



**Andrew M. Johnson  
Commander-in-Chief**

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) elected Andrew Martin Johnson of Arlington, Virginia, Commander-in-Chief at the 117th National Encampment in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on August 8, 1998. He is the 112th Commander-in-Chief elected by the SUVCW since its beginning in 1881 as the Sons of Veterans and the seventh Commander-in-Chief from the Maryland Department.

Brother Johnson is the third child of Clayton A Johnson of Windom, Minnesota. He was born in that city on August 19, 1935. He traces his Civil War roots through his mother, Emma P. Bennett Johnson, whose New Yorker family saw three sons serve in the war. Brother Johnson's qualifying ancestor is great great uncle George Wesley Bennett, 111th New York Volunteer Infantry who served with that regiment until twice wounded at Gettysburg.

The Commander-in-Chief is a graduate of the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis, Minnesota. He came to the Washington, DC area in July of 1960 as an Intern with the Army's Office of the Chief of Staff ("Interns" were held in higher regard then). Employed by the Army's Chief of Ordnance, Brother Johnson was mobilized for active duty during the Berlin Wall episode and spent the remainder of his working career as an Army Civilian or on Active Duty. Active duty included two tours in Viet Nam, 1967-1969. He returned to logistics financial management duties at the Army Materiel Command (AMC) in suburban Washington, DC followed by four years with the Army's V Corps Headquarters and the US Theater Army Support Command in Germany. Returning from Germany in our bicentennial year, Brother Johnson continued assignments with the AMC until retirement in 1989. Physical disabilities also brought about Colonel Johnson's retirement from the uniformed Army after 30 plus years of active and reserve duty.

Colonel Johnson's early life was spent on a small family farm in southern Minnesota. Although he was unaware of his Civil War heritage at that time, Civil War studies caught his attention at an early age. Soldiering also came naturally. When the Korean War began and the Minnesota National Guard division was activated, high schooler Johnson served with the Minnesota State Guard. He showed an early interest in hereditary organizations joining the Society of the War of 1812 in 1960 and many others since as he researched and proved his American family heritage.

Within the Maryland Department, Brother Johnson has served in all SUVCW camp and department offices before being elected to a three-year term on the national Council of Administration. Since then, he has served as National Chief of Staff and both Junior and Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Commissioned by our uniformed branch, the Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR), Johnson serves as the SVR Liaison to the War Office. Service in other veteran and patriotic organizations include tours as chapter and Society President in the Sons of the American Revolution; Deputy Governor General of the Sons of Colonial New England; Trustee at Our Savior Lutheran Church; Past Post Commander in the District of Columbia American Legion and American Legion National Security Commission Vice Chairman; plus Vice President of the Friends of Fort Ward, a restored Civil War fort in Alexandria, Virginia.

In addition to these heavy duties, Brother Johnson is an active member in the New Arlington-Douglas Park Civic Association, London Square Home Owners' Association, the Sovereign Military Order of Knights Templar, Veterans of Foreign Wars 40/8, National Rifle Association, Reserve Officers Association, Military Order of World Wars, Military Order of Foreign Wars, Order of the Carabao, Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Secretary and Treasurer of an Arlington Lions Club and serves with the Meals on Wheels program in Arlington where he now lives.

## **118<sup>th</sup> Annual National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

### Appointment Of The Committee On Credentials

Brother George Powell Is Appointed Chairman of The Credentials Committee:

Assisted By Eric Schminke, Emil Weigozinski and Frank Harned.  
Appointment Of The Committee On Rules--

Brother Gary Gibson is appointed as chairman of the rules

committee assisted by David V. Medert.

Rules of the 118th National Encampment  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

1. The business of this encampment will be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order as revised. The National Counselor will perform the role of parliamentarian.

2. Reports to the encampment will be limited as follows. Each report should be a brief summary of the officers' written report. The National Secretary or his assistant will act as official timer.

- a. National Elected Officers, not to exceed 10 minutes.
- b. National Committee Chairmen, not to exceed 5 minutes.
- c. Convention Committee Chairmen, not to exceed 10 minutes.
- d. Nominations for office, 1999-00: One nominator for each candidate limited to 7 minutes. Robert's Rules does not provide for seconding of nominations.

3. Debate on issues before the encampment may be limited by vote of the encampment. No member shall speak more than twice to the same question nor longer than 10 minutes without permission of the encampment by a 2/3 vote. The chair may further limit debate with a 2/3 approval of the encampment.

4. Elections will consist of a final report of the Credentials Committee, roll call of delegates, nominations, caucus by department and voting by department roll call. Departments are not subject to the unit rule. Each department may cast the number of votes corresponding to the number of registered delegates present at the time of the election as determined by the roll call of delegates.

5. All discussions will be conducted in the spirit of Fraternity, Charity and loyalty.

Official

Chairman, Rules Committee

## Officers reports:

### Report of the Commander-in-Chief

Without hearts and flowers, I will give you a summary of my report, so as to stay within the limits I set. I promise you, all of this will be printed in the Proceedings, which will be printed and distributed to you within three months.

Thank you for electing me Commander-in-Chief last year in Harrisburg. I was greatly honored.

My saddest duty of the year was to represent the Order at the funerals of two Past Commanders-in-Chief; Brothers Gene Russell (CINC 1984) and Clark Mellor (CINC 1988). In each case, the Massachusetts Department was strongly represented in the mourning and at the graveside. May God bless our Brothers in the Kingdom of Light. I also note with sorrow the death of Ms. Daisy Anderson, the next to last known widow of a US Civil War veteran. Our thanks go to the Centennial Camp 100 for its participation in her last rites.

I express my appreciation to the elected and appointed national officers who have served the Order this year under my direction. Cooperation in brotherhood has been remarkable.

The real day-to-day work of the Order is done at the camp and department levels. I have been privileged to participate in the department encampments of California and Pacific, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Michigan, Iowa, New York, and New Jersey.

Ten new camps have chartered this year. Our national membership now exceeds 6,400 dues paying brothers. We are growing in numbers and in camps although perhaps not as rapidly as we might wish. Initiatives to make joining the Order easier will come before this body and I hope that you will look favorably on them.

Under initiatives, I have listed

#### q THE BANNER

I think you'll agree, revamp is good, and last 2 issues were good with editor, Ken Richmond and the Sr. Vice as publisher.

Now we simply need to make them out on time.

#### q Executive Director

The council of administration has defined the duties of the Executive director, and this will be carried out. This is the single most important thing I, you, have done this year that will put this organization in a position to really grow.

#### q Proceedings

Keith Harrison and Glenn Knight have really worked to bring us up-to-date, but the proceedings are still far behind. Three of the past proceedings are available at this encampment and all of them will be done before this year is over. I want to thank any of you who have worked with Keith on them. Their delay happened honestly over many years, but we can't let it happen again. The proceedings must go out three months after an encampment.

In the area of electronic commerce surveillance, I have appointed George Powell as my national aide to keep watch over the sale of used grave goods. We have something of a triumph there. The big one, e-bay auctions, has agreed not to sell used grave goods.

I have appointed a national aide to genealogy, because hundreds of questions come to me like, "what about my Uncle Sam or George who was in the GAR," and I refer those to Steve Bower, who has done a wonderful job.

We need to continue that position.

I have asked the Military Affairs Committee to explore doing a commemoration in the Springfield, Illinois area, something around Lincoln's death day, perhaps a junior Remembrance Day.

I initiated a program of thanking those people in communities and organizations who know they Civil War treasures, or monuments, or graves, and know they are responsible for maintaining these treasures and they do it. They don't sell the things. They maintain them.

We need to thank them, and I have been doing that this year.

A major issue is the GAR hall in Gettysburg. Last year the encampment authorized me to bring the enemy to bay on that one. I have done that. I have hired an attorney, and we are about to go to court. It is a very expensive process to establish the rights of the Gettysburg Camp in the GAR hall there. The outcome is chancy, but we complied with the direction of the national encampment.

The issues of graves registrations and civil war memorials program, the graves registration program and monuments—Nothing we do is more in keeping with the charges of the boys in blue that they gave to us to protect the memory of the men who saved the nation. This is the very core of our reason for being here, and it's vital that each man and each department get out there and really active in the civil war memorials and graves registration. Special thanks to Iowa, PA, IL, KS, NJ, which have done extraordinary work in monuments. This Encampment will consider and I hope will adopt the National policy statement on Civil War Memorials.

There is another side to the preservation effort that needs to be highlighted. Brothers in Iowa, California, Pennsylvania, and Illinois have challenged those unworthy men who seek to buy Civil War memorials for resale. I am delighted to note that the suit brought by our Scranton, Pennsylvania Camp No. 8 has been resolved in the camp's favor and a sizable judgment awarded to the camp for the loss of a cannon from the Forest Hill Cemetery. A judge in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania has recently found in our favor in another cemetery cannon case. The Iowa case involving, sad to say, an American Legion post, is awaiting court date and our Illinois Department continues to seek the return of missing cannon in that state. I commend the vigilance and self-sacrifice of our brothers who have found it necessary to go to the law to get people to do the right thing.

Graves Registration Program is the other most significant of our several great programs. Brother Leo Kennedy has done an outstanding job in motivating departments to search available records and walk the cemeteries for Civil War veteran graves. It is a massive undertaking.

Headquarters; Harrisburg museum will be built. It has been promised by Mayor Reed. I have asked Mayor Reed to answer two questions: 1. Clarify lease arrangements & strange insurance requirements. 2. Have any of the objects to be displayed there come from GAR monuments?

No answer from him yet.

The council of Administration has approved my recommendations for Meritorious Service in nominating the Gold star award for Keith Harrison and

Richard A. Williams.

The events and resolutions. I attended many events, and it was a great honor for me to speak at them as your commander-in-chief. I will turn over my recommendations to the committee on officer's reports, and end this report here. Thank you.

In fraternity, charity  
Andrew Johnson

Moved(R. Orr), seconded and passed that the Commander-in-Chief's report and all subsequent reports be accepted and referred to the committee on Officers Reports.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief's Report, Danny Wheeler  
Passing out my reports  
For 1998-1999

I attended conventions in RI, IL, PA, NY, I attended Remembrance Day in Gettysburg and the Grant Tomb ceremony.

I feel that the highlight of the year has been serving as the publisher of the Banner.

I want to say thank you to the body for allowing me the honor and privilege as serving as your Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. It has been a year I will never forget.

The highlight of my year has been serving as publisher of the Banner. We have made great strides in producing a product we can all be proud of. There are now more pages and more articles. We have been playing catch-up this year, yet were able to get out four issues of the Banner. I'm waiting for the banner to be delivered. It is done, but had to be sorted and delivered-- hopefully today. The cost of the banner has remained the same, within budget. Even with postal rates going up and producing 32 pages.

We will strive, next year to deliver it on-time. With three months between Banners, we feel this can be accomplished.

I did the following to promote the order:

1. Letters were sent to all departments on free publications to promote the order and increase public awareness of the organization if used by all departments.
2. I sent listings to all departments about all newspapers in their state with their phone numbers. Each state received 1 – 9 pages, depending on the size of their state.
3. I sent letters to all departments letting them know that we have problems with scams and profiteers robbing graves and memorials from city parks and I have heard back from 12 departments, and by doing this I have found the heavily populated states are Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, New jersey, New York, are having most of the problems.

Advertising for the year was \$4000 with ads running in Civil War magazine, Military History, World War I, World War II, American History, Civil War Times for a total of \$2324. We have left over \$1,672 under budget that was not used. We

got a late start on collecting for senior vice fund. Brother Pahl should have these figures for you since most contributions are being sent directly to national. We need to look where at other ways to spend the \$4,000 budget. The number of responses coming from the same civil war magazines is not that great. We are getting less and less each year because the same people buy the magazines.

I have attended all meetings of National Council of Administration and have on six occasions performed the duties of Commander-in-Chief as instructed by Brother Johnson.

I have tried to answer all snail mail and electronic mail in a timely manner and to aid and listen to all matters concerning our camps, departments and fellow brothers and will continue to do so in the future if elected your Commander-in-Chief.

I have four recommendations:

1. Looking at the problems with recruiting within our order I recommend we do the following:

q Put the on-line form back on line.

We need to come up with a uniform application fee and 1<sup>st</sup> year dues, on a national level. I recommend \$10.00 application fee and \$25.00 for dues, with the check being sent to the department for enrollment.

Pennsylvania has used this plan for years to bring in department MALs

Junior Vice

alan peterson

busy year.

duties, membership

on-line form taken off-line, need to make it eaSIER

no clue as to where to send how much are dues

breakdown of states and departments

slow answers to inquiries

many thanks, etc. What is best for the good of the orders

another roc re dues

reco send ALL ADDR

Junior vice do periodic spot check

special edition of the Banner as recruitment aid

Alan Peterson jr. vice

eagle scout certificate coordinator

## **Report of the National Secretary, David Hahn**

Dear Brothers,

Usually when I make this report, I start out with "Wow! What a year!" That isn't even close to what this year was. A recent personal divorce plus the impending sale of my house, has really taken a toll.

When I made my report in Utica New York, I said that communication is the key to any organization. I asked a favor of All departments. The sooner I receive the reports, the sooner I can get this information out. From many I received the information, but from others I did not. It really makes this job tough. I was able to make up the department directory only after I searched the web for the information myself.

Last year this organization took a large step forward when we approved the paperwork for an executive secretary. As I see it, the position of National Secretary involves too many parts for one person to handle. I cannot tell you how many hours I have sat at my computer, trying to make sense of per capita tax reports, or listen to complaints, have some departments treat me as their own secretary.

Brothers, this year I pledge to do a much better job, now that my personal life is back on track. I would like to thank all of you, Commander-in-Chief Johnson, and the Council of Administration for your patience with what I went through this year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Me

I would like to go over some numbers with you.

26 departments, we have 182 camps, (not all the reports are in yet) 5,348 brothers, 289 life members, 18 real sons, 380 associate members and 65 juniors. Not counting the juniors a total of 5656.  
Thank you for your time.

