



The Sunflower Picket



www.suvcwks.org

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

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| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
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WHO IS A JUNIOR?

A Junior of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a male, at least six years of age and not yet age 14. A Junior must meet the hereditary requirements to be a Member in the SUVCW.

Departments have the option of prohibiting Juniors, however, the Department of Kansas both allows and encourages Juniors to be part of our organization. Camps within the Department of Kansas may choose to not allow Juniors, although all camps currently permit Juniors in their camps.

Juniors are restricted in their participation and status. They may not hold any elected office in a camp, department, or National organization.

Also, Juniors are not permitted to hold any appointed office at the Department or National level. Juniors are not counted in determining the number of voting delegates a Camp may have at the Department Encampment nor the number of voting delegates the Department has to the National Encampment.

The National Organization does not impose the \$18.00 per year per capita tax on Juniors, and, likewise, the Department of Kansas does not impose the Department per capita tax of \$4.00 per year. As such, Juniors do not receive their own copies of the *Banner* or the *Sunflower Picket*. Juniors cannot be counted toward the required number of Brothers to establish a new camp; however, their names may appear on the Camp Charter and be so designated as Charter Juniors of the Camp. Juniors cannot become Life Members.

After all of those limitations and restrictions, what is the “up” side of being a Junior? It is an opportunity to become part of an organization the child can belong to for the rest of his life. Attend the meetings with a father, uncle, grandfather, or older brother. Camps should take the opportunity to appoint Juniors to some of the positions utilized during the ritual portion of the meetings. Guard, guide, and Color guard provide an excellent chance for a Junior to be an active participant in the meetings. Given a chance, most will surprise you in their willingness to take part.

What does this mean to the Department of Kansas? If you have a son, nephew, grandson, etc., consider giving them a membership within the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. If they are between six and 14, give them a Junior membership. Then, bring them to the meetings with you. Who knows, you both might enjoy the experience.

When you see a Junior wearing the badge with the white center ribbon, thank him for being there, and encourage him to participate. After all, it is our sons, grandsons, and nephews who are the future of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War – not us.

FALL COUNCIL MEETING

Saturday, November 19, 2005, at 1 PM

The Fall Council Meeting is being held in Topeka at the Kansas State Historical Society. See details in Department Order 4, published in this newsletter.



**FINAL MUSTER
NORMAN R. KIMREY**

Senior Vice Commander, Corporal Patrick Coyne Camp 1

Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1 Senior Vice Commander Norman R. Kimrey died Monday, September 5, 2005, at St. Joseph Hospital in Wichita. Norm joined the SUVCW thru the Wichita Camp in April 2002, and soon took an active role in the organization. He very seldom missed a camp meeting. He helped facilitate the camp's recruiting efforts through arranging for a booth for the camp at the annual Chisholm Trail Gun Show in Wichita, as he was a member of the Chisholm Trail Gun Association. He had previously served as Junior Vice Commander of the camp in 2004 and was preparing to assume the Camp Commander's position for 2006.

Members of the Cpl. P. Coyne camp participated in Norm's funeral service, with Camp Chaplain, the Rev. Ken Bradley, officiating on Friday, Sept. 9, at Smith Mortuary in Haysville.

The following obituary was published in the Wichita Eagle on September 7, 2005.

HAYSVILLE - Kimrey, Norman R., 65, retired Avionics Engineer for Cessna, died Monday, Sept. 5, 2005. Visitation 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, with funeral services at 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 9, all at Smith Mortuary, Haysville. Norman was preceded in death by daughter, Linda Doyon and by his parents. Norman was a lifetime member of the Haysville VFW and was also active in the Sons of Union Veterans as a Sr. Vice Commander. He is survived by wife, Patricia; son, Larry Kimrey, Hutchinson; daughter, Lori Kimrey, Wichita; granddaughter, Emylee Doyon. Condolences may be read and sent to www.smithfamilymortuaries.com

well as be part of the National organizations process of conducting business. Next year's national encampment is special, as it will be the 125th Encampment. It will be held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on August 10-13, 2006. Registration information is already available on the national web-site at suvchw.org. Make your plans, now, to attend.



Department of Kansas attendees to the 124th National Encampment shown with the 2005 Grant Trophy, from left to right: PDC Alan L. Russ, Department Commander James R. Knopke with trophy, PDC Thomas E. Schmidt, and delegate Roy A. Lafferty.

124TH NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

August 5 & 6, 2005

Nashua, New Hampshire

Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC

Department Commander James R. Knopke, PDC Alan L. Russ, PDC Thomas E. Schmidt, and Camp 4 Commander Roy A. Lafferty attended the 124th National Encampment of the SUVCW August 4-7, 2005, in Nashua, New Hampshire. It was held at the Crown Plaza Hotel and was hosted by the Department of New Hampshire.

The meeting opened with a joint memorial service of all the Allied Orders on Friday, August 5, followed by a morning and afternoon business session. Saturday, August 6, there were business sessions in the morning and afternoon, along with a well attended Allied Orders Banquet on Saturday evening.

There were two highlights for the Kansas contingent. One was on Friday evening. The group made a presentation to the National Encampment committee on behalf of the Department of Kansas to host a future National encampment. Jim Knopke had done an excellent job of putting together a complete binder of information and details for the committee. The group thought the interview went well and the presentation was well received. Only time will tell if Kansas will host a future SUVCW National Encampment.

