

THE FRANKLIN CAMP MONTHLY BULLETIN

OFFICIAL DISPATCH FOR THE FRANKLIN CAMP #5
DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

VOLUME 6, No. 2

FEBRUARY 16, 2026

1916 GAR REUNION TIED TO GROWTH OF KANSAS CITY

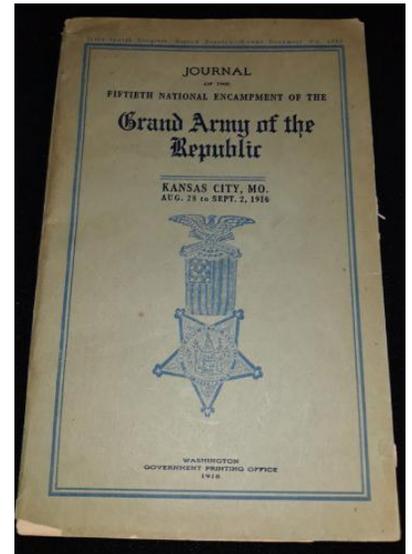
The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Franklin Camp 5 held its first meeting of 2026 on January 26 and it was a great start to the new year with twenty members in attendance. The camp welcomed its 46th member with the addition of Lee Wilson to the membership rolls.

As usual, the first meeting of the year started off with a reminder to the membership to submit their dues for 2026. Brothers were urged to use electronic methods (PayPal or Venmo) to submit their dues due to the unreliability of the Post Office.

Next on the agenda was a discussion of the unfortunate situation that has arisen regarding the Commander position for the camp. Due to National Regulations, Camp Commander Jim Thornton, who will be assuming the Office of Department of Kansas Commander, will have to step down as camp commander. A solution was proposed by Department Secretary Alan Russ where Jim will switch camp offices with Secretary Dan Stilley. Dan will assume the office of camp commander and Jim will take over as camp secretary.

Following a few more agenda items, the highlight of the evening came. Brother Dan Stilley presented a fascinating program on the 1916 Grand Army of the Republic Reunion held in Kansas City. What was striking about his discussion was how this reunion seemed to coincide with the growth and overall improvement of conditions in the city itself. Up until about 1908, Kansas City had a poor reputation as a possible location for conventions or national gatherings. The main train terminal, Union Station, was in the middle of the stock yards and the city really had no convention center or large hotel facilities. Scathing reviews had been published by several organizations, including a blistering opinion by the GAR. But then Kansas City woke up and modernized.

A new Union Station was built, a convention center was established, new opulent hotels sprung up, an electric streetcar system was established, a massive amusement park (Electric Park) was constructed, and Kansas City became a destination for organizations like the GAR to hold national meetings.



And so, in 1916, the GAR held their 50th Anniversary National Reunion in Kansas City.

Dan then went into detail on the Reunion proceedings. Strikingly, it became obvious how today's SUVCW proceedings are not that much different from the GAR proceedings of over a hundred years ago. We truly are the SONS OF UNION VETERANS!

RENEWAL TIME – ONLY TWO WEEKS LEFT!!

Attention all Brothers of the Camp – it is that time of year when we are all required to submit our membership renewal dues! Dues for Calendar Year 2026 will be \$45.00 (\$33.00 Nat + \$7.00 Dept + \$5.00 Camp = \$45.00 Total). **Life Members are only responsible for Department Dues (\$7.00) and Camp Dues (\$5.00) for \$12.00 in total.** Payment of the \$45.00 dues must be submitted to Camp Treasurer Richard Miller by March 1, 2026.

You are welcome to include an additional donation to the camp's new Quilt-of-Valor fund (or indicate if you would like to include an additional donation for a camp function/expense of your choice). Simply make note of any additional donation.

Electronic payment is preferred. We offer two options for electronic payment for your convenience. **(1)** You may go to PayPal (<https://www.paypal.com/> or through the PayPal app) to send payment to the camp. You can send your payment directly to the camp checking account by using Richard Miller's email address: **rt_miller@att.net** as the receiver of payment. **(2)** You may also send your dues payment through Venmo. You may send your camp dues payment to the camp using Venmo ID **Richard-Miller-1085** as the recipient.

If you must send your renewal dues via U.S. Postal Service, please cut out and complete the form below, then mail along with your check for \$45.00 (**or \$12.00 for Life Members**) made out to SUVCW Franklin Camp to camp treasurer Richard Miller.

