

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING



©

APRIL 16, 2016
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
SONS OF UNION VETERANS
OF THE CIVIL WAR

**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Council of Administration
MINUTES**

April 16, 2016, Springfield, Illinois

The Council of Administration meeting was opened by Commander-in-Chief Gene Mortorff at 8:00 P.M. The attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Chaplain Kowalski providing the invocation. Prior to starting the meeting, Commander-in-Chief Mortorff installed Jonathan Davis of the Department of Ohio as National Secretary.

The National Secretary called the roll of officers and recorded the following members of the Council of Administration:

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

CinC Eugene Mortorff	SVCinC Donald Martin
JVCinC Mark R. Day	National Secretary Jonathan C. Davis
National Treasurer Richard Orr (Phone)	National Quartermaster Danny Wheeler
CofA Member Donald Shaw	CofA Member Walter Busch
CofA Member Brian C. Pierson	

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

CofA Member Ed Norris – Excused by CinC
CofA Member Steve Hammond – Excused by CinC
CofA Member PCinC Tad Campbell- Excused by CinC
CofA Member PCinC Donald Darby – Excused by CinC

Non-Voting Members Present:

Executive Director David Demmy Sr.	PCinC Edward J. Kreiser
PCinC James B. Pahl and Banner Editor	PCinC Perley E. Mellor
PCinC Charles Kuhn	

GUEST OF THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Robert Petrovic, PDC, Missouri	Jerry Kowalski, Illinois
Mike Paquette, Chesapeake	David Wildermuth, Illinois
James Lyon, DC, Illinois	Paul Davis, PDC, Michigan

OPEN ITEMS FROM NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT:

1. **Recommendation 8:** The Aide to the National Quartermaster for the ROTC program be required to forward copies of all medal applications and postal receipts no less than monthly to the National Treasurer and provide an accurate inventory of all items in his possession as of the last business day of June of each year to the National Treasurer.

ACTION: C&R Committee Pass

2. Motion that the ROTC medal be allowed to be presented by the primarily independent auxiliary.

ACTION: P&P, for the committee to come back with a recommendation to the next National Encampment.

3. National ROTC/JROTC Census. At this time I; Gregory M. Carter, PCC; believe that I am the only JROTC award recipient who is also a member of the Order. I recommend that a national census of JROTC award recipients be taken. Incoming CinC is to assign person to take the inventory.

ACTION: CinC

4. **Recommendation 3:** National Committee on Americanization and Education. I believe this committee should be B) reconstructed. If it is reconstructed, I recommend the committee be composed of the national patriotic instructor, the national Eagle Scout coordinator, a national ROTC award officer, the national chaplain and the national quartermaster. These individuals have a vested interest in the success of the committee and should therefore become the committee.

ACTION: P&P. To determine if this committee should continue to exist, and, if not, return back to the 2016 National Encampment with language to the C&R committee to remove the committee.

5. **Proposal 1: SUBSTITUTE MOTION to require action as directed by the last (2014) encampment:** The incoming CinC shall appoint a committee to work this out for implementation and bring back to the Council of Administration by Springfield CofA, with the CinC authorized to forward this to the C&R committee and/or P&P Committee. The sentence, "Dual members shall not be counted toward the required number of members required to establish a new camp." shall be deleted. The special committee shall address the financial impact of the motion.

ACTION: CinC

6. **Department Permission to Sue.** This item came about because of a Cannon Tube in a Cemetery resulting in a Department entering in a lawsuit over the rightful owners of the tube. The question whether Departments may act individually in suing was given to the P&P for policy development. No action was taken.

As this is a legal matter, I believe that before a policy question can be answered, this needs vetting by legal professionals. I recommend the CinC refer this to National Counselor to render a decision. If it is decided that Departments CAN, then it can come back to the P&P to development a policy.

ACTION: Recommendations from P&P reflecting National Counselor Pahl's Opinion 1 2015 and Freshly G.O. 5 sent to the C&R Committee 5 Oct 2015. **C&R Committee**

ITEMS OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OFFICER REPORTS:

Carried over from Gettysburg Council of Administration Meeting:

National Secretary: The Council of Administration be prepared to act on merchandise licenses at the Thursday, August 11, 2016, Council of Administration. This will permit the current National Secretary to handle the process, as opposed to the yet unknown incoming National Secretary having to deal with the license renewals on August 13, 2016.

NATIONAL CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS OFFICER, PAGE 9

Officer Walter Busch, PDC been working on entering monuments into the database and believes the database is simple enough that it could be sent out to all monument officers in our departments with instructions for them to fill out and submit annually to the National Officer, if the Council of Administration agrees.

ACTION: National Signals Officer

NATIONAL EAGLE SCOUT CERTIFICATE COORDINATOR, PAGE 11 and 12

For National to pick up the cost of the program as it did with the ROTC program
or

Set up a printable template that our coordinators could use with instructions on what font to use when filling in name / date and type of paper to use. This would give them a great opportunity to get these certificates out at less cost and a shorter turn-around time.

ACTION: Discussion on the above recommendations with vote on issues. Issue failed.

ITEMS OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT CREDENTIALS SPECIAL COMMITTEE, PAGE 26:

Moved by Council of Administration Member Walter Busch that the all computers that IT (friendly motion by JVCinC Mark Day and approved by Water Busch) National Signal Officer or CinC to approve list of software that computers may run, second by Council of Administration Member Donald Shaw. Motion Passed.

Banner Editor James Pahl, PCinC does not have use of the shared computer used by Credentials Committee and Banner Editor.

ACTION: Moved by National Treasurer Rich Orr, PCinC, seconded by JVCinC Mark Day that computer and printer currently used jointly between National Encampment Credentials Committee and Banner Editor be for Credential Committee only. Motion Passed.

VISION and STRATEGIC PLANNING SPECIAL COMMITTEE, PAGE 28

General Recommendations:

- a. The Committee be authorized to make administrative changes to metrics, goals and initiatives as required. For example, an initiative is making good progress, but due to extenuating factors, its completion needs to be slipped due to the IRS 501(c)3 issue.
- b. The Committee be authorized to engage OPRs and POCs on recommendations and metrics. Has to be changed by the National Encampment Growth and Leadership Recommendations
- c. CinC direct Depts to report membership gains broken out by new members and transfers, and membership losses by drops and deaths to provide sufficient data for analysis. Will work with David Demmy
- d. JVC and Executive Director conduct a detailed analysis on membership gains and losses by Dept and by category.
- e. National Membership Committee revamp recruiting and retention program. We appear to be recruiting, but not retaining members.
- f. Develop a plan to reduce drops.
- g. Promotions & Marketing Committee, Dept of the Pacific, Dept of the Southwest, coordinate to develop a focused, unified campaign.
- h. Appoint new chairman and re-energize the Youth program and report to National Encampment.

Information Technology Recommendations:

- i. National Signals Officer and Comm & Technology Committee develop a plan of action for social media, mobile devices & You Tube.
- j. Develop a coordinated strategy for adoption of QR codes SUVCW-wide. CinC direct Depts to adopt when able.
- k. National Signals Officer and Comm & Technology Committee develop a plan of action for mobile/handheld apps.

- l. Extend our advertising campaign to social media.
- m. Update the web site as follows (these are cross-cutting):
- n. Build a site index, and/or make highly used pages and those which enhance our mission or public face, easily accessible.
- o. Develop a prominent and robust Patriotic Instructor web page, perhaps a “Patriotism Page” with essays and resources.
- p. Develop a Chaplain web page.
- q. Establish a GAR Highway page with links to Dept GAR Highway websites (all Depts in whose territory the GAR Highway passes should establish a GAR Highway FB page or web page.)
- r. Make a more accessible GAR Records link from the SUVCW Main Page.
- s. Overhaul the Quartermaster web page and online ordering process.
- t. CinC direct Depts to report Dept and Camp facebook and social media statistics in their 2016 annual reports in order to ensure 100% of Depts and 75% of Camps have Facebook or web pages.
- u. Get the new Memorial University up and running and advertised.
- v. Overhaul Canadian Union Veterans web page. Engage Marketing Cmte to publicize this effort.

ACTIONS Items C through V: Signal Officer and/or Webmaster.

- w. National Graves Registration Officer explore and report on collaboration with National Park Service.
ACTION: Bruce Frail, PDC
- x. Assign the initiative of “Promoting greater awareness of CW history in secondary schools” to Committee on Americanism & Education (if it is retained and reconstructed) or Patriotic Instructor (If A&E Committee is disestablished) for a plan of action, with a report back to the CoA by the National Encampment. Plan of action should include a strategy, initiatives, and resources to engage schools.
- y. Investigate possibility of Dept level activities for national-level implementation, such as a “history bee” program, perhaps in cooperation with the National History Bee.
- z. Vision & Strat Planning Committee advise as required P&P Committee’s work on refocusing role Committee on Americanism & Education to be in line with this initiative.
- aa. Bring disparate programs (ROTC medal program; Eagle Scout patch; Flag Certificate) under one umbrella, perhaps National PI.
- bb. Revamp annual PI reporting.
ACTION Items X through BB: National Patriotic Instructor.
- cc. CinC direct Depts and Camps to consistently report PI activities.
ACTION: CinC
- dd. Establish a national Battlefield Preservation Program by 2016 or assign it to an existing committee.

- ee. Battle Flag Preservation program develop a vision, strategy, goals and objectives.
- ff. Establish a National Battlefield Preservation Program or assign to an existing committee. (There is a link to the Civil War Trust on the Education page of the National Website.)
- gg. Marketing & Promotion Committee report the effectiveness of the strategy. Keep Updated
- hh. M&P Committee continue to publicize the branding strategy to all National Officers, Committees and Departments to ensure the entire Order is in synch.
- ii. Defer grants goal target date until 501(c)3 determination.
- jj. Continue to find opportunities for increasing and reporting charitable activities. Include Dept and Camp initiatives as well.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR DUAL MEMBERSHIP, PAGE 30:

“Committee’s task was to work out of implementation regarding dual membership and bring back to the Council of Administration by Springfield with the CinC authorized to forward this to the C&R Committee and/or the P&P Committee”

ACTION: Committee looked at various solutions developed came to conclusion that proposals was untenable under our current structure. Moved that Council of Administration except this conclusion. Motion Passed.

ACTION: CinC Mortorff to appoint committee to come up with language to address National Encampment. JVCinC Mark Day, SVCinC Donald Martin and CofA member Brian Pierson volunteered to be on committee.

ITEMS OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Department of Illinois, Page 34

It has come to my (James L. Lyon, DC) attention that the April C of A meeting in Springfield may be moved to another location. If this should happen, the Brothers in Illinois would like to commit to having a bigger part or taking over the Lincoln Tomb Service each year in Springfield. We feel that we are the home of our fallen President and we should be the ones to organize this event for the SUVCW in the future.

ACTION: Ruled Out of Order.

Department of Missouri, Page 36

The Department of Missouri sent a resolution to the Commander-in-Chief for consideration by the National Encampment for the Restoration of Rank of Past Department Commander for Brother Emmett Taylor.

ACTION: To be addressed during National Encampment.

Department of New York, Page 39 and 40

Votes taken on Meritorious Service Awards with Gold Star, awardees will be announced during the 2016 National Encampment.

NEW BUSINESS:

Reviewed National Quartermaster Danny Wheeler handout dated 1/25/2016 for Website Development Contract between ESCO, INC. and SUVCW.

ACTION: Moved by CofA Member Brian Pierson, seconded by SVCinC Donald Martin that ESCO, Inc. can host electronic store providing that we negotiate an acceptable contract. 6 votes to approve, 2 abstained. Motion Passed.

PCinC Charles Kuhn ask that he be approved to use PCinC logo for flag he wishes to order. Moved by SVCinC Donald Martin, seconded by National Quartermaster Danny Wheeler, PCinC that this be allowed. Motion Passed.

ROTC program will be under the direction of Brother George Shademan, this per General Order No. 14.

Proposed brochure reviewed. Moved by JVCinC Mark Day, seconded by CofA Member Donald Shaw that we purchase 20,000 at approximately 7cents apiece. Motion Passed.

ACTION: These will be available at National Encampment in Springfield.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- a) Executive Director David Demmy, Sr. wished everyone a safe trip home.
- b) SVCinC Donald Martin looking for brothers to fill positions on the Credentials Committee.
- c) PCinC James Pahl thanked the members of the Council of Administration for their trust in appointing him the editor of The Banner.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

CinC Mortorff provided closing comments.

BENEDICTION:

Chaplain Kowalski gave the Benediction.

Meeting was officially adjourned at 11:00 PM.

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty:

Jonathan C. Davis, PDC
National Secretary

Attachment:
Officer, Committee, and Department Reports

OFFICER, COMMITTEE, & DEPARTMENT REPORTS



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FOR THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING

APRIL 16, 2016
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Council of Administration Report
April 16, 2016
Springfield, Illinois

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1.0 Preface

This is a compilation of National Elected Officers, National Appointed Officers, National Standing Committees, National Special Committees, and Department reports to the Council of Administration for their April 16, 2016 meeting in Springfield, IL. This document contains the bodies of the submitted reports; the headings, salutations, valedictions, and signatures have been removed.

2.0 National Elected Officers

2.1 Commander-in-Chief; Eugene G. Mortorff, CinC

2.2 Senior Vice Commander-in Chief; Donald L. Martin, PDC

- Marched in Gettysburg Parade and attended CofA meeting 6 November 2015.
- Attended Enderlin Camp #73 Lincoln Birthday Dinner 13 Feb 2016

Forms

- From Executive Director and National Treasurer 2014. Complete revision of 35. To include font size for fillable fields and the addition of sections to record reinstatement fees. It should also reflect the \$5 annual surcharge for items mailing items overseas.

ACTION: Approved CofA 29 Feb 2016 and submitted to Web Master.

- From CofA Meeting August 23, 2015, carryover from (2014-15): Update National Officer Reimbursement Form and Special National Officer Reimbursement Form (CinC Representation).

ACTION: Brother Orr consolidated forms to create FORM 13. Submitted to Web Master.

- From CofA Meeting 23 Aug. 2015: Update Form 3 to reflect \$5 annual surcharge for items mailing items overseas. Additionally, it has had a lineage component added to the application.

ACTION: Form 3 update approved CofA 21 Nov 2015 submitted to Web Master.

- Update Form 10: remove the incorrect year and reflect the National Treasurer's new address.

ACTION: Completed 20 Mar 2016 and submitted to Web Master.

2.3 Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief; Mark R. Day, PDC

Since my last report to the CofA in Gettysburg I have attended:

- The Lincoln Birthday Dinner put on by the Taylor-Wilson Camp 10 in Lynchburg, VA
- The MOLLUS Lincoln Birthday Ceremony and Luncheon in Washington DC

Since my last report to the CofA in Gettysburg, I represented the National Commander:

- At the Department of Tennessee Annual Encampment and installed their officers

2.4 National Secretary; Alan L Russ, PDC

MINUTES. I recorded and submitted minutes for the following Council of Administration meetings:

Council of Administration meeting, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Sunday, November 22, 2015.

MOTIONS VIA ELECTRONIC BOARDROOM.

The following Council of Administration motions were presented and processed through the Electronic Boardroom since November 2015. These motions, with the resulting action, are summarized, below. The results are also posted on the National website within a week of the conclusion of voting on the motion.

- **Motion 11 Motion Passed November 1, 2015**

A motion by Brother Martin, seconded by Brother Campbell, that the updated version of Form 62 be approved.

- **Motion 12 Motion Passed November 8, 2015**

A motion by Brother Martin, seconded by Brother Russ, that Brother Jonathan Davis, Department of Ohio, be elected by the Council of Administration to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Brother John M. McNulty.

- **Motion 13 Motion Passed December 23, 2015**

A motion by Brother Martin, seconded by Brother Orr, that the proposed flag certificate be approved for attachment to the recommendation presented to the C&R.

- **Motion 14 Motion Passed January 3, 2016**

A motion by Brother Martin, seconded by Brother Russ, that the modified Form 3 be approved.

- **Motion 15 – Motion Passed December 26, 2015**

A motion by Brother Russ, seconded by Brother Shaw, that the minutes of the Council of Administration Meeting held at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on November 22, 2015, be accepted.

- **Motion 16 – Motion Withdrawn**

- **Motion 17 – Motion Passed February 5, 2016**

A motion by Brother Orr, seconded by Brother Wheeler, that the current Banner editor be relieved and a new search performed for an editor who is going to do the job.

- **Motion 18 – Motion Passed February 8, 2016**

A motion by Brother Orr, seconded by Brother Norris, that Brother James B. Pahl, PCinC, be appointed the new Banner Editor effective immediately and Brother Crabtree be directed to turn over all material in his possession relative to the Banner to Brother Pahl immediately.

- **Motion 19 – Motion Failed February 24, 2016**

A motion by Brother Russ, seconded by Brother Shaw, that the Council of Administration adopt as policy that voting on a motion in the electronic boardroom will only remain open until the announced closing time for the motion or until all of the voting members have cast their vote on the motion, whichever occurs first.

