



The Sunflower Picket



Recipient of the 2006 Marshall Hope Award for Best Department Newsletter

www.suvcwks.org

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

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125th National Encampment Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War held its 125th Annual Encampment in August 2006 at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Department of Kansas was represented by six brothers: Department Commander Randal L. Durbin, PDC Alan L. Russ (also Department Secretary), PDC James R. Knopke, Department SVC Roy A. Lafferty, Department JVC Craig A. Sundell, and Robert L. Wandel. This is the first National encampment where all of the primary elected Department officers were able to attend since the Department was reformed in 1996.

James Pahl, Department of Michigan, was elected as the Commander-in-Chief of the SUVCW for the upcoming year, Charles Kuhn, Department of Pennsylvania, was elected as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, and David Medert, Department of Ohio, was elected as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. From a local point of interest, Alan Russ was reappointed as National Membership at Large Coordinator.

All in attendance had a good experience. As most of the activities of the encampment will be covered in the next issue of the Banner, they will not be covered here.

It is not too early to begin planning to attend the 2007 National Encampment in Saint Louis, Missouri. With the encampment being this close to home, it is an excellent chance for those of you who have never had the opportunity to see the workings of the Order in action to do so. The Department elects its National delegates at the Department Encampment in April; however, if a brother later finds out he can attend, the Department Commander can approve the delegate status. So, start preparing for it, now.



Department of Kansas attendees (from l. to r.): Commander Randal L. Durbin, JVC Craig A. Sundell, PDC James R. Knopke, SVC Roy A. Lafferty, PDC Alan L. Russ, and our dual member from Pennsylvania, Ray Longacre. Not pictured: Robert L. Wandel.

DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP

Membership as of Sep 30, 2006:

	Members	Assoc.	Juniors	Total
01-Corp. Coyne	65	1	1	67
03-Joseph Gaston	4	1	0	5
04-Sgt. Churchill	20	3	0	23
05-Franklin	19	3	5	27
06-Mine Creek	14	2	0	16
16-Old Abe	22	0	0	22
Total	144	10	6	160

Dual members are only reported in their primary camp.

NEW MEMBERS

The following members have joined the Department of Kansas between June 1, 2006, and September 30, 2006.

Name	Camp
Brooks, Robert M. (Member)	Camp 4, Lawrence
Carter, Richard B. (Member)	Camp 4, Lawrence
Lawrence, Brent A. (Member)	Camp 5, Olathe
Lawrence, Wade A. (Junior)	Camp 5, Olathe
Smith, Lane D. (Member)	Camp 5, Olathe
Sullivan, Robert M. (Member)	Camp 5, Olathe

LAST SOLDIER PROJECT & GAR RECORDS

By Blair D. Tarr

Since the last newsletter a few more leads have come in for Last Soldiers across the state. As it turns out, some of those solid leads have replaced what appeared to be solid leads, showing clear evidence that this project will need a little time for research.

But now there are only 15 counties where I am lacking any kind of a lead whatsoever. I am going to list those counties here so, if anyone has a suggestion of a contact in those counties, I'll be happy to receive it: Atchison, Doniphan, Ellsworth, Greeley, Johnson, Kearny, Meade, Norton, Pawnee, Scott, Seward, Stanton, Stevens, Thomas, and Wallace.

And as an aside, I seem to have five names as possibilities for Sedgwick County at the moment. If any of our brothers in that area has a name that looks pretty good for the last veteran to die in the county and/or be buried in the county, I would appreciate it.

As for the Records side, I would like to encourage some volunteerism. At the Kansas State Historical Society there are numerous GAR post records and rosters that we need to put in order so that they can be accessed online. We have been encouraging Old Abe Camp members to volunteer for this duty, but there is no reason other Department of Kansas members cannot take part in this.

Yes, that's right, thanks to the miracle of computers, it is possible to send copies of the material out to you, and you can transcribe it in the comfort of your own home at your own computer. And it will be a big help in making these records more accessible to the public for research.

If you are interested, I would ask you to contact my colleague in the KSHS Library, Michael Church. Michael has been working with the records, and can tell you much more about what needs to be done than I can. He can be contacted at 785 / 272-8681, extension 283, or e-mailed at mchurch@kshs.org.

"LINCOLN REMEMBERED"

Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1

2006 Fundraiser

November 18, 2006

The annual "Lincoln Remembered" fundraiser for the Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1 will be held on Saturday, November 18 at the DAV Clubhouse, 3011 S. George Washington Blvd., Wichita. The event will start at 5:30 PM with a buffet style dinner with food provided by the camp members. (Continued)

This year's guest will be author Tom Goodrich speaking about his latest book on Abraham Lincoln called "Darkest Dawn". Of added interest will be the unveiling of the camp's new SUVCW camp flag that was purchased in memory of deceased members Ken Strader and Norm Kimrey. Tickets are only \$5. They can be purchased at the door or contact Tom Schmidt at teschmidt@trane.com.

The following is from the National SUVCW website. It is not too early to begin thinking about awards for the ROTC/JROTC units in your area.

The ROTC/JROTC Award

Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force WHY WE HONOR ROTC/JROTC CADETS

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Preamble reads –

We, the descendants of soldiers, sailors, or marines who served in the Army or Navy of the United States of America during the War of the Rebellion of 1861 to 1865, have formed this patriotic and fraternal Order, for the purpose and objects in this Constitution set forth; and in so doing pledge ourselves to commemorate our fathers' deeds; to render loyal service to our Country, and to promote the maintenance of unqualified American citizenship with respect for and honor to the flag.

By honoring deserving cadets, we help promote the maintenance of unqualified American citizenship because it will be these young people who will eventually serve in our Nation's military, under the flag our forefathers fought to preserve.

Our Purpose and Objects include –

... to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war; to teach patriotism, and the duties of citizenship, the true history of our country, and the love and honor of our Flag; to oppose every tendency or movement that would weaken loyalty to, or make for the destruction or impairment of our constitutional Union; and to inculcate and broadly sustain the American principles of representative government, of equal rights, and of impartial justice for all.

We believe it is right to award those who have stepped forward to accept the challenge of leadership in defending our Nation's flag, principles and freedoms. By honoring those who serve today, we show our respect for those who have served in all other wars in the past.

