26 New York



## THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL SONS

Comrade James P. Holt of Anna Ross Post 94, Dept. of Pennsylvania, Grand Army of the Republic, made a motion on August 27, 1878 proposing the formation of a cadet corps consisting of their sons to aid in Memorial Day observance.

The Post appointed a committee consisting of Comrades Levy Shengle, Carl Frederick, Charles Weiss, William Morgan and James Holt to further investigate the proposal.

On Sept 17 this committee came back with a plan for organization, sample constitution, charter and application form. A week later on Sept 29 Anna M Ross Cadet Corps # 1 was established. At first, the officers were Grand Army men with their sons forming the membership. Lewis Vandergrift was elected the first youth officer of Anna M Ross Cadet Corps. Post 51 of Philadelphia formed the second Cadet Corps and the concept spread quickly throughout eastern Pennsylvania. A membership badge was produced. Perhaps because of their short life or funding problems, no lapel buttons or uniforms have been found.

In July 1880, the first state organization or Division formed with Conrad Linder elected Division Commander with the rank of Colonel. Additional Cadet Corps formed in New York, New Jersey, and Delaware and a national organization was affected in 1881. Likewise, in 1884, the sons in New England headed by Comrade Edwin Earp of Lynn Post # 5 of the Massachusetts GAR affiliated his 34 chapters of sons with these Philadelphia Cadet Corps.

With this national growth came a lot of financial instability. Chapters began abandoning the Cadet Corps organization between 1886 and 1889 and affiliated with Major AP Davis Sons of Veterans, USA headquartered in Pittsburgh. Under the terms of merger Anna M. Ross Cadet Corps became Anna M. Ross Camp # 1 and Davis Camp # 1 of Pittsburgh replaced their number with a "star" identifying them as the charter camp of our Order.



### G.A.R. NAME TAGS PERFECT FOR ANY ALLIED ORDER OR CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

Pin or Magnet Backing or Made to Slide into your Jacket Pocket

**\$20.00 INCLUDES SHIPPING!**

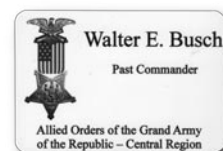
Check to: "GAR – Central Region Association"

Send to: **Walt Busch**

**1240 Konert Valley Dr,**

**Fenton, MO 63026**

**Questions: [wbusch@suvcwmo.org](mailto:wbusch@suvcwmo.org)**







# REMEMBRANCE DAY

by James Pahl, PCinC  
photos by Ed Norris, PCinC

The 69th annual Remembrance Day observances were held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania on November 15, 2025. The SVR breakfast was well attended. The weather for both the ceremony at the G.A.R. monument in Ziegler's Grove and then the parade was very cooperative for once. Temperatures were in the mid 50's with just a little breeze. It seemed more units participated in the parade and the parade route was lined with spectators. Then the Original Civil War ball was held at the host hotel and very well attended. The SVR presented the Gettysburg National Military Park with a check, pushing the total donations for the several years to over \$100,000 dollars. Our only request is the Park use the funds in the area of greatest need.





## MY JOURNEY TO BECOMING A SUVCW MEMBER

Humboldt Camp No. 9, Department of Kansas

By Dennis Piatt

In June 2021, my wife, Houi, and I began cleaning headstones for our family and ancestors. Our first project was at the Greenwich Lao Temple in Wichita, Kansas, where we cleaned, repaired statues, and painted. Although we completed the work, we weren't fully satisfied—we wanted to do more.

Houi suggested we travel to Humboldt to begin with my mother and father's graves. That visit grew into a search for other ancestors. We cleaned and restored their headstones, bringing them back to respectful condition. Before long, our efforts extended beyond family to military graves across town.

One day, while driving out of Mount Hope Cemetery, we noticed the GAR Cemetery. Many soldiers' headstones were blackened by mold, algae, lichen, and other biological growth. We took on the challenge, cleaning and restoring 15 GAR headstones. Over several trips, we researched and restored more than 35 Civil War headstones, documenting each soldier's story as we worked.

A new city sexton in Humboldt appreciated our work and told us about Young's Cemetery, a small burial ground that held three Civil War soldiers. I connected with an Eagle Scout who was restoring the cemetery and shared the soldiers' histories with him. Two of the men had been stationed at Fort Scott, medically discharged after exposure to consumption, and later died at home. We cleaned their markers, and I purchased GAR flag holders and flags for each headstone.

