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Department of Missouri  
Sons of Union Veterans



# The Missouri Unionist



## SUVCW honors 56th USCT with remembrance ceremony

(Lemay, Missouri) — Returning from the Civil War battlefields, 175 African-American Infantrymen contracted cholera and died just south of St. Louis. Refused burial at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, they were buried in a mass grave.

In the 1930s, some members of the African-American community spearhead the re-interment at the national cemetery and the creation of a monument. In 2014, Sarah Cato, educator in African-American History led a movement to add to the monument the names of the interred soldiers.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War were active with Ms. Cato throughout the event and with her guidance have taken over the responsibility to honor these patriotic men on a regular basis.

Organized by U.S. Grant Camp #68, this year's observance took place on Friday, October 21, 2022, and featured award-winning historian Dorris Keevan-Franke as the keynote speaker. Her keynote address was entitled "Benjamin Oglesby—Private Co D, 56th USCT—Survivor."

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## FROM THE EDITOR

Winter is here. The unforgiving cold has given my family the first white Christmas in several years, but it has caused hardship and even death in other parts of the country. Aside from the weather, winter as a season of life has recently taken the lives of some brothers of our Order and the loved ones of others.

In Missouri, Past Department Commander Sumner Hunnewell just lost his mother, and the Department's thoughts and prayers are with him as we close out another year. We as an Order have recently been in mourning for two Past Commanders-in-Chief. There are some instances where we must partake in the long goodbye as failing health befalls our comrades. Other times, they are taken from us suddenly, their empty chair a stark reminder that life is short and time is precious.

We could be doing other things with that time, but we have chosen to be a part of this fraternity of brothers, joined together by the bravery and sacrifices of our ancestors who not only succeeded in

preserving our Union, but succeeded in paving the way to make this Union a better place for all who inhabit it.

We have good purpose; we not only honor our ancestors, preserve history, and educate others, we often make that history come alive in a world where learning our history is often ignored in lieu of more engaging forms of entertainment.

But aside from what we do for others and in honor of others, we personally benefit immensely from our membership in this fraternal order. As we don the black mourning ribbons and cover our charters again and again, I am reminded of the friendships I have made throughout the years with brothers who are no longer with us—brothers who I would never have met but for my membership in this organization—and I find myself blessed every year for having had the opportunity to serve with them and to be edified by the Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty we share.

Here's to another year. May our



lives in 2023 be full of good health, new and renewed friendships, and plentiful opportunities to serve and give thanks for the blessings we have enjoyed.

In F, C, & L,

Randal A. Burd, Jr., PDC

(aka The Editor)

An ardent supporter of the Union, Thomas Nast joined the staff of Harper's Weekly and created many of the most recognized illustrations of the Civil War.

Did you know he is also almost single-handedly responsible for our modern conceptualization of Santa Claus?



## PCinC Krieser elected Commander of Central Region Association

Department Commander Amsler and other members of the department attended the 82nd annual conference of the Central Region Association of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic in Lansing, Michigan.

(Lansing, Michigan) — In an old GAR Hall Museum, this year's CRA conference was hosted by Grant Camp member and SUVCW PCinC James Pahl. Also in attendance from Missouri were PCinC Ed Krieser, PCinC Donald Palmer, PDC Walt Busch, DC Robert Amsler, Jr., Grant Camp SVC Craig Matthews, and his wife Andrea. This year's conference was a continuation of the ongoing learning conferences open to all members of the SUVCW, DUVCW, WRC, LGAR, and ASUVCW from various states throughout the Midwest and Central States. The organization has been holding the conference since 1940.

Held the first Saturday in October of every year, this year we were stationed in Lansing, Michigan. Starting on Friday night, we had several meals sampling the local cuisine. On Saturday, we went to a nearby GAR Hall museum that several members of the SUVCW help run. We heard a brief talk about the Michigan Preserving the Civil War Flags project at their Capital and then had a brief meeting. The real purpose of the event each year is for members of all the



Allied Orders to visit with each other to discuss problems and possible solutions. This year it was discussed over homemade ice cream on Saturday evening.

Our department has had several commanders of the organization since 1940, the last one being PDC Sumner Hunnewell two years ago. In 2022-2023, we once again have a brother of our department as commander: PCinC Ed Krieser from Phelps Camp #66 out of Springfield, Missouri. And the next two meet-

ing locations have been approved as well. Dayton, Ohio, will be the destination in 2023, and we will be visiting the Air Force Museum. In 2024, the conference will be held in the area of Ferdinand, Indiana, and the Lincoln Boyhood Home will be visited.

Plan to attend now! Check out [www.alliedorderscra.org](http://www.alliedorderscra.org) for upcoming information.

— article by PDC Walt Busch, Unionist Roving Correspondent

# ROTC Coordinator's Message

Dale Crandell, PDC

It's still not too late to reach out to your local ROTC and JROTC unit to introduce your camp and the SUVCW's ROTC award program. At no cost to the ROTC/JROTC unit or camp, the SUVCW provides a medal and ribbon bar for presentation to a deserving cadet or midshipmen selected by the ROTC/JROTC unit commander that:

*Shows a high degree of patriotism to his/her Nation and has demonstrated a high degree of academic performance and leadership.*

Missouri and Arkansas have seventeen college-level ROTC units where students take military science courses and participate in summer training to receive an officer's commission upon graduation. ROTC's connection to the American Civil War dates to the Morrill Act of 1862 when land-grant colleges were required to include military training to supplement the commissioning programs at West Point and Annapolis.

Each college-level ROTC unit is assigned to a local SUVCW camp. Ensure your ROTC unit is aware of the award, that they select the recipient; offer to order the award for them and provide a presenter at their spring ceremony. While college ROTC cadets and midshipmen are not authorized to wear non-military medals, the award can still be presented.

<i>College</i>	<i>ROTC Unit</i>	<i>SUVCW Camp</i>
Arkansas State University	Army ROTC	Murphy Camp #1
Lincoln University	Army ROTC	Lillie Camp #6
Missouri State University	Army ROTC	Phelps Camp #66
Missouri University of Science & Technology	Air Force ROTC	Fletcher Camp #47
Missouri University of Science & Technology	Army ROTC	Fletcher Camp #47
Missouri Western State University	Army ROTC	Westport Camp #64
St. Louis University	Air Force ROTC	Grant Camp #68
Truman State University	Army ROTC	McNeil Camp #62
University of Arkansas - Fayetteville	Air Force ROTC	McPherson Camp #1
University of Arkansas - Fayetteville	Army ROTC	McPherson Camp #1
University of Arkansas - Pine Bluff	Army ROTC	Murphy Camp #1
University of Central Arkansas	Army ROTC	Murphy Camp #1
University of Central Missouri	Army ROTC	Westport Camp #64
University of Missouri - Columbia	Air Force ROTC	Tigers Camp #432
University of Missouri - Columbia	Army ROTC	Tigers Camp #432
University of Missouri - Columbia	Navy ROTC	Tigers Camp #432
Washington University	Army ROTC	Grant Camp #68

For assistance or questions contact the Department's ROTC coordinator at [rotc@suvchwmo.org](mailto:rotc@suvchwmo.org).





SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI

[www.suvcwmo.org](http://www.suvcwmo.org)

**Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PCC**  
Commander

[commander@suvcwmo.org](mailto:commander@suvcwmo.org)

**DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 3**

**Series 2022-2023**

**22 October 2022**

**Headquarters - Division of the Mississippi Flag**

Margaret Grothe, wife of our late brother Jack Grothe, PCC, returned to the department of Missouri yesterday a flag she found among her husband's effects. The flag was originally purchased using the funds of the William T. Sherman/Billy Yank Camp #65. The flag is that of the Headquarters of the Division of the Mississippi. The flag is of importance to Missouri as its two commanders were Generals Grant and Sherman. Major General Ulysses S. Grant served as commander from October 16, 1863 to March 18, 1864 and Major General William T. Sherman from March 18, 1864 to August 6, 1866. The Division was dissolved on that 1866 date.

As U.S. Grant Camp #68 conducts yearly ceremonies honoring both Generals, I hereby order that U.S. Grant Camp #68 is responsible for this flag to be used at appropriate places and times. The flag will remain the property of the department of Missouri. Said camp will also be responsible for purchasing at their expense any pole and holders necessary for display and to record these items into their camp inventory records.

This order shall remain in effect until recalled by a department commander, department encampment or the dissolution of U.S. Grant Camp #68.

The department of Missouri expresses their thanks to Margaret Grothe for returning this property to the department and for her years of dedicated support and service to the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Ordered this 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of October, 2022,

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PCC  
Commander  
Department of Missouri  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Walter E. Busch, PDC  
Interim Secretary  
Department of Missouri  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War







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DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI

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**Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PCC  
Commander**

[commander@suvcwmo.org](mailto:commander@suvcwmo.org)

**DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 4**

**Series 2022-2023**

**26 October 2022**

**Camps to Rewrite By-Laws**

All Camps, whose by-laws reference a rank of more than captain in their camp color guard, are hereby ordered to amend their by-laws to comply with National Regulations, Chapter 1 Article XIII. That regulation states that the commander of any camp color guard, not a unit of the Sons of Veteran's Reserve, cannot have a rank higher than captain.