- **Motion 20 – Motion Passed February 26, 2016**

A motion by Brother Norris, seconded by Brother Day, that the following inscription and SUVCW logo be approved for the bench at the Stephenson Monument in Petersburg, IL: //Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War // 150th Anniversary of the Founding of the // Grand Army of the Republic 1866-2016 // Honoring the Boys in Blue //

- **Motion 21 – Motion Passed February 28, 2016**

A motion by Brother Martin, seconded by Brother Day, that the updated Form 35 be approved.

- **Motion 22 – Motion Passed March 8, 2016**

A motion by Brother Orr, seconded by Brother Davis, that no applications for a Signature Event be accepted after 20 February 2016.

- **Motion 23 – Motion Passed March 8, 2016**

A motion by Brother Wheeler, seconded by Brother Martin, to approve the tri-fold flyer.

- **Special Election – National Secretary**

By order of CinC Eugene Mortorff, the voting members of the Council of Administration shall vote for a brother to serve as the interim National Secretary, to take office on April 16, 2016.

Brother Jonathan Davis was elected and will take office effective April 16, 2016.

- **Special Election – Council of Administration Member**

By order of CinC Eugene Mortorff, the voting members of the Council of Administration shall vote for a brother to serve as interim Council of Administration member, to take office on April 16, 2016.

Voting closes at 11:59 PM (PDT) on April 1, 2016

SSE EVENT SETS.

No SSE sets were received from the SSE sub-committee of the Council of Administration for approval/disapproval by the Council of Administration.

CAMP/DEPARTMENT CHARTERS.

One application for permission to form a new camp expired since November 2015:

- Edward Wallace Camp No. 21, Department of Georgia & South Carolina, expired March 16, 2016

One new application for permission to form a new camp was received since November 2015:

- Ensign John Davis Camp No. 10, National Department-at-Large – Expires March 17, 2017

The following charter was issued by CinC Mortorff since November:

- (2015-15) Department of the Southwest. Date of ranking: December 3, 2015.

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT PROCEEDINGS.

Have not yet received the National Encampment Proceedings for 2015 for printing and distribution.

2.5 National Treasurer; Richard D. Orr, PCinC

See separate handout.

2.6 National Quartermaster; Danny L. Wheeler, PCinC

The store has been a struggle this year, no banner and trying to get the internet store done with changes etc. has been real bad. Brother Presley has got it back to the old style yet I cannot get the new product on site. The orders have been a little better yet still not what it was. We will lose around \$5,000 dollars for we are no longer charging for the JRROTC Badges. I have starting in May 2016 a new Asst. Quartermaster it

is Brother George Shadman he and I will meet at the New York Convention and I will give him everything he needs to do the job. This will save postage, I also have been sending notices with every order to make the transition.

I have had talks with Essco about doing the quartermaster store it seems harder to get members to do this important job. I did get a price of \$5400 to set up the whole site. Changes or new product would be put on at \$75.00 hr. I believe there would not be that many changes once it is set up in a correct manner. It is important to keep a good site and pays off in good orders and correct orders.

2.7 Council of Administration – 2017; Jonathan Davis, PDC

Since being elected to the Council of Administration in early November, 2015, I have taken part in the following National activities:

- Attended the Gettysburg CofA meeting attending various ceremonies on Saturday and scheduled to attend the meeting in Springfield.
- Voted on all electronic board room votes.

No recommendations at this time.

2.8 Council of Administration – 2016; Brian C. Pierson, PDC

- Working on new recruiting brochure. Will bring samples to the CoA meeting in Springfield.
- Represented CinC at Dept of OK Annual Encampment on 2 Apr 2016.
- Voted on all motions in Electronic Boardroom.
- Served on Special Cmte chaired by Br Norris for the SUVCW bench at the Stephenson Memorial.

2.9 Council of Administration – 2016; Edward J. Norris, PDC

Attended the Council of Administration meeting in Gettysburg. Excused from the Springfield meeting so that I may represent the Commander-in-Chief at the Department of New Hampshire Encampment. Voted on all Electronic Boardroom motions.

I will be running for reelection to the Council of Administration in 2016 and Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief in 2017. If Brother Donald Martin is successful in his bid for Commander-in-Chief in 2016, he asked me to be his Chief of Staff and I accepted.

2.10 Council of Administration – 2016; Walter E. Busch, PDC

Voted on all issues. Will be attending Springfield both times this year. Will not be seeking reelection.

2.11 Council of Administration – 2015; Donald W. Shaw, PDC

While keeping busy with the work of the Order at the Camp and Department levels, I have also been busy with duties in connection with the post of Member of the National Council of Administration. I have monitored and participated in all discussions regarding questions coming before the Council. I have cast votes all on issues put to the Council for discussion and decision.

I have attended various dedications and events promoting the Order and honoring the service of our Civil War ancestors.

I am preparing to represent the CinC at three Department Encampments and having been making the arrangements necessary to carry out visits to our brothers in Nebraska, Illinois, and Missouri.

I continue to serve as Chair of the Michigan Host Committee for the 2017 National Encampment.

I have no recommendations to put before the Council at this time.

2.12 Council of Administration – 2014; Tad D. Campbell, PCinC

Between November 22, 2015 and April 16, 2016 I participated in the following activities:

- COA Meeting, Gettysburg, PA (22 Nov 2015).
- Camp 4 Pizza Party Social Event, Los Gatos, CA (5 Dec 2015)
- Camp 21 Installation, Fallbrook, CA (12 Dec 2015).
- Camp 4 & Auxiliary 52 Installation Banquet, San Jose, CA (15 Jan 2016).
- Camp 23 & Auxiliary 23 Installation Meeting, Santa Rosa, CA (16 Jan 2016).
- 35th Annual Ancestor Roundup Genealogical Seminar, Seaside, CA (23 Jan 2014).
- 130th Annual Encampment, Department of California & Pacific, Sacramento, CA (March 4-5, 2016).
- 1st Annual [Regular] Encampment, Department of the Columbia (April 9, 2016).

I have also participated in online COA discussions and votes of the COA taken in the online boardroom.

I have no recommendations at this time.

2.13 Banner Editor; James Pahl

I was called upon to give the final approvals of the Winter issue completed by brother Crabtree. A new cover photo had to be obtained due to the very poor quality of the photo submitted. National Encampment registration materials submitted by the Department of Illinois were removed at the request of the Chair of the National Site Selection committee. A few other minor errors were corrected. Many thanks to Steve Michaels, PCinC, for his assistance in squaring away the Winter issue of the Banner. The Spring issue of the Banner should be in the final production stages as of this meeting.

2.14 Executive Director; David W. Demmy, Sr., PCC

National Life Member applications processed first quarter of the year:

2014 = 4; 2015 = 3; and 2016 = 7; there are no national life membership applications pending at this time.

The following statistics are offered as of this date on the membership of our grand Allied Order:

2016		vs	2014	Difference
Associate	536		552	-16
<i>Junior</i>	75		80	-5
Life Member	381		374	+7
Member	5493		5386	+107
Real Son	5		9	-4
Total:	6490		6401	+89 Finally, a real gain!
<i>Dual Associate</i>	13		11	+2
Dual Life Member	57		54	+3
<i>Dual Member</i>	144		121	+23
Honorary	4		4	0
War Zone Service	3		5	-2
Total:	221		195	+26

We have experienced the loss of 20 deaths the last 6 months across our departments of the SUV CW!

Requests for our ROTC and Eagle Scout awards continue to pour in via e-mail, telephone queries and snail mail too. E-mail and telephone requests are answered with form letter reply directing the writer to our website and to complete the required application. Queries that include the Eagle Scout form are scanned and emailed to the department overseeing the residence of the writer!

As Form 49s arrive at HQ, they are scanned. Copies are shared with national officers and appropriate committee personnel that may need the data to carry out their SUV CW duties.

Remittances received are copied and mailed weekly to National Treasurer for his further action.

Some treasures at headquarters include SVR March and sheet music from Reading PA 1934 and SVR concert music book for marching band; and the Frank Huston, PCinC, Bible, Indianapolis IN, KJ version for SS teacher, with multiple personal notes, inserts, music and photos. Also a deplorable GAR GO book!

Interesting to note that in 1986 the CofA had the blues over the Banner too, with it not being timely published!

It is a humble opportunity to serve the Brothers of our grand organization.

If you or your subordinate officers need a report or other data, please ask and I'll attempt to provide the data if it is readily available! Headquarters welcomes visitors and members of the allied orders thru-out the year. To date this year only 7 visitors have graced the doorway of national headquarters!

3.0 National Appointed Officers

3.1 National Aide-de-Camp, Faron Taylor, PCC

Nothing to report.

3.2 National Camp-at-Large & Dept. Organizer, Loran T. Bures, PCC

Department of the Southwest (Arizona & New Mexico): The Special Encampment to organize the Department of the Southwest was held in Scottsdale, Arizona on March 26, 2016. Commander-in-Chief Eugene Mortorff served as installing officer. With this Special Encampment, all states, territories and possessions of the United States are now in regular organized Departments.

Ensign John Davis Camp No. 10 of London, England: The application for permission to form a camp of the SUVCW (Form 51) has been filed with the National Secretary. Our Brothers in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland hope to receive their Charter in July from Commander-in-Chief Eugene Mortorff in conjunction with a planned headstone dedication service.

3.3 National Chaplin, Jerome W. Kowolski

I have prayed for the success of Our Order. For members and their families - the quick and the dead. I have visited cemeteries, hospitals and called on Brothers who were ill; wrote cards, messages and articles; have asked men and women to join the Allied Orders, and have cooperated with the SCV to keep tensions down and patriotism up. Have attended the Dept of Florida Encampment and will be attending the Kentucky and Texas shindigs also, representing the CinC. As Spring comes, I will be at the Lincoln Tomb. Galena, and numerous cemeteries for services and headstone Rededications. Chief among all of my activities - is speaking to the Lord, and asking for His blessings on us.

3.4 National Chief of Staff, Michael A. Paquette, PDC

Since the CofA in Gettysburg I have attended:

- The MOLLUS Lincoln Birthday Ceremony and Luncheon in Washington DC
- The Department of Rhode Island 132nd Department Encampment

3.5 National Civil War Memorials Officer, Walter E. Busch, PDC

Several communiqués from different brothers this year. Much more than in the past about monuments. We also have been getting a few additions here and there. More than just for people needing to submit it for form 62. We've added a lot of Michigan monuments to the report after straightening out some of their files and a brother in Vermont is beginning to work on cataloging their monuments.

As a member of the Monuments Grants Committee and as Monuments Officer I feel that being on both has smoothed out several issues of communications and I believe grants are being reviewed quickly and getting the necessary paperwork in much quicker. It also allows me to record the monuments in question without having to wait for the committee to submit them in bulk at the end of the year.

I have been working on entering monuments into the database and am providing a report of status to date (below). I think the database is simple enough that it could be sent out to all monument officers in our departments with instructions for them to fill out and submit annually to the national officer, if the council agrees with doing that.

The other issue is that I believe we are far enough along on entering data that it is time for national to pay someone to create a user entry mask to place this on the web. I believe data entry will mostly be done this next year and it could go on line then.

DIGITIZED RECORDS OF CIVIL WAR MONUMENTS

STATE/LOCATION	2015 MONUMENTS	2016 MONUMENTS	Gain / Loss	Entered Database	Last Soldier Markers	LS Entered Database	Notes
Arizona	2	2	0	2	0	0	
Arkansas	3	4	0	241	0	0	Note 1
Australia	1	1	0	1	0	0	
California	40	40	0	0	0	0	
Colorado	4	4	0	4	0	0	
Connecticut	2	2	0	2	0	0	
Delaware	1	1	0	1	0	0	
Florida	2	2	0	2	0	0	
Georgia	6	6	0	6	0	0	
Idaho	9	9	0	9	0	0	
Illinois	128	128	0	0	0	0	
Indiana	6	5	-1	5	0	0	Note 2
Iowa	7	7	0	6	0	0	
Kansas	15	14	-1	0	0	0	Note 2
Kentucky	10	10	0	9	0	0	
Kazakhstan	1	1	0	1	0	0	
Maine	5	5	0	5	0	0	
Maryland	4	4	0	4	0	0	Note 3
Massachusetts	37	40	3	0	0	0	
Mexico	1	1	0	1	0	0	
Michigan	88	209	121	0	0	0	
Minnesota	1	1	0	1	0	0	
Mississippi	1	1	0	1	0	0	
Missouri	473	505	32	37	1	0	
Nebraska	6	6	0	6	0	0	
Nevada	4	4	0	0	0	0	
New Hampshire	9	9	0	9	0	0	
New Jersey	5	5	0	5	0	0	
New York	6	10	4	10	0	0	Note 4
North Carolina	12	12	0	0	0	0	
North Dakota	2	2	0	2	0	0	
Ohio	26	26	0	3	13	13	
Oklahoma	2	3	1	3	0	0	
Oregon	1	1	0	1	0	0	

Pennsylvania	27	27	0	0	0	0	
Rhode Island	26	27	1	0	0	0	
South Carolina	1	1	0	1	0	0	
South Dakota	1	1	0	1	0	0	
Tennessee	7	6	-1	6	0	0	Note 2
Texas	2	2	0	2	0	0	
Utah	1	1	0	1	0	0	
Virgina	4	4	0	4	0	0	
Vermont	0	1	1	1	0	0	
Washington	12	12	0	0	0	0	
Washington DC	1	1	0	1	0	0	
West Virginia	1	0	-1	0	0	0	Note 2
Wisconsin	32	32	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	1035	1195	159	394	14	13	0

* Minuses are result of cleaning up duplicate files

Note 1: A Survey identifying potential markers has been completed and in our database

Note 2: Monuments determined to be a duplicate. WV one actually Ohio.

Note 3: 1995 Maryland Governor's Comm on Monuments report digitized

Note 4: 1992 New York SUVCW Monuments Book Digitized

Mullins Company Monuments Catalog of 1913 Digitized

3.6 National Color Bearer, Robert Heath

Nothing to report.

3.7 National Counselor, James B. Pahl, PCinC

No formal opinions have been issued since the Gettysburg meeting. I have consulted numerous times with the Commander-in-Chief and other brothers of the Order concerning our National Regulations.

3.8 Assistant National Counselor, Donald E. Darby, PCinC

Nothing to report.

3.9 Assistant National Counselor (Blue Book), James B. Pahl, PCinC

On November 27, 2015, upon the approval of the Chair of the National Committee on Constitution and Regulations, I issued version 2015-2 of the Constitution and Regulations, annotated. This included an index to the document. The Regulations are current as of the National Encampment in Richmond, Virginia and the annotations are current through the National Encampment in Marietta, Georgia. As soon as the Proceedings from Richmond, Virginia are published, I can update the annotations. I am also awaiting the completion of George Powell's and Andrew Johnson's Proceedings, so I can check the annotations from those two years. I have provided materials to the Proceedings editor for both.

3.10 National Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator, James L. Lyon

This past year has been a learning experience for me in my new position. It has been a job putting together and updating the Department Coordinators within our National Organization. It did give me a chance to communicate with a number of our Department Coordinators and hear their concerns. One of the concerns that came to my attention was the cost of doing this program. For instance my home Council (Three Fires) had 415 Eagle Scouts for the 2015 year.

I have a number of things I would like to do to make things easier for our Coordinators:

- For National to pick up the cost of the program as it did with the ROTC program.
or
- Set up a printable template that our Coordinators could use with instructions on what font to use when filling in name / date and type of paper to use. This would give them a great opportunity to get these certificates out at less cost and a shorter turn around time.

I would also like to have a national email address of EagleScout@suvcw.org that can be passed down over the years. This will help to make things more fluent over the years without a change in email addresses.

I'm also working on some type of informational letter to send out to the Coordinators about Eagle Scouts, Badge, History, and other resources.

I have created a letterhead for Camps, Departments, and myself to use when communicating and doing reports.

This appointment means a great deal to me as I'm an Eagle Scout and a Life Member of the National Eagle Scout Association. I'm very proud to be a part of both the Boy Scouts and the SUVCW, because they teach us great citizenship.

3.11 National GAR Highway Officer, Peter J. Hritsko, Jr.

I have no update on any State Dept. G.A.R. Highway Officers.

I am working on a G.A.R. Highway Sign report which will be filled out once or twice a year. It will consist of the location as well with GPS coordinates condition of signs, date installed, etc. to keep track of these signs.

Tentatively May 23, 2016 as the Dept. of Ohio G.A.R. Highway Officer I am planning a G.A.R. Highway Sign Rededication Ceremony with the Mayor of City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio and the Mayor of City of Bay Village as well. The City of Avon Lake was also planning on a re-dedication sign ceremony like the two other cities but because of some negative remarks made at a council meeting unfortunately a Council man made remarks about signs and the city has opted out of sign rededication ceremony. Instead they will place their two signs on the city borders. All three cities border each other. The City of Sheffield Lake, Avon Lake and Bay Village have paid for two signs and installation covering the entire cost of the project. Their spirit and devotion have been encouraging as I continue to inquire with all cities on Route 6 in Ohio.