As our work progressed, we began lifting, resetting, and leveling sunken headstones so they stood at proper height, secure and dignified. Around this time, I learned about Camp 9 SUVCW in Humboldt and decided to join. I used my great-great-grandfather Foland as my connection to Civil War ancestry—his daughter is buried in our family lot at Mount Hope.

Though I live in Wichita, my ancestors are buried in Humboldt, Toronto, and Eureka. Camp 9 has connected me with local veterans, resources, and shared expertise. Joining has deepened my knowledge and given me practical help in this growing quest. Since joining Camp 9, my interest in how the Civil War affected my ancestors has grown. During my research, I discovered that my 3x great-grandfather, Poe, died in the war—not from battle wounds, but from disease. Even more tragic, he never saw his unborn son. His service began September 6, 1862; he passed away of measles on November 21, 1862. His son John was born October 6, 1862.

I visited Grandpa Poe at Jefferson City National Cemetery, where he had been buried for 163 years. I decided to bring his memory back home, purchasing a statue to represent him at the GAR Cemetery in Humboldt. On October 4, 2025, we held a ceremony. Now, Great-Grandpa Poe stands watch over his fellow brothers. What began as a way to honor family has become a mission to preserve and remember Civil War veterans in our region. Cleaning, researching, restoring, and partnering with Houi, Cindy, the Eagle Scout, and Camp 9 has turned a personal project into a community effort. Together, we are bringing these graves—and the stories they hold—back into the light.

*(continued from page 11)*

### GENERAL ORDER #5

Remembrance Day, November 15, 2025. Addressed Headquarters and lodging, the SVR breakfast, Allied Orders Annual Remembrance Day Ceremony, Parade, and the Original Civil War Military Ball.

### GENERAL ORDER #6

Revocation of the Charter of the Bay State Camp #61, Department of Massachusetts.

### GENERAL ORDER #7

Department ROTC Coordinators. Addresses Purpose and Encouragement, requires each Department of appoint a Department ROTC coordinator to participate in the Order's program, sets out Responsibilities, support and alternative participation and ordering.

### GENERAL ORDER #8

Revocation of Charter for Maj. Gen Gibbon/1SG Burke Camp #2, Department of North Carolina.

### GENERAL ORDER #9

Annual Awards and Recognitions. Details the various National Awards and how to submit nominations.

### GENERAL ORDER #10

Establishes the Spirit of Fraternity Award to recognize and honor a Camp or Department that has distinguished itself through exceptional demonstration of fraternal spirit and unity in the past year.

By order of:  
Kevin P. Tucker  
Commander-in-Chief



# SUVCW CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

## Who and what are we?

- We exist to provide information and enlightenment of the Armed Conflict of 1861-1865, supporting project and charities attributable to Civil War history, monument preservation/restoration, monument construction and erection, scholarships and benevolence to members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.
- The Foundation was incorporated in the State of Ohio and maintains headquarters at Milford, Ohio. The Foundation is tax exempt 501(c)3



Visit our on-line store!  
<https://suvchwcf.square.site/>

## How?

We accept Charitable donations to support our work. And we operate an on-line store that helps provide unique GAR, SUVCW, and SVR items.

### ❖ Clothing



### ❖ Medals / Coins



### ❖ Accessories





## ANNUAL LINCOLN TOMB CEREMONY

All are invited to participate in the 69th Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, sponsored by the SUVCW and MOLLUS, commemorating the 159th Anniversary of President Lincoln's death. It will be held at the Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL at 10 AM on Saturday, April 11, 2026.

- **Headquarters Hotel:** Ramada by Wyndam Springfield North, 3281 Northfield Dr., Springfield, IL 62702. The room rate is \$109.00. This includes complimentary breakfast and free parking. Call 217-523-4000 for reservations and mention "Sons of Union Veterans". **Reserve your room by March 22, 2026.** After this, the remaining blocked rooms will be released.

- **Wreaths** may be ordered from local Springfield florists. Instruct the florist to have the wreath delivered c/o the Lincoln Tomb, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, by 9 AM on Saturday, April 11th.

- **Luncheon** VFW Hall, 2349 Stockyard Rd. Meal is a box lunch (6" sub, chips & cookie) for \$16.00 per person.

