

**DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL
DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT**



**MARCH 18, 2023
WINFIELD, KANSAS**

**ROBERT D. BOYD II, PCC
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER**

Department Officers

2022-2023

- Department Commander** **Robert D. Boyd, II, PCC**
(Humboldt Camp 9, Humboldt)
- Senior Vice Department Commander** **Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC**
(Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1, Wichita)
- Junior Vice Department Commander** **Conrad M. Fisher, PCC**
(Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka)
- Secretary (term expiring 2025)** **Alan L. Russ, PDC**
(Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka)
- Treasurer (term expiring 2025)** **Rocky L. Bartlow, PDC**
(Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka)
- Council Member (term expiring 2024)** **Michael A. Todd, PDC**
(Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4, Lawrence)
- Council Member (term expiring 2024)** **Walter R. Schley, Jr.**
(Franklin Camp 5, Olathe)
- Council Member (term expiring 2023)** **Roy A. Lafferty, PDC**
(Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4, Lawrence)
- Immediate Past Department Commander** **K. Kirk Nystrom, PDC**
(Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka)
- Patriotic Instructor** **Steven W. Hamlin, PCC**
(Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1, Wichita)
- Chaplain** **Kent M. Melcher, PDC**
(Pvt. John N. Eckes Camp 10, Winfield)
- Assistant Treasurer** **Conrad M. Fisher, PCC**
(Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka)
- Graves Registration Officer** **William J. Stoker, PCC**
(Franklin Camp 5, Olathe)
- Historian** **Joshua S. Young**
(Franklin Camp 5, Olathe)
- Civil War Memorials Officer** **Rocky D. Ansell**
(Humboldt Camp 9, Humboldt)
- Counselor** **[Vacant]**

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
March 18, 2023
Winfield, 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-Seventh Annual Encampment of the Department of Kansas, was held on March 18, 2023, in Winfield, Kansas.
2. The Encampment was called to order at 10:30 AM by Department Commander Robert D. Boyd II. This followed the memorial service. The opening was conducted per the Ritual and Ceremonials of the Order.
3. The Department Secretary called the roll of officers, and reported all officers present:
 - Department Commander Robert D. Boyd II, PCC, Camp 9, present.
 - Senior Vice Department Commander Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Camp 1, present.
 - Junior Vice Department Commander Conrad M. Fisher, PCC, Camp 16, present
 - Secretary Alan L. Russ, PDC, Camp 16, present
 - Treasurer. Rocky L. Bartlow, PDC, Camp 16, present.
 - Council Member Walter H. Schley Jr., Camp 5, present.
 - Council Member Michael A. Todd, PCC, Camp 4, present.
 - Council Member Roy A. Lafferty, PDC, Camp 4, present.
 - Immediate Past Department Commander K. Kirk Nystrom, PDC, Camp 16, absent.
 - Patriotic Instructor Steve Hamlin, Camp 1, absent.
 - Chaplain Kent M. Melcher, PDC, Camp 10, present.
 - Graves Registration Officer William J. Stoker, PCC, Camp 5, present.
 - Civil War Memorials Officer Rocky D. Ansell, Camp 9, absent.
 - Historian Joshua S. Young, Camp 5, present.
 - GAR Records Officer Blair D. Tarr, Camp 16, absent.
 - Color Bearer Bridger P. Keyes, Camp 9, absent.
 - Guide Michael A. Todd, PDC, Camp 4, present.
 - Guard George E. Goff, Camp 4, present.
4. Commander Boyd then appointed the following brothers for the encampment:
 - Patriotic Instructor Dale L. Rouse, PCC, Camp 1
 - Color Bearer Barrett E. Young, PCC, Camp 9.
5. Commander Boyd welcomed Past Commander-in-Chief Brian C. Pierson, Department of Oklahoma, to the encampment as the National Representative. PCinC Pierson briefly addressed the encampment.
6. The Chaplain's prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.
7. Commander Boyd declared the Twenty-Seventh 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. Prior to presenting the Credentials report, Secretary Russ noted that one of the delegates for Pvt John N. Eckes Camp No. 10 was not present, and the camp had two alternate delegates in attendance. He inquired of Camp Commander Chrisman as to which of the alternates he wished

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

to be allowed voting status as a delegate. Commander Chrisman designated that Brother William K. Mueller was to be changed from alternate to delegate.

9. The Credentials report was presented. Brothers signed in as they arrived at the encampment. A quorum was declared to be present. Summary of attendance is shown below. Appendix A contains the listing of attendees and their status.

| Encampment Status | Present |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Department Commander | 1 |
| Past Department Commander | 7 |
| Camp Commander | 5 |
| Past Camp Commander | 5 |
| Department Elected Officer | 1 |
| Delegate | 7 |
| Alternate Delegate | 2 |
| TOTAL PRESENT | 28 |
| VOTING STRENGTH | 26 |

10. Commander Boyd appointed PDC Alan L. Russ (Chairman), PDC Michael A. Todd, and PDC Roy A. Lafferty to the encampment bylaws committee.

11. Commander Boyd appointed PDC Rocky L. Bartlow (Chairman), PDC Thomas E. Schmidt, and PCC Conrad M. Fisher to the Encampment and Resolutions Committee.

12. Commander Boyd informed the Encampment of “housekeeping rules” to be used during the meeting.

13. The Department Officer and camp reports were received, reviewed, and compiled prior to the encampment. The reports did not contain any recommendations requiring action by the encampment. Each officer was asked in turn if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to their report.

a. Treasurer Rocky L. Bartlow advised that two items had exceeded their planned amount. One was the cost for the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony wreath, and the other was the cost of printing for the Encampment. Both were referred to the Encampment Resolutions and Officer Reports Committee for recommendations.

14. Secretary Russ noted for the encampment that none of the reports contained recommendations requiring action by the encampment.

15. Secretary Russ reported the correspondence which had been received has previously been distributed to all officers and camp secretaries, except for the following:

a. On January 6, 2023, Brother Walter H. Schley Jr. notified the Department Secretary and the Department Commander that he wished to resign as a council member effective with the end of the 2023 Department Encampment due to other obligations. Brother Russ noted that Brother Schley had served as a Council Member for five years, and his participation was truly appreciated.

b. On February 11, 2023, National Secretary Daniel Murray sent an email to the Department which contained the final report of the National Special Committee on Membership Qualifications. This email directed that the report be shared “with every Brother of your Department and bring it to the floor of your Department Encampment to vote to either support or reject the individual

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

recommendations of the report...” The results are to be reported to the Commander-in-Chief via the National Secretary. The report was distributed to the camps via email on February 12, 2023.

c. Brother Russ then moved the Department Commander to take a vote of preference by item on each of the five recommendations contained in the February 5, 2023, report of the National Special Committee on Membership Qualifications. Such vote on each of the five recommendations, by count for and against, shall be forwarded through the National Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief. Furthermore, such vote SHALL NOT be binding on the voting members of the Department Encampment in attendance at the National Encampment to be held August 4 and 5, 2023, at Nashua, New Hampshire.

d. The above motion was seconded. Each of the five recommendations from the report were read and a vote was taken after each of the recommendations was read and discussed. The results of the voting were as follows:

| | | |
|------------------|----------|--------|
| Recommendation 1 | YES – 20 | NO – 3 |
| Recommendation 2 | YES – 21 | NO – 3 |
| Recommendation 3 | YES – 23 | NO – 1 |
| Recommendation 4 | YES – 22 | NO – 2 |
| Recommendation 5 | YES – 23 | NO – 1 |

16. PDC Michael Todd presented the report of the nominating committee. Nominations were, as follows:

Department Commander – Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Camp 1

Senior Vice Department Commander – Conrad M. Fisher, PCC, Camp 16

Junior Vice Department Commander – Ken M. Melcher, PDC, Camp 10

Council Member – 2 Positions (term ending 2025 and unexpired term ending 2024):

Roy A. Lafferty, PDC, Camp 4

James H. Graves, PCC, Camp 1

Dawson R. Ballard, Camp 5

17. Commander Boyd then announced the Department awards and certificates and asked PCinC Pierson to present them.

Past Camp Commander Certificates for 2021:

James H. Graves, PCC, Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1, Wichita

Dennis L. Lawrence, PCC, Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4, Lawrence

William J. Stoker, PCC, Franklin Camp 5, Olathe

Bridger P. Keyes, PCC, Humboldt Camp 9, Humboldt

Kent M. Melcher, PDC, Pvt. John N. Eckes Camp No. 10, Winfield

K. Kirk Nystrom, PDC, Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka

William W. Nixon Award for Camp of the Year – Old Abe Camp 16

Leander Stillwell Outstanding Achievement Award – Joshua S. Young, Camp 5

Captain Patrick H. Coney Award for Brother of the Year – Michael A. Todd, PDC, Camp 4

Corporal Leonidas B. Davis & PDC Dean K. Speaks Award for Recruiter of the Year – Joseph E. Chrisman, Camp 10

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

18. Secretary Russ, as chairman of the Department Bylaws Committee, presented the committee report, along with the recommendations of the committee.

a. The proposed amendments were submitted to the encampment for vote. A two-thirds vote of approval for amendments 2023-01 through 2023-07 was received, with all amendments being adopted with the required two-thirds margin of votes cast.

