



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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DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP

Membership as of October 31, 2012:

| | Members | Assoc. | Juniors | Total |
|-------------------|------------|----------|----------|------------|
| 01-Corp. Coyne | 45 | 2 | 1 | 48 |
| 04-Sgt. Churchill | 23 | 1 | 4 | 28 |
| 05-Franklin | 20 | 2 | 0 | 22 |
| 16-Old Abe | 24 | 0 | 1 | 25 |
| Total | 112 | 5 | 6 | 123 |

Dual members are only reported in their primary camp.

2013 RENEWAL TIME IS HERE

The SUVCW membership renewal process is starting sooner than we think. As always, we hope to have the renewals in as early as possible to your camp.

The official membership year is January 1 through December 31, although brothers are allowed until February 28, 2013, to submit their dues. The sooner dues are paid to your camp, the quicker they will be able to complete their annual reporting requirements.

Please help your camp by submitting your dues in a timely manner.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT JANUARY 12, 2013 Emporia, Kansas

Department Order Number 10, issued August 23, 2012, officially announced the Seventeenth Annual Department Encampment, to be held on January 12, 2013, in Emporia. Registration will begin at 9 AM, with the official opening of the Encampment at 10 AM.

National Commander-in-Chief Perley E. Mellor, Department of Massachusetts, has been invited to attend the Encampment. The Department has not yet heard back from him if he will be personally attending or designate another National officer to represent him at our encampment.

All elected officers of the Department, all Past Department Commanders, all Camp Commanders, and all Past Camp Commanders have "automatic" voting rights at a Department Encampment. Additionally, each camp is authorized one voting delegate plus one voting delegate for each ten brothers of the camp. Also, any camp brother is allowed to attend as an alternate delegate or observer.

The Encampment will include the reports of the Department officers and committees, reports from the camps of the Department, any old business from the previous encampment, new business to come before the Encampment, and the election and installation of Department officers for 2013-2014.

A noon meal will be available through the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. A meal order form is attached to this newsletter. It must be completed and mailed to the address on it no later than January 2, 2013.

Camp Commanders and Camp Secretaries are to report the names of the brothers who will be attending from their camp to the Department Secretary no later than January 2, 2013. This is to ensure that nametags will be available for the attendees.

WINTER TRAINING SESSION

This year the Winter Training Session will be held immediately following the Department Encampment. It is scheduled to last one hour. The primary item of discussion will be the preparation of the 2013 Camp Annual Report.

All camp secretaries and commanders should plan to attend this session.

COUNCIL APPROVES ENCAMPMENT MEDAL

For the first time since the Department of Kansas was recreated in August 1996, there will be a Department Encampment Medal available to those who attend the Encampment.

Attendees will be able to purchase one medal at a reduced price of \$5.00 when they register at the meeting. They may purchase additional medals for \$10.00, while supplies last. If there are medals left over after the Encampment, other brothers of the Department may purchase them for \$10.00 on a first come, first served basis.

National Regulations of the SUVCW allow a brother who attends the Department Encampment to wear the encampment medal on his left side next to his membership badge. If the brother also attends the 2013 National Encampment, he will be entitled to wear the encampment medal there, also.

Brothers who do not attend the Department Encampment and who purchase one of the medals as a souvenir are NOT permitted to wear the medal.



FALL COUNCIL MEETING October 20, 2012, Emporia, Kansas

The Fall Council Meeting was held on Saturday, October 20, 2012, in Emporia, Kansas, in accordance with Department Order No. 9.

This is the only "face-to-face" meeting of the Council between Department Encampments, and it is when the Department Bylaws Committee reviews proposed amendments to the Bylaws.

The minutes of the meeting have been posted on the Department website in the "Official Documents" area. Copies were also sent to your camp secretary.

Among items approved by the Council were: Hotel and meal allowance for the Commander-in-Chief or his representative; approval to purchase medals for the Seventeenth Department Encampment (see article, above); and approval of Department Policy No. 2013-01 concerning websites and social media pages; and approval of six amendments to the Department Bylaws.

For further details, refer to the official minutes of the meeting.

**Commander's Corner**

Roy A. Lafferty, PDC

Brothers,

I encourage you to attend the Department Encampment on January 12, 2013. Not only will this be a new time of the year for us, but as you have noticed, this will be the first Encampment to have a Department encampment medal.

We are looking at a few other possible changes to this year's agenda, and there are some great drawing prizes, too. Best of all is the fellowship with old and new brothers from other camps. This is also a chance for those not familiar with how the Department works to see what it does and to find how you can help.