For event info, go to the SUVCW web site (suvchw.org) or contact Nick Kaup at: nick.kaup@gmail.com or 847-910-0164.

### OBSERVANCE WREATH PRESENTATION

(PLEASE print clearly)

Organization name in full: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & title of wreath bearer: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

if no e-mail, home address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, & Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

**To insure being recognized in the program, this notice MUST be received no later than April 1st at the address shown below.**

### OBSERVANCE LUNCHEON

Please accept \_\_\_ luncheon reservation(s). Please list name, e-mail address, home address & phone number of person responsible for picking up tickets at the door. **PLEASE PRINT.**

\_\_\_ Club (smoked ham, oven-roasted turkey, thick-cut smoked bacon, swiss, lettuce, roma tomatoes, mayo or mustard)

\_\_\_ Turkey & Provalone (oven roasted turkey, provolone, lettuce, roma tomatoes, mayo or mustard)

\_\_\_ Vegetarian (assorted veggies, mayo)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Include remittance of \$16.00 per person for each lunch reservation payable to **National Organization SUVCW.**

**Reservations must be made by April 5th and cancellations by the same date in order to receive refund.** There will be no extra tickets sold at the door. Make a copy of this form for your records and send original with remittance to:

SEND TO:

**CHER PETROVIC**

**6519 Cherokee Lane, Cedar Hill, MO 63016**

**P# 636-274-4567**

For Military Parade Information, please contact:

**Thomas Brown, Commander 4th Military Dist. SVR**

**5025 N. 105th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53225**

**P# 414-429-8979**

**Email: tjbcarver@sbcglobal.net**



## ALABAMA

November 15, brothers of the Pvt Richard Taylor Camp #53 gathered at Maple Hill Cemetery were joined by brothers of the Col George E. Spencer Camp #67 and sisters of the Jeremiah Clemmons Auxiliary in honoring Corporal Samuel Sweinhart, Co C, 9th Indiana Infantry. Also present were direct descendants of Sweinhart. He was the last surviving member of Post 53 of the Grand Army of the Republic in Huntsville when he passed away in 1929 at age 84.



Brothers of the ADM Farragut Camp No. 5 were honored to present the National Colors to open the Tampa Bay Rays MLB game on Saturday Sept. 6th at Steinbrenner Field in Tampa, FL.



## CALIFORNIA / PACIFIC

Brothers of the Gen. George Stoneman Jr. Camp No. 18 In conjunction with America Legion Post #216, we jointly collected and donated 60 toys for homeless children during the Annual Corona City “Spark of Love” donation campaign.



From January 7 - until it was contained on January 30, 2025 - the Palisades Fire destroyed 6,837 structures

including homes, schools, public libraries, churches and businesses. It was the tenth-deadliest and third-most destructive California wildfire on record and the most destructive ever in the history of the city of Los Angeles. American Legion Post 283, Pacific Palisades, survived the fire and established a fire relief distribution center. Brothers of the Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2 donated, helped sort and distribute clothing and other household items to assist those left homeless or otherwise still affected by this disaster.



## CHESAPEAKE

On September 20, 2025, the Chesapeake Leadership Program conducted its third annual “staff ride/field experience” on the Antietam National Battlefield. The current class of five Brothers from different camps were later joined by program alumni for a daylong program promoting leadership development and working to identify solutions to the various challenges our Order faces.



Brothers from Baltimore’s James A. Garfield Camp 1 traveled to Gettysburg on November 15 to take in the annual Remembrance Day commemoration and activities. Highlighting the day, Camp 1 was honored to have Commander-in-Chief Kevin P. Tucker install its officers in a special morning ceremony held in the shadow of the Maryland state monument.





## COLUMBIA

On August 30th, 2025, members of the Gov. Isaac Stevens Camp No.1 and the Gen. John W. Sprague Camp No.4, held a grave marker dedication ceremony for Pvt. Jerome Morford, Co. K, 55th Illinois Infantry Regiment, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions with the Volunteer Storming Party at the Stockade Redan on May 22nd, 1863, during the Battle of Vicksburg. Over forty-five members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and the Boy Scouts participated and contributed to the great success of the event.



