

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS  
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
January 12, 2019  
Humboldt, Kansas**

1. As required by Chapter II, Article III, Section 1 of the Regulations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and by Article VI, Bylaws of the Department of Kansas, SUVCW, the Twenty-Third Annual Encampment of the Department of Kansas, was held on January 12, 2019, at Humboldt, Kansas.
2. The Encampment was called to order at 9:45 AM by Department Commander Michael A. Todd.
3. Commander Todd then welcomed National Commander-in-Chief Donald W. Shaw, Department of Michigan, to the encampment. CinC Shaw briefly addressed the encampment.
4. At 9:50 AM, Commander Todd officially opened the encampment. The opening was conducted per the Rituals and Ceremonies of the Order.
5. The Department Secretary called the roll of officers, and reported all officers present:
  - Department Commander Michael A. Todd, PCC, Camp 4, present.
  - Senior Vice Department Commander K. Kirk Nystrom, PCC, Camp 16, present.
  - Junior Vice Department Commander Robert D. Boyd II, PCC, Camp 9, present.
  - Secretary/Treasurer and Counselor Alan L. Russ, PDC, Camp 16, present.
  - Council Member Rocky L. Bartlow, PDC, Camp 16, present.
  - Council Member William Riedell, Camp 1, absent due to weather.
  - Council Member and Chaplain Roy A. Lafferty, PDC, Camp 4, absent due to illness. Brother Otis C. Crawford was appointed to be Encampment Chaplain
  - Patriotic Instructor Conrad M. Fisher, Camp 16, present
  - Graves Registration Officer Joshua S. Young, Camp 5, absent due to weather.
  - Civil War Memorials Officer Douglas E. McGovern, PCC, Camp 1, absent due to weather.
  - Historian Blair D. Tarr, Camp 16, absent due to weather.
6. The Chaplain’s prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.
7. Commander Todd then declared the Twenty-Third Annual Encampment of the Department of Kansas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, to be open for the transaction of such business as may legally and properly come before it.
8. At this time, the Secretary Russ presented the Credentials report of those present at the Encampment, as follows. A quorum was declared to be present.

Encampment Status	Present
Department Commander	1
Past Department Commander	2
Camp Commander	2
Past Camp Commander	3
Department Elected Officer	0
Delegate	5
Alternate Delegate	0
Jr. Member/Jr. Associate	0
<b>TOTAL PRESENT</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>VOTING STRENGTH</b>	<b>13</b>

9. Commander Todd appointed PDC Alan L. Russ, PDC Rocky L. Bartlow, and Dawson R. Ballard to the encampment bylaws committee.
10. Commander Todd appointed PCC K. Kirk Nystrom, PCC Robert D. Boyd II, and Dawson R. Ballard to the encampment Resolutions Officers’ Report Committee.
11. Commander Todd informed the Encampment of “housekeeping rules” to be used during the meeting.

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12. The following Department Officer reports were presented by the officer and accepted by the Encampment as written:

Commander Michael A. Todd, PDC – Commander’s Report  
K. Kirk Nystrom, PCC – Senior Vice Department Commander  
Robert D. Boyd II, PCC – Junior Vice Department Commander  
Alan L. Russ, PDC – Secretary Report  
Alan L. Russ, PDC –Treasurer Report  
Rocky L. Bartlow, PDC – Council Member  
Conrad M. Fisher, PCC – Patriotic Instructor Report

13. The following camp reports were presented and accepted by the Encampment as written.

Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4 – Presented by Camp Commander Ryan Todd  
Franklin Camp 5 – Presented on behalf of Camp Commander William Stoker by Dawson R. Ballard  
Humboldt Camp 9 – Presented by Camp Commander Robert Boyd II  
Old Abe Camp 16 – Presented by Rocky L. Bartlow for Camp Commander Hummel

14. Secretary Russ reported the correspondence which had been received has previously been distributed to all officers and camp secretaries with the exception of a proposed amendment to the National Constitution of the SUVCW. This will be addressed under new business.

15. Commander Todd then called for Committee and other reports.

16. The following committee reports were presented:

- a. Bylaws Committee Report – Alan L. Russ, PDC. There were four proposed amendments submitted to the encampment. These were referred to the Encampment Bylaws Encampment.
- b. There was no report on 2018 National Encampment as the Department of Kansas did not have anyone in attendance.
- c. Nominating Committee Report – PDC Alan Russ presented the recommendations of the nominating committee with the understanding these names would be placed into nomination at the appropriate time.

17. At 11:55 AM, Commander Todd directed the Chaplain to close the Bible. Commander Todd then declared a recess for lunch. The Encampment was reconvened at 1:15 PM, moving to “New Business.”

