

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Department of Michigan
Department Orders, No 2
Series 2012 – 2013
May 5th, 2012

1) Department of Michigan, Brothers and Camps. At the 123rd Department of Michigan Encampment held in Lansing on March 31st, 2012, a Bylaws change was approved creating a position of Department Aide in regards to ceremonies, protocols and procedures. **The new Article XX, section 6 reads as follows.**

“Section 6. The Department Commander shall appoint a Department Aide who has knowledge of Civil War infantry drill and of the various ceremonies used by the Order wherein uniformed Camp Guards participate. The Department Aide shall serve as a coordinator between various Camp Guards as they participate in Department functions and shall serve as Commanding Officer of the combined Camp Guards at Department functions. The Department Aide shall also coordinate uniformed activities with any SVR units participating in Department activities and shall place himself under the authority of the senior SVR officer present at such events. The Department Aide may offer instruction to the various Camp Guards in practices, protocols and procedures in conducting public ceremonies of all types.”

I would like to announce the appointment of **Keith Harrison**, PCC, PDC, PCinC to fill this position. Brother Keith's experience in major leadership positions within the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Sons of Veterans Reserve and also in the area of military procedure, protocol and drill will serve the Department well as we move forward this position.

2) As you know, one of the most important holidays that we as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War participate in, is that of **Memorial Day, on May 30th** of each year. Created by General John Logan with the issuance of General Order #11, our ritual book is quite clear in regards to our responsibilities as members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

“Each member has a special obligation on and to Memorial Day. He shall use his influence in every possible manner for the proper and general observance of this day, that Memorial Day, instituted by the Grand Army of the Republic, shall ever be held sacred by the people of our country.”

I would encourage Camps and Members to honor those that have served our country and have gone before us, by participating in Memorial Services in your local communities.

An address that puts things in crystal clear perspective of the true meaning of Memorial Day is located on our Department website. It is entitled **“The National Day of Memorial”** I would recommend highly, that you take the time to read this address and share it with others.

3) Just a reminder that *submissions to **Michigan's Messenger** for Department Officers, Camps and Members* are due June 1, 2012 for a June 15th publication date.

4) The next **Graves Registration Meeting** is on June 9th at 10am at the downtown branch of the Capitol Area District Library located at 401 S. Capitol Ave, Lansing Michigan.

5) **The new Department Membership Brochure is finalized and has been sent to the printer.** As soon as it arrives and is available for ordering and distribution, information will be sent out in the form of a Department Correspondence as to the final price, shipping costs etc, as well as who to send your order information to.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty:

Paul D. Arnold, PCC
Department Commander
Michigan Department
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest: Dennis Fyke
Department of Michigan Secretary
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War