## ILLINOIS



A six-year, bi-state project to celebrate the life of Col. Friedrich K. Hecker concluded with two events. The first event was a ceremony on Sept. 8 in the Summerfield, Illinois cemetery where he is buried. Hecker lived and farmed nearby the small town. The second event was the rededication of the restored Hecker Obelisk in St. Louis, Missouri's Benton Park. Brothers of the Col. Friedrich K. Hecker Camp #443, along with brothers of the U.S. Grant Camp #68, recently installed an informational sign about Col. Hecker's life, as well as a directional sign pointing out his grave at the cemetery. A duplicate informational sign was installed at Benton Park. Approximately 50 to 80 people in all attended each ceremony, including members of the German-American Heritage Society of St. Louis and descendant's of Col. Hecker.



Brothers of the General George A. Custer Camp #1 General Philip H. Sheridan Camp #2 U.S. Grant Camp #1863 participated in a dedication of a plaque honoring 3 Civil War Veterans from St John United Church of Christ in Palatine October 11, 2025.

## INDIANA

Brothers of the Ben Harrison Camp No. 356 attended the headstone Dedication ceremony for Private John Hardee of Company B, 120th Indiana Infantry. Private Hardee (also a veteran of the Black Hawk and Mexican Wars) is buried in the Weir Cemetery, Crawfordsville, IN. American Legion Post 72 provided the honor guard. The picture was taken by Mrs. Julie Mexin.



On September 20th the Department of Indiana and Martin County Historical Society dedicated a new monument & historical marker to 28 soldiers of the 19th Illinois Infantry. These soldiers were killed in a train wreck east of Shoals, Indiana on the night of September 17th, 1861. The monument was dedicated on the grounds of the old 1876 courthouse, now the Martin County Museum in front of well over a hundred spectators.



## IOWA

The Grenville M. Dodge Camp #75 members recently obtained 3 antique Camp and Women's Auxiliary # 8 banners and have elected to donate them to the Department of Iowa for proper storage and future use.





Brothers of the Grenville M. Dodge Camp #75 attended the dedication of a plaque recognizing Woodland Cemetery as a historic Underground Railroad site



On September 27, 2025, brothers of the Fort Duffield Camp #1 and the Camp Calhoun Camp #2, along with brothers of the John W Foster Camp #2 (Indiana), joined with members of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Daughters of the American Revolution and the Whitesville Historical Society to dedicate a Union Civil War marker, commissioned in 1886 but never placed. This was 139 years to the day since its order. The stone had vanished, only to re-appear in 2003 in a parking lot.



## KANSAS

On October 4, brothers of the Private John N. Eckes Camp #10, assisted by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1254, and American Legion Post #18, placed and dedicated a headstone over the grave of Isaac Bonsall. Bonsall was shunned by his family, who had raised him in the Quaker tradition of non-violence. In 1861 he enlisted in the Second Ohio Volunteer Infantry. When he died in 1909, members of the Grand Army of the Republic were not invited to the funeral and no headstone was erected.



## LONDON, ENGLAND - CAMP AT LARGE

On October 4, 2025, brothers of the Ensign John Davis Camp #10 attended a ceremony held to dedicate a military headstone to honor Pvt. Samuel Lander Hough, the last remaining veteran of the US Civil War buried in England. Pvt. Hough died on December 26, 1940 and was buried in his home town of Derby. He had lain in an unmarked grave until Darren Rawlings and Gina Denham, co-founders of "Monuments for UK Veterans of the American Civil War Association" discovered him. Since 2022 they have identified nearly 700 civil war veterans buried there. Hough was a member of the London branch of American Civil War Veterans organization in 1916.

## KENTUCKY

Brothers of the Fort Duffield Camp No. 1, Camp Calhoun Camp No. 2, and Elijah P. Marrs Camp No. 5 gathered at the Madisonville Courthouse for the dedication of a new Union soldier monument, honoring the county's Civil War heritage and the contributions of its soldiers. The monument is a seven-foot bronze statue of an African American Union soldier, mounted on an eight-foot black granite base. A plaque listing all Civil War units from Hopkins County accompanies the monument, which rests on a three-foot concrete foundation.



Brothers of the Ensign John Davis Camp No. 10 laid Remembrance Day wreaths at Brookwood American Cemetery on November 11 and at Hendon Cemetery, London on November 22 where they returned to dedicate a new USVA Stone for the grave of Private Stephen T. Adams, who served in the Mississippi Marine Brigade and died in London in 1929.

