

LYONS

MINUTES OF THE
110th ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
1 MAY 1999
LANSING, MICHIGAN

The 110th Annual Encampment, Department of Michigan SUVCW, was opened at 9:36 A.M. on 1 May 1999 by Department Commander Kent L. Armstrong as per ritual.

Guide D. Farnsworth & Color Bearer D. Armstrong were directed to determine that all present were entitled to remain.

Secretary R. Lee was directed to call the roll of Officers. (See attachment 'A' for the complete roster). Those absent were: Historian G. Holmes; Patriotic Instructor G. Hayes; Guide P. Kennedy; Guard R. Gorske; Aide-de-Camp V.C. DeCrane; Graves Registration J. Obermeyer; B.S.A. Coordinator G. Ralston.

Chaplain W. McAfee was asked to invoke the Divine Blessing.

Color bearer Armstrong presented the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Guard B. Shumway was directed to allow all Brothers who were qualified to enter to do so.

Cmdr. Armstrong extended a hearty welcome, echoed by the Bros., to Commander-in-Chief Andrew Johnson and directed the Guide to escort Bro. Johnson to the Commander's station. Cmdr. Armstrong then recognized PC-in-C Keith Harrison & PC-in-C Alan Loomis (IN) & Past National Secretary J. LyonsPDC. He also mentioned Bro. Ed Kreiser (IN) and his artifact display & that he would speak at the banquet about the National Encampment in Indianapolis in August. Bros. in Nat'l. Offices introduced themselves - see Attachment 'A2'.

Chaplain McAfee was then called on to give the Memorial Service for Bros. lost to us in the past year. Those eulogized were: G. McAllister; W. Carden; D. Gage; H. Nunemaker; S. Yax, Bros. who are ill and also military personnel who are in harms way.

Cmdr. Armstrong asked Credentials Committee Chair M. Pangburn to give the number of delegates present from each Camp and he also asked delegates to stand when their Camp was called.

Delegates were present from Camps: #3 - 1; #7 - 6; #9 - 1; #17 - 8; #20 - 4; #22 - 2; #53 - 3; #58 - 4; #67 - 1; #101 - 1; #120 - 1; #145 - 6; #147 - 1; #160 - 2; #266 - 1; #462 - 2; for a total of 44.

Camps with no delegates present: #1 - #14 - #28 - #43 - #76 #85 - #259 - #427.

Cmdr. Armstrong appointed Committees as follows:
Resolutions - K. Harrison PC-in-C (Ch.), P. Parks, K. Shaw
Officer's Reports - G. Gibson PDC (Ch.), M. Miller, M. McMillan
Committee Reports - P. Hodges PDC (Ch.), P. Carlson, T. Streeter

Cmdr. Armstrong asked the Bros. who had received copies of the Minutes of the 1998 Dept. Encampment to look at them. He asked Sec'y. Lee if he had any comments about them.

Bro. Lee said that there were some gaps in the Minutes where the tape recorder had skipped and he was unable to fill in from his notes.

Cmdr. Armstrong said that he would entertain a motion for approval of the Minutes - the motion was made and approved.

Bro. Lyons PDC was recognized and stated that he felt that the Minutes of this Encampment should be distributed sooner than at the next Encampment so that actions taken here would be fresh in the delegates minds. He said that the Minutes should be distributed to Dept. Officers, Committee Chairmen, each Camp & put on the Dept. Web page.

When queried by the Cmdr. Bro. Lee said that his intention was to meet that deadline.

COMMUNICATIONS

Cmdr. Armstrong then called on Sec'y. Lee to read the following: Letters commending the SUVCW for work in memorializing Civil War & other veterans & sending best wishes for a successful Encampment from the Dept. of Michigan VFW, American Legion, AMVETS & Gov. Engler. Also, a request from SVC-in-Chief D. Wheeler for support for his candidacy for Cmdr.-in-Chief; and letters requesting membership information from WV, TX, Grand Rapids & Holland, MI.

OFFICER REPORTS

Dept. Cmdr. Armstrong - see attachment 'B'
SVC Wm. Morris - see attachment 'C'
JVC & Dept. Camp Organizer J. Mann - see attachment 'D'
Treasurer - D.T. Wallace - see attachment 'E'
Secretary R. Lee - see attachment 'F'
Council - R. Williams - verbal rept. lost on tape
Counselor K. Shaw - no report
Chief of Staff M. Pangburn - no report
Historian G. Holmes - absent, no report
Patriotic Inst. G. Hayes - absent, no report
Chaplain W. McAfee - reported on a ceremony at Newburg Cemetery in Livonia for Pvt. Lemuel Blount whose descendents replaced his headstone although he is not buried there.
Signals Officer C. Ten Brink - absent, rept. in "MI Messenger"
C-A-L Coordinator K. Martin - verbal rept. lost on tape
Dept. Newsletter Editor J. Mann - see attachment 'G'
B.S.A. Coordinator G. Ralston - absent, no report
Bro. Lee reports that Bro. Ralston has health problems but is receiving treatment.
Graves Registration J. Obermeyer - see attachment 'H'

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bylaws Comm. Chair SVC W. Morris - see attachment 'I'
Cmdr. Armstrong called on Nat'l. Counselor Jas. Pahl PDC for his counsel on Article XVII - Discipline. He said that the procedure is under review at the Nat'l. level & that Depts. should not revise their Bylaws until the Nat'l. completes it's work.

Article XVI Sec.2 - Bro. Lyons PDC spoke on the change of the time frame for determining the winning Camps. Also, he moved that the awards be named "Growth Awards" rather than "Membership Awards" but this was ruled out-of-order.

COMMITTEE REPORTS -cont.

Legislative Comm., Chair T. Elegeert - absent no written rept.
Cmdr. Armstrong said that there has been an update on the "Blue Book" but that the "old" books are still being given out and that laws are still on the books from days of the GAR referring to veterans.

Membership Comm., Chair J. Mann - no written rept. - verbal rept. lost on tape.

Graves Registration Comm., Chair J. Obermeyer - see attach. 'H'.

GAR Memorials Comm., Chair D. Armstrong - verbal rept. mostly lost on tape - read letter from Mr. Rogers.

GAR Records Comm., Chair J. Lyons PDC - verbal lost on tape - from notes - develop guidelines for searching in county & city records - seed money for project received from Mich. State Archives to scan 1300 veterans records - eventually onto Internet - cost of project \$4,000. - reference archivist to work shortly - blurb in "Mich. History" magazine for funds, none received - cannot conclude by Memorial Day - possibility of matching funds - also costs may be overestimated - secondary project to develop database of GAR Members - 3-400 in database - 600 rosters of Post Officers - will stay all day at Archives - checks to J. Lyons.