19. At 12:05 PM, Commander Boyd directed the Chaplain to close the Bible for lunch recess.

20. The encampment was called back into session at 1:00 PM.

21. LGAR members, led by Department President Nancy Durbin, introduced themselves to the encampment, along with DUVCW member Linda Hare.

22. Secretary Russ, as chairman of the Department Bylaws Committee, continued with the the committee report, addressing the remaining amendment.

a. Proposed amendment 2023-08 was submitted for voted. The committee then moved to amend the proposed amendment, as follows:

Item 3b(2) to be amended to read (proposed amended wording underlined)

(2) The Department of Kansas Social Media Manager.

And to add Chapter V, Article II, Section S, subparagraph 6, as follows:

6. The Department Signals Officer shall be the Chairman of the Department Technology Committee.

The motion to amend passed. The motion, as amended, then passed with the required two-thirds margin of votes cast.

23. Brother Walter Schley presented the report of the Department Council Members and declared the financial records had been reviewed by the council and appeared to be in order.

24. Commander Boyd then took the encampment into new business.

25. Brother William Stoker moved the additional cost of \$23.60 for wreath for the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony be approved for payment. Motion was second. Under discussion, Brother Russ pointed out that the encampment is overruling an action of the Department Council. Motion carried.

26. Brother Lane Smith moved the additional cost of \$17.16 for additional printing expenses for the Department Encampment. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

27. Brother Schmidt moved the two payments which were just approved be paid from the unused portion of funds allocated for the Department Encampment. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

28. Commander Boyd addressed the encampment with regards to the 2023 National Encampment, to be held in Nashua, New Hampshire, August 3 through 6. The business meeting is to be held on August 4 and 5. The following past department commanders stated their intention to attend: Commander Boyd in his status as PDC, PDC Schmidt, PDC Bartlow, PDC Russ, PDC Lafferty, PDC Melcher, and PDC Todd.

29. Commander Boyd called for nominations to elect delegates to the 2023 National Encampment.

30. There were no nominations for delegates, and, therefore, none elected.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

31. PDC Russ moved all remaining Brothers of the Department of Kansas in Good Standing at the time of this Encampment are hereby elected as Alternates to the next annual National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

32. Commander Boyd asked if any camps were willing to host the 2024 Department Encampment. Commander Michael Heck, Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp No. 4, Lawrence, advised that Camp 4 wished to host the encampment at Constitution Hall at Lecompton. He then moved Camp 4 be designated as the host camp, with the encampment on April 6, 2024, and April 13, 2024, as a back-up date. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

33. PDC Russ moved the department per diem be set at \$5.00, effective January 1, 2024. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

34. Brother Russ moved that this, the Twenty-Seventh Annual Encampment of the Department of Kansas award the Distinction and Honor of Emeritus to Brother Douglas E. McGovern, P.C.C., with its accompanying authority to permanently wear the badge of a Department Elected Officer. Motion was seconded by Brother Schmidt. Motion carried.

35. Brother Bartlow, as Chairman of the Encampment Resolutions and Officer Reports Committee, reported that the items which had been referred to the committee had already been handled as new business.

36. Commander Boyd requested PCinC Pierson take a few minutes to address the “Deed of Conveyance”, as there existed much confusion concerning it. In addition to his discussion, a copy of the National Policy on the Deed of Conveyance was distributed to each attendee.

37. Commander Boyd proceeded with the nomination of officers. The following brothers were nominated for the indicated office.

Department Commander – Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Camp 1
Senior Vice Department Commander – Conrad M. Fisher, PCC, Camp 16
Junior Vice Department Commander – Kent M. Melcher, PDC, Camp 10
Council Member (2 positions open) – Roy A. Lafferty, PDC, Camp 4
James H. Graves, PCC, Camp 1
Dawson R. Ballard, Camp 5

38. There being no additional nominations for the positions, nominations were closed.

39. In accordance with Roberts Rules of Order, the following candidates for a position which was not contested were declared by Commander Boyd as elected. ¹

Department Commander - Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Camp 1
Senior Vice Department Commander - Conrad M. Fisher, PCC, Camp 16
Junior Vice Department Commander – Kent M. Melcher, PDC, Camp 10

40. PDC Bartlow moved to accept the proceedings of this encampment as approved when they are approved by the Department Council. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

41. There being three candidates for two Council Member positions, it was necessary that voting be conducted for the positions.

¹ RRO 11th ed., pg 443,10

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

a. Brother Russ explained the procedure for voting in accordance with the National Regulations. At this time, Brother Boyd declared a five-minute recess to allow the camps to caucus for the vote for Council Member (2-year term ending 2025).

b. After the recess, Secretary Russ called the roll of attendees to verify the number of votes for each camp.

c. Secretary Russ called the roll of camps for their votes. Voting for Council Member (term ending 2025) was as follows: 22 votes for Brother Roy A. Lafferty; 0 votes for Brother James H. Graves; 3 votes for Brother Dawson R. Ballard. Commander Boyd declared Roy A. Lafferty duly elected as Council Member, with the term ending 2025.

d. Camps were again given several minutes to caucus before voting for the one-year term of Council Member.

e. Secretary Russ called the roll of camps for their votes. Voting for Council Member (term expiring 2024) was as follows: 22 votes for Brother James H. Graves; 3 votes for Brother Dawson R. Ballard. Commander Boyd declared James H. Graves duly elected as Council Member, with the term ending 2024.

42. There being no further business to come before the encampment, Commander Boyd turned over the gavel to PCinC Brian C. Pierson for the installation of officers. PCinC Pierson relieved Brother Boyd of his command.

43. Commander-elect Thomas E. Schmidt was asked to provide a list of appointed officers to the secretary. The secretary read those elected and appointed, to wit:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Department Commander | Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Camp 1 |
| Senior Vice Department Commander | Conrad M. Fisher, PCC, Camp 16 |
| Junior Vice Department Commander | Kent M. Melcher, PDC, Camp 10 |
| Secretary (term ending 2025) | Alan L. Russ, PDC, Camp 16 |
| Treasurer (term ending 2025) | Rocky L. Bartlow, PDC, Camp 16 |
| Council Member (term ending 2024) | Michael A. Todd, PDC, Camp 4 |
| Council Member (term ending 2024) | James H. Graves, PCC, Camp 1 |
| Council Member (term ending 2025) | Roy A. Lafferty, PDC, Camp 4 |
| Patriotic Instructor | Dale L. Rouse, PCC, Camp 1 |
| Chaplain | Roy A. Lafferty, PDC, Camp 4 |
| Graves Registration Officer | Joshua S. Young, Camp 5 |
| Historian | Joshua S. Young, Camp 5 |
| Signals Officer | Alan L. Russ, PDC, Camp 16 |

44. PCinC Pierson proceeded to install the Department Officers, after which they assumed their respective stations.

45. Commander Schmidt then presented a certificate to PDC Robert D. Boyd II for his service as the Twentieth Department Commander of the Department of Kansas. This was accompanied by the presentation of the Badge of Past Department Commander.