### **Report of the National Treasurer, James Pahl**

I passed out my report earlier,

1. as to what we budgeted for 1998-1999 and also
2. what we spent for 1998-1999. And
3. the proposed budget for the year 1999-2000.

George told me to print 175 copies, but I didn't listen to him. I only printed 150. So, please share. At least 10 of you don't have this(including this transcriber)

Some high lights

You will notice, in income, general fund, I am proposing, we reserve funds of \$7,565.87. That means that in the coming year's budget, we are proposing to spend more than we take in. This is the third year in a row that we have done that. Fortunately, for the past two years, expenditures did not go over the actual income. The complication that I have for the coming year is the hiring of an executive director. Retaining of an executive director, the retainer and paying the expenses of that job, has required the budgeting of \$17,000 to accomplish that goal. With that additional item, I can't balance the budget without dipping ion to reserve funds. I have reduced the stipend of the National Secretary with his

permission. I have looked at every item, trimming it to the bone. There are brothers out there who shouldn't have to pay out of their own pocket for doing the work of their office on the national level.

With heavy heart I come before this body and recommend an increase in the per capita tax. It has been ten years since this has occurred. We are currently collecting \$10 per member per year to fund the national organization. If you will look at the numbers, that is a little more than half of what we need. Traditionally, per capita tax increases would not take effect until the first of the year following this encampment, so that is January 1, 2000. That would be 2 quarters of increased per capita tax. I'm asking for \$2.00.

Brothers, you're going to ask, 'what's in it for me? Why should I put up \$2.00?' But I'm going to ask this encampment for resolutions to amend the regulations of our order as follows: Chapter III Article VI Finance, Section 8 (new): There shall be established a Civil War Memorial Preservation Fund to assist in the establishment or the preservation of Civil War monuments and memorials. This fund shall be available in grants, in blocks of \$500.00 or less, upon application of the various Departments and Camps of the Order. The Council of Administration shall establish a committee consisting of the three general members of the Council of Administration, to receive applications and make recommendations to the full Council of Administration as to which applications should be funded. Should principal and interest remain in the fund after all grant applications are considered each year, the Council of Administration shall make additional grants, to the exhaustion of the fund, to help further fund previously approved grant applications. \$1.00 of the per capita tax collected from each brother of the Order shall be deposited into this fund annually. For the cost of \$0.25 per quarter, \$1.00 per year, we can make available to the national organization over \$6,000. Projecting some growth this year, that is 12 grants of \$500, we can make available to the national organization. So that your camp or department has a project and you look to the national organization for some help, we've got something to offer to you. In the past, all we could offer was our prayers and our support, but no money. How does the work of the order get done, if the national organization can't help fund the many projects.

So the per capita tax amount of \$63,000 anticipates a growth to 6,000 members. It also anticipates an additional \$0.50 from each member in this budget year. The next year it anticipates \$11.00 to the general fund and \$1.00 to the Civil War Monuments Preservation fund to do the work of the order and to pay our bills without dipping into the reserve that we have.

We have some reserve, but we could not operate for a year on the reserve. A prudent financial policy dictates that a reserve should be enough to run the organization for a year, but we don't even have that General Fund reserve.

I did not come to this encampment to do this. I did not intend to do this until the other night when the Council of Administration sat down and looked at the numbers. We don't have the funds to do this. With the increase proposed, I don't think we will have to come back to the encampment for a good many years for another increase. We can retain an executive secretary and move forward into the next millennium financially sound.

Thank you.

Editorial comment: man should be a preacher: Smooth with words. Medicine goes down real easy

### **Report of the Quartermaster, PCINC, Bud Atkinson**

This will be a short report, believe me.

I must be doing a good job because I had no complaints this year. The supplies have been coming in terrific and the orders have been coming in, too. I have a hell of a time keeping up with the membership badges. I have a standing order of 100 with the manufacturer at all times. He gets me as many as he can, but the order is still for 100 and I'm still running low on badges.

The supply list was published in the Banner, but there were a few mistakes. First, he did not list the \$3.00 shipping and handling charges and he listed Rituals and Ceremonies as \$3.00. Rituals and Ceremonies are \$5.00. But I recommend no one order them from me for at least 2 or 3 months. There are going to be a lot of changes and I'll probably have to order a whole new set. That's my report for today.

Thanks.

### **Report of the National Counselor, Jim Pahl**

A number of items have crossed the desk of the National Counselor. Telephone and email on an almost daily basis convey requests for advice on a number of issues. A review of my records reveals that I was not called upon to render any formal opinions. As to other items of activity:

Gettysburg: Upon direction of the 117th National Encampment, the Order has retained the services of attorney Thomas J. Williams of the Carlisle, Pennsylvania law firm of Martson, Deardorff Williams and Otto. He is preparing to file legal action to enforce the rights of the Order as to the GAR hail located in Gettysburg, PA. All efforts to negotiate a settlement appear to have failed and the Order is moving forward.

California: Upon direction of the 117th National Encampment, letters were written to the Attorney General of the State of California, urging the State to enforce the California Military and Veterans Code as that code requires care of the graves of veterans. The Attorney General declined to enforce that law. The Department of California and Pacific requested no further action be taken by the National Counselor, as they had other avenues they wished to explore. I am pleased to report the Department is making good progress and I look forward to reading about that progress in a future issue of the Banner.

Model Letters: Upon direction of the 117th National Encampment, the National Legal Staff received directive to draft a series of model letters to be used in contacting the owners of property upon which Civil War monuments are

located. These letters are to express our interesting in preserving and protecting such monuments. I have asked Judge Henry Shaw of Ohio to head up the committee to create those letters. He is working with the Civil War Monuments Committee towards this goal.

State Statutes: Upon direction of the 117th National Encampment, the National Legal Staff was asked to research the laws in their respective states and locate all statutes that concern the preservation, maintenance and care of civil war monuments in their state. This request was passed on to all members of the national legal staff and I have received several responses. As the applicable statutes are located for the states where Departments exist, I have requested the Department Commander to have those statutes posted to the Department's web page so you will know what the status of the law is in your state. It may be in the future we will create one central place on the web for such information. I will talk to webmaster, Keith Harrison about that. For the time being, the department's web page will make those statutes available to the general membership.

Membership Eligibility: A brother of the Order previously resigned his membership in the Order after being charged with several felony counts of embezzlement. Through the plea bargain process, the former brother plead guilty to one count of misdemeanor embezzlement. He has submitted an application to his former Camp and asked to be allowed to rejoin the Order. The Camp rejected the application of the former brother, ruling that misdemeanor embezzlement is an infamous or heinous crime as ruled in our constitution. This ruling was made after receiving the advice of then Commander-in-Chief Orr, who agreed that misdemeanor embezzlement is indeed an infamous or heinous crime. This is consistent with the report that I made at last year's national encampment. The former brother has requested this Encampment review this decision. I therefore recommend this Encampment rule that misdemeanor embezzlement is an infamous or heinous crime as that phrase is contained in our Constitution, and that therefore, anyone so convicted is not eligible for membership in this Order.

Tax Status: I was directed by the 117th National Encampment, to make application to the Internal Revenue Service to have the tax status of the Order changed from 501(c)(4) to 501(c)(1), as a congressionally chartered corporation. The Internal Revenue Service has rejected that application, as the Order is not an instrumentality of the United States Government, but a private non-profit corporation and are not eligible for 501(c)(1) status.

Subsidiary Corporations: Due to potential Internal Revenue Service complications, each and every subordinate body within the SUVCW needs to be approved on the National level. This is done with the Commander-in-Chief signing the Charters of both the Departments and the Camps of this Order. However, it appears at this point that Departments or Camps can form subsidiary corporations and register them with the IRS using the SUVCW GEN number, without any approval from the National Organization. Therefore, I recommend the National Regulations be amended to state that Departments and Camps of the Order may not form subsidiary corporations without the express written consent of the Council of Administration of the Order. Upon such authorization, such

corporations may apply for EIN numbers, using the SUVCW GEN number.

I think that is within the time limit. Thank you.

## **MAL Report**

Two years ago during the 116<sup>th</sup> National Encampment I was asked by then Commander-in-Chief Richard Orr to serve his administration in this office. I wish to take a moment to thank Past Commander-in-Chief Orr, Commander-in-Chief Johnson and the members of the Council of Administration for their sage advice and especially for the faith they have placed in me for the past two years. At the time that I began my term in this office National MAL was in what could only be termed disarray. I took an oath before God and my Brothers to the best of my ability, faithfully, honestly and impartially perform the duties of my office. During the last 2 years of service this office has taken many hundreds of hours of my time and I sincerely hope that you will find that I have lived up to my oath.

The issuance of General Order #18 in the summer of 1998 by then C-in-C Orr directly affected the membership totals for National MAL. The General Order directed the National MAL Coordinator to transfer all members of MAL that lived in states served by Department's to their respective Department. The initial effect of General Order #18 was the mass transfer, effective January 1, 1999, of 271 members to 21 of the 26 Departments of our Order. The net effect of this mass transfer is the enlargement of all of these Departments with the least number of members transferred to a Department of 1 (Massachusetts) and the most transferred to a Department of 54 (Florida). This enables each of the Departments to reap the benefits of the additional members including, but not limited to, the creation of New Camps within their Department, enlarging the membership of existing Camps, and adding Delegates to the National Encampment.

The total number of MAL's on June 30, 1998 was 411. The total number of MAL's as of June 30, 1999 is 175.

Prior to 1997, National MAL had a tradition of making a yearly donation to the National Organization. Because no dues were collected for 1997 for MAL the funds in the account were diminished dramatically, therefore last year we were unable to make a donation. I am happy to report that at the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of this year we are able to present this check for \$ 1,200 to the National Organization as a donation from MAL.

Thank you.

In F.C. & L.

Dean Speaks, National MAL Coordinator

**Membership List Coordinator Report** is on file

## **National Patriotic Instructor Report**

(Note: the tape is really bad here)

The National patriotic Instructor says his position was traditionally fund raising. Now he is trying to educate the membership. He has put together

short talks on a variety of topics. They are all in prepared packets that the camps can use. He has also submitted articles.

He recommends these packets be retained as the beginning of a library, and a service to camps.

**National Chaplain's Report** is on file.

(Perhaps, but not with me.)

Commander-in-Chief: I want to thank Richard Woodbury for his excellent representation in taking over for the late PCINC Clark Mellor

Note: This was one of the damaged sections on the tape. I pieced the following report together by listening to the distorted tape, and using my notes. It's close.

**National Aide to Cathedral of the Pines** by Richard Woodbury

I wish to thank Commander-in-Chief Johnson for appointing me to this post to replace Past Commander-in-Chief Clark Mellor. It is indeed an honor to have been selected to take on a job, which had been performed each year for four decades by such a distinguished member of our Order.

On May 30, 1999, I participated in the Memorial Day Ceremonies at Cathedral of the Pines. I spoke a few words regarding the importance of Memorial Day to our Order and presented, on behalf of Commander-in-Chief Johnson a donation of \$100 for the preservation of The Cathedral of the Pines.

Before the ceremonies commenced, all participants were given an opportunity to register for Memorial Day next year. I will of course call in April to confirm that my registration form is on file.

**Eagle Scout Program**

My report is on file, but I just want to say that there has been a 50% increase in certificates this year. We gave out 1667, which is an increase of 567 from the previous year.

**GAR Highway officer's Report** is on file.

**National Historian's Report**

(Note: Still bad tape, This is pieced together from what I could hear and my notes.)

The GAR records we located are in my report, which is on file. I have learned of other records at the encampments. The cataloging of records continues. I hope all members will continue to search and report their findings to the National Historian.

Thank you.

**Banner Editor's Report** is on file

**National Webmaster's Report** by Keith Harrison

The statistics for our Web Site for 1998 and for the first six months in 1999 are on file.

Basically the number of hits increased during 1999, to more than 1,000,000 per day. April 1998 still remains the single month though with the greatest average number of hits/day at 10,031. During the entire 12 months of 1998, our Web Site was accessed 1,799,918 times. In a period of only six months, our Web Site has already been accessed 1,295,686 times. We are currently averaging 7,158 hits per day. Our Web Site is being accessed by over 70 plus countries from all over the world.

The Web Site has grown from just over 250 Web Pages in January 1998 to now well over 550 Web Pages, and it is kept updated on a daily basis. Email requests having their genesis from our Web Site are still running anywhere on average, from 30 to 50 a night .EVERY NIGHT. The Web Site has been selected for a total of six awards, which are referenced on the Web Site's Home Page.

Some reminders: When a National officer or committee member changes his email address or a department changes its email address, I need to be informed. Given the volume of things that need to be done to maintain this and the other Web Sites, if I get a valid bad link report, I have and will continue to take the offending link (be it a link to a Web Site, or a bad email address) off. I will not have the time to telephone the person in question or search through the Internet for the offending address or link. The offending link is History until and unless someone contacts me with new or corrected information.

Also, all material that people wish to have placed onto our Web Site absolutely has to be sent to me in an electronic format, either as an email or as an email attachment. I have the capability to convert any type of word processing program, including Macintosh. Material in sent in any other forma, I am sorry, but I will send back. I just do not have time to type someone else's material into electronic format.

In summary, this is a very exciting time. As noted above, our Web Site was accessed 1.7 million times last year and we are already at 1.3 million in half that time now. The name of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War has begun to be recognized as one of the premier organizations throughout the world for information about the Civil War, and the Grand Army of the Republic. I fully expect this trend to continue.

Thank you.

## **National Signal Officer's Report** by Glenn Knight

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Order as your National Signals Officer. I begin by once-again thanking PCINC Keith Harrison for his outstanding performance of duty as the National Webmaster. In informal conversation with my peers, it seems that the SUVCW site is one of the 5 largest, and most popular on the Internet. His report will be given separately, but I want to remind the National Encampment of the professionalism, skill and abilities that Keith ably donates to this valuable resource.