Cmdr. Armstrong called on the Bros. to donate to the project & asked Guide Farnsworth to circulate the "famous Dept. Cash Barrel".

Weekend of Remembrance Comm., Liaison Officer K. Harrison PC-in-C - verbal - lost on tape - from notes - on 1st & 2nd Aug. at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans - memorial program for Civil War veterans buried there - re-enactment of battle of Franklin TN narrated by David Finney - can visit with room-bound veterans - breakfast for overnighters - pig roast on Saturday - at last year's Military Ball a "1940's" band played. Cmdr. Armstrong mentioned that the cemetery there was in the shape of a Maltese cross.

Communications & Technology Comm., Chair
Cmdr. Armstrong said report was published in "MI Messenger".

Nominations Comm., Chair M. Pangburn - read names of nominees for elected office for 1999-2000 - see attachment 'J'

M-99 - Logan Hwy. Comm., Chair J. Douglas Park PDC - no report.
Cmdr. Armstrong referred to an article in "Civil War News" - lost on tape.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Sec'y. Lee - none to report
Cmdr. Armstrong, et al, discussion, items relating to SVC-in-C D. Wheeler & the Dept. of MD - lost on tape.

Announcements were made by:

R. Williams - Al Pifer PCC of Camp #14 had a stroke. Cmdr. Armstrong on trips to #14 with D. Armstrong & R. Lee.

P. Carlson - Steam engine show at Buckley, MI on 15-16 May.

M. Miller - G. Woodman had surgery.

J. Pahl PDC - inquired whether Dept. had received any Resolutions.

J. Lyons PDC - those to include request for endorsement of SVC-inC D. Wheeler for C-in-C.

K. Harrison PC-inC - said that such endorsements can be delayed

R. McClary - U.S. Senate considering legislation making May "Nat'l. Military Month".

W. Brennan PDC - a ceremony 10 July for placing a headstone for Lt. C.J. Bassett, a Black veteran, who received the Medal of Honor.

Cmdr. Armstrong - introduced P. Parks, CC of #266 in the UP - meets at Jacobetti Home for Veterans - discussed possible new camps. R. Lee mentioned weather concerns when he & Cmdr. Armstrong & D.F. Wallace organized the Camp.

Cmdr. Armstrong - because of extra time, the Committees could start meeting & he would give meal tickets - raffle tickets from R. Williams for print of 24th MI at Gettysburg.

A. Loomis PC-inC - E. Kreiser's display of items that will be raffled at the Nat'l. Encampment in Indianapolis.

Cmdr. Armstrong called Recess at 11:28 A.M. & asked the Bros. to return at 12:50 P.M.

Cmdr. Armstrong re-opened the Encampment at 1:28 P.M.

Guard B. Shumway announced that the ladies of the Daughters of Union Veterans were waiting to be admitted to the meeting room. Cmdr. assigned escorts & the ladies were admitted. Mutual best wishes were given & the ladies retired.

Cmdr. Armstrong mentioned the sale of calling cards to raise funds for the GAR Records project.

Cmdr. Armstrong called for the Encampment Committee Reports -

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

K. Harrison PC-in-C, Chair. - on the Dept. of MD motion to amend Chapter 1, Article II, Sec. 6 of the Nat'l. Regulation. The Comm. concurs - motion to accept approved - see attachment 'K'.

Also, the Comm. recommends endorsement of SVC-in-C D. Wheeler for C-in-C & JVC-in-C A. Peterson for SVC-in-C. J. Pahl PDC & R. Williams spoke favorably about them - motion to accept approved

OFFICER'S REPORTS COMMITTEE

G. Gibson PDC, Chair. - stated that the reports were in good order. On Treasurer D.T. Wallace's recommendation to invest some money from the checking acct. & invest it - the Comm. concurs & Bro. Gibson moved to direct the Council to investigate investment possibilities " & not waste a year". -approved.

Also, on the recommendation of J. Mann, Dept. Newsletter Editor, that the "Michigan's Messenger" be direct mailed - see attach. 'G", the Comm. concurs Bro. Gibson so moved - approved with Bros. R. Greene & R. Williams (Council members) abstaining.

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE REPORTS

P. Hodges PDC, Chair. - on the report of the Bylaws Committee: See attachment 'I' -

Art. II Sec. 1 - change allows flexibility, avoids bad weather-Comm. concurs - approved

Art. XVI Sec. 2 - on the recommendations to change "accepts into membership" to "initiates" & to change the word "Membership" in the Award titles to "Growth" - Comm. concurs - approved.

Art XX Sec. 1 - change of wording regarding prior registration to "14 days" in both places & also the change regarding review of fees & publication of same - Comm. concurs -approved.

Bro. J. Pahl PDC gave his thanks to Bros. W. Morris, P. Carlson & T. Streeter for their work on these changes.

Art. XVII Sec. 1 - on the recommendation regarding "Discipline" - Comm. concurs - approved.

Bro J. Pahl addressed C-in-C A. Johnson " that these changes do violate the Orders, Constitution & Regulations of the Nat'l. Organization & should be approved by the C-in-C. C-inC Johnson agreed, put on his 'hat' , & so ordered.

Bro. K. Harrison PC-in-C announced that PDC David F. Wallace had entered the meeting hall.

Cmdr. Armstrong thanked Bro. Wallace for producing the "Lincoln" & "Nicolay - Hay" Awards & the name tags for the Encampment.

He mentioned the "Certificate of Appreciation" for Bro. Gordie McAllister that was at the back of the room. He said that he spoke to Gordie after the cancer diagnosis & that he was more concerned about Camp #67 than his own health.

COUNCIL REPORT

R. Williams, Chair. - the Treasurer's books were in order - the budget was reviewed & will stay the same for 1999-2000 -there are fund raisers to be done so no need to increase the budget- no increase in per caps for 1999-2000.

NEW BUSINESS

Cmdr. Armstrong discussed changes made at the 1998 Nat'l. Encampment regarding new camps - a new camp can be organized with 5 rather than 15 members - 3 or 4 provisional camps may establish a department and a motion approved to delete "provisional camps".

Cmdr. Armstrong introduced Bro. T. LaBanta, one of our 2 Real Sons, who said that he learned about the GAR by driving his Dad to GAR Encampments - he has been a member of the SUVCW for over 70 years.