46. Commander Thomas E. Schmidt proceeded to close the Encampment, as per the Ritual and Ceremonials of the Order. The Encampment was declared closed at 3:40 PM.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

These proceedings of the Twenty-Seventh 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,



Alan L. Russ, PDC
Secretary

Approved by the Department of Kansas Council. April 10, 2023

Attachment:

- A Roster of Encampment Attendees
- B Department Officer Reports, Camp Commander Reports, and Department Committee Reports

**ATTACHMENT A
ENCAMPMENT ATTENDEES**

CORP. PATRICK COYNE CAMP 1, WICHITA **Strength-February 28, 2023: 33**

Baxter, Timothy A. (Del) Burke, Bruce F. (Del) Coyne, James P. (PCC)
Graves, James H. (PCC as CC) Justice, Terry E. (PCC) Rouse, Dale L. (PCC)
Schmidt, Thomas E. (PDC)

| Department Commander | Past Department Commander | Camp Commander | Past Camp Commander | Elected Dept. Officer | Delegate/Alt. Delegate | TOTAL PRESENT | VOTING STRENGTH |
|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 7 |

SGT. SAMUEL J. CHURCHILL CAMP 4, LAWRENCE **Strength-February 28, 2023: 19**

Goff, George E. (Del) Heck, Michael D. (CC) Lafferty, Roy A. (PDC)
Myers, W. Patrick (Del) Todd, Michael A. (PDC)

| Department Commander | Past Department Commander | Camp Commander | Past Camp Commander | Elected Dept. Officer | Delegate/Alt. Delegate | TOTAL PRESENT | VOTING STRENGTH |
|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 5 |

FRANKLIN CAMP 5, OLATHE **Strength-February 28, 2023: 42**

Lawson, Brian G. (Del) Schley, Walter H. Jr. (DO) Smith, Lane D. (PCC)
Stoker, William J. (CC) Young, Joshua S.

| Department Commander | Past Department Commander | Camp Commander | Past Camp Commander | Elected Dept. Officer | Delegate/Alt. Delegate | TOTAL PRESENT | VOTING STRENGTH |
|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 3 | 3 |

HUMBOLDT CAMP 9, HUMBOLDT **Strength-February 28, 2023: 10**

Boyd, Robert D. II (DC) Young, Barrett E. (PCC)

| Department Commander | Past Department Commander | Camp Commander | Past Camp Commander | Elected Dept. Officer | Delegate/Alt. Delegate | TOTAL PRESENT | VOTING STRENGTH |
|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |

PVT. JOHN N. ECKES CAMP 10, WINFIELD **Strength-February 28, 2023: 13**

Chrisman, Joseph E. (CC) Crittenden, Eric L. (Alt) Hare, Gordon L. (Del)
Melcher, Kent M. (PDC) Mueller, William K. (Del) Clifton E. Gottlob (Alt)

| Department Commander | Past Department Commander | Camp Commander | Past Camp Commander | Elected Dept. Officer | Delegate/Alt. Delegate | TOTAL PRESENT | VOTING STRENGTH |
|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 4 |

OLD ABE CAMP 16, TOPEKA **Strength-February 28, 2023: 35**

Bartlow, Rocky L. (PDC) Durbin, Randal L. (PDC) Fisher, Conrad M. (PCC as CC)
Ronald H. Martin (Del) Russ, Alan L. (PDC)

| Department Commander | Past Department Commander | Camp Commander | Past Camp Commander | Elected Dept. Officer | Delegate/Alt. Delegate | TOTAL PRESENT | VOTING STRENGTH |
|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 5 |

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP FOR ENCAMPMENT

| Department Commander | Past Department Commander | Camp Commander | Past Camp Commander | Elected Dept. Officer | Delegate/Alt. Delegate | TOTAL PRESENT | VOTING STRENGTH |
|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 28 | 26 |

DC=Dept Cdr PDC=Past Dept Cdr CC=Camp Cdr PCC=Past Camp Cdr DO=Dept Elected Officer Del=Delegate Alt=Alternate Delegate

Incoming Department Officers

2023-2024

Department Commander**Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC**
(Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1, Wichita)

Senior Vice Department Commander **Conrad M. Fisher, PCC**
(Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka)

Junior Vice Department Commander**Kent M. Melcher, PDC**
(Pvt. John N. Eckes Camp 10, Winfield)

Secretary (term expiring 2025)**Alan L. Russ, PDC**
(Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka)

Treasurer (term expiring 2025)**Rocky L. Bartlow, PDC**
(Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka)

Council Member (term expiring 2024) **Michael A. Todd, PDC**
(Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4, Lawrence)

Council Member (term expiring 2024) **James H. Graves, PCC**
(Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1, Wichita)

Council Member (term expiring 2025) **Roy A. Lafferty, PDC**
(Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4, Lawrence)

Immediate Past Department Commander **Robert D. Boyd, II, PCC**
(Humboldt Camp 9, Humboldt)

Patriotic Instructor **Dale L. Rouse, PCC**
(Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1, Wichita)

Chaplain **Roy A. Lafferty, PDC**
(Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4, Lawrence)

Graves Registration Officer**Joshua S. Young**
(Franklin Camp 5, Olathe)

Historian.....**Joshua S. Young**
(Franklin Camp 5, Olathe)

Civil War Memorials Officer**[vacant]**

Signals Officer **Alan L. Russ, PDC**
(Old Abe Camp 16, Topeka)



LET US NEVER FORGET.

OFFICER, CAMP, & COMMITTEE REPORTS



©

TO THE TWENTY-SEVENTH DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

MARCH 18, 2023
WINFIELD, KANSAS

DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OFFICER REPORTS

| | |
|--|---|
| Department Commander | 1 |
| Senior Vice Department Commander | 1 |
| Junior Vice Department Commander | 2 |
| Department Secretary..... | 2 |
| Department Treasurer | 3 |
| Patriotic Instructor | 4 |
| Chaplain Report | 4 |
| Graves Registration Officer | 4 |
| Historian..... | 4 |
| Civil War Memorials Officer..... | 4 |
| Signal Officer..... | 4 |

CAMP REPORTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Corporal Patrick Coyne Camp No. 1 | 7 |
| Sergeant Samuel J. Churchill Camp No. 4 | 7 |
| Franklin Camp No. 5..... | 8 |
| Humboldt Camp No. 9..... | 9 |
| Private John N. Eckes Camp No. 10..... | 9 |
| Old Abe Camp No. 16 | 10 |

COMMITTEE REPORTS

| | |
|--|----|
| Standing Bylaws Committee Report..... | 13 |
| Special Nominating Committee Report..... | 21 |

ATTACHMENTS

| | |
|---|-----|
| Summary of 2022-2023 Department Council Meeting Actions | A-1 |
| Treasurer Accounts Report | B-1 |
| Department Budgets for 2022 and 2023 | C-1 |

OFFICER REPORTS

Department Commander – Robert D. Boyd II, PCC

I would like to thank the brothers of the Department of Kansas for their outstanding support during my term as Department Commander. I would also like to thank Alan Russ, Rocky Bartlow, Kent Melcher, and my Department officers for their tireless support.

The greatest enjoyment of being a Department Commander is the interaction with members of other camps. I got to see in Camp No. 16, the will and hunger for their graveyard activities. I got to see an initiation, as well as to install their officers.

In visiting Patrick Coyne Camp No. 1 in Wichita I got to see members of various organizations come together. Their recruitment of the youth in the organization starts here!!

During my visit to Put John N. Eckes Camp No. 10 I realized the tremendous effort and commitment of the brothers to their camp. They were very deeply involved with their community, and the community will support them when they host the Department of Kansas Encampment March 18, 2023.

On my visit to Franklin Camp No. 5 I saw confederate and union members working harmoniously together and accomplishing many activities and getting stronger. I presented my honor to colored troops there to my Department Officers and my Camp Commanders.