Turning to another of my duties, that of evaluating technology for use by the Order, I must admit to a disappointing year. I created an on-line form for membership applications and an on-line form for department secretaries to submit their quarterly reports via the Internet. In both instances I asked key officers and the Council of Administration to review the forms and comment. Only two brothers responded and therefore the options to use the forms have expired. Unless there is interest stated in either of these forms I do not intend to re-visit them.

In connection with the membership application I located a piece of software that would automatically return a form message to the person who submitted the information. A side benefit was the ability to use the SUVCW.ORG domain within the Order. Standard addresses would be set for all National and some Department officers (e.g. the Commander in Chief would have the address CinC@SUVCW.ORG). Each year, the master list of officers would be updated at the conclusion of the encampment so that email for the CINC would be redirected to his personal ISP account. Additionally, groups of officers or members could be created so that sending an email to the entire Council of Administration would require only the address Council@SUVCW.ORG. Copies would go to each member of Council and similar groups could be established for committees. Three brothers commented and two of the comments were unfavorable. The trial period has expired with no action.

At last year's National Encampment a policy dealing with national databases was accepted and put in place. As of this report the National Data Server continues to sit empty and each data base owned by the Order continues to exist outside the control of the Order. The concern was for loss of data and change of database managers as well as standardization of the data product. We continue to have committees doing their own thing without concern for standards. If the policy is not going to be followed it should be removed.

Much of my time this year was given to serving as Pennsylvania Department Commander and as honcho for the unfinished National Encampment transcripts. I am happy to report that all but one of the outstanding National Encampment Proceedings has been transcribed and

edited and forwarded to PCINC Keith Harrison for final edit; assembly and publication. The last remaining year would have been completed but for a computer failure. It will be finished and forwarded within 30 days of this encampment. I want to thank Commander in Chief Johnson for his support in making this problem almost go away.

Some study was done on methodologies for making information from our various databases available to the membership, the public and researchers, but the state of the art of archival storage is currently in flux and until it is sorted out—probably in a year or two—it is best for us to sit back and observe.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- q Because all new technologies must be approved for implementation and funding by the Council of Administration it is only logical that the Council of Administration be involved in the Beta Testing of new technology. Such has not been the case and as a result no action has been taken on technical initiatives this year. Unless the Council of Administration is willing to review recommendations brought by the National Signals Officer, that officer is simply wasting his time. The position should be eliminated.
- q The National Policy on Database Management passed last year by the National Encampment has been totally ignored and if that is the will of the leadership, the policy should be revoked.
- q For 20 years we have complained that the National Proceedings were not being done but nothing was done about it. Suitable recognition should be given to CINC Andy Johnson for pushing the issue, to PCINC Keith Harrison for his tenacity in bringing it all together and to National Proceedings Secretary Rebecca Pratt for contributing hundreds of hours beyond what she was paid for to actually move the project along.

Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,  
Glenn B. Knight; PDC, National Signals Officer

#### **CIVIL WAR MONUMENTS COMMITTEE**

We recommend that the National SUVCW Legal staff be instructed again to continue the search for and do an evaluation of existing laws for the protection and care of veterans memorials, and that the results of their evaluation be utilized to advise our membership in the promotion of their legislation for the protection of veteran memorials and preservation.

The other recommendations that I have here, you'll hear about these later, have to do mostly with the C&R, now that we're a standing committee. One is to add the name of the committee so that the first sentence. Another is to create a new

section to explain the purpose of it. It could replace existing section 9.

I am now going to travel over to the officer reports. One of the things that we have been able to do to support the national leadership was on top of the overall project to launch a special canon inquiry project. This thing only got off the ground last October. The nature of this is to be proactive so that we get the word out there to communities across the country that we do have an interest in these silent sentinels if you will, so that we don't have to re-act as often as we have had to in the past in situations where the object was stolen, sold, or is in the process of being offered for sale.

Something we have been working on behind the scenes, which has not borne fruit yet and that has to do with the Department of Defense re the progress of the US Army's Judge Advocate's assessment of whether or not obsolete Civil War era ordinance is entitled to the same claim of government ownership that is extended to present day donations of armaments used for static memorial display. This is an issue that will have all of us writing to our representatives and senators about. And more information on this matter, I have correspondence I have written and I'd like to see the commanders of the departments that are here this weekend to give you a packet of what I have sent out. You can look at it, and if you deem it worthy, you can use it as a springboard.

What I did for my own representative, I shared with him a copy of the congressional record that stipulates that donations that each and every article of the condemned military equipment shall be subject at all times to the order of the secretary of war. My question is wouldn't that have turned over to the DOD, which is a question I need to have answered. I also share with him the conventional deed of gift, which we all have copies of, and I asked him to please note that section that says, "that the donated property is no longer used for display purposes, or if the done no longer wishes to keep the donated property, we shall revert to and become vested in the donor who shall be entitled to immediate repossession." What this means in a nutshell is that if it's been sold or if they don't want it, the government gets it back. Another thing that is theirs is called Public Law 100-456 title 10, US Code. What this has is organizations, museums, and veterans groups. These are organizations that are already deemed worthy of these donations. If we can get the canons back, we already are recognized as one of these entities as a post of the SVR. So in that, the SVR and the SUVCW have our foot in the door already, to get these back.

Thank you very much.

Commander-in-Chief, you have a committee report there.

I move that this committee report, and all future committee reports with recommendations, be taken up ad seriatim and where there is no objection they be approved at the sound of the gavel.

Seconded. Passed

Recommendation:

1. That the National legal Staff be instructed to continue the search for

documentation of the existing laws that provide for the protection and care of Veteran's memorials, and that the results of their evaluation be utilized by our membership in the promotion of better legislation for veteran's memorials protection and legislation.

No objections. Passed

2. This next one has to do with the regulations portion of the C&R Section 1, to add the name of the committee to read:

"The standing committees of the national organization shall be as follows; Constitution and Regulations, legislation, military affairs, membership, americanization and education, Lincoln Tomb observance, Remembrance Day, Fraternal Relations, encampment site, history, life membership, investment, graves registration, and Civil War Memorials."

Richard Orr moves to approve this change to the regulations.  
Seconded. Passed.

3. Chapter 3, Article 7, under committees, section

A new section is needed to explain the purpose of the committee. It could replace section 9, closely following the graves registration committee. (Garbled)It states the purpose of the civil war memorials committee is to provide guidance to the departments and camps regarding the locating, physical examination of and recording of all memorials dedicated to Union Civil War soldiers and sailors outside national military parks, US departments of Defense, or Veterans Affairs. This includes all sizes of monuments, with or without sculpture, memorial fountains, historical markers and small plaques. The committee shall consist of the National Civil War Memorials Officer who shall serve as chair, and 4 brothers appointed by the Commander-in-Chief. The duties of the committee are included in the compiled job descriptions of the officers and standing committees.

Moved/seconded/passed

A motion to amend the above so that this is a substitution to the existing article 9

Moved, seconded and passed.

To clean things up we recommend to update the regulation of the C& R, This is regulations under chapter 3, National Organization: and it will be article 4 for Officers, and that first recommendation is to correct the last reference in the first sentence, section 1 to read as follows: the Officers Of The National Organization Shall Consist of a Commander-In-Chief, Senior Vice CINC, Junior Vice CINC, Natl Sec, National Treasurer, National Quartermaster, 3 Members Of The COA, National Counselor, National Graves Registration Officer, A Washington DC Representative, National Patriotic Instructor, National Chaplain, National Historian, National Chief Of

Staff, National GAR Highway Officer, National Membership-At-Large Coordinator, Banner Editor, National Membership List Coordinator, National Camp And Department Organizer, And Finally The National Civil War Memorial Officer.

Moved, seconded and passed.

Chapter 3 under the National Organization. This will be article V, duties of officers. I recommend we rewrite section 20 to define the duties of the Civil War Memorials officer.

Section 20 then to read: The National Civil War Memorials Officer shall chair the National Civil War Memorials Committee. He will also provide leadership and direction to departments and camps regarding the locating, physical examination of, and recording all Civil War Memorials dedicated to Union Soldiers and Sailors outside of the care of the National Military Parks, and US Department of Defense and Veteran's Affairs. This includes all sizes of monuments, with or without sculpture, those with Civil War canon and ammunition, Memorial fountains, memorial buildings, windows, historical markers and small plaques.

Activities of the committee are listed in the compiled job descriptions of National Officers and Standing Committees

It is moved, seconded and passed to approve the recommendation.

Chapter 2 under departments and that will be article IV for officers. I recommend that the importance of the department level Civil War Memorials Officer is respectfully submitted as justification for adding that to the list of options at the end of section I; Therefore, amend that to read: The officers of a department shall be a Department Commander, a Senior Vice Department Commander, Junior Vice Department Commander, Department, three officers of the Department Council, a Department Patriotic Instructor, Department Chaplain, Department Secretary and/or Treasurer, a Department Historian, Department Counselor, and at the option of the Department, a Department GAR Highway Officer, a Department Organizer a Department Graves Registration Officer, a Department Civil War Memorials Officer and such other officers as may be established in those by-laws.

It is moved, seconded and passed to accept the recommendation.

#### National Graves Registration Officer and Committee

The National Grave Registration Project has just over 50,000 records that have been entered and we have about 5,000 records that have to be keyed in so we have been doing really well collecting the data. The committee has been very active throughout the year supporting this, but we still have a few camps that haven't forwarded the data they've been collecting. The

National is simply a vehicle to store the data that has been collected. We obviously can't go out to all the departments and camps. We depend on all the departments and camps to collect the work. All we ask is that once the work gets done, forward a copy to us so we can add it to the data base. Without one central collection point, this project will never be completed, and I would like to see it get completed sometime. We will need to work together to complete the project. The information flows both ways. We get a lot of information from people who are not members of the Sons, who visit cemeteries and forward the information to us. If you contact us and ask what's in the area, we could probably send information back to you that you may or may not already know, and you could expand and send it back to us.

We were requested to write up a policy for the Graves Registration Project. We did complete that and forwarded it to the Council of Administration. We're waiting for approval of that draft. I'm not sure if it has been approved yet, or not.

Grave Registration Forms were sent to all the departments through the National Chief of Staff and we're working on a pamphlet to provide the genealogical and historical societies.

Brother Johnston of Maryland and I worked a lot on this and it was approved by the committee. We're going to make a couple of small changes in it. If you look on the inside, it says, to register your Civil War ancestor's grave, contact the Grave Registration(a place for an address), at the bottom there is another place for an address, and on the back we want to put down the National Organization's address. We want to correct that so there is just one place for an address. We don't want to be confusing. It will probably have, at the bottom, the national address at Gettysburg, or you could put a stamp over it if you use it at camps, using your own address, as long as the information gets sent back up to us.

Another change we want to make to this is on the inside, where it says,"your name and address" we want to put a box to check if it is your relative you are registering, and this information can be sent right to the membership coordinator or the Junior Vice, and hopefully we can get more members that way.

The purpose of this pamphlet is to inform people about the Project, and provide an easy registration form to people outside of the organization; provide a first level contact to prospective members; and, serve as a public relations tool by showing both the benefits of participating in the project and the SUVCW's community service.

The pamphlet is intended for distribution at local historical and genealogical societies and libraries, cemeteries, battlefields and other historic sites by Camps, Departments and National.

The information provided in the pamphlet outlines the function and benefits of the Project at the Camp, Department and National level, and provides

ways to contact the S.U.V.C.W. for membership information.

The registration form contains the minimal amount of information necessary to register a veteran's grave and provides a space for the Camp and Department to place its return address. The National P0 Box in Gettysburg will be added. We put in a budget request after checking with several printers in the area, and I believe the budget item has been added.

Because the first distribution of this pamphlet is experimental, I suggest the National Organization assume the full production costs of \$475. Following the first distribution and the after action review of its effectiveness, the cost of any subsequent distributions will be shared with the Camps and Departments, if the project is continued.

We want to produce several thousand copies of this in a crisp, clear format for an initial disbursement so Camps can have photo copies made of it as necessary to distribute.

I have included the report of Brother Johnston, as I feel it is an important step in continuing the Project. Brother Johnston's Report of July 1999

## Recommendations

1 -The support of the pamphlet project which Brother Johnston has worked so hard on.

I believe we can remove this as a recommendation because I believe the Treasurer has added the item to his report.

2- Due to the nature of the project and the time involved, I would ask that the Job Description of the Grave Registration Committee be changed to include that they must have ready access to electronic mail for the transaction of the Order's business, and that the Aides to the Committee be encouraged to do so, but not required.

The Grave registration officer is required to do so as of last year's encampment. This is just for the committee

Moved, seconded and passed.

Second is the job description for the national committee for Grave Registration; it's really just a wording change. With the new memorials committee, we just want to remove the word memorials from Grave Registration Committee Line 1; collect, organize, catalog and maintain a national listing of the graves of Union civil war veterans and make this information available to Brothers upon request. We're removing "and memorials" out of that one. On line 5 we're removing line 5 which says, "encourage Departments and Camps to actively inventory and ascertain the condition of local Civil War and GAR memorials.

Moved, seconded and passed

In closing, I would like to say that I have been pleased to have been offered this chance to work on such a worthwhile project and have enjoyed

working and meeting with as many Brothers as I have.

I submit this report in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Leo F. Kennedy,  
National Grave Registration Officer

Constitution and Regulations Committee Report by Jim Pahl

Fasten your seatbelts, because we're going to fly

1. Passed out earlier this morning, a proposed total re-write of Chapter 5, Article 6, Discipline. I hope you've had a chance to read it. This addresses the mandate given to the committee two years ago at the 116<sup>th</sup> encampment through a lot of work by Brothers, Council of Administration, National Legal Staff. This is the product of all that work to revamp the article on discipline, to provide due process for fair impartial hearings. It defines offenses, and it defines penalties. It also addresses the summary discipline issue. It allows the commander-in-chief summary discipline authority to temporarily suspend a person from office. It takes out of the hands of the person filing a complaint, the decision of what is going to happen. It places that decision with another body.

