



The Sunflower Picket

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

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WHO IS AN ASSOCIATE?

An Associate of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a male, age 14 or older, who desires to belong to the organization, but does not have a qualifying ancestor. As such, he will have an interest in the goals of the SUVCW, specifically that of perpetuating the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and of the men who saved the Union in 1861 to 1865. Although there is a limit on the number within a camp who can be associates (no more than 1/3) and the percentage of associates at a camp meeting for business to be conducted (no more than 49%), there are very few other limitations. Associates may hold any camp elected or appointed office. They may also hold any Department elected or appointed office, to include Department Commander. The only limitation concerning elected offices is at the National level.



What does this mean to the Department of Kansas? If you have a friend who has a strong interest in honoring those who served the Union during the Civil War, ask him if he would like to be part of our organization. Then, encourage him to participate fully. When you see one of our brothers wearing the badge with the solid blue ribbon of an associate, thank him for caring. We will all benefit from his being a part of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

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9TH DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

April 23, 2005, Lawrence

The 9th Department of Kansas Annual Encampment was held in Lawrence on April 23, 2005. The members and delegates met, along with the Kansas Department of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR) at 11 AM for lunch at the historic Free State Brewery. After lunch, the two groups met at the Watkins Museum of History, where guest speaker Tom Mach presented a talk about Quantrill's Raid on Lawrence in August 1863. After the presentation, the SUVCW and the LGAR retired to their respective meeting rooms to conduct the business of their orders.

Department Commander Thomas E. Schmidt called the Department Encampment to order at 1:45 PM, at which time the opening ceremonies were conducted. The Department was honored to have National Council of Administration Member Robert Petrovic, PDC, from the Department of Missouri, representing Commander-in-Chief Stephen Michaels.

Highlights of the Encampment included the presentation of the new Department of Kansas flag. The camps and various individuals had donated money to purchase the flag. This is one more example of the progress within the Department of Kansas.

Reports from all of the Department officers and Camp Commanders or their representatives were presented to the Encampment. *(continued on next page)*

Commander Schmidt advised the Encampment that the Department was actively pursuing the creation of three new camps within the Department. They are planned for Olathe, Hutchinson, and Mine Creek/Pleasanton/Fort Scott. Craig A. Sundell, PCC, of Camp 4, Lawrence, informed the Encampment that he and several other members of that camp had attended a reenactment in Olathe the previous weekend. They had acquired the names of 26 prospective members.

Secretary Alan L. Russ, PDC, presented the proposed Department "Policy for Declaring a Period of Mourning Within the Department of Kansas." This proposed policy had previously been submitted to all Department Officers, Camp Commanders, and Camp Secretaries for review and dissemination to delegates prior to the Encampment. The policy was approved by the Encampment.

The issue of naming the new bridge at Mine Creek was addressed. [See separate article about the bridge at Mine Creek.] The final consensus of the Encampment is to use the name, "Lt. Col. F. W. Benteen Memorial Bridge." This was based upon the important role troops under Lt. Col. Benteen played in the Battle of Mine Creek and the fact that his forces attacked through the area where the new bridge is located. The purchase of a bronze plaque to be mounted at the bridge was approved by the Encampment.



The new Department of Kansas flag is presented to the Encampment. From left to right: Incoming Commander James R. Knopke, PCC; Secretary Alan L. Russ, PDC; Outgoing Commander Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC; Council Member Kenneth R. Spurgeon, PDC; and National Council of Administration Member Robert Petrovic, PDC.

The Encampment also voted to have the Department of Kansas submit its bid to hold the National Encampment in 2008, 2009, or 2010. Secretary Russ will send a letter stating such to the chairman of the site selection committee.

Commander Schmidt presented awards to the Recruiter of the Year, Camp of the Year, and Member of the Year. These were awarded as follows:

Leonidas B. Davis Award for Recruiter of the Year

PCC Craig A. Sundell, Camp 4

Captain Patrick H. Coney Award for Member of the Year

PCC Douglas E. McGovern, Camp 1

William H. Nixon Award for Camp of the Year

Corporal Patrick Coyne Camp 1, Wichita

Nominations were received and election of officers followed. The following brothers were elected to serve as the Department officers for 2005-2006:

Department Commander	PCC James R. Knopke, Camp 16
Senior Vice Commander	Randal L. Durbin, Camp 16
Junior Vice Commander	James A. Scheidel, Jr., Camp 1
Secretary/Treasurer	PDC Alan L. Russ, Camp 16
Council Members	PDC Kenneth R. Spurgeon, Camp 1

PCC Craig A. Sundell, Camp 4

Robert L. Wandel, Camp 4

Incoming Department Commander James R. Knopke, PCC, then announced his appointments for the following year:

Patriotic Instructor	PCC Craig A. Sundell, Camp 4
Chaplain	Robert L. Wandel, Camp 4
Graves Reg. Officer	PDC Franklin L. Bergquist, Camp 1
Historian	PDC Dean K. Speaks, Camp 3
C.W. Memorials Officer	PCC Douglas E. McGovern, Camp 1
Eagle Scout Coordinator	PDC Alan L. Russ, Camp 16
Counselor	PDC Franklin L. Bergquist, Camp 1



From left to right: Outgoing Department Commander Thomas E. Schmidt, National Council of Administration Member Robert Petrovic, and incoming Department Commander James R. Knopke.

PDC Petrovic performed the duties of installing officer. He awarded outgoing Department Commander Schmidt the honor of Past Department Commander. Incoming elected and appointed officers were given the oath of office before assuming their new stations. The Department flag was then transferred from Commander Schmidt to Commander Knopke.

Copies of the proceedings of the Ninth Annual Department Encampment are being sent to each Department officer, camp commander, and camp secretary. If any other brother of the Department desires to have a copy of the proceedings, they should see one of these people. They may also obtain an electronic version from the Department Secretary.

DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP

Department membership from annual reports and current ending strength:

	<u>03/31/2004</u>	<u>03/31/2005</u>	<u>6/30/2005</u>
Members	76	93	100
Associates	3	4	4
Juniors	1	2	3
Total	80	99	107

Membership as of June 30, 2005:

	Members	Associates	Juniors	Total
1-Wichita	53	1	1	55
3-Beloit	4	1	0	5
4-Lawrence	17	1	2	20
8-MAL	3	1	0	4
16-Topeka	23	0	0	23
Total	100	4	3	107

NEW MEMBERS

The following are brothers who have joined the Department since January 1, 2005. A hearty "Welcome" to all!

Shawn W. Bell,	Member	Camp 1, Wichita
Richard T. Bennett	Member	Camp 1, Wichita
Harry L. Embry	Member	Camp 1, Wichita
James H. Graves	Member	Camp 1, Wichita
Lloyd E. Helms	Member	Camp 1, Wichita
James A. McHenry, Jr.	Member	Camp 16, Topeka
H. Gail Pearson	Member	Camp 3, Beloit
Kyle A. J. Peterson	Associate	Camp 3, Beloit
Shaun M. Reimer	Member	Camp 1, Wichita
Arnold W. Schofield	Associate	Camp 8, MAL
Frederick J. Severance	Member	Camp 3, Beloit
Harold L. Skelton	Member	Camp 1, Wichita
John L. Skelton	Member	Camp 1, Wichita
Lawrence H. Skelton	Member	Camp 1, Wichita
Dr. John H. Spencer	Member	Camp 8, MAL
Jonathan G. Spurgeon	Junior	Camp 1, Wichita
LTC David J. White	Member	Camp 4, Lawrence
Alan V. Wolfe	Member	Camp 1, Wichita

MINE CREEK BATTLEFIELD

Lt. Col. Frederick W. Benteen

Memorial Bridge

Dedicated June 25, 2005

On a sunny, 94 degree, Kansas afternoon, members of the Department of Kansas met at the Mine Creek Battlefield to dedicate a pedestrian bridge in honor of Lt. Col. Frederick W. Benteen. The battlefield is located in Eastern Kansas just South of Pleasanton and was the site of the largest cavalry battle West of the Mississippi River on October 25, 1864. Two cavalry brigades of the Provisional Cavalry Division commanded by MG Alfred Pleasanton confronted and defeated almost 7,500 confederates at Mine Creek that day.