18. There were no recommendations in officer reports to be referred to committee. The Encampment Resolutions and Officer Report Committee had no report to submit.

19. Commander Todd requested to know which past department commanders planned to attend the 2018 National Encampment in Independence, Ohio. Commander Todd stated that he, as Department Commander, would be attending in that status. PDC Bartlow stated he will try to attend in his capacity as PDC.

20. Commander Todd stated the Department of Kansas was presumed to be entitled to six, possibly seven, delegates to the National Encampment. The actual number will be determined when the annual report is compiled as of March 31. Commander Todd asked for nominations from the floor for the election of delegates to the 138th National Encampment. PDC Russ nominated the following to be delegates:

- a. K. Kirk Nystrom
- b. Dawson Ballard
- c. Robert Boyd
- d. Conrad Fisher
- e. William Stoker
- f. Joshua Young
- g. Ryan Todd

21. The motion for election of delegates was seconded and approved. These brothers will be so indicated on the Form 49 submitted to National Headquarters.

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22. Commander Todd recognized PDC Russ, who moved, “All Members and Associates of the Department of Kansas who are in good standing as of August 1, 2019, and are not otherwise entitled to membership at the 138th National Encampment nor elected as a “Delegate” to the 138th National Encampment shall be elected as “ALTERNATE DELEGATES” to the 138th National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, in Massachusetts.” Motion was seconded and passed.

23. Commander Todd announced that, per the Department Bylaws, the 24th Annual Encampment of the Department of Kansas would be on January 11, 2020. Old Abe Camp 16 will look into the possibility of hosting the encampment.

24. Commander Todd stated the Department needed to establish the Department per capita for 2020. The current per capita of \$4.00 has been suspended for 2019. PDC Bartlow moved the Department per capita be suspended for 2020, again with the intention that camps would use the amount to build their camp accounts. Motion was seconded and passed.

25. PDC Russ was asked to present the report of the Encampment Bylaws committee. He presented each of the four submitted amendments.

a. Amendment 2019-01 was presented as follows:

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### CHAPTER I ORGANIZATION OF DEPARTMENT

#### Article I: ~~NAME ORGANIZATION~~

~~The name of the Order shall be the Department of Kansas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, hereafter referred to as the Department.~~

The Department shall be constituted and remain constituted as provided by the Constitution and Regulations (C&R) governing the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and shall be known as the **DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS, SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**. The department is organized as an unincorporated association under the laws of the State of Kansas. The organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code.

#### Article II: PURPOSE

To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union 1861 - 1865; to assist in every practicable way in the preservation and making available for research of documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic and its members; to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war; to teach patriotism, and the duties of citizenship, the true history of our country, and the love and honor of our Flag; to oppose every tendency or movement that would weaken loyalty to, or make for the destruction or impairment of our constitutional Union; and to inculcate and broadly sustain the American principles of representative government, of equal rights, and of impartial justice for all.

#### Article III: ~~PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES ACTIVITIES NOT IN FURTHERANCE OF EXEMPT PURPOSES~~

##### ~~Section A. NON-PROFIT.~~

~~The Department shall not be conducted for profit.~~

##### ~~Section B. NON-SECTARIAN AND NON-PARTISAN.~~

~~The Department, being strictly non-sectarian and non-partisan, shall not introduce, discuss or foster sectarian or partisan topics.~~

No part of the net earnings, if any, of this unincorporated association, shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the unincorporated association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes described in section 501(c)3. No substantial part of the activities of the unincorporated association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the unincorporated association shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these by-laws, the unincorporated association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on

1. By an unincorporated association exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or

2. By an unincorporated association, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)2 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

#### Article IV: SEPARATION, DISSOLUTION, AND DISPOSITION OF ASSETS

**Section A.** In the case of surrender or forfeiture of the Department Charter, all Department property and assets shall be turned over to the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War via the Department Commander acting as his duly authorized representative to collect and hold all such property in trust for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, an organization exempt from taxes under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

**Section B.** All property of the Department shall be held for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, as a charitable trust that is held and used for the purpose for which the Order exists. Any such transfer or disposal within six months of disbandment or surrender of the Department Charter without the written consent of the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is prohibited. The property and funds of the Department shall not be divided among its members.

**Section C.** In the event the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, no longer exists, said property and funds shall revert to the benefit of the first and any remaining organization of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic or in their absence, to the State archives of Kansas.

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**Section D.** Notwithstanding the above language, upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose.

## CHAPTER II CAMPS

### Article V. SUSPENSION, REINSTATEMENT, AND CLOSING OF CAMPS

#### Section A. FAILURE TO PAY PER-CAPITA OR FORWARD REPORTS.

A Camp one year or more in arrears in the payment of per-capita dues and failing or neglecting to forward reports, may be disbanded and the Charter thereof revoked.