3.12 National GAR Records Officer, Dean A. Enderlin, PCC

Combined report. See paragraph 4.11.

3.13 National Graves Registration Officer, Bruce D. Frail, PDC

To date, 3 April 2016, we have currently 687,911 records of veterans in our National Graves Database; this is a increase of 19,675 records the National Encampment 2015 or 86.67 new records per day. We are 11.67 new records/day above our 3 year plan estimate. We have had 720,752 records submitted since the database went online, as you should be able to see that represents 32,841 records that are no longer in our database. They have been deleted by the National Graves Registration Committee as part of the ongoing database correction process; this number equals an additional 821 records that have been deleted since the National Encampment in 2015.

We currently have 4,969 submitters that have sign up to assist our project, not all are active but you can see from the numbers above that we are getting the numbers.

We are wrapping up the database redesign with all major goals reached and available online to each of the four account levels of the database. We did this with no major interruptions in service to our database

or the users/submitters and researchers. We have had several attacks from outside individuals and at least two companies who have tried to mine our database for their own needs. These attacks were met and turned back by the new safe guards that have been installed during the redesign.

If you haven't already heard, as it was announced in the Banner, the VA has updated its regulations to allow applications for Headstones of service members whose service ended prior to 6 April 1917 without the need for Next of Kin to sign the application. It should still be our goal to try to locate any next of kin to get permission to work on their relative's grave before we change the grave itself. I am not saying it should be mandatory, but it is a common courtesy. Don't assume they don't have anyone that cares; it could be those that are alive don't know of the grave and with finding them we could get new members. There were hundreds of people that went to bats on this issue. Brothers from at least 6 Departments have been working on this issue within the guidelines of our SUVCW Policy, as well as this office. I will not single any one person out or Department as ALL have worked for the same result and have gotten a good start. Thank you ALL.

Next up is the development of the Graves Registration University Online study course as discussed at National in Atlanta and Richmond. We will also be developing three new instructional booklets, one for public submitters, one for Administration Account holders (both GRO & full accounts) and one for Root Admin Account holders.

I would also like to thank the following for their support, all of the Brothers of the National Committee on Graves Registration, Department GROs, Camp GROs and all of our submitters of the database. It is due to the time and dedication that these people give to the SUVCW we have been able to improve, standardize, and operate the database as we do today.

3.14 National Guard, Justin M. Dorsey, PCC

Nothing to report.

3.15 National Guide, Adam W. Gaines

Nothing to report.

3.16 National Historian, Robert J. Wolz, PDC

My job continues with monthly, sometimes weekly, requests to identify various badges, uniforms and photographs. Sometimes I am lucky enough to lead an inquirer to membership. In one Indiana gentleman's case, it lead to membership in both the Sons and Loyal Legion.

A number of inquiries are channeled from National Headquarters and I must complement our Executive Director who is getting much better at answering these questions.

Inquiries about family records continue and are referred to the National Archives or State Archives as a source that may help.

My book, Grand Army Men, continues to prove of interest to both members and collectors. The anticipated companion, Grand Army Women, should be released this Fall.

3.17 National Liaison to Cathedral of the Pines, Perley E. Mellor, PCinC

No report given.

3.18 National Liaison to MOLLUS, Jeffrey C. Burden

Nothing to report.

3.19 National Membership-at-Large Coordinator, Alan L. Russ, PDC

Nothing to report.

3.20 National Patriotic Instructor, Jeffrey French, PDC

The First "Voices of Patriotism" has been published and a second article has been submitted.

The Memorial University Certificates have been sent to the Departments for those who have completed the course. I am still tracking down the University of Memorial Pins that are missing. The PNPI's have been contact with negative results as of today. Will continue to try to contact them to see where the pins are and obtain them.

Major changes on the web site is needed to make the University a success and easy for the NPI to track those doing the course. Currently there are 3 different links on the internet creating confusion on which one is correct. A clarification has been sought with no reply yet. Another request for clarification is going out again. Once we can get the correct link established and the others deleted; an IT person is required so any member can sign on creating their own Username/Password. This sign on application will collect their Name, Camp and Department, and email that will automatically send notification to the NPI. Currently the NPI has no idea who is doing and completing the course; creating more confusion. I like to recommend Brother Kevin Martin to work with our WebMaster. Once these action have been executed and implemented the process will be greatly improved.

The continuity checklist has been provided by Brother Don Martin and is currently being updated for all future National Patriotic Instructors can carry on this duty without fail.

3.21 Asst. Natl. Secretary (Dept-at-Large Secretary/Treasurer), James B. Pahl, PCinC

With the chartering of the Department of the Southwest, there are no Camps-at-Large in the Order.

3.22 Asst. Natl. Secretary (Proceedings), Donald E. Darby, PCinC

Nothing to report.

3.23 National Signals Officer, James P. McGuire

Nothing to report.

3.24 Assistant National Treasurer #1, James Pahl, PCinC

Nothing to report.

3.25 Assistant National Treasurer #2, David McReynolds

No report given.

3.26 National Washington DC Representative, Lee D. Stone, PDC

Having been re-appointed Washington DC Representative by Commander-in-Chief Eugene Mortorff at the National Encampment in Richmond VA, I beg leave to report the following:

- I supported the Commander-in-Chief at Remembrance Day, Gettysburg, PA, 21 November 2015, attending the ceremony at the Woolson Monument, marching in the parade, and attending the Military Ball.
- I supported the Commander-in-Chief at the Lincoln Birthday ceremony at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, DC, 12 February 2016, carrying his flag in the wreath presentation.

I look forward to supporting the Commander-in-Chief or his representative, and other leaders of the Allied Orders, at the National Memorial Day ceremony, and our local SUVCW Memorial Day observance, both at Arlington National Cemetery on 30 May 2016.

I look forward to attending the National Encampment at Springfield, IL, 18-21 August 2016.

My goals as Washington DC Representative of the National Order are to represent the SUVCW in the Washington Metropolitan Region, and to assist National Officers of the SUVCW and all the Allied Orders, whenever they visit this region.

I have no formal recommendations. If any National Officers, or any officers of our Allied Orders, wish my assistance in the Washington Metro Region, they have only to ask.

3.27 National Webmaster, James P. McGuire

Since last reporting, the National Webmaster has had a very busy, sometimes quite trying, but always quite rewarding quarter maintaining and updating the web presence of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War National Organization. At this time, I will begin with addressing the issues pertaining to the maintenance of the online Quartermaster Store during October-December 2015. For a variety of personal reasons, I was not able to dedicate appropriate time and resources to the QM store in October and November, and by the time December rolled around, I could feel the pressure and was acutely aware that I was behind schedule on updating the site and that Br. Wheeler was disappointed and concerned. In haste, I got into the site and quickly discovered the difficulty one encounters when trying to manage the old infrastructure. During the first few weeks of December, I attempted to figure out how to update the store, and in the process, I succeeded in “breaking” the site no less than three times. I am happy that on each occasion I was able to undo any “breaking” that I had done, and that no Brother’s QM store experience was affected by the site being down or links being ruined, etc. During this time, the CinC began developing a plan to appoint a dedicated Webmaster for the Quartermaster Store, which was ultimately implemented, thereby taking the QM store out of the National Webmaster’s hands. I had several conversations with the CinC on the matter of the QM store, and I appreciate CinC Mortorff’s support and leadership during this time. I have previously offered my apologies to Br. Wheeler for my inability to meet his needs in a timely fashion, and am happy that a solution has been put into place that will benefit the Quartermaster and the Order as a whole.

With that all on the table and out of the way now, I will proceed to detail the good work that this office has provided to the Order during the past quarter.

- I have received approved credentials for several candidates for national office. To date, all candidates’ credentials have been posted.
- Over the course of the quarter I have received several updated forms. To date, all requests to update forms on the website have been fulfilled. One form update required the deletion of several forms (new Form 13 – SUVCW expense report required deletion of National Officer reimbursement form and Special National Officer reimbursement form). I have also deleted the Signature Event Form per request of the SVC.
- To date, all Council of Administration meeting minutes and e-boardroom vote results that have been provided to me have been posted.
- Kept Lincoln Tomb Observance information current per collaboration with Br. Petrovic.
- Continue to keep the 2016 National Encampment information up to date as information becomes current in collaboration with Br. Crane.
- Continue to work with Br. French in regards to Memorial University.
- I receive several inquiries to make updates to email addresses on various places on the site. Some of these I can accomplish right away, some of them need to be forwarded to the Chief of Staff to update the master PDF. To date, all requests that have come in to me have been made. There is also begun an influx of Form 49s that will offer me the opportunity to make sure that Department Officers are listed correctly. This seems to be of particular import for Eagle Scout coordinators, as I have been informed by the Executive Director.
- I have been called upon to do some fine-tuning on several Department websites that are maintained under the National Website: most notably North Carolina has required regular maintenance and updating.
- Maine has launched a new Department website that can be found at suvcwmaine.org and the National website has been updated accordingly.
- I have redirected several official suvcw.org e-mail addresses to keep up with office changes on the national level.
- After a conversation begun in October, and after the issue of the Banner Editor has found its ultimate resolution, I have made the official switch of the email address “banner@sucvw.org” from PCinC Michaels to Br. Pahl. Rather than creating and disseminating a new email address to the Order, this

is the best solution for a variety of reasons, but most notably because the banner e-mail address is the touch point for communicating with the Banner editor that is known by the entirety of the Organization. It will cause the least amount of confusion to the Members of the Order.

- I have responded to general inquiries regarding ancestors/lineage, Departments/Camps, membership and contact information that come in to the webmaster from both inside and outside of the Order, and I have forwarded messages, when appropriate, to the correct national officer or committee chair.
- I have also responded to the same types of inquires in the “messaging section” of the Facebook page in kind.
- I have made occasional updates to the Facebook page as time has allowed.

There are also some outstanding items that still need to be addressed:

- As brought to my attention by Brother Darby, there is some archival information that should be more readily accessible on the main website. Proceedings of previous National Encampments and the General Orders of many PCinCs from years past. One idea is to build out a whole new section of the site that will contain all such archival material of these “official” documents.
- There has been a problem accessing the suvcw.org photo gallery at suvcw.org/gallery/main. I am looking into the code and storage capabilities.
- I have been asked to find a way to make the link to the ROTC award more visible/accessible from the main page. I have some concern about giving one such item prominence over others, as soon we may want to have prominent placement for all such merit awards (Eagle Scout, etc.) This speaks to website navigation more than placement.
- Website navigation. Understanding that the “Governance” section is by far the most important section to the membership, work needs to be done there. Starting with the name. “Governance” is confusing and not clear. Moving forward, this site navigation and accessibility of important information will be addressed, however, I do intend to keep the main site in the Wordpress environment. Additionally, moving forward, the other half of the site needs to begin being migrated over to the Wordpress platform so that the old infrastructure can be retired.
- Communication protocols are not clear for how information on updating contact information of officers/committee chairs and members, department officers, etc. is sent to the Webmaster for updating on the web. I am sure this can be ironed out.
- I would like to explore the continued practicality of the National Webmaster acting as Department Webmaster for several Departments. Not sure where to go with that. One idea is to make the Department Webmasters that have their sites hosted on the National Site be made assistant webmasters and give them access to manage their own sites. Also, and I am loathe to even mention this, but as we are paying for web hosting, should we or should we not be requiring a hosting fee from such Departments if we are to continue to support them. Not looking for an answer there, just getting it onto the plate before it gets to the table. There is research to be done before any conversations can be held.

As I have become more familiar with the site and the needs of the organization, I have obtained much more of a handle on the maintenance and management of the site. Some of the lingering issues outlined above are issues that have existed for a long time, and are still not quick fixes, but now that the “getting my feet wet” period is drying up, I feel that I can begin looking to make some progress on navigation and migration. I would like to close by expressing my sincere gratitude to the National Officers and the members of the Council of Administration as we have navigated some of the rockier moments of my first half-year as National Webmaster. I look forward to continually improving my service to the Order and helping to make progress on our web communication and navigation as we continue on.

3.28 Assistant National Webmaster, Joshua A. Claybourn, PCC

No report given.

4.0 National Standing Committees

4.1 National Committee on Americanization & Education, Jeffrey French, PDC

See paragraph 3.20.

4.2 National Committee on Battle Flag Preservation, Edward J. Norris, PDC

Continued to spread the word about the importance of preserving our ancestors' colors. The Facebook page is up to 1,659 Likes. Some bad news from New Hampshire - after significant progress on the preservation of the flags in their State House during the past two years, the Joint Legislative Historical Committee voted to "suspend flag preservation efforts indefinitely". The New Hampshire Battle Flag Preservation Committee is staying on top of this action and keeping our committee informed.

4.3 National Comm. on Civil War Heritage Defense Fund, Russell W. Kirchner, Jr., PDC

No report given.

4.4 National Comm. on Civil War Memorial Grant Fund, Brian C. Pierson, PDC

The committee reviewed the following applications for grants:

- 2015-16-01, 3rd Div, XXIII Corps - Utoy Creek Battlefield, Atlanta, GA. New Monument. \$1,000 grant requested & approved. Form 61 to be submitted upon installation of monument.
- 2015-16-02, Defenders of the Flag Monument Restoration, Mt Hope Cemetery, Rochester, NY [Note 1]. Existing monument. Processing of the grant was deferred until Camp submitted a Form 61. \$1,000 grant requested & approved.
- 2015-16-03, Civil War Soldiers & Sailors Monument Restoration, Weymouth, MA. Processing of the grant was deferred until Camp submitted a Form 61. \$1,000 grant requested & approved.
- 2015-16-04, GAR Monument, Tulsa, OK. Installation of flagpole at monument. \$1,000 grant requested.
- 2015-16-05, Victorious Charge Monument Renovation, Milwaukee, WI. \$500 grant requested.

Brothers Busch and Norris are to be commended for their thorough review of these applications with respect to both their merit and to ensure they are IAW SUVCW policies.

[Note 1] This is the cemetery which intended to utilize unused plots in the GAR section. During the discussions on the grant request, the Camp Commander was advised of the SUVCW's written policy in the C&R vis a vis unused GAR plots being reserved for indigent veterans. He stated that he intends take it to the cemetery board, who he believes will be amenable to this policy.

4.5 National Committee on Civil War Memorials, Walter E. Busch, PDC

Combined report. See paragraph 3.5.

4.6 National Committee on Communication & Technology, James P. McGuire

Nothing to report.

4.7 National Committee on Constitution and Regulations, Robert E Grimm, PCinC

The committee is currently studying and evaluating several possible changes to the Regulations for presentation at the 135th National Encampment.

4.8 National Committee on eBay Surveillance, James R. Dixon, CC

No report given.

4.9 National Encampment Site Committee, James T. Crane, PCC

2016 Springfield, IL National Encampment August 10 - 14

The Encampment is starting to show some organization and we feel that the Encampment will go off without a hitch. The Tours on Thursday have been planned, and the Schedule has been finished. We are starting to see problems on reservations for Wednesday arrivals. It started with Marietta, continued with Richmond, and now Springfield. In the past, there was 20 rooms blocked by the National Site Committee. But as we have now seen, that is out the window, with increases of reservations for Springfield, and the

last two Encampments. To offset these problems, we feel that eliminating Wednesday from the block of rooms we do for the Encampment would be the best course of action. Since we have the addition of the "3 days before and 3 days after" clause in our contract, there would not be a set number of rooms prohibiting us from begging the hotel to expand our block, which they really do not want to do. We cannot guarantee, as of this writing, that the Host Hotel will agree to increase the block, as they have let us exceed it already. I believe to increase the number of rooms on Wednesday to 40 or 50 in future Encampments could be a gamble for the Department Host Committee. They are the ones who set the number of rooms on a daily basis, as we are doing the contract, although we do offer advice and experience.

2017 Lansing, MI National Encampment August 9 - 13

The National Encampment Site Committee will be going to Lansing in September after the Springfield Encampment, to start the planning process. I am sure they have most likely already started working on their responsibility, and we look forward to working with their Committee. It will be at the Radisson Hotel Lansing at the Capital, located very close to the airport, and right around the corner from several restaurants, and other businesses. They have just completed an extensive renovation and is an excellent hotel. Also, there is a Starbucks in the lobby area. The Capital itself is within walking distance; and we will get to see the Battle Flags of Michigan, at the Historical Center, which I understand they only do Special Showings of these.

2018 Boston, MA National Encampment August 8 - 13

The Encampment will be at the Sheraton Framingham Hotel and Conference Center, about 25 miles from the airport. There is a Mall within a couple of miles from the hotel with a lot of stores, and restaurants. The hotel will provide complimentary transportation to and from the Mall. Also, they are putting together a Tour of the Springfield Armory for those who wish to go through it.

2019 Branson, MO National Encampment

There is not a lot we can tell you about Branson, except to let the Allied Orders know this is where the National Encampment will be. We will be doing Hotel negotiating when the National Site Committee does a visit the first week of April, and pick a date when we will have the Encampment.

4.10 National Committee on Fraternal Relations, TBD

No report given.