The other highlight for the group was during the awards ceremony when the Department of Kansas won the U.S. Grant Trophy for the second year in a row. The award is for the department which has the highest percent of growth during the year. As well as the trophy, another streamer was received for the Department flag indicating the honor. Also, Kansas members Ken Spurgeon, Alan Russ and Craig Sundell, were recognized for their recruiting efforts.

The four-member Kansas delegation enjoyed the opportunity to network with various other departments from across the country, as

NEW MEMBERS

The following are brothers who have joined the Department between July 1, 2005 and September 30, 2005. We extend a hearty "Welcome" to all!

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Roger L. Bailey | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Kenton E. Bell | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Darren L. Biggs | Member | Camp 1, Wichita |
| Larry W. Borman | Member | Camp 1, Wichita |
| Darren L. Crays | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Delbert W. Crays | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Billy J. Earnest | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Jesse E. Earnest | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Jesse L. Earnest | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Rodney G. Earnest | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Harold E. Goss | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Scott L. Heidner | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Dan E. Karr | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| David J. Kunkel | Member | Camp 1, Wichita |
| Brian G. Lawson | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Dee G. Marshall | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Gary G. McIntosh | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Gary J. McIntosh | Junior | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Matthew J. McIntosh | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Raymond C. McIntosh | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Richard E. McIntosh | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Robert L. McIntosh | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Don W. Phillips | Member | Camp 1, Wichita |
| F. Gordess Phillips III | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| James D. Phillips | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| Mark E. Phillips | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| David J. Ryan | Member | Camp 6, Pleasanton |
| James A. Scheidel | Member | Camp 1, Wichita |
| Robert E. Woody II | Associate | Camp 6, Pleasanton |

DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP

Membership as of September 30, 2005:

| | Members | Associates | Juniors | Total |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|----------|------------|
| 01-Corp. Patrick Coyne | 58 | 1 | 1 | 60 |
| 03-Joseph Gaston | 4 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| 04-Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill | 17 | 1 | 2 | 20 |
| 06-Mine Creek | 24 | 2 | 1 | 27 |
| 08-MAL | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 16-Old Abe | 22 | 0 | 0 | 22 |
| Total | 127 | 5 | 4 | 136 |

Dual members are only counted in their primary camp.

CENTRAL REGION ASSOCIATION

**Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic
66th Annual Conference**

October 1, 2005, Lawrence, Kansas



The Department of Kansas hosted the 2005 Central Region Conference of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic on October 1, 2005. The meeting was held in Lawrence, Kansas, at the Holiday Inn Convention Center with Commander C. R. Stephen, Iowa, presiding. Although attendance was down this year, 32 people were in attendance

Saturday morning activities included a tour of the sites in the Lawrence area associated with the infamous Quantrill raid of August 20, 1863. Area historian Deb Goodrich was the tour guide. She also participated in an question and answer session during lunch.

After lunch, Dr. Jay Price, Professor of Public History, Wichita State University presented the topic, "Bridging the Generation Gap." This was followed by the business meeting of the association and election of officers.

The following officers were elected and appointed for the Central Region Association for 2005-2006:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Commander | Merle Rudebusch, Nebraska |
| Senior Vice Commander | Mary L. Fritz, Illinois |
| Junior Vice Commander | Alan L. Russ, Kansas |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Lee Ann Teller, Indiana |
| Chaplain | Robert A. Kennedy, Iowa |
| Patriotic Instructor | Jeff Stephen, Iowa |
| Historian | Alan Teller, Indiana |
| Color Bearer | Arlene Rudebusch, Nebraska |
| Guide | Gilbert Young, Indiana |



L to R: Alan Russ, Gilbert Young, Merle Rudebusch, Mary Fritz, Alan Teller, Lee Ann Teller, Arlene Rudebusch, and Robert Kennedy.

The following members of the Department of Kansas attended the Central Region Conference:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Department Commander James R. Knopke | |
| Randal L. Durbin | Old Abe Camp 16 |
| D. Darrel Gilliland | Old Abe Camp 16 |
| Michael J. Hadl | Sgt. Churchill Camp 4 |
| Paul A. Jefferson | Sgt. Churchill Camp 4 |
| Roy A. Lafferty | Sgt. Churchill Camp 4 |
| PDC Alan L. Russ | Old Abe Camp 16 |
| Ethan A. Schmidt | Corp. Coyne Camp 1 |
| PDC Thomas E. Schmidt | Corp Coyne Camp 1 |
| PDC Kenneth R. Spurgeon | Corp Coyne Camp 1 |
| Robert L. Wandel, | Sgt. Churchill Camp 4 |

The banquet was held that evening, with entertainment being furnished by the "Free Staters." And a good time was had by all.

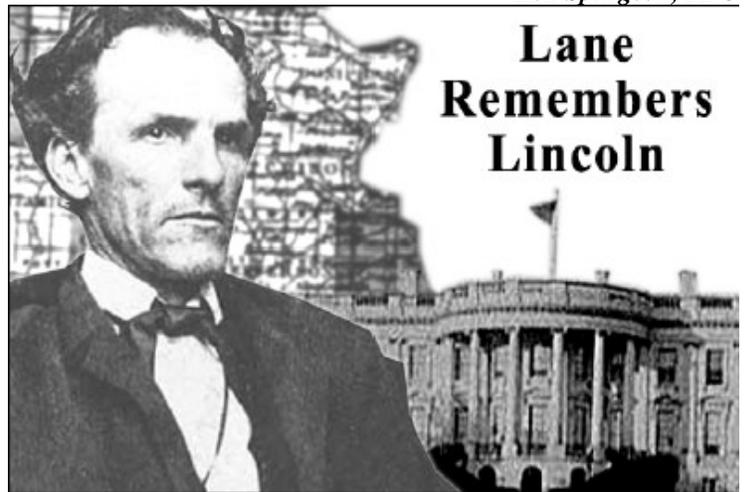


Free Staters Jon and Betsey Goering provided Civil War era music to the banquet attendees.