I finished my visitations with Sgt J. Churchill Camp No. 4 in Lawrence, Kansas They have the most diverse presentations from the Patriotic Instructor. He has flags, patch collections, swords, and live presenters. I presented a medal to honor troops to Stanley Hardin, a descendant of Doctor McWilliams of the First Kansas Infantry (Colored Troops) in Lawrence, and they will be gathering a headstone and other honors to be presented to him later.

Finally in Humboldt, Thomas Young (Eagle Scout) made an impression on us when he and his family made a trail of 300 yards to the Evan Young cemetery. The 1823 McClurb Walking Stick Cannon was restored during my reign.

The largest thing that was accomplished was the web site for the Department of Kansas. Thank to Senior vice Commander Tom Schmidt and PDC Kent Melcher, we are up to date and thriving. Everything changes and we also must change.

Thanks also to the Department of Georgia, Department of Oklahoma, Department of Missouri, and the Department of Nebraska for your support, we will never forget.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Robert D Boyd II

Commander

Department of Kansas SUVCW

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Senior Vice Department Commander – Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC

In my position as Senior Vice Commander for the Dept of Kansas from March 26, 2022 thru March 18, 2023 I have participated in the following activities:

1. Attended the Dept of Kansas Council Meetings: June 27, 2022, July 14, 2022, Sept. 19, 2022, Dec. 12, 2022 and Jan. 30, 2023
2. Involved in the publishing of two issues of the Dept newsletter “The Sunflower Picket”. First issue in Oct. 2022 and second issue in Feb. 2023
3. Helped the Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp # 4 Lawrence, KS put out and pickup flags for the Civil War veterans in Oak Hill Cemetery, Lawrence, KS for the 2022 Memorial Day holiday.
4. Attended the Blackjack Battlefield Re-enactment near Baldwin, KS and helped man the Lawrence camp’s recruiting tent in July 2022.
5. Attended Dept of Kansas Bylaw Committee Meetings: Oct. 3, 2022 and Dec. 5, 2022
6. Installed the Cpl. P. Coyne Camp # 1 officers in Nov. 2022
7. Attended the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the Old Abe Camp # 16 celebration in Dec. of 2022 in Topeka, Ks.
8. Attended the February 2023 camp meeting of Franklin Camp # - Olathe, KS

OFFICER REPORTS

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC
Senior Vice Commander Dept of Kansas SUVCW
RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Junior Vice Department Commander – Conrad M. Fisher, PCC

Using data available 2/28/2023 I report the Department of Kansas SUVCW has a membership of 158 men. Of note Franklin Camp #5 is the largest camp in the department having 43 members.

In September, 2022 I learned that as JVDC I was on the National Organization Expansion Committee. This Committee organized by C in C Frail and chaired by John Conrad, PDC to explore strategies to grow the membership and camps in the organization. This an interesting challenge as we have camps in Great Britain to California and the Pacific. Finding convenient times for zoom meetings was an organizational problem. We were to address recruiting, retention and geographical expansion.

In our meeting we discussed social networks; there are more than 20 such platforms, many catering to different age groups and interests. Getting our name and mission on these platforms is considered important. We also discussed public relations issues; would national be willing to make public statements or press releases of issues such as the renaming of military forts and installations to union generals from their confederate names. Also commenting on the service of Chinese soldiers and sailors who did not get citizenship as did European veterans.

These are all ongoing topics and I presume Brother Conrad keeps C in C Frail up to date on our deliberations.

In closing I have appreciated being a JVDC for the past year. I have learned a great deal about the Department of Kansas SUVCW and would be pleased to continue to serve.

In Fraternity, Charity, Loyalty,
Conrad Fisher
JVDC, Department of Kansas

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Department Secretary - Alan L. Russ, PDC

Since the last Department Encampment, I have continued with my duties as Department Secretary to the best of my abilities. As Secretary, I processed and submitted the following to National Headquarters:

- a. Certificate of Election and Installation of Department Officers (SUVCW Form 49)
- b. To CinC – Amended Department Bylaws.
- c. Department Annual Report (SUVCW Form 35) with annotated department roster and Camp Annual Reports (SUVCW Form 27) for all camps.
- d. Approved Department Bylaws as signed by CinC.
- e. Certification of Election and Installation of Camp Officers (SUVCW Form 22) for all camps.
- f. Applications for membership, with Camp Status Report and supporting documents - 15.
- g. Applications for reinstatement of membership, to include Camp Status Report - 2.
- h. Camp Status Reports reporting changes of address – 8.
- i. Supplemental applications to include Camp Status Report and supporting documents - 7.
- j. Camp Status Report reporting death of brother – 1.
- k. Camp Status Report reporting change in “dual” status – 1.
- l. Camp Status Report reporting honorable discharge – 2.

The above actions ensured the Department remained in good status with the National Organization, thus continuing the Department’s record of never having been suspended by a CinC.

I also attended the 2022 National Encampment at Grand Rapids, Michigan, in my status as Past Department Commander. I plan to attend the 2023 National Encampment at Nashua, New Hampshire, this August.

OFFICER REPORTS

During this last year I published six issues of The Scribe, the unofficial publication of the Department Secretary. The purpose of The Scribe is to keep camp commanders, secretaries and treasurers informed about due dates, new orders and forms, upcoming events affecting them, etc. in the hopes of making their job a little easier. I plan to continue this for the coming year.

In April 2022 I was honored to be elected by the National Council of Administration to serve out the remainder of the current term as National Secretary, which ran until the conclusion of the 2022 National Encampment in August.

CAMP STRENGTHS AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2023

The following strength figures represent information received by the Department Secretary as of February 28, 2023. Note that these figures do not yet reflect the 2023 Camp Annual Report information. This a net increase of ten brothers within the Department of Kansas since March 31, 2022. After discounting for dual brothers (as National does to get a true strength), our actual reportable strength is 151.

| <i>Camp Name & Number</i> | <i>Members</i> | <i>Associates</i> | <i>Junior Members</i> | <i>Junior Associates</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Net Change</i> |
|---|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1 | 32 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 0 |
| Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4 | 18 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 0 |
| Franklin Camp 5 | 39 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 43 | +8 |
| Humboldt Camp 9 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | -1 |
| John N. Eckes Camp 10 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | +2 |
| Old Abe Camp 16 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 35 | +1 |
| DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS | 149 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 158 | +10 |
| Dual Brothers | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | +1 |
| <i>Department Reportable Strength (minus Dual Brothers and Juniors)</i> | | | | | | <i>151</i> |

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Department Treasurer - Rocky L. Bartlow, PDC

Brothers of the Department of Kansas

Let me thank you for the honor of being your Treasurer in 2022 and for the trust you have placed in me. The following is a summation of activities in 2022 and our financial status.

The 2022 budget was approved by the Department Council and only had one change last year when an additional \$500 was approved for the website. This was because of a need to update it before we lost the old website and its data. We also absorbed the SVCinC lodging, meal, and Quartermaster cost that was unbudgeted. Despite that we ended the year \$35.75 below budget.

The 2023 budget has been approved to be presented along with this report as well as the 2022 budget and the bank register showing all expenses and income,

We have three (3) accounts held at Envista Credit Union in Topeka. A savings account, a checking account, and the Schall account. The savings account started the year with \$5,889.81 and closed with \$5,928.72. The checking account started with \$4,317.20 and ended with \$3,053.84. The Schall account began with \$1471.00 and ended with \$1,472.46.

The last encampment voted to resume collecting the department per capita and raised it to \$5.00 per brother which will do much to avoid a loss in 2023.

All camps of the department, as well as the department itself, have filed the required 990-N form with the IRS and we have completed the Form 11 and verification page and they were forwarded to the National Treasurer on February 23.

I have no motions or recommendations to bring before the 2023 encampment.

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Rocky L Bartlow, PDC

Department Treasurer

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

OFFICER REPORTS

Patriotic Instructor - Steven W. Hamlin

REPORT NOT SUBMITTED

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Chaplain – Kent M. Melcher, PDC

Since the 2022 Encampment, when I was appointed by Commander Robert Boyd as Chaplain for the Department, I have had only the opportunity to provide a prayer for meetings of the Department Council, which I have done ad libitum.