Bro. J. Mann spoke of being contacted by a KY historical that is asking for financial help in placing markers at the site of the Battle of Tebbs Bend. 200 Michiganders of the 5th & 25th Mich. took on John Morgan with 2500 troopers. Markers will cost \$2,250.00 each, need \$1,125.00 to start work, marker will last a minimum of 25 years. Down payment would be needed in the Fall, the rest on delivery, probably in Spring 2000.

Bro. R. Williams said that the Dept. has other commitments; the Nat'l. Encampment in 2000 & other expenses - he would like to "review the books & see where we are in a couple of months".

Bro. Don Workman spoke in opposition - "we have monuments in Mich. that need help".

Bro. W. Morris moved "that the Council look at our finances in a few months to determine the status & look at partnerships with other organizations.

Bro. H. Streeter asked "to let the Council members look at it & if we can do it, we will".

Bro. J. Pahl PDC moved an amendment to the original that "we re-consider this at the Mid-Winter Conference in Feb. 2000". approved with Bros. Workman & Long opposed.

Bro. R. McClary said that the problem with only 1 company involved is to get the lowest price.

Cmdr. Armstrong spoke about the location of the Nat'l. Encampment in 2000 - after NJ & ME fell through, he was approached to see if the facility used here in 1988 & 1994 would be available. 1 date was open, it will be a lot of work, but an honor to host it. He moved that "the Dept. of Mich. go forward & host the 2000 Nat'l. Encampment 17-20 Aug." - approved. Bro. Lyons PDC offered to take "an advisory position" on this matter.

D.F. Wallace PDC asked if C. Corfman PC-in-C was still Chair. of the Nat'l. Encampment Comm.?

Cmdr. Armstrong said that E. Kreiser was a member of the Comm. & has a contract signed by Corfman & he will take it to the hotel today.

J. Lyons PDC extended a challenge to Dept. Camps to participate in a "Civil War Trivia Challenge" game like that enjoyed by Camp #17.

J. Mann said that the Bylaws changed, & approved by C-inC A. Johnson, set fees for the 2000 Encampment at \$5.00 pre-registration & \$8.00 at the door.

G. Gibson PDC moved that the Dept. contribute \$25.00 each to the SVC-inC & the Nat'l. Patriotic Instructors Funds - approved

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Discussion of the Ritual situation followed:

Bro. M. Miller questioned paying \$5.00 for something that's no good -

J. Pahl PDC said that the 1998 Nat'l. Encampment directed the C-in-C to go through the Ritual - 5 pp. of changes needed - to be reviewed at the 1999 Nat'l. Encamp. & if approved there - print it.

K. Harrison PC-in-C said \$5.00 not a fair price - lower the price or "dump them".

Cmdr. Armstrong asked Bro. Pahl if "he had any idea when or if the Ritual will be re-printed?" - Bro. Pahl said that he didn't know.

It was moved that the Dept. of Mich. take a resolution to Indianapolis directing the Nat'l. Organization to re-print the Ritual - approved.

A. Loomis PC-in-C said that it is being considered to make the Ritual as a loose-leaf for easier changes.

Discussion of the GAR bldg. in downtown Detroit followed:

Cmdr. Armstrong showed a picture of the bldg. which had been home to 5 Posts - too good to lose it.

K. Harrison PC-inC said a man (Mark Benskey?) was looking for information on the bldg. by E-mail - blueprints etc. - he said that he was interested in buying & restoring it - might add small restaurant.

Bro. Harrison asked if the Dept. might have records on it?

Bro. J. Lyons said that the last interested purchaser defaulted on his contract - the bldg. is a Nat'l. Historic Site so there are restrictions on changes or use - Detroit had a standing demolition order since 1985 but doesn't want to pay for the work.

1999 is the 50th Anniversary of Don Hoch, Camp #7, as Dept. Cmdr. & yrs as a Brro. - he isn't on records as PDC - since Bro. LaBanta was given permission to add a 50 yr. pin to his badge C-in-C Johnson was asked to "put on his hat" & approve a 50 yr. pin for Bro. Hoch & he did - the Dept. would provide a PDC badge for Bro. Hoch.

mentioned our oldest (104 yrs.) & longest active (since 1922) Bro. Don Carlos Pace of Camp #22. He joined Colegrove Camp #22 in 1922 & was a member until it disbanded in 1956. He kept his SUVCW membership & was a Charter Member when Colegrove-Woodruff #22 organized in 1992. C-in-C Johnson said he did not know of any Bro. 104 yrs. old.

Bro. B. Hoffman asked about any pending legislation on the designation of M-99 as "Gen'l. John Logan Hwy". said there is nothing pending since Rep. M. Nye "bailed out" & won't return calls - seems Gov. Engler wouldn't sign a bill because Logan wasn't from Mich. - a retired State Police officer said there is an informal organization that might help - J. Douglas Park PDC thinks a couple of new legislators might move on it. Cmdr. Armstrong wants Bro. Park to stay on the Comm. since there seems to be a possibility of re-newed interest.

Bro. M. Miller reported on the Ogden Ctr. GAR Hall - it was sold years ago, the front wall was torn out & an overhead door installed & the painted GAR medal gone. Also, that GAR flagholders are being offered for sale on E-Bay.

C-in-C Johnson said that the SUVCW contacted E-Bay to stop this - including holders for veterans of any war - got a good response,

Bro. P. Carlson said that he got 11 flagholders from a real estate office

Cmdr. Armstrong asked Sec'y. Lee to give Bro. K. Martin his "Nicolay - Hay Award for excellent Quarterly reports & also Bro. G. McAllister's "Abraham Lincoln Award" for all his good work honoring the memory of the GAR. for his family - the Cmdr. also announced Lincoln Awards to Bro. J. Pahl for his years of service to the SUVCW at the Camp, Dept. & Nat'l. levels & to Mr. R. Rosentreter, Editor of "Mich. History Magazine" for the special Civil War Collector's issue "Thank God For Mich."

Cmdr. Armstrong gave a Certificate of Appreciation to Bro. R. Greene for his placing flagholders - marker in Tuscola Cemetery & he asked Bro. M. Miller to take the "A. Blair" & "O. LeValley" Membership Awards to Camp #259.

Cmdr. Armstrong called on Sec'y. Lee to announce the Camp Secretaries who earned the new "Nicolay-Hay Award" for excellent reporting, they were: Bros. M. Heath #7; D. Harvey #9; J. Lohrstorfer #22; D. Schneider #43; M. Pangburn #58; K. Martin #67; K. Dixon #160; J. Thomason #427. Bro. Lee expressed his & the Dept. appreciation for their efforts & the hope that more Awards would be given next year.

