

2007 MISSOURI DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT
Meeting Minutes
09 June 2007
Holiday Inn – St. Louis South
St. Louis, MO

Opening

- Meeting brought to order at 9:05 am by Commander John Avery. The Color Guard led by Junior Vice Commander Emmett Taylor presented the colors. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the opening prayer was provided by PDC Charles Funck.

- Junior Vice Commander Emmett Taylor escorted Commander-in-Chief Jim Pahl to the podium, and provided some introductory comments to the delegates assembled. The Commander-in-Chief discussed a number of items being worked at the National level, including developing an on-line version of the BANNER, his monthly newsletters to Department Commanders, Camp history projects and the Lincoln Death Day ceremonies in Springfield, IL. In addition, he discussed the locations of the next few National Encampments: 2007 in St. Louis; 2008 in Massachusetts; 2009 in Kentucky. One of the goals is to get all five Allied Orders to meet together at the same location. PDC Charles Funck posed question about storage of original applications. The Commander-in-Chief responded that all originals will be stored at the National Headquarters in Harrisburg, PA. PDC Bob Petrovic inquired about the Spring meeting of the Council of Administration and if it will be permanently located in Springfield, IL. The Commander-in-Chief responded that the only meeting location that is required is the Fall meeting in Gettysburg, PA.

- Commander Avery called for a preliminary report from the Credentials Committee (Paul Leistriz and Marty Aubuchon). At the opening of the Encampment, 15 members were present

- Commander Avery appointed the following Encampment Committees:

Resolutions - Ed Eller and Robert Champlin
Officers Reports – Walt Busch and Brian Smarker
Fraternal Relations – PDC Charles Funck and Emmett Taylor

- PDC Charles Funck presented greetings from the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Missouri. A gift was presented to Commander Avery,

- Junior Vice Commander Emmett Taylor presented greetings from the Asboth Camp Auxiliary.

Officers Reports

- Commander – written report provided by Commander John Avery – on file with Department Secretary

- Senior Vice Commander – written report provided by Walt Busch – on file with Department Secretary

- Junior Vice Commander - written report provided by Emmett Taylor – on file with Department Secretary

Communications

- Resolution from Grant Camp #68 requesting Department adopt resolution to support nomination of PDC Don Palmer for the office of National Secretary

- Resolution from Grant Camp #68 requesting Department adopt resolution to support nomination of PDC Bob Petrovic for the National Council of Administration

- Resolution from the Department of Maryland requesting the Department support the nomination of PDC James Hanby for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief in 2008.
- Resolution requesting the Department support the transition from a 501(c)(4) organization to a 501(c)(3) organization. The Commander-in-Chief provided additional details on the implications of the change in tax status.

Unfinished Business

- Vision 2010 – PDC Don Palmer provided a status relative to how well the Department is working towards the 2010 Vision established in 2001 during PDC Palmer’s first term as Department Commander. The elements of the 2010 Vision include: (1) Support of National initiatives – doing well with graves registration (goal – 10,000), have made gains over the past three years relative to Civil War Monuments and GAR Post Records; (2) Organizational Growth – mixed results – four new Camps started since 2001, very modest membership growth (goal – 400 members); Financial Health – still almost entirely dependent on per capita income, need more efforts relative to establishing alternative sources of revenue; (4) Community Relations – Camps are very active within their communities; (5) Department Unity – still working off of 2002 projects (records archiving, GAR highway) – needs continuous flow of ideas.
- Commander Avery followed this discussion announcing that the Department secured a \$3000 donation from Emerson to support the 2007 National Encampment.
- Commander Avery called for a break at 10:31 am. – meeting called back to order at 10:50 am.
- Marketing Program – Commander Avery noted that there has been no activity. Rod Price from McCormick Camp #215 was appointed to lead a committee to address marketing the Department. Jack Grothe followed this discussion by recommending that PDC’s and committee members attend the annual Central Region Conference.
- National Encampment Delegates/Alternates – Commander Avery initiated a discussion relative to who may be considered delegates/alternates and how many delegates the Department is awarded. For 2007, the Department may have 8 delegates, plus the Department Commander, plus all PDC’s. Election of delegates will be the last order of business of the Department Encampment.
- Awards Committee – Senior Vice Commander Walt Busch recommended downgrading the type of awards presented to reduce costs. Currently, plaques are awarded for the Blair, Show-Me Spirit, GAR and Meritorious Service Awards. A framed certificate and battle streamer are presented for the Eads Award.
- April Department Meeting Minutes – the minutes from the 21 April 2007 Department meeting held in Jefferson City were distributed and read. Jack Grothe made a motion, seconded by Paul Leistriz, to accept the minutes as written. Motion passed.