The Department sadly reports the loss of one brother since the last Department Encampment on March 26, 2022.

Dennis M. Dailey (September 30, 1938 – January 3, 2023) – Member, Sergeant Samuel J. Churchill Camp No. 4, Lawrence, Kansas.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Kent M. Melcher, PDC, Dept. Chaplain

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Graves Registration Officer – William J. Stoker, PCC

As Graves Registration Officer this year I have nothing to report, and I have communicated that to the National Graves Registration officer.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

William J. Stoker, PCC

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Historian – Joshua S. Young

Nothing to report at this time.

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Civil War Memorial Officer - Rocky D. Ansell

Please accept this report for the position of Department of Kansas SUVCW Memorial Officer.

During this last year, with the help and collaboration of other members of the SUVCW, a list has been compiled of nearly two dozen Union veteran graves in six counties in Southeast Kansas.

As time permits I am obtaining contact information for the individual cemeteries, then attempting to verify burial information, including the specific grave locations. As this work continues and graves identified, stones can be obtained, reset or cleaned as needed.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Rocky D. Ansell, Civil War Memorials Officer

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Department Signal Officers –

Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, and Kent M. Melcher, PDC

At the March 2022 Department Encampment, the need for a new Department website was discussed and special website committee was established by Department Order No. 3, dated June, 29, 2022, consisting of Thomas E. Schmidt – Chairman, and members Alan L. Russ, PDC and Rocky L. Bartlow, PDC.

They met and researched various options for the project. They presented a report at the July 14, 2022 meeting of the Dept. Council recommending that the Dept. Council accept the proposal from Tyler Stover Design in the amount of \$500 to design and build a new website for the Dept. of Kansas that would be hosted by the Word Press platform within a 90 day timeframe. Council voted to approve this contract.

OFFICER REPORTS

The site was operational by the end of September 2022 but updates of information, content and data still needed to be done. Training for Signal Officers Tom Schmidt and Kent Melcher started with a Zoom meeting on Oct 13, 2022 as well as an in-person training session with designer Tyler Stover on Dec. 10, 2022.

In November 2022, Tom Schmidt made contact with Brother Doug McGovern's family concerning the Kansas Civil War Monuments and Memorials website that Doug had developed. A link to this site was on the old Dept Website but the some of the software was no longer functional. Tom obtained permission from the family to take the data and pictures from the old website and incorporate it into the Department's new website. Black Cat Creative (formerly Tyler Stove Design) was brought in to accomplish this large task in the middle of November 2022. As of February 1, 2023 this project has been completed. To have this information in place and functional is a great addition to our website.

Brother Kent Melcher is handling the updating of the camp pages for Winfield, Topeka and Humboldt. Brother Tom Schmidt is handling camp pages for Wichita, Lawrence and Olathe.

We now have a professional and fully functional website (suvchwks.org) in place for the Department of Kansas SUVCW.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Kent M. Melcher, PDC
Department Signal Officer

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

CAMP REPORTS

Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp No. 1 – Commander James H. Graves, PCC

The following is a short summary for the Cpl. P. Coyne Camp # 1 in Wichita since our last report at the

Department of Kansas Encampment meeting in March 2022.

The camp met all scheduled nights at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in 2022.

The camp membership has remained the same although one junior member was initiated into full membership.

The camp continued its program of cleaning and straightening civil war veterans headstones in Maple Grove Cemetery. Work days were scheduled starting in March and concluding in October 2022.

The camp placed (5) wreaths in honor of Memorial Day. The locations were the Pavilion at Maple Grove Cemetery, the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in downtown Wichita and the GAR plot at Highland Cemetery all in Wichita as well as the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in downtown Hutchinson and the Veterans marker at Hillside Cemetery, Sedgwick.

We have been working with the Washington Chapter SAR to honor Wichita pioneer Andrew Fabrique. Final plans have not been solidified yet.

In September, a slate of officers was presented to the group and unanimously elected. The officers were installed by Past Department Commander Tom Schmidt in November.

On December 17th, the camp sponsored the Wreath's Across America Program at the GAR Pavilion at Maple Grove Cemetery in Wichita.

As part of its regular meeting format, using proscribed ritual guidelines, a short program on a civil war related topic is presented. Programs range from member ancestor history, civil war battles, GAR memorabilia and history gleaned from the tombstones we have cleaned. Our meeting attendance remains in the range of 8-14 attendees with the majority of meetings having double digit attendance.

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty,

James H. Graves, PCC – Camp Commander Cpl. P. Coyne Camp #1

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp No. 4 – Commander Michael D. Heck

[Report submitted by previous commander Dennis Lawrence, PCC]

* Camp 4 maintain its current membership status and conducted Camp meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (Note: Camp 4 does not meet in July).

* Camp Member place over 500+ Flags on Douglas County, Kansas Civil War Graves for Memorial Day, along with participants from the local 4H Club, Cub/Boy Scouts, Church Patrons, and several local community members.

* Camp Secretary distributed monthly Newsletter with previous meeting summary, upcoming area Civil War events, and Civil War facts and quiz's.

* Members participated in annual clean up event at the Black Jack Battlefield National Landmark

* Members participated in a limited trial of Headstone cleanings with new approved cleaner in area cemeteries

* Camp Patriotic Instructor scheduled presenters on various Civil War topics for each monthly Camp meeting

Civil War Author, Cemetery & Graves researchers from local community on Colored Soldiers mass graves in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lawrence, KS, Member presentation Kansas SUVCW Department Encampment Badges, Member presentation on the history, meanings & purposes of the SUVCW Badge design & symbols, Member presentation on Civil War Regalia and weapons, Member presentation on Civil War family lineage of Edmond Goff, Member presentation on Re-found History - 1913 personal accounts and photos of the 50 Anniversary of Quantrill's Raid on Lawrence, Department Commander recognition of Doctor Mc Williams of the 1st Kansas Colored Infantry, CO G and Black Soldier's Badge presented to G-Grandson Stanley Hardin of Lawrence, KS, Historical presentation of the Vinland GAR Post .

CAMP REPORTS

Camp 4 Member, Ryan Todd, recognized in the SUVCW National publication - The Banner, for his service and dedication to the SUVCW Order and his active duty overseas deployment to Southeast Asia (Kuwait / Iraq) with the Kansas Army National Guard.

Many Camp 4 Members also participated in local Civil War era Living History Events:

Fort Leavenworth, KS - Elementary School

Tonganoxie, KS - Territorial Days

Osawatomie, KS - John Brown Days

Baldwin City, KS - Black Jack Battlefield

Cow Town - Wichita, KS

Lecompton, KS - Bleeding Kansas Series.

Topeka,, KS - Civil War Round Table

Camp 4 Members attended and participated in SUVCW Department Encampment in Emporia, KS

3 Camp 4 Members attended SUVCW National Encampment in Grand Rapids, MI

Camp 4 Member selected to serve at SUVCW National Guard for 2023 National Encampment

Respectfully submitted in F, C, & L

Dennis Lawrence, Commander

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Franklin Camp No. 5 – Commander William J. Stoker, PCC

This past year has been much better than last year. With the waning of the covid pandemic we were able to return to regular in person meetings. As usual we had a speaker for each of our meetings, and 2022 gave us a number of great presentations. Franklin Camp is fortunate to have several members with excellent computer skills and they show in many of our presentations. We are also blessed to have a convenient meeting space at Pegah's Family Restaurant. In their meeting room is a big TV that allows for great powerpoint presentations. Biographies of General McPherson, Daniel Sickles, Captain Henry Wirtz, and George Luther Staerns were all very well done and fascinating. We also had single presentations on The Care and Cleaning of Headstones, Civil War Battlefield Medicine, and Hold At All Costs the 9th Massachusetts Lt Artillery at Gettysburg. We also have had talks that were history oriented but not necessarily Civil War History such as Command At Dawn by Mel Carney about his service in Viet Nam. I believe it's worth noting that all but two of our speakers were camp members and were all very well done.