"LANE REMEMBERS LINCOLN"

**Sponsored by Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1
Saturday, November 12, at 5:30 PM
Wichita, Kansas**

Ken Spurgeon, PDC



Brothers, you will not want to miss Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp's Third Annual "Lincoln Remembered" fundraiser. This year Tim Rues, curator of Constitution Hall, Lecompton, who portrays Jim Lane with the Lecompton Reenactors and in the documentary, "Touched by Fire: Bleeding Kansas," will be appearing as Senator Lane.

(continued on next page)

Jim Lane had a unique connection with President Lincoln, and of course, Lincoln had his eyes on Kansas. After Lincoln's election in 1860, as we all know, secession began. Jim Lane, the incoming U.S. Senator from the new state of Kansas began to organize a host of western men, including many Kansans, to protect the new president as he came to Washington. Lane and his Frontier Guard actually camped out in the White House as the President set up his new administration.

With enemy troops near Washington, Lincoln remembered Lane's action and willingness. Granted, it may have been a bit of bravado, but, still, at that moment Lincoln was looking for supporters who were willing to stand between him and a dividing nation. Jim Lane stepped in quickly and without reserve. Through that encounter, a friendship was born.

Tim Rues will bring that friendship to life in first person as he characterizes the relationship between Kansas' first U.S. Senator and our 16th President. Tim does not simply act when he portrays Jim Lane. Rather, he researches and finds actual speeches that are relevant to the topic. He will be speaking as Jim Lane, remembering Lincoln the way Jim Lane actually memorialized Lincoln. It truly is history revisited.

Come and see this exciting first person portrayal and meet "Jim Lane" – a Kansas original!

The event will be held on November 12th 2005, at the DAV Clubhouse, 3011 George Washington Blvd. Tickets are \$5.00 per person. A pot luck supper will start at 5:30 PM. The program will follow at 6:30 PM.

Contact Tom Schmidt at teschmidt@trane.com for tickets or more information.

CAMP ELECTIONS AND REPORTS

Alan L. Russ, PDC, Secretary

Election and Installation of Officers

Camps are required to hold elections of officers for the 2006 term during a regular meeting of the camp between the first meeting in October and the first meeting in December. Newly elected and appointed officers must be installed at a regular meeting of the camp between the first meeting in November and the first meeting in January. Officers will be installed by the Department Commander or his designated representative. [Chapter I, Art. IV, Sec. 2 & 3, *SUVCW Reg.*] As such, if your camp has not already confirmed the time, date, and place of the installation of officers with the Department Commander, this must be done, immediately. Commander Knopke desires to personally install the officers of as many of the camps as is possible.

Annual Audit of Camp Funds

The Camp Council is required to examine the books and funds of the camp and to render a report at the end of each calendar year. The three elected Council members will be required to certify that this has been accomplished on the Form 22, as indicated below. [Chapter I, Art. VI, Sec. 3, *SUVCW Reg.*]

Submission of Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers (Form 22)

The National Form 22 is to be completed to indicate the newly elected and appointed officers for the camp. The Camp Council members are required to sign the form and indicate the date they audited the camp financial accounts. This form is then signed by the installing officer, the incoming camp commander and the secretary. The installing officer is to ensure the completed form is sent to

arrive at the Department Secretary no later than 14 days after the date of installation. [Chapter I, Art. IV, Sec. 3, *SUVCW Reg.*]

AN ORDER FROM PRESIDENT LINCOLN

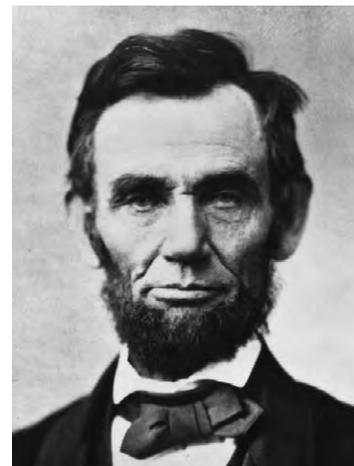
GENERAL ORDER

RESPECTING THE OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH DAY IN THE ARMY AND NAVY

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

Washington, November 15, 1862

The President, Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, desires and enjoins the orderly observance of the Sabbath by the officers and men in the military and naval service. The importance for men and beast of the prescribed weekly rest, the sacred rights of Christian soldiers and sailors, a becoming deference to the best sentiment of a Christian people, and a due regard for the divine will demand that Sunday labor in the Army and Navy be reduced to the measure of strict necessity.