CRITERIA FOR RECEIVING AWARD

Our definition of a deserving cadet is one that *shows a high degree of patriotism to his/her Nation and has demonstrated a high degree of academic performance and leadership.*

Camps and Departments are encouraged to work with their local ROTC/JROTC units in determining any additional requirements that may be used to determine a "deserving cadet." *Our program is set up to honor one deserving cadet per ROTC/JROTC unit.*

HOW OUR PROGRAM WORKS

Please note that the ROTC/JROTC AWARD **MUST** be sponsored by a Camp or Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.



ROTC/JROTC units are encouraged to contact a Camp (local chapter) or Department (State) to inquire about the award, but participation will still be left to the voluntary discretion of the Camp or Department. Each award comes with a full-color certificate of commendation.

APPLICATION FORM: Form 7: Application for ROTC Award



Historian

Kenneth R. Spurgeon, PDC

"For God and Country"

The Lives of

Christian & Elise Dubach Isely.

The story of our country's history is replete with details about our leaders and the difficult decisions they have had to make. When I teach, I, like all historians discuss and hold my students accountable for critically understanding those decisions.

As challenging as leadership is, no political or military leader succeeds without the efforts and devotion of his men. As Abraham Lincoln once commented, "Common looking people are the best in the world: that is the reason the Lord makes so many of them." The backbone of our freedom is the efforts of the common man or woman. One such "common" couple was Christian Isely and his wife Elise Dubach Isely.



Christian and Elise were both born in Switzerland in 1828 and 1842 respectively. Christian's family came in 1831 to Ohio. Elise's family came to St. Joseph, Missouri in 1854 with the intent of settling in the new Kansas territory. Two weeks after Elise's arrival in St. Joseph, Missouri, her mother suddenly died. Elise commented in her diary that with her mother's death she buried her childhood and became the mother of the home. Over the next few years, Elise would witness first hand the tremendous discontent along the border. She also witnessed on the streets of St. Joseph, slave auctions including one in which a mother was sold from her child. Elise wrote that the mother "screamed lamentations" as the child was removed from her. Elise went on to say that she felt helpless as she watched from her home and that she joined this poor woman in "screaming lamentations and tears."

Christian's family and youth was very different. He grew up in Holmes County, Ohio. At the age of 21, he struck out for the west, living in St. Joseph, Missouri, and soon attempted to settle in southeastern Nebraska.

Isely, along with some others, started a settlement in Richardson County, and a creek named Easily after Isely still exists. By the late 1850s, Christian had returned to St. Joseph, and it was there in 1860 that he happened upon the 18 year old Elise who was working at her uncle's boarding house. The couple courted and married in May, 1861. Christian wrote a lengthy and stirring letter to new president Abraham Lincoln in which Christian extolled, "I have always been a Douglas Democrat but now if needed I will fight for Mr. Lincoln." He instructed the new president to solve our nations' problems as George Washington had, by kneeling in prayer and asking God's forgiveness and asking for his guidance. Christian also told the new president about his own predicament in St. Joseph – a new wife, new home, and, worst of all, he owed money to a "secessionist," at that.

By October, Christian could not wait any longer. He joined the 2nd Kansas Cavalry, enlisting with the new Captain Hugh Cameron. The same man that would later be the "hermit of Lawrence." Christian later testified at a court martial trial against Cameron and the outcome, according to Christian, ended any hope he had for promotion. Cameron was reinstated in the military.

Christian spent much of his time at Fort Leavenworth. Initially, he thought he would go with his regiment when they moved out in March, 1862 but he fell ill and had to stay at Leavenworth. He became a nurse and wrote about his experience staying with and nursing dying men. In February, 1862 he heard that Elise's 17 year old brother Adolph Dubach, a soldier in the 5th Kansas was dying. Christian after being delayed several times made a harrowing journey to Lawrence, crossed the Kansas river and then found Adolph at Prairie City, Kansas near what today is Baldwin City. Adolph, seriously ill, had left Fort Scott and attempted to head north to his father's home in Doniphan County, Kansas. At Prairie City he collapsed and could not continue. Christian arrived on February 24, 1862 and wrote "There is very little left of him; nothing but bones and skin, nothing looks natural but his calm contented face which is very pale but full yet. His last disease was the lung fever, he lost a great [deal] of blood, and smells awful bad." Within a few days, Adolph died and Christian and Elise were both thankful that a family member had arrived to be with him in his dying hour.¹



Christian and Elise suffered through another great tragedy later that year. In August 1862, Elise gave birth to their first child whom they named Adolph McClellan Isely. Interestingly enough, later Christian would regret his early love and support for General George McClellan but early in the war like many Union

soldiers he had high expectations for "Little Mac." The Isely's referred to their new son as Sonny. A few months after his birth, Elise went to bed one evening rocking and holding the crying baby in her arms. The crying was not uncommon and Elise was told and believed the baby to be suffering from the colic. When she awoke the next morning, the baby was dead in her arms. She wrote Christian who was now in the field, "I take the pen in hand to state to you what happened in this short space of time. My pet, our darling took his departure from a world of sorrows to one of bliss. Yes, my beloved Christian, our darling Sonny is no more. He died. He died last Friday night. The will of the Lord be done."²

Throughout the rest of the war, Christian would "see the elephant" primarily in Arkansas, Missouri and Indian Territory. His command would chase bushwhackers and he would see action at the Second Battle of Cabin Creek among other places. At one point Christian along with about five other men pursued a guerilla/bushwhacker. Upon catching him, Christian wrote that his comrades and he wasted no time in "putting a bullet through him." By 1863 and 1864, Kansas soldiers had no interest in giving any quarter to the enemy. "Black Flag" warfare had taken over and prisoners were rarely taken on either side.

Christian wrote often about his comrades, both good and bad. He wrote about his faith and sometimes the lack of faith in the army. He recounted the many interesting individuals he encountered among them, Senator James Lane. He was very impressed with Lane and thought him to be a good man. He also thought very highly of his Colonel William Cloud, whom he referred to as a man of faith, courage, and fairness.