SUVCW – Department of Kansas – Franklin Camp 2026 Dues

Member Name: _____

Member Address: _____

Member Phone Number: Land Line: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Member E-Mail: _____

Please complete the information requested above. Mail with your check for \$45 (\$12.00 for Life Members) to:

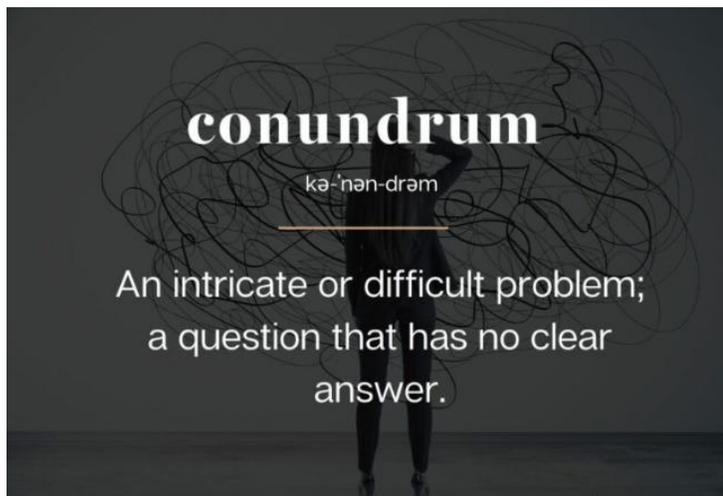
Richard Miller
9801 Sagamore Rd
Leawood, KS 66206

*****PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF ANY ADDITIONAL DONATION TO THE QUILT-OF-VALOR FUND*****



****IF DUES ARE NOT RECEIVED BY THE
CAMP TREASURER BY MARCH 1, YOU WILL
BE DROPPED FROM THE MEMBERSHIP
ROLLS. AFTER MARCH 1, REINSTATEMENT
OF MEMBERSHIP IS POSSIBLE FOR AN
ADDITIONAL \$10 REINSTATEMENT FEE*****

A Command Conundrum ... And a Solution



Let's just begin by saying 2026 did not start off too well for SUVCW Franklin Camp and its Commander, Jim Thornton. On Sunday, January 4, Jim, who will become the Department of Kansas Commander at the Department Encampment on March 28, was in his office beginning to work on who he would appoint to department offices. He noticed his email signaled a new message in his inbox. It was from Department Secretary Alan Russ.

The first sentence in Alan's email just about knocked Jim off his chair: "I wanted to make sure that you were aware a brother cannot hold the office of Department Commander and Camp Commander at

the same time." What on earth! Where did this come from? Alan's email went on to outline the procedure where Jim would have to vacate his Camp Commander position, thereby elevating the camp Senior Vice Commander to oversee the camp until the camp council elects a new commander.

Although this is not specifically outlined in the national bylaws, rules, or regulations, a legal opinion on this matter was handed down by the National Counselor, William T. Church, at the National Encampment on July 1, 1946. This opinion states, "I am of the opinion that the Department Commander holds jurisdiction over the Camp Commander and that the duties of the two offices are sufficiently incompatible to disqualify the Camp Commander when he is promoted to the position of Department Commander. We must insist that the office of Camp Commander shall be vacated when the incumbent is promoted to the responsible position of Department Commander." On April 21, 2011, National Commander-in-Chief Brad Schall reaffirmed this opinion with his issuance of General Order #16 (Series 2010-2011), "The Commander-in-Chief rules that an elected Department Commander must vacate the elected position of Camp Commander."

Well, wasn't this a fine mess. When it came right down to it, this opinion and subsequent General Order actually made sense. When you think about the chain of command, Jim, as Department Commander, could not oversee himself as Camp Commander. But there was a loophole. In that same 1946 opinion, Counselor Church stated, "In certain instances in the past, a Department Commander has held an office in the camp at the same time he has exercised his duties as Department Commander. Where it has occurred in the past has been approved by the Department and the camp members and officers."

In a phone call between Alan and Jim, Alan made a suggestion which would make use of this exception to the rule. He proposed Commander Thornton and Franklin Camp Secretary Dan Stilley SWITCH POSITIONS with the approval of the camp. Jim (who had been camp secretary prior to Commander) would become camp secretary and Dan would become Commander. This would allow Jim to still be influential in camp operations and allow Dan to eventually earn the "Past Camp Commander" or PCC designation.

Secretary Stilley agreed when subsequently contacted. Franklin Camp Council and officers voiced their approval. So, at the Franklin Camp meeting on March 26, the camp command structure will be modified as discussed above.

From being the bearer of bad news and causing a command conundrum, Alan Russ devised a remarkable solution.