It is moved(Jim Pahl) and seconded that this encampment adopt the total rewrite of Chapter five, article 6 on Discipline

Discussion

The motion to accept the recommendation passes.

The rest of this is cumbersome

There are going to be some resolutions coming from departments on this one. And we have a recommendation from Commander-in-Chief Johnson for some kind of device to be placed on Past Department Commander's badge to note the number of years of service.

The committee recommends that we not change the regulations of the order at this time. Let me clarify that. We referred it to the committee on resolutions

Richard Orr makes a point of order, which can't be heard.

Commander-in-Chief says, Let's consider it now. Please read that.

From the Department of Maryland:

"From Article III, section 2; Past Commanders of camps and departments are authorized to wear stars on the ribbon of the Past Commander's Badge to recognize second and subsequent terms of office. The Silver Star is authorized for each complete term. A gold star is authorized for five terms and replaces the

silver stars. Stars should be worn vertically on the center stripe of the Department Ribbon.

It is the recommendation of the committee that this not be adopted.

Protracted, heated discussion

Motion to Accept the proposed rejection.

Vote in favor of accepting the committee's recommendation to reject the resolution from Maryland. No stars will be added to badges.

Amendments to two different chapters to amend the regulations. I(Jim Pahl) won't read all this stuff written down here. It will be in the proceedings.(Only if you give me a copy)

1. The first, Chapter two, Departments, adding a new article 10, Departments at Large, each department shall make provision for department members at large, a department member at large shall include all brothers, members, associates and juniors residing within the jurisdiction of the department who us not a brother of a camp within that department. Such provision may be
  - q Departments-at-large or
  - a camp established by the department for the purpose of administering the department member at large, orrequiring that the department by-laws say that all members shall belong to a camp of their choice or sign with the nearest camp if the brother does not choose a camp.
2. The second part of this amends Chapter 5 of the National Regulations, adding a new section 5, new membership applications.

New membership applicants whose applications receive the national orders membership may be processed through the office of Junior Vice Commander in chief, or the membership recruiting officer who reside within the jurisdiction of an established department shall be enrolled as a department member at large with that department. Each department shall make available to each department MAL at least once annually the list of the existing camps within the department and offer the option of transferring from a member at large to a camp of the brother's choice. The national encampment shall annually set a national application fee and first year dues for members who join through the office of junior vice commander in chief or national recruiting officer. All monies collected shall either be forwarded to the department in which the applicant resides or to the national membership at large if the applicant resides in an area the doesn't have an established department. The department will report the new member on succeeding quarterly reports and pay appropriate application fees and per capita from the fees and dues collected. In the absence of action by the national encampment the Council of Administration shall set these dues.

Jim Pahl moves to adopt these two amendments. It is seconded.

Discussion ensues. (A lot of discussion, much of it garbled or too faint to decipher the words.)

The motion carries.

The committee was charged with proofreading the ritual of the Order and making recommendations.

Came up with 3 pages of edits.

All minor changes, all edit type changes.

Moved and seconded to adopt the changes to the ritual of the order.

Commander, didn't we do this last year?

With perfect comic timing,

Commander-in-Chief Johnson replies, "We do it every year."

(This might be the last year. Commander-in-Chief Wheeler accepted my offer to do a professional edit for publication. I have done so. Barring publisher's/printing errors, the new edition of the Ritual should be as close to correct as possible, or as close as one human editor can make it.)

Recommended, articles II, chapters one, section 9:to promote fraternal relations and coordinate those activities that extend across department boundaries. Two or more departments may establish a regional association. Such regional associations may include such (unknown) as they exist within the bodies of such regions. Such associations shall not exercise any authority of any type over member departments. Such regional associations may elect officers. Members of the allied orders may hold office within the regional association as determined by membership of that regional association. Such officers of such regional associations shall be entitled to past honors within the order. Badge . . . (Jim talks too fast, and even with a variable speed recorder I have no idea what he is saying about badges) However, such regional association may authorize a past regional association officer's badge at it's discretion and at its own expense.

I move we adopt this new section. It is seconded.

Discussion ensues.

The motion carries.

Past Department commander's badge, amending chapter V, article3, to section10: Departments may allow to be attached to the top of the past department commander's badge as awarded to their department commander so entitled, the Sterling Silver name bar with the name of the past Department Commander. The department may also suspend from that name bar, an appropriate device as adopted by the department as the symbol of the department. Such device shall not exceed the edges of the ribbon of the badge; not shall the device cover more than 50% of the

ribbon of such badge. Departments may undertake this device so long as there is no obligation or expense to the national organization.

Again, I am proposing this to allow something that has been going on for quite some time by the Department of New York.

Moved and seconded to adopt the amendment.

Discussion.

The motion carries.

(Richard Orr) wants to add an Amendment to the regulations in keeping with the regional association.

I recommend, a Department consisting of 20 or more camps and/or more than 500 members is authorized to set up a regional association.

(Richard Orr)I don't have the exact wording because I didn't bring the paper, but that is generally what is intended.

Moved and seconded to accept the amendment. After discussion, the motion carries.

Under Chapter V, general regulations, article 1, definitions, the definition of a blood relative be included for the purposes of interpreting section V of the articles of incorporation, a blood relative is hereby defined as being a direct or collateral descendent of a union veteran, as collateral is defined within these regulations (uncle, not cousin)

Moved and seconded

Discussion.

Richard Orr says he is willing to accept the Grandfather clause amendment.

Grandfather clause means it is only adopted from this day forward and has no bearing on those brought into the order before its adoption

(?)Keith Harrison(?) so moves. It is seconded.

More discussion.

Commander-in-Chief Johnson calls for a vote on the amendment to the regulations. It passes.

Point of order by Parliamentarian. Vote is out of order.

To correct, Commander-in-Chief then calls for a vote on the amendment to the amendment (grandfather clause) it also passes.

That concludes the report of the committee on Constitution and Regulations

Brother Loomis has a guest. Mr. Bowman had his records of his grandfather with him who served with 55<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts. He discovered that his Grandfather had been awarded the Medal of Honor, but it had never been presented.

He is welcomed to tell his story.

About three months ago from the military. They have approved the Medal of Honor for presentation posthumously to my grandfather.

Thank you for your help.

Brother Greg Merkum's report on Americanization is on file (But not given to me.)

Encampment Site Committee Report by PCINC Chuck Corfman

My report is also on file. Next year's encampment will be in Michigan and the following year in Springfield, Missouri. 2002 has been requested Springfield, IL. Ohio has requested 2003, but right now I can't get the hotel we want, so I'm still looking. 2004 for Texas.

That's the latest information we have on it. The contracts for Michigan and Missouri have been signed. The others are still in the preliminary stages, but I'm sure we'll get the OK on that.

Thank you.

Charles Corfman

The Committee on Fraternal Relations by Keith Ashley, PDC, Chairman

I am pleased to report that I have worked diligently within my own department to foster excellent fraternal relations. Though there was a brief problem with a past national president in one of our Allied Orders, this has been very amicably resolved. I have worked hard in order to have good relations between the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War and our order. Ohio has the largest department of this group. They have been very cooperative in working on mutually desirable projects and some urge their order to meet in tandem with our order.

The commander-in-chief has been kept promptly informed as to the names and addresses of the leaders of the other Allied Orders and other Civil War groups. He has also been kept informed as to the locations and dates of the conventions of those groups. Also, the senior vice commander-in-chief has been informed of conventions occurring after this national encampment with the likelihood that he will be our next commander-in-chief, thus allowing him to prepare his schedule.

First, we are most happy that last year's delegate body saw fit to issue an invitation to the National Society Daughters of the Union 1861-1865, not to be confused with our allied Order, the DUV. This group formed in 1912. Though smaller than our other sister organizations, they have been most active in supporting our order in defending Civil War history. I think we

should continue to extend this invitation to these ladies in the future. And I may say, their President, here last night, was simply ecstatic at having a chance to attend our special ceremonies.

Second, it is just as important that a spirit of fraternity be fostered within our own order. The airing of complaints and arguments on the Internet is not a beneficial situation. Though we in no way wish to stem the right of free speech within our organization, the appearance of negativity on the internet is being seen by others not involved in the problems placed on the internet. Those--especially non-members--seeing such material will take a dim view of our truly great organization. I suggest that the delegates consider action by a resolution, which states that all grievances of the membership against any particular person, or persons be expressed in person or by postal mail rather than being placed on the Internet. This would allow the continuation of a discussion of problems while keeping them just between the parties involved.

Third, the committee wishes to be of greater assistance in fostering good fraternal relations between our order and the other Allied Orders and Civil War groups. In order to give that assistance, we ask that the committee be given permission to submit to all departments, a survey of their current relations with such groups. We realize that the relationship between departments with other Civil War groups within their states varies in quality and quantity from state to state.

Fourth, the committee believes that it is in the best interest of our order to have all the Allied Orders meeting in the same Convention City at the same time. We do not necessary feel that all five of the Allied Orders meet in the same hotel due to the difficulty of making the convention arrangements necessary to accomplish this.

Therefore, we ask the national delegate body to issue invitations to the Woman's Relief Corps and the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War to work with our order, our auxiliary, and the Ladies of the GAR to determine mutually acceptable cities in which all the Allied Orders can meet at the same time.

Fifth, so that brothers may have good fraternal relations between departments, the need to know dates, places, and addresses of contact persons of all departments, a need to publish this information is necessary to accomplish this.

In conclusion, the committee urges all departments and camps at-large to contact other Civil War groups when working on projects of mutual interest such as preservation of battlefields, Union soldier's graves, Civil War statues, and similar projects. There is strength in numbers and more good work can be accomplished.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The committee recommends that this delegate body extend an invitation annually for the National Society Daughters of the Union 186 1-1865 to send a representative to our national encampment and that we send representation to their national convention upon their approval to do

so.

There are no objections. It is so ordered.

2. The committee recommends that the national delegate body pass a resolution stating the following: "Any member of the order wishing to state a complaint against a specifically named member of the order shall refrain from placing such messages on the internet due to the negative effect such complaints have. All such complaints will be stated in person or by private postal mail."

Objection

Further discussion. The Internet needs to remain free.

Richard Orr makes a motion to not accept the recommendation of the committee. It is seconded.

The motion carries

3. The committee recommends the permission of the delegate body for the committee to send a fraternal relations survey sheet (copy attached) to each department so that assistance may be given in improving fraternal relations when appropriate.

This would include 6 or 7 questions like, Are you meeting with any other groups? Are you working on any projects with other groups? Which groups are you meeting with? Basically we want to ascertain what is going on so we can do our job better and offer assistance where it's needed.

Is there an objection? Hearing none, the recommendation is approved.

4. The committee recommends that invitations be issued to the Woman's Relief Corps and the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War to find mutually acceptable convention cities and convention dates so that they may meet simultaneously with our order.

This is just an invitation of good will. We just want to invite them. This places no requirement on them.

Objection.

Brief discussion.

Vote on the acceptance of the recommendation? The ayes have it and the motion carries.

5. The committee recommends that encampments of all departments be published once a year in THE BANNER. The dates and places of the encampments will be given as well as the name and address of a contact person from whom to obtain information.

Objection

Discussion ensues

Glenn Knight moves the information be referred to the publisher with the recommendation that the editor publish it. Seconded.

Motion carries.

Legislative Affairs Committee report by Greg Mierka is on file with the appropriate committee

Lincoln Tomb Observance report by Tom Johnson is on file.

National Military Affairs Committee Report by PCINC Bud Atkinson

Commander-in-Chief, I(Bud) would like to postpone my report into tomorrow, if I may. I have a meeting with my committee tonight.

Report of the Program and Policy Committee for 1998-1999 by Danny Wheeler, Chairman

## REPORT OF THE PROGRAM AND POLICY COMMITTEE

The program and Policy Committee is charged with reviewing the orders; forms; job descriptions and rituals. My thanks go out to the committee consisting of Brothers Robert Grimm, Daniel Bunneil, George Powell, and Douglas Park. I want to thank all others who sent comments on forms and job descriptions. The following actions and recommendations are submitted to this encampment:

q Reviewed National Grave Registration Policy. This guide acts as a guide in recording and storage of records of Union Civil War Veteran's graves. A copy of this document is attached.

Job Descriptions for National Civil War Memorials Officer. A copy of this document is attached.

The committee worked on the Illinois proposals. One proposal, which is attached, is as follows. National award for bringing in three or more camps into a department in any given year.

Eagle Scout Certificate has been changed. It now includes the addition of the GAR. Badge and Sons Membership Badge. I had two camera- ready copies made one to finish out the year 1999. One for the years 2000-2099.

It is recommended by this committee that at the next printing our ritual books should include a more appropriate ritual to be used for our departed brothers of this order. I have included in this report the service that was used by the Mass. Department for the funeral of our departed past Commander-in-Chief Clark Mellor. (There is one for funeral home. One for graveside.) In most cases the ritual now being used does not fit the occasion this one does.

q Three new forms our now available for Department, Camps;

1. Proposal form for members to use to submit recommendations.

2. Proposal form for C&R committee to review.
3. Proposal form for C&R changes.

q Designed a new certificate to be used by departments, to present to Past Department Commanders for a job well done.

Received changes to Ritual and Ceremonies and sent two pages of grammar and other corrections etc. to be used for next printing of banner.

Attached to this report is a copy of pamphlet that can be used for Graves Registration Projects. It is suitable to use at recruitment booths, to send out to historical societies, cemeteries etc.

I was handed this last night. This has not been reviewed yet by any of us. I would like to come back to the encampment. Pamphlet is courtesy of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. It is similar to the one being used by Veterans of Foreign Wars. It has been rewritten so no one can get us for copywriting or anything. It has the flag added within it and the history of the flag, and I think would be a very good thing in the future, but it still has to be looked at, so I would like to come back with this later, probably tomorrow morning.

