



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE:
DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER
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MINUTES OF THE 4TH ANNUAL DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT HELD APRIL 29, 2000 IN WICHITA, KANSAS

The meeting, held at the Cowtown Museum in Wichita, was called to order at 4:50 p.m. by Department Commander Franklin C. Bergquist with 22 members & guests present. Commander Bergquist had the following distinguished guests introduce themselves: Edward J. Krieser, Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief of the SUVCW; Gwenda Matheny, Past National President of the DUVCW; Una Camien, Past Department President of the DUVCW; Ercelle E. Speaks, Past National President of the Ladies of the G.A.R., Betty J. Bergquist, of the Women's Relief Corps; Mary Ann Hogan, of the Auxiliary to the SUVCW.

Roll call of Officers showed the following Officers present: Commander, Franklin C. Bergquist; Sr. Vice Commander, Kenneth Strader; Jr. Vice Commander, Randall M. Thies; Secretary/Treasurer, Thomas L. Page and Historian/Special Projects Officer/Council Member, Dean K. Speaks, PDC.

The following were appointed to fill empty Officer chairs: Virgil Reed, Color Bearer/Guide; Kim L. Nelson, Chaplain.

There were no activity reports from the Camps and only one Officer Report. Department Historian, Dean Speaks reported on the activities of the last year. Activities involved researching and saving cannons in the following cities: Horton, Topeka (at the Memorial Building), Emporia and Wellington.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Motion made by Thomas L. Page for the Department to reimburse PDC Dean K. Speaks the sum of \$50.00 for the cost of his Past Department Commander Badge. Second by Randall M. Thies. Passed unanimously.

Department Secretary Thomas L. Page read the 3 proposed Changes to the Constitution approved by the 1999 National Encampment. Motion made by PDC Dean Speaks to approve the amendments as read, was seconded by Randy Thies and passed unanimously.

The following Resolutions were presented:

A Resolution was presented by PDC Dean Speaks to create the "Joseph Walter Memorial Preservation Award" to be awarded as needed by the Department to Municipalities, Individuals, or Organizations, which demonstrate extra-ordinary efforts to preserve Monuments, Records, G.A.R. Halls, and Civil War Historical Sites in Kansas. Motion made to accept the resolution as written by PDC Dean Speaks, seconded by several members and passed unanimously.

A Resolution was then read to award the "Joseph Walter Memorial Preservation Award" to the City of Wellington for their exceptional care of and restoration of two Civil War cannon in their City, obtained in 1915 by the James Shields Post #57, G.A.R. Motion made to accept the resolution as written by PDC Dean Speaks, seconded by several members and passed unanimously.

A Resolution was read to award the "Joseph Walter Memorial Preservation Award" to the State of Kansas, Division of Facilities Management, Department of Administration on behalf of all of the State Departments involved in the recent completion of the renovation of the "Memorial Building" in Topeka while keeping the true meaning of the building as a "Monument" to the Civil War Soldier & Sailor. Motion made to accept the resolution as written by PDC Dean Speaks, second by several members. Following a discussion involving the amount of "arm-twisting" that it took to retain the true meaning of the building the motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by DC Frank Bergquist to create a resolution to award the "Joseph Walter Memorial Preservation Award" to the American Legion Post in Emporia for saving the Emporia Civil War cannons from sale to a collector. Seconded by several members and passed unanimously. The Department Secretary is to create the appropriate resolution of award.

Motion made by PDC Dean Speaks for the Department to expend approximately \$75.00 to register an appropriate address on the Internet for the Department. Motion died from lack of a second.

Motion made by DC Frank Bergquist to create a resolution of support for Brother Ed Krieser of Indiana for Commander-in-Chief at this year's National Encampment. Seconded by several members and passed unanimously. The Department Secretary will create and forward the appropriate resolution to National.

Initiation of New Members:

Five new members were initiated into the Order. The Initiating Officer was Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Ed Krieser with assistance from Secretary, Tom Page; Color Bearer/Guide, Virgil Reed and Chaplain, Kim Nelson. The new members are: Thomas E. Schmidt; Darren L. Biggs; Wesley A. Hogan; Bill Nestelroud; and Bill McFarland. All are members of the Coyne Camp in Wichita. Welcome to the Order!