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS
FRANKLIN CAMP #5
OLATHE, KANSAS
JIM THORNTON, COMMANDER

Camp Order 1
Series 2026
February 1, 2026

1) References

- a) In accordance with Chapter II, Article V, Section 1 (including footnotes 58 and 59) “No Brother shall be eligible for election to the office of Department Commander unless he has served as a Camp Commander.” When a Camp Commander is promoted to Department Commander, Camp Command must be vacated. One cannot hold the office of Camp Commander and Department Commander at the same time.
 - i) 58 A sitting Camp Commander is eligible for election as Department Commander. NC Grim Op I, 129th, 429
 - ii) 59 When a Camp Commander is promoted to Department Commander, Camp Command must be vacated. One cannot hold the office of Camp Commander and Department Commander at the same time. NC Church, Op 1, 65th, 40.
 - b) On April 21, 2011, National Commander-in-Chief Brad Schall reaffirmed this opinion with his issuance of General Order #16 (Series 2010-2011), “The Commander-in-Chief rules that an elected Department Commander must vacate the elected position of Camp Commander.”
- 2) In accordance with the above reference, Franklin Camp 5 Commander James D. Thornton, PCC, shall vacate camp command prior to the Department of Kansas 2026 Encampment to be held March 28, 2026.
 - 3) Commander James D. Thornton, PCC, shall vacate command of Franklin Camp 5 during the scheduled camp meeting of March 26.
 - 4) With the approval of the Franklin Camp 5 Council, Brother Daniel W. Stilley, currently holding the Office of Camp Secretary, shall assume command of Franklin Camp 5 during the scheduled camp meeting of March 26.
 - 5) Brother James D. Thornton, PCC, shall assume the Office of Secretary for Franklin Camp 5 during the scheduled camp meeting of March 26.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

James D. Thornton, PCC
SUVCW Franklin Camp 5 Commander

PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN

BY BILL STOKER

Last fall, I made a trip I had dreamed of for a long time. My sons and I traveled to Europe to tour the Normandy Beaches and Battle of the Bulge sites. Two of the most moving places we visited were the American Cemetery at Colville-Sur-Mer, just above Omaha Beach and the American Cemetery in Luxembourg. As I saw the rows of clean white crosses and Stars of David, I was struck by what a high price the United States has paid for freedom, especially other people's freedom.



Omaha Beach is peaceful now, but my imagination carried me back to the time when young American kids fought their way up the draw to penetrate Hitler's Atlantic Wall, just below the current cemetery. Many of those young men were from the 29th Infantry Division, the Blue and Gray Division, made up of men from central Virginia and New York City who had never been in combat.



The cemetery is beautiful and serene now, but in 1944 was filled with nearly 20,000 American Fathers, Brothers, and Sons collected from across Normandy. Especially poignant are the crosses marked "Here lies in honored glory an American soldier known but to God." The United States is the only country in the world to work to treat her fallen with so much respect, most war dead of other countries are buried where they fall. The families of those lost in Normandy, and the Ardennes, were given the option of returning their

loved ones or leaving them with their comrades in Europe. A little over half were returned to the States leaving just under 9,300 in Colville-Sur-Mer and a few over 5,000 still lie in Luxembourg.

Both cemeteries are very beautiful and well maintained by The American Battle Monuments Commission. Between the two cemeteries there are almost 2,000 names on remembrance walls of Americans who were never found and yet are sought after still today. Whenever one of them is found, they mark his name with a silver rosette. In the square of Saint Mer Église stands a memorial to the men of the 82nd Airborne placed by the wartime French mayor: It reads, "They gave all of their tomorrows for our today." I once saw an interview with Stephen Ambrose in which he said in 1945 anyone seeing young soldiers of any nation was terrified of them, except for the Americans, young GIs who liberated Europe with chewing gum, chocolates, and their precious blood.

I defy any American to go to one of those holy places, see the rows of heroes, and hear the strains of taps to not feel the immense pride of being able to say, "I am an American."



What about you? When did you feel the proudest to be an American? What does it mean to you to be an American?

We would like to continue a series of articles in the newsletter on this subject.

If you would like to contribute your proudest moment, or what it means to you to be an American, please send your write up to me at JDThornton85@live.com.

Let's celebrate America!



2026 Department Encampment

Saturday, March 28, 2026

WHERE:

Pottawatomie Baptist Mission at Kansas History Museum

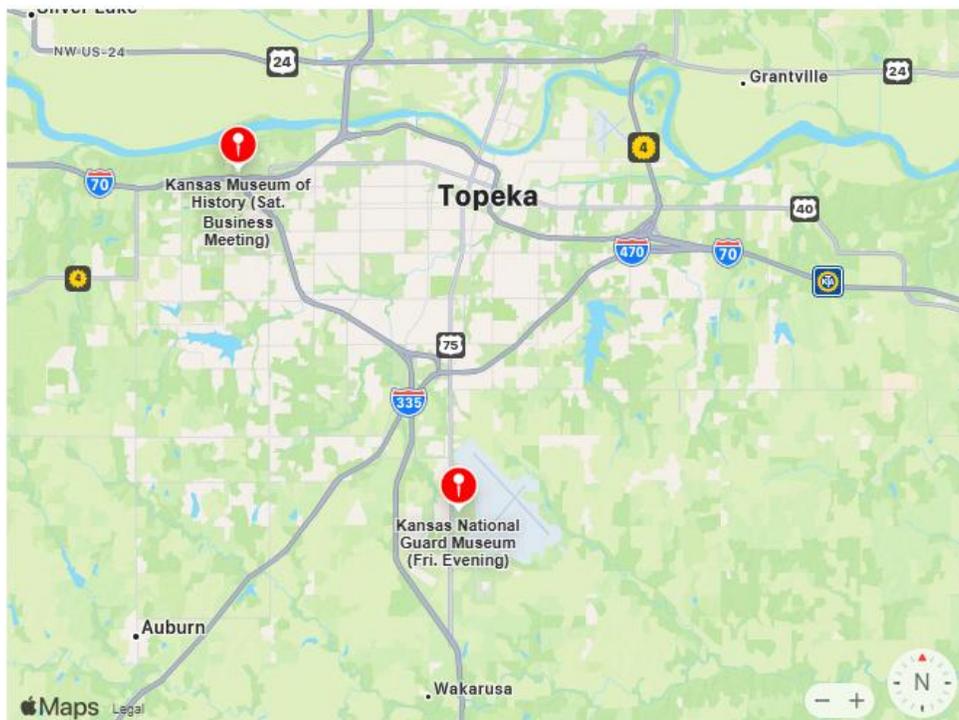
Kansas Museum of History
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka, Kansas

WHEN:

Registration opens at 10:30 A.M.
Memorial Service/Business Meeting starts at 11:00 A.M.
Meeting will be over by 4:30 P.M.
[see [Department Order No. 8](#) for additional information]

FRIDAY EVENING DINNER

There will be a buffet dinner on Friday evening, March 27, 2026, at the Kansas National Guard Museum, 125 SE Airport Drive, Topeka, beginning at 6:30 P.M. Cost of the meal is \$25.00 per person, and advance registration and payment are required by March 20, 2026. See the reservation form for details.



Friday Night March 27, 2026, Department of Kansas SUVCW Dinner

In honor of our 30th year as a Department, we will hold an Encampment Dinner on Friday evening March 27, 2026, at 6:30 PM at the Kansas National Guard Museum, 125 SE Airport Drive, Forbes Field, Topeka, Kansas. All brothers and their spouses or guests are welcome to attend. The event will be catered by Bill's BBQ from Eudora, KS. The event will be buffet style, and the menu will include pulled pork, BBQ beef, two sides including baked beans, dessert, and drink. Cost for the meal is \$25.00 each, which includes tax.

Brother Alan Russ has put together a short history of the 30 years of the Department of Kansas SUVCW to share with the group. This will not be a formal affair, so jackets are not required. It will be a time to eat, share, and visit with other members of the department. This is something we usually don't get to do at our regular Department Encampment meeting.

To register and pay to attend the dinner please complete the form below and mail it and your check, made out to "Department of KS – SUVCW" to: Rocky Bartlow, 125 NW Courtland Ave., Topeka, KS 66606.

Or

Payment can be made using Venmo as follows: @rocky-bartlow. If you pay electronically, email the completed form to chiefstaff@sucwks.org

Hope you can attend the dinner. It should be a great time. Also please try to attend the 30th Annual Encampment of the Department of Kansas SUVCW the following day, Saturday, March 28, at the Topeka History Museum with registration starting at 10:30 am and the Memorial Service at 11:00 am.

Tom Schmidt, PDC
Chairperson Dept. Encampment Committee

RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 20, 2026

Department of KS SUVCW Dinner on Friday March 27, 2026, at 6:30 pm at the Kansas National Guard Museum, 125 SE Airport Drive, Forbes Field, Topeka, Kansas.

