



The Sunflower Hicket



Publication of the Department of Kansas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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ANNUAL DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

**April 27, 2002
Topeka, Kansas**

All members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War are invited to attend the 2002 Annual Encampment of the Department of Kansas. The encampment will be held at the Kansas History Center on Saturday, April 27. This will also coincide with the Annual Encampment of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR) for the Department of Kansas.

A public program will begin at 9 AM in the Kansas Museum of History classrooms. Civil War period music will be performed by a band organized by Old Abe Camp's Brother Rick Baker, followed by talks by Brothers Randy Thies and Blair Tarr. A tour of the exhibit, "Keep the Flags to the Front: Battle Flags of Kansas," will be conducted by Brother Tarr for the memberships of the orders.

The annual business meeting for the Department of Kansas will commence at 1:30 PM in the museum classrooms. The LGAR will hold their business meeting at the same time in the Potawatomi Room of the Koch Industries Education Center, located on the museum grounds.

See the last page of this newsletter for more details about the morning activities.



PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

Earl McIntosh

With Memorial Day fast approaching, we need to start thinking of what action we can take to make this year's holiday special and meaningful. Every Post in the department needs to plan a special dedication or an event to commemorate fallen Civil War ancestors. With the events of September 11th so close to everyone's heart, we have an excellent opportunity to educate people of the meaning of Decoration Day and spread lots of patriotism. Take advantage of it!

On a recent road trip I had time while driving down the highway to reflect on our great country and our freedom. While looking out across the land, my heart swells with pride and patriotism. I see the vast acres of farmland that has been worked from generation to generation. I see homesteads with small children freely running about, and I see abundant wildlife that is managed and protected. It's

hard to believe there are people who actually want to take this all away from us. I think about all the people who have gone before me protecting this land and I say aloud, "Not on my watch will I let anybody take this land and my freedom!"

Keep your faith strong. Enjoy the Memorial Day Holiday and the many family gatherings that come with springtime. However, don't forget we are at war and Americans are fighting and dying for our country. They are true freedom fighters and deserve our continued thoughts and prayers. They are sacrificing all, so we can live in peace. Let's never forget what our organization stands for and that our country is built on strong principles that guide each of us in our daily lives. We must stay strong and on course to keep our country free and safe. We live in the greatest country in the world. God Bless us and our families.

We are America's 3rd Battalion!

Semper Fidelis,
Earl McIntosh, USMC



CHAPLAIN

Del Downs

William Corby, Civil War Chaplain

Father William Corby was one of the most well known ministers in all of the Civil War. One of the reasons for this had to do with his particular assignment. He was the chaplain for what became known as the "Irish Brigade" commanded by Colonel Patrick Kelly. It consisted of the 63rd, 69th, and 88th New York Regiments and also the 28th Massachusetts Regiment. It was known for its courage in some extremely hard nosed fighting. Unfortunately it was also known for the numbers of men lost, which included approx. 75% of the unit just in Burnside's horrendous attacks at Fredericksburg alone (in December of 1862).

The main reason for William Corby's fame, however, had to do with his specific actions on July 2, 1863 at the battle of Gettysburg. The "Irish" Brigade was forming in preparation for battle. They were going to help restore the line previously established by General Sickles' 3rd Corp, but recently overrun by Longstreet's Corp. They were to re-establish positions in the Wheat Field and Peach Orchard.

Father Corby stood upon a rock (both literally and spiritually) and granted absolution to the entire unit. The interesting thing here was not the fact that it had never been done before in America, but what he was expressing in doing so. He rather pointedly told the men that the Church would deny Christian burial to anyone who "...wavered and did not uphold the flag...".

Upholding the flag and standing for this country was synonymous with being a good Christian. It was actually politically correct to be a Christian and love your country. The Rev. Corby might have said that we now have a warped idea of what the Separation of Church and State was meant to be.

With every noise and calamity of battle raging around them, those men of the "Irish" Brigade ignored everything else, knelt down and asked for forgiveness of their sins. Imagine! They stopped to

acknowledge their creator and told the world that HE was their priority, the most important thing they could be doing with their time!