The twenty-three foot wooden bridge crosses a tributary just North of the main ford at Mine Creek. The bridge was purchased as a joint effort between the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation and the Department of Kansas in order to provide visitors access to the main ford and to allow the site to complete a circular route encompassing both sides of the creek.

The membership of the Department Encampment voted to name the bridge the "Lieutenant Colonel Frederick W. Benteen Memorial Bridge" in honor of the brigade commander whose troops charged through the confederate lines and rushed toward the main ford, crushing the confederate defenses. Much of the fighting would have occurred in the area where this bridge is located. A plaque, containing the following inscription, will be placed next to the bridge later this summer.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL
 FREDERICK W. BENTEEN
 MEMORIAL BRIDGE
 DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF THOSE WHO
 SERVED TO PRESERVE THE UNION DURING THE
 CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865
 APRIL 2005
 DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS
 SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

On June 25, 2005, the Department dedicated the bridge to the memory of the Union soldiers. At 1 PM, a ceremony was held at the bridge. PDC Thomas E. Schmidt acted as Master of Ceremonies and gave the welcoming remarks. Department Chaplain Robert L. Wandel provided the opening prayer, Patriotic Instructor Craig A. Sundell, PCC, led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to

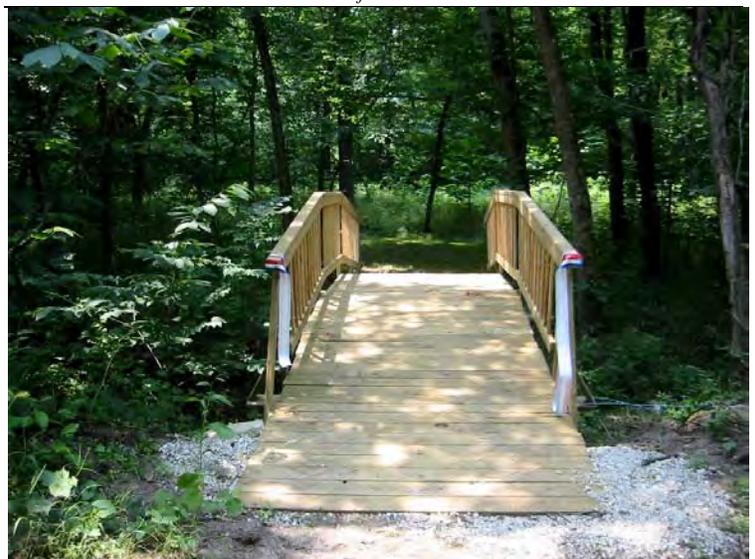


PDC Thomas E. Schmidt, center, opens the ceremonies to dedicate the new bridge.

the Flag. PDC Schmidt recognized the members of the Mine Creek Bridge Committee and the Bridge Construction Team. Mrs. Pat Trask, Director of the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation, provided remarks on behalf of the foundation. Brother Arnold W. Schofield, who also serves as the Mine Creek Site Administrator for the Kansas State Historical Society, gave brief remarks on behalf of the society. Remarks on Behalf of Department of Kansas were delivered by PDC Kenneth R. Spurgeon.



From left to right: Department Commander James R. Knopke and Mine Creek Battlefield Director Mrs. Pat Trask cut the ribbon to the new bridge while Mine Creek Site Administrator Arnold W. Schofield looks on.



The new bridge is open for business.

(continued on next page)

An opportunity was taken at that time to conduct the initiation into the SUVCW for Arnold Schofield by Department Commander James R. Knopke, PCC. PDC Schmidt then recited a poem, "When the Boys in Blue are Gone." Department Commander Knopke then performed the ceremonial ribbon cutting, officially opening the new bridge. This was followed by an Infantry Volley by the Department Honor Guard. After Chaplain Wandel led the attendees in the closing prayer, the Department Color Guard marched across the bridge, returned, and led the procession back to the Visitor Center. A final Artillery Volley was then fired by members of Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4 in honor of those who served.

ROTC AWARDS

Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1

Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC

The Corporal P. Coyne Camp 1 presented its annual ROTC cadet award on April 28, 2005 as part of the Derby, Kansas, High School ROTC award program. Past Dept Commander Tom Schmidt, of the Corp. Coyne Camp, had the privilege to present the certificate and medal to 1st Lieutenant Steve Wood. It is a very dignified and military-structured ceremony with the cadets themselves filling all the roles on stage except for the award presenters.

This is the second year the Coyne camp has taken part in this annual ceremony at Derby High School. They presented their first award in 2004. Current Camp Commander Jim Scheidel approached the camp three years ago as to whether the camp would like to sponsor such an award. After looking at various ROTC programs in the area the camp voted to affiliate with the Derby High School ROTC program. There are well over 100 members in the Derby ROTC program. The Derby program is well-run, administered, award-winning, and very active. The plan is for the Coyne Camp to sponsor an award on annual basis thru the Derby program.

After being at last year and this years awards ceremonies it was obvious to me that this was a first-class program. I listened to testimonies from ROTC members about their instructors, their experiences in the organization, and fond relationships they had formed with fellow members. One cannot help but think that our camp made a great choice in becoming involved with this ROTC program. If your camp is not involved with an ROTC program in your area, I suggest you bring it to your memberships attention and see if there is some interest. If you decide to do so, I hope your research finds programs and members in other areas of the state that are as deserving of your attention as what we have found at Derby High School.

Old Abe Camp 16

James R. Knopke, PCC

On May 5, 2005, Department Commander James R. Knopke presented an ROTC award at Leavenworth High School to Cadet Zachary Bailey. The award was presented on behalf of Old Abe Camp 16. Brother Knopke provided for the award in honor of his ancestor, Conrad Bockmeier, who served with the 64th New York Infantry.



The Last Soldier Project

Blair D. Tarr, Old Abe Camp 16

This is the first in a series of articles about Kansas' Last Soldiers. This is the ongoing project of identifying the last Civil War soldier in each of the 105 Kansas counties. Because of unique conditions, some counties will have more than one soldier listed. For instance, this could occur when a veteran died in one county and is buried in another. We start in Shawnee County with two of its soldiers. The first is William E. Applegate, who was the last Civil War veteran to be buried in the county. The second is George Ellis, who died five months before William E. Applegate. George Ellis is the last Civil War veteran to be buried in Topeka Cemetery, and it is believed that he was the last African-American Civil War veteran in the State of Kansas.

SHAWNEE COUNTY

The following photograph and article are furnished by Brother Rick Baker. Brother Baker is a member of Old Abe Camp 16 and is the great-great grandson of William E. Applegate.