Name: _____

Number of attendees: _____ X \$25.00 = \$ 0.00 total

Send completed form and check made to Department of KS SUVCW to

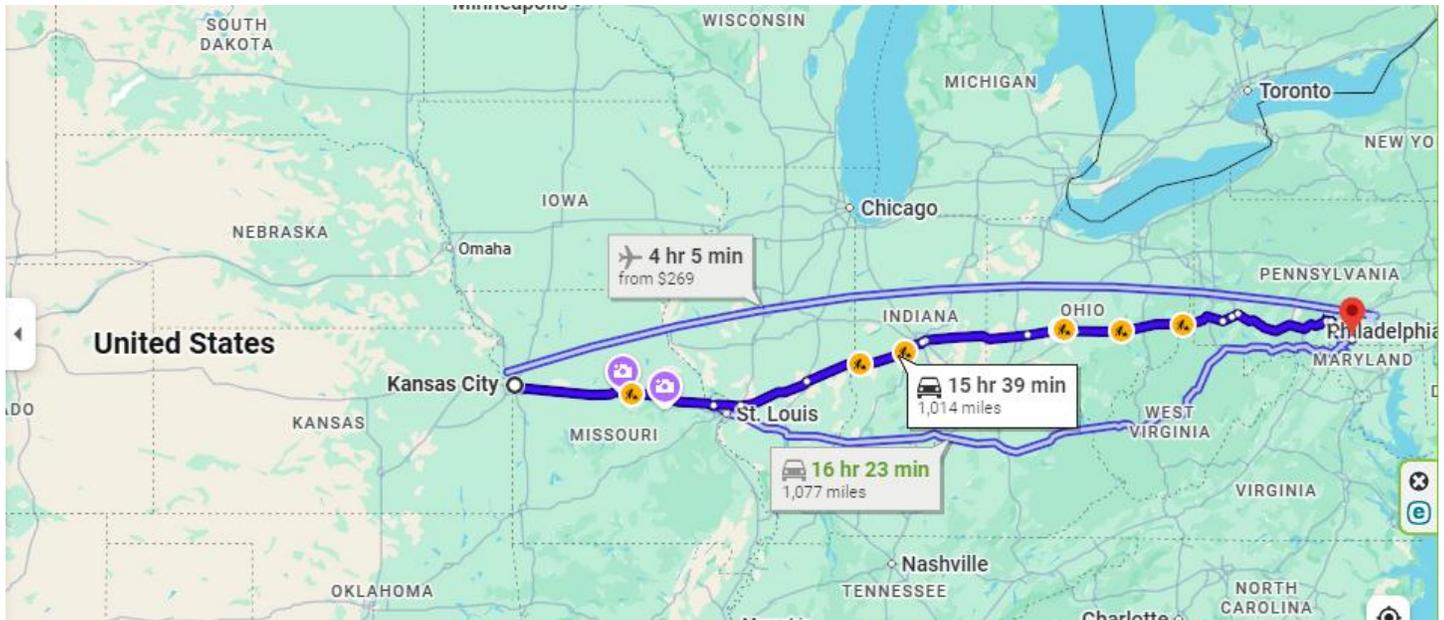
Rocky Bartlow
125 NW Courtland Ave.
Topeka, KS 66606

or you can pay by Venmo as follows - @rocky-bartlow and email the form to chiefstaff@sucwks.org

A Proposal for Attending the National Encampment

For those of you who are not aware, the 145th National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Allied Orders will be held in Gettysburg, PA, July 30-August 2, 2026. With the encampment being held at the pre-eminent Civil War battle site, coupled with America's 250th Anniversary, this promises to be one of the most outstanding national encampments in the history of the SUVCW.

The Department of Kansas would like to have as many department brothers attend as possible. Although a small department (165 Brothers), we have quite a few who have expressed interest in attending the encampment in Gettysburg. The largest hurdle to overcome is logistics.



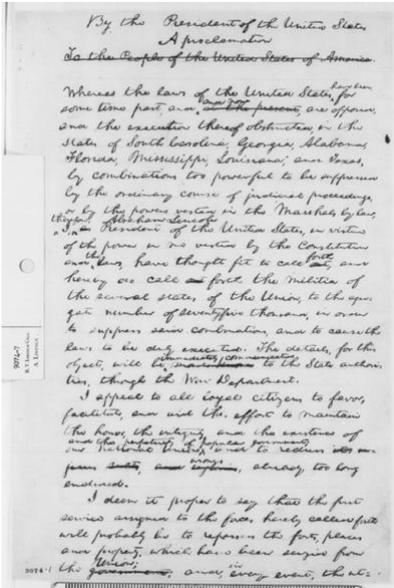
Driving to Gettysburg from Kansas City is 17 hours or more (non-stop) and would most likely involve two overnight stops, both there and back. As for flying, Gettysburg does not have a commercial airport. The options for flying from KCI are Harrisburg (45 miles from Gettysburg), Baltimore-Washington (60 miles), Washington-Dulles (70 miles), or Philadelphia (120 miles). If flying, renting a car must be factored in. Harrisburg may not seem like a bad option, but there are no direct flights from KCI, all would require at least one layover, and they are not cheap -- \$300 to \$500 economy class round trip. The total journey time for connecting flights usually takes around four to seven hours or more, depending on the layover(s) duration.