4.11 National Committee on GAR Post Records, Dean A. Enderlin, PCC

This serves as a combined report of the National Committee on GAR Records and the National GAR Records Officer. A list of current committee members was provided in our previous interim report.

To help track the status of pending and completed National Encampment actions pertaining to the GAR Records Program, we developed the following table. All of the actions that were reported as "pending" in our previous report are now marked as complete.

Status of Previous National Encampment Actions Relating to GAR Records:

Year	Recommendation	Action	Status
2012	Approve a GAR Records Project Plan.	Voted/Approved	COMPLETE. Approved by National Encampment, August 2012
2012	Amend the job description of the National GAR Records Officer.	Voted/Approved	COMPLETE. SUVCW Blue Book updated August 2015. Job description needs to be posted to the SUVCW website National Job Descriptions page.
2013, 2015	Amend job description of the National Standing Committee on GAR Records.	Voted/Approved	COMPLETE. SUVCW Blue Book updated November 2015. Job description needs to be posted to the SUVCW website National Job Descriptions page.

Year	Recommendation	Action	Status
2013, 2015	That a National Policy on GAR Records be approved.	Voted/Approved	COMPLETE. The new policy is posted to the SUVCW website National Policies page.
2014	Amend Chap. II, Art. IV, Sec. 1 of the C&R to include the office of Department G.A.R. Records Officer (the office was created at the Nat'l Encampment in 2004).	Voted/Approved	COMPLETE. SUVCW Blue Book updated in August 2014. Job description needs to be posted to the SUVCW website Department and Camp Job Descriptions page.
2015	Amend Chap. II, Art. VIII, Sec. 4 of the C&R to revise the job description of the Department Historian.	Voted/Approved	COMPLETE. SUVCW Blue Book updated November 2015. Job description needs to be posted to the SUVCW website Department and Camp Job Descriptions page.
2015	Amend Chap I, Art. VIII, Sec. 4 of the C&R to revise the job description of the Camp Historian.	Voted/Approved	COMPLETE. SUVCW Blue Book updated November 2015. Job description needs to be posted to the SUVCW website Department and Camp Job Descriptions page.
2015	Amend Chap. III, Art. VII, Sec. 12 of the C&R to revise the job description of the National Historian.	Voted/Approved	COMPLETE. Blue Book updated November 2015. Job description needs to be posted to the SUVCW website National Job Descriptions page.
2015	Amend Chap. III, Art. X, Sec. 17 of the C&R to revise the job description of the National Committee on History.	Voted/Approved	COMPLETE. Blue Book updated November 2015. Job description needs to be posted to the SUVCW website National Job Descriptions page.
2015	Amend Chap. III, Art. X, Sec. 17 of the C&R to create a new Job Description for the Department GAR Records Officer.	Voted/Approved	COMPLETE. Blue Book updated November 2015. Job description needs to be posted to the SUVCW website Department and Camp Job Descriptions page.

Although job descriptions have been updated in the SUVCW Blue Book, there are related pages on the National website (suvchw.org) that also need to be updated. Currently, job descriptions can be viewed by clicking the Governance menu option on the National website and scrolling down to Organizational Information. There are two job description pages available in that section: One for National Officers and Committees, and the other for Department and Camp Officers. Content in the former was last updated in 2011, and in the latter in 2003. Now that the SUVCW Blue Book is up-to-date, we'll explore options with the National Webmaster to update the remaining content.

At the suggestion of the National GAR Records Committee, the National GAR Records Officer submitted an article to The Banner to get the word out to Departments about the recent office and job description changes. The article appears on page 7 of the winter 2016 issue of The Banner under the heading, "GAR Records Project Expands to All Departments." Several Departments have already responded favorably to this news.

Since 1 August 2015, the National GAR Records Officer has received and responded to 122 emails regarding GAR records. Sixteen submissions were also received using the website's online GAR records notification form, along with several tips regarding the location of records collections received via email.

After a two-year run, a DUVCW special project to honor GAR ancestors has passed its deadline for submissions. Their plan is to honor GAR ancestors at a special program at their 2016 National Convention in Springfield, IL, but the details are a closely guarded secret. It became a very popular project with DUVCW members across the country. Our GAR Records Catalog proved to be an essential tool to assist our DUVCW Sisters with this effort, and it engendered strong bonds of cooperation between our two organizations. Their special project may be over, but we now have Tents all over the country assisting us in the search for GAR records.

In response to the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan recommendation that the GAR Records Committee "establish and publish a process for Departments to report locations of GAR records in their territories," our committee continues to make progress in achieving that goal. The reporting structure first envisioned by the 2004 National Encampment is now in place. Job titles and descriptions have been added for the new GAR Records positions, with corresponding adjustments made to the Historian and History Committee job descriptions to avoid overlapping responsibilities. The framework is now in place for an effective communication network between Departments and the National Committee on GAR Records. The next step is to provide consistent guidance to the new officers by means of a handbook (similar to the ones used in Graves Registration and Patriotic Instruction). Work on that project has begun.

No recommendations.

4.12 National Committee on Graves Registration, Bruce D. Frail, PDC

Combined report. See paragraph 3.13.

4.13 National Committee on History, Robert J. Wolz, PDC

Combined report. See paragraph 3.16.

4.14 National Committee on Legislation, Daniel R Earl, PCC

The purpose of the National Committee on Legislation of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is to keep Brothers apprised of proposed federal and state legislation affecting the welfare of the Order or the Constitution or welfare of the United States. Legislation being tracked by the Committee includes the following:

Federal Legislation

- H.R. 87 – Shiloh National Military Park Boundary Adjustment and Parker’s Crossroads Battlefield Designation Act. Among other things, this act would modify the boundaries of Shiloh National Military Park to include the Fallen Timbers Battlefield, the Russell House Battlefield, and the Davis Bridge Battlefield.
- H.R. 1670 – National POW/MIA Remembrance Act of 2015. This legislation would direct the Architect of the Capitol to place in the United States Capitol a chair honoring American Prisoners of War/Missing in Action.
- H.R. 2610 – Harriet Tubman Tribute Act of 2015. This bill amends the Federal Reserve Act to require the Department of the Treasury to designate a denomination of Federal Reserve note and ensure that each such denomination printed after December 31, 2017, bears the likeness of Harriet Tubman.
- S. 1508 – Harriet Tubman Tribute Act of 2015. This is a companion bill to H.R. 2610, which would redesign the \$20 Federal Reserve notes to include a likeness of Harriet Tubman.
- S. 1720 – Harriet Tubman Currency Tribute Act of 2015. This is a companion bill to H.R. 2610, which would require \$10 Federal Reserve notes to include a likeness of Harriet Tubman.
- S. 1943 – Shiloh National Military Park Boundary Adjustment and Parker’s Crossroads Battlefield Designation Act. This is a companion bill to HR. 87, modifying park boundaries.

State Legislation

- New York, New Jersey, and Massachusetts are working on legislation to criminalize the desecration, defacing, and destruction of headstones and/or monuments.

The Committee has no recommendations.

4.15 National Committee on Lincoln Tomb Observance, Robert M. Petrovic, PDC

We have the required permit for The Lincoln Tomb program in 2016. The assistant site superintendent has put our program down as a permanent program in April. The chairs have been ordered and are to be

delivered Saturday morning. I contacted the 33rd Illinois Regiment Band to perform and we have a signed contract with them. The entertainment for the luncheon is a documentary film by the Lincoln Monument Association on the history of Lincoln's Tomb. The headquarters hotel is The President Abraham Lincoln hotel at 701 E. Adams St, P# 217-544-8800. The room rate is \$96.99 single, double, triple or quad. We have 50 rooms blocked (25 Friday, 25 Saturday). The meeting space is complementary. The luncheon will be a plated meal for 75 people at a cost of \$29.00. There are several nice restaurants within walking distance of the hotel.

The SUVCW SVC-in-Chief will be the MC for the tomb program. MOLLUS will pick their MC for the luncheon program.

4.16 National Committee on Membership, Mark R. Day, PDC

Applications by Type:

Full Member	74
Associate	2
Junior	0
Junior Associate	0

Applicants by Age and Percent of Total:

Age	# of Applicants	Percent of Total Applications
16	1	1.3%
18	3	4%
24	1	1.3%
29	2	2.7%
30	1	1.3%
32	1	1.3%
34	1	1.3%
35	1	1.3%
36	1	1.3%
37	2	2.7%
38	1	1.3%
39	2	2.7%
42	1	1.3%
45	1	1.3%
46	1	1.3%
47	2	2.7%
48	1	1.3%
49	1	1.3%
50	1	1.3%
52	1	1.3%
53	5	6.7%
54	2	2.7%
55	1	1.3%
56	7	9.3%
57	5	6.7%
59	2	2.7%
60	1	1.3%
61	1	1.3%
62	2	2.7%
63	3	4%
65	2	2.7%
66	1	1.3%
67	1	1.3%
68	4	5.3%
69	1	1.3%
71	1	1.3%
73	3	4%
75	1	1.3%
76+	4	5.3%

On-Line New member applications age 16 – 40 = 20.5%

On-line New member applications age 60–76+ = 33.1%

Departments to which the On-line New member applications were assigned:

California	5
Chesapeake	7
Colorado and Wyoming	0
Columbia	2
Connecticut	3
Florida, PR, VI, and GITMO	1
Georgia and South Carolina	3
Illinois	6
Indiana	6
Iowa	0
Kansas	0
Kentucky	3
Maine	0
Massachusetts	0
Michigan	2
Missouri with Arkansas	2
Nebraska, N, and S. Dakota	0
New Hampshire	1
New Jersey	4
New York	1
New Mexico and Arizona	2
North Carolina	2
Ohio	4
Oklahoma	2
Pennsylvania	6
Rhode Island	0
Tennessee, MS, and AL	2
Texas and Louisiana	6
Vermont	1
Wisconsin with Minnesota	4
NMAL	1

In addition to the applications, which have been processed, I currently am holding:

- (2) Applications which lacked a witness signature
- (2) Applications that lacked both an applicant signature and a witness signature
- (2) Applications that lack evidence
- Application, which arrived yesterday and I have not opened.

I also returned one application to the applicant because he was trying to join on a cousin.

4.17 National Military Affairs Committee, Henry E Shaw, PCC

This Interim Report will cover the activities of the National Military Affairs Committee from the 2015 Remembrance Day Weekend (20 November 2015 - 22 November 2015) through and including the date of this Interim Report of the National Military Affairs Committee.

- The National Military Affairs Committee held its meeting in Gettysburg, PA on the evening of Friday, 20 November 2015 at the Wyndham Hotel.

- One SVR General Orders was issued since the date of this Committee's Tri-Annual Report dated 03 November 2015, specifically, SVR General Order 2015-14, dated 14 December 2015, and which said SVR General Order has been published on the Web Site.

REMEMBRANCE DAY WEEKEND – 2015

- In the course of proceedings at the SVR Breakfast held at the Wyndham Hotel on Saturday morning, 21 November 2015, Maj. Gen. Robert E. Grim, Commanding Officer of the SVR, presented the following awards: First Military District: Distinguished Service Medal: Private Stephen J. Twining, Company E, 15th Mass. Volunteer Infantry, SVR; SVR Unit Citation: Company E, 15th Mass. Volunteer Infantry, SVR; Commanding Officer, SVR – Letters of Appreciation and Letters of Commendation: Private George E. Maple, Jr., Company E, 15th Mass. Volunteer Infantry, SVR, Private Edward Norris, Company E, 15th Mass. Volunteer Infantry, SVR, Private Robert H. Knight, Company E, 15th Mass. Volunteer Infantry, SVR, Private Reynaldo Rodriguez, Company E, 15th Mass. Volunteer Infantry, SVR. Fourth Military District: Meritorious Service Medal: 1st Lt. Thomas G. Hauff, Battery L, 1st Illinois Light Artillery, SVR. Seventh Military District: SVR Unit Citation: Amzi D. Harmon Company, SVR.
- At the Woolson Ceremonies conducted on Saturday, 21 November 2015, Maj. Gen. Robert E. Grim, Commanding Officer of the SVR functioned as Master of Ceremonies and, in the course of the proceedings, presented a check in the sum of \$3,500.00 to Ed W. Clark, Superintendent of the Gettysburg National Military Park, for monument preservation. That donation brings the total to date in the sum of \$80,500.00.
- The Parade was well attended, both from the perspective of the participants and the spectators. In fact, once again, it was necessary to secure special permission from GNMP to secure the use of a portion of East Confederate Avenue to accommodate the overflow of parade participants.
- The Ball was, as usual, quite a fine success with over 300 participants in attendance. It appears that a donation at least in the sum of \$3,000.00 will be presented to the Gettysburg National Military Park on 19 November 2016 in the course of the Woolson Ceremonies. As in numerous prior years, the efforts of Janice Corfman and SVR Deputy Provost, Captain David K. Hann who handled the tickets at the door and Anne and David Sosnowski who did the Ball decorations should be recognized.

REMEMBRANCE DAY WEEKEND, 2016

- As previously reported, on 31 December 2012, contracts, covering the years 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 were executed with the Wyndham Hotel Management contemplating lodging at both the Wyndham Hotel and the adjacent Courtyard Marriott for the aforesaid four years. Thus, the year 2016 is the fourth and final year of the four year contract.
- As previously reported, a 4 year contract for the years 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 was entered into with the Philadelphia Brigade Band for purposes of providing period dance music at the Original Civil War Ball to be held in the Wyndham ballroom. The contract also includes period dance instruction by the Victorian Dance Ensemble. In addition to playing for the Ball, the Band will also render The National Anthem and provide period selections at the Woolson Monument ceremonies and will participate in the Remembrance Day Parade.
- Arrangements are being made with the various CW publications to publish ads for the Remembrance Day Parade and the Original Civil War Ball. Issues of several of these CW publications containing the Remembrance Day 2016 ads will be distributed at the 153rd reenactment in Gettysburg in July of 2016.
- Through the assistance of PCinC and SVR Web Master Leo Kennedy, Notice of the 2016 Remembrance Day Parade and the 2016 Original Civil War Ball are both posted on the SVR Web site.
- Captain David K. Hann, Deputy Provost, SVR, fashioned a Remembrance Day Facebook Page in 2014 and which said page has been updated to include the 2016 events.
- Renewed State Auto Insurance Company Bond for purposes of protecting the Original Civil War Ball funds at no cost to the SVR. Funds for policy premium came from an anonymous donor.

- Original Civil War Ball tickets (350) were ordered on 02 February 2016 and were received on 10 February 2016. Total cost, including shipping, was \$115.00.
- On 11 February 2016, arrangements were made, electronically, with PCinC James B. Pahl, the new Editor of The Banner, to publish ads for the Remembrance Day Parade and the Original Civil War Ball.
- On 11 February 2016, arrangements were made, electronically, with All Sound Pro in Chambersburg, PA (Robert Ranalli) to provide Public Address system for Woolson Monument Ceremonies on 19 November 2016.
- On 12 February 2016, a formal personalized letter of invitation was mailed to Robert F. Costello, requesting him to deliver The Gettysburg Address in the course of the Memorial Service at the Woolson Monument on 19 November 2016.
- On 12 February 2016, a formal personalized letter of invitation was mailed to Ivan E. Frantz, Musician Sgt. Major, SVR, requesting him to render TAPS at the conclusion of the Memorial Service at the Woolson Monument.
- On 12 February 2016, a formal personalized letter was sent to Mr. Charles Hulse requesting him to have Boy Scout Troop No. 88 place refuse containers (as required by the Borough of Gettysburg) along the parade route, prior to the 2016 Remembrance Day Parade and then remove the same following the completion of the Parade.

Schedule of Events for Saturday, 19 November 2016:

- SVR Breakfast at Wyndham Hotel at 8:00 A.M.
- Parade Briefing at Wyndham Hotel at 9:30 A.M.
- Woolson Monument Ceremonies in Zeigler's Grove at 11:00 A.M.
- Parade Form-Up at Gettysburg Middle School at Noon.
- Parade Commences at 1:00 P.M.
- Original Civil War Ball at Wyndham Hotel at 8:00 P.M.

Remembrance Day 2016 Permits:

- Gettysburg Area School District – Application for Facilities Lease Agreement for purposes of use of Middle School area for form up of parade was sent electronically on 05 February 2016. The Facilities Lease Agreement was approved by the School District, received back on 29 February 2016, and the original Agreement was signed and returned to Wayne Crosby, the Director of Buildings and Grounds for the School District on 29 February 2016.
- Borough of Gettysburg – Application for Parade Permit together with \$30.00 document processing fee (anonymous donor) was mailed to Borough of Gettysburg Police Department on 04 February 2016. Thereafter, and on 22 February 2016, a detailed summary of costs associated with the Parade, in the sum of \$1,580.00, was received from Joseph F. Dougherty, Chief of Police, Gettysburg Police Department. On 14 March 2016, a check for \$1,000.00 was received from Steinwehr Avenue Heart of Gettysburg Battlefield, Inc. (formerly the Steinwehr Avenue Business Improvement District) for part of the Remembrance Day Parade Fee and on same date the required acceptance of the terms of the Parade Permit, the BID Check for \$1,000.00 and an SVR Check in the sum of \$580.00 were mailed to the Gettysburg Police Department. Upon receipt thereof, the Gettysburg Police Department will issue a Provisional Approval which will enable the completion of the required Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.
- Gettysburg National Military Park – for purposes of conducting the Woolson Monument Ceremonies in Zeigler's Grove, a Special Use Permit Application was mailed to Grace Reese, Special Park Use Manager on 04 February 2016. Over the past many years, this Application has been routinely approved but will probably not be mailed out to the Chairman of NMAC until the middle or later part of April, 2016.
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation – this Application cannot be made until the Parade Permit Provisional Approval has been issued by the Borough of Gettysburg.

