

**MINUTES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS
FALL COUNCIL MEETING**

OCTOBER 20, 2012 – EMPORIA, KANSAS

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:10 AM by Department Commander Roy A. Lafferty, PDC. Patriotic Instructor William E. Fischer, Jr., led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance. SVDC Rocky L. Bartlow, PCC, gave the invocation.
2. Secretary Alan L. Russ, PDC, called the roll of the officers.
 - a. Officers present were:

Department Commander Roy A. Lafferty, PDC *
SVDC Rocky L. Bartlow, PCC *
Secretary/Treasurer and Counselor Alan L. Russ, PDC *
Council Member Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC *
Council Member, Patriotic Instructor, Graves Registration Officer and Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator William E. Fischer, Jr., PCC *
Immediate Past Department Commander James R. Knopke, PDC *
 - b. Officers absent were:

JVDC Kent M. Melcher, PCC * – excused.
Council Member and Chaplain Mark A. Britton, PCC – excused
Civil War Memorials Officer Douglas E. McGovern, PCC – excused
Historian Blair D. Tarr – excused
 - c. Guests present were:

Richard T. Bennett, PCC – Camp Commander, Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1
K. Kirk Nystrom – Camp Commander, Old Abe Camp 16
Roger D. Lester – JVC, Old Abe Camp 16
* *Voting officers of the Council.*
 - d. Five voting officers are required to be present for a quorum to exist. Six voting officers were present. A quorum was present.
3. Commander Lafferty opened the discussion to “Old Business.”
 - a. Graves Registration Officer Fischer discussed some of the issues with regard to obtaining VA markers. He encouraged everyone to work through the cemeteries to acquire replacement or new markers. He also encouraged them to be sure to “follow the rules” to avoid problems and delays.
 - b. Secretary Russ reminded everyone of the opportunities for fund raising for camp projects by using the SUVCW Sesquicentennial Event process.
 - c. The Mine Creek Battle sesquicentennial will be in October 2014, and it was discussed that the Department should attempt to coordinate with the Kansas State Historical Society and the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation for participation in this. It was decided that a letter should be sent to both organizations addressing this issue.
[ACTION: RUSS]
4. There being no more old business to come before the Council, Commander Lafferty opened the discussion to “New Business.”

- a. 2013 Department Encampment – Camp Commander Bennett and PDC Schmidt discussed that Camp 1 was the host camp, and they were coordinating with the LGAR to provide the Noon meal, again this year. When the details are finalized, the information will be provided to the Department Secretary for further distribution. [ACTION: CAMP 1]
- b. It was reported that CinC Perley Mellor had been invited to attend the Department Encampment. We do not expect it to be announced as to whether he will be attending or another National Officer will be attending as the representative of the CinC until after the National Council of Administration Meeting on November 18, 2012.
- c. Secretary Russ moved, “The Department shall allocate an amount of \$300.00 to cover the expenses of up to two nights for hotel room costs and meals for the CinC or his representative at the Department Encampment.” Motion was seconded and carried. [ACTION: RUSS]
- d. Secretary Russ reminded all the Winter Training Session will be held immediately following the Department Encampment, and the Department Council Meeting will follow the training session.
- e. The question was posed about a Saturday evening dinner with the CinC or his representative. We will look into something casual. Bobby D’s BBQ was suggested and acceptable to all. [ACTION: RUSS]
- f. Secretary Russ moved, “The Department of Kansas shall purchase encampment medals for the Seventeenth Annual Department Encampment. An amount of \$475.00 shall be allocated for the purchase of 100 medals.” Motion was seconded and followed by discussion. Motion passed. [ACTION: RUSS]
- g. Secretary Russ advised the Council of the changes passed by the 2012 National Encampment These include:
 - i. An amendment to the preamble of the National Constitution. The Department Encampment will need to vote whether or not to ratify the amendment.
 - ii. A review of the changes made to the National Regulations. Copies were distributed to the Council Members.
- h. The 2013 National Encampment was discussed. Brothers were encouraged to attend.
- i. Secretary Russ informed the Council he intends to run for the office of National Secretary at the 2013 National Encampment. This will be for a three-year term. The Council gave their support for Secretary Russ’ candidacy.
- j. With regard to the 2014 Department Encampment, no camp had requested to host the encampment per the Department Bylaws. After discussion, the matter was referred to the Bylaws Committee for a possible change to the Department Bylaws. [BYLAWS COMMITTEE]
- k. Installation of Camp Officers was discussed. The following officers will install camp officers at the camps indicated.
 - i. Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1, Wichita, November 15, 2012 – SVDC Bartlow.