The "Irish" Brigade lost 198 men in that one battle, but they were honored to die in service to their GOD and their Country. And as for William Corby, he went on to become one of the early Presidents of the University of Notre Dame, and one of the most remembered of all Civil War Chaplains.

** "The Absolution At Gettysburg" is even today, one of the most famous prints depicting events of the Civil War.**

HISTORIAN

Dean Speaks, PDC

No report submitted.

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Randy Thies, PCC

Greetings to all, and at the same time, farewell—my time as the commander of this Department is just about up. It has been a pleasure and an honor, being your Department Commander. For the man who replaces me, I wish the best of luck, and I rest assured that he will benefit from your support and gain from the opportunity of leadership.



I certainly do not intend to decrease my interest or involvement with the SUVCW, and look forward to the Camp meetings and cemetery workdays that await me this year, along with whatever speaking engagements I will be asked to do. There is much to be done, whether it is to create and enhance public awareness of Civil War service or to carry out the hard but rewarding tasks of cleaning and resetting veterans' markers and monuments. Myself, I would rather be working in a cemetery, but there is also much to be said for talking to people and getting them excited about the past—even as I try to maneuver them into getting involved in cemetery or monument projects. Actually, I must admit that one of the truly rewarding aspects of all this is being able to share in the excitement when a new acquaintance discovers that they really did have a Union ancestor, and that their ancestor really was a flesh-and-blood participant in that momentous drama that we call the Civil War. The details that you read in pension records are often awe inspiring, to say the least.

All of these things add up to one simple fact for me: I enjoy being a member of the SUVCW, and I get numerous rewards from my involvement. I hope this is true for all of you, too. So, as your outgoing Department Commander, my advice is simple and straightforward: keep pushing ahead; there's a lot yet to be done, and we're lucky enough to be the ones that will get to do it.

CAMP NEWS

PATRICK COYNE CAMP 1, WICHITA

Camp Commander..... Kenneth R. Spurgeon
 Senior Vice Commander Tom Schmidt
 Junior Vice Commander..... Randy Durbin
 Secretary/TreasurerBoris N Bulatkin

MARCH 26, 2002, MEETING

"CIVIL WAR VALOR IN STONE AND BRONZE"

The March 2002 Cpl Patrick Coyne SUV meeting was changed to Tuesday, March 26 at 7 PM. Randy Thies spoke and presented a

slide presentation about Kansas Civil War Monuments. Randy is the Department of Kansas SUVCW commander, as well as an employee of the Kansas State Historical Society. This presentation had special emphasis on Quantrill's three graves and other reminders of the Lawrence Massacre. This was an opportunity to see some of the Kansas' Civil War memorials to her defenders, as Randy's presentations are always entertaining and informative.

PRESERVATION MARCH

The 8th Kansas Civil War re-enactment group has invited The Corporal Patrick Coyne Post of Sons of Union Veterans to help sponsor a 15-mile preservation march for the Mine Creek Battlefield site near Pleasanton in southeast Kansas on May 3-5, 2002. Representatives of the 8th Kansas met with John Spencer, President of the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation in December 2001 to cover the details of the event including route, logistics, and goals.

The plan is for 8th Kansas and invited guests to camp on Friday, May 3 at the Marais des Cygnes Massacre site, about 15 miles from the final destination, the Mine Creek Battlefield visitor center. The massacre site is where, on May 19, 1858, five free-state men were killed and five others were wounded by proslavery men from Missouri.

On early Saturday morning, May 4 the group will form up and begin the campaign style march towards Mine Creek. The route will be over graveled back roads and will follow very closely the old Military Road. It will include stops in Trading Post, Green Valley Cemetery, and Pleasanton.

The goal is to raise money to help the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation purchase more land on and around the battlefield. All the participants are being asked to gather \$100 in pledges. All money given is tax deductible. Through this endeavor the sponsors are hoping to call the public's attention to the only Civil War battlefield in Kansas, Mine Creek. If you would like to help sponsor a marcher or make a donation, please contact Ken Spurgeon or Tom Schmidt.