- Certificates of Liability Insurance from the SVR's insurance carrier accompanied the Gettysburg Area School District Facilities Lease Agreement Application and Parade Permit Application to the Borough of Gettysburg. A Certificate of Liability Insurance will also accompany the Penn DOT application.

Further Tasks To Be Accomplished, between March, 2016 and the 135th National Encampment, and In Anticipation Of Remembrance Day Weekend, 2016:

- Order Remembrance Day Parade Streamers from R. B. Powers Co., in Ashley, Ohio.
- Make arrangements with Associated Products Services, Mechanicsburg, PA, for purposes of providing 3 portable sanitary facilities at the parade staging area and secure authorizations from Gettysburg Police Chief and the Director of Buildings and Grounds for the Gettysburg Area School District to place the sanitary facilities in the proximity of the staging area along Lefever Street.
- Order 13 wreaths from The Floral Boutique in Gettysburg and arrange for the wreaths to be delivered to the Woolson Monument on Saturday, 19 November 2016 at 10:00 A.M.
- Make arrangements with Jeffrey C. Young, owner of Gettysburg Carriage Company, to have a carriage at the parade staging area to convey President Lincoln and John Hart (Gen. Scott) and two others in the Remembrance Day Parade.
- Secure Dance List from Larry Keener-Farley, the Victorian Ensemble Dance Master so that Dance Cards for the Original Civil War Ball can be prepared.

Of Necessity, Further Tasks In Anticipation Of Remembrance Day Weekend, 2015, Will Be Addressed Subsequent To The 134th National Encampment, specifically:

- Extend a formal written invitation to Major General Robert E. Grim, Commanding Officer, SVR, to act as Master of Ceremonies at the Memorial Service at the Woolson Monument, to present a check to the Gettysburg National Military Park, to lay a wreath on behalf of the SVR and to lead, along with Mrs. Grim, the Grand March at the Original Civil War Ball at The Wyndham Hotel, commencing at 8:00 P.M. on Saturday 19 November 2016.
- Mail a formal personalized letter of invitation to the newly elected Commander-in-Chief, SUVCW, to present remarks in the course of the Memorial Service at the Woolson Monument, and to lay a wreath on behalf of the SUVCW.
- Mail formal personalized letters of invitation to all heads of National Allied Orders, National and Pennsylvania Mollus Heads and all Pennsylvania Allied Orders Heads, requesting each to present a wreath in the course of the Memorial Service at the Woolson Monument.
- Mail a formal personalized letter of invitation to Captain Jerome W. Kowalski, National Chaplain, SVR, requesting him to deliver the Invocation and pronounce the Benediction at the SVR Breakfast and at the Memorial Service at the Woolson Monument.
- Arrange to have the Program for the Memorial Service at the Woolson Monument printed and have sufficient copies made for distribution at the site of the Woolson Monument, prior to the commencement of the Memorial Service.
- Pick up Remembrance Day Parade Streamers from the R. B. Powers Co., in Ashley, Ohio.
- Arrange to have Dance Cards for the original Civil War Ball to be printed, boxed.
- Arrange to have the various Certificates of Appreciation/Thanks prepared.
- Arrange ceremony for Friday afternoon, 18 November 2016, with Gettysburg business leaders, for presentation of Certificates in recognition of their \$1,000.00 parade permit donation.

REMEMBRANCE DAY WEEKENDS – 2017 THROUGH AND INCLUDING 2021:

- During the 2014 Remembrance Day Weekend, information was received from the Wyndham Hotel management that the Ball Room at the Hotel had been reserved for the Lincoln Forum and, thus, would not be available for the Original Civil War Ball in 2017. Insofar as the net proceeds of the Ball are donated to GNMP each year, it then became clear that in order to continue with the Ball and thus continue to donate the net proceeds of the Ball to GNMP, it would be necessary to secure another forum, both as a Headquarters Hotel and a site for the SVR Original Civil War Ball.

- SVR Chief of Staff, Colonel Robert M. Petrovic, worked on this matter and negotiated five (5) proposed contracts with the Eisenhower Complex (formerly the Eisenhower Hotel) for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021. It should be noted that the Eisenhower Complex has a substantially sized Ball Room.
- The NMAC Committee considered the matter and came to the conclusion that it would be proper for MG Robert E. Grim, Commanding Officer, SVR, to sign each of the five (5) contracts on behalf of the SVR. As of the date of this Report, all five (5) of the subject contracts have been signed by MG Grim and mailed back to the Eisenhower Complex, specifically, for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021.
- The five (5) contracts with the Eisenhower Complex, among other things, provide for the identical group rate per night for each of the five (5) years, that is, the sum of \$129.00 plus tax per night. Insofar as the nightly group rate at the Wyndham for 2016 is the sum of \$116.00 plus tax per night, the fixed five (5) year rate of \$129.00 plus tax per night at the Eisenhower Complex thus represents an 11.2% increase over the 2016 rate at the Wyndham.
- It should also be noted that the nightly group rate of \$116.00 plus tax at the Wyndham will expire following Remembrance Day Weekend in 2016. It should also be noted that there is no reason to believe that the group rate at the Wyndham will remain at \$116.00 for the years subsequent to 2016 and most likely will increase to at least the sum as contained in the Eisenhower contracts.
- The contracts with the Eisenhower Complex also provides for rooms, built into the contracts and at no additional expense, for the use of the Allied Orders to display and sell their various items, the same also holding true for the National Quartermaster. Additionally, a large room will be available for the SVR Breakfast, a room will be available for the Council of Administration Meeting and for the Church Service on the Sunday morning of each weekend. And, of course, the use of the Ball Room is built into the terms of each of the five (5) contracts with the Eisenhower Complex.
- The Eisenhower Complex is presently undergoing substantial upgrades and should be a first class facility by November of 2017.

REMEMBRANCE DAY DATES – 2016 THROUGH AND INCLUDING 2021:

The following future dates have been established for Remembrance Day:

- Saturday, 19 November 2016
- Saturday, 18 November 2017
- Saturday, 17 November 2018
- Saturday, 16 November 2019
- Saturday, 21 November 2020
- Saturday, 20 November 2021

4.18 National Committee on Program and Policy, Donald L. Martin, PDC

Combined report. See paragraph 2.2.

4.19 National Committee on Scholarships, John R. Ertell, PCC

No report given.

5.0 SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 Civil War Sesquicentennial Special Committee, D. Michael Beard, PDC

The Special Committee for the Sesquicentennial respectfully submits this report. I sent a late application to you from the Department of Tennessee that was delayed for insurance issues. I asked for consideration, but the COA rejected the application for several reasons.

5.2 National Encampment Credentials Special Committee, Joseph S. Hall, Jr., PDC

The only things I need addressed involve the computer I have for Credentials. As for Credentials, i have entered roughly 30 brothers and have 20 more to enter over the next week.

- The Antivirus Program (McAfee) is out of date and has been for a long time. I recommend Norton 360, but I leave that up to whoever. I use my own computer for all correspondence and such so as to limit any problems with getting a virus.
- The computer is running Windows 7. Do we want to upgrade it to Windows 10? If so, will that affect the Access program? if it does, that also needs to be addressed.

All that said, I do know how to upgrade to Windows 10. I will need a credit card number to add the antivirus and a new Access Program if needed depending on what we have and how it might be affected by Windows 10. I will let you guys decide all this.

If a credit card is not available, I will add the antivirus on my personal account and submit for reimbursement. All other expenses that I incur over the year (paper, stamps, envelopes, etc.) I consider as a personal donation to the organization.

5.3 National Fund Raising Special Committee, Glenn B. Knight, PDC

This committee is not currently active.

5.4 GAR Sesquicentennial Special Committee, Terry R. Dyer, PDC

No report given.

5.5 Natl Government Headstone Applications Special Comm., Bruce D. Frail, PDC

The committee continues to work with relatives, brothers and other groups to order headstones for those civil war veterans that either don't have a headstone or their headstone needs to be replaced.

Please see the Banner and NGRO Report for latest VA update. A full report will be issued for the National Encampment in Springfield, until then, we have nothing further to report.

5.6 Natl Membership Process Development Special Committee, Paul T. Zeien, Jr., PCC

No report given.

5.7 Memorial University Redesign Special Committee, Stephen A. Michaels, PCinC

The committee has been charged with developing an introductory online course made up of several interactive power point presentations. To date, it has completed the first three Power points, covering an organizational overview, History of our Order, Customs & Courtesies, and Badge Wear. The first two have been reviewed and accepted by the committee and the Council.

Each are readied for council review on "Blendspace," The presentations were based upon those successfully used at the Wisconsin Dept. Member Orientation.

Other presentations on mission accomplishment, core values and organizational structure are planned. All presentations will include review quizzes.

5.8 Promotion & Marketing Special Committee, Mark R. Day, PDC

Nothing to report.

5.9 Real Sons & Daughters Special Committee, Jerome L. Orton, PDC

Every real son and daughter has been contacted. Whether they get the letter or if I get a response is another question. They were all asked to provide a brief autobiography

- There were 6 sons and 7 daughters.
- Irene Triplett of Wilkesboro, NC is the last person receiving compensation from the federal government as a dependent of a Civil War veteran.

- Jessie Montag of Augusta, WI, was on her local television channel telling what she knows about her father.
- I do think there are more first generation descendants alive but try to find them.
- Brother Gant, who some of you may know, is the nephew of a veteran. Since we accept collateral descendants, we should recognize first generation nephews and nieces.

I have spoken to all the real sons and many of the daughters in the past. I do not know how much of a relationship the sons have with their departments. I find it a little embarrassing to ask them about what should we do for them when they pass on.

5.10 Vision and Strategic Planning Special Committee, Brian C. Pierson, PDC

Per the CinC's request, this report summarizes the extensive 2015 Annual Report.

This report regroups action items from the November report into three bins: growth and leadership; information technology and engagement. These bins cross-cut all focus areas and initiatives. For specific details, please refer to the November report.

Of note, a number of initiatives are being hindered by the slow progress to 501(c)3 status. We need to continue our efforts to correct the perception that we are not enough of a charitable organization.

First, though, the Committee has two general recommendations:

- The Committee be authorized to make administrative changes to metrics, goals and initiatives as required. For example, an initiative is making good progress, but due to extenuating factors, its completion needs to be slipped due to the IRS 501(c)3 issue.
- The Committee be authorized to engage OPRs and POCs on recommendations and metrics.

Growth & Leadership

Of particular concern is membership growth and retention. Overall, the Order's membership growth efforts to date have not borne fruit. But there are some mixed signals. On one hand, we are recruiting new members, but we appear to not be doing well at retention. And, we continue to charter new Camps, especially in the South and Southwest. We need to investigate this and develop a new recruiting and retention strategy.

Membership is trending downward. The total net change was a loss of 169 from 2014 National Encampment. JVCinC reported 251 new memberships in his annual report. This indicates a real loss of 420 members due to deaths and drops. The breakout of deaths vs drops was not reported. Nothing has been reported in efforts to reduce drops.

The Youth Program has remained dormant following the resignation of the Chair of the Juniors Committee resigned from the Order at the end of 2013.

Recommendations:

- CinC direct Depts to report membership gains broken out by new members and transfers, and membership losses by drops and deaths to provide sufficient data for analysis.
- JVC and Executive Director conduct a detailed analysis on membership gains and losses by Dept and by category.
- National Membership Committee revamp recruiting and retention program. We appear to be recruiting, but not retaining members.
- Develop a plan to reduce drops.
- Promotions & Marketing Committee, Dept of the Pacific, Dept of the Southwest, coordinate to develop a focused, unified campaign.
- Appoint new chairman and re-energize the Youth program and report to National Encampment.

Information Technology

Our adoption of information technology has been uneven. We do not have a national-level IT strategy. One needs to be developed ASAP to focus all other efforts. Due to cost issues, we are relying on in-house expertise for our IT needs. We need to seek out and find the best-of-breed in the Order (Depts

and Camps) and enlist their help at the national level. A number of areas could be greatly improved with a commitment to improving our IT structure.

Recommendations:

- National Signals Officer and Comm & Technology Committee develop a plan of action for social media, mobile devices & You Tube.
- Develop a coordinated strategy for adoption of QR codes SUVCW-wide. CinC direct Depts to adopt when able.
- National Signals Officer and Comm & Technology Committee develop a plan of action for mobile/handheld apps.
- Extend our advertising campaign to social media.
- Update the web site as follows (these are cross-cutting):
- Build a site index, and/or make highly used pages and those which enhance our mission or public face, easily accessible.
- Develop a prominent and robust Patriotic Instructor web page, perhaps a "Patriotism Page" with essays and resources.
- Develop a Chaplain web page.
- Establish a GAR Highway page with links to Dept GAR Highway websites (all Depts in whose territory the GAR Highway passes should establish a GAR Highway FB page or web page.)
- Make a more accessible GAR Records link from the SUVCW Main Page.
- Overhaul the Quartermaster web page and online ordering process.
- CinC direct Depts to report Dept and Camp facebook and social media statistics in their 2016 annual reports in order to ensure 100% of Depts and 75% of Camps have Facebook or web pages.
- Get the new Memorial University up and running and advertised.
- Overhaul Canadian Union Veterans web page. Engage Marketing Cmte to publicize this effort.

Engagement

Many of our activities are outwardly focused, including education, preservation, patriotism & good citizenship, etc. Our progress has been very uneven. We have made great strides in some areas, such as Graves Registration, GAR Records, and Monuments databases. However, in other areas, progress has been limited or not even reported. In those areas where we have made progress, we need to take the next to publicize them and make them easily accessible (cross-cutting with IT) so we can meet the objective of being recognized as a credible source for heritage, patriotism & good citizenship, and preservation.

Recommendations:

- National Graves Registration Officer explore and report on collaboration with National Park Service.
- Assign the initiative of "Promoting greater awareness of CW history in secondary schools" to Committee on Americanism & Education (if it is retained and reconstructed) or Patriotic Instructor (If A&E Committee is disestablished) for a plan of action, with a report back to the CoA by the National Encampment. Plan of action should include a strategy, initiatives, and resources to engage schools.
- Investigate possibility of Dept level activities for national-level implementation, such as a "history bee" program, perhaps in cooperation with the National History Bee.
- Vision & Strat Planning Committee advise as required P&P Committee's work on refocusing role Committee on Americanism & Education to be in line with this initiative.
- Bring disparate programs (ROTC medal program; Eagle Scout patch; Flag Certificate) under one umbrella, perhaps National PI.
- Revamp annual PI reporting.
- CinC direct Depts and Camps to consistently report PI activities.
- Establish a national Battlefield Preservation Program by 2016 or assign it to an existing committee.
- Battle Flag Preservation program develop a vision, strategy, goals and objectives.
- Establish a National Battlefield Preservation Program or assign to an existing committee. (There is a link to the Civil War Trust on the Education page of the National Website.)
- Marketing & Promotion Committee report the effectiveness of the strategy.

- M&P Committee continue to publicize the branding strategy to all National Officers, Committees and Departments to ensure the entire Order is in synch.

Initiatives Impacted by 501(c)3 Determination:

- We cannot pursue grants as a 501(c)4 entity, so this goal is dependent on first achieving a 501(c)3 determination.
- 501(c)3 transition complete by 2013. UNSAT (due to IRS).
- Pursue federal/state grants to balance out revenue portfolio – reduce per capita to less than 50% by 2020.
- GAR Highway State/Federal Grant pursuit.
- Battle Flag Preservation State/Federal Grant Pursuit 2015.
- Canadian Union Veterans Monument

Recommendations:

- Defer grants goal target date until 501(c)3 determination.
- Continue to find opportunities for increasing and reporting charitable activities. Include Dept and Camp initiatives as well.

5.11 Special Committee for Juniors, Brian C. Pierson, PDC

No report given.

5.12 Special Committee for Dual Membership, Brad Schall, PCinC

Let's start with Jim Pahl comments and go from there.

Your main duty, as defined at the 134th annual National Encampment, does not seem to be included in your topics. The motion which was passed by the brothers is: "The incoming C in C shall appoint a committee to work this out for implementation and bring back to the Council of Administration by Springfield C of A with the C in C authorized to forward this to the C and R Committee and/or the P and P Committee." This was a renewal of the instructions from the 133rd National Encampment that brother PCinC Tad forgot to appoint.