After the death of Sonny, Christian wanted Elise to go to Ohio and live with his family. He hated the thought of her being alone with his inability to see her or communicate with her regularly. Elise's trip and time in Ohio was troublesome. Christian's family was primarily against the war. They were Democrats and at least according to Christian and Elise could be classified as "Copperheads." Elise viewed them as anti-war and she could not bare to hear them talk terribly against President Lincoln, General Grant, and the Union Army when they had two sons in the war. Christian's youngest brother, Henry, was fighting with the 67th Ohio in the Carolinas. Letters and diary entries play out this tense relationship between the Isely family members, and the mood was often bordering on violent. Elise, as a woman, was to keep her mouth shut, but, on a couple of occasions, she could not bear it any longer, and she defended the Union and the cause to her in-laws. What's more, she let it be known that both she and Christian had become Republicans and were Lincoln supporters.

Christian mustered out of the service in October 1864. He was very ill by then and went north from Indian Territory with a wagon train. In late October he and the wagon train he was with heard of Price's raid and they feared that they would be attacked. They made it to Fort Scott and waited realizing that they were not fit to defend themselves but the attack never came. Price was too busy fleeing the Union army following his defeat at Mine Creek and Westport. In about a month, Christian made it to Holmes County, Ohio and reunited with his wife and family. Elise wrote in her diary that when in April Christian heard of President Lincoln's assassination, he went to his bedroom and cried. A few days later, Christian went to a store in town and heard someone rail at President Lincoln and the cause. Christian challenged the man to a fight and called him a "copperhead." Christian wrote in his diary that "when I'm old and gray, I will not be like some of these sometime patriots who have maligned their government and leaders. I will be able to say that I did all I could to protect my beloved adopted country."

Christian and Elise went on to have nine children and settled in Brown County, Kansas in 1872.

Christian's brother Henry and his wife and Fred and his wife both settled nearby. Christian stressed education, faith, and patriotism to his children and he was always proud of his Civil War service and belonging to the GAR. In the late 1890s, Christian's oldest son William Henry Isely was offered a job as Dean of Fairmount College (later Wichita State). William came and took the job and his parents soon followed him to Wichita. Christian's oldest daughter became an early librarian at the school. Christian joined the Garfield GAR post in Wichita in 1905. Sadly, William died the following year of an appendicitis. Christian died in 1919 and is buried at Maple Grove cemetery. Elise in about 1930 was encouraged by one of her sons, Bliss, to write an autobiography of her life. She and Bliss wrote *Sunbonnet Days* in 1931. Bliss went on to write several books and become an editor for the Wichita Eagle. Elise died in 1936 at the age of 94.

Christian wrote in his diary that he would always serve his God and country, and, if you read the diaries and letters, and examine the lives of these humble Swiss immigrants, you will see that this was truly their legacy.

¹ CHI to EDI, February 24, 1862, Isely Family Papers, Box 2, FF 3. Wichita State University Special Collections, Ablah Library.

² EDI to CHI, October 5, 1862, *ibid.*, FF 22.



Memorials Officer

Douglas E. McGovern, PCC

Kansas Civil War

Memorial/Monument Catalog

The catalog update is finally in process. To date, I have entered all the accumulated pictures in the master files. These are being checked against the Stark list (cannon) and Smithsonian Save Outdoor Sculpture list. After that they will be entered into the website. The target is a full web update in November. There are now well over 200 entries spanning most of the state.



Graves Registration

Franklin C. Bergquist, PDC

I.D. Tags Then and Now

Arlington National Cemetery is not the only resting place for "Unknown Soldiers." Countless American soldiers have died defending their way of life throughout the history of this nation; many of their graves are marked with a single word, "UNKNOWN."

The Civil War provided the first recorded incident of American soldiers making an effort to ensure that their identities would be known should they die on the battlefield. Their methods were varied, and all were taken on a soldier's own initiative. In 1863, prior to the battle of Mine's Run in northern Virginia, General Meade's troops wrote their names and unit designations on paper tags and pinned them to their clothing. Many soldiers took great care to mark all their personal belongings. Some troops fashioned their own "ID" (identification) tags out of pieces of wood, boring a hole in one end so that they could be worn on a string around the neck.

The commercial sector saw the demand for an identification method and provided products. Harper's Weekly Magazine advertised "Soldier's Pins" which could be mail ordered. Made of silver or gold, these pins were inscribed with an individual's name and unit designation. Private vendors who followed troops also offered ornate identification disks for sale just prior to battles. Still, despite the fact that fear of being listed among the unknowns was a real concern among the

rank and file, no reference to an official issue of identification tags by the Federal Government exists. (42% of the Civil War dead remain unidentified.)

The first official advocacy of issuing identification tags took place in 1899. Chaplain Charles C. Pierce, who was tasked to establish the Quartermaster Office of Identification in the Philippines, recommended inclusion of an "identity disc" in the combat field kit as the answer to the need for standard identification. The Army Regulations of 1913 made identification tags mandatory, and by 1917, all combat soldiers wore aluminum discs on chains around their necks. By World War II, the circular disc was replaced by the oblong shape familiar to us today, generally referred to as "dog tags."

Since then, some myths have arisen in connection with the purpose of the identification tags. One of the more common myths involves the reason for the notch on the tag issued between 1941 and the early 1970's. Battlefield rumor held that the notched end of the tag was placed between the front teeth of battlefield casualties to hold the jaws in place. No official record of American soldiers being issued these instructions exists. The only purpose of "the notch" was to hold the blank tag in place on the embossing machine. The machine used at this time doesn't require a notch to hold the blank in place, hence, today's tags are smooth on all sides.

The sole purpose of the identification tag is stated by its designation. Tags found around the neck of a casualty, and only those tags found around the neck, stay with the remains at all times. Tags found any place besides around the neck are made note of in the Record of Personal Effects of Deceased Personnel, and placed in an effects bag. They are not removed unless there is a need to temporarily inter the remains. If there is only one tag present, another is made to match the first. If the remains are unidentified, two tags marked "unidentified" are made. One tag is interred with the individual, the other placed on a wire ring in the sequence of the temporary cemetery plot. This enables Graves Registration personnel to make positive identification of remains during disinterment procedures. When the remains are disinterred, the tag on the wire ring is removed and placed with the matching tag around the neck.