As in past years we had Quilts of Valor presentations at both Memorial Day and Veterans Day. The weather cooperated with us to meet at the GAR monument at the Olathe Memorial Cemetery on Memorial Day but we moved the Veteran's Day ceremony into the Corinth Library due to very cold weather. Both ceremonies were very well received and are still one of Franklin Camp's proudest accomplishments. In August Franklin Camp participated in The Mine Creek Heritage Day Festival in a shared table with the Key Camp of the SCV. For the first time since covid we manned a booth shared with our Confederate brothers at the Shawnee Mission Indian Fall Festival. It went very well and we were able to share a lot of recruiting information. This year the festival was just one day. Later in October several members of Franklin Camp went to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield for a tour. It was a great day as the battlefield, and visitor center are both in great shape. In 2022 Franklin Camp members presented a total of Patriotic Instructions 15 times to other Heritage Groups in our area.

Next year we are looking forward to several new members. We have five new applications to submit in 2023 that we know of already, and hoping to hold onto all our current members. We have speakers scheduled for all of our meetings this coming year. We are hoping to spend a cleaning day at the GAR memorial in Olathe in 2023, and we are working to replace the headstone that is currently missing of a Union soldier in Paola, Kansas. We will continue our tradition of honoring veterans at both Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Olathe Memorial Cemetery is planning to have their chapel repaired this coming year so weather should not be the challenge it has been in the past. Probably our biggest challenge is that we are running out of Quilts of Valor to present to veterans and the Quilts Of Valor chapter we have been working

CAMP REPORTS

with is currently disbanded. Hopefully we will find another source of patriotic quilts and be able to continue a great tradition. We are beginning to plan a camp trip to Chickamauga for later this year.

Franklin Camp's meetings are generally informal. Our meetings are full of discussion and planning and we need to close by 8pm to respect the restaurant's employees. So we seek to preserve our time together for our presenters and questions afterward. Franklin Camp averages between 16 and 18 members at each meeting. Twenty-five of our members have attended at least one meeting and we have had many visitors. Our Secretary, Jim Thornton has revised our monthly newsletter to include ancestor histories, and articles of interest in addition to camp news and announcements. This summer due to the good work of Josh Young we obtained name tags for the membership. In closing, 2022 has been a good year for Franklin Camp #5, and we look forward to even better things in 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

William Stoker, Commander Franklin Camp #5

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Humboldt Camp No. 9 – Commander Bridger P. Keyes, PCC

Enclosed is the Commanders report for 2022. I started off the year in the beginning of the Kansas Highway Patrol Academy which lasted 10 months for me to graduate. I did graduate and my senior vice commander and junior vice Commander held down the fort.

We started off the year with a visit from Thomas Young (Eagle Scout) saying he wanted to clear a path to the Evan Young Cemetery and found an exception to access the property. After hearing his proposition Brother Boyd and Brother Ansell volunteered to cut down 10 or 20 trees over the next couple of weeks to start off the project. Brother Ansell had to leave the project for Alaska, and Joe Works of B & W trailer hitches stepped in and helped him cut a path removing over 30 trees, putting down chat on the road, and building a bridge to access the cemetery. It was discovered that not only 3 civil war soldiers were buried there, there are at least 23 other people buried there also. The Camp and the Young family celebrated this accomplishment.

We were active in Humboldt, Kansas with Frank Shomaker being honored by Monarch Cement and the City of Humboldt at the Old timer's ball games where baseball was played by the rules during the civil war. (Example) If a ball is hit and bounces once and is caught, the batter is out. Frank represented the camp at 4 of July parade, Veterans Day parade, and Memorial Day parade, and at the Biblesta Parade.

Our final accomplishment was the restoration of an 1823 McClurb Walking Stick Cannon outside the Humboldt Historical Museum. Brother Boyd power washed and sanded down the cannon, and Jim Woods and Frank Shomaker Painted it.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Bridger P Keyes – Camp Commander

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Pvt. John N. Eckes Camp No. 10 – Commander Joseph E. Chrisman

I have very much appreciated the support and encouragement of my SUVCW brothers, both in the Eckes Camp and in the Department, during my service as the first commander of Camp #10. What we have done together is to lay a firm foundation for building an active and growing camp. As I look back, I can see a steady development of our mission and purpose. We have gone from early interest among a few men, to some meetings to determine potential, to chartering (delayed by the pandemic), to wondering who are we, to a growing realization of what we're all about, and now to thinking about what's next. Like a railroad locomotive, we first began to gain traction, and we now we are gaining momentum.

The Camp and its future are in good hands with our 2023 slate of officers. We have become excellent at outreach, with cemetery work, booths at events, parades, "scarecrows" at Arkalala in Arkansas City, rededication of two G.A.R. monuments, and interaction with Scouts. There is a growing interest and

CAMP REPORTS

willingness to provide teachers with programs for their classes. We have begun to build a relationship with other veterans' organizations in our communities, a relationship that we will want to continue to develop.

In June, the Camp began regular monthly headstone cleanings and the resetting of some of the stones. We have done monthly cemetery work each month since June, and the results are gratifying. The Greenwood Cemetery in Sedan, KS, has an impressive G.A.R. monument that had never to anyone's knowledge been cleaned. It also has some spalling of the concrete foundation, with some cracks. Both appear to be repairable. It also has a cannon from the USS Washington, a cutter that intercepted the infamous Amistad slave ship off the Carolina coast. (Watch the movie that tells the story of the Amistad!) Brother Terry Justice has done an amazing job of researching the history of the cannon which was given to the Sedan G.A.R. post, and therefore is legally the property of the SUVCW. As brother Justice has said, the gun belongs in a museum.

The Camp participated in Memorial Day and Veterans Day observances, including marching in the Arkansas City Veterans Day parade. Our brothers have manned booths at local community events. At an Eagle Scout Court of Honor, the Camp presented the Scout with the SUVCW recognition certificate.

I believe the Camp has a promising future. With the participation of our brothers and excitement their about who we are, we will accomplish much.

Kent M. Melcher

Commander, 2021-22

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

Old Abe Camp No. 16 – Commander Conrad M. Fisher, PCC

[Report submitted by previous commander K. Kirk Nystrom, PDC]

In 2022, Old Abe Camp held monthly meetings the first Thursday of each month at Perkins Restaurant in Topeka. A time of fellowship proceeded the meal. The camp opened for business and took a recess as dinner was served. After the recess, the business was continued in accordance with the procedure and ritual of the SUVCW.

In recognition of the 2nd and 3rd year of the ongoing COVID 19 Crisis, meetings were held both virtual by ZOOM and in person.

Attendance in 2022 averaged between 9 and 12, either in person or by Zoom.

At every meeting, the passing of the Kepi hat raised funds for the ongoing work of the American Battlefield Trust. Several hundred dollars was raised in 2022 for the preservation of Civil War battlefields.

Several brothers represented Kansas and Old Abe Camp at the August 2022 National Encampment in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Thanks to those loyal members.

The Annual Memorial Day observance at the Historic Topeka Cemetery was held with flag raising, taps, drums and a boy scout honor guard. A historic reenactment was provided by Hershel Stroud, DDS(Ret.) All known graves of Civil War veterans were decorated for the occasion.

Old Abe Camp holds memorial services for departed brothers. A memorial service for PCC Dan Karr was held June 25, 2022 in Overbrook. On November 19, 2022 a memorial service for Stan Sutton was held in Minden, Nebraska.

During warmer months, led by PCC Reiman, volunteers from the camp locate, clean and reset the graves of Civil War Veterans. This service has now included a number of cemeteries, in and near Topeka.

Patriotic Instruction regarding historical information is routinely provided at camp meetings.

SVC Fisher and JVC Puett, members from the camp, participated in the Topeka Shawnee County Library Program "Identity Quest". On November 12 and 13 several attendees expressed interest in how to join SUVCW, and our camp. They were invited to attend a meeting.

Junior ROTC awards were presented at Topeka West High School, Highland Park High School, Topeka High School and Washburn Rural High School in Topeka and a presentation in Junction City, all headed up by PCC Fisher.