WILLIAM ELI APPLLEGATE

August 17, 1845 – June 5, 1943

William Eli Applegate was born on August 17, 1845, in Cedar County, Iowa, the son of Jacob Daily Applegate.

He enlisted on Aug. 15, 1863 at Indiantown, Iowa, into Company I, 8th Iowa Cavalry, serving with this unit until his discharge on August 13, 1865, at Macon, Georgia. According to his enlistment records, when William enlisted, he stood five feet, six inches in height, had blue eyes, was of light complexion, and had light hair.



Private Applegate's unit served under General Sherman until the capture of Atlanta, at which time the unit was placed under General Thomas for the campaign against Nashville, Tennessee. William Applegate participated in the battles at Dalton, Stony Face, Tilton, Resaca, Cassville, Burnt Hickory, Marietta, Newman, Nashville, Franklin, Shoal Creek, West Point, and Lovejoy Station. It was at this last battle where the young soldier was captured; however, he managed to escape three hours later.

After the war, William returned to Iowa, where he and his wife Madora (maiden name Loupee) had three children. Sadly, all three children died in infancy from epidemics. Dora could not bear to stay in Iowa after the death of her children, so the young couple moved to Chapman, Kansas, and, later Abilene, where William, though not a lawyer, practiced law. The marriage was blessed with a son and a daughter in this new locale.

Around 1916, the family moved to Topeka where William became a member of Topeka Post 71, Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). In 1938, he attended the 75th Anniversary Battle of Gettysburg Reunion, which was attended by both Union and Confederate veterans.

William and Dora's son, Harrison Morton Applegate, married Mary Jane Williams, who was the daughter of Missouri Confederate sympathizer, John Henry Williams. The two elderly men visited often with restrained emotion and respect for each other. They called each other very formally "Mr. Williams" and "Mr. Applegate".

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When William Applegate saw the looting and raping portrayed in the movie "Gone With The Wind", he became very upset and shocked, saying, "We never did anything like that". He often stated that he never held any animosity for the Confederate soldiers and that he hated to have to kill such fine young men.

William Applegate enjoyed the game of billiards well into his nineties, often defeating opponents many years his junior. He died on June 5, 1943, while visiting his daughter in Vancouver, Washington. At the time of his death, he was the last Civil War veteran in Topeka. Private William Applegate was buried with full military honors at Mount Hope Cemetery in Topeka, Kansas.

In addition to William, his father, Jacob Dailey Applegate, who was born April 13, 1811, in Clark County, Indiana, served in Company C, 10th Iowa Infantry. Jacob died of smallpox at Washington Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 24, 1863. It is presumed that he is buried in the Memphis area. William's father-in-law, Lewis Loupee, born August 16, 1827, in Baden Baden, Germany, also served during the war as a Sergeant in Company F, 28th Iowa Infantry. Lewis Loupee died January 4, 1905, at Chapman, Kansas, and is buried in Indian Hill Cemetery in Chapman.

The following obituary is from the January 14, 1943, edition of The Topeka Daily State Journal, as extracted from microfilm roll T1622, Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, Kansas. Notes added.

GEORGE ELLIS 1848 – January 13, 1943

George Ellis, 95, Civil war veteran and former state employe, died Wednesday afternoon in a local hospital, after a two weeks' illness.

Born in Clark county, Kentucky in 1848, he came to Lawrence, Kan., with his parents when a boy. After Quantrell's raid¹, he ran away from home and enlisted in the army at Fort Leavenworth, January 16, 1865, at the age of 17, and served in the independent battery light artillery, Colored Kansas Volunteers².

He returned to Lawrence after the war, making his home there for some time. Later he came to Topeka where he helped build the Santa Fe's branch line between Atchison and Topeka. For more than 40 years he was an employe of the State of Kansas, first as a fireman at the state heating plant and later as night watchman at the state printing plant.

He married the late Julia Savington Ellis, Topeka, and to them were born four children, all now dead.

He was a member of the Fort Pillow Post No. 321, Department of Kansas, G.A.R. of which he served as senior vice commander, and was one of the oldest members of the Cavalry Baptist church. He kept an active interest in Civil war veterans' organizations, always attending the G.A.R. encampments and was always seen in the G.A.R. and Memorial day parades.

For many years he lived at 612 Western prior to making his home with his son-in-law and his wife, Capt. And Mrs. Bolivar E. Watkins, 801 College, the last seven years.

Surviving are seven nieces, Mrs. Bertie Harris, Topeka; Mrs. Mary Henderson and Mrs. Florence Douglas, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Rachel Holloway, Los Angeles; Mrs. Daisy Johnson and Mrs. Ray Seals, Lawrence; Mrs. Eva Watts, Del Mar, Calif.; four nephews, Ben Hawkins, Los Angeles, Calif.; Louis Lindsey,



Chicago; Lloyd Seals, Kansas City, Mo., and Bert Ellis, San Diego, Calif.

The body was taken to the Gaines and Son funeral home.

Notes:

1. August 21, 1863.

2. Independent Colored Battery. -- Capt., Hezekiah F. Douglass. This organization was largely recruited and mustered into the US service during July and Aug., 1864, but it was not completely organized until the latter part of Feb., 1865. It saw some service during the Price raid in the fall of 1864, but lost no men killed in action. The battery was mustered out at Fort Leavenworth July 22, 1865, having lost 1 officer and 9 men, died of disease and other causes. Source: The Union Army, vol. 4, p. 225



From the Patriotic Instructor

Craig A. Sundell, PCC

The summer season is a great one for patriotic Americans. We are regaled with many local parades, and we celebrate the Declaration of Independence of our United States from Great Britain on July 4th, 1776.

Remember to honor our flag when it is on parade in a color guard by placing your right hand on your left breast. Recall and proudly recite the Pledge of Allegiance when appropriate opportunities arise.

Remember, also, the sacrifices of our Union ancestors were the cause of tremendous celebration in July 1863, as Lee was repulsed at Gettysburg and Vicksburg surrendered to Grant. President Lincoln called the July 4, 1863, celebrations, and the union victories preceding them, "the grandest and most important since 1776."



From the Memorials Officer

Douglas E. McGovern, PCC

Monuments and Memorials

Lawrence Pioneer Cemetery

Sgt Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4, Department of Kansas has completed Form CWM 61 (Civil War Memorial Assessment Report) and CWM 62 (Civil War Memorial Fund Request) and have submitted them to National Headquarters requesting a grant to support replacement of the missing plaque and restoration of the monument at Pioneer Cemetery on Mount Oread, Lawrence, Kansas. They are recognized and congratulated for their effort in completing this.

Hutchinson Soldiers and Sailors Monument

The phase II restoration of the Hutchinson Soldiers and Sailors Monument is now fully funded thanks to a grant from the SUVCW, a Kansas Heritage Grant, and matching funding from the Hutchinson City Council. This is in support of the cleaning and repair of the statue and monument itself. Work is anticipated to start within a few months.

Kansas Civil War Memorial/Monument Catalog

It is intended that the location and description of Kansas Civil War Memorials and Monuments be incorporated with the Department website. A draft website stub has been constructed and reviewed by the Department. This will be expanded to include all of the known monuments and memorials.