Bro. W. Lowe reported that Bro. C. Czopek had located the grave of the 1st GAR Cmdr. of Mich. in Adrian - the flagholder will be cleaned & replaced on the grave by Memorial Day. Bro. Lowe also told of about the Tecumseh cemetery ceremony put on by Camp #43 - Civil War 'veterans' rise from their graves & tell groups of visitors about their lives during & after the War - 14-15 May - Bro. R. Elliott of Camp #76 helps with information for the 'vets'.

Bro. R. Richardson told of Civil War Fort Gratiot - closed in 1880 - Officer's Quarters moved & partly restored, part to be demolished, asks Dept. to get owner's permission to salvage part.

Bro. L. Cohoon asked how many delegates we could send to the Nat'l. Encampment - answer- 20 plus the PC-inC & PDCs.

NOMINATIONS

J. Lyons PDC moved that as there were no other nominees for elected office the Comm. said the nominees should be unanimously elected - approved. Bro. Pahl recorded a 'no' vote.

Cmdr. Armstrong & Bro. J. Lyons had discussed the election process previously used where Camps surveyed their members for candidates & then sent letters of nomination to the Dept. Sec'y. with copies of the letters to other Camps asking for endorsement of their candidates - this sometimes produced 2 or 3 candidates for a position - it was a "nice process, fallen into disuse, this is 'tossed out' for consideration".

Cmdr. Armstrong asked C-in-C A. Johnson if he had anything he wanted to say to the Bros?

C-in-C Johnson said that he saw that the SUVCW was alive & well in Mich. - "especially in Mich." - that he had been to many celebrations but hadn't seen as many delegates present - he was pleased with what he had seen today & throughout the year with 'top Mich. people' - he spoke of the importance of PC-in-C K. Harrison's work in "turning the SUVCW around when it was in a severe decline" - of the wonderful flag preservation & storage program at the Capitol - he made particular mention of Cmdr. Armstrong's work on saving GAR monuments; J. Pahl as Nat'l. Counselor; G. Gibson on the Council of Administration & K. Harrison as Nat'l. Wenmaster.

Also, the 1998 Nat'l. Encampment approved hiring a part-time Executive Sec'y. to ease the load on the Nat'l. Sec'y. & Chief of Staff & provide continuity in projects.

Also, mentioned court cases for Griswold, KS & Scranton, PA regarding the selling of cannon that were not their property.

Also, he felt honored to stand at Lincoln's Tomb & Grant's Tomb for the SUVCW .

Bro. J. Obermeyer circulated a sign-up sheet for those Bros. who planned to be delegates to the Nat'l. Encampment -

Bro. J. Lyons moved that those Bros. signing be elected as delegates to the Nat'l & Bro. J. Pahl amended that the remaining names in the Dept. Encampment Registration Book be alternates - approved.

Cmdr. Armstrong asked that those signing-up decide not to go let Sec'y. Lee know at least a week prior to the Encampment.

Bro. E. Kreiser said "you all come to Indy". - the parade downtown was cancelled because the city "set-up road blocks" but there would be a wreath laying ceremony at the Monument in the Circle - buses from the hotel to downtown ceremony & War Memorial & to the Indiana Roof Ballroom that evening - medals will be issued to attendees .

C-in-C said that all "Turkish Admirals" will like the 2 medals.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR 1999-2000

Cmdr. Armstrong surrenders control of the Encampment to C-in-C Johnson & directs Sec'y. Lee to read names of nominees.

Bro. B. Brennan PDC called for a Recess - granted at 3:45 - re-opened at 4:00 by Bro. Johnson who then conducted the Installation as per Ritual.

Cmdr. Armstrong said "it's good to look out at the fellows in this room, you are the Dept., God Bless you. He then closed the Encampment as per Ritual. - 9 -

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty,

Richard J. Lee
Secretary-Treasurer

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

1998-1999 ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICERS

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A

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Kent L. Armstrong
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MICHIGAN BROTHERS HOLDING
NATIONAL OFFICES

Elected and Appointed Officers and Committee Assignments
Kent L. Armstrong *Civil War Memorials Officer*
Civil War Memorials Committee
G.A.R. Memorial Foundation
Gary L. Gibson *Council of Administration*
1999 G.A.R. Commemoration
Richard Greene *Assistant Camp & Department Organizer*
Keith G. Harrison *Webmaster*
Proceedings Editor
Banner Printing Committee
Communications & Technology Committee
Gregory D. Hayes *Aide, Graves Registration Committee*
James T. Lyons *Digest Committee*
Michael W. McMillan *Legal Staff*
James B. Pahl *Treasurer*
Constitution & Regulations (C&R) Committee
Counselor
Digest Committee
Legal Staff
J. Douglas Park *Program and Policy Committee*
Kim D. Shaw *Legal Staff*
Richard A. Williams *Membership List Coordinator*
Banner Printing Committee
Communications & Technology Committee
Aide, Graves Registration Committee

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DEPARTMENT COMMANDER REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN - SUVCW

Encampment of May 1, 1999

I have the honor of reporting what a pleasure it has been to work with such a fine team during this administration. I am referring to each and every Camp's membership, as well as our Department Officers. As busy and devoted as our Department team has been, the true work of the Organization – in the public's eyes, happens at the local level. I'm proud to have been able to get enough time off from work, to enable me to visit a meeting of each and every one of our Department's Camps – managing to travel 5,091 miles in the process.

I'm happy to learn that **JAMES D. MORGAN Camp No. 70** may soon be reactivated, due to the efforts of Brother Donald Londo, who has moved to Alpena. Original members of Camp #70 (who transferred to the Camp-at-Large) and some new recruits from the Northeast lower peninsula will allow this Camp to be reinstated. This will return our active local chapter strength to 24 Camps.

On June 27th, that number will grow to 25 with the official opening of **CARPENTER – WELCH Camp No. 180**. Department Chaplain William McAfee is to be commended for his efforts as a “spark-plug,” making a long awaited Washtenaw County Camp a reality. The Camp will give new life to the names of the G.A.R. Posts that served Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor, and also honor the number of the “Ypsi” Post.

I'm pleased to share that Michigan may soon have a 3rd, Auxiliary organized. Joining the Auxiliaries of Camps 7 and 43, will be one that's sponsored by **SGT. JOHN S. COSBEY Camp No. 427** in Dearborn.