Your main task is to study how it would be implemented if dual members only pay one National Per Capita.

As National Counselor, I ask this be the #1 focus of the committee. The other items are additions added by the Commander-in-Chief as components to be looked at in helping brothers decide whether to adopt the plan or not, but are secondary issues to the main task at hand.

I recommend that all Dual members have a primary camp and that is the Department that he pays per capita. Payment per capita and voting would be at his declared Primary Camp only.

- Each Dual member must declare his Primary Camp and his Dual membership Camp and this to be administrated by the members Primary Camp and Department. Dual members in other Departments shall set up their own controls.
- Camps, Departments and Dual Membership Camps and Department shall administer their own dues programs and controls.
- Camps that have a life membership member would be considered his primary Camp.

This eliminates the unnecessary burden and expense to the National office.

We move that the draft from Springfield be submitted to the C&R Committee and they be instructed to prepare amend ants to the regulation.

I move that the C&R Committee be instructed to prepare amendments to the regulations which will impose the per capita only on the actual membership of each department and that when a Brother belongs to more than one camp within a department he only be reported once to the Executive Director on the annual report.

Minority Report submitted by PCinC Rich Orr

In as much as the National Organization levies the per capita dues on the various departments based on their respective membership and not on individual Brothers,

I move that the C&R Committee be instructed to prepare amendments to the regulations which will impose the per capita only on the actual membership of each department and that when a Brother belongs to more than one camp within a department he only be reported once to the Executive Director on the annual report.

If a Brother belongs to camps in more than one department, each department must report him as a member of that department and pay the per capita dues for that Brother.

This will eliminate the need for the National organization to track dual members for any reason. Each department shall decide how it wishes to handle dual members regarding how the department imposes the per capita on a brother belonging to more than one camp within a department.

Those Brothers who are exempt from the National per capita dues will be exempt in all Departments. Those who pay the National per capita dues in multiple departments will receive multiple copies of the Banner.

Based on the data supplied by Brother Demmy approximately 20 Brothers belong to camps in multiple departments

5.13 Special Committee for Stephenson Bench Inscription, Edward J. Norris, PDC

The work of this committee is complete. The Council of Administration unanimously approved Motion 20 which stated the bench inscription with SUV CW logo will be: Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War // 150th Anniversary of the Founding of the // Grand Army of the Republic 1866-2016 // Honoring the Boys in Blue.

6.0 DEPARTMENT REPORTS

6.1 Department of California and Pacific, Thomas T. Graham, DC

The Department of California and Pacific held their Department Encampment 4-5 March 2016 in Sacramento, California. Thirty five Brothers officially registered and attended. Nine camps of the Department were represented at the encampment: Phil Sheridan No. 4, Lincoln No. 10, Gen. George Stoneman Jr.No. 18, Gen. George Wright No. 22, Col. Elmer Ellsworth No. 23, Gen. Alfred Pleasonton No. 24, Gen. William Passmore Carlin No. 25, William T. Sherman No. 28 and Henry C. Veatch No. 30.

National Officers present were Commander-in-Chief Eugene Mortorff PDC, Past Commander-in-Chief Brad Schall, Past Commander-in-Chief Tad Campbell, National GAR Records Officer Dean Enderlin and National Camp at Large & Department Organizer Loran Bures. Also in attendance was Commander of the Department of the Chesapeake Kevin Martin.

The Department Officers there elected were: Commander Thomas T. Graham, PCC; Senior Vice Commander Dean A. Enderlin, PCC; Junior Vice Commander Rudy E. Velasco III, PCC; Secretary-Treasurer Owen R. Stiles, PCC; Council Member Daniel R, Earl, PCC; Council Member Stephen Doyle, PCC; Council Member William Daley, PCC.

Current statistics for the Department of California and Pacific:

- Membership statistics are as follows: 1 reinstatement; 2 additions; 7 drops; 4 deceased.

- Number of paper applications processed: 11
- Number of electronic (website) inquiries processed: 22
- Number of events the Department sponsored or participated in: 15

Among the deceased I would like to especially note the following:

Brother Donald Braden Schall III of Pleasonton Camp 24, son of Past Commander-in-Chief Brad Schall.

Brother Jericho Alexander Mullen of Lincoln Camp 10 who was only 17 years old.

Brother John A. Riggs, Camp Commander of the Carlin Camp 25 of Gardnerville, Nevada, a post he has held since 2010. He was awarded the Department's President Abraham Lincoln Exemplary Dedication Award posthumously. And his camp has been awarded the Department's recruitment honors for the last two years.

6.2 Department of the Chesapeake, Kevin L. Martin, DC

Since my last report for the period ending October 31, 2015, our department gained nine (9) Brothers. It is important to note that this number only reflects gains via the National website and not individual recruitment efforts, etc. on the Camp level.

In March, we successfully completed a five (5) year financial audit of our Department. This audit included the two National Encampments that we hosted 2011 in Reston and 2015 in Richmond. A huge thank you to everyone who made this a success, especially Brothers Mike Beard, Mike Paquette, and Chuck Poland.

Also chartered at the August 2015 National Encampment, the Department of the Chesapeake gained a new Auxiliary, Antietam Auxiliary #3. In addition, I am honored to be this Auxiliary's Counselor for the 2016 term.

Our 2016 Department Encampment will be held on April 22 – 23 at the Holiday Inn in Frederick, Maryland. On Friday, we have tours scheduled for the National Monocacy Battlefield and the National Museum of Civil War Medicine. This is followed by a 6:30 dinner and comradery at the restaurant, Monocacy Crossing, adjacent to the Monocacy Battlefield. At our Saturday noon luncheon, we have an exemplary speaker, Deacon George Wunderlich, Former Director of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine as well as planned musical entertainment. The Commander-in-Chief, Eugene Mortorff, will be in attendance and will install the 2016 Department of Chesapeake Officers. All are welcome.

6.3 Department of Colorado & Wyoming, L. E. Cheney, DC

The Department of Colorado and Wyoming made up of 5 camps in the states of Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, and Utah has its Encampment scheduled for 5 June 2016, 1100-1500 hours, at the Academy Hotel, 6450 North Academy Blvd, Colorado Springs Colorado.

The Department is attempting to reorganize Thomas E. Bowman Camp 12. Its dwindling membership was cause for the remaining members to request to disband.

Centennial Camp 100 completed its GAR Memorial project at the Riverside Cemetery. A dedication ceremony is being planned. Camp 100 has placed an increased emphasis on education. Its members providing materials and speakers to local schools and historical societies.

6.4 Department of Columbia, Raymond Marshall, DC

At our October meeting and the last meeting of 2015 members present voted to keep the same officers for this year 2016. Being a new camp with allegiance to both National and the newly formed Department of Columbia there was some confusion of the requirements of installation of the continuing camp officers.

On the 23rd of January 2016 we held the first meeting of the year in Richland, Washington. Ten members were present. Brother Gordon Struve, Treasurer, pulled double duty and more. Grody first gave us the

treasurer's report. Balance of the general fund was \$929.11. Program and project fund was \$421.00, and Col. Justus Steinberger fund \$160.00 for a total of \$1,510.11.

For his second task Mr. Struve played the role for Department of Columbia and performed the camp officer installation representing Mr. Rod Fleck, Commander Department of Columbia. Camp officers installed were Commander, Raymond E. Marshall, Jr Vice Commander, Richard Roddy, Secretary, Don Jameson, Gordon Struve as Treasurer, and Camp Council, Steve Matthews. Not Present but confirmed Camp Councilmen Gar Pillar, and Bernie Beldin.

The meeting held a discussion about membership renewal and an up to date membership list with address emails and phone numbers. Secretary Don Jameson has stated when he requested membership feedback on this subject no one was in opposition. That has since been done. All but a few members have renewed their membership for 2016.

Brother Gordon who represented Department of Columbia in Richmond, VA 2015 has also volunteered to represent the camp for April 9 at Vancouver WA encampment Department of Columbia. He also plans to attend The National Encampment in Springfield in August. We also stated that anyone else planning to be at these events could also act as member of the camp.

Looking forward to the next event on the calendar the annual meeting for Department of Columbia April ninth in Vancouver, Washington. Hopefully our organization will grow in knowledge and commitment to the honor of our ancestors. The next week following we are planning for our second encampment in 2016 April, 16. That meeting will take place at the Fort Walla Walla Museum 246 miles east of Vancouver.

Other activities within the camp are; ROTC Awards, grave location with GPS and Memorial Day flags. 2016 Meeting dates and Cities: January, 23 Richland, WA

- April, 16 Walla Walla, WA
- July, 16 Spokane WA
- October, 15 Richland, WA
- January, 28 Yakima, WA

6.5 Department of Connecticut, Hank Cullinane, DC

No report given.

6.6 Department of Florida, Charles Reeves, DC

Following our June 2015 Florida Annual Encampment it has been my policy to try to appoint Department Officers who will work with their counterparts in our Camps. Specifically I am referring to the Patriotic Instructor, Graves Registration, Junior ROTC and Eagle Scout Appointed Officers.

I also encouraged each Camp Commander to make sure he appointed Brothers to those same positions. It was and has been my desire to establish a chain of command from National to our Department and then down to every Camp. This would bring to the Camp level National's policy and direction in each of these four areas.

Not all of my 2015 appointments were successful and I believe that has been rectified with my 2016 appointments. During the past year I realized that in previous years the Florida Camps and Department Appointed Officers have not always reported on the activities which took place during the year. Strong "encouragement" will be exhibited during 2016 to have our Florida Camps and Department Officers submit timely reports.

While feeling frustration at our failure along these lines I must also submit my frustration with the lack of support from the National Appointed Officers responsible for these positions. Other than Brother Frail, I have been advised by long time Florida Brothers who have held the other appointed offices that they have never heard from a National Officer. Is it because the Florida Department is small and does not have the population or prestige of other Departments such as an Ohio, New York or Pennsylvania?

What I am looking for from these National Appointed positions is LEADERSHIP, DIRECTION, GUIDANCE AND ENCOURAGEMENT for my Florida Department Appointed Officers so that the "National message", if there is one, can be passed on to our Camps so that the Camps will then have a purpose.

Hopefully 2016 will bring closer National-Department relationships for the betterment of our Order.

6.7 Department of Georgia and South Carolina, William H. Miller, DC

Members of the Department and Camps and CinC Eugene Mortorff participated in the ceremonies at Andersonville Prison site for the Funeral for 13,000 in September.

Two new Camps of the SUVCW are still in the process of organizing. One will be in Beaufort, SC and one in Roswell, GA, raising the total number of camps in this department to six.

The 9th Department Encampment will be held April 22-23 in Lawrenceville, GA hosted by Elias Moon Camp #2.

Brothers of the Department and SVR will be participating in Memorial Day ceremonies, primarily at Marietta National Cemetery which will be celebrating its 150th Anniversary. The Henry Cole Family will be honored, as Henry Cole was the benefactor of the property to the US Government for use as a cemetery. Arrangements have been made to conduct separate Memorial Day ceremonies on May 30th each year at the cemetery.

Among the Marker and Monument projects being worked on by the Department are: Utoy Creek, General McPherson, the 54th Mass, Ringgold, GA.

The 7th Military District of the SVR is in search of a chaplain due to relocation.

The Brothers of the Department of GA & SC SUVCW is pleased to welcome the Sisters of the Department of Georgia DUVCW and looks forward to supporting their efforts in preserving the memories of the Boys in Blue.

6.8 Department of Illinois, James L. Lyon, DC

On behalf of the membership of the Department of Illinois I am proud to report that things are going very well for my Command Staff, Camps, and members. Communications still remain a goal that we all strive for in the interest of all our Camps and Brothers. Both my Secretary and Treasurer keep our Brothers up to date on the latest general orders and changes in things within the Order.

It has come to my attention that the April C of A meeting in Springfield may be moved to another location. If this should happen, the Brothers in Illinois would like to commit to having a bigger part or taking over the Lincoln Tomb Service each year in Springfield. We feel that we are the home of our fallen President and we should be the ones to organize this event for the SUVCW in the future. It is our hope that you and your staff will attend the Dr. Stephenson Service in Petersburg, IL in the afternoon of the Lincoln Tomb Service.

Our 2016 National Encampment Committee is still working hard to present an outstanding experience for all the Brothers, Sisters, and family members that will attend. The major focus of this National Encampment will be on the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic by Dr. Benjamin Stephenson. We will also have events which will be related to our favorite son, President Abraham Lincoln and his life in the Springfield area. The committee has put together a fantastic set of medals to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the G.A.R. We look forward to having an outstanding Encampment that will be remembered for many years to come.

Please advise if there is anything that you or your Staff would like for us to address at this Encampment.

6.9 Department of Indiana, William R. Adams, DC

On January 19th I traveled to Huntington, Indiana where I had the privilege to install 2016 officers for Champion Hill Camp #17. I shared a meal with many of the members before the meeting and installation ceremony. It was an excellent opportunity to meet other Brothers as well as to hear what was on their minds with regards to issues for the Department of Indiana.

The Department of Indiana held it's Midwinter Encampment January 30, 2016 at Greenwood, Indiana. I presided over the gathering where we discussed a number of issues important to our Order in Indiana.

- The status of the lost Indiana monument at Vicksburg was updated. This is a project to get the Park Service to relocate the 26th Indiana monument, along with Iowa and Missouri monuments back on Park Property. These three monuments became disjoined from Park Property many years ago apparently as a result of some property exchange between the Park Service and the city of Vicksburg. Currently the Park Service has a plan in place to move the monuments back onto Park Property but it now appears it won't be until 2017. A missing Indiana State Seal Emblem on the 26th monument was reported to have been found in a Park Storage building so there may be no need to raise funds to replace it.
- Also discussed was the proper current process for applying for replacement headstones. Everyone was asked to go back to their camps and review the procedures. We briefly discussed and reviewed the SUV CW Charitable Fund and made everyone aware of its purpose.

6.10 Department of Iowa, Danny E. Krock, DC

Nothing to report.

6.11 Department of Kansas, Mark Britton, DC

The Department of Kansas held their Twentieth Annual Department Encampment January 9, 2016 in Salina, Kansas. The Department Offices there elected were: Commander Mark A. Britton, PCC; Senior Vice Commander William E. Fisher, PCC; Junior Vice Commander Michael A. Todd PCC; Secretary-Treasurer Alan L. Russ, PDC; Council Member Roy A. Lafferty, PDC; Council Member James R Knopke, PDC ; Council Member William Riedell.

The Department of Kansas has five very active camps focused mainly in the eastern part of the state. These camps including Humboldt Camp No. 9, the newest camp, report of their continued activities that continue to keep the memory of the boys in blue alive and well in the minds of their communities. Two of the camps are continuing with their work projects of cleaning and restoring of veterans headstones in Topeka and Wichita. The department has been involved in several setting of headstones of previously unmarked veteran's graves.

The membership and finances of the Department continue to be in an increasing order and speaks well of the management of the Department over the past 20 years.

6.12 Department of Kentucky, John Kalbfleisch, DC

Nothing to report.

6.13 Department of Maine, Charles McGillicuddy, DC

Report not given.

6.14 Department of Massachusetts, Dexter A. Bishop, DC

In our last report we reported on our preparations about our return of the flags ceremony to be held December 22, 2015, the 150th anniversary of the original event. It is with great relief I am able to report the return of the flags went off without a hitch and was well received by all who were in attendance.

The day started with rain but as we gathered on the Boston Common the rain slacked off and stopped all together during our parade. Flags flying the men marched through the Common up through the front

steps of the Massachusetts State House and were greeted by Massachusetts Secretary of Veteran Affairs, Francisco Urena, who acted as Massachusetts Governor Andrews (1865), while Department Officers not marching, led by Commander Bishop and local politicians formed the greeting contingent on the steps. Following a re-enactment of the 1865 event the flags were brought into the State House were a 2015 ceremony was conducted.

Our Event landed on the front page of the Boston Globe and was covered by several radio stations. State Officials supported our event with posters placed around the building and encouraged workers to attend.

Our camps have completed the installation of officers and are conducting their normal business and preparing for the upcoming Memorial Season of parades, wreath and flag placements.

The Department held our annual Lincoln Brunch, organized by Kevin Tucker, PDC. We had over 30 Brothers and Sisters in attendance. The Department Committee that is planning the 2018 National Encampment is meeting and laying the plans. Our 2016 encampment will be held April 8 & 9.

6.15 Department of Michigan, Dale L. Aurand, DC

The Department of Michigan will be holding the 132nd annual Encampment in Lansing, Michigan, April 29th and 30th. The Department maintains a good and active membership. As I have completed many visits for installation of officers, I find the common problem is recruiting younger members under the age of 40.

Progress is being made for hosting the 2017 National Encampment in Lansing. The committees have been meeting and working on achieving their goals.

Our Graves Registration program continues to progress.

Geographic areas have been established so the entire Department is now covered and each camp has their area of responsibility.

I have appointed a committee for the purpose of erecting a monument in honor of the 102nd Colored Troop which is making progress and has hopes of completion in 2017.