The Corporal Patrick Coyne Camp No.1 has recently had a small growth spurt. Since the first of the year we have sworn in three new members and one transferred member. Congratulations to new members Nathan Durbin, Robert D. Haneke, James Scheidel and transfer member Douglas E. McGovern, whom we welcome in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. We also had one new application for membership submitted in February with initiation scheduled for April 2002.

Upcoming Meetings

The Camp meets at the DAV Clubhouse, 3011 George Washington Blvd. Wichita on the fourth Thursday of the month. Meetings start at 7 PM and dates for 2002 are as follows:

- April 25, 2002
- April 27, 2002 - Department Encampment, Topeka
- May 23, 2002
- June 27, 2002
- July and August, 2002 - No Meeting
- September 26, 2002
- October 24, 2002
- November 21, 2002
- December, 2002 - No Meeting

JOSEPH GASTON CAMP 3, BELOIT

Camp Commander..... Kim Nelson
 Secretary/Treasurer.....Dean Speaks

No report submitted.

Camp meetings are held at the Port Library, 311 W. Main in Beloit, at 7 PM on the last Thursday of each month.

OLD ABE CAMP 16, TOPEKA

Camp Commander..... Jeff Dunaway
 Senior Vice Commander Blair Tarr
 Junior Vice Commander..... Earl McIntosh
 Secretary/Treasurer Alan Russ

At the January meeting of Old Abe Camp 16, plans were laid out for the camp's 2002 cemetery projects. Plans for support of the annual Department Encampment were discussed and assigned. Also, at the meeting, Camp Commander Jeff Dunaway presented PCC Alan Russ with the "Leland J. Webb Certificate of Merit."

Taking advantage of an unseasonably warm January afternoon, Department Commander Randy Thies and LGAR Department Senior Vice Commander Karla Picolet made a trip to the Topeka Cemetery to reset the marker of Saddler John R. Kirby, Co. H, 1st Nebraska Cavalry, which had fallen over.

The camp continued its planning and preparations for the Annual Encampment and upcoming cemetery projects at the February and March meetings.



Four Boy Scouts from the Wamego, Kansas, area clean the grave marker of a Civil War Veteran in the Wabaunsee Township Cemetery.

March 23 saw the cold days of winter drawing to an end, and with that, Old Abe Camp 16 again headed out to an area cemetery. At the suggestion from a member of Emma Edmonds Circle 2000, Ladies of the GAR, a visit was paid to the Wabaunsee Township cemetery. This historic cemetery is located just off highway K-18 southwest of Wamego, Kansas. With assistance from LGAR members and a local Boy Scout troop, the grave markers of Civil War veterans were cleaned, straightened, and information about fifty-nine Civil War veterans was recorded.

Old Abe Camp 16 welcomed two new members to its rolls. Thomas E. Wright, of Topeka, joined the camp in January. He was initiated into the SUVCW at the Camp's meeting on February 11th.

Brother Wright's Civil War ancestor was First Lieutenant Charles Wesley DeWolf. Lieutenant DeWolf enlisted on September 18, 1861, as chief bugler, Black Hawk Cavalry, which subsequently became the 7th Missouri Cavalry. He was honorably discharged from Company E, 7th Missouri Cavalry on March 12, 1864, by reason of disability.

In March, Jeffrey D. Finn, of Fort Scott, joined the camp. Current plans are for him to be initiated at the May meeting.

Brother Finn is the descendent of Civil War veteran Private Sylvester Pea. Private Pea enlisted on July 15, 1861, with Company B, 41st Illinois Infantry. He mustered into service on August 6, 1861. On December 8, 1863, he was transferred to Company K, 7th Regiment, Veterans Reserve Corps, because of "chronic rheumatism." Private Pea mustered out with his detachment at Washington D.C., on August 6, 1864, by reason of completion of his term of service.

Old Abe Camp 16 meets on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 PM. The Camp meets in the meeting room at Tevis' Restaurant, 821 SW Sixth Street, Topeka.