Commander-in-Chief: Is this encampment ready to vote on the recommendations?

Discussion.

Is there a motion?

Bus Atkinson moves that we adopt the Eagle Scout Certificate the way the committee has presented it. It is seconded.

Discussion ensues.

It passes ad seriatim.

Do you want me to go through these, Commander-in-Chief?

Yes.

The first one I'm going to put out is form 22. What we did with for 22 is we changed it so that it is all on one sheet. It's very visible and has more lines. What we did was add the email address. That way anyone in the order that's been elected to a camp office then goes to department, will always have the email addresses and phone numbers and that type of thing. So I think this will make us more efficient.

You are proposing the adoption of this recommendation?

Yes, I am.

Is there an objection?

Objection.

Discussion.

Richard Orr moves to adopt all the forms in this recommendation.

Seconded.  
Discussion ensued.

Motion carries.

Richard Orr: Aren't items a, b, and c the same as we went over this morning?

Danny Wheeler: they are, but we can go over them again if that's what the body wants.

About the changes to the rituals and ceremonies book, all of those have been sent to the quartermaster so that they are there when they get ready to do the next printing. So, that's pretty self-explanatory.

Jim Pahl: Objection. Were these changes given to the Rituals and Ceremonies Committee?

Danny Wheeler: They were sent there, yes, but I don't know what's happened to them.

Jim Pahl: I, therefore, think they should be given to the committee for their review and then brought to our attention.

Yes.

Next is the job descriptions.

The group agrees it's already been done this AM, so there is no need.

Danny Wheeler: I'm just going down through the page, so if there is something you want to do, we'll do it.

Move to table the job descriptions. Seconded  
Motion carries.

Certificate of membership and the only thing we've done to that, is change it for the year 2000. It hasn't changed. We're getting it ready for the next century.

Richard Orr(?) All forms have been approved and this is a form.

Next is the National Graves Registration Policy  
We have not had a policy statement. We will have one now and it will be read to us.

This policy acts as a guide in the recording and storage of records of Union Civil War Veteran's graves.

A. The design of the National Grave Registration Project shall be for the recording and maintaining of the database that holds the grave, burial or grave

monument information on all Union Civil War Veterans serving during 1861 - 1866. and the maintaining of a storage area for all hard copies of the grave registration forms, books, booklets and other Camp or Department records of these grave sites.

B. A dBASE III compatible database or Microsoft Access shall be used. Two versions shall be maintained; one the main database holding all of the records and a second as a Data Entry version available for transmission to Camps. Departments or individuals to use. All data recorded in the latter shall be forwarded to the main database for entry. It is at that point that the grave is considered to be recorded.

All records from the main database shall be backed up in no less than two separate locations in a .txt format. Copies of the database shell shall be maintained in the same fashion.

1- Mission: To complete the recording of the burial locations or final resting places of the Union Civil War Veterans. To make available at the end of the Project, the full data in CD form, to any and all public and private libraries, veterans, genealogy and related organizations, and offer to the general public. To make some of the data fields, but not all, available online at our website for the purpose of promotion of the project and the Order. In this manner we can increase membership and promote the Project.

2. The Project is the gathering of information that can be used to complete a record. There are many areas of resources that are open to the Project. Records completed in the past by the GAR, WPA, and other organizations can be used as a starting point. An effort should be made to visit the grave to record the stone/marker condition and flagholder. Many stones have a wealth of information on them, all useful in registering the Veteran. Use of records in the cemetery, town/city hall, libraries, historical society and other veteran's organizations can be very helpful. Strong emphasis should be on getting as much information into the records as possible.

This project has been done on smaller scales in the past by others and it needs to be done right this time and leave a finished, accurate project that will not have to be done again.

3. Objective -The only way this project can be completed is to have involvement of as many members as possible. The Departments and Camps must maintain active Grave Registration Officers and be active in the project. The National should provide as much assistance as possible. This means, but is not limited to, keeping updated, user friendly Grave Registration forms, providing copies of the "Grave Data Entry Database" to all Camps that ask for it, along with clear, informative instructions on its use and troubleshooting guidelines. Co-ordination is a must to avoid duplication of areas covered. This rests upon the Department and Camp GRO's.

Department Grave Registration Officers should work with the Camps to keep from repeating areas already completed, and should also encourage the use of winter months and poor weather to spend time in libraries, town/city halls or any other location that maintains records to add information to the records that we are recording. (example: dates of

death/birth, enlistment/discharge, etc.)

As in the 1998 National Encampment recommendations, we will try to keep members aware of progress through a small list in the Banner of total number of records entered to date. A dBASE III database should be developed for any member who does not possess the Access program currently being used.

Objection.

Technical problems. All records must be dBase compatible.

A motion is made to refer this to the Council of Administration.

Seconded.

Discussion ensued.

Motion carries; it is referred to the Council of Administration.

Remembrance Day Report by PCINC Bud Atkinson

As far as Remembrance Day is concerned, it is all under control. Every thing is set up, due to the good work of Charlie Kuhn, who has been my leg-man in Gettysburg. We have the advertisements out on Remembrance Day; we have applications out to the troops on Remembrance Day, November 20. The program will be the same as last year. We've got the same marching route. Every thing is ready. All we need is for you all to come. Parade will fall in at noon and will start at 1:00. As far as hotel rooms, you're on your own. From last December, all rooms were sold out already.

Thank you.

1999 GAR Memorial by Gary Gibson.

We will pass that one for now and go to

Communications and Technology by Brother Knight

Communications and technology yields to the floor.

Real Sons and Daughters by Brother Jerry Orton.

His report is on file and his recommendations will be forwarded to the proper committee.

Scholarship Committee by Brother Robert Grimm

Commander, your scholarship committee beg leave to submit the following report. We awarded two scholarships in the amount of \$1000 to two deserving students. Students who desire scholarships from the Sons of Union Veterans contact the Commander for application forms. The forms, with supporting documents are returned to the committee for evaluation. A total of 12 students

submitted applications to the committee for evaluation. After examining the applications, the committee recommended to the Commander-in-Chief that he award the scholarships to Mark G. Wineship(?) and Michael Ray VonDilling(?)[speaker sounds as if he has a mouth full of marbles]. Mark is from Coventry, RI, and plans to attend Colby College. He served as President of his High School Honor Society. He was Casptain of the varsity soccer team. He was involved ijnj track and volunteered for the Special Olympics. He served as a RI State senate page and as a mentor for the UN debate team. He received the national Presidential Scholar Award and his father is Charles\_\_\_\_\_Treasurer of the RI Department. Michael is from \_\_\_PA and is studying at the college of engineering at Penn State University. He was Captain of his high school soccer team, a member of the (current)team. He also participated in the marching band. He was a volunteer at the cememtary. He has been a Civil War reenactor since the age of 12. He was the drummer boy in a documentary film about Antietam. His Grandfather. . . Camp 43, Department of Pennsylvania.

It is our recommendation that the scholarship committee be continued to allow the Commander-in-Chief more time to attend to the work of the order.

Thank you.

Thank you, Brother Grimm. About your recommendation. I believe your committee is a standing committee, so it will be there for other Commanders to use.

Digest Committee by Jim Pahl

I recommend the committee by continued for another year.

Thank you.

Moved, seconded and passed

1999 GAR Commemoration by Brother Gibson

I'd like to keep things brief, so I think I will let yesterday and last night speak for itself. I have a rather lengthy report to appear in the Proceedings(He didn't share it with me.)

Ed Krieser is the man responsible for everything.

Check the next issue of the Banner for the history of the 1949 encampment and what happened in the Ballroom that night.

It is my contention that the city of Indianapolis did not want us to have a parade for the very start. First of all, they put up road blocks that were virtually impossible to overcome and finally we capitulated.

We had a beautiful ceremony yesterday. We wanted to bring the US Marine band here, but that would have cost \$10,000. So we scrapped that idea.

We also wanted to bring the GAR flags, the seal crest and the gavel back from the Smithsonian. They were turned over to the Smithsonian after the 1949 encampment. I spent several months and many frustrating phone calls, trying to get the Smithsonian to let us bring them here. For several reasons they decided not to let us do that. I tried to get permission to get them photographed, but the answer was that the flags were in too poor a condition to even be photographed. Brother Orr thought the flags were in pretty good shape when they left here in 1949.

I have one recommendation, that the incoming Commander-in-Chief appoint a special taskforce to visit the Smithsonian and find out what just what kind of shape the GAR items are in, and report to the Council of Administration.

Recommendation is approved.

Discussion re stamps in the Hallway.

### **Proceedings Editor Report**

Three Proceedings have been printed, 1984, 1985 and 1989. A fourth, 1987, has been sent to the printer. The 1990, 1991, 1992, and 1994 are in various phases of being completed in a camera-ready state (ranging anywhere from 50% to 95% completed). The 1996, 1997 and 1998 material have been received from the transcriptionist but have not yet been started in terms of reformatting and final editing. The 1995 Proceedings (of course, my year as Commander-in-Chief) have not yet been received; though I understand it will be soon. As mentioned in my June report, this whole project was delayed unnecessarily for almost five months (I never began receiving material until February). This, as far as my ability to spend time doing these, was extremely critical time lost. As I anticipated back then, I was involved in writing several science reports for the Governor of Michigan and have had to stop all work on the Proceedings. I am now working on them again as my other workload has been reduced. The earliest that I will be able to again work on these will be mid August.

To date, and this is probably more important, I have had 29 people (many of whom are not even members) from all over this country retyping and scanning various Proceedings materials into an electronic format and then sending me the final product via email. Included in this number were also several locating missing Proceedings reports? All 29 individuals had responded to my request for assistance on our Web Site. All 29 people have done this without charge to either the Order or me. They all need to be recognized by the Order.

And I will read their names: Celeste Lewis, Alan Loomis, Ed Krieser, Gordon R Bury, Richard Orr, Jim Pahl, Lowell Hammer, Robert Woltz, Glenn Knight, Rebecca Pratt, John Heseltine, Sandi Crawford, Brian Peters, Michael Bennett, Carole Mason, Ed Gusman, Charles Christian, Peter Johnston, William Morgan, James Loudon, Timothy Downey, Marianne Hughes, Martha Hittler, Dan Combs, Bill Moulton, Kathy Baker, Jay Peterson, Mrs. Robert Coker, Pauli Kelley.

In addition to printing, each of the completed Proceedings is and the others, upon completion will be made available in a zip file on our FTP Central Web Page. The 1996 Prepared Proceedings (1982, 1988 and 1994) are currently available there and the 1999 Prepared Proceedings (1984, 1985, and 1989) are already on the zip file and can be pulled down. I also have with me the printed copies of 1984, 1985 and 1989 for those delegates. I have a list of delegates who were there. You have already paid for them. If you pick those up I will cross your name off. The remaining Proceedings I am going to give to Bud and I believe the policy is that there will be a charge for anyone who wants to buy them.

Thank you.

Commander-in-Chief: Thank you, Brother Keith, and thanks to your brigade of volunteers. We would not have made this much progress with out you. Certificates of Appreciation have been prepared for all those folks and some have been distributed to those who are here. Others will be mailed to those folks who are not even members. (Thanks for including me, Keith, though I have not received one--yet.) We greatly appreciate them and I am expressing your thanks to all the people who have helped pull together a very long series of Proceedings that should have been done long ago. I recall that I was asked to write a letter to a man in Manhole, PA who allegedly had a stack of Proceedings and materials. Of course, there is no such place as Manhole, PA, but the letter got through to the individual anyway.

We have spent a good deal of time collecting parts of 'would-be' Proceedings over this year and we have them in hand now. They're all going to be published and you're going to get you hands on them and I think that's a wonderful thing. Including the Proceedings from this session, which are next in line.

#### Chief of Staff Report by Steve Leicht

I would like to thank Commander Johnson for having the confidence in my abilities and choosing me as his Chief of Staff for a second term. It has been an honor to serve this Organization over the past years as Chief of Staff. I would like to thank all the Committee Chairmen who have worked with me throughout the year.

Over this past year, I represented the Organization at the Lincoln Memorial Ceremony in Springfield Illinois, Jefferson Barracks National

Cemetery on Memorial Day and at Glenwood Cemetery in Collinsville, Illinois.

As Chief of Staff I have tried my best to fulfill my duties throughout the year as directed in the National Job descriptions. I hope that I lived up to the expectations of Commander Johnson.

Last year I prepared the Department information packets and handed them out to Department Commanders at the 117<sup>th</sup> National Encampment. We have received nothing but praises and positive responses about the packets, and all of those Commanders who have responded to me have been grateful. I would also like to thank Steve Michaels (please stand up, Steve) Steve has designed the \_\_\_\_\_ ?? \_\_\_\_\_ ?? From the Department of Michigan and I want to thank Brother Michaels for the work he has done.

(Sorry. Marble-Mouth disease in the advanced stages. And even my variable speed recorder with all its filters cannot hear what this was about.)

It has been my pleasure serving this Organization and I hope that my work as Chief of Staff made a difference once again, to help the Sons of Union Veterans move forward.

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

Steven Leicht  
National Chief of Staff

Commander-in-Chief: Thank you, Steve, for your fine work as Chief of Staff. The Secretary and the Chief of Staff have one of the hardest jobs in the organization, which is pulling information and reports out of Department. Steve has done a good job.

Point 9 on the agenda

Unknown speaker fails to use microphone. Is talking about his report and a recommendation he failed to give verbally, but it is included in the written report. A good thing since I can't hear him.

Commander-in-Chief observes that there is no objection and the recommendation is approved ad seriatim, subject to change of course, depending on hotels.

Individuals and Departments may now present Resolutions, Communications and Appeals according to the C&R. those will be referred to the proper convention committees without debate. I have received many through the mails.

David Hahn has two communications to share with the organization. (Unfortunately, he does not use a microphone and does not speak distinctly.)