A replica of the Department of Michigan Grand Army of the Republic flag will be placed in the State Capital Building on July 7th, 2016 in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the GAR and the return of the Regimental battle flags of the Michigan Regiments.

The Department GAR Memorial Hall and Museum will host an open house April 9th and 10th to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the GAR.

The Department will have a presence at the Lincoln Tomb and Dr. Stephenson ceremonies.

6.16 Department of Missouri, Martin R. Aubuchon, DC

The Department of Missouri held their business Meeting on March 12, 2016 at the Capitol Building in Jefferson City, Missouri.

The Department of Missouri sent a resolution to the Commander in Chief for consideration by the National Encampment for the Restoration of rank of Past Department Commander for Brother Emmett Taylor.

Representation from six (6) camps attended the Department business meeting. Seven (7) camps were not represented. With the recent charter revocation of the Siegel Camp, the Department has thirteen (13) chartered camps.

Revisions to the Department of Missouri bylaws were presented at the October 24, 2015 business meeting. Additional revisions were suggested the recent meeting. Some changes were adopted and recommended for vote at the Upcoming Department Encampment.

A Department Policies and Procedures Manual was presented at the October 24, 2015 business meeting. The Department passed a policy on mourning periods for Department members and this will be added. The Department now has a document that can be used to assist the officers in conducting Department business. This is a working document and will be revised as necessary.

The Junior Vice Commander has developed a geographical map of the State Missouri and Arkansas showing the location of camps that can be used to help new members locate a camp that they can join.

The Junior Vice Commander presented the guidelines and procedures for the outstanding JROTC cadet in the Department of Missouri. This is a pilot program for the Department. The goal is to recognize the most outstanding JROTC cadet in the Department of Missouri and not just from a local camp.

Missouri Monument at Vicksburg

In previous reports, the Department reported that the State Legislators had approved funding for the restoration of the Missouri Monument at Vicksburg and had placed the funds into the Department of Natural Resources Budget, but they would not release the funds because of their opinion of a Missouri Statue which states funds cannot be used for monuments located outside the state of Missouri. The Department of Missouri was hopeful that the legislators would find a way to get the funds released. Trying to get funds released in 2016 never developed and we were told this would be an item in the 2017 budget. While the legislators could not find an immediate solution, the Department of Missouri received wonderful news in February from the Superintendent at Vicksburg Military Park that they were able to get funding for the monument restoration. The work would start immediately and their hope was that the restoration would be completed earlier this spring. The monument has been visited by Department members and the restoration work is proceeding. The Department's Monument restoration committee is currently working on a rededication ceremony to be held in 2017.

One of the earlier supporters or legislators for spending for the restoration work is Representative Warren Love who recently joined the Phelps Camp in Kansas City, Mo. While he was not successful in getting any funds released this year, he is working to introduce legislation that would be known as the Missouri Heritage Protection Act of 2016. Its purpose is to preserve the permanent location of all existing Civil War monuments.

The Department of Missouri learned that there are three real sons and one real daughter living in Missouri. We also learn that their membership is actually listed or assigned to a camp located in the Department of Illinois. They reside in Bolivar, MO and the Phelps Camp, located in Springfield, Missouri has agreed to network with them.

Two ASUVCW groups are located in Missouri.

The Department Historical Records Coordinator Walter Busch continues to document monuments and to research and obtain information on GAR Commanders, GAR Posts and SUV Camps. 500 monuments have been recorded.

The Department of Missouri produced an Eagle Scout coin that is presented to the Eagle Scout recipient in addition to the certificate. The recipients have been very appreciative of the coin. The Eagle Scout award program is very active in the Department due to the efforts of several camps.

The Department Signals Officer continues to work on the development of the Department's website. SUVWMO.ORG, One goal is to add information for the many monuments located in Missouri along with information of GAR posts, SUV camps and any other historical information.

The Department of Missouri 2016 Encampment is scheduled for Saturday June 5, 2016. The meeting will be held in St. Louis, Missouri with National Representation from Council Member Don Shaw.

I personally would like the National Council consider the increase of Annual Dues by \$2.00 to \$25.00. This will start a major debate and discussion at the National Encampment, but I think it is necessary for an organization of our size to look to the future. We need to grow. Based on our current membership, this would not generate a large amount, but it would be a step towards the future. This organization is stagnant and is operating on a policy of status quo. We need to be more dynamic and look at ways to market and increase our membership. Or get new members to replace those we lose by attrition. That extra funding could be used towards the services of professional advertisers or marketers

6.17 Department of Nebraska, William Dean, DC

In December and January, I implemented plans for a Historical poker run, to raise money to help Table Rock, NE. Cemetery, clean headstones, buy new flag holders, and clean the Civil War monument in the cemetery.

In February, I helped with Lincoln's birthday celebration by standing guard at the Lincoln statue at the Capitol building in Lincoln, NE.

I have done a lot of planning and work for the State of Nebraska Encampment to be held in Nebraska City, NE., on April 9th, at the G.A.R. Hall Memorial Museum.

6.18 Department of New Hampshire, David A. Nelson, DC

On December 3, 2015, Brothers of the Department participated in the 125th Anniversary of the establishment of the New Hampshire Veterans Home in Tilton. This ceremony included a formal program including an address to mark the occasion by Governor Maggie Hassan. There were a number of veteran displays including a table prepared by the Brothers of Camp 7 for the SUVCW.

The Department of NH met on February 6th for its annual Defenders Day Observance to honor the memory of President Abraham Lincoln. A buffet lunch was enjoyed by the attendees followed by a talk by Camp 9 SVC Michael Shklar titled Practicing Law at Lincoln and Herndon.

As this year the Real Memorial Day will coincide with the National Memorial Day, the six Camps of the Department of New Hampshire will observe Memorial Day with a number of activities unique and traditional within their camps.

The Brothers of Camp 7 continue to work with the State of NH on preservation efforts of its Civil War Flags.

After eight years of progress on a plan for preservation and a vote in favor of a flag preservation proposed by Spicer Art Conservation Studio, the State of New Hampshire in a surprising and unexpected move voted in October to "suspend all flag preservation efforts indefinitely". The Civil War Flag Preservation committee will continue to work to reverse this decision by keeping this effort in the public awareness and consciousness and lobbying legislative members.

The Department of NH continues to work with the city of Franklin, NH to help with restoration efforts of its GAR post located in Soldiers Memorial Building that also houses city hall and other city offices. This GAR Hall is only one of three in the State of NH that is virtually intact and is named for George F. Sweat Co. F 5th Regiment NH Volunteers killed at Antietam. We have established good relations with the City of Franklin and have assisted with efforts to clean and restore the Hall. Camp 7 meets several times a year in this Hall. Plans are in place to help restore the original furniture inside the Hall. A grant application is being prepared for submission to National.

The 134th Annual Encampment of the Department of NH will be held on April 16, 2016.

6.19 Department of New Jersey, Jeff Heagy, DC

No report given.

6.20 Department of New York, Raymond W. LeMay III, DC

This report encompasses activities since my last report of November 4th to the National Council of Administration Meeting in Gettysburg, PA. The Department of New York remains strong with 18 camps across the state. We have 553 members in good standing and are growing with 16 new members since my last report.

- In attending the regular camp meeting of the Col. George L. Willard Camp No. 154 of Albany, NY on November 7th I installed their camp officers for the new year.
- On Veteran's Day I attended a ceremony at the Oakwood Cemetery in Troy, NY in honor of veterans both past and present. Other events were held by camps around the Department.
- On November 13th I issued Dept. Order No. 16 which re-announced the revoking of the Charter for the former Daniel E. Sickles Camp No. 3 of White Plains, NY which was originally made by PCinC Tad Campbell via National General Order No. 23 of Series 2014--2015 on June 2, 2015.
- I since then have written the former officers and members of that camp requesting all camp properties be returned, however only some camp records have been received. The Funds and the Camp Charter for the Sickles Camp have yet to be returned, with no response from the former Commander and Secretary-Treasurer.
- The Abraham Lincoln Camp No. 6 of Rochester, NY hosted their Annual Remembrance Day Dinner on November 14th, 2015 in Macedon, NY, which I was proud to attend. We were joined by local sisters of the Auxiliary and Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War.
- In December, Brother CC George J. Weinmann, PDC of the Capt. Oliver Tilden Camp No. 26, and the Greenpoint Monitor Museum obtained an historic agreement to preserve the Greenpoint Monitor site and the project was awarded grant funds for the Museum that is being planned for the site.
- On January 5th, I attended, with a camp delegation, the Altamont Village Meeting in which the local Willard Camp of Albany shared their passed resolution to protect the Dr. Frederick Crouse House of Altamont, NY. Crouse was the first doctor of the town who tended to the wounded and sick of the 134th NY who camped on his property. The house is in jeopardy of being razed due to years of neglect, however there is hope the property will be saved with stabilization.
- On January 9th, I visited the Cpl. James Tanner Camp No. 134 of Cobleskill, NY and installed their Camp Officers.
- I attended the David Ireland Camp No. 137 of Binghamton, NY meeting on January 12th. A brother there is writing a book on the 137th NY and they have found 800 of 4000 members. They are working on assisting the local Civil War Round Table's project in erecting a Monument at Camp Susquehanna (a training ground for men going to war from 1861-1865 near Binghamton).
- In February with Dept. Order No. 20 I belatedly recognized, for the 2013-14 term, Brother George J. Weinmann, PDC and the Capt. Oliver Tilden Camp with the Oliver P. Clarke Plaque and the PDC John G. Kernan Cup for the Capt. Oliver Tilden Camp No. 26 for their past recruiting efforts.
- In February, the hard work of the GAR & SUVCW Property & Artifacts Committee, Department Archivist, and myself resulted in an agreement that would allow the storage and maintenance of the charters, documents, art, photographs (ephemera) and other items (property) of the Department of New York, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to be done at the New York State Military Museum. As Department Commander I signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the Department and the Friends of the New York State Military Museum to house properly stored material, including many SUVCW charters, in the climate controlled museum as agreed by The GAR & SUVCW Property & Artifacts Committee under the leadership of Department Archivist, Bro. Lance Ingmire and fellow committee members: David M. Dziejewski, PCC, Tim Mabee, Jerry Orton, PDC, and Danny Wheeler, PC-in-C. I also would like to recognize the efforts of Bro. Robert Keough, PCC for his years of service to the Department in storing and securing these archives. (See Dept. Order No. 23 for details about the MoU.)
- I attended a joint visitation with Sister Department President of the NY Dept. Auxiliary of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, Sister Hope Parker and Sister Virginia Twist, PNP at the regular March 5th camp meeting of the Col. George L. Willard Camp No. 154 of Albany, NY.
- On March 7th, 2016, I attended the Phineas Catlin Camp No. 341 of Odessa, NY meeting at their meeting location of the Odessa American Legion. The camp is currently working on trying to get a

descendant namesake into their camp, and is caring and funding work on the local veterans monument and they are busy at hand with planning many camp events.

The Department received a funding request from Life Scout, Nathaniel Bauder for erecting an interpretive cabin on site of the Civil War Memorial in Waterloo, NY as his Eagle Scout project. The request was shared with the camps and subsequently several contributed donations.

The Homer Searle Camp No. 114 of Bridgewater, NY is hosting a contest at the Mount Markham Middle School in neighboring West Winfield, NY for students to tell of their civil war-era ancestors for junior membership.

The Sgt. Judson A. Hicks Camp No. 111 of Palmyra, NY is working on building and dedicating a monument for the veteran volunteers of nearby Macedon, NY.

This Memorial Day will be the Memorial Day Sesquicentennial, in Waterloo, NY the cradle of Memorial Day we have been invited to a Sesquicentennial event in honor of the Sesquicentennial of the founding of Memorial Day by the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

In honor of the Sesquicentennial of the founding of the G.A.R. the Col. George L. Willard Camp No. 154 of Albany, NY has created a G.A.R. Sesquicentennial logo and is selling merchandise online including t-shirts, bags, hats, mugs and more items with their own Zazzle store. See: <http://www.zazzle.com/willardcamp154?rf=238635872076375554> Additionally the camp is selling a Pin for \$5.00 of the logo with \$2.00 s/h. Find attached enclosure logo image.

I also report the death of Bro. Arnold E. Vernoy of the Col. Augustus Van Horne Ellis Camp No. 124 of Goshen, NY, whose Ancestor was Artificer, George H. Moore of Co. C of the 1st NY Engineers.

We have a number of upcoming events in our Department:

- In November, I issued Dept. Order No. 15 creating a sesquicentennial program event entitled "Bells Across New York for the G.A.R." to honor the memory and service of the veterans of the G.A.R. for the founding of the G.A.R. on April 6th, 1866. This event will commence on April 9th at noon time in which camps across the Department of New York will hold a ceremony and ring a community bell 15 times (representing 150 years). Camps were provided with a Press Kit including templates and a logo (see attached).
- The Annual General Ulysses S. Grant Birthday Commemoration will be held at Grant's Tomb in Manhattan, NY on April 24th hosted by the Capt. Oliver Tilden Camp No. 26 of New York City.
- Our 133rd NY Dept. Encampment, in cooperation with our Allied Orders who will also be convening at their respective encampments, will be held in Suffern, NY at the Crowne Plaza Suffern-Mahwah at 3 Executive Blvd., Suffern, NY 10901 from April 29-May 1, 2016.

Our Department stands committed to Honoring the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic & the Men from New York who saved the Union from 1861 to 1865.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- I recommend to the CinC and CoA that Bro. Dept. Archivist Lance Ingmire, and Bro. Robert P. Keough, PCC be awarded the Meritorious Service Award Gold Star for their work in preserving the artifacts and ephemera of the Department of New York.
- I also recommend to the CinC and CoA that the members of the Department's GAR & SUVCW Property & Artifacts Committee be each awarded a Meritorious Service Award Certificate for their work in supporting this effort they are: Bros. David M. Dziewulski, PCC, Tim Mabee, Jerry Orton, PDC, and Danny Wheeler, PC-in-C.

6.21 Department of North Carolina, Dennis C. St. Andrew, DC

I am serving my third term as Commander of the Department of North Carolina having been reelected at the 8th Annual Department Encampment on May 2, 2015 in Durham, North Carolina. In 2016, our 9th Annual Department Encampment will be held in Kure Beach, NC, on May 7, at the Fort Fisher State Historic Site, a National Historic Landmark. Commander-in-Chief Eugene G. Mortorff, PDC, and National Chief of Staff Michael A. Paquette, PDC will be attending our Encampment.

Department Officers: The Department of North Carolina Elected Officers are as follows: SVC William Fred Fulcher, PCC, JVC Rolf Cole Maris, PCC, Sec/Treas. John R. France, Council Members Douglas P. Elwell, PDC, Dr. Gerard M. Devine, PDC, and Wendell G. Small, Jr., PCC. The Department of North Carolina Appointed Officers are as follows: Chaplain Rolf Maris, PCC, Color Bearer Max Speers, PCC, Patriotic Instructor Dr. Gerard M. Devine, PDC, Historian James Crabtree, Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator Travis Masters, Civil War Memorials Officer Skip Riddle, Graves Registration Officer Henry Duquette, and Guide Ed Gibson.

Membership: The Department of North Carolina membership stands at 97 Brothers in good standing as of March 31, 2016, as compared to 93 on March 31, 2015, and 83 on March 31, 2014. The MG Thomas H. Ruger Camp #1 is the largest Camp with 36 Members. The Department membership includes 10 Life Members, and 1 Junior Member. There are currently 5 Camps in good standing in our Department, including a Member at Large Camp.

Eagle Scout Certificate Awards: The Department supports this award and encourages all Camps to participate in this program. Brother Travis Masters (NC Union Volunteers Camp #5) is the Department's Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator.

JROTC Awards: The Department supports this award and encourages all Camps to participate in this program. In total, the Camps and the Department awarded more than 20 JROTC medals & certificates in 2015. Planning and scheduling for JROTC awards for 2016 is now underway.

Recruiting/Educational Efforts: Camps throughout the Department have and will continue to participate in recruiting and educational activities at historic commemorations and on patriotic holidays, especially Memorial Day. Camp recruiting and SUCVW educational activities and patriotic events in North Carolina since November 2015 have included efforts at Fort Fisher, Bennett Place, Bentonville Battlefield and Kinston, NC. Recruiting goals for the Department are for each Brother to recruit one or more new members to our Order during the year in order to grow and strengthen our Camps, Department, and National Organization.