I am proud of so many things that we have done together, to honor the memory of those who served and sacrificed to *Save the Union* from the conflict of 1861 - 1865. These efforts need not be listed here, as they are fully documented in the Department Newsletter that we are fortunate to have, thanks to the dedication of Brother John Mann, Editor.

Making this job easier, was the involvement and cooperation from our Department Council, Chaired by Brother Dick Williams. I also want to recognize Department Secretary Lee, Vice Commanders Morris and Mann and Chief of Staff Pangburn for their services. Of special help with computer related talents were Department and National webmasters TenBrink and Harrison, respectively, and PDC David F. Wallace.

It has been an honor to take a turn in this role, and to coordinate the planning for the SUVCW's turn at hosting our combined 1999 Department Encampment and Department Conventions of the WRC and the DUVCW in Michigan. Planning for Michigan's turn at hosting another *Central Region Conference* is well-in-hand, for October 2nd - this year. Next year, Michigan will again have the honor of hosting a National Encampment of the SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR – pending your endorsement, during New Business of this Encampment.

Respectfully submitted,
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



Kent L. Armstrong, Commander
Department of Michigan - SUVCW



Report of the Senior Vice Department Commander

Commander Armstrong,

Over the past year I was compelled to severely curtail my activity with the Order due to serious unforeseen family demands which required me to take care of things closer to home.

In the fall I accompanied my Brothers to the November 1998 Remembrance Day program at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. While there, I took the opportunity to have a wonderful meeting with General David Medert, Commanding Officer of the Order's Sons of Veterans Reserve.

Early this year the Department Commander granted me the honor to be installing officer for the newly elected Camp Officers of both the G.W. Howe Camp No. 9 and the General John Logan Camp No. 1. I also assisted him with the installation of Camp Officers of the Major Henry Wallace Camp No. 160.

As Chairman of the Bylaws Committee I have had the opportunity to receive a number of interesting proposals. Using these suggestions, the bylaws committee further developed them, endeavoring to shape these thoughts to meet the present and future needs of our Department. The Bylaws Proposals will be addressed in the Bylaws Committee report.

In March I accompanied a delegation to Mio, Michigan where we meet with American Legion Post Commander McCosh who is actively involved in the reinterment project for Daniel Calkins. Afterwards we visited the cemetery and assisted in planning a portion of the program.

Our Department is blessed with many energetic Brothers of diverse interests. Over the past several months we have been actively finding ways for everyone to participate. To this end, I have been assisting Brother Ken Martin of the General Phil Kearney Camp No. 67 in his efforts of reinvigorating our own Sons of Veterans Reserve unit, the 30th Michigan Infantry. During the past few months Ken has made great strides in this area. It is hoped that Michigan's SVR will eventually grow into as many as three regionally based companies interested in supporting parade and ceremonial activity. Ken is seeking more Brothers to fill the ranks of the SVR along with a few interested in filling leadership positions. Those interested in joining the SVR should of course be in good standing with own Camp. Those seeking leadership positions should be a member of the SVR and possess the knowledge, ability, and time to teach others their ceremonial roles and willing to take an active part in SVR functions.

During the past year my Brothers though me worthy enough for inclusion in the Department's Research Committee. While I have regrettably little information on hand about Michigan Veterans, I have successfully assisted dozens of people engaged in the research of the more "Southern" Union Soldiers.

More recently, acting on a suggestion from PCC Rick Greene I explored the possibility of putting together a group tour to Shiloh National Military Park in Tennessee. As many of us know, Shiloh was the sight of a desperate and costly action fought in April 1862. Michigan's own Battery B 1st Light Artillery and the 12th, 13th and 15th Infantry Regiments were actively involved in this struggle. The park preserves almost the entire original battlefield on its 4,000 acres. Located a short drive to the south is the site of the Battle of Corinth in which Michigan's 3rd Cavalry, 3rd Battery 1st Light Artillery and 15th Infantry defended against a massive Confederate assault.

While conducting preliminary work on this, I discovered there were a surprising number of people interested in such a project.

On Wednesday (April 28th) I followed up earlier e-mail communication with a meeting at Shiloh National Military Park. In short, I found that the Park Staff is eager and would enjoy the opportunity to work with our organization. The staff is flexible and very ready to support us most any way consistent with their policies. In a later conversation with the Commander of the Farragut Camp No. 6 (Savannah, TN) I found that our Tennessee Brothers would be willing to support us however they could. I suggest that if there continues to be interest in this trip we should also open it to all the members of the Allied Orders, their families, and anyone interested in perpetuating the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and the men who saved our Union.

Recommendation

Shortly after assuming the position of National Webmaster, P CinC Keith Harrison published our Constitution and Regulations on the web. Certainly not all Brothers have access to the Internet and such a file should never be relied upon to replace a printed copy of this important document but P CinC Harrison's efforts did produce another means of access for those needing a supplemental copy of it. I have noticed that our own Department Webmaster, Brother Chuck Ten Brink, has followed suit by publishing the Department's Bylaws on the web. I recommend that we take this movement the final step by asking our Camps to also present their own Bylaws in such a manner on their web page. Not only would such a file provide a supplemental means of obtaining a copy of this document but could also be used as a ready reference for our new Camps in the development of their own bylaws.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

William R. Morris
Senior Vice Department Commander



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN



John R. Mann
JUNIOR VICE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
2495 South Washington Road
Lansing, MI 48911-7216
(517) 694-1440 / MIJVCUVCW@aol.com

Report of the Junior Vice Department Commander and Department Camp Organizer

In looking at the membership statistics during my term of office, I find that the membership of the Department has increased only slightly, from 485 to 501. The Department sustained a loss of one Camp, namely James D. Morgan Camp 70 of Alpena, by surrender of their charter. On the brighter side, a new Camp in Washtenaw County has applied for their charter and will be mustered on June 27, 1999. This Camp is being organized primarily through the efforts of Department Chaplain McAfee. Interest has been expressed in starting two other Camps, one in Tuscola County and the other in Oakland County. There is also a possibility that Camp 70 may be reorganized and re-chartered or reinstated.

At the outset of my term, I was determined to make it easier for the prospective new member to join the Camp of his choice within the Department of Michigan. My idea was that enough information be put on each Camp's web site and our recruiting brochure so that a person would be inclined to contact the Camp directly, rather than go through the JVC-in-C or Department JVC. A direct contact with the Camp, I felt, would speed things up considerably and eliminate duplication of effort on the part of all officers concerned.