## MICHIGAN



Department Commander David Kimble presenting to the General Orlando M. Poe Camp #444 their awards from the 2025 National Encampment, Houston, Texas.



Best Camp Newsletter, Best Camp Website, Best Camp of the Order.



The brothers of the Gov. Crapo Camp #145 co-hosted a Christmas Dinner with the Gov. Crapo Corp #23, Woman's Relive Corp. Brothers from several Camps were able to attend, along with members of the Lt. Edwin Terry Carrington Chapter of the National Society, Daughter's of the Union 1861-1865.

## NEBRASKA

Members of Victor Vifquain Camp #1, Shiloh Camp #2, Nebraska Rangers, SVR and First Nebraska Volunteer Infantry participated in the annual Veteran's Day parade in Lincoln Nebraska on Sunday November 16, 2025.



On Saturday September 27, 2025 members of Victor Vifquain Camp #1, Shiloh Camp #2 and Harrison Camp #53-2 performed the last two Last Union Veteran of the County ceremonies for Adam F. Rexroad Co. A 34th Illinois Infantry born April 11, 1848 passed away November 13, 1942 interred in the Grand Island Cemetery in Grand Island Nebraska for Hall County. Finally, Clinton B. Condon Co. B 18th Wisconsin Infantry October 20, 1846 passed away November 29, 1937 interred in Hampton Cemetery in Hampton Nebraska for Hamilton County.



## NEW YORK

On September 13th, 2025 brothers of the Homer Searle Camp #114—with much help from the sisters of the Julia Hibbard Tent #71, DUVCW, held a G.A.R. marker re-dedication ceremony in Harford, NY. The new marker replaces one which had sat over the resting place of Pvt. James Fagan, who served in Company D of the 27th N.Y.V.I. and Company A of the 1st N.Y. Veteran Cavalry. The previous marker had been completely consumed by the growth of a tree.



Members of Kady Brownell Tent #36, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Moses Baldwin Camp #544 gathered on Sunday, December 7, 2025, at the Davenport Press in Mineola, NY, for their annual Holiday Party and Officer Installation.



## NORTH CAROLINA

Members of the Major General Judson Kilpatrick Camp No. 7, including their new Junior Member, participated in the Bentonville Battlefield Fall Festival on November 15th, 2025. This event showcased daily life in the 1800s including music, woodworking, and blacksmithing.





## OHIO

Brothers of the General William H. Lytle Camp #10 dedicated the tombstone of Pvt. John Haap on July 5th, 2025, 138 years to the day of his death. John served in the 183rd Regiment of the IOV during the Civil War. The 183rd fought in three battles in Tennessee. Ten descendants of John attended the dedication ceremony, including his great-grandson, a member of the Camp.



## PENNSYLVANIA

On August 23, 2025, brothers of the Baker-Fisher Camp #101, hosted a Civil War Encampment at the Union Library of Hatboro. Also participating were Anna M. Ross Camp #1, the Joel Searfoss Camp #273 and the 28th Regimental Brass Band, based in the Philadelphia region. Visitors to the Encampment saw tents, campfires, volleys of firing and administrative offices as used in the Civil War.



On November 15, 2025, brothers of the Isaac Eaton Camp #504 performed the Graveside Memorial Ceremony for Private Isaac Eaton, 10th PVRC who was KIA at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863.



## RHODE ISLAND

William Trafford, a junior member of Maj. Sullivan Ballou Camp #3, finished his last year at Cedar Hill Elementary School with a project on the Civil War. He chose to illustrate the Siege of Fort Sumter as a large-scale comic, then shared it with his brothers at a recent camp meeting. William received the John Clem Award for most outstanding junior member at the 2023 National Encampment for his dedication in assisting the camp to upright fallen tombstones at area cemeteries as well as his dedication in placing flags at the graves of veterans.



## SOUTHWEST

Brothers of the Department of the Southwest on Oct 18, 2025, dedicated a headstone for Pvt William Green of the Illinois Infantry who has laid for 94 years in an unmarked grave. Mr. Green had the unfortunates of being murdered at the age of 90 for his pension check in 1931.



## TENNESSEE





Brothers of the Missionary Ridge Camp #63 replaced the broken and faded grave marker of Wiley Wilson, Company A 5th Tennessee Infantry at Durham Cemetery in Roane County, TN.

