



Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 NEWSLETTER

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a fraternal organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of heroes who fought and worked to save the Union. Organized in 1881 and chartered by Congress in 1954, we are the legal successor to the Grand Army of the Republic.



From Commander Warren

Greetings All!

I feel very honored and privileged to have been elected Camp Commander for the 2023 year and hope to see our camp and auxiliary grow. Since we have several newer members, I thought I would give you a little background about me.

Continued on page 2.

Commander Warren

**BROTHERS!
RE-UP FOR ANOTHER
YEAR!**

**\$38 for Regular
Members**

ANNUAL DUES + SVR

National \$33

Department \$6

Camp \$6, SVR \$3

*The Camp is subsidizing
your dues by \$10.*

**\$9 for Life Members
ANNUAL DUES + SVR**

Camp \$6, SVR \$3

Our Christmas Belles



See page 4.

CONTENTS

- 1 From Commander Warren
- 4 Camp and Auxiliary on the Move!
 - December 3—De Soto Christmas Parade
 - December 9—Christmas Party and Installation
 - December 11—Bell Ringing
 - December 16—Wreaths Across America
- 11 December Treasurer's Report
- 12 New Officers / Calendar



**McCormick Camp Chartering
Ceremony 2017**

Civil War history has been a major part of my life since I was around seven years old (as that is when the history bug bit me). My reenacting years began in 1995, and I have been in uniform ever since. Then, I joined the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War with the U.S. Grant Camp #68 in March 2005 deriving my membership from my great-great-grandfather, Williams S. Reed (25th Missouri Infantry, Company K and later 1st Missouri Engineers, Company C) who served the Union war effort from October 7, 1862 – July 22, 1865. By the Fall of 2006, I had the honor of starting the Gen. James R. McCormick Camp #215 S.U.V.C.W. in St. Francois County and serving several terms as Camp Commander

(before this camp merged into Fletcher Camp in October 2016). In addition, I have also served as Counselor for the Louisa Volker Auxiliary since 2008 and as Department of Missouri Commander for the S.U.V.C.W. from 2011–2012. I was fortunate enough to have served through the ranks of the Sons of Veterans Reserve from Private through 1st Lieutenant and also started the 47th Missouri Infantry, Company E – S.V.R. (retiring with the rank of 1st Lieutenant in September 2016). I am also a graduate of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War's Memorial University program.

Furthermore, I have had the privilege to have worked for and volunteered for many historic sites (both Missouri State Historic Sites and National Park Service), libraries, and many other organizations. My educational background also has benefited my love of history, as I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education (with a minor in Social Studies) and a Master of Arts degree in Civil War Military History. A few of the accolades for my service to Civil War history have been: Francis P. Blair, Jr. Award and Meritorious Service Award (Department of Missouri); Meritorious Service Award (National S.U.V.C.W.); Meritorious Service Award with Silver Star (Sons of Veterans Reserve); Major Augustus Davis Award (National A.S.U.V.C.W.); resolutions from the Missouri State Senate & House of Representatives; a 34-Star U.S. flag flown by the U.S. Navy over the *U.S.S. Constitution* with Certificate; and, a special recognition letter from Missouri State Governor Mike Parson. I am also an Assistant Cub Scout Master for Pack #423 in Park Hills, Missouri, teach 5th Grade Title 1 Reading Intervention for North St. Francois County Intermediate School in Desloge, and teach American History 1 for Mineral Area College in Park Hills (which I have done for the past nine-plus years).

Anyway, that's enough about me. I hope to see more interest sparked amongst our group and that we can have a great year. One thing that will be changing is our meeting days – 2nd Mondays monthly (as agreed upon at our October & November meetings). I would also like to see what interests that our members might have. One idea is to try to have a shorter business meeting followed by a history program of sorts. Another idea, that

has been tossed around, is to do some more living histories, and maybe set up at Battle of Pilot Knob site for a weekend. I will try to get a questionnaire (possibly one that can remain anonymous) out in an email to see just what everyone would like to see our groups do over the next year.

In closing, I want you all to realize that while I have many irons in many fires, I am usually always available via email or text, and want you to be able to reach out to me at any time. So, here's to a great upcoming year honoring our ancestors, teaching others of America's History, and having fun with our Civil War groups! Take care and keep an eye on your emails!



Yours in Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty,

D. Christopher (Chris) Warren, P.D.C.
Camp Commander – Fletcher Camp #47, S.U.V.C.W.

Cell: (573) 430-2809
the_civilwar_guy@yahoo.com

The Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary on the Move!

DECEMBER 3, CHRISTMAS PARADE, DE SOTO

Members of the Camp and Auxiliary enjoyed the cold air and company to march in this year's De Soto Christmas Parade. Once again sporting white wooden rifles and lanterns, the Camp reminded people that lined the parade route about the season of Peace.

Colissa Alexander, Patti McClelland, Kelly Noack, Chris Warren, Mark Arbuthnot, Izaiah Hickman, Alan Trodus, and Robert AuBuchon



DECEMBER 9, CHRISTMAS PARTY AND OFFICER INSTALLATION, DE SOTO

It was nice this year to have 'normal' weather and not be under a tornado watch as we did at last year's Christmas Party. It felt like a record turnout with about 30 members, family, and friends attending. Once again, the De Soto Community Center provided an excellent meal at a very reasonable price.