In light of this, letters were initially sent to all Camp JVCs in June of 1998, outlining the plan and asking for their cooperation. Realizing that I would have a hard time keeping up with writing letters to 25 Camp JVCs, I decided to use the Department's newsletter and its JVC column as my main method of contacting the JVCs. An added benefit to this method of communication would be that the information would be available to all members of the Department and it would cut postage costs.

Charles TenBrink, able keeper of the Department's and most of our Camp's web sites, was leaned upon to change most of the web sites to reflect these ideas. His response was greater than my expectations, coming up with many ideas for improvement and altering all the sites under his management just a few weeks. E-mail contacts were added to many of the Camp web pages wherever possible. The Department's Camps/Membership page was changed to state that Camps did not have geographical boundaries and that a person could join any Camp of his choice. A JVC welcome page was added, inviting the potential member to check out all the Camp web sites and choose the Camp best suited to him. Other changes were also incorporated into our web sites in an effort to improve them. Chuck did a fantastic job and he is to be commended for his considerable efforts.

D

The Michigan's Messenger JVC columns all stressed that information for each Camp should be kept up to date so that the web sites and recruiting brochure could be constantly updated with current information. It was stressed that an e-mail contact for each Camp was vital.

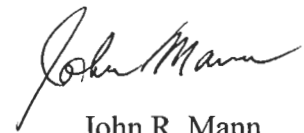
All leads reported to me concerning potential members were answered with a packet containing a personal letter advising the person of the Camp or Camps nearest him, an application blank and a recruiting brochure. A letter and/or e-mail notification was also sent to each affected Camp in every instance where literature was sent to a potential member, asking that someone in the Camp contact the person and invite him to the next Camp meeting. All applications for membership mailed to me were forwarded to the Camp nearest the applicant along with a letter instructing the Camp to contact the applicant as soon as possible and invite him to the next Camp meeting. A letter was also sent to the applicant stating that he had been assigned to a Camp and that someone from that Camp would be contacting him soon. In excess of 111 letters were mailed to prospects, applicants and Camp officers. Additionally, a considerable number of e-mail communications were received and sent throughout the year.

For the most part, the Camp officers involved have been receptive to the changes and have been fairly prompt in contacting prospective members and applicants when asked to do so. As in any organization, there were a few officers who were slow to contact the leads sent their way. Others were very punctual and also returned an acknowledgement that the person had been contacted. Likewise, most of the Camps responded to the call for updating their web pages, although several Camps were not so timely in this matter, with a few not updating until late February or March. As requested, most of the Camps have added at least one e-mail contact to their web page.

The following statistics will illustrate how important the web pages are in the recruiting of new members: A total of 56 persons interested in membership were corresponded with since the beginning of June. Of these, 43 were referrals from face to face contacts at events such as Crossroads Village, Charlton Park and Jackson's Cascades Muster. Two came from newspaper ads, one from a newspaper publicity release and 10 originated from our web pages on the internet. Of the first 46 mentioned (face to face, publicity release and newspaper ads), only two have joined our ranks. All 10 of the internet contacts sent completed applications and nine of these applications included a check for the application fee! In every case I had no previous contact with them. They joined because of the information on our web pages.

I would like to thank all of the members for putting up with this cranky old curmudgeon of a Junior Vice Commander these past few months. Hopefully, the changes instituted during the past year will prove beneficial to the Department and our Camps.

Submitted on this 1st Day of May, 1999 in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,



John R. Mann
Junior Vice Department Commander
Department of Michigan, SUVCW

8

Recommendation to Department

Our Current Savings Account stands at \$3,891.85. During the past year we have accrued in interest as follows:

Sept. 98 \$19.25

Dec. 98 \$18.50

Mar. 99 \$15.25

As is evident there has been a drastic decrease in interest rates. Therefore it is my recommendation to withdraw \$3000⁰⁰ and re-deposit in a 6 month CD to gain more interest. A 6 month CD versus a longer CD is to be able to use the money if needed in a timely manner without penalty.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty

David T. Wallen
Dept of MI
Treasurer

Department of Michigan
S.U.V.C.W.

Mar. 1999

Description	NBD Checking	NBD ALGER	NBD General	Income Description	Expenses	SVR	Due Camp At Large	Other	Fund Bal.
2/28/99 Balance Forward February									
3/1/99 Deposit	\$321.81	\$699.32	\$3,876.40			\$0.00	\$238.00	\$456.84	\$5,463.95
3/18/99 Delta Printing ck 1135	(\$1,037.00)			Michigan Messenger	(\$365.50)				\$1,037.00
3/23/99 Camp 9	\$49.50			Per Capita Tax					\$49.50
3/23/99 Camp 266	\$90.50			Per Capita Tax					\$90.50
3/23/99 Camp 3	\$40.50			Per Capita Tax					\$40.50
3/23/99 Camp 43	\$99.50			Per Capita Tax					\$99.50
3/23/99 Camp 1	\$72.50			Per Capita Tax					\$72.50
3/23/99 Camp 14	\$91.00			Per Capita Tax					\$91.00
3/23/99 Camp 145	\$315.00			Per Capita Tax					\$315.00
3/23/99 Camp 120	\$76.50			Per Capita Tax					\$76.50
3/23/99 Camp 462	\$55.00			Per Capita Tax					\$55.00
3/23/99 Richard Lee ck 1136	(\$60.08)			Expenses	(\$60.08)				(\$60.08)
3/23/99 Postmaster ck 1137	(\$100.00)			Michigan Messenger	(\$100.00)				(\$100.00)
3/23/99 Dick Williams ck 1138	(\$6.40)			Expenses	(\$6.40)				(\$6.40)

\$1,716.83 \$699.32 \$3,876.40 \$890.00 (\$531.98) \$0.00 \$238.00 \$456.84 \$6,858.97

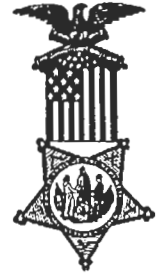
	Income	Expenses
January	\$1,277.50	\$2,927.31
February	\$411.00	\$552.50
March	\$890.00	\$531.98
Total	<u>\$2,578.50</u>	<u>\$4,011.79</u>

E



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

Richard F. Lee
Secretary



Department Commander

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Members of the Council

Richard A. Williams, Chairman
Howard W. Streeter, Vice Chair
Richard Greene, Secretary

Report to the 110th Annual Encmpment - 1 May 1999

Commander Armstrong:

I am pleased to report another successful year. One of the points that I think we need to emphasize is the matter of the Quarterly Reports. We had been receiving too many Reports, and of course, that important Per Caps check after the deadline. This made it difficult for us to report to the National Secretary in a timely fashion. Also, some of the Reports were not complete or even accurate in some of the mathematics.