Progress Being Made

The search and cataloging of monuments has progressed well with contributions from a number of brothers. Ninety eight monuments and memorials have been identified, located, photographed, and logged into the master data base. An additional 37 are listed but research, photography, and/or logging in have not as yet been completed. Forty-two Kansas counties (of the total of 105) do not have any monuments currently identified. These include: Barber, Clark, Clay, Coffey, Comanche, Decatur, Doniphan, Ellsworth, Gove, Graham, Grant, Gray, Greeley, Haskell, Hodgeman, Jefferson, Jewell, Kearny, Kiowa, Lane, (continued on next page)

Logan, Morris, Morton, Norton, Osborne, Ottawa, Phillips, Pottawatomie, Rawlins, Republic, Rooks, Rush, Scott, Sheridan, Sherman, Smith, Stanton, Stevens, Thomas, Wabaunsee, Wallace, and Wichita. Any information on Civil War related monuments (not individual graves or headstones) is appreciated.

Please send any information you can gather to Doug McGovern, 100 West 20th, Hutchinson, KS 67502 (or you can email to him at demcgovern@aol.com).

From the Graves Registration Officer

Franklin C. Bergquist, PDC

Did your ancestor serve in the Civil War, but you can't locate him? Check with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War graves registration database at <http://www.suvcw.org> or the VA website at <http://www.va.gov/> for a location of his grave. The records are not complete for all veterans, but sometimes the results are surprising. Of course, websites change so you may have to be a little creative on finding the right site. Don't get hung up on finding the proper spelling of the veteran's last name. Remember to use all variations. I have found many different spellings of the same name in government records.

If your Civil War ancestor served but the remains were never found after a battle the Department of Veterans Affairs can issue a memorial stone for placement in an appropriate location. The VA form 40-1330 Application for Standard Government Headstone or Marker (dated 12/30/2003, don't use older forms!) must be filled out, and, of course, the marker must still be set at other than VA expense.

Also, badly worn or damaged markers can also be replaced with a new marker. Again the VA form must be filled out completely and submitted.

In any case, don't be in a hurry once the form has been submitted. It can take up to nine months to get the marker. The US Government fiscal year starts October 1 and ends on September 30. If you submit your request late in the fiscal year it may not be processed until the next fiscal year when new funds are available.

From the Chaplain

Robert L. Wandel

What was the Civil War Chaplain's life like?

I will try to explain using text and quotes from the book While God Is Marching On by Steven E. Woodworth.

"Our chaplain, J. D. Rogers is as a father to me and keeps me straight" wrote the Thirty-third Indiana's John J. Hardin in February 1862. "Our chaplain appears to have forgotten us entirely," wrote Daniel Hughes of the Twenty-fifth Indiana in November of that year.

So we see that there were those who did a good job and those who did not do the work they were hired to do. Congress authorized one chaplain for each regiment during the Civil War. Their primary task was to tend to the spiritual well being of the soldiers. The pay for a Union chaplain was \$145 per month, but out of this he had to pay for food for his government provided horse. He was not provided a uniform and only drew rations as if he were a private.

Good men of the cloth were hard to find and compounding the difficulties of finding enough chaplains was the fact that a sizable number of pastors who did see fit to leave their congregations and go off to war enlisted as combat soldiers. Once an enlisted man, it was hard and almost impossible to be appointed to the office of chaplain. Chaplains were not expected to live on quite the same level as the private soldiers did, but they could still expect to sleep

on the ground rolled in a blanket, with canvas overhead or the stars. They did not have to march but had to spend time in the saddle and they were exposed to the same diseases the soldiers faced and sometimes even hostile fire.

In June 1862 the U. S. War Department reported that only 395 of the 676 regiments had a chaplain. The chaplains were to maintain "the social happiness and moral improvement of the troops" and to report the regularly on the "moral and religious condition" of the men. Congress, at the urging of Abraham Lincoln, in 1862 added a provision for hospital chaplains.

Gambling, swearing, and immoral living were the main concerns the chaplains had about the men. The majority of the chaplains worked at a killing pace. Some served in nearby hospitals, carried mail to and from the local towns, carried large sums of money to be mailed home for the soldiers, held services on Sundays, admonished and encouraged the troops, as well as held funeral services for those killed in action and some even wrote letters home to families of the deceased. But the most important duty of the chaplains was praying with the men who desired it, particularly in times of distress and or sorrow and above all, when death approached.

After the battle of Chancellorsville, Chaplain Thomas Ambrose, 12th New Hampshire, stayed behind with the wounded Union soldiers who fell into Rebel hands. He and a single surgeon were the only help available for a sizable encampment of badly wounded, almost helpless men, and they worked literally around the clock, bringing food and drink to the wounded, putting up tents to shelter them, and trying to keep them out of the mud and standing water during a night of torrential rain. He also went to J.E.B. Stuart and Lee's camp to request a wagon load of cornmeal for the men which was approved. Unsure when the wagon would arrive, and knowing that some wounded might not last that long, Ambrose carried a fifty pound sack of cornmeal back to the camp some two and a half miles. Later in the Civil War, Ambrose was mortally wounded at Petersburg on July 24, 1864.

The proper role of the chaplain when his regiment went into battle was not clearly defined, and the Civil War saw great variations among chaplains in how they handled this difficult situation. Some did remain safely in the rear, but others did not. A fair number believed that their rightful place was similar to that of the rest of the regimental field and staff officers. There they would walk unarmed to help wounded when they fell. Some of the chaplains joined in the fighting, one such individual of the Eighty-third Indiana blazed away with a rifle of his own, repeating, each time he pulled the trigger, "God bless your soul".

Just as there were good chaplains and bad chaplains, some chaplains retained more of the soldiers' respect than did others. As a group, however, chaplains performed well in the war, notwithstanding the relatively small number of obvious failures, and fared well in earning the respect of the soldiers. They taught the Bible, along with that they showed kindness, patience, generosity, cheerfulness, courtesy, resolution, and energy in very trying and dangerous times.

Many chaplains were killed in battle, and three of them received the Medal of Honor – Chaplain John Whitehead, Chaplain Francis B. Hall, and Chaplain Milton L. Haney. There will be more to come on these individuals in future issues of the Sunflower Pickett.

II Timothy 4:2 is a good example for the Chaplains' work, and it is also a good example for us, "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine." Hopefully, we will be able to say, as Paul continued in verse 7, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

The following article was submitted by **Brother Blair D. Tarr**, *Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka*. William H. Russell was the second of two Kansans to serve as National Commanders-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The newsletter editor extends a special "thank-you" to Brother Tarr for his time and research for this article.

WILLIAM HOWARD RUSSELL

November 24, 1867-August 31, 1950

Commander-in-Chief, 1895

William Howard Russell was born at Livermore, Pennsylvania on November 24, 1867, the son of James Alexander and Elizabeth Servilla Beham Russell. His father had been born at the family farm on the banks of the Conemaugh River near Livermore on October 9, 1829. James served in Company A of the 54th Pennsylvania Infantry (Militia), which saw service in the pursuit of Confederate General John Hunt Morgan's 1863 raid of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois.

James Russell brought his family to Kansas in the spring of 1879 and settled on a claim southwest of Rush Center. Upon arrival James taught school and engaged in farming, eventually winning appointment as postmaster of Rush Center. He died February 2, 1904. He had been a member of Dahlgren Post No. 474, G.A.R., at Rush Center.