#### Section B. ~~DISPOSITION OF CAMP PROPERTY SEPARATION, DISSOLUTION, AND DISPOSITION OF ASSETS.~~

1. In the case of ~~the~~ surrender or forfeiture of ~~a the~~ Camp Charter, all ~~of the~~ Camp property and ~~money~~ assets shall be turned over to the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War via the Department Commander ~~or to his-of~~ the affected camp acting as duly authorized representative, ~~and become the property of the Department to collect and hold all such property in trust for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, an organization exempt from taxes under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.~~

2. All property of the Camp shall be held for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, as a charitable trust that is held and used for the purpose for which the Order exists. ~~Any transfer or disposal of any of its property by a Camp in arrears for its per-capita dues shall be fraudulent and void, and any such transfer or disposal by a Camp of its property in contemplation of disbandment or surrender of its Charter shall also be fraudulent and void. All property of a the Camp is shall be held for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, by it as a charitable trust that is to be held and used for the purpose for which this Order exists, . and any Any such transfer or disposal within six months of disbandment or surrender of it's the Camp Charter without written consent of the Department shall be conclusively presumed to be in contemplation of such disbandment or surrender National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is prohibited. No The property and funds of the Camp shall not be divide divided its property among its brothers members.~~

3. In the event the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, no longer exists, said property and funds shall revert to the benefit of the first and any remaining organization of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic or in their absence, to the State archives of Kansas.

4. Notwithstanding the above language, upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose.

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- b. The committee recommended Amendment 2019-01 be adopted. Motion carried unanimously.
  - c. Amendment 2019-02 was presented as follows:

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## CHAPTER IX GENERAL

### Article III. BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

**Section A. AMENDMENT PROCESS.** These Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the Department Encampment by a 2/3 vote of the voting brothers present at said meeting, subject to the following:

1. The Department Commander shall appoint a Bylaws Committee, or designate that the full council shall function as the committee, for the purpose of reviewing and/or proposing changes to the Department Bylaws. Copies of proposed changes to the bylaws, as recommended by the Bylaws Committee, shall be forwarded to each camp secretary no later than ~~November 1~~ ninety (90) days prior to the Department encampment.

2. Proposed amendments may be submitted to the Bylaws Committee, through the Department Secretary, no later than ~~five (5) days prior to the Fall Council Meeting~~ one hundred and five (105) days prior to the Department encampment. All proposed amendments must be submitted by the Camp Commander, attested by the Camp Secretary, after having been voted on at a previous meeting of the proposing Camp.

3. A proposed amendment not previously submitted, as above, may be introduced at the Department Encampment by any Voting brother of the Encampment. The proposed amendment shall be reviewed by an Encampment Bylaws Committee during a break in the business meeting. Such committee shall present its recommendation concerning the amendment to the encampment where the encampment will then act upon the proposal.

4. Before becoming effective, all Bylaws and Bylaw amendments shall be approved by the Commander-in-Chief in writing.

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- d. The committee recommended Amendment 2019-02 be adopted. Motion carried unanimously.
  - e. Amendment 2019-03 was presented as follows:

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## CHAPTER II CAMPS

### Article II. CAMP CHARTERS

#### Section A. CAMP CHARTER.

Upon the formation of a Camp, there shall be issued to it a Charter, which shall be signed by the Department Commander, attested by the Department Secretary, and approved by the Commander-in-Chief. The Charter fee for a new Camp shall be ~~twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)~~ as determined by National Regulations of the Order. The fee shall be paid to the Department and shall accompany the application for ~~a Charter permission to form a camp.~~

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- f. The committee recommended Amendment 2019-03 be adopted. Motion carried unanimously.

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g. Amendment 2019-04 was presented as follows:

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## CHAPTER II CAMPS

### Article VII – BROTHERS UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN YEARS

#### Section A. REQUIRED TO BE ACCOMPANIED AT ACTIVITIES.

All Brothers under the age of 18 years of age should be accompanied by a parent or person designated as a Guardian (grandfather, brother over the age of eighteen years, or uncle) when participating in ANY SUVCW activity.

#### Section B. “ONE-ON-ONE” CONTACT PROHIBITED.

At no time will a non-related SUVCW Brother be permitted ‘one-on-one’ contact with an SUVCW Brother under the age of eighteen (18) years of age. Any interaction with an SUVCW Brother under the age of eighteen (18) years of age must include at least two (2) SUVCW Brothers over the age of eighteen (18) at all times.