Reports of Appointed Officers/Committees

- Patriotic Instructor – Jack Grothe raised the issue of mowers chipping grave stones at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. Some other items discussed include: (1) not much communication with Camps, (2) Camps pick up dues for members serving in a combat zone, (3) attend Central Region Conference, and (4) get ladies to join Allied Orders organization – recommends Woman’s Relief Corps (no lineage required).
- Historian/Chaplain – written report provided by PDC Vern Stottlemyre.

- Graves Registration – Gary Scheel reported 610 graves registered in 2006-2007. Senior Vice Commander Walt Busch recommended more of an emphasis on national cemeteries such as Jefferson Barracks – include unknowns.

- GAR Highway – Chris Warren provided a written report, with a concern about the funding required to establish and maintain signage for a GAR Highway in Missouri. Senior Vice Commander Walt Busch made a motion, seconded by PDC Bob Petrovic, to appoint committee to investigate other options for funding. Motion passed.

- Commander Avery called for the lunch break at 12:05 pm – meeting called back to order at 1:30 pm.

- Eagle Scout Coordinator – included in the written report from Commander John Avery was the fact that there were 80 certificates presented to Eagle Scouts in 2006-2007. In addition, there were three ROTC awards presented (Grant Camp, McCormick Camp, Westport Camp).

- Department Archivist – included in the written report from Senior Vice Commander Walt Busch – recommendation to draft set of guidelines for what records to archive and how to archive them.

- Missouri Unionist – verbal report provided by PDC Don Palmer. No inputs from Camps. Recommendation to establish new schedule identifying which Camps are responsible for inputs for the issues throughout the year.

- Department Organizer – verbal report provided by PDC Bob Petrovic. Two new Camps chartered in 2006-2007 – Moore Camp #70 in Canton, MO and McCormick Camp #215 in Farmington, MO. Junior Vice Commander Emmett Taylor was tasked with identifying individual to help organize Camp in Columbia/Jefferson City area.

Signals Officer – Brian Smarker gave a presentation and provided a written report. Motion made by Walt Senior Vice Commander Walt Busch, with a second from PDC Bob Petrovic, to allocate \$250 to purchase Adobe 8 Professional. Motion passed.

Department Council Report – the Council reported that the books are in order, with one discrepancy - \$102 in February 2006 (missing statement). PDC Charles Funck stated that the audit is incomplete since checks and deposit slips were not reviewed. Motion made by Bob Amsler, seconded by PDC Bob Petrovic, that the Department establish a committee to define accepted process to review books. Amendment to motion made by Senior Vice Commander Walt Busch to have Council serve this purpose instead of appointing separate committee. Second by PDC Bob Petrovic. Motion passed. Amended motion passed.

- Committee on Resolutions – (1) resolution supporting nomination of Don Palmer for National Secretary – recommend approval – no objections; (2) resolution supporting nomination of Bob Petrovic for National Council of Administration – recommend approval – no objections; (3) resolution supporting nomination of James Hanby from the Department of Maryland for Junior Vice Commander in Chief in 2008 – recommend approval – no objections; (4) resolution supporting the movement from 501(c)(4) to 501(c)(3) – recommend approval – no objections. The Department Secretary was tasked with submitting the Department of Missouri actions on these resolutions to National Secretary Michael Bennett prior to the 2007 National Encampment.

New Business

- Department Encampment Guide Book – PDC Bob Petrovic reported that this activity has been completed.

- 2007-2008 Budget – draft presented by Commander John Avery. PDC Don Palmer noted that the amount listed in the budget for the PDC fund is incorrect. Should be \$710 instead of \$550. Motion made by PDC Charles Funck, seconded by Glyen Brown, to accept the proposed budget with the correction made to the PDC Fund. During discussion, Bob Champlin argued against the complexity of the budget and the

traceability of the line items. Motion made by PDC Bob Petrovic, seconded by Bob Champlin to table this item.

Commander John Avery called for a break at 3:07 pm – meeting called back to order at 3:30 pm.

- Lincoln Bicentennial – Bob Champlin was appointed to lead Department of Missouri activities in support of the Lincoln Bicentennial.