William taught for three years in the Rush County schools, and became manager of the Prairie Lumber Company of Rush Center. He began to read law, and was admitted to the bar at LaCrosse on November 20, 1888. He soon gained a reputation for the successful prosecution of violators of the prohibition law in the county. He formed a partnership with his younger brother, Frank.

In the span of his life he would be the Attorney and President of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of LaCrosse. He served as President of the Southwestern Kansas Bar Association, and was active in the affairs of the Evangelical United Brethren Church and Masonic Lodge at LaCrosse.

Russell joined the Sons of Veterans in 1891 as a member of Tim McCarthy Camp No. 223. He rose rapidly in the ranks; Russell served on national committees, including chair of Constitution and Bylaws, which oversaw the revamping of the Order's Constitution. In 1895 he was elected as Commander-in-Chief at the Sons of Veterans Encampment at Knoxville, Tennessee. He had been serving as Division Commander in Kansas at the time.

He married Bertha Ellen Smith on Christmas Day, 1895. They had seven children: Howard, Grace, Guy, Winifred, Donald, Everett, and Bertha.

William H. Russell died at LaCrosse on August 31, 1950, at the age of 82. He is buried at the LaCrosse Cemetery.

Information for this article was found in Illustriana Kansas, (1933); William E. Connelley's Kansas and Kansans, (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1918); The Sunflower Picket, September 1, 1896; the Lawrence Journal-World, September 1, 1950; and the Rush County News, August 31 and September 7, 1950.



From the Junior Vice Commander

James A. Scheidel, Jr.

During a recent trip back east, I was able to undertake a memorable journey to honor my ancestor, Private Otto Becker, Co. C, 54th New York Infantry. He was killed in action on August 29, 1862, at Second Bull Run. I visited Manassas National Military Park and the approximate location where the 54th New York was during the battle. I then drove to Arlington National Cemetery to pay my respects at the Monument of the Civil War Unknowns on the grounds of Arlington House. Finally, I concluded my odyssey at the 54th New York Infantry Monument, which was erected in the Culp's Hill area of the Gettysburg National Military Park to honor the Regiments service.

At each of these locations I left a small flag as a remembrance to my ancestor as his exact resting place is lost to history. Each time I placed a flag, I said a prayer and made a promise that after being lost to our family for 143 years he would never again be forgotten.



Manassas Battlefield, looking East at the approximate location where the 54th New York Infantry was during the battle.

I realized how proud I feel to be part of an order whose mission is to honor the sacrifices these "Guardians of the Republic" who, with their own blood, ensured future generations would inherit one Nation, united, strong, and free. It is our responsibility as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War that these "Guardians" are never forgotten. I think of our most recent preservation efforts, the bridge at Mine Creek, the GAR monument identification and booklet project, as well as the yearly "Last Solider Ceremonies" and gravestone restoration projects performed by camps, just to name a few. These are all wonderful gifts we have been able to give the people of Kansas.

Let us keep our preservation eye sharply focused as our department continues to grow and our preservation capabilities increase. I encourage our continued proactive approach toward preservation projects. Our efforts speak volumes keeping alive the memory of the Soldiers and Sailors of the Grand Army of the Republic. Brothers, I thank you all for your continued efforts. Huzzah!



From the Senior Vice Commander

Randal L. Durbin

It is truly an honor to serve as the Senior Vice Commander (SVC) of the Department of Kansas. This is a great organization, and I look forward to each meeting and encampment. Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty are truly practiced among the brothers in this Department.

Since becoming SVC, I attended the reorganization meeting of the Joseph Gaston Camp in Beloit on May 7. It is exciting to see the new members and their enthusiasm. Hopefully, this camp will be active and growing.

On Saturday, May 28th, I was privileged to represent the Department of Kansas at the burial of the ashes of Corporal John Byrne. Corporal Byrne died in 1920 and, with no family nearby, he was cremated and the ashes sat on a shelf of a funeral home in Utah. John was a member of the 21st Missouri Infantry and is believed to be the last unburied Union soldier. His ashes were laid to rest beside his three brothers in Memphis, Missouri. Two brothers were Union veterans and another a confederate. Approximately 100 reenactors, SUVCW, DUVCW 1861-1865, and LGAR members participated in the funeral procession, (continued on next page)

along with descendents and other dignitaries. The streets were lined with spectators along the mile and a half trip from the funeral home to the cemetery. A very moving ceremony took place at the gravesite and the event made national news. I thank Department Commander Knopke for allowing me to attend this event as the representative for the Department of Kansas.

 **The Commander's Corner**

James R. Knopke, PCC

First, a note of thanks to the Department for giving me the honor to serve as Department Commander for the next twelve months, and I look forward to the upcoming challenges as we move forward. If I can be of help, please let me know.

When I first joined Old Abe Camp 16 back in summer of 2001, the Department had approximately sixty members. Today, we have four camps and are over one hundred strong and growing. There is a good chance that we will add two to three new camps this year. Last year, at the National Encampment, we received the U.S. Grant trophy for the highest percentage of increase for a Department, and, if we keep moving forward, it could be ours for the next year or two. Growth is what will keep the Department vibrant. For those of you who are making it happen with your hard work, it is greatly appreciated.

I would like to talk a little about the Mine Creek Bridge project. Over the last twenty-four months or so, some have worked VERY HARD, other have worked HARD and some have done little or nothing on this project. For those that have contributed of their time and money, the Department is very grateful. For those that have not, there is still time to be apart of this project. There are two ways you can do this; one is by attending the bridge dedication on June 25th, at 1 PM, at the Mine Creek Battle field. Your presence will help give the Department a show of strength at the dedication. Secondly, is for you to make a donation to the Bridge fund. We know that some of you could not be there physically, and a donation would be a very important way of being part of the project. The Department of Kansas has made a commitment to the Mine Creek Foundation that we would purchase and install the bridge; just like the plaque which will stand next to the bridge says. We are approximately \$1,100 short of that goal. Your monetary help would be greatly appreciated. This is one of the best ways I know of to remember our forefathers for what they did for this country. Make your check payable to "SUVCW KS," and give it to your camp commander or mail it to Department Treasurer, Alan L. Russ, P. O. Box 68; Auburn KS 66402-0068. If all the members would give \$10.00, we would have this commitment and project behind us. Can we please count on your help?

CAMP NEWS

CORP. PATRICK COYNE CAMP 1, Wichita

Camp Commander James A. Scheidel, Jr.
Senior Vice Commander..... Norman R. Kimrey
Junior Vice Commander Dale L. Rouse
Secretary/Treasurer Thomas E. Schmidt, PCC

Camp meetings are held at the DAV Clubhouse, 3011 George Washington Blvd., in Wichita. The meetings are at 7 PM, on the fourth Thursday of the month. The Camp does not meet in July, August, or December. The November meeting is on the third Thursday, due to Thanksgiving.

The Cpl. Patrick Coyne Camp 1 of Wichita has had some very interesting programs in connection with their regular meetings this year. In February Susie Schmidt presented a program called

"Hidden in Plain View" on the quilts of the underground railroad. Member Jonathon Goering played civil war banjo music in March as part of his program on that subject. In April members Ken Spurgeon and Jonathon Goering talked about and showed some of their documentary Touched by Fire – Bleeding Kansas. In June our program will consist of members bringing in their civil war or GAR memorabilia to "show and tell" with the rest of the group.