#### Section C. REPORTING OF POSSIBLE ABUSE.

Any SUVCW Brother who witnesses or suspects in good faith any type of physical, mental or sexual abuse of any SUVCW Brother under the age of eighteen (18) years will immediately report such suspicion to local authorities first and local Camp and Department Commanders immediately.

#### Section D. TRAINING.

Every SUVCW Brother over the age of eighteen (18) years who may have contact with a Brother under the age of eighteen (18) years should complete training related to protecting children from abuse of any type.

#### Section E. COMPLYING WITH LOCAL AND STATE LAWS.

Ultimately, all SUVCW Brothers also need to comply with all applicable local and State laws pertaining to child abuse.

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h. The committee recommended Amendment 2019-04 be adopted. Motion carried unanimously.

26. Commander Todd announced to the Encampment that it would now address the proposed Constitutional amendment passed by the 137<sup>th</sup> National Encampment. This amendment requires ratification by fifty-percent of the departments of the SUVCW. PDC Russ read the proposed change. Commander Todd called for the vote. The vote was thirteen in favor, none opposed.

27. There being no more new business to come before the Encampment, Commander Todd proceeded with the nominations and election of officers.

28. Commander Todd officially placed into nomination the recommendations of the Nominating Committee. These nominations were:

Department Commander	Michael A. Todd, Camp 4
Senior Vice Department Commander	K. Kirk Nystrom, Camp 16
Junior Vice Department Commander	Robert D. Boyd II, Camp 9
Department Secretary	Dawson R. Ballard, Camp 5
Department Treasurer	Rocky L. Bartlow, Camp 16
Council Member (term expiring 2021)	Conrad M. Fisher, Camp 16

29. Commander Todd asked for nominations from the floor for all of the offices up for election. There were no motions from the floor to nominate any additional candidates. A motion was made by PDC Bartlow to close nomination. Motion was seconded and passed.

30. In accordance with Roberts Rules of Order<sup>1</sup>, candidates for a position which was not contested were declared by Commander Todd as elected.

31. Commander Todd requested a motion from the floor to recognize and thank the Monarch Cemetery Company for providing the meeting facilities. Kirk Nystrom, Camp 16, moved for the request. The motion was seconded and carried.

32. Commander Todd presented the following awards on behalf of outgoing Department Commander Mark Britton to the indicated recipients:

#### **Captain Patrick H. Coney Award for Brother of the Year**

Robert D. Boyd II, PCC, Humboldt Camp 9, Humboldt

#### **Corporal Leonidas B. Davis & PDC Dean K. Speaks Award for Recruiter of the Year**

Otis C. Crawford, Humboldt Camp 9, Humboldt, for recruiting two brothers

William F. Riedell, Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1, Wichita, for recruiting two brothers

Lane D. Smith, PCC, Camp 5, Olathe, for recruiting two brothers

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<sup>1</sup> RRO 11<sup>th</sup> ed., pg 443,10

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**William W. Nixon Award for Camp of the Year**  
Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka

**Leander Stillwell Outstanding Achievement Award**  
Barrett E. Young, Humboldt Camp 9, Humboldt

33. At this time, Commander Todd turned over the gavel to CinC Shaw for the installation of officers.
34. Commander-elect Michael A. Todd was asked to provide a list of appointed officers to the secretary. The secretary read those elected and appointed, to wit:

Department Commander	Michael A. Todd, PCC, Camp 4
Senior Vice Department Commander	K. Kirk Nystrom, PCC, Camp 16
Junior Vice Department Commander	Robert D. Boyd II, PCC, Camp 9
Department Secretary	Dawson R. Ballard, Camp 5
Department Treasurer	Rocky L. Bartlow, PDC, Camp 16
Council Member (term expiring 2021)	Conrad M. Fisher, PCC, Camp 16
Chaplain	Roy A. Lafferty, PDC, Camp 4
Patriotic Instructor	Conrad M. Fisher, Camp 16
Graves Registration Officer	Joshua S. Young, PCC, Camp 5
Civil War Memorials Officer	Douglas E. McGovern, PCC, Camp 1
Historian	Blair D. Tarr, Camp 16
Counselor	Alan L. Russ, PDC, Camp 16

35. CinC Shaw proceeded to install the Department Officers, after which they assumed their respective stations.
36. CinC Shaw then presented Department Commander Todd with the badge and honor of Past Department Commander.
37. Commander Michael A. Todd proceeded to close the Encampment, as per the Ritual of the Order. The Encampment was declared closed at 2:00 PM.

These proceedings of the Twenty-Third Annual Encampment for the Department of Kansas are certified to be complete and accurate, to the best of my knowledge and ability.

SUBMITTED IN FRATERNITY, CHARITY, AND LOYALTY,

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Alan L. Russ, PDC  
Secretary