Camp members Dennis Gamble (l) and Randy Thies (r) finish resetting a Civil War veteran marker at the Wabaunsee Township Cemetery.

NEXT ISSUE

The Summer issue will be mailed by July 1, 2002. Camp SVC's and Department officers need to submit information and articles to the Newsletter Editor by June 15, 2002, preferably in electronic format. Send to:

SVC Alan L. Russ, Newsletter Editor
 P.O. Box 68
 Auburn KS 66402-0068
 Email: suvcwks16@mindspring.com

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Commander	Randy Thies, PCC 501 SW Oakley, Topeka KS 66606-1916 RThies@kshs.org
Sr. Vice Commander	Alan Russ, PCC P.O. Box 68, Auburn KS 66402-0068 suvcwks16@mindspring.com
Jr. Vice Commander	Douglas G. Smith, PCC 786 E. 35 th S, Wellington KS 67152-8403
Secretary/Treasurer	Dean Speaks, PDC 600 N. Hersey Ave, Beloit KS 67420-2321 suvcwks@lycos.com

CinC ISSUES GENERAL ORDERS 6 THROUGH 13

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
General Orders No. 6
 Series 2001 - 2002
 George L. Powell, Commander-in-Chief

1. All 2nd quarter (January) reports are to be sent to the National Secretary. All Camp and Department Secretaries are reminded that a full and complete roster is required to be submitted with the January reports. This roster is to include the current Name, Address, Phone Number and Email address for each brother and are to be submitted as a typed or computer generated report. Hand written reports are to be avoided. Any report that is illegible will be deemed as a non submission and will be returned. Any camp or Department that fails to submit the required roster will be submitting an incomplete report and will NOT be in good standing. This means that your delegations will NOT be seated at your Department Encampment or the National Encampment until the rosters have been received.

2. As of February 1 all reports, forms, and communications from Department Secretaries are to be sent to the Executive Director, Brother Lee Walters, P.O. Box 1865, Harrisburg, PA 17105, (717) 766-6341 LEESUVPC@msn.com.

By Order of:

George L. Powell
 Commander-in-Chief

Attest:
 Edward Krieser, PCinC
 National Secretary

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
General Orders No. 7
 Series 2001 - 2002
 George L. Powell, Commander-in-Chief

The following has been submitted by Brother Charles Young, the National Patriotic Instructor and is hereby issued as a General Order of the Commander-in-Chief.

From the National Patriotic Instructor
 January 15, 2002

The events of September 11, 2001, the new millennium's Day of Infamy, has brought a new wave of patriotism to this country unseen since the beginning of World War II. Numerous flags and bunting deck the buildings and window sills in the big cities on the coasts, as well as the humble habitations of farm workers that dot the landscape of the plain's states. People have opened their hearts, and wallets, to help provide respite to those that suffered in that cowardly attack. Many forms of tribute and outpourings of support and assistance can be found in the newspapers almost everyday, and both Houses in Washington, D C, stand united in their pledge of success.

Throughout our gloried past our country has held together most during times of distress. We can trace it back to the earliest days of our Nation's beginning, from the streets of Lexington and Concord, to the British burning of the Capitol, from the decks of the Main and the Arizona, to the prison cells in Korea, Vietnam, and Iran. The United States has always awoken at times when their own were in peril. The pulse of the Nation quickened at these times. Flags were displayed for all to see and few there were that didn't rub his eyes and awake to see his part in it, and do all he could to support it. And now, we see it again and the heart of the Country beats as one. One in our resolve for justice, one, in our determination for success. One, in our efforts to see that this evil that crept into our homes that grim September morning, and stole that security that we as a Nation hold dear, will never succeed in this or any country in the world again. As Memorial Day approaches we can show appreciation again to those that made this country what it is, both past and present. We as descendents of those that rose up during one of Country's darkest and dire days, and who hold this day sacred more than any other, can show the way in honoring those that sacrificed.

The following is published for all concerned:

I. It is ordered that all Camps within our Order set aside the month of May as a month of Memorial to all those Americans, past and present who suffered that that Nation might live.