During the Department of Kansas Council meeting on January 19, a suggestion was brought forth during the open discussion portion of the meeting. Could the department provide a large van, a minibus, or some type of coach for all national encampment attendees to travel to Gettysburg together? Not only would this be convenient, but it would also allow our delegation to remain together and arrive together. It would still most likely involve two overnight stops each way. Also, the driving responsibilities could be shared. The overall cost of the rental fee and fuel could be split among everyone. Each attendee would be responsible for his own lodging during the overnight stops. The major hurdle in this idea is the coordination of a central, convenient departure point.

So, are there any Brothers from Franklin Camp who would be interested in this idea of a department sponsored van or minibus to provide transportation to and from the National Encampment? Let us know!

The First 4th of July (Independence Day) Of the Civil War

Here we are getting ready to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the United States. We're lucky. One hundred sixty-five years ago, it looked like our nation would be split apart. By July 4, 1861, eleven states had seceded from the union and shot had already been fired. So, what was that first Independence Day of the Civil War like?



How does an emergency session of Congress sound for a 4th of July event? Soon after Abraham Lincoln took office, the commander of Fort Sumter in South Carolina's Charleston Harbor reported that supplies were running low. Several members of the president's cabinet recommended evacuating the fort. Instead, the president chose to resupply it, but with food rather than with weapons. At 4:40 a.m. on April 12, 1861, Confederate cannons opened fire on Fort Sumter and Union forces surrendered 34 hours later. **The attack prompted President Lincoln to issue a proclamation on April 15 calling upon Congress to convene an emergency session on July 4.** He also called for 75,000 troops to protect the seat of government and suppress the rebellion—although they were asked to serve for only 90 days.

The response across the North to the president's call was swift. As one journalist recorded, Lincoln's proclamation "was received with the beating of drums and the ringing notes of the bugle, calling the defenders of the capitol to their colors. Every city and hamlet had its flag-raising." Senator John Sherman of Ohio later described this impressive reaction in his memoirs: "The response

of the loyal states to the call of Lincoln was perhaps the most remarkable uprising of a great people in the history of mankind. Within a few days the road to Washington was opened, but the men who answered the call were not soldiers, but citizens, badly armed, and without drill or discipline." The first Union troops, volunteers from Pennsylvania, arrived in Washington on April 18 and **were quartered in the House wing of the Capitol.** The next to arrive was the Sixth Regiment from Massachusetts. Having encountered angry mobs of Southern sympathizers in Baltimore, the Massachusetts soldiers arrived in Washington on April 19 bloodied and exhausted. **They established their camp in the Senate Chamber.**



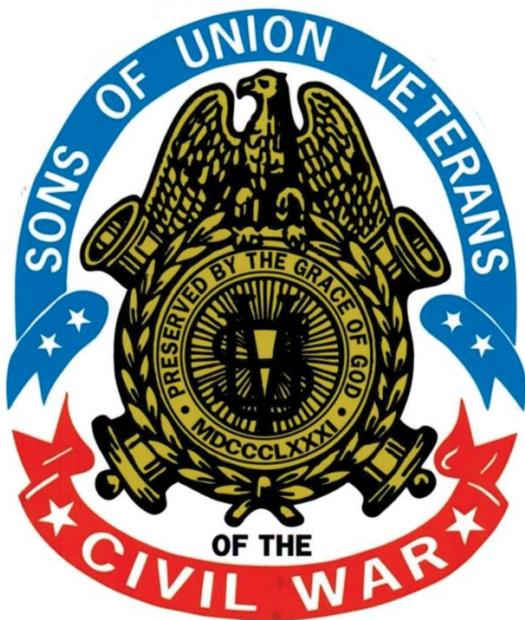
THE NEW YORK FIRE SQUARES QUARTERED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AT WASHINGTON, D. C.—LARGELY BY THE SPECIAL ARMY.—(SEE PAGE 30.)

There you have it. As our nation’s Independence Day approached in 1861, the capitol building of the nation was being occupied by military troops. A militant spirit prevailed when Congress met on July 4, 1861. The more radical members pressed the administration for quick military action. Rumors spread that President Lincoln had no intention of suppressing the rebellion and was simply delaying, in order to achieve a compromise with the South. The radicals demanded a quick campaign aimed at the rebel capital of Richmond. Even though northern troops remained untrained and untested for battle, popular support grew for war. “On to Richmond!” read the headline in the influential New York Tribune: “Forward to Richmond! The Rebel Congress must not be allowed to meet there.” The drumbeat of publicity persuaded Lincoln to launch an early offensive.