In April the camp had a number of members participate in the Mine Creek Bridge project, as well as attend the State Department encampment in Lawrence.

As is the camp's custom the May meeting was held off site at a cemetery in honor of Memorial Day. This year a number of members traveled to Ark City's Riverview cemetery for this occasion. A version of "The Last Soldier Ceremony" was used and it took place in front of the GAR monument that was erected by the local post.



This is the second year the camp has sponsored an ROTC award honoring an outstanding cadet in the Derby, KS ROTC program. Tom Schmidt represented the camp at their awards ceremony on April 28 and made the presentation.

The camp seems to be on a slight growth spurt as we have had 7 new members and 1 junior member since April 1. Welcome to all our new members! Also camp Sr. Vice Commander Norm Kimrey had unexpected triple by-pass surgery in April and is making progress in his recovery.

On an upcoming note, Tim Rues, a re-enactor from Lecompton who portrays James Lane, has been booked for the camps annual fundraiser "Lincoln Remembered" on Nov. 12 in Wichita. Put this date on your calendar now and plan on spending a fun and educational Saturday evening with us.

JOSEPH GASTON CAMP 3, Beloit

Camp Commander..... Kyle A. J. Peterson
Senior Vice Commander H. Gail Pearson
Junior Vice Commander..... Frederick J. Severance
Secretary/Treasurer..... Dean K. Speaks, PDC

Camp meetings are held quarterly at the Mitchell County Historical Museum, 402 W. 8th St., in Beloit.

Joseph Gaston Camp 3 went through a reorganization process this Spring. The camp membership had dropped to less than the minimum number required to maintain a camp, but the Department of Kansas did not want to lose one of its founding camps. Craig Sundell, PCC, from Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp, offered to work with the camp secretary to recruit new members for the camp. The intent was not to just recruit numbers, but, rather, a core of new members who would lead the camp toward the future.

(continued on next page)

On May 7, 2005, the corner was officially turned for Joseph Gaston Camp 3. Department officers, led by Commander James R. Knopke, PCC, met with the current and soon-to-be members of the camp. Three members had been recruited in March and had been assigned to the Department MAL Camp at that time. On this date, they officially transferred to Joseph Gaston Camp 3. Additionally, Brother Sundell requested to be a "dual" member with the camp, in order to help them with the process.

The election of new officers for the camp was then conducted. The following brothers were elected and appointed to serve for the remainder of 2005.

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Camp Commander | Kyle A. J. Peterson |
| Senior Vice Commander | H. Gail Pearson |
| Junior Vice Cdr/Council | Frederick J. Severance |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Dean K. Speaks, PDC |
| Council/Patriotic Instructor | Craig A. Sundell, PCC |
| Council/Chaplain | Kim L. Nelson, PCC |

The officers were installed by Department Commander Knopke. Also in attendance were Department Senior Vice Commander Randal L. Durbin, Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, and Department Secretary Alan L. Russ, PDC.

The camp will initially meet once each quarter at the Mitchell County Historical Society.



Members of Joseph Gaston Camp 3, Beloit. From left to right: PCC Kim Nelson, Fred Severance, PDC Dean Speaks, Gail Pearson, Kyle Peterson, and PCC Craig Sundell.

SGT. SAMUEL J. CHURCHILL CAMP 4, Lawrence

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Camp Commander | Roy A. Lafferty |
| Senior Vice Commander..... | Alan L. Van Loenen |
| Junior Vice Commander | Michael W. Anderson |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Robert L. Wandel |

Camp meetings are held at the Watkins Museum of History, 11th and Massachusetts Streets, at 7 PM on the third Thursday of each month.

On Memorial Day weekend Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4, with the help of local Boy Scouts, put out about 250 flags on the graves of Civil War veterans at the various Lawrence cemeteries. Several members of the camp participated in a Memorial service in Maple Hill, Kansas. Members also participated with the Kansas City Symphony at the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri, by firing the cannon during the 1812 Overture.

Civil War on the Western Frontier, August 15-21

The Sgt. Churchill Camp invites everyone to come to the Civil War on the Western Frontier, August 15 through 21 in Lawrence. Like last year, the Sgt. Churchill Camp will sponsor two of the lectures at the Watkins museum.

Tuesday, August 16, Noon to 1 PM. "Dragoons to Cavalry" presented by John Nichols. "In August 1861, the second major battle of the Civil War occurred near Springfield, MO. Wilson's Creek marked the end of an era as it was the last major battle in which the U.S. Dragoons fought. These forefathers of the cavalry spent much of their existence in Kansas. Come learn about these mounted troops and the end of an era. FREE

Tuesday, August 16, 7 PM. "General James G. Blunt" presented by Robert Collins. "Robert Collins, author of a new biography about Kansas Civil War General James G. Blunt, will discuss the general's life and take questions from the audience. Book signing will follow." FREE

Wednesday, August 17, 7 PM. "The H. L. Hunley & Her Crew: Discovery, Recovery and Burial" presented by Jim Speicher. "Learn about the Confederate submarine *H.L. Hunley*, and how the *Hunley* and her crew were recovered from their watery grave and how the crew was laid to rest in the last Civil War burial." FREE

Thursday, August 18, 7 PM. "The Wild Side: American History 1854-1881" presented by Thomas and Debra Goodrich. "From Bleeding Kansas and Quantrill's Raid through the Lincoln assassination and the Indian wars, they will discuss the wild side of American history with crowd friendly anecdotes." FREE (Sponsored by Sgt. Churchill Camp 4)

Friday, August 19, 8 PM. Concert and Touched by Fire. "The Free Staters start off the evening with a concert and dance demonstration. Immediately following is the Lawrence debut of a new documentary, *Touched by Fire, Bleeding Kansas*." This will take place in South Park, 11th & Massachusetts. A \$5 donation is suggested. (You may recognize a couple of the Free Staters. See if any of the reenactors in the film look familiar, and watch the credits for names of some of our department members.)

Saturday, August 20, 7 PM. "The Common Civil War Soldier & His Wife" presented Brother Herschel Stroud (Old Abe Camp 16) and his wife, Jacque Stroud. "Many Civil War books speak of the great battles, famous people, and memorable events. Yet this conflict was fought by the common soldier who often left a wife at home. Get a glimpse into the life of Baltzer and Amanda Young, a Civil War soldier and his wife." FREE (Sponsored by Sgt. Churchill Camp 4)

Come join us for the Civil War on the Western Frontier, and don't forget to stop by the Civil War Encampment in South Park to visit some of our camp "big-shots," aka Battery B, 3rd Kansas Light Artillery. They will be there on Saturday, August 20, from 9 AM to 6 PM, and, again on Sunday, August 21, from 10 AM to 2 PM.

FRANKLIN CAMP 5, Olathe

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Camp Commander..... | |
| Senior Vice Commander..... | |
| Junior Vice Commander..... | |
| Secretary/Treasurer..... | |

Now Forming

PCC Craig Sundell has been appointed by the Department Commander to be the Camp Organizer for Franklin Camp 5, Olathe. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 PM on July 18, at the Indian Springs Branch of the Johnson County Library. Preliminary meetings have been held on June 6, June 20, and June 27, with great interest expressed. It is anticipated the camp will be ready to "mustered in" in late August.

