

Randal A. Burd, Jr. **2016-2018**

Randal A. Burd, Jr., PDC, joined the Department of Missouri, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, in 2010. He joined based on the service of his 3rd great grandfather, Evan Leland Short, a private in Co. H, Osage County Home Guards and Co. K, 48th Missouri Infantry.

Randal organized Sigel Camp #614, a short-lived (2011-2016) but active camp in Rolla, Missouri, which received the national Joseph S. Rippey Award (2012) for most outstanding

new camp and the Department of Missouri's James B. Eads Award (2014) for distinguished service. Before being elected Department Commander in 2016, Randal served as Sigel Camp's commander for all but one year of the camp's existence.

He has served in various elected capacities at the department level. In addition to serving two terms as Department Commander, he served two years as Department Secretary (2012-2014), two years as Senior Vice Commander (2014-2016), and was elected to a second two-year term as a member of the Department's Council (2018-2022). Randal has also served in the appointed offices of JROTC/ROTC coordinator and Medal of Honor [Remembrance] Coordinator at various times, as well as on multiple department committees.

An educator for 14 years, Randal has taught English at every level from 7th grade to college freshmen, works as a Special Education case manager, oversees credit recovery for at-risk youth, and teaches adults who return to school to earn their high school equivalency credentials, formerly known as a GED.

His past adventures include four years as an Army bandsman, two years as Editor-in-Chief of his college newspaper, four years as Editor-in-Chief of his college literary magazine, and earning a black belt in taekwondo. Randal is also a successful freelance writer and genealogist, having accumulated many satisfied clients in both capacities. He has written articles published by Ancestry.com and is a published poet many times over, with his book, *Memoirs of a Witness Tree*, due to be released by Kelsay Books in 2020.

Randal lives with his wife, Ashley, and two children in Southeast Missouri.