- Department By-Laws – Motion made by Paul Leistriz, second by PDC Bob Petrovic, to conduct a review of the By-Laws given the changes in the Department since the By-Laws were approved in 2001. During discussion, PDC Don Palmer indicated that the By-Laws state that the Senior Vice Commander chairs the standing By-Laws Committee and should be conducting annual reviews. Motion withdrawn. Commander Avery requested that the Senior Vice Commander provide a report on the By-Laws review at the Spring Department meeting.

- 2007 National Encampment – Jack Grothe mentioned the desire to have the uniformed escorts and honor guards looking clean and crisp (i.e., no worn and/or dirty uniforms); PDC Bob Petrovic presented a status on the planning for the National Encampment.

- Committee on Officers Reports – actions were taken previously during discussions associated with the officers reports. No report from Committee

- Department Awards – Senior Vice Commander Walt Busch announced the awards for 2006-2007: (1) Eads Award – Westport Camp #64; (2) Blair Award – Chris Warren (McCormick Camp #215); (3) Show-Me Spirit Award – Emerson; (4) Meritorious Service Awards – Brian Smarker (Westport Camp #64) and Bob Petrovic (Grant Camp #68); GAR Award – Cher Petrovic; (6) Certificate of Appreciation – Eugene Roberson (Wilhelmi Camp #17).

Nomination/Election of Officers

Commander – Sherman Camp #65 nominated Walt Busch, Grant Camp #68. No other nominees for the office – Walt Busch was elected.

Senior Vice Commander – Asboth Camp #5 nominated Emmett Taylor, Asboth Camp #5. No other nominees for the office – Emmett Taylor was elected.

Junior Vice Commander – Asboth Camp #5 nominated Jack Grothe, Sherman Camp #65. Jack Grothe declined the nomination. Grant Camp #68 nominated Brian Smarker, Westport Camp #64. No other nominees for the office – Brian Smarker was elected.

Secretary/Treasurer – Grant Camp #68 nominated Chris Warren, McCormick Camp #215. No other nominees for the office – Chris Warren was elected.

Council – (1) Two year term – Asboth Camp #5 nominated Bob Champlin, Sherman Camp #65; (2) One-year term (Brian Smarker unexpired term) – Grant Camp #68 nominated Mark Coplin, Grant Camp #68. No other nominees for these offices. Bob Champlin and Mark Coplin were elected.

Election of Delegates

Other than the Department Commander and the PDC's present, 15 members in attendance expressed interest in attending the National Encampment as delegates. The Department of Missouri was allowed a total of 8 (not including the Commander and PDC's). Those elected were:

- Harold James (Asboth Camp #5)
- Bob Amsler (Grant Camp #68)

- Rod Price (McCormick Camp #215)
- David Wilson (McNeil Camp #62)
- Bob Champlin (Sherman Camp #65)
- Jack Grothe (Sherman Camp #65)
- Glyen Brown (Oglesby Camp #61)
- Brian Smarker (Westport Camp #64)

Those not elected as delegates and wishing to attend the National Encampment will be listed as alternates.

PDC Charles Funck issued a challenge to all Camps that the Sherman Camp will have 30% of their membership present at the National Encampment.

Installation of Officers

Commander John Avery expressed his thanks to Commander-in-Chief Pahl and all members present for attending the Department Encampment.

Commander-elect Walt Busch and the newly elected officers were installed per the Rituals of the Order, with Commander-in-Chief Pahl serving as the installing officer.

Closing

Commander Walt Busch announced that General Order #1 would be issued shortly and congratulated Sherman Camp #65, the oldest active Camp in Missouri, on their 25th anniversary.

Commander Walt Busch closed the 12th Annual Missouri Department Encampment at 5:00 pm.

Attendees

Asboth Camp #5, Wentzville

- Harold James
- Emmett Taylor
- John Boucher
- Mark McGehee

Oglesby Camp #61, Cape Girardeau

- Glyen Brown

McNeil Camp #62, Unionville

- Vern Stottlemyre, PDC

Westport Camp #64, Kansas City

- Brian Smarker

Sherman Camp #65, St. Louis

- Jack Grothe
- Charles Funck, PDC
- Vern von der Heydt
- Paul Leistriz
- Ed Eller
- Bob Champlin

Grant Camp #68, St. Louis

- John Avery
- Walt Busch
- Bob Amsler
- Bob Petrovic, PDC
- Don Palmer, PDC
- Marty Aubuchon
- Jim Hubbard

McCormick Camp #215, Farmington

- Chris Warren
- Rod Price

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Don Palmer, PDC
Department Secretary (Acting)