We discussed ways in which we might encourage Camp Secretaries, Secretary-Treasurers & Camp Commanders to improve upon their reporting.

We began by listing the names & numbers of the Camps that had reported in an accurate & timely fashion in the Secretary's column in the "Michigan's Messenger".

We were not too satisfied with the result so we then decided to list the names & Numbers of the Camps that were not reporting in the desired fashion.

I now want to report that with the assistance of the Council of Administration & its Chairman, Richard Williams, we have been receiving a much better return of those Quarterly Reports so that only a few Camps are reporting after the deadline.

I am sending the report form to the Camps so that they have at least 4 weeks to return them to me. One problem has been that some reports have been sent to Treasurer Wallace first.

I look forward to the day when I can say that this Quarter we have had a 100% return of accurate reports with the Treasurer's report, officer's signatures, the names, addresses & phone numbers of new Bros. & 2 complete applications for each one. These are the criteria that I have been using to judge the reports.

To encourage the Camps to do a better job of reporting I established, with the approval of Cmdr. Armstrong & the Council of Administration, the "Nicolay - Hay Award".

'F'

I am pleased to announce that for calendar year 1998 there were 8 Camps that submitted accurate, complete reports on time. Those Camps & their Secretaries are: #7 Mark Heath; #9 Donald Harvey; #22 John Lohrstorfer; #43 David Schneider; #58 Mark Pangburn; #67 Kenneth Martin; #160 Kenneth Dixon & #427 Jerry Thomason. I should also mention #120 since that Secretary seems to have gotten his act together.

I do want to express sincere gratitude for the Dept. & myself to those Bros. for doing that great job. & we hope you will continue to do it. & that at next years Encampment I can extend that list several times.

Respectfully submitted in F., C., & L.,

Richard F. Lee
Secretary



**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN**



John R. Mann
EDITOR, MICHIGAN'S MESSENGER
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Report of the Department Newsletter Editor

Four issues of Michigan's Messenger were printed and mailed during the 1998/99 year, with most of the Department officers contributing at least one article. As of the last mailing, we sent out 495 copies.

I have one recommendation concerning the Messenger:

That Michigan's Messenger be direct mailed. The cost quoted for this would be an additional \$75.15 per mailing, based upon 500 copies per mailing. There is no set-up fee involved.

Submitted on this 1st Day of May, 1999 in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

John R. Mann

Editor, Michigan's Messenger
Department of Michigan, SUVCW

G

1 May, 1999

Commander and Brothers,

My report is very brief.

The Dept's Graves Registration database now stands at 14,000+ records. This number is the result on many, many contributions from Camps, Brothers - and the general public.

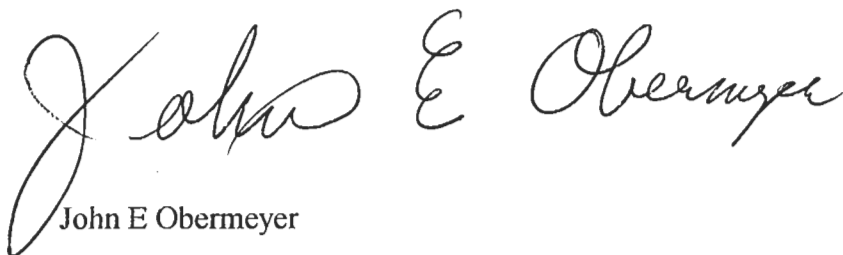
I would like the Dept to specifically recognize the recent contributions of Brother Don Harvey, Brother Richard Danes of the John S Cosby, Camp #427, and Brother Chris Czopek

Records are *still* input.....by "hand"..... one-by-one. The problem of direct importation of data into the Dept's database *still* exists. Each Camp and Brother that maintains Graves Registration "electronically", seems to maintains it in a slightly different way. Even those that use the exact same format as National, often record data *within a field* in a manner that makes simple importation - while not impossible - difficult. This is being worked on.

Of greater importance, however, are the Graves Registration "Packets" that are being distributed to all Camp Commanders today. These Packets are intended to put "on record" the Graves Registration Officer for each Camp, as well as define the scope of their responsibility. The Packets ask for a response from each Camp Commander within 30 days, and supplies a self-addressed, stamped envelope to facilitate the response.

We look forward to receiving these responses, establish a better working committee, and be able to report and even greater number of grave sites located, recorded.....and honored.....next year.

Respectfully submitted


John E Obermeyer

H

W, Morris

Report of the Bylaws Committee

Comunander Armstrong,

The Department Bylaws Committee has carefully reviewed our existing Bylaws along with several suggested amendments during the past few months. It is the opinion of the Committee that Bylaws should rarely be changed, but when they are, serious consideration must be given to their future impact.

If I might be so bold, allow me to draw an analogy between the Department Bylaws and our County's Constitution and Bill of Rights. Our beloved forefathers had the infinite wisdom to draft a document that was specific enough to cite our rights but general enough to be adaptable to different kinds of situations. Over the years this document was further shaped by case law, statute, and in very rare case, by amendment. It stands as a remarkable achievement of mortal man.

While our own bylaws can never hope to have the standing of the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights we can learn from the lessons taught by following their proven path. It is the intention of the Bylaws Committee to help shape a document that can be used now and in the future, allowing the membership the freedom to address yet unforeseen situations without repeatedly having to go through an amendment process. As such, the suggested amendments tend to be more general than specific, relying on the Department's Operating Guidelines for specificity. The Bylaws Committee has shaped the following proposals using the above premise as a guide.

(Current)

ARTICLE II - Meetings

Section 1. The Encampment of the Department of Michigan - Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic shall be held once a year between May 1st and July 1st in each year.

(Proposed)

ARTICLE II - Meetings

Section 1. The Encampment of the Department of Michigan, *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*, shall be held on a day between the first day of January and the first day of July.

The Committee recommended the change from "... Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic..." to "Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War." Our Bylaws are intended to govern only the actions of our Order. As worded, the Section implied that the SUVCW was setting the date for an Encampment for all the Allied Orders which is clearly not the case. It is our opinion that this amendment will have no adverse impact on our continued cooperation with the other Allied Orders of our Department at setting an Encampment date.