Any camp's by-laws that do not reference a camp color guard is not required to amend their by-laws. Any camp required to update their by-laws to comply with national regulations should take the time to review and potentially update their by-laws in other ways.

All camp by-law revisions, once approved by the camp, are required, by national by-laws, to submit them to the department commander for his approval.

Ordered this 26th Day of October, 2022,

Robert J. Amsler, Jr., PCC  
Commander  
Department of Missouri  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Walter E. Busch, PDC  
Interim Secretary  
Department of Missouri  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



**Bruce D. Frail**  
**Commander in Chief**  
**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



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**Special Order #1, 4 October 2022—**

**SUVCW National Special Committee on Fundraising**

The following recommendation from the National Committee on Promotions & Marketing was voted on and approved during the 141st National Encampment, below you will find the timeframe of the committee, the job description and the Brothers appointed to the committee.

Create the National Special Committee on Fundraising with a term ending of 30 August 2027 or until made a Standing Committee, whichever comes first.

Job Description for National Special Committee on Fundraising:

1. The National Special Committee on Fundraising would be made up of at least 5 members and as many Aides as needed and requested by the Chairman or Commander-In-Chief. The purpose of this committee is to design, maintain, monitor, and oversee all the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War's fundraising projects and campaigns. This committee would also control the incentive program and provide the incentives as required. This committee would be charged with the maintenance of all records of all fundraising and incentives, which would include updates as requested during the fiscal year with a full year end report to the National Encampment.
2. Design and maintain a SUVCW Signature Fundraising Campaign called "The 1881 Club" details can be found in the National Encampment Program Book or by contacting the National Treasurer.
3. Development of an Annual Capital Fundraising Campaign to support the SUVCW Permanent/Endowment Fund, this would be a mailing campaign where every member of the SUVCW would receive a mailer requesting a onetime or reoccurring donation. This campaign would be targeted to begin within a week after the 2022 National Encampment (if approved), with reporting to take place at the following National Encampment. This campaign would occur every year.
4. Development of a Grant Writing Campaign that would target outside organizations, foundations, and corporations. The type of grant would depend on the grantor as most grants must support a specific project, but some can be requested for operational costs.
5. Development of a Wall of Honor section within the website to honor all of those who support our fundraising.
6. Develop a section within the National Encampment Program Book (2 pages at first) to give updates on current fundraising programs and campaigns and those involved. This portion is in the development stage with the National Committee on Promotion and Marketing picking up the first year's costs.
7. Not limited to what has been included in this document, all ideas and thoughts are welcome, constructive, with outlines preferred.

Committee Brothers:

Chairman Dave Hann, PDC, New Jersey	Member Jeffery French, PDC, New York
Member Don Gates, PDC, Texas	Aide Donald Shaw, PCinC, Michigan
Member Kevin Tucker, PDC, Massachusetts	Aide Michael Beard, PDC, Chesapeake
Member Michael Paquette, PCinC, Chesapeake	Aide Gary Carlberg, Minnesota

Brothers may meet via virtual means, email, or in person. As this is a committee dealing with funding, I would ask that virtual meetings to be recorded, email strings be retained and in person meetings have minutes kept and/or be recorded.





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**General Order #7, 5 October 2022—**

**Withdrawal of General Order #5 and clarification of term “supporting documentation”**

While researching the enquiries surrounding General Order #5 (withdrawn) it was determined that there was an undefined statement in the Charter, Constitution and Regulations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. This undefined statement “supporting documentation” relating to the membership application (form 3). One such statement is found in the C, C, & R; National Regulations; Chapter 1, Camps; Article VII, Elected Officers Job Descriptions and Duties; Section 4, The Camp Secretary; Sub-Section (c), The activities of the Camp Secretary should include; number (10), Maintaining Camp membership applications and supporting documentation.

As stated above, I clarify the statement “supporting documentation” with the following definition and requirement for supporting documentation to be included with the membership application (form 3). It is ordered as of this date forward, that besides proof of service of the veteran that all membership applications (form 3) must include supporting documentation sufficient to prove lineage for each generation of the applicant’s membership application (form 3).

1. Documentation can be photocopies, digital images, or official replacements of originals and do not need to be certified copies.
2. Documentation can be, but are not limited to census records, marriage records, birth records, death records, obituaries, family bibles that are more than 75 years old (digital images of family bibles are acceptable), wills and testaments and other legal documents generated by local, state, or federal authority.
3. You may also use documents that have been accepted by the United States Government during the Pension Application Process as found in the full pension package.
4. Also acceptable are church records, recording birth, baptisms, marriages, and deaths, etc.
5. State Adjutant General records are allowed when supplied with source information.
6. Transcripts (handwritten or typed copies) of documents will not be allowed.
7. Every application for an applicant born in the United States MUST present an officially issued state or government Birth Certificate of the applicant to the senior Camp Officer when the application is reviewed by the Camp. That officer must confirm the information between the form 3 and the supporting documentation and fill in his office, and name (both printed and signed) that he has confirmed the information matches between the birth document and the form 3. Official birth document must include names of parent or parents, date of birth, name at birth, sex, and information identifying official authority any other information may be redacted if the applicant wishes. If the birth certificate doesn’t have the required information mentioned above, you may use any type of a dated birth announcement which fills in the missing information and submit with the birth certificate. There will be no copy or digital image taken of this birth document. These documents once confirmed will be returned to the applicant or destroyed at the wish of the applicant.
8. Every application for an applicant born in the United States MUST present an actual or photocopy of an officially issued state or government photo identification card i.e., Driver’s License, State issued photo ID, Military Photo ID, Passport etc. to the senior Camp Officer when the application is reviewed by the Camp. That officer must confirm the information between the form 3 and the supporting documentation and fill in his office, and name (both printed and signed) that he has confirmed the information matches between the photo ID and the form 3. Official Identification with photo must include photo of applicant, name of applicant, address of applicant, and information on official authority any other information may be redacted if the applicant wishes. There will be no copy or digital image taken of this photo ID document. These documents once confirmed will be returned to the applicant or destroyed at the wish of the applicant.



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9. Applicants born outside of the United States and mailing in their applications MUST include an official birth document (photocopy, digital image or scan is fine. Not the original) and an official Identification with photo (photocopy, digital image or scan is fine). Official birth document must include names of parent or parents, date of birth, name at birth, sex, and information identifying official authority any other information may be redacted. There will be no copy or digital image taken of this birth document. These documents once confirmed will be destroyed.
10. Applicants born outside of the United States and mailing in their applications MUST include an official Identification with photo (photocopy, digital image or scan is fine. Not the original). Official Identification with photo must include photo of applicant, name of applicant, address of applicant, and information on official authority any other information may be redacted. There will be no copy or digital image taken of this photo ID document. These documents once confirmed will be destroyed.
11. Minors need permission from their parents or guardian to join, in those cases consent would need to be signed by the parent or guardian and they would need to present the minor's birth certificate and the parent's or guardian's photo ID. There will be no copy or digital image taken of these documents. These documents once confirmed will be returned to the applicant or destroyed at the wish of the applicant.
12. A verification form will be designed for the senior Camp officer to fill out confirming the information on the form 3 matches the information on the birth document and the photo ID. Until that time the senior Camp officer can just write that he reviewed the birth document and the photo ID, and the information has been confirmed and matches what is on the form 3, then indicate his Camp office title, print, and sign his name. This Camp Officer's Verification form will be attached to each application or as below in place of the birth document and photo ID.

As there are three (3) copies of the membership application needed for consideration, there needs to be three (3) sets of supporting documentation included.

The Camp may allow digital copies but must amend their by-laws unless that is already part of the Camp by-laws.

If the Camp allows digital copies the applicant may submit one (1) hard copy of the full application plus supporting documentation and one (1) digital copy to the Camp Secretary. If the Camp allows the applicant to supply a digital copy, the Camp must print at least one (1) hard copy for their records and save the digital copy. The Camp Secretary will then send at least two (2) hard copies of the application and supporting documentation to the Department Secretary. A Camp Officer's Verification form will replace the supporting birth documents and photo ID.

If the Camp does not allow digital copies the applicant must send three (3) full hard copies of the application and supporting documentation to the Camp.

The Department may allow digital copies but must amend their by-laws unless that is already part of the Department by-laws.

If the Department allows digital copies the Camp Secretary may send two (2) hard copies of the application and the digital copy of the supporting documentation. The Department Secretary will then send to the SUVCW National Headquarters at least one (1) hard copy of the application and if supplied the digital copy, they will supply one (1) copy of the digital copy of the application and supporting documentation to the SUVCW National Headquarters. If not supplied a digital copy the Department Secretary must send one (1) full hard copy of the application and supporting documentation to the SUVCW National Headquarters. A Camp Officer's Verification form will replace the supporting birth documents and photo ID.