The first one is something about a big historic national battlefield

The first one is something about a big historic national battlefield

The second one is from the Cathedral in the Pines, thanking us for the donation of \$100

Lets go to Resolutions.

This one has already been covered. It's from the Vermont Department about the Eagle scout Certificate, the Badge and the flag.

The next one: Whereas the National Organization Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War has been unable to set up a national numbering system. This is basically a numbering system for the Sons.

Commander in Chief: Refer to the appropriate Committee, Programs and Policy

Discussion ensues

I think we can dispense with this one also. The Department of Illinois is requesting to host the 2002 Encampment at Springfield.

This one is about identifying the wearing of badges, from the Department of Wisconsin; it s basically a one sheet handout showing what is and whay isn't a badge of the order.

This one is from the department of Maryland resolution to change the Constitution.

Commander in Chief: That one has already been handled. He asks the Secretary to read faster. David reads faster and becomes more unintelligible.

Another about national officers, but I have no idea what about them  
Several others, totally unintelligible

All are referred to committee.

Are there any other communications to be brought before this body to be referred to committee.?

Protracted discussion about Appeals process.

Announcements

A break to allow the convention committees to do their work.

Leftover from yesterday's reports is the report of the National Military Affairs Committee by PCIC Bud Atkinson

Once again, this will be a short one. The Military Affairs Committee had very little to do this year, due to the command of General Medert. There were only two things we had to make decisions on and those were two promotions. We had the committee meeting last night, and once again the General brought up the change that we would like.

So I now have to present it to the encampment. This recommendation has the approval of the committee.

We want to amend the SOP, Article II, section 5, that we will add the position of Command Sergeant Major. There are no enlisted men on the staff. This would give the enlisted man a chance. So, we're going to ask your permission to make this change.

It is moved, seconded, passed.

Bring the general up to give you a report on how the SVR has grown

The SVR has enjoyed a growth in membership and use. At the National Encampment in Harrisburg we reported a membership of 556 members. It has now grown to 609 members with 4 existing units yet to report. If they report as they did last time, our membership will have grown to 673. We have added the following units to the SVR: Company G, 43<sup>rd</sup> Massachusetts, volunteer infantry; Company F, 27<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania volunteer infantry; and Company G, 20<sup>th</sup> Kentucky volunteer infantry.

Distribution of Officers on active duty is as follows (and this is just a base of 609 members) We have one General, 4 colonels, 2 Lt. Colonels, 5 majors, 9 captains, 24 Lieutenants for a total of 45 officers in the SVR. The units are in the process of forming. . .in Washington, PA, and Ten. Lt. Herschberger requests transfer to the inactive reserve in Nov. of 1998. This was approved and Robert Grim was given the rank of Lt. Colonel. The military affairs committee has also approved the position of historian for the SVR. There is no rank assigned to this position, We are trying to get some more history of the SVR from our existing units. Brother Walls has been appointed to chair the position. We are requesting that all SVR units contact him and provide him with the history of their unit and their on-going activities. Further, if anyone has any information pertaining to the SVR and its activities, especially the early years, please contact him. Brother Wall, please stand up. He has provided me a lot of information.

Since Aug, 1998 there have been 13 General Orders and 2 Special Orders. The annual Remembrance Day Parade was a success. We followed tradition with the Union troops participating with the Confederates at the High Wall, followed by Hands across the wall.

Meritorious service awards were given to Col. Ernst von Frankenburg, Capt. John Price, and Capt. Joe Carruthers. Letter of Commendation Awards to Cpl.

Jerry Crawford and Cpl. George Fairer(??)Of the Gettysburg Blues and we are proud that the Gettysburg Blues were the first recipients of the Commanding officer's Unit Citation for 1998 for their active role in perpetuating the principles and objects of the Sons. I want to thank personally all members of the SVR for their support this year, for their commitment and loyalty has enabled the SVR to enjoy the growth we are experiencing and through their enthusiasm, we anticipate a better organization as we enter the next Millennium.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Medert, Commander

Bud Atkinson: One more piece of business; it seems the Commander-in-Chief has been getting some inquiries from some of the troops in the western states. They would like to see a ceremony similar to the one we have on Remembrance Day. The Commander-in-Chief charged me to look into the possibilities of this. I'm 100% for this as long as it isn't too close to Remembrance Day.

Every year in Petersburg, Illinois they run a GAR memorial date, and it's during the second week of April, pretty close to the Death Day of Lincoln. I've been working with Brother Kelly and it's a possibility that we could have an encampment there like on a Saturday, Sun., and join with the town and have a parade into the cemetery where Stephenson is buried.. This is still in the planning stage, so if anybody else has any ideas, please contact me.

But whatever we do, there's people out there going to find out what it takes to put on Remembrance Day. We been doing it for 42 years, and every year, right after, we got to start planning for the next year.

I've got tickets to the Ball at Gettysburg.

Any other National Officer or standing report that I have overlooked before we move onto item #11 on the agenda.

#### Election of Officers

Commander-in-Chief: Reads the rules of elections.

Credentials Committee will make its final report.

185 registered brothers—the most anyone can remember.

Elections are held.

I did not transcribe the election tape. If you need or want it, I will. Let me know.

#### Item #12 The Reports of Convention Committees

Officer Recommendations; PCINC Richard Orr

#### **Richard Orr**

To the 118<sup>th</sup> Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, this is the Report of the Encampment Committee on Officers Reports:

First, we would like to commend the Commander-in-Chief and all the other National Officers for their excellent reports and for the work they've done for the order throughout the year. They have made a number of recommendations.

We will begin with the Commander-in-Chief.

1. Print the customary memorial pages in the Proceedings memorializing Commander-in-Chiefs Russell and Mellor(?)

The committee concurs.

Commander-in-Chief, I move that the recommendations of the committee, as they are presented be approved ad seriatim where there is no objection.

Seconded and passed.

The recommendation concerning the Memorial pages is approved.

The second recommendation is to streamline our intake of new members at the national level.

We concur and note that the encampment has already done that.

Passed ad seriatim

Third, pursue our inquiries to the Mayor of Harrisburg, PA to determine if its museum will be a suitable site for our National Headquarters.

We concur.

Fourth, continue the study of an event to coincide with and complement the Lincoln Death Day commemorative at Springfield Illinois.

We concur.

Hearing no objections, it is approved.

Fifth, provide financial resources for a nationwide program to contact cemeteries, historical societies, and libraries, emphasizing our interest in preserving civil war graves, memorial and monuments.

We concur with the philosophy and the thought, however, we recommend it be referred to the Council of Administration because it will require the expenditure of funds.

No objections: approved

Sixth, continue our program to honor persons who restore and preserve Civil War graves and memorials, and records.

We concur.

Seventh, aggressively pursue the printing of National Encampment Proceedings to completion.

We concur.

No objections; approved

Eighth, advertise in the Banner for candidates for the executive director position and fill that position expeditiously.

We concur, but recommend this go to the council of administration because they will be the ones hiring or contracting.

No objection, approved.

Ninth, continue the electronic commerce surveillance program and enlist the cooperation of other veterans' organizations to take similar initiatives.

We concur.

Hearing no objections; approved.

Tenth, adopt as national policy the proposed policy statements on Graves Registration.

We're going to split number 10; that's 10a

We've already referred the policy to the Council of Administration so we are tabling 10a.

10b. Adopt as national policy the proposed policy statements on civil war monument preservation charging the departments to influence policy.

We concur

Hearing no objections; approved.

Eleventh, Renew our resolution to support a flag protection amendment, remembering our promise to the GAR in our initiation to the order.

The committee voted three to one not to concur.

Objection.

Brother Wheeler will you take the chair, symbolically

Impassioned speech pro flag amendment by the Commander-in-Chief

Andrew Johnson moves to adopt the resolution as proposed.

It is seconded.

Discussion

The motion is to move the question (David Hahn) and seconded

Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief, Jim's going to tell you the same thing. The motion is to move the question. You're voting on whether or not you want to vote.

If you vote it down, you can continue the debate. If you vote in the affirmative, we then have to vote the motion.

Voting is loud.

Sr. Vice Commander –in- Chief: We will continue the debate.

More heated discussion

Parliamentarian: The motion before the body is the Commander-in-Chief's motion, not the motion to concur with the committee.

We will take a standing vote.

The motion carries. There were more standing than sitting down.

Parliamentarian, Jim Pahl: Point of order. During the debate I heard a number of you calling out motions. Motions can only be made by the speaker who has the floor. If you want to make a motion, stand at the microphone, be recognized and make your motion. To terminate debate is a motion.

That concludes the commander-in-chief's recommendations.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief has four recommendations in his report.

1. The first one has two parts:

1a. Put the on-line form back on line. We concur.

No objections: approved.

2. To establish a uniform application fee of first year dues at the National level, a \$10 application fee and \$25.00 for dues with the check being forwarded to the department for new members.

We concur.

Objections, hearing none it is approved.

3. Recommends that we look into funding our Banner with advertising. It could free up funds.

While we agree with the need, the final method of funding the Banner to a certain extent, there are tax complications of advertising. We therefore recommend this be referred to the Council of Administration.

In reviewing with others it is felt that a five-year plan is not feasible. It was first proposed in 1995, and to date we have done nothing with it. I recommend that we scrap this or set up a special committee to do it next year.

The committee on officer's reports recommends that we refer this to the incoming commander-in-chief.

The next on attend to raising funds for the Banner, that we look into a binder with our logo on it, the profits to go to the Banner to be used for extra copies to be sold at camps, departments, etc.

The committee recommends that we refer this to the quartermaster to find out if he has room in his house to store them.

Hearing no objections; approved.

Recommendations of the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Six recommendations:

1. Support resolution to establish a one-time membership fee of \$15 for those who use the on-line form.

Since the camp has already dealt with the proposal, we felt there was no need for action on this. Basically, this recommendation is tabled.

2. The Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief of each department make contact with the prospective member within two weeks of being notified by the Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief.

We concur, but all wondered how we were going to enforce it.

Hearing no objection; approved

3. The Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief send to all camps and departments names, addresses, phone numbers, email address of all inquiries for membership instead of mailing brochures and applications out.

With the new procedure adopted by this encampment for handling such inquiries, the recommendation was adopted so no action was necessary.

No objections; approved.

4. A special edition of the Banner is printed and made available to each department and camp at cost to be placed in locations where the general public is waiting for services. It should have a contact person's name and phone number on it.

We agreed with the intent. We recommend it be referred to the publisher and the Council of Administration to determine if it is financially feasible and if the editor has the ability to produce a special edition.

Hearing no objections; approved

5. Complimentary copy of the Banner be sent to all widows of commanders-in-chiefs.

We concur with that.

No objections; approved

The second half of that is that a complimentary copy be sent to all past department commanders.

In looking at the potential cost of this, it seems it would cost between \$400-\$500 with every issue and therefore did not concur with that part.

No objections; approved.

6. That the Eagle Scout certificate have the American Flag placed on it. The encampment has already acted on that, so no action is necessary.

Recommendations of the National Treasurer

1. Recommend that the National Regulations be amended to state that the departments and camps can not form subsidiary corporations without the express written consent of the Council of Administration.

We concur in the modification and refer it to the Constitution and Regulations Committee for drafting of the appropriate language.

No objections; approved.

National Membership-at-Large Coordinator—no recommendations

National Patriotic instructor

1. Recommend that the Patriotic programs that he has prepared be maintained as the start of a library of patriotic material for distribution to camps and departments.

We concur.

Hearing no objection; approved.

National Historian

1. The project of cataloging GAR record should be continued.

We concur.

No objections; approved.

2. The Banner and website should be utilized to encourage members to report any findings.

We are referring this to the publisher and the technology committee. We are again concerned about dictating to the editor what will go in the Banner. This should be at the discretion of the publisher.

3. Each camp and department should have an historian to work locally.

Each camp and department are already required to have an historian by the C & R. No action.

4. If a national officer is working on a special project, he should have an open invitation to attend a Council of Administration meeting. Council of Administration meetings are open to any member. There is no guarantee that you will be allowed to speak. There is no action necessary.
5. If a project is assigned, an appropriate amount should be budgeted for that purpose.

Generally, this has been done, but if it's referring to postage and other expenses, the policy drafted by the national treasurer and adopted by the Council of Administration as published in the Banner says the Brother will be reimbursed upon submission of appropriate receipts.

Signals officer.

1. Because all new technologies must be approved for funding by the Council of Administration, it is then logical that they should be involved in the beta testing of new technology. Such has not been the case, and as a result, no action has been taken on technological initiatives this year. Unless the Council is willing to review recommendations brought by the National Signals Officer, that officer is simply wasting his time and the position should be eliminated.

The committee did not concur with the elimination of the position and suggested that the Signal Officer and the Technology Committee needed to educate the members of the Council of Administration on what they needed.

No objection; approved

2. The National Policy of Database Management passed last year but has been totally ignored and if that is the will of the leadership; the policy should be revoked.

It is the recommendation of the committee that the policy not be revoked, but rather that those involved with the data bases be informed that they must comply with the existing policy.

No objection; approved.

3. For twenty years we have complained that the Proceedings were not being done, but nothing was done about it. Suitable recognition should be given to Commander-in-Chief Johnson, for pushing the issue, PCIC Harrison for bringing it all together and national Proceedings Secretary Rebecca Pratt for contributing hundreds of hours beyond what she was paid for to actually move the project.

We concur with this and refer it to the incoming Commander-in-Chief for appropriate recognition.

No objections; approved

And that concludes the report of the Committee on Officers Reports

Jim Pahl: you missed one in my report.

Richard Orr: Whoops! Which report was that in?

Jim Pahl: Treasurer's Report, I think.

R. Orr: Well, you couldn't list them as recommendations like everybody else. I guess we're supposed to dig for them.

Jim Pahl: [Tongue out to give 'raspberries']. Much merriment.

R Orr: I'll read this then I have to have a minute to poll my committee.