If you are interested in transferring to the new camp, contact your camp secretary or one of the following individuals for further information:

Camp Organizer

Craig A. Sundell, PCC
1530 Learnard Ave., Lawrence KS 66044-3736
(785)841-7970, Email: cjsund@swbell.net

Department Commander

James R. Knopke, PCC
27133 W. 56th St., Shawnee KS 66218-8407
(913)422-4953, Email: jknopke@everestkc.net

MINE CREEK CAMP 6, Mine Creek Battlefield Site

Camp Commander
Senior Vice Commander.....
Junior Vice Commander.....
Secretary/Treasurer.....

Now Forming

Randy Durbin has been appointed by the Department Commander to be the Camp Organizer for Mine Creek Camp 6, Mine Creek Battlefield site. A preliminary meeting was held on June 25, 2005. An initial organizational meeting is being scheduled for August 13, 2005, at 1 PM. This meeting will be held at the Mine Creek Visitor Center on the Battlefield.

If you are interested in transferring to the new camp, or if you have a friend or relative in that area who might be interested in belonging to the camp, contact your camp secretary or one of the following individuals for further information:

Camp Organizer

Randal L. Durbin
P.O. Box 306, Overbrook KS 66524-0306
(785)453-2185, Email: randaldfsb@hotmail.com

Department Commander

James R. Knopke, PCC
27133 W. 56th St., Shawnee KS 66218-8407
(913)422-4953, Email: Jknopke@everestkc.net

COL. JOHN A. MARTIN CAMP 8 (MAL)

The Department Membership-at-Large camp is for those members who reside within the Department of Kansas, but are not members of another camp. As such, it does not hold camp meetings or elect camp officers. The Department officers are the officers for the camp.

The Department has stated its intention to eventually have all members of the MAL belong to a regular camp within the Department. As new camps are formed within the Department this year, those members of the MAL who live in those areas will be encouraged to transfer to the new camp.

Currently, Col. John A. Martin Camp 8 (MAL) has a total of four members assigned to it. Two of these members are active in the process of starting a camp at Mine Creek and two of the members live in the Olathe area.

OLD ABE CAMP 16, Topeka

Camp Commander	Randal L. Durbin
Senior Vice Commander.....	D. Darrel Gilliland
Junior Vice Commander	Randall M. Thies, PDC
Secretary/Treasurer	Blair D. Tarr

Camp meetings are held at Perkins Restaurant, 1720 SW Wanamaker Rd., in Topeka, at 6:30 PM on the first Tuesday of each month.

We welcome our newest member, Mr. James McHenry who was initiated into the organization at our June meeting.

Three camp members, Alan Russ, Jim Knopke, and Randy Durbin, attended the work day on Benteen's Bridge at Mine Creek on April 16. The department can be proud of its contribution to this enhancement to the trails on the battlefield.

Five camp members, Alan Russ, Jim Knopke, Blair Tarr, Darrel Gilliland and Randy Durbin, attended the Department Encampment in Lawrence on April 23.

Over Memorial weekend camp members and others set out flags on the graves of Civil War veterans at the Topeka Cemetery. We appreciate Alan Russ' efforts in this project. Many of the graves are unmarked and his detailed maps of the cemetery with the locations of these gravesites are invaluable.

After picking up the flags on Monday, May 30th, Randy and Nancy Durbin traveled to Holton and placed a marker on the grave of Civil War veteran, Matthew Woodward. Mr. Woodward's descendent, Ethan Stewart of Connecticut, sent a marker to be placed on his grave.

The camp continues to be active and is proud to be a part of the Department of Kansas.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES

KANSAS MOLLUS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

If your Civil War ancestor served as a commissioned officer during the war, or served as an enlisted man during the war and was later commissioned, you may qualify to join the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the U.S. The Kansas Commandery is striving to grow in strength to become more active within the State. One of our goals is to work closely with the SUVCW, with most of our members also holding membership in the SUVCW.



History of MOLLUS

On April 15, 1865, as word of President Abraham Lincoln's death spread throughout the country, three Union Army officer friends met in Philadelphia to discuss the tragic news. Rumors from Washington of a conspiracy to destroy the Federal government by assassination of its leaders prompted the three officers to form an organization that could help thwart future threats to the national government.

A mass meeting of Philadelphia veterans was held on April 20, 1865 to pledge renewed allegiance to the Union and to plan for participation in the funeral arrangements for the President. The Philadelphia officers, who served as an honor guard for President Lincoln's funeral cortege, met again after the funeral was over to establish a permanent organization of officers and former officers patterned after the Society of Cincinnati established after the Revolutionary War. The name they chose, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, first appeared in a notice calling a meeting on May 31, 1865 at Independence Hall.

By 1899, MOLLUS had more than 8,000 Civil War officers members on its roster. At its zenith, MOLLUS counted practically every prominent officer among its ranks. Among them were Generals Ulysses S. Grant, and William T. Sherman; Lt. Generals Philip H. Sheridan, Nelson A. Miles and John M. Schofield; Major Generals Winfield Scott Hancock, George B. McClellan, Rutherford B. Hayes, George Armstrong Custer, David McMurtree Gregg, and Grenville M. Dodge; Admiral David G. Farragut; and Rear Admirals Bancroft Gherardi and George W. Melville. In addition to Ulysses S. Grant and Rutherford B. Hayes, Original Companions Chester A. Arthur, Benjamin Harrison and William McKinley served as Presidents of the United States.

With the eventual aging of the Original Companions, membership within MOLLUS was changed to provide for Hereditary Companions; descendants of eligible officers. There are currently four categories of membership: Hereditary, Junior, Associate and Honorary. Many Original Companions of MOLLUS were also members of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). Similarly, many Hereditary Companions of MOLLUS are currently also members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Organizationally, MOLLUS is composed of a National Commandery-in-Chief and individual state Commanderies. There are currently 19 Commanderies and two Provisional Commanderies. Additional information regarding

(Continued on next page)

MOLLUS, its history, commanderies, membership and activities may be obtained by going to the MOLLUS web site at www.suvcw.org/mollus/molid.htm or by contacting Kansas Commander Alan Russ, P.O. Box 68, Auburn KS 66402-0068 (email: suvcwks16@mindspring.com).

DEPARTMENT ORDERS

HEADQUARTERS

DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 21733 W. 56th St., Shawnee, Kansas 66218-8407
 (913)422-4953, email: jknopke@everestks.net

DEPARTMENT ORDER 1 APRIL 23, 2005
 SERIES 2005-2006

1. Having been elected and installed as Department Commander by the assembled delegates at the 9th Department Encampment at Lawrence, Kansas, on April 23, 2005, command is hereby assumed and headquarters established at the above address. All correspondence requiring the attention of the Department Commander should be sent to the above address.

2. The following brothers were also elected at the 9th Department Encampment to the positions indicated:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Senior Vice Commander | Randal L. Durbin, Old Abe 16 |
| Junior Vice Commander | James A. Scheidel, Jr., Corp. Patrick Coyne 1 |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Alan L. Russ, PDC, Old Abe 16 |
| Council | Kenneth R. Spurgeon, PDC, Corp. Patrick Coyne 1 |
| | Robert L. Wandel, Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill 4 |
| | Craig A. Sundell, PCC, Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill 4 |

3. I have appointed the following brothers to the positions and responsibilities indicated:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Patriotic Instructor | Craig A. Sundell, PCC, Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill 4 |
| Chaplain | Robert L. Wandel, Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill 4 |
| Historian | Dean K. Speaks, PDC, Joseph Gaston 3 |
| Counselor | Franklin C. Bergquist, PDC, Corp. Patrick Coyne 1 |
| Graves Reg. Officer | Franklin C. Bergquist, PDC, Corp. Patrick Coyne 1 |
| C.W. Memorials Officer | Douglas E. McGovern, PCC, Corp. Patrick Coyne 1 |
| Eagle Scout Coordinator | Alan L. Russ, PDC, Old Abe 16 |
| Department Webmaster | Jonathan P. Goering, Corp. Patrick Coyne 1 |

4. All business correspondence, bills, and requests for payment should be sent to PDC Alan L. Russ, Department Secretary, P.O. Box 68, Auburn KS 66402-0068.