- ii. Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4, Lawrence, December 13, 2012 – DC Lafferty.
 - iii. Franklin Camp 5, Olathe, November 15, 2012 – PDC Knopke.
 - iv. Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka, December 6, 2012 – DC Lafferty.
1. Secretary Russ presented proposed Department Policy 2013-01 to replace Policy 2007-01. The policy was accepted by the Council and will be presented to the Department Encampment for approval.
- m. There was a discussion as to whether or not the Department needed to have the office of Signal Officer. After discussion, no action was taken.
 - n. There were some general discussions and exchange of information at this time with no motions made or actions taken.
5. At this time, Commander Lafferty turned the meeting over to Secretary Russ in his capacity as Chairman of the Department Bylaws Committee. The following amendments were considered, with resulting actions as indicated:
- a. Amendment Number 2012-01 pertaining to Department Awards. Secretary Russ moved the proposed amendment by adopted. The motion was seconded and passed. [ATTACHMENT A]
 - b. Amendment Number 2012-02 pertaining to revising the preamble of the Department Bylaws. Secretary Russ moved the proposed amendment be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed. [ATTACHMENT B]
 - c. Amendment Number 2012-03 pertaining to removing Department policies and procedures from the Department Bylaws by reference. Secretary Russ moved the proposed amendment be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed. [ATTACHMENT C]
 - d. Amendment Number 2012-04 pertaining to Department encampment badges. There was discussion about the proposed amendment with minor changes made to the proposed amendment. Secretary Russ moved the proposed amendment, as changed, be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed. [ATTACHMENT D]
 - e. Amendment Number 2012-05 pertaining to waiving Department dues for Junior Members and Junior Associates. Secretary Russ moved the proposed amendment be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed. [ATTACHMENT E]
 - f. The issue of host camps for Department Encampments had been referred to the committee under “new business.” The committee drafted Amendment Number 2012-06 to remove the need for a camp to host a Department encampment. Secretary Russ moved the proposed amendment be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed. [ATTACHMENT F]
 - g. At the conclusion of the items before the Department Bylaws Committee, all items having been addressed, Chairman Russ turned the meeting back to Commander Lafferty.

6. There being no more business to come before the Council, Commander Lafferty declared the meeting to be adjourned at 12:15 PM.

7. The next meeting of the Department Council shall be on Saturday, January 12, 2013, immediately following the Winter Training Session.

These minutes are submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

/s/ Alan L Russ
Alan L. Russ, PDC
Department Secretary

ATTACHMENTS:

- A BYLAWS AMENDMENT 2012-01: DEPARTMENT AWARDS
- B BYLAWS AMENDMENT 2012-02: PREAMBLE
- C BYLAWS AMENDMENT 2012-03: REMOVAL OF “INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE”
- D BYLAWS AMENDMENT 2012-04: DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT BADGE
- E BYLAWS AMENDMENT 2012-05: WAIVER OF DEPARTMENT DUES FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS AND JUNIOR ASSOCIATES
- F BYLAWS AMENDMENT 2012-06: ELIMINATION OF HOST CAMPS FOR DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS

AN AMENDMENT CHANGING THE NAME OF THE CORPORAL LEONIDAS B. DAVIS AWARD AND ESTABLISHING THE JOHN CLEM AWARD AS A PERMANENT AWARD OF THE DEPARTMENT

**CHAPTER VII
DEPARTMENT AWARDS**

Article III: PERMANENT AWARDS.