The discipline and character of the national forces should not suffer nor the cause they defend be imperiled by the profanation of the day or name of the Most High. "At this time of public distress," adopting the words of Washington in 1776, "men may find enough to do in the service of God and their country without abandoning themselves to vice and immorality." The first general order issued by the Father of his Country after the Declaration of Independence indicates the spirit in which our institutions were founded and should ever be defended:

The General hopes and trusts that every officer and man will endeavor to live and act as becomes a Christian soldier defending the dearest rights and liberties of his country.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Source: <http://www.wallbuilders.com/resources/search/detail.php?ResourceID=78>

IT WASN'T ALWAYS EASY

From February 1, 1902, Lawrence, Kansas newspaper:

G.A.R. Condemns

Lawrence, Kansas, Feb. 1, 1902

Whereas, To our deepest mortification and chagrin as comrades of the Grand Army we are forced to acknowledge the outrageous conduct of our department commander, M. Norton, on the occasion of a state public function, to-wit, the installation of the officers of the Abilene Post and Relief Corps he was so disgracefully and beastly drunk that he could neither perform his duties nor with decency be allowed in the hall. Also, upon other occasions, notably at the National Encampment at Cleveland, Ohio, and we feel in duty as a Post to put ourselves on record in the matter. And,

Whereas, The Abilene Post, No. 63, feeling deeply the disgrace, as did every other Post in the department, took prompt action in preferring charges against the honored offender, citing him to a court martial. And,

Whereas, Pending the findings of said court the national commander-in-chief promptly suspended said officer from the exercises of his high office. And, whereas, It appears that anticipating the inevitable result of such trial under the very

provoking circumstances, the said Norton has tendered his resignation as department commander. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That Washington Post No. 12 emphatically endorse the action of Abilene Post No. 63, also the prompt response of our worthy commander-in-chief and the Council of Administration of the Department of Kansas; and that while we deplore each measure, as well as the occasion for them, against our department commander, we feel in his resignation we are deeply relieved, and that he has made thereby doubtless the best resolution possible.

Resolved further, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded by the adjutant to Abilene Post, the commander-in-chief, the Council of Administration, and also to the city papers for publication.

Wm. H. Lemon,
F.A. Myers,
Samuel Palmer

At a regular meeting of Washington Post No. 12, held February 1, the foregoing resolutions were adopted.

Will R. Smith, Post Commander
S. J. Churchill, Adjutant

Ed. Note – The above listed Adjutant, S. J. Churchill, is the namesake for the current Lawrence SUVCW camp. Article submitted by Kathy & Roy Lafferty.

 **From the Patriotic Instructor**

Craig A. Sundell, PCC

From the United States Code –

**TITLE 4--FLAG AND SEAL, SEAT OF GOVERNMENT,
AND THE STATES
CHAPTER 1--THE FLAG**

Sec. 4. Pledge of allegiance to the flag; manner of delivery

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.", should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.

**TITLE 36--PATRIOTIC AND NATIONAL OBSERVANCES,
CEREMONIES, AND ORGANIZATIONS**

**Subtitle I--Patriotic and National Observances and Ceremonies
Part A--Observances and Ceremonies**

**CHAPTER 3--NATIONAL ANTHEM, MOTTO, FLORAL
EMBLEM, AND MARCH**

Sec. 301. National anthem

(a) Designation.--The composition consisting of the words and music known as the Star-Spangled Banner is the national anthem.

(b) Conduct During Playing.--During a rendition of the national anthem--

(1) when the flag is displayed--

(A) all present except those in uniform should stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart;

(B) men not in uniform should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold the headdress at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart; and

(C) individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note; and

(2) when the flag is not displayed, all present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed.

Sec. 302. National motto

"In God we trust" is the national motto.

Sec. 303. National floral emblem

The flower commonly known as the rose is the national floral emblem.

Sec. 304. National march

The composition by John Philip Sousa entitled "The Stars and Stripes Forever" is the national march.



From the Memorials Officer

Douglas E. McGovern, PCC

**Kansas Civil War
Memorial/Monument
Catalog**

The current listing (as of 24 July, 2005) is now part of the Department of Kansas website. 114 monuments and memorials have been identified, located, photographed, and logged into the web data base. Twenty-six are listed, but research, photography, and/or logging have not yet been completed. Two are identified as lost, and five related monuments are listed. Forty-nine Kansas counties (of the total of 105) do not have any monuments currently identified.

Recent input, not yet cataloged, has been received from several sources, adding at least another twenty-five future entries. An update will be posted before the end of the year.

Now is the time to submit your vacation photos!

Doug McGovern

Civil War Memorials Officer



Civil War Monument in Clay Center



From the Graves Registration Officer

Franklin C. Bergquist, PDC

GRAVE STONES

We all know that the VA will furnish a headstone for a veteran, but what about non veterans? Have you seen headstones for other Civil War "Participants" such as nurses, sutlers, etc? If you can supply documentation that indicates service to the military that is the equivalent of active duty, the VA may make a determination to issue a headstone. This is not an easy procedure, but it can be done.

CLEANING GRAVESTONES:

Before cleaning any stone, carefully check its condition. If the surface readily falls away, or you notice other conditions that indicate the stone is brittle or vulnerable, do not clean it. Cleaning may irreparably damage the surface. Do no harm to the stone. Don't clean without permission. Make a complete record of all of the markings prior to the start of the cleaning.

The Cleaning Process

Pre-wet the stone thoroughly with clean water and keep the stone wet during the entire washing process.

Thoroughly wash the wet stone using natural bristled, wooden handled brushes of various sizes. The use of plastic handles is not recommended, as color from the handles may leave material on the stone that will be very difficult to remove. Don't use any thing other than water. You may do more harm than good with your cleaning.

Be thorough. Wash all surfaces and rinse thoroughly with lots of clean water.

When cleaning marble or limestone, only, one tablespoon of household ammonia can be added to the water to help remove some greases and oils. Do not use ammonia on or near any bronze or other metal elements.

Lichens and algae can be removed by first thoroughly soaking the stone and then using a wooden scraper to gently remove the biological growth. This process may need to be repeated several times. Don't use anything other than water and a wood scraper. A package of wooden shims or even tongue depressors works wonders.