II. All Camps are to do their utmost to see to it that all cemeteries within their jurisdiction are visited and that they do all in their power to honor those veterans that are interred there.

III. A moment of silence is to be observed by all the Camps, in all the ceremonies that are held on Memorial Day, for the victims of the September 11, 2001 attacks.

IV. All Camp meeting halls should display the American flag and appropriate bunting as often as possible this Month, in honor of our country, and those that died protecting it.

V. No set program is prescribed, it is only hoped that all Son's remember the words that General Logan wrote when he instituted Memorial Day, and remember that he swore to uphold that ...if other eyes grow dull and other hands slack, and other hearts grow cold in the sacred trust, ours shall keep it well so long as the light of life remains in us.

By Order of:

George L. Powell
 Commander-in-Chief

Attest:
 Edward Krieser, PCinC
 National Secretary

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
General Orders No. 8
 Series 2001 - 2002
 George L. Powell, Commander-in-Chief

1. At the request of the JVCinC, Department and Camp level Junior Vice Commanders are respectfully reminded of the importance to communicate with membership applicants as soon as possible. Your effort to establish these gentlemen as Brothers in Good Standing, in the Camp of their choice, is critical to the image of our organization. With the added turnover-time for applicants who are referred from the Office of the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the importance of prompt communication on your part is magnified. People who join an organization want to feel as though they are a valued part of it. Please give new applicants no doubt of that.

2. The G.A.R. Memorial Scholarship Applications are currently being accepted. The deadline for all material is March 31, 2002. Completed forms are to be sent to this office. All applications received will be forwarded to the Scholarship Committee. Please keep in mind that we award two \$1000 scholarships each year.

3. As we begin the season of our Department Encampments all sitting Department Commanders are reminded that the National Regulations, Chapter II, Article 4, Section 8 prevents any brother from being elected to more than three (3) consecutive terms as Department Commander or from him serving more than forty-five (45) consecutive months as Department Commander. Any Department Commander who is affected by this section who wishes to run for reelection MUST request an exemption from the Council of Administration prior to the election.

4. Brothers are reminded to support the National Patriotic Instructor's Fund, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief's Fund, the National Headquarters Fund and the Permanent Fund.

By Order of:

George L. Powell
 Commander-in-Chief

Attest:
 Edward Krieser, PCinC
 National Secretary

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
General Orders No. 9
 Series 2001 - 2002
 George L. Powell, Commander-in-Chief

It has been the practice of past Commanders-in-Chief to recognize the recruiting efforts of the brothers of our Order. As no policy can be found to define how this is to be done I am listing the procedure to be used for the remainder of my term.

This recognition will be for the following:

1. Recruit 3 new members, or
2. Recruit 5 or more new members.

These brothers will be appointed National Aides for Recruiting. Those brothers who recruit 3 new members will receive a piece of ribbon in the National Colors which can be worn behind the membership badge of our Order as a sign of their efforts. Those brothers who recruit 5 or more brothers will receive in addition to the ribbon a certificate of appreciation for their efforts.

Each Camp Secretary is responsible to provide a list of the brothers who have recruited the required number of new brothers including the names of the new brothers. This list is to be sent to the Department Secretary who is to verify that the new brothers named are on the Department roster. Once the names have been verified the Department Secretary is to forward the approved lists to the Commander-in-Chief.

By Order of:

George L. Powell
 Commander-in-Chief

Attest:
 Edward Krieser, PCinC
 National Secretary

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
General Orders No. 10
 Series 2001 - 2002
 George L. Powell, Commander-in-Chief

This is to announce the forming of the Sons Of Union Veterans Web Ring and the appointment of Brother Bill Cole as an Assistant Web Master to manage the web ring.

The Sons Of Union Veterans Web Ring has been created to provide a direct sequential linking of camp and Department web sites. The purpose is to gain greater on-line exposure and increased 'hits' for camp web sites thereby getting the local SUVCW message to larger numbers of people. The Sons Of Union Veterans Web Ring is managed by Assistant Webmaster Bill Cole under the supervision of Keith G. Harrison, PCINC, National Webmaster. Brother Cole is currently serving as the Junior Vice Commander of Lyon Camp #10, Vineland, New Jersey.