Nomination & Installation of Officers:

The following Officers of the Department were nominated and elected to serve during the 2000-2001 term:

Commander	Kenneth Strader
Sr. Vice Commander	Randall M. Thies
Jr. Vice Commander	Kim L. Nelson
Secretary/Treasurer	Dean K. Speaks, PDC
Department Council	Thomas L. Page
	Franklin C. Bergquist, PDC
	Alan Russ

The following Officers of the Department were appointed to serve during the 2000-2001 term:

Chaplain	Kenneth Spurgeon
Counselor	Franklin C. Bergquist, PDC
Historian	Dean K. Speaks, PDC
Signals Officer	Dean K. Speaks, PDC
Graves Registration	Dean K. Speaks, PDC
Patriotic Instructor	
Eagle Scout Certificate	

The officers were installed at 6:15 p.m. by Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Ed Krieser.

Good of the Order:

Gwenda Matheny reported that the DUVCW Tent in Newton was folding and that the DUVCW is planning on donating the stations to the Department of Kansas, SUVCW. These will be stored at the Coyne Camp for use by the Camp and by the Department. A heartfelt thank you to the Daughters for their kind donation.

There being no further business to come before the Encampment the meeting closed at 6:35 p.m. for our Banquet.

Banquet:

Following a catered dinner the following Department Awards were presented:

William W. Nixon Award for "Camp of the Year"	Old Abe Camp #16, Topeka
Leonidas B. Davis Award for "Recruiter of the Year"	Jeff Dunaway, Topeka
Patrick H. Coney Award for "Member of the Year"	Jeff Dunaway, Topeka

Many thanks to Jeff Dunaway, Secretary of the Old Abe Camp #16 in Topeka for his fine work on behalf of the Order. Also, to the members of the Old Abe Camp for their fine work involving projects in their area including the "Memorial Building" and its rededication ceremony in January.

The "Special Department Commander's Award" for Outstanding service in promoting the name and mission of the SUVCW was presented to PDC Dean K. Speaks for his service to the Department during the 1999-2000 term.

Sr. Vice CinC, Ed Krieser spoke to the members on the several issues that have been before the National Organization this year. These include the Confederate Flag issue in South Carolina, among many others. He also spoke about the upcoming National Encampment to be held this year in Lansing, Michigan and encouraged all to attend. He informed the membership that he is now "one up" on any other National Officer as he is the only one to have actually seen a "G.A.R. Camp Meeting" in person (a reference to the G.A.R. Reunion held at Cowtown during this years Department Encampment). He really was impressed by the activities of the day and wanted to thank the Department for being such gracious hosts.

RESOLUTION

A resolution creating the "Joseph Walter Memorial Preservation Award", to be awarded as needed by the Department Encampment of the Department of Kansas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. This award is to be given to a deserving Municipality, Individual or Organization, which has undertaken the preservation of a Civil War Monument, G.A.R. Hall, G.A.R. Post Burial lots, G.A.R. or Civil War Historical Documents or a Civil War Historical Site within the jurisdiction of the Department of Kansas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The award is named after Joseph Walter, Past Department Commander of the Department of Kansas, Grand Army of the Republic, who single-handedly rescued the Memorial Building Cannon from destruction in the 1920's.

Whereas, the purpose of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is to "perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union 1861 to 1865", and

Whereas, the preservation of monuments and memorials to the Grand Army of the Republic and the men who saved the Union, G.A.R. Hall's, Burial lots owned by G.A.R. Posts, G.A.R. or Civil War related Historical Documents, and Civil War Historical Sites, are of utmost importance, and

Whereas, the Department of Kansas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War wishes to honor such Municipalities, Individuals or Organizations which undertake such preservation efforts within our jurisdiction. Therefore, be it;

Resolved, that the 4th Annual Encampment of the Department of Kansas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, in assembly in Wichita, Kansas hereby creates an award, to be presented as needed by the Department Encampment to such deserving Municipalities, Individuals or Organizations.

*Resolved, said award is to be named the "**Joseph Walter Memorial Preservation Award**", in honor of a Past Department Commander of the Department of Kansas, Grand Army of the Republic who single-handedly rescued the "*Memorial Building Cannon*" from destruction in the 1920's.*

Be it Further Resolved, that said award shall consist of a plaque with the recipient's name duly engraved on same. Said plaque shall be fabricated as needed, be paid for out of Department funds, and will be accompanied by an awarding resolution stating the reason(s) that said recipient is being honored, along with a letter of congratulations signed by the Department Commander and the Department Secretary. The award should be presented in a public ceremony conducted by the members of the Department of Kansas.

This resolution presented, moved, seconded and passed by the Delegates to the 4th Annual Encampment of the Department of Kansas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, in assembly in Wichita, Kansas this 29th day of April, 2000.

Signed:

Franklin C. Bergquist
Department Commander

Attest:

Thomas L. Page
Department Secretary