Not all stains can be removed. Do not expect the stones to appear new after cleaning.

Every cleaning removes some of the face of the stone. However, occasionally rinsing with clean water to remove bird droppings and other accretions is acceptable.

Keep a simple treatment record of the cleaning, including date of cleaning, materials used and any change in condition since last cleaning (such as missing parts, graffiti and other damage). These records should be kept at a central location where the condition of the stones can be monitored over time.

Franklin C. Bergquist, Graves Registration Officer

✠ From the Chaplain

Robert L. Wandel

Medal of Honor Recipient CHAPLAIN JOHN M. WHITEHEAD

In the continuing story of chaplains during the Civil War, three chaplains received the Medal of Honor for their actions during the war. This is the story of why one of them received such an honor, as taken from the official records. Topeka Cemetery in Topeka, Kansas, is the final resting place for the Rev. John M. Whitehead, one of those three Civil War chaplains.

Chaplain John M. Whitehead served with the 15th Indiana Infantry. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for action on December 30, 1862, at Stone River, Tennessee. The details of the events justifying the award are as follows:

" ON THE night of December 30, 1862, my regiment, the Fifteenth Indiana, was ordered to cross Stone River, at the ford. The command was obeyed, but as we advanced up the hill on the opposite side, we met the enemy in force, and, countermarching, recrossed the river. Here we bivouacked. Early the next morning our colonel passed along the officers' lines and said: 'Get your men up. Our pickets are falling back. The enemy is advancing.'

" In a second we were all astir, and at the dawn of day the bloody battle of Stone River commenced.

" Our Position was between Stone River on our left and the railroad and turnpike on our right, and directly in front of Breckenridge's Corps. The firing from the Confederate batteries was terrible and very destructive.

"Colonel G. A. Wood, who commanded our regiment, was ordered to hold our position on the left, nearest to the river, at all hazards. Three times he charged Jackson's Brigade and three times put the enemy to flight, capturing a greater number of prisoners than there were men in our own command when we went into battle. But this was accomplished only with a fearful loss of life. Of my own

regiment every alternate man was either killed or wounded. Though a non-combatant, I was with my regiment during the entire battle, comforting the dying, carrying off the wounded and caring for them.

" During the struggle Captain Templeton fell, fatally wounded. I carried him to the rear and remained at his side, until he breathed his last. I copied his last message and sent it to his friends at home. My own next-door neighbor in Westville, Ind., Captain J. N. Forster, dropped mortally wounded into my arms, the same ball killing two other brave soldiers.

" Colonel I. C. B. Suman, of the Ninth Indiana, was shot twice, one ball severing the artery in the arm, the other penetrating the body and lodging between two ribs, whence I pulled it out.

" One boot was filled with blood and he was bleeding his life away. I dressed his wounds and helped him on his horse and he rode back into the raging battle. John Long, a private, had one leg shot to pieces. He cut the dangling limb off with his pocketknife and hobbled off using his gun for a crutch, until I took him up and carried him to the rear. Calvin Zenner of Company G, received a fatal wound. I carried him back. A number of soldiers gathered around the comrade and I offered a prayer for him. He talked to all of us and said: " Now boys, let us all at once more sing a song together.' And he struck up the hymn, 'O sing to Me of Heaven.' Then he said: Good-bye boys, I am going home. I am mustered out.' And he closed his eyes and ceased to breathe. After nightfall, when both armies were quiet along the front lines, I helped to bring the wounded to the general hospital, carrying those who could not walk on my shoulder to the ambulance."

Chaplain John M. Whitehead who furnishes the foregoing vivid pen picture from the horrors, modestly omit to mention that he helped many hundreds of wounded soldiers, brought comfort and solace to a great number of dying and preached at many a hero's grave.

Colonel I. C. B. Suman says of him:

"I was severely wounded at the battle of Stone River. When Chaplain Whitehead gave me his assistance, he was all besmeared with the blood of the wounded he had cared for. He seemed to be an angel among the wounded, Yankees and Johnnies alike. He thought nothing of the danger he was in, caring for the wounded, looking after the dead, directing and assisting their burial. I came in contact with many chaplains during my long service in the army and can truthfully state, that Rev. John M. Whitehead was the most worthy one that ever came under my notice. In camp, on the march, and on the field of battle, especially that of Stone River, his services were performed admirably, and without the hope of reward or promotion."

Source: Deeds of Valor, p. 125



Gravesite of Rev. John M. Whitehead at Topeka Cemetery (Section 56, Lot 27).



From the Junior Vice Commander

James A. Scheidel, Jr.

Brothers, we are a growing department. We have established a new camp at Mine Creek, and another is in the process of forming in

Olathe. Our Wichita Camp, of which I have the honor to serve as Commander, has recently reached and surpassed its camp recruiting goal of 50 members, and we are poised to reach the 60 member mark. No doubt about it, the Department of Kansas is experiencing a resurgence. Thank you to all who have worked so diligently recruiting new members and establishing new camps. Recruiting is an ongoing process – it never stops. That’s why we need to continue our efforts. I recently received a letter from Brother Charles E. Kuhn, Jr., National Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, challenging the Departmental JVC’s to focus on recruiting and retention efforts. “If we can get each camp to gain five new members per year while retaining those that were dropped for nonpayment of dues, then the order will grow exponentially.” I know five new members and retaining those we have is a big challenge, but, if we work as a department, I believe we can be successful and reach this goal. In the near future I will be contacting all of our Camp Junior Vice Commanders in an effort to share ideas and information that has worked for the Wichita Camp to recruit and retain members. If any brother has any suggestions or ideas which he believes would benefit our efforts, please contact me at jlscheidel@cox.net or (316)733-4667.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

James A. Scheidel, Jr., JVC, Dept of Kansas

 **From the Senior Vice Commander**

Randal L. Durbin

Brothers,

Since the last issue of the Sunflower Picket I’m please to report that I attended the Dedication of the Benteen Bridge at Mine Creek. It was encouraging to see the number of Department members attending the ceremony. The ceremony was well planned and very appropriate for the occasion.