A recess was called, and on Sunday, July 21, 1861, some members of Congress gathered in Centreville, Virginia, about 30 miles from Washington, to watch the Union forces march into battle at Bull Run. Civilians rode out in wagons and packed picnic lunches to enjoy while watching the battle (thus known as the “Picnic Battle”). As journalist Benjamin Perley Poore commented, spectators gathered “as they would have gone to see a horse-race or to witness a Fourth of July procession.” The Union army performed well in the morning, but by early afternoon the Confederates brought in reinforcements, staging an intense battle over a space known as Henry Hill. When Union generals finally called retreat around 4:00 p.m., the frightened soldiers fled for their lives, sweeping up civilians in their retreat back to Washington.

Near the battlefield, a group of senators were eating lunch. They heard a loud noise and looked around to see the road filled with retreating soldiers, horses, and wagons. “Turn back, turn back, we’re whipped,” Union soldiers cried as they ran past the spectators. Startled, Michigan senator Zachariah Chandler tried to block the road to stop the retreat. Senator Benjamin Wade of Ohio, sensing a humiliating defeat, picked up a discarded rifle and threatened to shoot any soldier who ran. While Senator Henry Wilson of Massachusetts distributed sandwiches, a Confederate shell destroyed his buggy, forcing him to escape on a stray mule. Iowa senator James Grimes barely avoided capture and vowed never to go near another battlefield. Dismayed, senators returned to Washington to deliver eyewitness accounts to a stunned President Lincoln. Only one member of Congress, New York representative Alfred Ely, made it to Richmond that day—as a prisoner of war.

And that is how Independence Day 1861, the first 4th of July of the Civil War unfolded. Makes you appreciate the upcoming 250th Anniversary a little bit more, doesn’t it?



THE COMMANDER'S COMMENTARY

FEBRUARY 2026

Franklin Camp Commander Jim Thornton



Let's begin with a definition. *SHARED HISTORY*: a collective past experienced or recognized by multiple individuals, families, communities, or groups, forming a common story that creates belonging, shapes identity, and influences present understanding, going beyond individual memories to a communal narrative of intertwined experiences, struggles, and triumphs.

Why did I begin this month's column with that definition? It's because that term, "SHARED HISTORY," not only applies to us, but it also applies to ALL heritage organizations for the next seven years as America celebrates its 250th anniversary. Think about it – none of these organizations, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, etc., would exist without the common thread of the American Revolution.

Granted, each of these organizations focuses on a specific time period, and in the case of the SUVCW and the SCV, different ideologies within a specific time period. But the fact remains, when all these individual time periods are put together, they construct a shared history of the United States of America. It's just like a puzzle – individual pieces put together to form a whole picture.

This is why we should, or better yet – we need to, work together, side-by-side, for the next seven years to celebrate and honor America in recognition of 250 years as a nation. Think of what we have endured together – Revolutionary War, Civil War, two World Wars, a Cold War that could have destroyed our entire planet with the press of a button. In working together, we acknowledge our shared history and recognize these organizations are intertwined.

Personally, I want to see the SUVCW Franklin Camp reach out to the SAR, to the SCV, to the DAR and ask, "What can we do together to bring our shared history to life and honor America?" The SUVCW Franklin Camp and the SCV Key Camp have set the example on working together at community events and demonstrating the Civil War as a shared history. Now we need to do the same with other organizations (even the American Legion and the VFW) to enlarge this demonstration of shared history to encompass ALL American History. These next seven years are the time to do it.

Many of us are also members of the SCV, the SAR, the American Legion, and others. Reach out to your other groups and ask if they have anything planned where the SUVCW can join in. Our nation was founded by individual colonies working together for a common, shared goal. We, as their descendants, should follow their example and bring our organizations together for a common, shared celebration of America's 250th.



Help me achieve this. Help me reach out to other groups to join together in celebrating our nation in observance of OUR 250th anniversary. Help me celebrate our SHARED HISTORY.

*Your Commander,
Jim Thornton*

FRANKLIN CAMP MONTHLY BULLETIN

The Franklin Camp Monthly Bulletin is a newsletter published for the Franklin Camp #5 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The SUV is a non-profit organization with a patriotic, historical, and genealogical orientation and is not affiliated with any other organization. Opinions in this newsletter reflect the views of the writers and are not necessarily a statement of the views of the SUV, the Department of Kansas, nor any other camp. Comments and articles are solicited.

Franklin Camp Website Resources

Franklin Camp Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/805798033688654>

Franklin Camp Webpage: <https://suvwks.org/franklin-camp-no-5/>

SUV National: <http://www.suvcw.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SUVCW/>

Department of Kansas Website: <https://suvwks.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Sons-of-Union-Veterans-of-the-Civil-War-Department-of-Kansas-124886647572266/>

Franklin Camp Officers

<u>COMMANDER</u>	<u>SR. VICE COMMANDER</u>	<u>JR. VICE COMMANDER</u>	<u>SECRETARY</u>	<u>TREASURER</u>
Jim Thornton	Matthew Archambault	Jeff Winters	Dan Stilley	Richard Miller

NEXT MEETING

Franklin Camp No. 5 meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at Pegah's Restaurant, 12122 West 87th Street, Lenexa, Kansas. The camp does not meet in December.