The Department of the Army has developed and is currently testing a new tag, which will hold 80% of a soldier's medical and dental data on a microchip. Known as the Individually Carried Record, it is not intended to replace the present tag, but rather to augment it as part of the "paperless battlefield" concept. This development is in keeping with the Army's dedication to positively identify each and every fallen soldier.

The Armed Forces make every possible effort to eradicate discrepancies and remove doubts about casualties, not least those doubts that families may hold concerning the demise of their loved ones. In recent years, a near perfect record of identifying service members who have died in the line of duty has been achieved, a far cry from the 58% rate of identification that stood during the Civil War. The ID tag has, been and remains a major part of the reason for this record. Are you wearing your ID tags today? Too many military personnel, particularly those who are part of the peacetime force stationed in CONUS (Continental United States), forget how vital those tags can be, forget that as soldiers they are always on the line. Wearing your ID tags is one of the easiest actions you can make towards achieving total readiness, so take those tags out of your dresser and put them around your neck. Remember - the simple information contained on that small aluminum tag can speak for you if you can't speak for yourself; it could mean the difference between a positive identification and an uncertain future for those who survive you, should your identity be "...known only to God."



Patriotic Instructor

Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC

**Veterans' Day
November 11**

The Veteran's Day holiday will soon be upon us. I thought it would be appropriate to give you some background on it origination and its evolvement into the holiday that we know today.

November 11, is the anniversary of the Armistice which by the Allies and Germans in 1918, ending World War I, after 4 years of conflict. At 5 A.M. on Monday, November 11, 1918, the Germans signed the Armistice. This day began with the laying down of arms, but across the world various demonstrations of rejoicing took place including the blowing of whistles, impromptu parades, and the closing of places of businesses.

In November 1919, President Woodrow Wilson issued his Armistice Day proclamation. In 1927, Congress issued a resolution requesting President Calvin Coolidge to issue a proclamation calling upon officials to display the United States flag on all government buildings on November 11, and inviting people to observe the day in schools and churches. Finally in 1938, Congress passed a bill that each November 11 "shall be dedicated to the cause of world peace and ... hereafter celebrated and known as Armistice Day."

After the bill in 1938, many communities observed the day with parades and religious services. At 11 AM, traffic stopped, in tribute to the dead and volleys were fired and taps sounded.

After World War II there were many new veterans and the significance of "Armistice Day" changed. Leaders of Veterans' groups decided to try to make November 11 a time to honor all who had fought in various American wars, not just World War I.

In Emporia, Kansas, on November 11, 1953, instead of an Armistice Day program, there was a Veterans Day observance. Ed Rees, of Emporia, introduced a bill into the US House to change the name to Veterans Day. After the bill passed, he wrote to all state governors for their help in observing the changed holiday. The name was changed to Veterans Day by Act of Congress on May 24, 1954. In October 1954 President Eisenhower called on all citizens to observe the day by remembering the sacrifices of all those who fought so gallantly, and through rededication to the task of promoting an enduring peace. He referred to the holiday as a time to honor all servicemen of all America's wars.

We, as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, should make it a point to participate in this upcoming holiday. March in a parade, fly your flag, and take time to remember the sacrifices that have been made by the servicemen and women.

Chaplain

Robert L. Wandel

Just Part of the Job of a Chaplain

It wasn't easy being a Chaplain but many brave men did the will of Our Father in Heaven.. For this, many of the soldiers were comforted and aided in their physical and spiritual life. The following is from *The American Civil War: The Battle of Gettysburg*.

As the battle at Gettysburg on Day 1 and casualties mounted, both armies needed to establish places to treat the wounded and comfort the dying. On Chambersburg Street in Gettysburg stands the Christ Lutheran Church which appeared well suited to serve as a hospital and shelter the wounded. Reverend Horatio S. Howell, Chaplain for the 90th Pennsylvania Infantry, aided with the caring for the wounded of his regiment in this house of peace. As he was exiting the building, a Confederate

soldier demanded that he surrender and turn over his sword. He did not, and was shot on the steps of the church. It is not certain if the soldier who shot him knew he was a Chaplain, but the men of the 90th Pennsylvania were incensed. Years later, they dedicated a small marker at the base of the steps to the church with an inscription leaving no doubt about their feelings concerning the loss of their beloved Chaplain. For generations to come the voices of the men of the 90th Pennsylvania speak to those who wish to listen.

On the marker, the pages of an open bronze book read " In Memoriam, Reverend Horatio S. Howell, Chaplain 90th Penn'a Volunteers, was cruelly shot dead on these church steps on the afternoon of July 1st 1863. He delivered me up above those that rise up against me." Psalms 48:18. " He being dead yet speaketh." Hebrews 11:14.



Junior Vice Commander

Craig A. Sundell, PCC

On September 17, 1787, nearly 220 years ago, American patriots completed and signed one of the most important documents ever created by man. This was the Constitution of the newly formed United States of America.

Our Civil War ancestors fought and sacrificed for the preservation of the UNION of states who adopted this document. Having recently visited such far flung areas as Peru, Mexico, and even Texas, it makes me proud to see the influence our constitution has had on people throughout the world. It set a framework for peaceful and orderly government BY individuals.

The rights AND responsibilities in our Constitution were the reason for most union enlistments at the onset of the war of the rebellion. Please take a moment to consider this as one of the most important documents ever authored by man.



Senior Vice Commander

Roy A. Lafferty, PCC

As you have probably known for several years, the *Sunflower Picket* is the best department newsletter in the SUVCW, but now it is official. At the National Encampment in August, Alan Russ received the Marshall Hope award for the Best Department Newsletter. This is not only a refection of Alan's hard work; it is also shows the support he has received from our brothers who have sent him articles. Please help Alan make it two years in a row by sending him your articles. This makes his job easier and the *Sunflower Picket* more interesting.

Since the last issue of the *Sunflower Picket*, I had the opportunity to represent our department at the Department of Nebraska's Encampment. It was a great chance to meet our neighbors up north and get ideas that we may be able to use here in Kansas. Their encampment was held at the G.A.R. Memorial Hall in Nebraska City. The Hall now serves as a Museum to veterans of the Civil War and is a treasure for which the Department of Nebraska is rightly proud. If you are ever near Nebraska City, it is well worth the stop, for more information go to www.CivilWarMuseumNC.org. Congratulations to Paul Hadley on his reelection as Department Commander for Nebraska.