Following the dedication, I met with the Department Commander, Secretary/Treasurer and Arnold Schofield about organizing a SUVCW camp at Mine Creek. An information meeting was scheduled for August 13, and the camp now has 15 members. A meeting was held on Sunday, September 18, at the Visitors Center to officially install the new camp. There is a lot of enthusiasm in this camp with a lot of quality individuals as part of the membership. I am very excited about the prospects for this camp and look forward to seeing it grow and the activities it can come up with.

Respectfully submitted,

Randal L. Durbin, SVC, Dept of Ks

 **The Commander’s Corner**

James R. Knopke, PCC

The “Dogs Days of Summer” are behind us as we move into fall, and I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer. Fall brings us with the Mine Creek Bridge project completed, except for paying it off. If you are feeling flush, please make your checks out to SUVCW KS, and send to Alan Russ, P.O. Box 68, Auburn, KS 66402. Your Department would appreciate it. Mine Creek Camp 6 (Mine Creek) is up and running, Franklin Camp 5 (Olathe) and should be up and running in a month or two. There is even some interest in Leavenworth for starting a camp, also, some of our existing Camps



have been busy recruiting new members. The Department of Kansas is growing, and for those of you who have helped in some way, your efforts are noted and your Department thanks you.

I would like to share two things that happened to me in the month of August. One took place on our vacation, and one took place once we got home. Our vacation was a long and exciting trip – 3,400 miles in 10 days. Well, if we were going to travel to Nashua, New Hampshire, for the National Encampment, we might as well make the best of it. So, with Barbara, my wife, and Jennifer, my daughter, we headed to Nashua via the southern route. First stop was to see a cousin of mine and his wife; Amand & Margaret Cochener, of Roanoke, VA. Amand is the one that had all the information on my great grandfather, Conrad Bockmier. He was very eager to share it with me, and for that I will always be in his debt. Amand is a grandson of Conrad’s. We spent a few days there visiting and were treated like royalty. Southern hospitality was at full throttle. It was hard to say goodbye to them when we left, but we hope to see them next year when we return for the 125th National Encampment.

From there, Barb and I took Jennifer to Harpers Ferry, Antietam, and Gettysburg Battlefields. With Conrad having been at the two battles, we wanted Jennifer to see where his regiment, the 64th New York, crossed the corn field at Antietam to keep the Confederates from crossing “Bloody Lane,” and at the “Wheat Fields” at Gettysburg. At Gettysburg I had Barb take a picture of Jennifer and me at the monument the 64th New York – the same place I have a picture of Conrad from the 30th anniversary of the battle. That night we stayed in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and went to The National Civil War Museum, the site of next year’s National Encampment Banquet. More on the museum later.

The next day it was West Point, New York. We had a beautiful drive into the army base following the Hudson River. Barb has a great, great, great, great, great uncle, John Dittermore, buried there. John served in the Revolutionary War and, like a lot of soldiers, died of disease during the war. There at West Point he was buried in a mass grave, and then years later all remains were moved to graves marked unknown. He died there many years ago trying to free our young nation. We were humbled to be there and to pay our respects to someone who has not had anyone do that for him in the last two hundred years.

CAMP NEWS

CORP. PATRICK COYNE CAMP 1, Wichita

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

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.

At the June 2005 meeting, Corp. Coyne Camp finalized some details for their annual fundraiser “Lincoln Remembered” to be held Saturday, Nov. 12. They also decided to assemble next May 2006 for their monthly meeting at Brother Marine Wolfe’s Civil War ancestor’s grave in Andover, Kansas, for a ceremony in honor of Memorial Day. Also at the meeting three new camp members, Harold Skelton, John Skelton, and Larry Skelton, were inducted.

The camp did not meet in July or August, but at their September 22, meeting author Robert Collins presented a program on his new

book about General James G. Blunt. The \$5 tickets for "Lincoln Remembered" were distributed for members to sell, as well as final plans being made for the event. Since the June meeting, the camp has had seven new members join, and a number of them were inducted at the September meeting.

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.

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.

First, I would like to thank those who made this year's Civil War on the Western Frontier a success. For the second year we have been involved, our lectures were the best attended of all that were held at Watkins Museum. We had about 70 attend each lecture and received donations for our project of putting flags on graves of Civil War veterans, as well as names of prospective members.

Bob Wandel is at it again. He is continuing to greatly expand our list of local Civil War graves. He has added at least 100 more to his list, and on October 8th our camp will sweep Oak Hill Cemetery looking for veterans without military stones.

Roy Lafferty
Camp Commander

FRANKLIN CAMP 5, Olathe

- Camp Commander James M. Converse
Senior Vice Commander Matthew G. Toll
Junior Vice Commander William D. Stilley
Secretary/Treasurer Everette T. Sitzman

Franklin Camp 5 has been busy preparing to go "on line". The final organizational meeting was held on September 19, 2005, with Department Commander James R. Knopke filling in for Camp Organizer Craig Sundell, who was out of town. Applications for membership were reviewed, additional applications were received, and dues and fees were collected.