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If the Department does not allow digital copies the Camp Secretary must send two (2) full hard copies of the application and supporting documentation to the Department Secretary.

Camp-at-Large, Department-at-Large and National Members-at-Large applicants will supply (3) hard copies of the application and supporting documentation or (1) hard copy and (1) digital copy of the application and supporting documentation to their oversight authority. A Camp Officer's Verification form will replace the supporting birth documents and photo ID.

All applications must include any fees or dues.

Brothers within the order and applicants who have already submitted their paperwork and it has been accepted by a Camp as of the date of 5 October 2022 will be exempt from this General Order.

This General Order applies to New Membership Applications, Dual Membership Applications (the applicant may reuse his membership application documents) and Supplemental Ancestor Applications.

**General Order #8, 8 October 2022—**

**Elmer (Bud) Atkinson Lifetime Achievement Award**

It was my great honor to present to Past Commander-In-Chief Keith G. Harrison on 27 September 2022 in Sunfield, Michigan at the Sunfield Historical Society Welch Museum during the Camp meeting of Lansing-Sunfield Curtenius Guard Camp #17 the Elmer (Bud) Atkinson Lifetime Achievement Award (formerly the Lifetime Achievement Award) – This award is presented by the Commander-in-Chief to recognize Brothers of the Order who have a minimum of thirty (30) years with the Order and have provided significant and continuous support over that entire timeframe as either a full member or an associate.

PCinC Harrison of Holt, Michigan has been a member of the Order since 1981 and a life member since 1986, was elected Commander-in-Chief of the National Organization of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) on August 13, 1994, at the 113th National Encampment in Lansing, Michigan. Brother Harrison's ascension represented the fourth Michiganian in the then 113-year history of the Order and the first in 46 years to serve as Commander-In-Chief becoming the 108th Brother to hold that esteemed office in the SUVCW.

In addition to serving as Commander-in-Chief, Brother Harrison has served the Order in several national capacities, including Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Patriotic Instructor, Membership-at-Large Coordinator, History Book Coordinator, and Council of Administration member. Within his native state of Michigan, he has served as Department Commander for three years, Senior Vice Commander for two years, Department Council Chair for two years, and Department Chief of Staff for seven years. He is a charter member of the Lansing-Sunfield Curtenius Guard Camp #17, which he organized in 1983. Within his local camp, he has served as Camp Commander, Camp Secretary, Camp Treasurer, and Camp Historian.

Since serving as Commander-in-Chief, Brother Harrison has continued to serve the Order as a member of the National Council of Administration, Constitution and Regulations Committee, National Signals Officer, National Webmaster, Backup National Webmaster, Editor for 10 National Proceedings, and National Webmaster for the SUVCW's Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR). In 1999, he was awarded the Order's Meritorious Service Award and in 2001, he was awarded the Order's Cornelius F. Whitehouse Outstanding Brother Award. Past Commander-in-Chief Harrison traces his ancestry to 45 Union Civil War soldiers. Forty of those soldiers served from Michigan. The Michigan units in which his ancestors served included the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 18th, 19th, 23rd, 25th, 27th, and 28th Volunteer Infantry; the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 8th, 10th and 11th Volunteer Cavalries; 1st Light Artillery, and 13th and 14th Batteries. The remaining five Union Civil War ancestors served in the 60th United States Colored Troops, the 1st Colorado Volunteer Infantry, 15th United States Infantry, 3rd United States Artillery, and the Army of the Ohio (Major General Don Carolos Buell), respectively.



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Brother Harrison has been a Civil War reenactor since 1982 and rose through the ranks. He remains a member and former Captain of the 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company B., an honorary member of the 3rd Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company K, 5th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company K and 14th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company A, 15th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company B, and a Major, periodically serving in the capacity of Chief of Staff or Assistant Adjutant General with the Cumberland Guard, a nationally recognized Civil War reenactment association. Within the SUVCW's Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR), he served as Brevet Brigadier General and Commanding Officer during 1996/97 and currently holds the rank of Major (Retired) in the SVR. He has participated in more than 550 reenactments, parades, livings histories, and ceremonies, and served innumerable times at reenactments as an infantry company commander, infantry battalion commander, and overall Union army commander. Major Harrison is very knowledgeable and well practiced in Hardee (1855), Casey (1862), and Coppee (1862) Field Manuals, and highly competent in 1861- 1865 U.S. Army company, battalion, brigade, and army-level infantry drill and tactics. He has participated in most of the national 125th - 145th anniversary Civil War battle reenactments and is beginning to now participate in the Civil War Sesquicentennial (150th) national reenactment events. Major Harrison's years and reputation within the 7th Michigan and the Cumberland Guard.

Brother Harrison belongs to several historical, patriotic, and civic organizations, including the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS), in which he served as National Commander-in-Chief from 2009 to 2011. He is only one of four Brothers to have served as the Commander-in-Chief of both the SUVCW and the MOLLUS; the other three being US Grant III, Gordon R. Bury, and Lowell V. Hammer). Within the Michigan Commandery of the MOLLUS, he served as Commander from 1986 to 2003 and is currently serving as the Registrar. He belongs to the Society of Mayflower Descendants; William Brewster Society; Society of Colonial Wars; Sons of the Revolution; Society of the War of 1812; Morgan's Men Association Inc.; Military Order of the World Wars; and Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels (Commissioned twice, once in 1988 and again in 2003). He is a member of the Masonic Lodge #252 of Okemos, Michigan and life member of the Civil War Research Lodge #1865 of Highland Springs, Virginia. He also serves as President of the Eaton Rapids, Michigan GAR Memorial Hall and Museum, Inc., as Treasurer of the state-affiliated Friends of Michigan History, Inc. and as Chair of the state-affiliated Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners, which is formally charged with the responsibility to assist the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission in the planning, promotion, and implementation of the Civil War Sesquicentennial commemoration in the state.

Source: <https://suvchw.org/pcinc/harrison.htm> dated May 2014

**General Order #9, 17 October 2022— Passing of Brother Brigadier General Henry E. Shaw Jr.**

It is my sad duty to report the passing of Brother Brigadier General Henry E. Shaw Jr. (SVR). He died @8:00am on Sunday, 16 October 2022. Brother Shaw was the Deputy Commander for the Sons of Veterans Reserve as well as a valued mentor and friend to dozens of Past Commander-in-Chiefs of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War as well as serving as a member of the Board of Directors on the SUVCW Charitable Foundation for many years. Brother Shaw was born on 24 August 1938, was a member of Sergeant Richard Enderlin Camp #73 of the Department of Ohio was a Life Member (#552) since 19 March 1998 and served as Past Commander for both his Camp and Department. To his wife Sharon, his daughter Jenny and his entire family, to the brothers of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at the Camp, Department and National who he leaves and the Brothers of the SVR, we offer our sympathies and prayers at this difficult time.

I now Order that the SUVCW National Charter and the Charters of all SUVCW Camps and Departments be draped and that brothers attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badges in honor of Brother Shaw. This Order shall remain in effect for thirty days plus three additional days from this date to end on 20 November 2022 (after the close of the Council of Administration meeting on Sunday in Gettysburg, PA).



**Bruce D. Frail**  
**Commander in Chief**  
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**Special Message #1, 23 October 2022— C-in-C Appointed National Committee on Public Information**

To manage the composition and distribution of official information that comes from the National Organization of the Sons of Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW), I am creating a Public Information Office within the National structure. This office will be the C-in-C Appointed National Committee on Public Information, but will have the working title "The Public Information Office" and will have the following Brothers assigned to the committee:

Member-Don Darby, PCinC, Ohio  
Member-Leo Kennedy, PCinC, Rhode Island  
Member-Jim Pahl, PCinC, Michigan  
Member-W. Faron Taylor, PDC, Chesapeake  
Member-John Conrad, PDC, Southwest  
Aide-Edward Gibson, PCC, North Carolina  
Aide-Daniel Trafford, Rhode Island

Brother Don Darby will be the acting Chairman of the Committee to set up the first meeting, the Chief of Staff will contact Brother Darby with the Zoom login information and assist him in setting up the meeting if necessary. The first act of this committee will be to vote on a chairman.

**Job Description:** The function of The Public Information Office will be to create news, press and social media releases. All public information releases from the office must be approved by the Commander-in-Chief prior to being released. They are authorized to work with other Brothers of the SUVCW to create a high-quality informational product. They will also put together a series of biographies of Past Commanders-in-Chiefs, Real Sons, and Real Daughters, elected or appointed members of the Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches of the US States Government (???) for immediate release as needed. These biographies should have a connection to the American Civil War if available. I.E., if it is known, an ancestor that served or work that they assisted in promoting our mission.

The Public Information Office answers only to the Commander-in-Chief.

**Special Message #2, 25 October 2022— SUVCW Call to Arms, Gettysburg**

Brothers of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW), this is a Call to Arms to support our Brothers within the Sons of Veteran Reserve (SVR). It seems a technical glitch with the SVR website has put them behind the 8 ball with their annual SVR Breakfast at Gettysburg on 19 November 2022 at 8:00am, this breakfast helps to support the efforts behind the scenes on Remembrance Day and will take place at the Wyndham Hotel.