I also was able to attend the National Encampment in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. I will let others report on their experiences, but will remind you that next year the National Encampment will be in Saint Louis. Start making plans to attend.

Last February, the Department held a "Lessons Learned" conference to share ideas between camps. It was well received by those who attended. The Department will be planning to hold another in January or February of 2007. If you have topics you would like to see covered, contact me at:

Roy.Lafferty@kcc.usda.gov or (785)841-6652.



Commander's Corner

Randal L. Durbin, PCC



Since becoming Department Commander, it is gratifying to see the activities of the camps in our department. I was grateful for the opportunity to participate in Memorial Day ceremonies at Florence and Peabody. These events are planned each year by the Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp. They did a great job as usual. I was able to participate with the Old Abe Camp in Topeka in placing flags on the Union veterans' graves at Topeka Cemetery, where almost 1,100 Union veterans are buried. The small flags fluttering in the wind are a moving sight on the Memorial Day weekend. I know other camps had events planned during Memorial Day weekend, and I look forward to seeing their reports.

Six brothers from the Department of Kansas attended the National Encampment in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Craig Sundell, Earl McIntosh, and myself were presented awards for recruiting in 2005-2006. Brother Alan Russ received the award for the Outstanding Department newsletter. Other department awards for recruiting were not presented at the encampment, but I congratulate the entire department for its efforts in helping the SUVCW grow. Keep up the good work.

On October 28, we have planned our Fall Council Meeting. It will be held in Emporia at 1 PM in the Emporia Senior Citizen's Center on East 12th St. All department brothers are invited to attend and assist with the future plans for the department. I hope to see many of you there.

CAMP NEWS

Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1 - Wichita

Corp Commander	Dale A. Rouse
Senior Vice Commander	Mark A. Britton
Junior Vice Commander	James P. Coyne
Secretary/Treasurer	Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC

Camp meetings are held at the DAV Clubhouse, 3011 George Washington Blvd. in Wichita. The meetings are held at 7 PM on the 4th Thursday of the month. The Camp does not meet in July, August, or December.

Our camp participated in Memorial Day activities at three locations this year. Joining with the 8th Kansas Volunteer Infantry reenactors, we provided color guard and firing detail. The first stop was at Corp. Patrick Coyne's gravesite in Walton. We then traveled to Peabody and participated in the community Memorial Day services at the Peabody Cemetery. Finishing out the day, we were in Emporia to dedicate five new headstones for Civil War veterans whose graves had been unmarked until this time.

At our June 22 meeting, the program was given by Dora Timmerman on the Soldiers and Sailors Monument at the Sedgwick County Courthouse. Our Camp does not meet during the months of July and August so we are looking forward to restarting at the September 28th meeting, with the program being given by Department Commander Randy Durbin as General Ulysses S. Grant.

The highlight of our fall is our annual fundraiser "Lincoln Remembered." This year it will be held November 18th. Food is provided by our members, and this year, we will have author Tom Goodrich as our guest speaker. It should be a great evening, and we invite all to attend. Also that evening, we will unveil our new Camp SUVCW flag in memory of PDC Ken Strader and Norm Kimrey .

Dale Rouse
Commander

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.

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Sgt Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4-Lawrence

Camp Commander Alan L. Van Loenen
 Senior Vice Commander Michael W. Anderson
 Junior Vice Commander Michael Hadl
 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, with monthly programs starting around 7:30 PM. All SUVCW Brothers and the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

As Commander of the Lawrence Camp 4 of the Sons of Union Veterans (SUVCW) I want to let all Kansas SUVCW Camps know about our SUVCW Camp fund raising project. Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill, Camp 4 is raising funds to repair the Civil War Veterans Monument in Pioneer Cemetery in Lawrence. Camp 4 has obtained funds to replace a plaque dedicated to "Unknown Civil War Soldiers" buried in Pioneer Cemetery on the monument in Pioneer Cemetery that was dedicated in 1906 by the Lawrence GAR Post. The plaque was stolen from the monument in 1910. The monument is in bad need of repair and the camp hopes to raise funds to repair the monument prior to our "plaque rededication" on Memorial Day 2007.

The estimated cost of the monument repair is between \$1,800 and \$2,000. Sgt. Churchill Camp 4 has raised approximately \$200 to date to repair the monument where the "rededicated plaque" will be mounted. Anyone wishing to make a contribution for the Civil War monument repair can do so by sending donations payable to "Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill - SUVCW Camp No. 4" to Robert Wandel, Camp Treasurer, 2731 Bonanza Street, Lawrence, KS 66046-5137. Thanks for your consideration and any assistance in this effort. Please record "Pioneer Cemetery Monument Repair" in the memo section on any



contributions submitted.
 Monument at Pioneer Cemetery on University of Kansas campus.

Camp 4 participated in the Lawrence "Civil War on the Western Frontier (CWWF)" event from August 17th to the 20th. On the 17th, William McFarland talked about the history of the 8th Kansas Infantry and on the 18th Kansas Cavalry. Thomas Zachery talked on the battle of Wilson's Creek. The camp had a recruitment and display booth set up on the 19th and 20th in South Park in Lawrence. The camp was able to obtain several SUV membership leads that will be pursued by Camp membership. Special thanks to all Camp brothers for their extra effort during this recruitment and the Civil War era historical display; and a special thanks to brothers Craig Sundell, Robert Wandel, Mike Anderson, Mike Hadl, and Roy Lafferty.

The camp continues its effort to make the SUVCW Camp known in the Lawrence, KS area by publishing notification of its monthly meetings in local communication media and by inviting and encouraging the Lawrence area public to attend our meeting and monthly programs on Civil War history.

Alan L. Van Loenen
 Commander

Franklin Camp 5 - Olathe

Camp Commander James M. Converse
 Senior Vice Commander Matthew G. Toll
 Junior Vice Commander D. Curtis Rapue
 Secretary/Treasurer Everette T. Sitzman

Camp meetings are held on the third Monday of each month, beginning at 7:30 PM. Meetings are held in the Governors West Conference Room, Olathe City Hall, 100 E. Santa Fe Street.