The following awards, having been well established within the Department of Kansas by precedent, are established as permanent awards of the Department. These awards, and their criteria, are as follows:

Section A. CORPORAL LEONIDAS B. DAVIS & PDC DEAN K. SPEAKS AWARD FOR RECRUITER OF THE YEAR.

This award may be presented by the Department Commander to the brother who has recruited the most new brothers (Members, Associates, Junior Members, and Junior Associates) since the previous Department Encampment. The determination of which brother is to receive credit for a new brother is based upon the name entered on the application for membership as "Recommended by SUVCW Brother." Applications received from the National Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief are not considered when determining the number of "recruits." The Department Commander may determine not to present the award any year he feels no one has recruited enough brothers to set him apart in this regard.

Section B. CAPTAIN PATRICK H. CONEY AWARD FOR BROTHER OF THE YEAR.

This award is presented by the Department Commander to the brother whom the Department Commander has determined to have performed significant service to a camp or the Department within the past year. The Department Commander shall seek recommendations from the various Camp Commanders for this award.

Section C. LEANDER STILLWELL OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.

This award may be presented by the Department Commander to the brother who has performed significant service to the Department of Kansas or the organization as a whole over an extended period of time. The Department Commander may seek recommendations from Camp Commanders, Department Officers, Past Department Commanders, and others. This award is neither required nor expected to be awarded each year.

Section D. WILLIAM W. NIXON AWARD FOR CAMP OF THE YEAR.

This award is presented by the Department Commander to the camp within the Department which demonstrated the greatest degree of support to the goals and ideals of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in such areas as community involvement, memorial ceremonies, public education, conduct of camp meetings, and such. The Department Commander shall seek recommendations from the various Camp Commanders for this award.

Section E. JOHN CLEM AWARD FOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY A JUNIOR MEMBER OR JUNIOR ASSOCIATE.

This award is presented by the Department Commander to a Junior Member or Junior Associate within the Department for noteworthy accomplishments by that brother. This award may be presented to more than one brother during the year. It may be presented by the Department Commander at times other than the Department Encampment. Camp Commanders are encouraged to notify the Department Commander of Junior Members or Junior Associates within their camp whom they feel are deserving of this award.

*AN AMENDMENT MODIFYING THE PREAMBLE OF THE BYLAWS OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS*

PREAMBLE

We, the descendants of the Soldiers, Sailors, ~~and~~ or Marines who served in the Army, ~~and~~ Navy, ~~Marine Corps or Revenue Cutter Service~~ of the United States of America during the War of the Rebellion of 1861-1865, have joined this Patriotic and Fraternal Order for the purposes and ~~objectives~~ ~~objects~~ set forth by the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and in doing so pledge ourselves to commemorate our forefather's deeds, render loyal service to our country, and to promote the maintenance of unqualified American citizenship with respect for and honor to the flag.

***AN AMENDMENT REMOVING DEPARTMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FROM
THE DEPARTMENT BYLAWS BY REFERENCE AND ESTABLISHING THE
AUTHORITY FOR DEPARTMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES***

**CHAPTER IV
DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS AND MEETINGS**

Article III: ELECTRONIC BOARD ROOM

Section A. ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTRONIC BOARD ROOM.

An electronic boardroom shall be established for the purpose of conducting the business of the Department between the Department Encampments and Council meeting.

Section B. PUBLISHED POLICY REQUIRED.

A Department policy shall be established for the Department Council to submit motions to the Department Commander through approved electronic means, to conduct discussion of such motions through electronic means, to allow the voting members of the Council to electronically cast votes, for the Department Commander to announce the results of the vote, and for the Department Secretary to officially publish the results to the camps in a timely manner.