Also remember Brothers every member of the SVR is a member of the SUVCW and every member of the SUVCW can become a member of the SVR, in fact, that is the major requirement is that you must be a member of the SUVCW join the SVR. Start now, come to the SVR Breakfast, and meet the members of the SVR. You may be surprised on who you will see there, I have been a member of the SVR for many years with the 3rd Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, see you there.

Seating is limited due to room size but let's bust the seams and get a full room. A SVR Breakfast registration form should be part of this message, please don't go to the SVR website for the form.



**Bruce D. Frail**  
**Commander in Chief**  
**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



19 Briar Point Avenue  
Coventry, R.I. 02816-5601  
[CinC@SUVCW.org](mailto:CinC@SUVCW.org)



**General Order #10, 4 November 2022— The Passing of Past Commander-in-Chief David V. Medert**

It is with deep regret that I announce the passing of Past Commander in Chief David V Medert of the Department of Ohio. Brother Medert passed away today at 3:00PM. In addition to being a Commander in Chief (2008), Brother Medert was Past Department Commander of the Department of Ohio, as well as a Past Commanding General of the SVR. Brother Medert's involvement and leadership within the Order as well as the SVR, has made a difference to the many Brothers that knew him.

1. Brother Medert was retired from the US Navy as a Senior Chief Petty Officer with a very distinguished career. His service included stations onboard three submarines, an aircraft carrier, light cruiser, heavy cruiser, frigate, an airborne reconnaissance squadron, and numerous stateside and overseas duty assignments
2. Brother Medert was a member of Battery I, 1st Ohio Lt. Artillery, where he had served as Battery Commander for 7 years.
3. Brother Medert was the recipient of the SVR Meritorious Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal and the SUVCW's Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star.
4. Brother Medert was active in Freemasonry with his Lodge as well as having served as a Deputy Grand Master in the 7th Masonic District of Ohio.
5. Condolences and cards may be sent to Brother Medert's wife, Mrs. Andrea Medert, 72 Limestone Blvd, Chillicothe, OH 45601.
6. Arraignments have yet to be announced.
7. It is hereby ordered that the National Web site, the Charters of all Departments and Camps and membership badges be draped in black for a period of 30 days from the date of this General Order.

**Special Message #3, 10 November 2022— USMC Birthday, Veteran's Day, & SUVCW Birthday**

It is my Great honor to be able to send this Special Message, in order not to clutter your mailboxes or over burden our secretaries I have chosen to combine these three events into one message. I am proud to be a member of all three of the above groups, this is always one of the best weeks of my life.

First, Today on 10 November 1775 the United States Marine Corps was born, and recruitment began in Tun Tavern in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. What better location to bring to life the best fighting force the world has ever seen than in a tavern. From the beginning we were the sharpshooters on merchant vessels and in the fields but weren't against the occasional hand-to-hand discussion. Today, Brothers and Sisters of the Marine Corps lead the way in the defense of the United States of America, home and abroad, The President's Own! In hundreds of bases, Camps and homes around the world Marines will be gathering at Marine Corps Ball's, pool tables and living rooms today to hoist a glass in the memory of all of those who have gone before us, those who serve today and those of the future, God Bless the United States Marine Corps, Happy Birthday & Semper Fi to all my Brothers and Sisters.

Second, At the 11th Hour of the 11th Day of the 11th Month in 1918 an Armistice was signed with Germany to end the War to end all wars, World War 1, this day was called Armistice Day until 1954 when Congress renamed it to Veteran's Day to honor all veterans who served the United States in the US military. It is on 11 November of every year that we should remember those United States Veterans of the United States Marine Corps, United States Navy, United States Army, United States Army Air Corps, United States Air Force, United States Coast Guard, and the United States Space Force for their service to this Great nation. Remember this day is for all veterans, Memorial Day is for those veterans who have passed away in the service of the United States.



**Bruce D. Frail**  
**Commander in Chief**  
**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



19 Briar Point Avenue  
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Lastly, On 12 November 1881 the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) formed the Sons of Veterans of the United States of America (SV) to carry on its traditions and memory long after the GAR had ceased to exist. Membership was open to any man who could prove ancestry to a member of the GAR or to a veteran eligible for membership in the GAR. In later years, men who did not have the ancestry to qualify for hereditary membership, but who demonstrated a genuine interest in the Civil War and could subscribe to the purpose and objectives of the SUVCW, were admitted as Associates. This practice continues today. In 1925 the SV name was changed to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW), under which its federal charter was issued in 1954. The SUVCW is legally recognized as the heir to, and representative of, the GAR. On 12 November 2022 we the Brothers of the Greatest Organization in the world honoring those who fought and, in some cases, died to preserve the Union of the United States of America during the American Civil War 1861 – 1865. Honor the memories of the Grand Army of the Republic for the 141st time, yes Brothers we are 141 years old and going strong. Also remember to reach out and thank a veteran, but don't just thank them, tell them who we are and why we care, invite them to join us.

Thank you, Brothers and God Bless, I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible next weekend during our Remembrance Day events.

**General Order #11, 22 November 2022— Revocation of General Order #7**

Brothers, it has been brought to my attention that General Order #7 has caused some concerns with our Camp and Department Secretaries. Most concerns seem to relate to the added workload of those officers and the speed in which this concept was brought into play. For those reasons I am revoking General Order #7.

General Order #5 remains withdrawn as it was so done in General Order #7.

This lineage documentation concept has been placed for action in the National Committee on Membership and they will report their findings and recommendations at the National Encampment in Nashua, New Hampshire this August 2023. The Chairman of the National Committee on Membership, Brother Kevin Martin, JVCinC has the authority to submit the committee's recommendations directly to the National Committee on Constitution & Regulations and should do so within all current guidelines to get these recommendations on the floor of the National Encampment this August 2023.

This action on my part was voted on, at my request, by the Council of Administration in Gettysburg this past weekend. Please consider attending the National Encampment as that vote was not unanimous, but split.

**General Order #12, 22 November 2022— New and Revised Forms**

The following Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Forms have been updated at the Gettysburg Council of Administration meeting and are now posted online.

Form #7, ROTC Award Application

Form #11, Certification Statement for EIN Reporting

Form #12, Scholarship Application

Form #17, Meritorious Service Award & MSA with Gold Star Application

Form #27, Camp Annual Report

Form #30, Camp Status Report

Form #35, Department Annual Report

It was also determined at the Gettysburg Council of Administration meeting that a General Order be written to ensure that only the most up to date Form version be used by any Brother or Applicant of the Sons of Union



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Veterans of the Civil War. Applications submitted on outdated Forms by applicants should be replaced by the Investigating Committee Members of the Camp, filling in the required information on the most up to date Form #3 and returned to the applicant to be reviewed and signed.

The most up to date Forms are posted online on the SUVCW Forms page, as new versions of our Forms are revised, those revised Forms will be announced via General Order, Special Order or Special Message by the Commander-in-Chief or the National Secretary.

Only the most up to date Form is to be used. How do you know if it is the current version? If it is posted online, on our SUVCW Forms page, on our SUVCW National Website it should be the most up to date Form and will be accepted. If it is not posted online and is used, that Form will not be accepted it is the responsibility of either the Camp Secretary, Department Secretary, or National Headquarters staff (depending on where the form generated) to send it back to the Officer, Camp, or Department that generated the Form for its transfer of information to the newest Form and resubmission.

Please be sure to use the current Form version as time submission deadlines will not be altered due to the need to resubmit a form.

**General Order #13, 3 December 2022— Reinstatement of Brother Eric D. Richhart, PDC**

General Order #11, Series 2021 – 2022 dated 22 April 2022 announced the suspension of Brother Eric D. Richhart, PDC (<https://suvcw.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/2021-2022-GO11-22-Apr-2022.pdf>) pending the outcome of a Hearing Council.

Said Hearing Council has met and released their findings on 12 September 2022, these findings can be located at <https://suvcw.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Richhart-HearingCouncil-Findings-1.pdf>. These findings were mailed to Brother Richhart and after the required ten (10) days, I informed Brother Richhart of the findings and that as of 12 September 2022 his suspension was reversed (an email was provided to Brother Richhart as proof of this action) and that after the appeals timeline passed a General Order would be written announcing the reversal of the suspension. This is that General Order, as per the recommendations of the Hearing Council's findings, Brother Richhart has had a verbal reprimand, also let it be known that Brother Eric D. Richhart, PDC, Department of Colorado & Wyoming has been reinstated as a Brother in Good Standing with all his past honors in place as of 12 September 2022.

**General Order #14, 15 December 2022— The Passing of Past Commander-in-Chief Donald W. Shaw**

Brothers, Again, and all too soon It is my solemn duty to report the passing of another great Brother and friend. I was notified on 13 December 2022 that Brother Donald W. Shaw had been rushed to the ICU of the local Trauma #1 center in Flint, Michigan. Little was known at the time other than he was unresponsive. Sadly, at around 4:30AM Eastern Time, on 14 December 2022, Past Commander-In-Chief Donald W. Shaw passed away.