I'm really excited about our slate of candidates. We have several new people coming up through the ranks and the new blood which I believe will help our Department.

And remember to recruit!!!

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Roy A. Lafferty, PDC
Department Commander

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES**132nd National Encampment****August 8 - 11, 2013****Brookfield (Milwaukee), Wisconsin**

The 2013 National Encampment will be held in Brookfield, Wisconsin, just west of Milwaukee. The host hotel is the Sheraton Milwaukee-Brookfield hotel.

It has been seventy years since a Sixty-Second National Encampment was held in Wisconsin, when it was held in conjunction with the Seventy-Seventh Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Thursday, August 8, 2013, will feature a tour of the historic Milwaukee Soldier's Home and adjacent Wood National Cemetery.

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

It is not too early to start planning. For additional information, watch upcoming issues of the Banner. You can contact one of your Department Officers for additional information or visit the 2013 Encampment

website at <http://2013.suvcw-wi.org/> for additional details.

THE LAST WORD

Alan L. Russ, PDC, Editor

Sunflower Picket Only Published as Electronic Edition

In order to eliminate costs associated with publishing the *Sunflower Picket*, the newsletter will only be available from the Department in its electronic format.

Even this simple two-page edition, printed in black and white, would still cost about seventy-five cents per copy to print and mail. That would result in a cost of ninety dollars to the Department for an issue. We are intending to publish four issues each year, which would use up most of the Department dues each brother is currently paying.

To avoid these costs, the *Sunflower Picket* will be emailed to each Camp Secretary for them to further email it to the brothers of their camps. It will also be posted on the Department website. For those who do not have email, the Camp Secretary will need to print and mail a copy to them.

FROM THE ARCHIVES**SEVENTH ANNUAL DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT – APRIL 26, 2003**

As we prepare for our Seventeenth Annual Department Encampment, we take a look back ten encampments to the Seventh Annual Department Encampment. This is a photograph of the newly elected officers for 2003-2004 who were elected at the encampment.



From left to right – Incoming Commander Kenneth R. Spurgeon (Dept. Commander 2003-2004), National Council of Administration Member D. Brad Schall, California (National CinC 2010-2011), Outgoing Commander Alan L. Russ (Dept. Commander 2002-2003 and National Council of Administration Member 2010-2011), SVDC Thomas E. Schmidt (Dept. Commander 2004-2005), National Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Kent L. Armstrong, Michigan (National CinC 2003-2004), JVDC James R. Knopke (Dept. Commander 2005-2006 and 2010-2011), and Department Secretary/Treasurer Dean K. Speaks (Dept. Commander 1996-1999).

**HAVE YOU INVITED SOMEONE TO JOIN
THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF
THE CIVIL WAR, LATELY?**

January 12, 2013 State Encampment Luncheon
 Hosted by the Ercelle Speaks Circle

Please print off one order form per person. Checks are to be made out to Ercelle Speaks Circle.

RSVP by Wednesday January 2, 2013 – postmarked

| | |
|--|---|
| 7" Hoagie Bun (pick one) | Wheat <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Meat (pick one) | Turkey <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> Roast Beef <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cheese (pick one) | Swiss <input type="checkbox"/> American <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Extras (select all the ones you want) | Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Mayo <input type="checkbox"/> Mustard <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Drink – 1 can (pick one) | Coke <input type="checkbox"/> Diet Coke <input type="checkbox"/> Sprite <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Dessert (pick one) | 2 cookies <input type="checkbox"/> (assorted varieties) 1 piece of Fruit <input type="checkbox"/> (assorted varieties) |
| Also included in your lunch that you can pick at lunch time 1 bag of Chips – assorted individual bags to choose from Pickles | |
| Limited quantities of additional pop will be available to purchase for 50 cents per can. | |

Lunch Deal of the Day

- **If you return this order form and money by January 2, 2013 (postmarked), your amount for lunch will be \$10.00.**
- If you didn't order by the deadline, your lunch will **not** be customized and it will be \$13.00 if we have any extra to sell.

In order to keep the cost down and to make sure there is enough for everyone, we must have you pre-order in advance. There will not be any orders taken the day of the encampment and I cannot promise there will be any extra sandwiches to buy as I will purchase what is needed to fill the orders received.

Sorry, no refunds for those who pre-pay and do not attend.

RSVP Now and Pay

Name: _____ Camp/Circle/Guest: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone# _____

Mail your money and order form(s) to:

Barb Knopke
 21733 W. 56th St., Shawnee, KS 66218
 PNPbarb.lgar@gmail.com