Department Commander Robert Amsler swears in our Camp Officers



National ASUVCW President Allison Pollitt swears in our Auxiliary Officers



Commander Roussin is presented his PCC badge from his wife, Kathie, while newly installed Commander Warren receives his CC badge from his wife Twyla



National ASUVCW President Allison Pollitt reads the duties of the President's office to newly elected President Colissa Alexander and afterwards past President Kelly Noack pins the badge of office on President Alexander

A few family Christmas portraits



More photos can be found on [Brother Ted's webpage](#)

Merry Christmas everyone and best wishes for a healthy New Year!

DECEMBER 11, BELL RINGING, DE SOTO

One of our annual events was thankfully restored this year after the COVID-19 lockdowns. The event was our efforts at bell-ringing in De Soto for the De Soto Contact Food Pantry. This year, we were in front of the Wal-Mart. Everyone appreciates our festive outfits.

Our Camp and Auxiliary raised \$450 “endeavouring to raise a fund to buy the Poor some meat and drink, and means of warmth” as one Dickens wrote.



This year, the brothers and sisters bell ringers were Doug and Kathie Roussin, Alan Trodus, Mark Arbuthnot, Chris Warren, Abbie Warren, and Patti McClelland. Santa was borrowed from Toys for Tots.

Obviously being from the **North** Pole, he sided with the Union forces during the Civil War.

Ho, ho, ho!

DECEMBER 16, WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA, ARNOLD

St. John's Lutheran Church (LCMS) of Arnold is celebrating its 175th year this year and next. As a part of the celebrations, church members sponsored wreaths for veterans (including Civil War veterans—our Camp's GRO will verify that they are in the national database). Although the number of veterans was about four score, over 200 wreaths were purchased. (Extra wreaths were sent to Jefferson Barrack National Cemetery.) The church will use the profits for [Operation Barnabas](#), which provides ministry to the Armed Forces.



Presenting the Colors



Chaplain (LTC) Hokana gave the program. His military and combat operations included Desert Shield; Desert Storm for the liberation of Kuwait; and Stabilization Force 6, a multi-national peacekeeping force deployed to Bosnia and Herzegovina after the Bosnian war. His involvement in military operations includes Inherent Resolve, Freedom's Sentinel, Enduring Freedom and Resolute Support. He is the Assistant Director, LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces.

Chaplain (LTC) Hokana



Gladys Smith USN (Ret.) gives an address on POW and MIA veterans

Fletcher Camp participated by being involved as the master of ceremonies (Sumner Hunnewell) and the color guard (Robert AuBuchon, Don Roussin, Jr., and Alan Trodus, as well as Gary Scheel from the St. James Camp). Dan Jackson of the Grant Camp was the bugler for the event. Walter Busch from the Grant Camp attended and took photos.

It was a frigid morning with a stiff wind blowing. A box of no fun!



Arnold Mayor Ron Counts



Retiring the colors

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer's Report for DECEMBER 2022

Balance from last report (November 2022)	3129.71
<u>Expenditure</u>	
None	
<u>Income</u>	
2023 DUES Bob Aubuchon	9.00
Donation Bob Aubuchon	11.00
2023 Dues Ted Howell	38.00
2023 Dues Alan Trodus	9.00
<u>Current Balance (5 December 2022)</u>	3196.71
Checking Account	2840.61
Cash	309.05
Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
Gift cards	47.05
<u>End Balance</u>	3196.71

Sword Raffle status: WINNER!!! Anita Otte, Delivery in works.

Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

I am proud to have served Fletcher Camp this past year as your Commander. You are a great group of brothers and sisters. I will always work for the Camp and I know that the new Commander will do a great job.

Douglas Roussin, PCC

YOUR NEWLY ELECTED CAMP OFFICERS

**Commander, Chaplain, Eagle Scout
Coordinator, Counselor (ASUVCW):**

David Christopher Warren
the_civilwar_guy@yahoo.com

Senior Vice Commander:

Steve Alexander
stevewonderful@sbcglobal.net

**JVC, Council Member, Patriotic
Instructor:**

Mark Elmo Arbuthnot
markelmoarbuthnot@gmail.com

Council Member, Historian:

Donald Lee Roussin, Jr.
gastbeer1954@yahoo.com

Council Member:

Douglas Wayne Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Secretary, GRO, CW Memorials Officer:

Sumner Gary Hunnewell
HildifonsTook@prodigy.net

Treasurer:

Alan Richard Trodus bigalastro@yahoo.com

YOUR NEWLY ELECTED AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President

Colissa Alexander lissasong@sbcglobal.net

Vice President:

Kathie Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Council No. 1:

Colleen D. Warren

Council No. 2, Patriotic Instructor:

Susan Breland brelandsusan@yahoo.com

Council No. 3

Kelly Noack kdn417@msn.com

Chaplain:

Nancy Howell tedhowell@charter.net

Secretary, Treasurer, Press Correspondent

Twyla D. Warren clementine_clc@yahoo.com

Patriotic Instructor:

Patti McClelland pattimcclelland55@gmail.com

Guide:

Abigail Warren

CALENDAR

*Camp meetings (6:30 p.m.) at Redeemer Lutheran Church,
1620 Boyd St., De Soto, unless otherwise noted.*

NO MEETING IN JANUARY

NOTE WE NOW MEET ON SECOND MONDAYS!

Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, February 13

Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, March 13

Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, April 10

Camp/Auxiliary Meetings

We start again in February

December birthdays

1st Robert W. AuBuchon

9th Twyla D. Warren

14th Abbie Warren

16th Randal Aubrey Burd Jr.

28th Katherine Roussin

28th Alice Marie Sago

January birthdays

5-Jan Colleen D. Warren

6-Jan Susan M. Breland

10-Jan Steven Alexander

10-Jan Donald Lee Roussin Jr.