Brother Donald was a very loved man within the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War he touched many souls and hearts. From his Biography: [https://suvcw.org/?page\\_id=2588](https://suvcw.org/?page_id=2588)

Donald William Shaw was elected to membership in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil war on July 18, 1994. He joined the Order through the Governor Crapo Camp, No. 145 at Flint, Michigan. His Civil War roots extend to William M. Begole of the 23rd Michigan Infantry Regiment, through whom he joined the Order, as well as through a great great grandfather, John B. Anderson of the 179th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, upon whose service Brother Shaw based his life membership status with the Order.

Brother Shaw has served in most of the elected posts within the Governor Crapo Camp and had been involved with numerous special projects designed to keep green the memory of the soldiers and sailors of 1861 to 1865.





**Bruce D. Frail**  
**Commander in Chief**  
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These projects include everything from parades to memorial services, to school presentations, to cemetery mowing and cleaning, to speaking engagements regarding the Civil War and the Grand Army of the Republic, to working on the restoration and rededication of memorials left by the Grand Army. He had also served as Camp Organizer of the U.S. Grant Camp No. 67 of Bay City, Michigan, in which he held dual camp membership with the Crapo Camp of Flint.

Within the Department of Michigan, he had served in various elected and appointed posts. These include Department Counselor, Department Chief of Staff, Department Junior Vice Commander, and Department Senior Vice Commander. He served two terms as Michigan Department Commander, from April 2010 to March 2012. He was the 102nd man to serve as Commander since the Department was organized in 1883.

At the National level of the Order, Brother Shaw had served as Assistant National Counselor, National Counselor, National Chief of Staff, four years as an At Large Member of the Council of Administration, Junior Vice Commander in Chief, Senior Vice Commander in Chief and was elected in August 2018 as the Orders Commander in Chief and served until August of 2019.

In other related activity, Brother Shaw was a member of the Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR), had served as Commander of the Central Region Association of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic, and had served on numerous committees performing the business of the Order.

Aside from, "Keeping Green the Memory," the best part about the work, in his opinion, is the fine people in the Order with whom he was privileged to work, who truly make all of this a pleasure.

Brother Shaw was also a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Masons, and was an Associate Companion, through the Michigan Commandery, of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS). He was born, 9 October 1955, and raised in Flint, Michigan and resides there still. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan and of Wayne State University Law School. He had been a practicing attorney in Flint for nearly forty years.

The family has requested a simple service which will be held as follows, On Monday, 19 December 2022 a viewing will begin at 10:00AM in the Brown Funeral Home, 1480 East Hill Road, Grand Blanc, Michigan 48439 and conclude with a service at 2:00PM, After which Brother Don will be brought to the cemetery to be laid to rest.

His family has asked that in lieu of flowers that donations be made in his name to the American Heart Association.

In Honor of Brother Donald W. Shaw, Past Commander-In-Chief, 2018 – 2019, I hereby Order that all Badges, Charters and websites on the Camp, Department and National levels be draped in black in his honor for the next 30 days. Brothers, the duties of National Quartermaster have been temporarily transferred to Brother Jim Lyon and delivery should resume by 2 January 2023.

\*\*\*\*\*

Find all National General Orders, Forms, and More at:

<https://www.suvcw.org/>



# Francis J. Wilhelmi Camp #17 – Washington, MO



**Above:** Members of Wilhelmi Camp #17 were among those who took part in the 160th anniversary of the Battle of Perryville, Kentucky, on October 8-9, 2022.



**Above:** Ron Burke, Glen Alsop, PDC, and Terry Wilson set up a recruitment table at the Franklin County History Fair on October 23rd.

**Right:** Glen Alsop, PDC, mans a table at the Washington American Legion Veterans Breakfast on November 7th.



# Thomas Fletcher Camp #47 – De Soto, MO

Meets 6:30pm, at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1620 Boyd Street, unless otherwise noted

## The Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary on the Move!

OCTOBER 8, PUMPKIN FESTIVAL, CALEDONIA

GEN. FLETCHER Camp 47

The Camp and Auxiliary made their appearance at the annual Pumpkin Festival, which was shortened to a single day. That didn't keep Brother Trodus from setting up the night before and camping through the night. The Pumpkin Festival is a big draw and allows the camp and auxiliary to do some fundraising and recruiting.



**OCTOBER 14, SUNRISE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, DE SOTO**

Brothers Bob AuBuchon, Ted Howell, Doug Roussin and members of the Turner Brigade set up Camp outside of the Sunrise Elementary School (grades K-8). For six and one-half hours, the Camp and others educated and drilled waves of students from the school.



Hands-on topics shown were Civil War camp life, games, clothing, money, and armaments. Our Camp gave out SUVCW wooden nickels to the schoolchildren as a remembrance of the on-site field trip.



**OCTOBER 17, GEN. JOHN A.  
LOGAN MUSEUM, MURPHYSBORO,  
ILL.**

Brothers Bob AuBuchon and Sumner Hunnewell traveled to Illinois to present Kathy Bower the Department of Missouri's Grand Army of the Republic award. It "is presented to an Allied Order member or group...who has made a significant contribution or collective contributions over a period of time to promote fraternal relationships between the Allied Orders in perpetuating the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and our ancestors who fought to preserve the Union."

Kathy is the National Secretary of the Women's Relief Corps. She is a volunteer at the Gen. John A. Logan Museum and helped spearhead the 56th Illinois Infantry Regiment *Lyon* Disaster Memorial, which was dedicated a year ago. She is also active in promoting the **Logan's Brigade**, gave a talk at the night before our Department Encampment in June 2021, and helped host the Central Regional Association of the G. A. R. meeting that year. Kathy also creates commemorative ribbons for various event. The one shown here is for the first national encampment of the Logan's Brigade.

After the presentation, members of the public and staff at the Museum, were treated to a talk by Richard Kuenneke. Titled "A Gathering of Stories-Tales from Mound City National Cemetery," Kuenneke, a media specialist and volunteer of the Mound City National Cemetery Preservation Commission, discussed the Civil War history of the area from defense to creation of ironclads. Mound City had an impressive hospital, which was turned into a cannery and finally was destroyed by arson in the '70's. The cemetery was one of the early national cemeteries. Thousands of Civil War soldiers are buried there including over 2400 unknowns.



LOGAN'S BRIGADE

Member  
First Annual  
National Convention



General  
John A. Logan, Jr.

August 6, 2022  
Springfield, Illinois

**OCTOBER 21, 56TH USCT COMMEMORATION, JEFFERSON BARRACKS, ST. LOUIS**

Brothers Bob AuBuchon, Sumner Hunnewell, and Duncan Noack assisted the U. S. Grant Camp #68 in their annual 56th U. S. Colored Troops commemoration at Jefferson Barracks. Those attended were treated to music from Brother Dan Jackson (bagpipes) and



**56<sup>th</sup> United States Colored  
Troops (USCT) Infantry  
Remembrance  
Jefferson Barracks National  
Cemetery**

Friday, 21 October 2022



Brother Noack (fife). Brothers AuBuchon and Noack were a part of the honor guard, the former on the firing squad and the latter as the drummer. Brother Hunnewell handed out program books.

The keynote speech was given by Dorris Keevan-Franke about Pvt. Benjamin Oglesby, Company D, 56th USCT. Oglesby survived the cholera outbreak which occurred on the two steamboats that came to St. Louis full of the 56th USCT soldiers. (They were to be mustered out in St. Louis.) He and his family settled in St. Charles. There were about a dozen descendants who attended the event. Brother John Avery of the Grant Camp gave Brother Hunnewell past issues of *The Banner*, some of which were distributed to Oglesby family members after the event.

This made the 6 o'clock news (Channel 5).



**The Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary on the Move!**  
**OCTOBER 30, MOLLUS EVENT, LAFAYETTE PARK, ST. LOUIS**



Members of the Camp and Auxiliary participated in the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary reënactment of the placement of three Revolutionary War cannons in Lafayette Park. The cannons were purchased by the Missouri Commandery Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) and donated to the park in 1897. Although the SUVCW were not in the procession at the original 1897 ceremony, MOLLUS Commander Sumner Hunnewell, invited other nearby Allied Orders and members the SUVCW, ASUVCW, and DUVCW 1861-1865 participated. Overall nine hereditary societies participated including the Sons of the Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, Society of Colonial Wars, and Children of the American Revolution.



Representing the Fletcher Camp were Commander Roussin, Secretary Trodus, and Bob AuBuchon. Patti McClelland of the Volker Auxiliary attended with her DUVCW Tent. Members of the U. S. Grant and St. James Camps also assisted. ASUVCW National President Allison Pollitt graciously attended as did the MOLLUS Commander-in-Chief Col. Robert Pollock.

Turnout of about 65 was good for a rather gloomy day.

**NOVEMBER 5, VETERANS DAY PARADE, DE SOTO**

Our Camp and Auxiliary continue to take part in area parades. We honored our Boys in Blue and other veterans at the annual and very blustery De Soto Veterans Day Parade.