Temporary camp officers were selected and elected, with the request that those so elected would be willing to serve not only for the remainder of 2005, but, also for the 2006 term. All were in agreement.

The camp then made plans for their October meeting, at which time the camp will be officially installed within the Department of Kansas. The installation will be at 7 PM on Monday, October 17, 2005. The meeting will be held at the Olathe City Offices, 100 E. Main Street, Olathe, Kansas. Department Officers and other members of the Department are encouraged to attend.

The camp is anticipating starting out with at least 15 members, associates, and juniors. Additional applications are still being accepted. If you need further information contact Commander James R. Knopke at the following:

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 Arnold W. Schofield
Senior Vice Commander Jeff D. Finn
Junior Vice Commander Kenton E. Bell
Secretary/Treasurer Robert E. Woody II

Camp meetings are held at the Mine Creek Battlefield Visitor Center, at 1 PM on the third Sunday of each month.

Our efforts to organize Mine Creek Camp 6 continue. We held an informational/organizational meeting Saturday, August 13, at which time we planned the meeting for the installation of the camp to be at the Visitors Center on Sunday, September 18.

The camp was installed on September 18 with a total of 29 brothers assigned to the camp. The membership consists of 22 new members, one new associate, one new junior, two transfer members, one transfer associate, and two dual members. We anticipate additional members in the near future.

We look forward to the activities and growth of this camp. This is an unique camp for the Department of Kansas, with a lot of potential projects to honor the veterans of the Civil War.

Respectfully submitted,
Randal L. Durbin, Camp Organizer



Some of the new members of Mine Creek Camp 6: Front row (left to right) Brian Lawson, Camp Organizer Randal L Durbin, Gary G. McIntosh, Dee Marshall, Kenton Bell, and Delbert Crays. Back row (left to right) Robert McIntosh, Darren Crays, Dave Ryan, Jeff Finn, Robert Woody, and Jesse L. Earnest.

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.

Currently, Col. John A. Martin Camp 8 (MAL) has a total of two members assigned to it. When the Olathe camp is installed, the last two members assigned to the MAL will be transferred to that camp. At that point, the Department will fulfill its intention to have all members of the Department belong to a regular camp within the Department.

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.

In June the camp initiated Brother Jim McHenry. Jim works at the Topeka Library, and we look forward to his participation in our camp.

We conducted two cemetery projects since the last issue of the Sunflower Picket.

Again, in July our equipment failed after raising two or three stones. Brother Baker took the clamp and had it repaired for the next month's project. Randy Thies, Rick Baker, Darrel Gilliland, and Randy Durbin met on Saturday, September 3rd. We had a very successful day raising and straightening nine stones without an equipment malfunction (halleluiah). Hopefully we can have success like this in our future projects.

LADIES OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC (LGAR)

Benjamin F. Stephenson of Decatur, Illinois organized the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) April 6, 1866. Their first convention was held on November 20, 1866 in Indianapolis, Indiana. In 1882 Commander in Chief of the GAR, Paul Vandervoort, of Nebraska, requested a hearing for the purpose of starting an Auxiliary to the GAR. At the opening of the hearing, July 26, 1883, in Denver, Colorado, emphasis was placed on the statement that the new organization of Loyal Ladies League would be considered the Auxiliary to the GAR and receive its official recognition. A strenuous debate ensued concerning eligibility. The Women's Relief Corps wished to accept all women to membership and the Loyal Ladies League wanted to limit membership to blood relations. The final vote went to the Women's Relief Corps. In November 1886, the Loyal Ladies League changed their name to Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR) and struck the words "Auxiliary to the GAR." History shows that the Loyal Ladies League was the first love of the GAR and all through the years the GAR refused to permit any other organization to use their name. That honor was reserved for the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Grand Army of the Republic is gone now, but the work of the LGAR goes on. We remain dedicated to preserving the memory of the patriots of this nation; perpetuating the ideals of this republic for which they offered their lives, and guarding the results, which are secured to us by their sacrifices. We honor the memory of those who preserved our republic by keeping sacred "Memorial Day". We believe in teaching patriotism and good citizenship to our children. We provide many hours and dollars to community activities involving veterans, their families, veterans' homes, elderly care, and the church. We now work along side of Sons the Union Veterans of the Civil War and would love to have you join us. Membership is open to female descendants, and legally adopted daughters, ten (10) years of age or over, of honorably discharged Union soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, 1861 to 1865, and ex-army nurses of that War, are also eligible to membership. For more information contact Barbara Knopke at KSLGAR@yahoo.com or call (913)422-4953.



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 4
SERIES 2005-2006

SEPTEMBER 6, 2005

DEPARTMENT FALL COUNCIL MEETING

1. The Department Fall Council Meeting will be held on Saturday, November 19, 2005, at 1 PM. The meeting will be held at the Kansas State Historical Society, 6425 SW 6th Avenue, Topeka, Kansas.
2. All elected Department Officers and the Immediate Past Department Commander are voting members and should plan to attend.
3. All appointed Department Officers are non-voting members at the meeting and should plan to attend.
4. All camp commanders are encouraged to attend to represent your camp.
5. All Past Department Commanders are non-voting members and are invited to attend.
6. All other brothers of the Department are also welcome to attend the meeting.
7. A preliminary agenda will be sent to attendees on or about November 1, 2005.