Franklin Camp 5 purchased 250 marker flags this spring, in time for the Memorial Day Observance at the Olathe Memorial Cemetery on May 27th. Former Kansas Governor and SUVCW Brother John Anderson spoke of his family remembrances of the Civil War sacrifices made by Olathe and Johnson County area Union veterans. Brother Wesley Hogan and his wife, Maryann, and their children and grandchildren were honored guests. Wesley's Union veteran ancestor was a newly-mustered Union soldier who was in Olathe and survived the Quantrill Raid on September 7, 1862.

Our Union veteran graves survey of the Olathe Memorial Cemetery was completed and national graves registration continues under the direction of our Grave Registration and Memorials Officer, Brother Bill Stilley. Preliminary work has begun on our next cemetery survey, the (Old) Monticello Cemetery.

Three new member initiations have taken place this quarter. These new members learned of the SUVCW at the Mahaffie Days Civil War Reenactment earlier this year. Our booth was placed on the left flank of the Sons of Confederate Veterans booth. We learned quite a bit of Johnson County and Kansas Civil War history from these men during the two days of friendly bantering across the skirmish line.

We are planning our November Veterans Day Observance at the Olathe Memorial Cemetery. Our 2007 Officer elections will be at our regular monthly meeting in November. Installation of new officers will be December 18, 7 PM - 9:30 PM, at the Olathe City Hall, in downtown Olathe, Kansas. Our honored guest will be Kansas Department Commander Randall L. Durbin, who will officiate the initiation ceremony.

Planning is underway to observe the Quantrill Raid on Olathe, Kansas. The 145th anniversary of the raid is in September, 2007. This observance may include an educational reenactment on the site of where Quantrill's Raiders herded townspeople on the East side of the City Square. We are also seeking to place an historical marker at this site along with a sign on I-35 marking the historic incident and directions to the site. This mid-to-long-term project will be completed by the 150th Anniversary of the raid in 2012, properly recognizing permanently this Bloody Kansas event.

Jim Converse
 Commander

Mine Creek Camp 6 - Pleasanton

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 2 PM on the third Sunday of each month.

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Old Abe Camp 16 - Topeka

Camp Commander Dan E. Karr
 Sr Vice Commander D. Darrel Gilliland
 Jr Vice Commander Delton Gilliland
 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 Thursday of each month.

The camp will work on gravestone repair of Civil War veterans in Topeka Cemetery on the 4th Saturday of each month (weather permitting). Election of officers for the coming year will be held at the November meeting.

Dan Karr
 Commander

JOB DESCRIPTIONS OF CAMP OFFICERS

With the elections of camp officers just around the corner, it is a good time to remind everyone just what is the duties of each of our camp officers. The commander, senior vice commander, junior vice commander, secretary, treasurer (or secretary/treasurer), and council members are elected. The other positions are appointed by the camp commander.

The following is taken from the *Job Descriptions for Camp and Department Officers*, as published by the National Organization, SUVCW.

[Elected Positions]

CAMP COMMANDER

Purpose

The purpose of the office of Commander is to direct and to provide oversight of Camp/Department operations in order to foster and promote the goals and objects of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Commander should include: (1) Presiding at all meetings of the Camp; (2) Appointing the appointed officers and all committees; (3) Become familiar with all SUVCW forms that are utilized for conducting the business of the Camp, especially those that require the Commander's signature, and ensure that all reports are submitted to the Department by the specified time; (4) Ensuring that the Camp officers and committees do their jobs; (5) Representing the Camp at community functions; (6) Becoming familiar with the Camp's and Department's Bylaws and the Order's Constitution and Regulations; (7) Keeping the membership informed by issuing "Camp Orders", attested to by the Camp Secretary; (8) Consulting with Past Camp Commanders for advice on Camp matters; (9) Becoming familiar with the duties of the office as set forth in the Order's Ritual and Ceremonials; (10) Serving as liaison between the Camp and Department.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Purpose

The purpose of the office of Senior Vice Commander is to assist the Commander, promote the

Order and preside at Camp/Department meetings in the absence of the Commander.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Senior Vice Commander should include: (1) Presiding at Camp meetings in the absence of the Camp Commander; (2) Acting as a personal representative upon the request from the Camp Commander; (3) Gathering appropriate data about Camp activities and forwarding to the Department Senior Vice Commander; (4) Promoting Camp activities in the local media; (5) Publishing a Camp newsletter; (6) Scheduling informative programs for Camp meetings; (7) Carrying out other responsibilities delegated to the position by the Camp Bylaws, Camp and Camp Commander.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Purpose

The purpose of the office of Junior Vice Commander is to assist with the recruitment and retention of Brothers (Members, Associates, and Juniors).

Activities

The activities of the Camp Junior Vice Commander should include: (1) Contacting prospective Brothers whose names are supplied to the Camp by the Department Junior Vice Commander; (2) Supplying prospective Brothers with membership materials including two membership applications, a copy of a SUVCW organization descriptive leaflet, and an invitation to the next Camp meeting; (3) Keeping track of applicants' progress in completing membership applications; (4) Encouraging delinquent Brothers to remain in the Order; (5) Presiding at Camp meetings in the absence of both the Camp Commander and Senior Vice Camp Commander; (6) Carrying out other responsibilities delegated to the office by the Camp Bylaws, Camp and Camp Commander.

SECRETARY

Purpose

The purpose of the office of Secretary is to keep the minutes of the meetings and to carry on necessary correspondence for the Camp or Department.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Secretary should include: (1) Taking minutes of each Camp meeting; (2) Maintaining a book or file of minutes of past meetings; (3) Reading the minutes of the preceding Camp meeting; (4) Processing and responding to Camp correspondence; (5) Notifying Brothers of meeting dates and location; (6) Preparing Form 22, "Report of Camp Installing Officer", in duplicate and sending both copies to the Department Secretary; (7) Reviewing for accuracy the annual "Life Member Reimbursement Form" (Form 10) that can be prepared by a Camp's Commander, Treasurer or Secretary; (8) In conjunction with the Camp Treasurer, prepare and submit a "Camp Annual Report" (Form 27) in duplicate to the Department Secretary on or before April 30 of each year, with check for per capita and application fees, plus two copies of the membership application for each new Brother; (9) Preparing and submitting a "Camp Status Report" (Form 30) in duplicate to the Department Secretary by the 15th day of the next month following any change in a Camp's membership after the annual report is filed. A check for per capita and application fees, plus two copies of a new Brother's membership application must be enclosed; (10) Maintaining Camp membership applications and supporting documentation; (11) Preparing credentials for those serving as Camp delegates and alternates to

Department Encampments; (12) Maintaining the Camp seal and affixing it to Camp documents as needed.