The Franklin Camp will meet on **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26**, at Pegah's Restaurant at 12122 W. 87th Street in Lenexa, Kansas, at 6 p.m. for dinner and conversation. Our featured program will be provided by Brother Richard Miller who will be speaking to us on "*John Brown's Time Before Kansas.*"

Come early and join us for camaraderie, dinner, and education! As always, your wife or significant other is welcome. Feel free to bring guests!

Don't forget to bring a prospective recruit!

UPCOMING PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTION FOR THE FRANKLIN CAMP

February 2026 – Richard Miller – John Brown's Life Before Kansas

March 2026 – Jeff Harrington – Civil War History of Morticians

April 2026 – Mike Thompson – Navy Seals

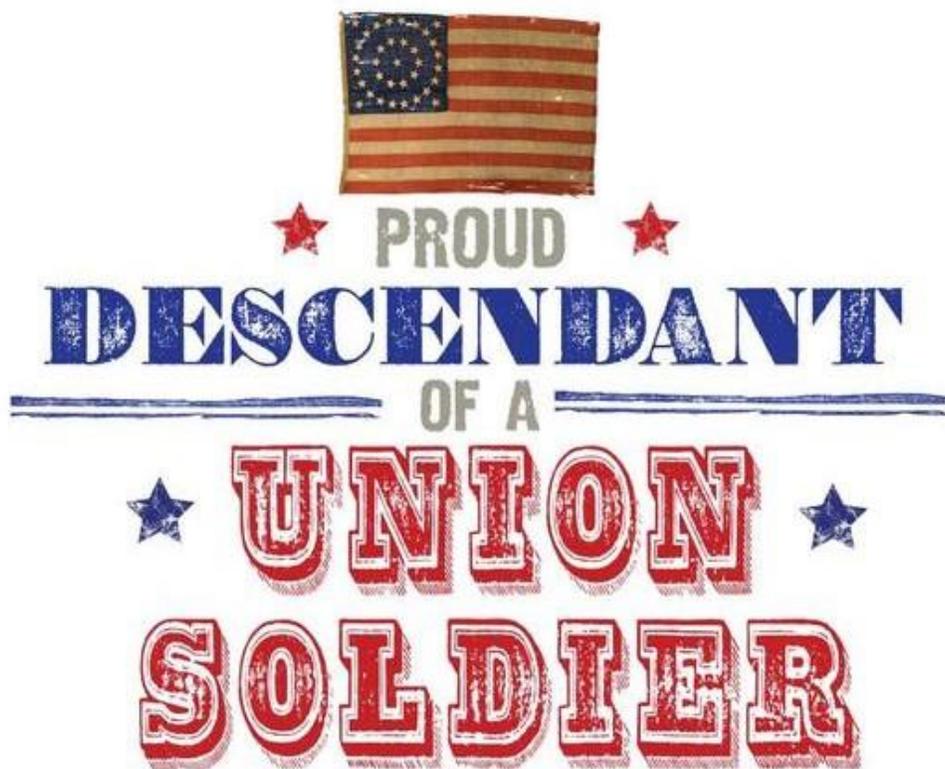
May 2026 – John Hamilton – The Bloody 100th Bomb Group

****IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT A PROGRAM AT A FUTURE MEETING, PLEASE E-MAIL A MEMBER OF OUR PROGRAMS COMMITTEE****

WANTED: NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

The Franklin Camp Monthly Bulletin is always looking for articles on topics of interest. If you attend a Civil War event or have something you would like to contribute to the monthly newsletter (maybe a book recommendation and review?), please notify our newsletter editor Jim Thornton at JDThornton85@live.com. This year, in commemoration of our nation's 250th Anniversary, we would like to do a series of articles on what it means to you to be an American. What was your proudest moment as an American? Please submit your contribution in a WORD DOC or PDF format to Jim at the e-mail address above.

“THE LAST FIVE LETTERS OF THE WORD HISTORY SPELL “STORY.” AND THAT’S EXACTLY HOW HISTORY SHOULD BE TAUGHT. NUMBERS AND DATES HAVE NO SOUL. SUCH PRESENTATIONS FALL FLAT, FOR HISTORY IS ALIVE AND RELEVANT.”



REQUIRED DISCLAIMER: “Individuals attending events hosted by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, by virtue of their attendance, agree to the usage of their likeness in the Banner, any Camp or Department Newsletter, any SUVCW website and/or on any SUVCW Social Media outlet, promotional brochures, or any other SUVCW material.”