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 5
SERIES 2005-2006

SEPTEMBER 18, 2005

INSTALLATION OF MINE CREEK CAMP NO. 6

1. It is my great pleasure as Department Commander to announce the installation of MINE CREEK CAMP NO. 6 as an active camp within the Department of Kansas. Installation of the camp is effective this date, subject to final approval by the Commander in Chief, SUVCW.

2. As such, I commend the efforts of all involved in the process, including:
 - Randal L. Durbin, Camp Organizer, for carrying the load to make bring it all together.

Arnold W. Schofield and John H. Spencer, Mine Creek Camp 6, for encouraging and supporting the forming of the new camp, and providing a meeting place at the battlefield.

The newly elected officers of the camp, for stepping up and taking a leadership role to ensure the future success of the camp.

Earl T. McIntosh, Old Abe Camp 16/Mine Creek Camp 6, for recruiting six new Members and one new Junior, for a total of seven new brothers for the camp and the department.

2. It is through the efforts of all the brothers of the Department of Kansas that we have realized much success in growth within the Department, as exemplified by the installation of Mine Creek Camp No. 6. Thank you to all for your support.

IN FRATERNITY, CHARITY, AND LOYALTY,

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

ATTEST:

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

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES

**Department of Kansas
Tenth Annual Department Encampment
April 22, 2006
Topeka, Kansas**

The Department of Kansas will be holding its Tenth Annual Department Encampment on Saturday, April 22, 2006, at the Kansas State Historical Society in Topeka. Old Abe Camp 16 is the host camp for the encampment.

Please put this date on your calendar, and begin making plans to attend. It is anticipated that the encampment will follow the same format as has been used the last several years, with a lunch available and a guest speaker. The business meeting will be held in the afternoon. Again, the Ladies of the GAR will be holding their Department Encampment in conjunction with ours.

**125th National Encampment
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
August 10 through 13, 2006
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania**

In addition to this being the 125th National Encampment of the SUVCW, all other Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic will be holding their National Encampments with us. This will be the first time in over 50 years all orders have come together at the same time for their encampments.

The host hotel is the Hilton Harrisburg Towers in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Allied Orders combined banquet will be held at the National Civil War Museum.

In addition to the business meeting of the Order, activities include a tour of the Gettysburg Battlefield (minimum charge per person), 50th anniversary rededication of the GAR Memorial on the Gettysburg Battlefield (no charge – transportation provided), the Friday evening campfire, and the combined Allied Orders banquet.

There is a lot of Civil War related sites to see within a short distance of Harrisburg. Be sure to plan a little extra time before or after the encampment to take advantage of the area.

It is not too early to start planning. For additional information, watch upcoming issues of the Banner. You may also contact one of the Department Officers for additional information.

**Central Region Association
Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic
67th Annual Conference
October 7, 2006, Cedar Rapids, Iowa**

The Department of Iowa will be hosting the 67th Annual Conference of the Central Region Association (CRA), Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic. This meeting will be held on Saturday, October 7, 2006.

The Central Region Conference provides an opportunity to meet and have discussions with the members of the Allied Orders who are your neighbors. It provides a great opportunity discuss and learn from common problems, along with working toward common solutions. We believe the CRA is rapidly getting to the a place where it will be better able to help its member departments and orders.

The conference will be held at the Marriott, Cedar Rapids, located at 1200 Collins Road NE. This is the same hotel where the 2004 National Encampment of the SUVCW was held.

Additional information will be coming at a later time.

IN HONOR OF...



*GAR Monument
Olathe Cemetery
Olathe, Kansas*



*GAR Monument
Minneapolis Cemetery
Minneapolis, Kansas*



*Civil War and GAR
Memorial
Concordia Cemetery
Concordia, Kansas*

Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic

Thanks to the wonderful growth the Department of Kansas has experienced in the last couple of years, our readers may not be fully aware of what is being talked about when we mention the "Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic." This refers to the five organizations recognized in various capacities by and through the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR).

The five Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic are:



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) is the legal heir to the GAR. The SUVCW is an hereditary organization for male descendant of Union soldiers, sailors, and marines who served during the Civil War. Both direct and collateral ancestry is accepted. Associates without Civil War ancestry may join up to certain limitation. This is the only male Allied Order.

Auxiliary to the SUVCW (ASUVCW), has its unique relation to the SUVCW as the auxiliary to the SUVCW. The ASUVCW is not only an hereditary organization for female descendants (direct and collateral) of Union soldiers, sailors, and marines who served during the Civil War, but it also includes in its membership the wives, mothers, daughter, and adopted daughters of SUVCW members.



Womens Relief Corps (WRC), was the official auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic. Civil War ancestry is not a requirement for membership. The WRC currently has the smallest membership of all of the Allied Orders, with National membership at approximately 700 members.

Daughters of the Civil War, 1861-1865 (DUVCW) is also an hereditary organization for female descendants of Union soldiers, sailors, and marines who served during the Civil War. The DUVCW membership is unique among the Allied Orders in that membership is limited to direct ancestry, only.



Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR). See the article on page 9 of this newsletter for information about the LGAR.

THE LAST WORD

Alan L. Russ, PDC, Editor

2005 Fall Council Meeting

The 2005 Fall Council Meeting is being held Saturday, November 19, 2005, in Topeka. See Department Order 4, in this issue, for details.

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 five days earlier than by mail, and the pictures will be in **color**. The Department will save printing costs and postage (\$1.50 per copy printed and mailed).

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 do.

Next Issue

The Winter issue will be mailed by January 3, 2006. If you do not 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 **December 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



GAR memorial postcard from early 1900's.