CAMP REPORTS

At the November meeting, elections were held for the 2023 term. CC, PCC Fisher, SVC Puett, JVC Morgan, Secretary/Treasurer PDC Bartlow, Council Members: PCC Dunstan, Sanders and Martin were elected.

An Anniversary Celebration was held at the December, 2022 meeting for the 25 years in which Old Abe Camp has existed. Hurrah for 25 fulfilling years!

For the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

Respectfully Submitted,

K. KIRK NYSTROM, PDC

Outgoing Camp Commander

RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

Department Standing Bylaws Committee - Alan L. Russ, PDC, Chairman

1. The Department of Kansas Bylaws Standing Committee was appointed by Department Order No. 2, dated May 27, 2022. The committee consists of the following brothers of the Department:

Alan L. Russ, PDC, Chairman – Old Abe Camp 16
Conrad M. Fisher, PCC, Member – Old Abe Camp 16
Kent M. Melcher, PDC, Member – Pvt. John N. Eckes Camp 10
Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, Member – Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1
Michael A. Todd, PDC, Member – Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4
Robert D. Boyd II, PCC, Member (ex officio) – Humboldt Camp 9

2. The committee remotely met on October 3, 2022, and December 5, 2022, to consider proposed amendments to the Department Bylaws. All proposals were reviewed and discussed by the committee and will be submitted to the 2023 Department Encampment with the indicated recommendations of the committee.

3. As required by Department of Kansas Bylaws, Chapter IX, Article III, Section A1, these proposed amendments, along with the recommendations of the Department Bylaws Committee, are being distributed to the various camps of the Department for their review at least ninety (90) days prior to the Department Encampment.

Alan L. Russ, PDC
Chairman

PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 2023-01

SOURCE: Proposed by Department Bylaws Committee

DISCUSSION: Prior to the revision of the SUVCW “Ritual and Ceremonials” in 2015, it was titled “Rituals and Ceremonies.” The previous editions were the basis when the change to the Department of Kansas Bylaws was made to then Article IV, Section K, of the Department Bylaws. This was not corrected in 2016 after the change in title. The following amendment is recommended to correct the error in the Bylaws.

RECOMMENDATION: The committee recommends this amendment be adopted.

CHAPTER II CAMPS

Article IV. USE OF RITUAL AND CEREMONIES CEREMONIALS AT CAMP MEETINGS.

The Ritual and Ceremonies Ceremonials of the Order are an integral and historic part of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. As such, all Camps within the Department of Kansas shall conduct meetings as provided in the Rituals and Ceremonies Ceremonials of the Order, except when circumstances are prohibitive.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 2023-02

SOURCE: Proposed by Department Bylaws Committee

DISCUSSION: Department policies exist as a means of governing and direction one level below the Department Bylaws. They are not incorporated into the Bylaws by reference.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES AND OTHER REPORTS

This amendment formalizes and clarifies the process for placing policies into effect. It allows for the establishment of interim policies between department encampments and establishes that a policy requires the approval of a department encampment to become a permanent policy.

This amendment also establishes responsibility for reviewing potential changes to policies, along with establishing a requirement that policies must be reviewed at least once every four years.

RECOMMENDATION: The committee recommends this amendment be adopted.

CHAPTER IX GENERAL

Article I: RULES, REGULATIONS, AND POLICIES

All rules, regulations, and policies of the Department of Kansas, and any subsequent amendments or modifications thereto, shall require the approval of the Department Commander or a Department Encampment, and they can be used to manage the Department in support of these Bylaws.

Section A. POLICIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS.

1. The Department Commander may establish formal **interim** policies for the Department of Kansas, subject to approval of the Department Council. Such interim policies will expire as of the next Department Encampment unless they are accepted and approved by the next Department Encampment.

2. It shall be the responsibility of the Department Standing Bylaws Committee to review policies and submit recommended changes to existing policies to the Department Encampment.

3. Department Policies shall be numbered sequentially, followed by the year approved, as follows: "Policy 01 (2023)."

4. Policies shall be reviewed at least once every four years.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 2023-03

SOURCE: Proposed by Department Bylaws Committee

DISCUSSION: Department Bylaws do not currently contain provision for a Department Signals Officer. This change adds the position and a description of duties to the Bylaws. It also corrects the wording of the Bylaws for the Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator to make it match the National Regulations.

RECOMMENDATION: The committee recommends this amendment be adopted.

CHAPTER V DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Article I: OFFICERS

Section C. APPOINTED OFFICERS.

The appointed Officers of the Department are the Department Patriotic Instructor, Department Chaplain, Department Historian, Department Counselor, Department Graves Registration Officer, Department Civil War Memorials Officer, Department Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator, Department Signals Officer, Guide, Color Bearer, and Guard. On assuming office, the Department Commander shall appoint all other Department Officers not elected; and may appoint an Assistant Secretary and/or Assistant Secretary/Treasurer. The duties of appointed positions, for which no appointee is designated, shall be retained by the Department Commander. The incoming

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES AND OTHER REPORTS

Department Commander may delay appointing brothers to the offices of Guide, Color Bearer, and Guard until the next Department Encampment, at which time he will appoint them *pro tempore*.

Section D. TERMS OF OFFICE.

1. The Department Commander, Senior Vice Department Commander, and Junior Vice Department Commander shall be elected for a term of one year. No Department Commander may be reelected to that position for more than three (3) consecutive terms, or if such election will result in him serving as Department Commander for more than 45 consecutive months.
2. The term of office for Department Secretary/Treasurer or Department Secretary and Department Treasurer shall be for three (3) years.
3. Department Council Members will be elected for a two-year term of office, with one position being elected in odd-numbered years and two positions being elected in even-numbered years. Any Council Member vacancy which should occur between Department Encampments shall be filled in accordance with Section F, below. In the case where the term of office for that position would normally extend beyond the next Department Encampment, the remainder of the term shall be filled by a brother elected at that Department Encampment.
4. Appointed officers of the Department shall be appointed by the Department Commander to serve for a period of up to one year, unless sooner relieved. All appointments shall expire automatically at the end of the next Department Encampment, unless otherwise defined by these Bylaws. **The appointment or removal of Department Signal Officer shall require the consent of the Department Council.**

Article II: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section R. EAGLE SCOUT CERTIFICATE COORDINATOR (OPTIONAL).

The Department Eagle Scout **Certificate** Coordinator shall facilitate the distribution of Eagle Scout Certificates within the Department and compile statistics on the number of certificates requested and the number of certificates presented and transmit this information to the National Eagle Scout Coordinator, and shall perform such other duties as pertain to his office. He shall perform other such duties as described in National Regulations of the Order.

Section S. DEPARTMENT SIGNALS OFFICER.

1. The purpose of the Signals Officer is to serve as the senior advisor on electronic communication technology and manage the assigned resources in such a manner as to reflect positively on the accomplishment of the goals and objectives of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.
2. The Department Signals Officer should provide the Commander with advice and assistance relative to matters involving communication and technology.
3. The Department Signals Officer shall supervise or serve as the Department Webmaster.
4. The Department Signals Officer should be familiar with and comply with the National Communication Technology policy.
5. The Department Signal Officer should provide assistance, where possible, to Camp Signals Officers

PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 2023-04

SOURCE: Proposed by Department Bylaws Committee

DISCUSSION: Department Bylaws have inadvertently carried forward old language describing dues and per capita. Whereas dues are paid by brothers to a camp, per capita is paid by camps to the department and by the department to National. This amendment clarifies the language of the Bylaws.

This amendment also requires that Department per capita shall be paid by camps for dual brothers, in the same manner as National per capita is required.

RECOMMENDATION: The committee recommends this amendment be adopted.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES AND OTHER REPORTS

CHAPTER II CAMPS

Article II. CAMP CHARTERS

Section B. SUSPENSION OF CAMP CHARTER.

A Camp failing to pay per-capita **dues** or neglecting to forward reports within the time specified by law, will be suspended by the Department Commander. Suspended Camps may be reinstated by forwarding reports and paying all arrearages of per-capita **dues**.

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.