Treasurer's Recommendation

Proposed amendment: Chapter III, Article VI Finance, Section 8 (new) There shall be established a Civil War Memorial Preservation Fund to assist in the establishment or the preservation of Civil War monuments and memorials. This fund shall be available in grants, in blocks of \$500.00 or less, upon application of the various Departments and Camps of the Order. The Council of Administration shall establish a committee consisting of the three general members of the Council of Administration, to receive applications and make recommendations to the full Council of Administration as to which applications should be funded. Should principal and interest remain in the fund after all grant applications are considered each year, the Council of Administration shall make additional grants, to the exhaustion of the fund, to help further fund previously approved grant applications. \$1.00 of the per capita tax collected from each brother of the Order shall be deposited into this fund annually.

The committee concurs

Objection to the objection. More objections. Discussion of many Brothers all at once.

Vote: the amendment fails

Keith: The tape machine doesn't work well when everyone talks at one time. I have listened over and over with all kinds of filters, but still don't know what really happened. I can plainly hear a vote on the amendment, and they clearly & loudly voted no. More discussion, which I can't hear, and then I can plainly hear commander-in-Chief Johnson call for a vote on the motion. The motion passed. What you have below is taken from my notes on the laptop.

Move, seconded and passed that the amendment be referred to committee on C&R

Resolutions Committee, Robt. Grimm

This committee has one resolution from the Department of Ohio requesting that the encampment express its support of the US Government is recognizing the graves of veterans at a place called Dead Man's Island. The resolution says that the Dept. of Ohio of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War has been made aware of a cemetery on Melville Island, also called Dead Man's Island or Target Hill, which is located in the Northwest arm of Halifax Harbor in Nova Scotia, Canada. This site contains the remains of 195 Americans who died as prisoners of war by the British Empire in the War of 1812. The Dept. of Ohio feels that any desecration of this sacred place would dishonor the memory of these patriots. And the Dept. of Ohio believes that the US Government should properly mark the cemetery. It is resolved that the Dept. of Ohio of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War requests that the united States be actively involved in the preservation of the Island where American servicemen gave the supreme sacrifice and a suitable monument be erected thereon. So they are requesting that we encourage the government to mark this location.

The committee concurs.

We also recommend that the Secretary be directed at the end of this encampment to send the necessary Resolutions of Courtesy to the following groups and individuals????????????? (No individuals or groups were forth coming, or at least this transcriber didn't hear any.)

Motion by Richard Orr to adoption of the resolution with direction to the Secretary that he also sends copies of the Resolution to the President of the United States and the President Protem of the Senate and the Speaker of the House.

Seconded.

No discussion. Vote on the motion. The motion carries.

The committee also recommends Courtesy Resolutions that normally follow an encampment of this sort. We would like to direct the secretary to send resolutions or letters of thanks and appreciation for the hospitality and courtesy they've extended to the commander-in-Chief and to the delegates of this encampment, to the Adams Mark Hotel, the city of Indianapolis, the Dept of Indiana, and the encampment committee, and to the GAR convention committee who prepared the program the other night.

No objections; so ordered.

Constitution and Regulations by the Honorable James Pahl

Fasten your seatbelts.

"Pay attention to me boy. I'm not just talking to hear my head roar"

1. From the Dept. of Mass: To amend the national regulations, Chapter II, Section 3 which currently states:" The National Council of Administration shall have authority to grant exceptions to the dates prescribed in the Regulations

for camp elections and installation of officers when requested for adequate reasons by a department.” Move to change this to “the Department Commander shall have authority to grant exceptions to the dates prescribed by the regulations for installation and election of officers when requested for adequate reasons by the camp.”

The committee does not concur.

Are there objections? Hearing none; approved.

2. From the Department of Massachusetts: To amend the National Regulations, Chapter III, Article 3, to add sections 5 and 6:
  - q Section 5 would read,” Elections of National Officers will be the last order of business of the National Encampment if the elections have reasonable expectations of being held before 9:00 PM on the last day of that National Encampment. If not, the election of National officers shall be held at 4:00 PM on the last day of the National Encampment.
- Section 6, “The newly installed officers of the National Organization the Sons of Union Veteran of the Civil War shall not assume their respective duties of office until after the adjournment of the National Encampment.” It would also then amend by reference the Rituals and Ceremonies of the Order of Business be modified to allow for a change in the order of business as described above.

The committee does not concur. The Regulations set out the order of business of the National Encampment. The final sentence allows that order to be altered in any fashion, except for the installation of officers, which shall be the last item of business. Once that installation takes place, the incoming and new commander-in-chief then gets to close the encampment. Because we already have language in place that allows the commander-in-chief the discretion to alter the agenda to suit the needs of a particular encampment, and in order to continue to recognize the ability of the incoming commander-in-chief to take the gavel and then to close the encampment, the committee does not concur. The previous sentence is way too long and complex; however, it is exactly what was said.

Commander-in-Chief: The agenda we are operating under now is a flexible agenda.

Hearing no objection; approved

3. From the Dept. of Pennsylvania to amend the constitution: Article VI, Formation and Disbandment, Section 3. The amendment to read, “ A Department consisting of at least 3 camps may be formed by the authority by the authority of the Commander-in-Chief.”
  - q On the same issue was submitted by the Department of Michigan, “a provisional department may be created by states having 3 or more camps.”

- q The committee prefers the Pennsylvania proposal to change the language of the constitution, Article VI, Section 3, with the notation, an instruction, that this encampment would have to approve the amendment by 2/3 vote. It is then sent to the Departments and does not become effective until at least 50% of the Departments ratify that at their next encampment and it is published in General Orders.

The committee concurs with the Pennsylvania recommendation and moves to table the Michigan recommendation.

And I would so move that the Pennsylvania recommendation be adopted.

Seconded

Discussion.

Hearing no discussion, those in favor of the constitutional amendment, stand please.

Those opposed?

The motion carries.

Jim Pahl will research the question raised by Glenn Knight as to whether it must be ratified at the annual department meeting or if another department meeting is OK. He will inform the Departments of his findings.

4. Again from the Department of PA to amend the constitution Section IV, Disbandment: Basically this is to eliminate that section and rather than renumber everything else, just place after the word section IV, the word reserve. The committee notes that this is consistent with action taken by last year's encampment to modify the regulations of the order, deleting provisional camps which we just did, also deleting the language provisional department.

The committee concurs, but again this requires 2/3 vote and then ratified by the department.

Jim Pahl moves that the amendment be adopted.

Seconded

The motion carries.

5. Again to amend the constitution, Article VIII, Section 2, Permanent Funds, add the language following New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange, the NASDAQ, and delete the following—" Or are registered under the so-called 'blue-sky' laws in the state where such corporations or trusts are located." A little background, last year's encampment, in fact this year's Council of Administration will be paying the services of professional investment advisors. The way that the current limitation exists in the constitution as to the permanent fund, limits how we can invest the funds of the order for growth, so I don't have to come back and ask for a per capita tax increase. By adding that we can invest with the American Stock Exchange and NASDAQ gives us a little more flexibility by deleting the language "under the blue sky laws, (there is only one state right now that has blue sky laws on the books, and if you ask that state which corporations comply with the Blue-Sky laws, they don't know, they don't keep track. These were laws left over

from the depression.)

The committee concurs and I so move that we adopt it.  
Seconded.

Motion approved by unanimous vote.

6. To amend the national regulations, Chapter V, Article 1, Section 3; Definitions. Amend \_\_\_\_\_ (?) The encampment has already agreed to amend this, so no action needs to be taken
  
7. To amend national regulations, Chapter II, Article IV, proposed new Section G, "No Brother may be elected to more than 3 consecutive terms as Department Commander, nor may any Brother be elected to a term as Department Commander, which would result in him serving more than 45 consecutive month as Department Commander. That second case would cover the case of Sr. Vice being moved up to Department Commander because of the resignation, death or otherwise of the Department Commander, so it would limit it to either 3 years or 45 months.

The committee concurs.

I (Jim Pahl) so move that this body adopt that resolution.  
Seconded.  
Discussion.

Richard Orr: Commander-in-Chief, the copy that was forwarded to you was missing this sentence. \_\_\_\_\_?

Ed.note: The tape ran out and I missed the sentence. The new tape started in time for me to hear them vote in favor of the amendment.

I assume the missing sentence was the amendment and that it was moved by Richard Orr to be included. Of course, that may be a very big assumption on my part. Perhaps Richard has the missing sentence??

Discussion re the original

The vote is in favor of adopting the resolution.

8. This is not a change to the regulations, but it is from the Department of Ohio and was referred to this committee:" Whereas the Constitution and Regulations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War requires all camps and departments to have a seal, and whereas the National Organization has failed to provide a source of camp and department seals, despite repeated requests. Therefore, the Ohio Department asks the National Encampment to eliminate the requirement for camp and Department Seals, or find a source and provide them.

The committee notes:

1. We do not believe that the Constitution and Regulations require the

Department or Camp to have a Seal; it merely defines what that seal shall be, and

2. We note that there is a source for seals, although they are expensive, but there is a source for seals through the National Quartermaster.

The committee recommends that this matter be referred to the Council of Administration and the National Quartermaster to explore more feasible sources.

Hearing no objection; approved.

That concludes the report of the Encampment Committee.

The encampment Budget Committee has no report because nothing was referred to the committee.

The Committee on Appeal

PCINC Medert please make your report.

As far as I can find, our committee received one appeal, and that was Department of Massachusetts. We did not receive one from Missouri or on the Washington thing.

So the Department of Massachusetts submitted an appeal. The Department of Massachusetts requests and petitions the National Commander-in-Chief to accept as time served the sentence given to Past Massachusetts Department Commander Tucker the sentence given by Richard Orr, PCINC.

The Department of Massachusetts requests and petitions the National Commander-in-Chief to restore full rank and privilege to Brother Frank Tucker without prejudice of any kind effective immediately upon the approval of the Commander-in-Chief and the National Encampment at the aforementioned National Encampment, August 19, 1999.

We had a lengthy discussion on this and came up with this suggestion. We suggest that the penalty be changed to five years from the date of suspension, rather than the original ten. We recommend the restoration of past ranks and any past honors, but do not recommend that he can hold any future office.

Richard Orr: The General Order was that he could not hold any elected office at the camp, Department or National level, no appointed office at the Department or National levels for 10 years and based on an 1890 ruling by the then Commander-in-Chief that upon conviction of any disciplinary action, all past honors are lost, and not subject to restoration.

Richard Orr: We had a ruling last year that once a Commander-in-Chief's ruling is appealed to the Commander-in-Chief, it is not subject to review by any future Commander-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief: Thank you. I will ask that the Parliamentarian verify that ruling.

Jim Pahl: Brother Orr, do you have a section number on that? I know the new article on Discipline has such language. I did not find it in the old article on discipline, which I think is applicable in this case.

General Hubub

Visitation by the Ladies

Jim Pahl: The advantage Mr. Orr has over me is that my mind and brain are shot (presuming I had one in the first place.)

I refer the Brothers to the Constitution of the Order, Article V Section III. "The National Encampment shall act as a final court of Appeals on all words, decisions and rulings of the Commander-in-Chief. The determination of such

appeals that \_\_\_\_\_??(muttering again) shall not be subject to review at any subsequent meeting.”

I, therefore, concur in Rich’s opinion that unfortunately the Massachusetts proposal and request is out of order.

Medert: That concludes the report of the appeals (his demeanor prompted general laughter) committee, with one last statement. I was a police officer for 30 years and I never heard an attorney say that his brain couldn’t work.

The commander-in-Chief recognizes Steve Leicht, for a special Order of Business

Steve Leicht: Both the trial commission reports were handed to the Commander-in-Chief in Sept. of 1998. We did not receive the ruling on the charges against the camp until Feb.2, 1997. An email was sent to the Commander-in-Chief on March 7, 1995 informing him that the Department of Missouri was appealing the ruling on the charges against the Sherman Camp. The information requested by the Department for the appeal was never received. The ruling of the trial against Charlie Funk was dated July 26, 1999, which does not even allow us 30 days to appeal the decision prior to the encampment. Ten months after the Commander-in-Chief received the Trial Commissioner’s Report. According to Chapter V, Article 6, Section 4; the department was supposed to receive the report of the Trial Commissioner. We never received this report. Due to circumstance beyond our control, I would like to make a motion to allow the Department of Missouri the right to present the appeals to the National Encampment.

Second.

Discussion.

Because he is involved, the Commander-in-Chief hands the gavel to the Senior Vice to continue with the motion.

Richard Orr: Brothers, the regulations require that the Appeal be in the hands of the National Secretary 30 days before the National Encampment.

Brother Leicht just stated that he had the ruling on one of the trials in Feb. They sent a notice if *intent* to appeal by email to the Commander-in-Chief. Notice that intent to appeal is not the actual appeal.

However, I would offer the following as a substitute motion: that we accept the appeal, by suspending the 30-day requirement, and then proceed from that point.

Second.

All in favor, say aye.

Opposed.

The ayes have it.

Speaker (R.Orr?) asks current Department Commander, Brother Rutherford, since you have taken office, have you had complete and total cooperation of the Sherman Camp on this issue?

Yes, they have been providing records. They delayed about five months before they supplied the records, but since my installation in June they have supplied the records.

Speaker: I therefore, move that based on the current cooperation between the Camp and the current Department Commander, that while we accept this appeal, we take no action and lay it on the table.

Second.

Discussion. (Read whining)

The motion is to lay it on the table. Brothers I want to ask you what you require.

R. Orr: I want to tell you point blank, you don't want to go where you're going. You're already treading on thin ice on a number of issues. Brothers, he wants to bring the appeal to you. I want to ask one question. I want you to think what you require of a camp when you install the officers. Do you request simply to see the books as the ritual requires, to make certain the camp has the financial wherewithal to make it through the year, and the per capita tax is paid? Or do you demand to see every entry in every ledger, every check and receipt?

These are things Steve demanded to see. From my perspective, this has been a personal vendetta by Steve against the members of his former camp. If you want to get involved in a personal conflict that is what this is going to be.