**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 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 175<sup>th</sup> 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 multinational 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 fridged morning with a stiff wind blowing. A box of no fun!



***Arnold Mayor Ron Counts***

***Retiring the colors***



## Westport Camp #64 – Kansas City, MO

Camp Commander Kevin Miller of Westport Camp #64 shared these photographs of local Eagle Scouts receiving recognition from the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for attaining said rank in their Scouting journey. Great job, boys!



# Phelps Camp #66 – Springfield, MO

## CAMP MEMBERS SEE ORIGINAL DIARIES DONATED TO WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

At the October meeting, camp members were allowed to examine two pocket diaries that were recently donated to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield.

The diaries were written by a member of the 36th Illinois Infantry and span the period 1862-63.

Although some entries are brief, the soldier made notations regarding several important battles, including Pea Ridge, Stones River, Chickamauga and Chattanooga.

The diaries will eventually be scanned and made available to researchers.

Interestingly, the 36th played an important role in the Battle of Pea Ridge, losing 6 killed and 32 wounded.

Members of the regiment were likely responsible for the death of Confederate General Benjamin McCulloch.

Their regimental history, written by Lyman Bennett (buried in Springfield's Hazelwood Cemetery) describes the general as dressed in "black velvet coat, vest and pants, long boots and white felt hat."



# U.S. Grant Camp #68 – St. Louis, MO

By Walt Busch, PDC

We've been very busy this past quarter. We started the quarter with several members attending



the Central Region Association of the G.A.R. Allied Orders. In these meetings we meet with several of the women's organizations, visit historic sites, have a training session and a short meeting. We met in an old GAR Hall near Lansing, Michigan. Our camp brother, PC-in-C Jim Pahl was responsible for setting up the meeting

and training session. We all agreed that we would meet next year in Dayton, OH and tour the Air Force Museum. Members of Grant Camp and the Department of Indiana will be setting up the event.

Missouri DUVCW Past President Joan Koeching and her husband



were present and she was presented the Missouri SUVCW G.A.R. Award by Department Commander Bob Amsler, Jr., for her work coordinating our various groups toward our common goal.



Our annual ceremonies honoring the 56<sup>th</sup> US Colored Troops at their monument in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery was well attended



this year as we had Historian Dorris Keevan-Franke speaking on one of her favorite topics *Benjamin Oglesby – Private Co D, 56th USCT – Survivor*. Several of Private Oglesby’s descendants and KSDK Television were there for the event. Besides our color guard we also had a ROTC unit from Edwardsville, IL, performing military honors. PCC Dan Jackson did his usually great job not only playing the bag pipes, but also taps. And PDC Sumner Hunnewell looked as spiffy as ever in his honorable order of some type of artillery unit from New England [Who can keep track of all his organizations, hats, and medals? Huh? I



mean really!] And Duncan Noack of Fletcher Camp did a great job of playing the fife. I mentioned during the ceremony that I hired him when I was director of Battle of Pilot Knob State Historic Site and he was one of the best employees I hired. Truly proud of everything he has accomplished so far for such a young man! He is pictured next to Captain Greg Zelinske, SVR, who I understand may be retiring from his many years of SVR and reenacting services. He has always put out a great effort and his services will be truly missed, if the news of his pending retirement are true.

Before the ceremonies, Maggie Grothe, Past Commander of the Central Region Allied Orders and





wife of our late brother PCC Jack Grothe of Sherman Camp presented Walt Busch with a flag for the Headquarters – Military Division of the Mississippi. Only two men ever commanded that division; Generals Grant and Sherman. Since the flag was most likely produced with funds of the former Sherman Camp, Walt turned it over to the Department of Missouri. Department Commander Amsler later issued a department order assigning the care of the flag to the Grant Camp for Sherman and Grant ceremonies.



Grant Camp for Sherman and Grant ceremonies.

The weekend of October 29 and 30 were particularly busy as several members of the camp attended the business meeting of the department in Jefferson City. I finally was able to be relieved of secretary/treasurer duties. Grant Camp PCC Mark Coplin stepped up and into the secretary services and PDC Dale Crandell of

Phelps/Westport Camps stepped into the treasurer duties. The very next day, Grant Camp

members attended the Missouri Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) re-dedication of the Revolutionary War Cannons at Lafayette Park in St. Louis. MO MOLLUS Commander and MO SUVCW PDC Sumner Hunnewell (with his top hat) was the master of ceremonies. Pictured are members of Fletcher, Grant, St. James, and Wihelmi Camps.



Prior to Veteran's Day, the local Daughters of the American Revolution held their

annual ceremonies at Bellefontaine Cemetery and three Grant Camp members were present. Pictured below, PDC Sumner Hunnewell in his touring cap joins children in presenting a wreath.

On Veteran's Day, Fletcher Camp members and Grant Camp members attended the opening of the General U.S. Grant Traveling Exhibit at the Battle of Pilot Knob State Historic Site. We are pictured under a garrison sized US flag. The program was led by the former interpreter for the



Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site in Affton, MO and current Chief of Museum Services & Interpretation at the Gateway Arch NHS, Pam Sanfilippo.

As we near the conclusion of the year, the camp held their annual installation of officers and Christmas dinner on December 13<sup>th</sup> at the Greenbriar Hills Country Club in Kirkwood. Normally the dinner includes us having a speaker, but this year we opted just to have a slide show presentation running as we ate showing us pictures of all the events we held during the year.



An excellent time and it included the installation of our new officers:  
Commander Craig Mathews, Jr.; Senior Vice Commander James Morrison; Junior Vice  
Commander PDC Sumner Hunnewell; Secretary PCC Mark Coplin; Treasurer PDC Walt Busch;  
Councils- PCinC Donald Palmer, Jr; and PDC John Avery. Not present was Council Gunner  
Decker.



Finally, our members helped Fletcher Camp with their ceremony at St John's Lutheran Church in Arnold, MO, on the 17<sup>th</sup> for Wreaths Across America. Sumner Hunnewell

was once again the master of ceremonies [somehow he is wearing the same cap he wore for the D.A.R. ceremony – a clothing malfunction? ].



Have a blessed and active New Year serving our Order!

## ST. JAMES CAMP #326



On October 29<sup>th</sup> four members of our camp went to the Perryville Learning Center and had a display on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor where the Perryville Military Museum is located. This museum has an extensive collection of Grand Army of the Republic items and Sons of Union Veteran items on display that will impress you.

Brothers Tom Greminger, Commander Michael Schaaf, Ed Millinger and Reuel Smith were in attendance answering questions and describing the items that were on display. There was a good crowd and even some historic items that were brought in by those attending for our members to describe.

On October 29<sup>th</sup> the Department of Missouri SUVCW held one of their two annual meetings in Jefferson City. Brother Gary Scheel attended the meeting. There were about thirteen members present.

On October 30<sup>th</sup> at Lafayette Square in St. Louis, Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States sponsored the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the dedication of Revolutionary War Cannons at Lafayette Park. The Missouri Commandery purchased these and

installed them in 1897. The ceremony of 1897 was recreated with representatives from twelve different organizations which include the Commander in Chief of MOLLUS, the Sons of the Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, Children of the American Revolution, Society of Colonial Wars, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Auxiliary of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865, the St Charles Drum and Fife Corps and the Minister of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Presbyterian Church of St Louis whose Pastor in 1897. Gary Scheel participated in this activity.

November 5<sup>th</sup> Pecanpalooza in Ste. Genevieve

Brother Tom Greminger and Commander Michael Schaaf participated in the Military Time Line sponsored by the French Colonial America. It was a windy day with wind gusts up to 35 miles an hour and a chance of rain. Tom had part of his display on the porch of the Lemuellier House in case it did rain. Some people came by and looked at the display which featured the names of Ste Genevieve soldiers who had served in the Civil War. Most of those who stopped by were from out of town and the names did not interest them very much.

Tom Greminger on the porch of Lemuellier House on Main Street →  
*Photo courtesy of Michael Schaaf*



## SUVCW FLAG CERTIFICATE 3 Certificate Presentations

Mueller Tire & Auto Service, LLC

On November 3<sup>rd</sup> the Lt. Col. J. Felix St. James Camp #326 of Ste. Genevieve presented to the family of the Mueller Tire and Auto Service the SUVCW Flag Certificate.

The criteria to be awarded this Certificate are as follows.

SUVCW Flag Certificate Program – This certificate program was established to recognize exemplary Patriotism in the display of the Flag of the United States of America. Certificates may be awarded by Camps or Departments to individuals, companies or agencies, which proudly, conspicuously, and properly fly or display the US Flag. Businesses which fly flags as advertising should not be considered for this award. Recommendations and nominations for this certificate are made to the Camp, Department, or National Patriotic Instructors who will make the final determination for presenting the certificate. Any Brother may nominate candidates to a Patriotic Instructor for Recognition.





Photo shows business. Even the cars lined up waiting to be repaired on the next Monday are red, white and blue. (Photo by Gary Scheel)  
 The Mueller Tire and Auto Service, not only met the requirements but their business buildings speak volumes of their patriotism and love for our Country.