Real Daughter Irene Triplett: We have a Real Daughter living within the Department of North Carolina. Real Daughter Irene Triplett lives in a nursing home in Wilkesboro, North Carolina. She is the daughter of Union Private Moses "Mose" Triplett of the 3rd North Carolina Mounted Infantry (nicknamed "Kirk's Raiders"). In 1938, Mose Triplett attended the reunion for veterans of both sides of the Battle of Gettysburg, which was held on the battlefield. Mose Triplett died at age 92 on July 18, 1938, shortly after returning home from the joint Gettysburg reunion. Irene Triplett was born in 1930 when her father was age 83 and her mother 34. At age 86, Irene is the last living recipient of VA benefits connected to the Civil War. On October 13, 2015, I travelled to Wilkesboro, NC to visit and have lunch with Irene Triplett at her nursing home. I first met with the nursing home administrator to introduce myself and explain to him about how the SUCVW wants to properly honor Real Sons and Daughters in their remaining time with us. I brought Irene a bouquet of flowers, a Certificate of Recognition from the Department of NC, and a greeting card with a monetary gift inside. Irene told me that she doesn't remember very much about her father as she was a young girl when he passed away. These days, Irene enjoys watching TV and visiting with the other residents of the nursing home. On December 15, 2015, I made another trip to Wilkesboro and visited with Irene Triplett at her nursing home. I presented Irene with flowers, a Christmas card signed by the Brothers of the MG Thomas H. Ruger Camp #1 of Fayetteville, NC, and a monetary Christmas gift donated by the Camp #1 Brothers. After visiting with Irene, I traveled to Ferguson, NC to look for the Triplett family cemetery and the grave of Mose Triplett. I was unable to locate the cemetery, but I now have additional information on the location, and I will visit there after my next trip to see Irene Triplett. I am planning another trip to visit Irene Triplett in April, 2016. It has been both an honor and a pleasure to meet and get to know Real Daughter Irene Triplett. I am currently serving as a member of the

National Special Committee on Real Sons & Daughters, having been appointed to the committee by Commander-in-Chief Mortorff, PDC. Brother Jerry Orton, PDC of New York, is the Chairman of the committee, and he has visited with Irene Triplett here in North Carolina in years prior.

Highlights of Activity as Department Commander November 2015-March 31, 2016:

November 2015

- Issued Department Order #5 for Veterans Day.
- Attended Gibbon-Burke Camp #2 meeting in Dallas, NC. Initiated a new member, and installed the elected and appointed officers for 2016. Gave updates on the National Encampment and Real Daughter Irene Triplett.
- Attended NC Union Vol. Camp #5 meeting in Kinston, NC Visitors Center. Spoke briefly about the National Encampment and Real Daughter Irene Triplett. Installed Camp #5 officers for 2016. Went to Kinston Battlefield, and then to site of Kinston Union Soldiers hanging in 1864. Also visited the CSS Neuse Museum in downtown Kinston with Camp #5 Brothers.
- CinC Mortorff accepted my invitation to attend the Department of NC's 9th Annual Encampment at Fort Fisher State Historic Site on May 7, 2016.

December 2015

- Attended MG Thomas H. Ruger Camp #1 meeting in Fayetteville, NC. Installed elected/appointed officers for 2016. Gave report on 2016 Department Encampment planning, and a report on real Daughter Irene Triplet.
- Attended Civil War/Historical artist John Paul Strain event in Fuquay-Varina, NC. Presented John Paul Strain with a Certificate of Recognition from the Department of NC in recognition of his American Civil War historical art that commemorates and brings to life the American Civil War.
- Issued Dept. Order #6, 2015-2016, appointing Henry Duquette as Department GRO and Ed Gibson as Department Guide for the 2016 Encampment.
- Visited Real Daughter Irene Triplett in Wilkesboro, NC---brought her flowers, and Christmas card signed by the Ruger Camp #1 Brothers with a Christmas gift check. Also traveled to Ferguson, NC looking for Mose Triplett's gravesite but was unable to locate the cemetery. I will try again in April, 2016.

January 2016

- Attended Fort Fisher Descendant's Reunion at Fort Fisher.
- Attended the 151st Fort Fisher Historic Site Battle Anniversary with Ruger Camp #1. The Camp provided recruiting/educational information, and exhibited GAR and Civil War items.
- Met with Fort Fisher site manager to plan May Department Encampment at site.
- Sent Real Daughter Irene Triplet a birthday card for her 86th birthday.
- Worked on Custom die-cast Department Encampment Badge design proposal with vendor.
- Attended MG John A. Logan Camp #14 meeting in Durham NC. Installed elected/appointed officers for 2016. Gave report on 2016 Department Encampment planning, and a report on Real Daughter Irene Triplet.
- Re-elected to a two year term on the Friends of Fort Fisher Board of Directors.

February 2016

- Attended the MG Thomas H. Ruger Camp #1 meeting in Fayetteville, NC. Suggested an observance of the Sesquicentennial of the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic on April 6, 1866 for the Camp's April, 2016 meeting, including a show and tell of GAR relics, collectibles and ephemera, and any recollections of their Civil War ancestor's participation in the Grand Army. Also gave a status report on the planning for the 9th Annual Department Encampment in May.
- Attended NC Union Volunteers Camp #5 meeting in New Bern, NC. Gave status report on the plans for the May Department Encampment.
- Met with Fort Fisher site manager to review schedule for May Department Encampment to be held at Fort Fisher's Visitor Center.

March 2015

- Forwarded a SUVCW Charitable Foundation Grant Request Application from the Friends of Fort Fisher to Chairman Robert Grimm, PCinC, along with a letter of recommendation. This grant would be used to create a historical interpretive market with a Union Army and or Union Navy theme, and place it in the correct historical location on the Fort Fisher Battleground. This requested grant was approved by the SUVCW Charitable Foundation Committee on Grant Funding.
- Sent a request to NC Governor McCrory's office for a proclamation to coincide with the Department of North Carolina's 9th Annual Encampment.

6.22 Department of Ohio, Shawn Cox, DC

Nothing to report.

6.23 Department of Oklahoma, William J. Andrews, DC

Activity Highlights for the Department

- Several Brothers participated in the Honey Springs Battle reenactments on the weekend of Nov. 7. Department Commander Bill Andrews attended the Sunday reenactment and took photos for the Dept. Facebook page.
- Brothers of the Jeremiah Smith Camp #1 conducted a Remembrance Day ceremony at the Union Veterans' Monument at Fairlawn Cemetery in Oklahoma City.
- Department Commander Bill Andrews presented Eagle Scout Certificates at a Court of Honor at Yukon, Okla. on November 21.
- Brothers Michael Rusk and Rex Griffin of the Indian Nations #3 Camp participated in a Wreaths Across America Ceremony at the Perryman Cemetery in Tulsa, Okla. on Dec. 12, 2015. About 50 people attended the ceremony, including member of the following other groups: Rachel Cormany Auxiliary, Tulsa Historical Society, Daughters of American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, US Marshall Service, 77th Pennsylvania Reenacting unit, and Bugles Across America.
- Seven brothers representing the three Camps of the Oklahoma Department conducted a ceremony on Dec. 12, 2015 to dedicate a G.A.R. flag marker and commemorate the service of Private Thomas Jefferson Hutchins in Carmen, Oklahoma. Twenty-five descendants and relatives attended.
- Thomas Jefferson Hutchins enlisted as a Private in Co. H., 1st Arkansas Cavalry Volunteer Regiment on July 28, 1862 in Carroll County, Arkansas. He was wounded and captured in November 1862. While captured, he was beaten, hung, and left for dead, leaving him with severe health problems for the rest of his life.
- Private Hutchins' great-great granddaughter Lue Ann Root requested the ceremony.
- At the Feb. 25 mtg. of the Indian Nations Camp #3, PCC Rex Griffin is gave a talk about General Grant's First Command.
- Brothers from the 3 camps of the Oklahoma Department held a planning meeting for the Annual Department Encampment and attended the Round Mountain Battle reenactment near Yale, Okla. on Feb. 20, 2015. At the meeting, Cdr. Andrews presented a Membership Badge to Brother Rex Griffin's grandson, Coby Sarnowski of the Jacob Overturf Camp #4, who has just passed over the Junior Member status.
- The Oklahoma Department Encampment will be held at the Del City Community Center starting at 10 am on April 2, 2016. Council of Administration Member Brother Brian Pierson will be the Installing Officer.

New Members

The Jeremiah Smith Camp #1 welcomed Brother Brian Pierson, who will be a dual member with the Georgia-South Carolina Department, and Craig McKinley and Eric Hogan.

Finances and Camp Membership

As of March 31, 2015, the Oklahoma Department had a balance of \$836.41 on account.

As of October 31, 2015, Oklahoma Department Camp Membership was as follows:

- Jeremiah Smith Camp #1, 20 Members
- Indian Nations Camp #3, 22 Members

- Jacob Overturf Camp #4, 9 Members

6.23 Department of Pennsylvania, Doug McMillin, DC

Nothing to report.

6.24 Department of Rhode Island, Benjamin Frail, DC

The Department has been steadily growing these past few months adding 4 new members and reinstating 1 with the loss of 2 brothers (one discharged, one passing). The Department has been focusing on the Annual Awards Dinner and Department Encampment to happen on 8-9 Apr 2016. The Department has planned to do a Department Memorial Day Event at the grave site of Br. Robert Renehan who passed 24 Jan 2016 at age 98 and was the oldest brother in the Department. The Department also held its annual Lincoln Pot Luck Dinner on 12 Feb 2016 to celebrate President Lincoln's Birthday. It has been an honor to serve as Department Commander for the past two years and I wish my successor luck and well wishes in the coming term.

6.25 Department of the Southwest, John R. Conrad, DC

The Department of the Southwest having been chartered on December 3, 2015, the first quarter of 2016 has been spent on organizational activities.

We have obtained our Federal Tax ID and provided it to national officers, as required. We have opened a checking account at Chase Bank for the Department. We have obtained our gavel, Department Commander badge, and Departmental and US Flags. We are working on an internet presence for the Department.

We planned the first Department Encampment, which was held on March 26, 2016, at my residence, 33214 N. 61st Street, Scottsdale, AZ. Commander in Chief Eugene Mortorff presided and served as installing officer. We elected our officers for 2016, adopted the Department Bylaws, and selected our delegates to the National Encampment.

Each of the three Camps in the Department met in the first quarter at their regular quarterly meetings.

The Department has continued to pursue a memorial to the California Column, which helped drive back the Confederate advance into present-day Arizona in 1862, which memorial will be located on the State Capitol grounds. Legislation was introduced in January to permit the erection of a monument, which, if passed, will enable us to work with the Capitol Architect to design, position, and erect the monument. We have a fundraising plan, with currently \$2000 in pledges.

Because of the action taken at the 2015 National Encampment regarding ROTC recognition, we have named a ROTC Coordinator, who has ordered 18 medals and certificates and is planning to present the recognition at high schools and colleges in April.

6.26 Department of Tennessee, Michael Downs, DC

In November we were notified by the family that Charlie Engle had passed away soon after his trip to Gettysburg for the Remembrance Day activities. I and Commander David McReynolds from the William McTeer Camp attended his funeral in Athens, Tennessee, additionally I declared a thirty day period of mourning department wide. In a matter of days we also collected several hundred dollars to contribute, in Charlie's name, to the SUVCW Foundation.

On December 12th, 2015 I participated in the "Wreaths Across America" program. W. A. A. was organized in an effort to place a wreath on every Veterans grave site across the United States during the holiday season. The Department of Tennessee made a corporate donation to the fund and I was asked to participate in the program in which we set out over 900 wreaths in the Knoxville National Cemetery. While there are over 9000 soldiers buried in this National Cemetery, the number of wreaths presented has increased every year since the program began.

On January 9th, 2016 I traveled to Livingston, Tennessee to present the charter to the Army of the Tennessee Camp #64, this is our first new camp within the Department of Tennessee since 2010.

I have continued to work on making the arrangements for the October meeting of the Central Regions Association. To date we have arranged for a hotel in Franklin, Tennessee where Sam Gant will present a program on the history of saving the Franklin Battlefield. Then on Saturday morning we will travel to Fort Negley in Nashville for the annual meeting. Fort Negley was a Civil War structure built by the Union and utilized in the 1864 Battle of Nashville.

On February 20, 2016 we held our annual Department of Tennessee, with Alabama and Mississippi, Encampment in Memphis. The Sultana Camp #1 did an outstanding job of hosting our meeting this year arranging for an excellent hotel for us to stay at, a good meeting place and very tasty "Memphis Barbecue" luncheon. Five of the seven department camps sent representatives with reports filed by all. Numerous items were discussed including the updating of our web presence, and the issue of exploring the possibility of hosting a National Encampment with a target date of 2019. Curt Field portrayed U. S. Grant for the department and I believe we recruited him into the Sons. Unfortunately it was also announced that the Farragut Camp #6 was turning in their charter. Brother Mark Day, the National Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, was also a guest of the encampment and he relayed news from the National concerning the health of our Commander-in-Chief, the Banner and the Springfield Encampment. Overall the weekend was very informative and enjoyable.

One issue that has come to light since the encampment is that unfortunately the McTeer Camp was denied recognition for a post sesquicentennial signature event. I only wish that the senior leadership of the Sons could realize what their consistently negative attitude is doing to our organization. They need to support programs put forth by the camps rather than blocking ambitious planning!

Finally, on an ongoing basis I write a column that appears in several camp and department newsletters, a total of seventeen articles in all, while attending all of the William McTeer Camp meetings, "Messses," and officers' calls.

6.27 Department of Texas, Stevenson Holmes, DC

No report given.

6.28 Department of Vermont, Robert Grandchamp, DC

No report given.

6.29 Department of Wisconsin, Kim J. Heltemes, DC

Commander Activities since my last report.

- Nov 6 - gave Civil War talks to Juniors of Neenah High School
- Nov 16 – attended Old Abe Camp #8 meeting in Oshkosh, WI
- Nov 19 – gave Civil War talks to Juniors of Neenah High School.
- Dec 7 – attended Pearl Harbor Day at the Wisconsin Veterans Home in King, WI.
- Dec 3 – gave a talk to the Butte de Morte Historical Society at the Oshkosh Public Library.
- Dec 8 – presented the VFW and American Legion photo prints of the posts namesakes.
- Dec 28 – installed officers of Camp #4.
- Jan 12 - installed officers of Camp #5.
- Jan 23 – Old Abe Camp #8 meeting at Jimmies White House Inn, Butte de Morte, WI.
- Feb 28 – Attended "Echoes of the Past" trade show for re-enactors.
- March 5, 2016 held a staff meeting for Dept officers on retention and recruiting.
- March 21 – attending Old Abe Camp #8 meeting in Oshkosh, WI.

Camp 1 activities

- Booths at festivals at Forest Home Cemetery Civil War event, Trimborn Farm - a multi-era history event and West Allis Settlers Days.
- Several attempts to restart the Eagle Scout certificate with CEO of Three Harbors Boy Scout Council,

which covers three counties. He forwarded material and reminders to his many troops. Camp 15 has agreed to handle any in its area.

- Forest Home Cemetery historical marker funded, ordered and erected, with Camp funds, two national SUVCW grants, donation by Auxiliary 4 and a donor jar at Forest Home history event. Dedication will be Sunday, June 12, 2016. Marker tells public that nearly 1,000 Civil War vets are buried there; list grows by one or two every few months.
- Fund-raising for restoration work on the 1898 Victorious Charge statue in downtown Milwaukee; a donor plaque is being added and we plan to be at the highest level of donors (\$2,500 on the plaque). No other history group big or small is at the highest level. One national grant sought; maybe another and will seek a Department grant in application period. Also collected with a donor jar at Memorial Day and events.
- PCC Mueller did a project tracking all 140 Civil War vets from Oak Creek Township in Milwaukee County; 27 died in the war. List published in print and on web by Oak Creek Historical Society, and sent to Wisconsin Veterans Museum.
- PCC Mueller also has registered more than 1,300 graves at Wood National Cemetery, as Department GRO.
- Wreaths Across America with a few other groups.

Camp 2 activities

- Camp continues to have good rapport with Madison Veteran's Council
- December did Wreaths Across America observance at Forest Hills Cemetery Soldiers Rest and Union Rest.

Camp 4 activities

- Camp #4 meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month,
- Participated in the Wreaths Across America ceremony at Woods National Home.
- Camp 4 made contributions to the Civil War Trust for the preservation of land at battlefields. This year's effort was directed to the acquisition of land on the Antietam battlefield.

Camp 5 activities

- No Report at this time.

Camp 8 activities

- Meeting held Nov 16 with election of officers.
- Meeting Jan 16, 2016.
- King Veterans Home Bingo Party on January 23rd 2016
- Feb 28, 29, 2016 – Attended “Echoes of the Past” trade show
- Camp meeting March 21, 2016.

Camp 15 activities

- We marched in the Union Grove, South Milwaukee, and Milwaukee Veterans Day Parades.
- We continue to inspect cemeteries in Racine County. Four cemeteries have been inspected so far, and many gravestones and monuments have been cleaned.
- August, 2015 five Brothers traveled to Poniowski, WI for a gravestone dedication.
- Held a service of remembrance at the gravesite of Col. Hans C. Heg on September 19th.
- We meet on the first Thursday of each month (except August) at the Norway, WI Town Hall at 7 PM. Each meeting included a patriotic presentation.

Camp 49 activities

- Work continues on the Grand Army Post in Boscobel, WI

Camp 56 activities

- Elections in late November gave the camp a new commander.
- The camp has started the work in Lakeside Cemetery in Minneapolis, MN. It is a large undertaking to

find the graves of our ancestors in a very large cemetery.

7.0 Addendums