More discussion, back and forth.

Impassioned verbiage re charity, loyalty --be brothers

More verbiage--

More--

Commander-in-Chief Johnson sent a personal check to help them pay for copy costs.

Relate stories of steps, reads resignation letter of Paul Winslow

More on both sides

Threats that camp & department will leave the organization

No one wants that.

Defensive posturing on both sides

It is moved (Jim Pahl) and seconded (David Hahn) to move the question.

Jim Pahl: For purposes of clarification, we have a motion on the floor to table the appeal. We have been debating that motion. My motion to the previous question is a motion to terminate debate, and vote on the question itself.

The motion to terminate debate carries.

The motion to table the appeal carries

Commander-in-Chief Johnson takes up the gavel from the Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief, and says, "Although that issue is behind us, I will state that I sustained the findings of the two trial commissioners. They found the individuals and the camps essentially not guilty of all charges. Let us put it behind us and move forward in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty."

Committee on Rituals

Ritual & ceremony

Proposed changes:

Use large ritual book  
work by page # and line#

1. p3 Item 2 Officers should make themselves thoroughly familiar with the details of the ritual. They should commit to memory, all the respective parts, as the use of the book during the ceremony makes the ritual less impressive. They said this is rarely done, although it they didn't remove the 'commit' to memory, the committee approves of what they said.

Hearing no objections; approved

2. Page 3.Item 5, line 3:There should be a period, not a comma after Bible. We approve that.

No objections; approved.

Page 3, Item 7 Line 2: change 'except it be done' to 'except when done'

Richard Orr: I move that we accept all grammar changes accepted by the committee. Second

Approved

General noise.

Visitation by the ladies

Speaker's voice comes in suddenly as he turns to the microphone.

. . . words dropped or Added to the Ritual or wording changes to the ritual. The first thing I have is on page 3, item 9 that refers to balloting for candidates. "The Guide will present a ballot box to the Sr. Vice Commander" It is talking about the use of a ballot box. The recommendation was, how often has this method of balloting been used? They basically want to drop the use of the ballot box.

Note: Bad grammar. Sigh. But you said 'transcribe.'

The committee does not concur.

Approved

Page 3; item 11, in recent years, the use of the Ritual. Again it goes back in recent years; those who want to use the ritual can use the ritual. We suggest inserting the word 'book' which would make the use of the book voluntary as opposed to doing away with it totally.

We disagreed with that. The use of the book is still allowed.

Objection?

Hearing none, approved.

Pages 8 and 9 the order of business. The recommendation is this is totally archaic and should be totally revised. "The balloting on applications with the use of whit balls and black balls goes back to the GAR and Masonic Lodge from which the GAR borrowed much of it's ritual elements. To the best of my knowledge the SUVCW hasn't used this system in many years." Actually my camp uses it all the time.

We suggest leaving it in so those who use it can continue to use it.

The committee did not concur.

Objections?

Hearing none, approved.

Under initiation, both long and short form, it may be useful to add a preface that commanders may wish to point out that at commencement of Initiation that in preserving the memory of the GAR we have continued to use the ritual written during the Victorian era when a more flowery style of writing and oratory was in vogue, although portions of this were updated, the earlier style is still retained. The committee feels this statement is unnecessary and does not concur with the recommendation.

Hearing no objections; approved

Page 14, line 1; I will read it to you. Commander, I find blank names in waiting, who has paid the required initiation fee and been duly, elected

The recommendation is to delete "required initiation fee" because obviously he would not be initiated if he had not paid the dues and been approved for membership. Why do we have to sound so mercenary?

The committee does not concur. We said let it in.

The finding is for no change. Objections?

Hearing none; approved.

Page 14, lines 11 and 12, from the top; it reads, "Guide conducts candidates clockwise around the room, one and on quarter times, stopping at the patriotic instructors station. The suggestion was, since most camps do not have spacious meeting halls for meetings, we don't believe it is effective to have the candidates marched around the meeting rooms several times on the way to different stations. Why not have the Guides present the candidates directly to the appropriate stations?"

The committee voted to disagree with that and to let it in for those who wish to use the old style ritual.

Objections?

Hearing none; approved.

Page 21, The first installing Officer says, "Secretary, have all the reports been properly made out and forwarded to department headquarters.

The recommendation is for the First Installing Officer's statement. Recommend that it be changed to read, "Secretary, have all the reports been properly completed and forwarded to Department Headquarters?" So we are changing "made out" to "completed."

We concur.

No objections; approved

Page 22, Recommended that the last sentence be expanded to read, "Please be

seated on my left until I call upon you to transfer the badge of office to the newly installed officer.” The way it reads now, “Having received the highest honors, which your associates can confer on you, your continuing commitment will point the way to others who serve in the Order. Please be seated upon my left.” The committee decided to let that in so we did not concur.

No change. Objections?  
Hearing none, approved.

Page 22, line 25, There are several changes in here.

7<sup>th</sup> paragraph down where it says Commander-elect responds.

What it states now is “Do you promise to expose and remove imposters and all who may try to disturb the harmony of the SUVCW?” Should be a space in there. They are saying, do we really need the words, promise to expose imposters, etc. They said they know there is a historical significance, but do we really need those words today?

The committee disagreed with that, and let that statement in.

It stands as written. Objections?  
Hearing none, approved.

Page 25, line 23, I noticed that the change to rule with urbanity has been removed and changed to rule with civility. That is the installing officer is stating, “Now by the power and authority invested in me . . . Or until their successors are duly installed. Commander, assume control of your camp, and rule it with civility, impartiality, and firmness.” And they’re saying I noticed that change to the rule of urbanity is change to the rule with civility. I love the wording of ruling with urbanity. Since the Commander is not a King who rules his main. I recommend that this sentence be changed to “Commander, assume control of your camp and preside with urbanity, impartiality and firmness.”

The committee said leave it alone the way it is stated now and that would be, “rule with civility, impartiality and firmness.”

Objection?

Yes! I move we return to the word urbanity (unknown speaker)

Second

Discussion.

The motion to restore the word urbanity carries.

Note: There are a lot of loose pronouns in this report, dangling speakers, dangling participles and sentence fragments throughout this report because it was made orally, no doubt. When I couldn’t stand it any more, I repaired the worst of them

Page 30, line 25, where it says, “Officers you have been selected to positions of great honor and trust,” They are recommending here, we should add in, “Brothers seated near vacant stations will please fill them until the newly installed officer is escorted to his station.

The committee disagreed with that, and said just let it alone because the installing officer is going to make sure all the seats are filled.

No change.

Hearing no objections; approved.

Page 31, line 13, It is the second installing officer line there, "Guide you will conduct the officers to their respective stations, actin officers vacating." Change to read, "Guide while the Commander-elect remains at the altar you will conduct the Sr. Vice Commander and Jr. Vice Commander to their stations as the other officers assume their stations, acting officers vacating."

The committee approved that.

No objections; approved.

Page 33, under presentation of the badge, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, and "We are the Sons of Union Veterans. May we prove ourselves worthy of this title? The ribbon is a union of red, white and blue, the color of our country flag. The red signifies the unlimited streams of blood shed at the blessings of a free government and so forth and so on. The word unlimited is in there. Further back in here it is stated as unstinted. They are suggesting that the word unstinted, which is used in the long form of initiation, be changed to the word unlimited

The committee concurs with the recommended change.

Objection

Discussion

Moved seconded and passed to use the word unstinted

Brother Orr has one more thing.

R. Orr: Earlier we tabled part of the Program and Policy Report. I move that we untable the motion.

Second.

All those in favor say aye.

The motion carries and is untabled.

R. Orr: In lieu of the recommendation in the Program and Policy Report to adopt the Burial ceremony of the Department of Massachusetts for PCIC Mellor, I would offer a substitute motion that we reinstate our own Burial service originally adopted in this city in 1890 and deleted in 1939 Rituals.

Second.

The discussion on that is that the ceremony used by the Department of Massachusetts, whether known or unknown, is the GAR's Burial service.

We have steadfastly maintained that we will not use the GAR's formal ceremony on our formal ceremony. We re-enact them, we do them for public presentation, but they are not our formal ceremony.

Does the body wish to have the ceremony read to us?

Brother Kuhn: The ceremony is 11 pages long. I have an amendment to the motion. I suggest we include the GAR ceremony as an optional form. We do initiation; we have a long form and a short form.

Motion and second to place in our ritual the 1890X form of SVR Burial  
Further discussion

Change motion to take out military titles and substitute current titles.

Second.

Further discussion.

Substitute Motion to refer to the P&P committee. Second.

Point of Order. Bud: This thing has been changed too many times. Get me a clean copy to print this year.

Discussion.

Vote on referring back to committee.

The motion fails.

Back to the original motion which is to modify the 1890x Burial ceremony to include current titles rather than military titles and adopt it as part of the soon to be published, revised Ritual.

Those in favor.

The motion carries.

Other Program & Policy committee matters

Sr. Vice: I want to let the Quartermaster know that all the changes that have been approved today are in this book, and if he would like to have a nice fresh new one, he can have it.

Bud: OK, but I want you to sign it and pledge there will be no more changes.

Sr. Vice: The flag fax was handed to me and we had to review it last night and the committee decided this would be a very nice piece for the Patriotic Instructor to use for hand-outs. The only change the committee felt we should make is because of the very small print, so we felt that we should go with an 8 x 14.

Objections?

Approved.

Other recommendations?

Sr. Vice: What we have here is the resolution that was made on the membership numbering system. I can read what I have, which is about a page and a half, but it was similar. We didn't want to concur with this because it was similar to one we already have. So this one we didn't concur with because it was like the one we did concur with. I can read it if you want.

Resolution: Initiation of a National membership numbering system was submitted by the Department of Massachusetts, Whereas the national Organization the SUVCW has been unable to agree on a national numbering system and as we move an increasing number of generations away from Union ancestors, and whereas there is no way to ensure numbers to most deceased members, therefore be it resolved that the Dept. of Mass. upon approval by a

vote of the Department Encampment, supports the following method of issuing membership numbers to the members of the SUVCW for consideration at the upcoming encampment.

1. All Life Members living or deceased shall be given the same national number as is the current Life number if such a number exists.
2. All current members who are not Life Members and who are not required to submit a membership application at the time of obtaining membership, shall be issued the next consecutive membership numbers after the life members have been numbered.
3. All members living and deceased who obtained membership when an application was required to be submitted to the National Organization SUVCW shall be issued the next consecutive numbers after the previous two categories, items 1 and 2 are numbered in the order in which they joined the organization. If the order in which they joined is not practical, the numbering shall be alphabetical with surname, followed by the first name and then middle initial. In case of a tie the National Secretary shall randomly assign the membership number.
4. All future members of the organization shall be issued numbers in the order in which the national Secretary receives their applications.
5. The National Membership Numbers shall not make any distinction between Life, Member, Associate, or Junior. The National Membership numbers shall not reflect the Department through which the national membership number was obtained, nor will it contain any data for any purpose whatsoever.
6. The National Secretary shall assign consecutive numbers and cause this number to be placed on each application. The camps and departments may issue numbers for their own purpose, and the National organization shall not be responsible for any kind of an index for the locally issued numbers.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Caldwell, Jr., Commander Department of New York

The Program & Policy Committee did concur.

Dick Williams: There was a committee four years ago that looked into and implemented a numbering system. We don't do anything with it. If you want to decide what to do with that number, you can, but every body has a number in place. We have one, so we don't need a numbering system.

Discussion.

Make that protracted debate.

Moved, seconded, and passed a motion to end debate.

Now we will vote on the Massachusetts Recommendation

All those in favor?

Those opposed?

The motion fails.

**PreEncampment Council of Administration Meeting Minutes**

## Read by David Hahn

(Not heard on tape. David speaks into his chest and not into microphone. These are my notes.)

spending more than taking in  
national per capita tax increase  
GAR foundation inc,  
financial advisors  
nat treas.  
strike disney corp.  
minutes read and approved as read  
outstanding camp; anderson camp  
cornelius whitehouse award to Ne Jersey Dept  
marshall hope award--camp dept Michagan  
Grant trophy--to Iowa  
Stephenson award to be later.  
Gold Star meritorius service, keith harrison  
david willianms.  
truly outstanding work in both cases

Richard Orr is speaking but cannot be heard. He isn't using the microphone

\_\_\_\_\_ ?? was passed (I have no idea what)

In lieu of tape, I offer you my notes.

### From my notes:

National counselor to parrot New York, unauthorized sale of funerary objects

Correct

PC Stuckey to present bill to congress that will include stone monuments.

National Counselor, directed to ask reps to introduce appropriate legislation--

Relieve legal staff,

Include American Legion etc. in motion

Amend orig motion

MSP

### New Business

Jerry Horton asked for an award for a couple of people. It was for Mrs. Janeway.

Some people in the order had done a lot to help us become aware of her.

Congratulatory certificates are nice.

Richard Orr speaking, but not into microphone. Something about Jerry Horton making the same recommendation last year. Create a standing fund for Mrs.

Janeway.

Danny Wheeler has a copy of Brother Hortons report and asks leave to read it.

Danny Wheeler: Under new business, funerary

q that the command be renewed for another year, that the SUVCW go on

record for another year as supporting Sister Cartha Smith Washington in obtaining the Medal of Honor(that has been done).

The SUVCW advertise a relief fund for Mrs. Gertrude Janeway.

Real Sons be authorized to wear a Silver Star on their regulation or miniature badge. This would change Article III, section. Paragraph 2 of the National Constitution and Regulations

Discission. Many speak but none speak into the microphone except the Commander-in-Chief.

He says, to wit:

Motion to refer that to the publisher(No, I have no idea)

Seconded

Approved. It will be done.

New Business

Approval of the minutes, which will be difficult since the Proceedings of the last encampment are not yet printed, but soon will be.

I will ask you for approval of the minutes of the last encampment.

Installation of the new officers.