Camp Commander Michael Schaaf presented the Certificate on behalf of St. James Camp #326 SUVCW on November 3rd. As Camp Commander expressed it, "Our Camp is proud to present this certificate because of your display of Patriotism."

Camp Commander Michael Schaaf presenting the SUVCW Flag Certificate to Dennis Mueller the owner of Mueller Tire & Auto Service, LLC →



← Mueller Family and Camp Commander Schaaf. It is a family business with several of the family making this business a success. When asked why the display of patriotism?

He said that our country needs to be reminded of how great our country is and it is a way of showing appreciation for what our Veterans have done to preserve our country.

His business is across the street of the American Legion Hall. Members present from our camp were Camp Commander Michael Schaaf, Chaplain Paul Kist (Photos are courtesy of Brother Paul), Reuel Smith, and Senior Vice Commander Ed Millinger.



← Window on the left of the main building.

Window on the right of main building →

This business was recommended for the SUVCW Flag Certificate by Gary Scheel



## December 13<sup>th</sup> Two Flag Certificate Presentations by our Camp

At our November meeting we discussed handing out two more Flag Certificates like presented to Mueller Tire and Auto Service L.L.C.

Brother Reuel Smith suggested that we present one to the Sassafras Creek Originals. He stated that he always saw a US Flag flying on their buildings and he thought that they deserved it. Commander Schaaf had suggested the sAAmerican Custard Company because of their great display of Patriotism by the huge flag they have flying and how their building is decorated.



*Smith who recommended Sassafras Creek Originals for this honor (Photo courtesy of Bob Mueller)*

### SASSFRAS CREEK ORIGINALS

4 pm on December 13<sup>th</sup> we met at Sassafras Creek Originals on Old St. Mary Road in Ste. Genevieve and was greeted by the owner Kandye Manhurin who was gracious enough to invite all six of us in to her shop. Not only are there flags on the exterior of her shop and bed and breakfast, there are patriotic items for sale inside her store, Sassafras Creek Originals, and on the inside of her store there are patriotic plaques and other items that promote her patriotic feelings. Commander Schaaf presented the SUVCW Flag Certificate to Kandye and expressed the gratitude of our camp for the display of the American Flag on her businesses

When she received the plaque she stated that she was happy to receive it and that she was almost ready to cry.

← LtoR: Camp Commander Michael Schaaf, Kandye Manhurin owner of Sassafras Creek Originals, Reuel

Kandye and her husband standing in front of the B&B located next to their store.  
(Photo courtesy of Gary Scheel)



We were invited to go inside her bed and breakfast to see it. It has several patriotic themes in it. When you walk up the stairs to the upstairs you will see a 48 Star Flag on the wall at the top of the stairway. Over the beds upstairs you will see copies of two Civil War Veterans photo, one over each bed, in their uniforms.



Thomas Reuben Stucker  
Company E  
93<sup>rd</sup> Indiana Infantry  
Kandye's Ancestor

Lunsford Mahurin  
Company B  
9<sup>th</sup> Missouri Cavalry  
Dale's Ancestor





They are proud of their ancestors and their photos are displayed with pride and are appropriate for the décor of the 1840 log corn crib turned into a cabin. This corn crib was previously on a farm in Perry County, Missouri.

*LtoR: Martin Aubuchon, Bob Mueller, Gary Scheel, Paul Kist, Kandye Mahuin, Reuel Smith and Michael Schaaf. Photo is courtesy of Carol Kist.*



Flag at the top of the stairs leading to the bedroom upstairs.  
*Photo courtesy of Gary Scheel*

## AMERICAN CUSTARD COMPANY



*Photo courtesy of Paul Kist.*

He said that there were thirteen red and white stripes in the center of the room up starting from the floor up the wall and across the ceiling and to the floor on the opposite side of the room.

*Photo courtesy of Paul Kist →*

When asked why a business that started in May 2022 would have such a patriotic theme. Ryan responded, "Our Country needs more America." He went on to explain that there seems to be less of a love for the United States and more of a

At 4:15 p.m. a convoy of six vehicles arrived at the American Custard Company located at 1055 Progress Parkway in Ste. Genevieve. It is a family business owned and operated by Ryan and Jessica Huck. Oh yeah, there are other family members employed. Ryan said his mother-in-law was there that evening working as well as their two children.

←They have a very large flag that flies twenty-four hours, seven days a

week. The flag is huge is 15 feet by 25 feet on a 70 foot flag pole. It was a windy day as you can tell by the way the flag is flying and the pole is leaning.

As we are usually attracted the flag on the outside, the interior of the building is patriotic as well. The tables are a facsimile of a flag. Ryan stated the ceiling and the walls are

painted with large stripes. He



focus on ourselves. He designed the building and stated that he had what he wanted it to look like in his head. He did most of the work himself with help from his family and friends. He told us that the building looked exactly like he envisioned. *Photo courtesy of Paul Kist*



Commander Michael Schaaf presented the SUVCW Flag Certificate to the Huck Family and explained that he was proud to present them on behalf of the Lt. Col. J. Felix St. James Camp #326 this certificate because of their display of the U.S. Flag as well as the flag decorations and design inside the building.

←LtoR: Jessica and Ryan Huck and Michael Schaaf (back row)  
Allymay and Austin Huck (front row)  
*Photo courtesy of Bob Mueller*

This was our fourth SUVCW Flag Certificate that St. James Camp #326 has presented this year. One of the rewards of presenting the certificates is hearing the gratitude and expressions of how they appreciate that we noticed their patriotism.

### STE. GENEVIEVE CIVIL WAR PRESENTATION

Wednesday evening, November 30<sup>th</sup> Brother Tom Greminger gave a presentation on the Civil War in Ste. Genevieve County at the Ste. Genevieve Museum Learning Center. He spoke on events that occurred during the Civil War in Ste. Genevieve, family stories during the Civil War, and many items of his personal display as well as the list of names of nearly one-thousand men from Ste. Genevieve County who served during the Civil War. At our meeting in December, Tom stated that he thought there were thirty or more present for his presentation.



### WREATH'S ACROSS AMERICA

On December 17<sup>th</sup> at the St. John's Lutheran Church in Arnold a Wreath's Across America ceremony was sponsored by the church and the General Thomas Fletcher Camp #47 SUVCW. Members of the church, veterans representing the various military branches, different scout organization and members of the community. Brother Sumner Hunnewell acted as Master of Ceremonies who is a member of the church, General Fletcher Camp and an all-around great guy. Members of the SUVCW provided the color guard.

Also present was Brother Walter Busch of the US Grant Camp #68 was also present and Daniel Jackson of the US Grant Camp #68 was the bugler who played taps during the ceremony.

Color Guard retiring colors. LtoR. Gary Scheel, Alan Trodus, Donald Roussin, and Robert AuBuchon.

Please remember in your prayers, Past Department Commander Sumner Hunnewell. On December 24<sup>th</sup> his Mother left this earth for a better place.



Note that while some camps may not have reported exclusive activities this time, members of camps across the Department participate in each other's events.