~~**Section C. POLICY INCLUDED IN BYLAWS BY REFERENCE.**~~

~~Department policy on the establishment and use of the Electronic Boardroom is hereby included by reference.~~

**CHAPTER IX
GENERAL**

~~**Article I: INCLUSION OF RULES, AND REGULATIONS, AND POLICIES**~~

~~Included herein by reference and made a part of these Bylaws are the following rules, regulations, policies, and any subsequent amendments or modifications thereto:~~

~~All rules, regulations, and policies of the Department of Kansas, and any subsequent amendments or modifications thereto, shall require the approval of the Department Commander or a Department Encampment, and they can be used to manage the Department in support of these Bylaws.~~

~~**Section A. POLICIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS.**~~

~~All policies of the Department of Kansas which have been approved by a Department Encampment, until such time as the policy is officially rescinded by a subsequent encampment. The Department Commander may establish formal policies for the Department of Kansas, subject to approval by the next Department Encampment.~~

~~**Section B. APPROVED ACTIONS OF DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS.**~~

~~1. All actions approved by a Department Encampment shall be effective upon publishing of the official proceedings of the Department Encampment.~~

~~2. Actions approving changes to the Bylaws of the Department of Kansas shall be effective per Chapter IX, Article III, of these Bylaws.~~

~~3. Actions by a subsequent Department Encampment may rescind or repeal an action of a previous Department Encampment.~~

AN AMENDMENT AUTHORIZING DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT BADGES

**CHAPTER IV
DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS AND MEETINGS**

Article I: DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS

Section L. DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT BADGE.

1. The Department Council shall have the authority to determine that a Department Encampment Badge shall or shall not be issued for an encampment. If an encampment badge is to be issued, the Department Council shall review and approve a design for a suitable Department Encampment Badge. Such badge shall contain appropriate encampment information on it and be suspended from a ribbon drape.

2. All Brothers of the Department of Kansas, SUVCW, who are encampment attendees shall be permitted to purchase the badge at the Encampment at a reduced rate determined by the Department Council. Likewise, all Sisters of a Department of Kansas Allied Order of the Grand Army of the Republic who are in attendance when their encampment is held in conjunction with the SUVCW, will be permitted to purchase a badge at the Encampment for the reduced rate. Remaining encampment badges may be sold at the conclusion of the Department Encampment, first to SUVCW and Allied Order encampment attendees, and then, to other brothers of the Order as a souvenir, at the full price as determined by the Council.

5. An encampment attendee is permitted to wear the Department Encampment Badge in accordance with National Regulations of the Order as a Class D Badge until the next Department Encampment. Those who did not attend the encampment, but purchased the badge as a souvenir, are not permitted to wear the encampment badge.

6. Any brother entitled to wear the Department Encampment Badge who attends a National Encampment of the SUVCW during the period he is entitled to wear the Department Encampment Badge, is authorized to wear the badge at the National Encampment.

***AN AMENDMENT EXEMPTING JUNIOR MEMBERS AND JUNIOR ASSOCIATES
FROM DEPARTMENT DUES***

**CHAPTER VI
FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Article I: FINANCES

Section A. DUES AND REVENUE.

a. The Department shall regulate its own dues and revenues. The amount of said dues shall be set by the Department Encampment and recorded in the official proceedings, thereof.

b. *Camps are not required to pay annual Department dues for Junior Members and Junior Associates of their camps.*

*AN AMENDMENT REMOVING THE USE OF A HOST CAMP
FOR DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS*

**CHAPTER IV
DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS AND MEETINGS**

Article I: DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS

Section F. ~~HOST CAMP. LOCATION OF MEETINGS.~~

~~1.—A camp which wishes to host the Annual Department Encampment, shall submit a proposal to the Spring Council Meeting the year preceding the subject encampment.~~

~~2.—Proposals to host the Annual Department Encampment shall include the proposed location, the ability to meet the facility needs for the encampment, to include meeting facility for the LGAR, primary point of contact for additional information, and estimated cost of Noon meal, if provided.~~

~~3.—Camps who intend to submit proposals shall notify the Department Secretary at least one week prior to the Spring Council Meeting in order that adequate time may be allocated during the meeting.~~

~~4.—In the event that no proposals are submitted, the Department Council may solicit proposals from one or more camps or vote that the Department shall function in the capacity of host camp.~~

~~5.—The Department Council shall review submitted proposals and submit them to the Annual Department Encampment for final approval.~~

The Department Council shall set the location for the Department Encampment.