TREASURER

Purpose

The purpose of the office of Treasurer is to serve as custodian of Camp or Department monies and property, to keep accurate financial records and to prepare periodic financial reports.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Treasurer should include: (1) Keeping the financial records of the Camp; (2) Preparing a financial report to be presented at each Camp meeting; (3) Preparing and sending dues notices to Brothers at least one month before the end of the Camp's fiscal year; (4) Issuing membership cards to Brothers upon receipt of annual dues; (5) Serving as custodian of Camp property not otherwise provided for; (6) Maintaining a bank account in the Camp's name for Camp funds; (7) Preparing a report on the financial condition of the Camp for review and approval by the Camp Council; (8) In conjunction with the Camp Secretary, prepare a "Camp Annual Report" (Form 27) with check for per capita and application fees, to be submitted to the Department Secretary on or before April 30 of each year; (9) Preparing and submitting a "Life Member Reimbursement Form" (for those Brothers who qualify) before March 31 of each year; (10) Notifying a Brother who is in arrears for dues or fines, no later than March 31 of each year; (11) Preparing and transmitting any and all financial reports as may be required by applicable state law.

COUNCIL (Three Positions)

Purpose:

The purpose of the three-member Council is to devise and recommend measures to help ensure the financial stability of the Camp and to fill vacancies which may occur in elected Camp offices.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Council should include: (1) Devising and recommending measures for preserving and increasing the funds of the Camp; (2) Making the Camp's investments, leases, and other contracts; (3) Settling and disposing of all disputed accounts between the Camp Treasurer and Brothers of the Camp; (4) Examining the books, vouchers and other financial papers of the Camp; (5) Reviewing and passing upon a quarterly financial report of the Camp; (6) Filling for the unexpired term by of a majority vote of the Council any vacancy which may occur in an elected Camp office.

*[Following positions are appointed
by Camp Commander]*

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

Purpose

The purpose of the office of Patriotic Instructor is to educate and provide Brothers and the general public with information that will help to foster patriotism among the membership and the populace in general.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Patriotic Instructor should include: (1) Presenting at each Camp meeting information on such items as - (a) Civil War military, civilian and other great American leaders, (b) National and state holidays, (c) The United States Flag, (d) Duties of citizenship such as voting, (e) Great Civil

War battles and battles of other wars, and (f) Great American artifacts and sites; (2) Providing public displays and orations on patriotism as called upon; (3) Providing awards of recognition to deserving individuals as deemed necessary or ordered by the Camp.

CHAPLAIN

Purpose

The purpose of the office of Chaplain is to conduct such devotional services as directed by the Camp or Department.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Chaplain should include: (1) Conducting prayer at all meetings; (2) Conducting grave site services for Brothers and important dignitaries; (3) Conducting memorials for grave dedication or rededication ceremonies of veterans - especially Union veterans; (4) Serving as custodian of the Camp Bible unless assigned to another Camp officer; (5) Preparing an annual necrology of Camp Brothers and submitting the list to Department Chaplain; (6) Serving as coordinator for the Camp's Memorial Day ceremony; (7) Becoming familiar with the duties of the office as set forth in the Order's Rituals and Ceremonials.

HISTORIAN

Purpose:

The purpose of the office of Historian is to collect and preserve all historical and biographical material pertaining to the Civil War, to members of the Grand Army of the Republic, and to members of the Order.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Historian should include maintaining and cataloging all historical, biographical and/or photographic material given to or developed by the Camp regarding the Civil War, Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). Such material would include but not be limited to the following: newspaper articles, Post/Camp membership records, Post/Camp meeting minutes, old Post/Camp financial records, photographs, and donated memorabilia.

GUIDE

Purpose

The purpose of the Guide is to assist the Commander in the floor work of the Ritual during the Camp or Department meeting and to follow any orders given by the Commander.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Guide should include: (1) Ensuring that the Camp room is proper order and that the altar and stations are properly arranged; (2) Instructing candidates for membership per the instructions of the Order's Ritual and Ceremonials; (3) Acting as an escort for all visitors; (4) Ascertaining if everyone present is entitled to remain for the Camp meeting; (5) Becoming familiar with the duties of the office as set forth in the Order's Ritual and Ceremonials.

COLOR BEARER

Purpose

The purpose of the office of Color Bearer is to care for the Camp/Department colors and to assist the Camp/Department Guide during the Camp/Department meeting.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Color Bearer should include: (1) Placing the altar cloth and an unopened Bible on the altar prior to the opening of the Camp; (2) Placing station banners at the stations prior to the opening of the Camp; (3) Assisting the Guide in ascertaining if everyone present is entitled to remain for the Camp meeting; (4) Presenting the United States Flag during the Pledge of Allegiance by the Camp; (5) Attending to the altar and stations by removing altar cloth, Bible and station banners following the close of the Camp; (6) Becoming familiar with the duties of the office as set forth in the Order's Ritual and Ceremonials.

GUARD**Purpose**

The purpose of the office of Guard is to secure the door to the Camp or Department meeting and to admit only those Brothers and visitors who are qualified or entitled to enter.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Guard should include: (1) Securing the door of the Camp meeting; (2) Checking dues receipts or cards of Brothers and admitting only qualified Brothers and authorized visitors; (3) Allowing no one to enter during the opening or closing of the Camp; (4) Allowing no one to enter during the initiation of candidates; (5) Becoming familiar with the duties of the office as set forth in the Order's Ritual and Ceremonials.

GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER**Purpose**

The purpose of the Graves Registration Officer is to locate, record, ascertain the condition of and bring to the attention of proper authorities the need for repair or replacement of the grave markers/memorials of Civil War veterans buried in the jurisdiction of the Camp or Department.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Graves Registration Officer should include: (1) Conducting an inventory of the cemeteries located within the confines of the Camp's geographical boundaries and documenting the presence of Civil War veteran grave markers and memorials; (2) Bringing to the attention of appropriate governmental agencies the existence of grave markers/memorials in need of rehabilitation or replacement; (3) Assisting private parties and governmental agencies in the completion of applications for new federal grave markers for Civil War veterans; (4) Providing documentation of location and condition of Civil War veteran grave markers/memorials to the Department Graves Registration Officer.

CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS OFFICER**Purpose**

The purpose of the Camp or Department level Civil War Memorials Officer is to coordinate the locating, physical examination of, and recording of all memorials dedicated to Union Civil War soldiers and sailors (outside the care of the National Military Parks, and the U. S. Departments of Defense, or Veterans' Affairs) within their respective geographic boundaries. This includes all sizes of monuments (with or without sculpture), those with Civil War era cannon and inert ammunition, memorial fountains, memorial buildings, memorial windows (stained glass), historical markers, and even small plaques.

Activities

To prevent a duplication of effort on the part of a Camp's membership, the Camp Civil War Memorials Officer should: (1) coordinate the search for, physical examination of, photographing of, and recording of Civil War Memorials (as described above) located within the confines of the Camp's geographical boundaries; (2) maintain observation of care and upkeep for "local" Civil War Memorials – and bring any shortcomings to the attention of the property owners and community government where the memorial is located; (3) provide documentation of location and condition of Civil War Memorials (via SUVCW Form CWM 61) to the Department Civil War Memorials Officer.

[Optional offices which may be appointed by Camp Commander]

COUNSELOR**Purpose**

The purpose of the office of Counselor is to serve as a legal advisor to the Commander and to the Camp or Department.

Activities

The activities of the Camp Counselor should include: (1) Advising the Commander and the Camp on such legal issues as may come before them; (2) Upon request of the Commander, providing advice and interpretation of the Camp's and Department's Bylaws, the Order's Constitution and Regulations, and on parliamentary questions.

RECRUITING OFFICER**Purpose**

The purpose of the Recruiting Officer is to provide a single point of contact for potential applicants to obtain information, forms, and assistance as well as to serve as a staff officer, reporting to the Junior Vice Commander, who will maintain membership recruiting and retention statistics.

Activities

There is no provision in the Order's Regulations for a Camp Recruiting Officer. However, Camps may establish such a position. The activities of the Camp Recruiting Officer should include: (1) providing the Commander and the Camp Council with advice and assistance on matters involving membership recruiting and retention; (2) establish recruiting booths at appropriate events and observances; (3) making necessary brochures, forms, and information available to potential applicants; (4) interviewing former members to ascertain real or imagined retention problems; (5) maintain contact with the Recruiting Officer at the higher levels of the organization; (6) establish and maintain an e-mail address for the Camp.

SIGNALS OFFICER**Purpose**

The purpose of the Signals Officer is to serve as the senior advisor on electronic communication technology and manage the assigned resources in such a manner as to reflect positively on the accomplishment of the goals and objectives of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Activities

There is no provision in the Order's Regulations for a Camp Signals Officer. However, Camps may establish such a position. The activities of the Camp Signals Officer should include: (1) providing the Commander

and the Camp Council with advice and assistance relative to matters involving communication and technology; (2) supervise or serve as the Camp Webmaster if the Camp has an Internet home-page or Web site; (3) be familiar with and comply with the National Communication Technology policy.

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES

126th National Encampment Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

August 9 through 12, 2007

Saint Louis, Missouri

The host hotel is the Frontenac Hilton Hotel in Frontenac, Missouri. Frontenac is a suburb located west of Saint Louis, Missouri. Four of the five Allied Orders will be meeting at that location during our encampment. Only the Womens Relief Corps will not be present.

As usual, the business meeting is held on Friday and Saturday. A campfire program is scheduled for Friday evening, and the Allied Orders Banquet is Saturday evening.

There are numerous Civil War related sites to see within a short distance of Saint Louis. Be sure to plan a little extra time before or after the encampment to take advantage of the area. Additionally, the Department of Missouri will be hosting tours on Thursday.

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

Central Region Association Allied Orders of the G.A.R.

2007 Annual Conference

October 6, 2007

Crawfordsville, Indiana

The Department of Indiana will be hosting the 2007 Annual Conference of the Central Region Association (CRA), Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic. The meeting will be held on Saturday, October 6, 2007. Crawfordsville, Indiana, is located just Northwest of Indianapolis.

Additional information will be furnished as it becomes available. Keep your eye on this space for updates.

THE LAST WORD

Alan L. Russ, PDC, Editor

Sunflower Picket Wins National Award

The Marshall Hope Award for Best Department Newsletter was awarded to the Department of Kansas by Commander-in-Chief Donald Darby at the 125th National Encampment. Your newsletter editor accepted the award on behalf of the Department.

It is important to remember that this award truly belongs to the Department. Although the editor assembles the newsletter, it is the Department officers, the camps, and all those who contribute articles who are the real recipients. Without these contributors, there would not be a newsletter.

Publishing of the *Sunflower Picket* is the responsibility of the Department Senior Vice Commander. It has been the editor's privilege to accept his appointment as Newsletter Editor by the last three Senior Vice Commanders. They have asked the editor to facilitate a meaningful newsletter for the Department, and it has remained the goal.

With all of that said, remember, it cannot be done without your contributions. Please keep them coming in. Share the stories with your brothers.

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 1, 2007. 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 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, 2006**, 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

FALL COUNCIL MEETING

Saturday, October 28, 2006

At 1 PM

Emporia, Kansas

All Department Officers should be planning to attend the Fall Council Meeting in Emporia on Saturday, October 28, 2006. The meeting begins at 1PM. It is being held at the Emporia Senior Center, 603 E. 12th Street.

In addition to the Department Officers, all Camp Commanders, or their representative, should plan to attend and represent your camp.

An agenda will be sent by email to the participants prior to the meeting.

Newsletter Editor
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