5. All requests for monuments and memorials grants, and all completed monuments and memorials registration forms should be sent to PCC Douglas McGovern, 100 W. 20th Ave., Hutchinson KS 67502-2846.

6. All graves registration forms and information should be sent to PDC Frank C. Bergquist, Department Graves Registration Officer, 4255 Laura Circle, Wichita KS 67216-4210.

7. All requests for Eagle Scout Certificates should be sent to PDC Alan L. Russ, Department Eagle Scout Coordinator, P.O. Box 68, Auburn KS 66402-0068.

8. The 10th Annual Department Encampment for the Department of Kansas is scheduled to be held on April 22, 2006, in Topeka. Old Abe Camp 16 has accepted the responsibility to be the host camp. The camp will report to the fall Department Council meeting as to its ability to host the encampment.

9. With great honor and anticipation I proudly accept the position of Department Commander. As the next 12 months unfold, I look forward to the challenges and adventures that await us as we move the Department of Kansas forward. We have a great opportunity for growth, not only in numbers, but also in Camps. Sometime soon we will have over 100 Brothers and we are working on adding three new Camps this year. Growth is what will keep the Department young and vibrant and with this growth will come the assurance that the sacrifices made by our forefathers will not be forgotten.

IN FRATERNITY, CHARITY, AND LOYALTY,

James R. Knopke, P.C.C.
 Department Commander

ATTEST:

Alan L. Russ, P.D.C.
 Secretary

HEADQUARTERS

DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 21733 W. 56th St., Shawnee, Kansas 66218-8407
 (913)422-4953, email: jknopke@everestks.net

DEPARTMENT ORDER 2 MAY 14, 2005
 SERIES 2005-2006

ORDER OF SUSPENSION OF CAMP CHARTER

- Whereas Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing Camp No. 2, does not have any membership assigned to the camp; and
- Whereas Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing Camp No. 2, has not held meetings in more than five years; and
- Whereas Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing Camp No. 2, has not filed any required reports in more than five years; and
- Whereas Chapter I, Article I, Section 7 of the Regulations of the Order states: "A Camp failing to pay per capita tax or neglecting to forward reports within the time specified by law may be suspended by the Department Commander. Suspended Camps may be reinstated by forwarding reports and paying all arrearages of per capita tax."; and
- Whereas it has come to my attention the Camp Charter for Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing Camp No. 2 is still in an active status;
- Therefore, by authority vested in me under Chapter I, Article I, Section 7 of the Regulations of the Order, I hereby Suspend the Charter of the Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing Camp No. 2, Johnson County, Kansas. This order of suspension shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until such time as the aforementioned Camp is re-established and complies with the stated section of the Regulations or the charter is officially revoked by the National Commander-in-Chief.

James R. Knopke, P.C.C.
 Department Commander

ATTEST:

Alan L. Russ, P.D.C.
 Secretary

HEADQUARTERS

DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 21733 W. 56th St., Shawnee, Kansas 66218-8407
 (913)422-4953, email: jknopke@everestks.net

DEPARTMENT ORDER 3 MAY 14, 2005
 SERIES 2005-2006

ORDER OF SUSPENSION OF CAMP CHARTER

- Whereas Pap Thomas Camp No. 52, does not have any membership assigned to the camp; and
- Whereas Pap Thomas Camp No. 52, has not held meetings in more than five years; and
- Whereas Pap Thomas Camp No. 52, has not filed any required reports in more than five years; and
- Whereas Chapter I, Article I, Section 7 of the Regulations of the Order states: "A Camp failing to pay per capita tax or neglecting to forward reports within the time specified by law may be suspended by the Department Commander. Suspended Camps may be reinstated by forwarding reports and paying all arrearages of per capita tax."; and
- Whereas it has come to my attention the Camp Charter for Pap Thomas Camp No. 52 is still in an active status;
- Therefore, by authority vested in me under Chapter I, Article I, Section 7 of the Regulations of the Order, I hereby Suspend the Charter of the Pap Thomas Camp No. 52, Great Bend, Kansas. This order of suspension shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until such time as the aforementioned Camp is re-established and complies with the stated section of the Regulations or the charter is officially revoked by the National Commander-in-Chief.

James R. Knopke, P.C.C.
 Department Commander

ATTEST:

Alan L. Russ, P.D.C.
 Secretary

THE LAST WORD

Alan L. Russ, PDC, Secretary

2005 National Encampment

The 2005 National Encampment will be held August 3 through 5, 2005, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Nashua, New Hampshire. Now is a good time to start planning to attend. Again, if you have any questions, talk with your camp or department officers.

Receive Your Sunflower Picket by Email

Would you rather receive your Sunflower Picket by email? We are offering this in an effort to reduce printing and mailing costs.

There are a couple of advantages to you. You will receive your issue two to three days earlier than by mail, and the pictures will be in **color**. The Department will save printing costs and postage (a total of 67 cents to \$1.00 per issue).

If you would prefer to receive the Sunflower Picket by email, send an email to the Newsletter Editor and let him know. Email address is: suvcwks16@mindspring.com

On the other hand, if your email provider does not allow attachments, or your system cannot handle attachments running from 200 KBytes to 750 KBytes (especially if you have a slow dialup connection) then this is not for you. If you want to continue receiving the Sunflower Picket by mail, take no action. You will continue to receive it as you currently are.

Next Issue

The Autumn issue will be mailed by October 1, 2005. If you don't see enough in the Sunflower Picket about your Camp and what it has been doing, then YOU need to send an article to the Newsletter Editor. This normally falls under the duties of Camp Senior Vice Commanders.

Camp Commanders, Camp Senior Vice Commanders, and Department officers need to submit information and articles to the Newsletter Editor by **September 15, 2005**, preferably in electronic format. Send submissions to:

PDC Alan L. Russ, Newsletter Editor

P.O. Box 68, Auburn KS 66402-0068

Email: suvcwks16@mindspring.com

ATTENTION, G. A. R.!

Tomorrow—Wednesday—we will sell



**120 Good-Black
Felt G. A. R.
Hats, with em-
blem and cord,
worth \$1.25—**

48c

FINEST BLUE FLANNEL SUITS—

made of Middlesex and Slater Fine Pure
Indigo Flannels—2 sets buttons—

Very durably made—
Excellentlly trimmed—
Advertised as cheap by
others at \$10 and \$9—
Wednesday our price: **\$8.50**

The Palace

709 Kansas Avenue.
Auerbach & Quettel.

From May 29, 1895, issue of Topeka Daily Capital

Newsletter Editor

Alan L. Russ, PDC

P.O. Box 68

Auburn KS 66402-0068

www.suvcwks.org