On August 23, 2025, Pittsburg Landing Camp #61 became official! They also initiated 4 new Brothers, received their Charter, and installed the officers. Brothers of three other Camps were present, along with sisters from the Auxiliary and members of the Shiloh Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.



## TEXAS

On November 1, 2025 the brothers of LCDR Edward Lea USN, Camp 2 conducted a ceremony at Glenwood Cemetery in Houston to honor Captain Mahlon E. Davis, Company A, 21st US Colored Troops and to dedicate his new headstone, which was sponsored by Camp 2. They were joined by sisters from the Sarah Emma Seelye Ladies Auxiliary #1 and the Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4, DUVCW.



Pictured L to R – Stephen Schulze, PDC, William Myers, John Schneider, Jr., Cody Holcomb, Michael Rappe, Robert Riley & Daniel Pourceau, CC.

## VERMONT



On October 19, 2025, brothers of the William Scott Camp #302 in Barre, Vermont, commemorated the St.

Albans Raid in St. Albans, Vermont. This has been an event for the last 16 years, including the story of the raid and a walking tour of the events, followed by the playing of Taps.



Brothers of the George J. Stannard Camp #2 commemorate the birthday of Maj. Gen. George J. Stannard at his gravesite 20 October 2025.

## WISCONSIN

Lucas Nguyen, a 10-year-old Junior in C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 of Milwaukee, was one of the highlights at the dedication of tombstones funded by the Camp and Auxiliary. Lucas placed a wreath for Pvt. George Kaepfel of the 35th Wisconsin; his ancestor was in the same regiment. Lucas' mother, Kara, of the Auxiliary, placed flowers. The event was held Oct. 5 at Forest Home Cemetery.



Brothers of C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1, Old Abe Camp #8 and Col. Hans Heg Camp 15 traveled to Kohler in Sheboygan County to assist Terry Lee Matdson of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War in dedicating a tombstone that she obtained for her ancestor. Sgt. Jonathan Hunter of the 20th Wisconsin Infantry, Co. K, died in 1913. Matdson traveled from Colorado for the Sept. 6 event.





# OUR HERITAGE

BY GARY GIBSON, PDC - NATIONAL HISTORIAN

## THE NATIONAL HYMN OF THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

As you may be aware, the Order has its own march, composed in 1909 by Karl King, and can be listened to on the National Organization's website.

At the 1895 National Encampment in Knoxville, Tennessee, the following song was performed at the campfire. A veteran, William O. Pierce, 79th Indiana Infantry, composed this specifically for the Sons of Veterans. It was his wish that we adopt it as our National Hymn. By vote of the Encampment, it was officially adopted. (1895 National Encampment Proceedings, pages 172 – 176) It is possible that a different hymn was adopted at a later date, but that will require additional research in the future.

Due to space, only the first three verses and chorus of the hymn are printed here. It is a full seven verses, and all seven are included in the 1895 proceedings. A search for the music is being made. If any Brother or Sister knows of a source for the music, please contact the National Historian at [historian@suvvw.org](mailto:historian@suvvw.org)

### **The Banner of Beauty and Glory**

Oh, the stars of the morning may sing of their light,  
And the sons of God trumpet their joy,  
Or the storm in its path peal the thunders of wrath,  
That pitiless hurt and destroy,  
But with the clarion notes and trumpet throats,  
We will sing of the flag that floats  
The Banner of Beauty and Glory, forever.

### **CHORUS**

Then thunder your cheers, Huzza,  
For the flag of the nation's free  
The stripes and their stars  
With their battle-scars  
As they float o're the land and sea,  
The banner of blue and crimson hue  
And the white of the lily's dew  
The Banner of Beauty and Glory, forever.

'Tis the hope of the world to the nations unfurled  
For the coming jubilee  
When shall from oppression go free;  
the lowliest surf of God's green earth  
When freedom's fame shall wide proclaim  
The might of our country's name  
With the Banner of Beauty and Glory forever.

O, though ensign of Peace! Lifted up thou will draw,  
The "stars and bars" to thy train  
With atonement wet by the crimson jet  
Of the erring and loyal slain  
Lo, the voice of the Son, "Tis finished, Tis done!  
The north and the south are AT ONE.  
In the Banner of Beauty and Glory, forever.



**Sons of Union Veterans  
of the Civil War**

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Harrisburg, PA 17103-2411

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