**McPherson Camp #1— Springdale, AR**

**Murphy Camp #2 — Little Rock, AR**

**Tarkington Camp #3 — Van Buren, AR**

**Lillie Camp #6 — Jefferson City, MO**

**Wilhelmi Camp #17 — Washington, MO**

**Fletcher Camp #47 — De Soto, MO**

**McNeil Camp #62 — Unionville, MO**

**Westport Camp #64 — Kansas City, MO**

**Phelps Camp #66 — Springfield, MO**

**Grant Camp #68 — St. Louis, MO**

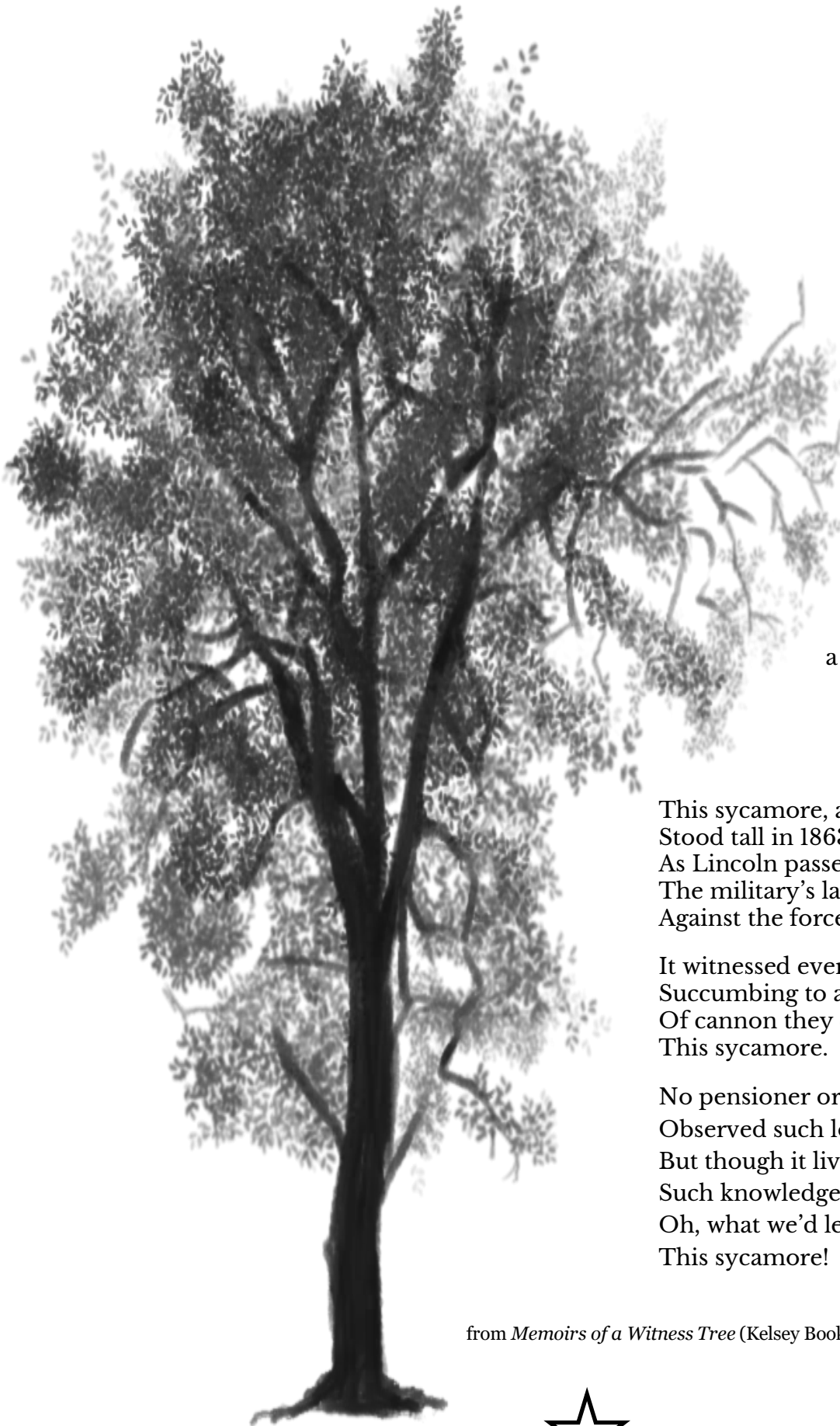
**Spradling Camp #72 — Fort Smith, AR**

**St. James Camp #326 — Ste. Genevieve, MO**

**Tiger Camp #432 — Columbia, MO**

Is there a Sons of Union Veterans Camp in your neck of the woods? Find out more about us at <http://suvcwmo.org>





## This Sycamore, a Witness Tree

*a rondeau*

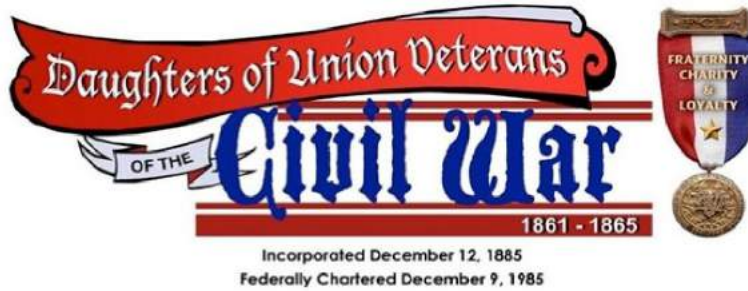
This sycamore, a witness tree,  
Stood tall in 1863  
As Lincoln passed by to address  
The military's late success  
Against the forces brought by Lee.

It witnessed every enlistee  
Succumbing to a battery  
Of cannon they could not suppress,  
This sycamore.

No pensioner or retiree  
Observed such long past history.  
But though it lives, it can't profess  
Such knowledge we'd have it possess.  
Oh, what we'd learn, if we could be  
This sycamore!

from *Memoirs of a Witness Tree* (Kelsey Books, 2020) by Randal A. Burd, Jr.





# Missouri Civil War Heritage Books

*Published by Julia Dent Grant Tent #16, DUVCW*

Published by members of the Julia Grant Tent, the 5 Volume series offers a wide range of indexed information on Missouri, St. Louis, and women involvement and history in the Civil War. Volumes 1-4 are available as a group in PDF searchable form on a flash drive. Volume 5 is available only in print at this time.

**Volume 1:** Includes a history of the DUVCW, the life of Julia Dent Grant, the GAR, a list of Missouri Civil War Battles and Events, and Tent veteran ancestors. Published in 1990, 103 pp.

**Volume 2: St. Louis – Our Civil War Heritage.** Includes biographies of charter member ancestors, histories on monuments, Jefferson Barracks, and notable Civil War men and women buried in St. Louis’s Bellefontaine and Calvary Cemeteries. Published in 1992, 182 pp.

**Volume 3: Missouri – Our Civil War Heritage.** Includes a history of every Missouri County during the Civil War. Published in 1994, 469 pp.

**Volume 4: Women – Our Civil War Heritage.** Includes soldier biographies and biographies of prominent women and their involvement in the Civil War. Published in 2007, 244 pp.

**Volume 5: Department of Missouri Organized August 4, 1921.** Includes histories of various DUVCW and SUVCW camps in Missouri, Civil War poems, topics, and curiosities. Soft cover, spiral bound, 317 pp.

**How to Order:** Cost is \$10 plus \$5 shipping and handling for Volume 1-4. Cost for Volume 5 is \$20 plus \$7 shipping and handling. Cost for all volumes is \$30 plus \$7 shipping and handling. For multiple orders, please contact our Tent at [DUVCWtent16Books@gmail.com](mailto:DUVCWtent16Books@gmail.com) or Pat Baehr at 314-962-4690.

Please detach this order form and mail with your check to Peggy Strelinger, Julia Dent Grant Tent #16, 9350 Parkside Dr., St. Louis, MO 63144-1008. Make check payable to Treasurer, Julia Dent Grant Tent #16.

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*ll camps are entitled to advertising pages. Raffles Permitted!*

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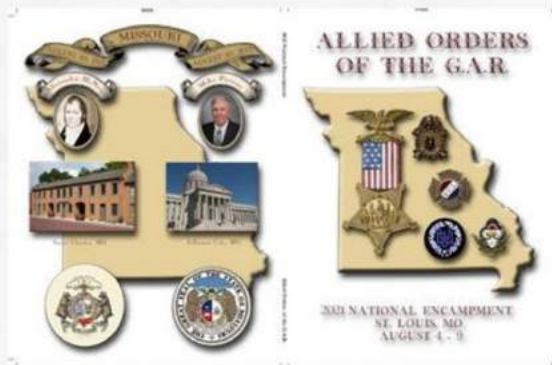
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TYPE GAR       SUV

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 Line 2   
 Line 3   
 Line 4



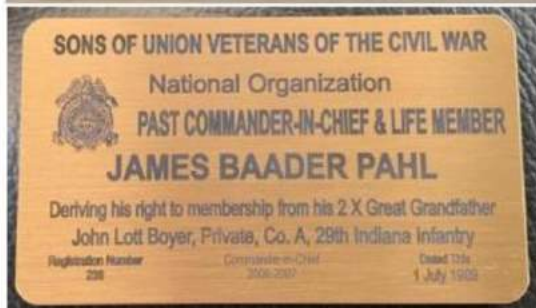
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NOTE: You MUST send us a copy of your SUVCW Life Membership card or certificate to purchase this item. We WILL NOT sell this to anyone without a copy of that document being provided! Your name and all information will be shown as on your certificate (however, we will add PDC or PCC behind your name if you are authorized to use that honor.).



Description: wallet size , polished brass, engraved black lettering

NAME LINE

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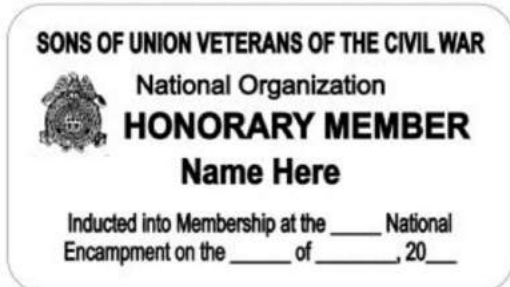
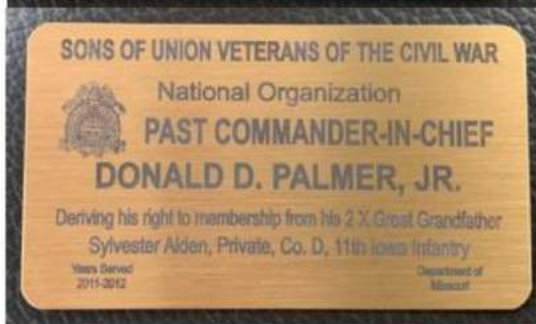
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To learn more about the Department of Missouri, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, find us at:  
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**Department of Missouri  
Sons of Union Veterans  
of the Civil War**

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