We also recommended the change from "...shall be held once a year between May 1st and July 1st in each year..." to "...shall be held on a day between the first day of January and the first day of July." The reason for this change was to create a document that could be used in the future without undue alteration, freeing the membership to adapt to unforeseen situations. The dates were taken from the National C&R. As you are aware, we have changed our traditional Encampment date this year to May 1st. I speculate that five or ten years ago we would not have seen a need to change our encampment date by as much as a month, but we did. We sought to be flexible and cooperative with another of Michigan's Allied Orders. Perhaps sometime in the future, for reasons we are not now aware of, there will be a need to change our encampment dates to March or even February.

Again, it is our opinion that the Bylaws should be a more generally worded document that allows the membership the flexibility to meet unforeseen situations without undue alterations to the document. We feel the Department's Operating Guidelines should be a more specific document and therefore more subject to change. Should the Encampment date be changed by use of the Department Operating Guidelines, the Guidelines could amended by the same action to change the fiscal year.

(Current)

ARTICLE XVI - Awards and Insignia

I

Section 2. Authorization for two (2) Department membership awards is provided. The Department may confer an award upon the Camp within the Department of Michigan that initiates the most new Brothers during the twelve (12) months preceding (March to March) the Department Encampment. This award shall be designated as the *Governor Austin Blair Membership Award*. The Department may also confer an award upon the Camp within the Department of Michigan that demonstrated the largest percentage growth during the twelve (12) months preceding (March to March) the Department Encampment. This award shall be designated as the *Orlando LaValley Membership Award*.

(Proposed)

ARTICLE XVI - Awards and Insignia

Section 2. Authorization for two (2) Department membership awards is provided. The Department may confer an award upon the Camp within the Department of Michigan that accepts-into-membership the most new Brothers during the twelve (12) months preceding the Department Encampment. This award shall be designated as the *Governor Austin Blair Membership Award*. The Department may also confer an award upon the Camp within the Department of Michigan that demonstrated the largest percentage growth during the twelve (12) months preceding the Department Encampment. This award shall be designated as the *Orlando LeValley Membership Award*.

We again offered the change from March to March to the twelve months preceding the encampment to again make the bylaws a more general document relying on the operating guidelines for specificity. As far as any possible overlapping time periods resulting from a change in the Department Encampment date, certainly such would have to be adjusted for in the Department's Operating Guidelines. As far as the specific dates and new Brothers numbers, we suggest that the Department should be able to rely on the honesty of individual Camp Secretaries for their accurately reporting new Brothers accepted within the specified time period.

We would of course like to correct the spelling of Comrade Orlando LeValley's name.

Since publishing these proposed amendments, the Committee has received another suggestion to change the "membership award" to "growth award" as it is a far better description of what the award is about. The Committee would have no objection to this change acted on from the floor during the encampment.

(New Section)

ARTICLE XVII - Discipline

Section 1. *Disciplinary activities are addressed and governed by the National Constitution and Regulations in Chapter V (General Regulations), Article VI (Discipline).*

Article XVII of our present Bylaws was reserved for a provision then in the works by our National Organization. We reviewed the present National Constitution and Regulations, Chapter V Article VI and found it extremely well worded and far reaching. We felt that, as there was strong reference to Department and Camp Disciplinary activity, we should adopt it by reference. Our Department Counsel and Committee Member had drafted a rather eloquent Section in which we sought to adopt Chapter V (General Regulations), Article VI (Discipline) by reference. In comparing this with that offered by the National Counselor we found it nearly identical in meaning. We cited the National Counselors phraseology with some minor change (we used the Roman Numerals as they appeared in the C&R).

(Current)

ARTICLE XX - Annual Encampment

Section 1. All Past Department Commanders, current and Past Camp Commanders, Department Officers and Camp Delegates, or Camp Alternates serving in the absence of the Camp Delegates, to the Annual Department of Michigan Encampment, shall be charged a Pre-registration Fee of five dollars (\$5). Those who register on site, the day of the Encampment, will be charged eight dollars (\$8). Only Paid registrants shall be entitled to vote at the Department's Annual Encampment. Registration Fees shall be reviewed and revised at each Annual Encampment.

(Proposed)

ARTICLE XX - Annual Encampment

Proposed Department Bylaws Amendments

(Current)

ARTICLE II - Meetings

Section 1. The Encampment of the Department of Michigan - Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic shall be held once a year between May 1st and July 1st in each year.

(Proposed)

ARTICLE II - Meetings

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ARTICLE XVI - Awards and Insignia

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(Proposed)

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(New Section)

ARTICLE XVII - Discipline

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SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

1999 - 2000 ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICERS

Department Commander

Kent L. Armstrong
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RESOLUTION

*Recommend
Encampment of the Dept of Maryland
Resolution in concept and encourage the National
Encampment's passage of a mechanism that will achieve the same end*

This resolution is proposed by the Department of Maryland in encampment assembled on 24 April 1999.

PURPOSE: To amend the national regulation to facilitate the national level recruitment program by:

- a. establishing a standard processing and dues amount for persons entering the SUVCW through the National Recruiting Program.
- b. shortening the induction process by establishing a uniform department level member at large camp structure.

PROBLEM: Currently, persons answering our print or internet webpage recruitment advertisements must be referred through department to camp level for dues information and acceptance. We cannot tell prospective members what it will cost to join the Order and, consequently, many prospective members are lost.

PROPOSED CHANGES: This resolution proposes to change Chapter 1, Article II, Section 6 of the national Regulation.

Existing language is as follows: "Section 6. Departments may provide for Membership-at-large. Applications for such membership shall be directed to the Department Commander or Secretary who shall accept or reject same. Records of such memberships shall be kept by the Department Secretary substantially as required of Camp Secretaries and Treasurers. Transfers or Honorable Discharges shall be issued to Members-at-large upon application to the Department Secretary. Membership fees shall apply to Members-at-Large in the same manner as regular members.

Proposed language is as follows: "Section 6. Departments will provide for Membership-at-large. Applications for such membership shall be directed to the Department Commander or Secretary who shall accept or reject same. Records of such memberships shall be kept by the Department Secretary substantially as required of Camp Secretaries and Treasurers. Transfers or Honorable Discharges shall be issued to Members-at-Large upon application to the Department Secretary. Membership processing fees and annual dues will be the same for the first year of membership as set by the National Council of Administration for National Membership-at-Large.

APPROVED: *in concept*

James H Friedline, Department Secretary

① *Recommend endorsement of the Maryland Department Resolution to amendment of the National Regulation to facilitate the national level recruitment program and encourage the 1999 National Encampment's passage of a mechanism that will achieve the same end.*

*Recommend
Encampment of*
② *Danny Wheeler for O-14C*
③ *ALAN Peterson for SUVCW-INC*
K