Prior to the official sanctioning of the ring a prototype was developed. Charter members of the ring include: The National Web Site, the New Jersey Department Web Site, Lyon Camp #10 - Dept. of New Jersey, Anna M. Ross Camp #1 - Dept. of Pennsylvania, Gov. Crapo Camp # 145 - Dept. of Michigan, Commodore Joel Abbot Camp #21 - Dept. of Rhode Island and George H. Thomas Camp #19 - Dept. of Pennsylvania.

All Camp and Department webmasters are urged to join their sites to the Sons Of Union Veterans Web Ring. This can be done by visiting the ring hub at: <http://P.webring.com/hub?ring=sonsofunionveter&id=1&hub>. Those desiring more information can e-mail Bill Cole at billc@lyoncamp.org

By Order of:

George L. Powell
 Commander-in-Chief

Attest:
 Edward Krieser, PCinC
 National Secretary

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
General Orders No. 11
 Series 2001 - 2002
 George L. Powell, Commander-in-Chief

It is my extreme pleasure to announce the creation of the following new Camps:

1. Greenwood Camp, 30 January 2002, Department of Colorado and Wyoming
2. Maj. Robert Anderson Camp #139, 4 February 2002, Department of Michigan
3. General George G. Meade Camp #5, 9 February 2002, Department of Maryland
4. Admiral John L. Worden Camp #150, 19 February 2002, Department of New York

Congratulations for a job well done to all of the Brothers who worked so hard to get these camps formed.

By Order of:

George L. Powell
 Commander-in-Chief

Attest:
 Edward Krieser, PCinC
 National Secretary

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
General Orders No. 12
 Series 2001 - 2002
 George L. Powell, Commander-in-Chief

Fort Anderson Camp # 64, Department of Kentucky having been suspended by the Department Commander for non-filing of reports and non-payment of fees, has ceased to hold meetings and function as a Camp of the SUVCW. Pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution Article VI, Formation and Disbandment, Section 2, which states, The Commander-in-Chief upon recommendation of the Department Commander shall have the power to revoke the charter of any camp which does not conform to the Constitution and Regulations of the Order, the charter of the Fort Anderson Camp #64, Department of Kentucky, is hereby revoked effective immediately.

By Order of:

George L. Powell
 Commander-in-Chief

Attest:
 Edward Krieser, PCinC
 National Secretary

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
General Orders No. 13
 Series 2001 - 2002
 George L. Powell, Commander-in-Chief

Sergeant Philemon H. McCracken Camp #50, Department of Maryland having been suspended by the Department Commander for non-filing of reports and non-payment of fees, has ceased to hold meetings and function as a Camp of the SUVCW. Pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution Article VI, Formation and Disbandment, Section 2, which states, The Commander-in-Chief upon recommendation of the Department Commander shall have the power to revoke the charter of any camp which does not conform to the Constitution and Regulations of the Order, the charter of the Sergeant Philemon H. McCracken Camp #50, Department of Maryland is hereby revoked effective immediately.

By Order of:

George L. Powell
 Commander-in-Chief

Attest:
 Edward Krieser, PCinC
 National Secretary

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



Department of Kansas
Spring Encampment

Saturday, April 27th, 2002



Hosted by Old Abe Camp #16
At the **Kansas State Historical Society**
Museum Classrooms
6425 SW 6th Ave., Topeka

Planned Events:

- *9:00 - 10:00 AM - Music of the Civil War*
presented by the Kaw Valley Cornet Band
- *10:00 - 11:00 AM - Big Bang Monuments: Cannons
as Kansas Civil War Memorials*
presented by Randy Thies, KSHS Archeologist
- *11:00 - 12:00 PM - Civil War Flags*
presented by Blair Tarr, KSHS Museum Curator
- *Keep the Flag to the Front: Battle Flags of Kansas*
open all day in the museum gallery

All events are free and open to the public