CHAPTER IV DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS AND MEETINGS

Article I: DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS

Section I. MEMBERSHIP OF DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENTS.

The membership of the Department Encampments shall be constituted as follows:

6. A Camp which fails to pay its per-capita **dues** or other indebtedness or fails to make reports, shall not be entitled to representation at the Department Encampment.

CHAPTER V DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Article II: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section D. SECRETARY OR SECRETARY/TREASURER.

The Department Secretary or Secretary/Treasurer, in his capacity as Secretary, shall keep a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Department Encampment. He shall keep and be the custodian of the files and membership records of the Department, and shall keep such other records in connection with his office as may be required by the Department Commander or the Department Encampment. He shall, by the due date established in National Regulations, make a consolidated report of the Camp Secretary's reports to the Department Commander, and forward a copy of same to the National Executive Director, together with the amount due for per-capita **dues** and application fees. He shall, by the fifteenth day of each month, forward to the National Executive Director all Camp Status Reports received from Camps for the previous month. He shall forward a report of the election of officers, delegates and alternates to the National Secretary and National Executive Director within the time limits imposed by National Regulations, and perform all other duties pertaining to his office as described in National Regulations of the Order.

CHAPTER VI FINANCIAL MATTERS

Article I: FINANCES

Section A. DUES AND REVENUE.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES AND OTHER REPORTS

- a. The Department shall regulate its own **dues per capita** and revenues. The amount of said **dues per capita** shall be set by the Department Encampment and recorded in the official proceedings, thereof.
 - b. Camps are not required to pay annual Department **dues per capita** for Junior Members and Junior Associates of their camps.
 - c. Camps are ~~not~~ required to pay annual Department **dues per capita** for dual brothers of their camp; **provided the primary camp of the brother is within the Department of Kansas.**
 - d. Camps are required to pay annual National Per Capita for dual brothers of their camp, if required to do so by National Regulations.
 - e. Nothing in subsections b, c, and d, above requires a camp to reduce the dues it collects from juniors or dual brothers. Any such reduction in the dues for brothers who fall within these categories shall be addressed in the bylaws of the Camp.
-

PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 2023-05

SOURCE: Proposed by Department Bylaws Committee

DISCUSSION: Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR), 12th edition, states the president should always be excluded from the Nominating Committee [RONR (12th ed.), 56:47]. Our bylaws currently read the Department Commander shall serve as member (ex officio) for all committees. In the past, the Department Commander has appointed the Nominating Committee (if desired) and has always excluded himself from the membership. This change codifies previous actions and RONR (12th ed.) into the Bylaws.

RECOMMENDATION: The committee recommends this amendment be adopted.

CHAPTER V DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Article III: COMMITTEES

Section C. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP.

- a. Each committee shall consist of no more than five members. ~~The in addition to the~~ Department Commander; ~~who~~ shall serve as member (ex officio) **of all committees except the Nominating Committee.**
- b. The committee chairman shall prepare a report to be presented to the Department Encampment on ~~their~~ activities **of the committee** for the year. A copy of the committee report shall be forwarded to the Department Commander and the Department Secretary who shall include such reports in the minutes of the Department Encampment.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 2023-06

SOURCE: Proposed by Department Bylaws Committee

DISCUSSION: This is a relocation of Chapter II, Article V, Section C, to put it with the section dealing with the suspension of camp charters (Chapter II, Article II, Section B). It does not change anything from what currently exists in the bylaws.

RECOMMENDATION: The committee recommends this amendment be adopted.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES AND OTHER REPORTS

CHAPTER II CAMPS

Article II. CAMP CHARTERS

Section B. SUSPENSION OF CAMP CHARTER.

1. A Camp failing to pay per-capita ~~dues~~ or neglecting to forward reports within the time specified by law, will be suspended by the Department Commander. Suspended Camps may be reinstated by forwarding reports and paying all arrearages of per-capita ~~dues~~. [NOTE: The removal of “dues” is addressed in Amendment No. 2023-04]

2. Camps having been suspended may be reinstated upon payment of a required fee of \$25.00 and may retain their original Charter.

Article V. SUSPENSION, REINSTATEMENT, AND CLOSING OF CAMPS

~~Section C. REINSTATEMENT OF CAMPS.~~

~~Camps having been suspended may be reinstated upon payment of a required fee of \$25.00 and may retain their original Charter.~~

PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 2023-07

SOURCE: Proposed by Department Bylaws Committee

DISCUSSION: With the revocation of General Order No. 7, as issued by CinC Bruce D. Frail on October 5, 2022, any discussion of electronic submission of supporting documents for applications is premature until such time as the National Encampment acts on the issue in August 2023. As such, proposed modifications to Chapter II have been removed.

The proposed amendment to Chapter 8 is still worthy of consideration in a modified form. References to camp submission of digital copies have been removed, and all applications and supporting document from camps shall be submitted to the Department Secretary in paper form.

RECOMMENDATION: The committee recommends this amendment be adopted.

CHAPTER VIII

~~#Rescinded#~~ DIGITAL RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT

Article I. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Section A. APPLICATIONS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS IN THE POSSESSION OF THE DEPARTMENT SECRETARY.

1. A paper copy of the applications of active brothers of the Department shall also be maintained; however, support documentation may be maintained in digital form only.

2. Applications and supporting documents of active brothers of the Department which are in the possession of the Department Secretary as of July 1, 2023, shall be digitized and retained by the Department Secretary by December 31, 2024.

2. All applications and supporting documents received as paper copies after July 1, 2023, shall be digitized by the Department Secretary within 45 days of receipt from the camp. These documents shall be maintained as Department records.

3. In the case of any applications or supporting documents of an active member which are not located in Department records by Department Secretary, the Department Secretary shall request the brother's camp to submit a copy to the Department Secretary.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES AND OTHER REPORTS

Article II. DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT MINUTES/PROCEEDINGS

Section A. REQUIRED COPIES OF ENCAMPMENT MINUTES/PROCEEDINGS.

1. Proceedings and minutes of all Department Encampments shall be maintained as a paper copy, as these are permanent documents of the Department.
2. The documents shall also be maintained as a digital copy in Adobe pdf format.

Article III. DEPARTMENT ORDERS.

Section A. REQUIRED COPIES OF DEPARTMENT ORDERS.

1. All Department Orders, as issued by the various commanders of the Department of Kansas shall be maintained as a paper copy, as these are permanent documents of the Department.
2. The documents shall also be maintained as a digital copy in Adobe pdf format.
3. Digital copies of department orders for previous years shall be combined into sets for each term of a department commander.

Article IV. STORAGE AND SAFEGUARDING OF DIGITAL RECORDS.

The Department Secretary shall make suitable arrangements, subject to the approval of the Department Council, for a safe and satisfactory means of storing and safeguarding digital copies of the documents listed in Articles I through III, above.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 2023-08

SOURCE: Proposed by Department Bylaws Committee

DISCUSSION: Create the Technology Committee as a Standing Committee. Because of the ongoing need to keep current on technology issues affecting the Department of Kansas, it is recommended that a Technology Committee be formally created. It is also recommended that the committee be a Standing Committee, not requiring recreation each year. This committee would consist of five members (plus the sitting Department Commander as member ex-officio).

RECOMMENDATION: The committee recommends this amendment be adopted.

CHAPTER V DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Article III: COMMITTEES

Section E. DEPARTMENT STANDING COMMITTEES

3. DEPARTMENT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.

a. Purpose. The purpose of the Department Technology Committee is to serve as the Department's advisory body on electronic communication technology and the management of assigned resources in such a manner as to reflect positively on the accomplishment of the goals and objectives of the Department of Kansas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

b. Membership. The Department Signals Officer shall be the chairman of the committee. He shall request the Department Commander appoint four additional members to the committee, as follows:

- (1) The Department of Kansas Website Manager.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES AND OTHER REPORTS

(2) The Department of Kansas Facebook Manager.

(3) Two additional brothers of the Department.

c. Activities. The activities of the Department Technology Committee shall include:

(1) Serve as advisory body to the Department Commander and the Department Council on matters dealing with technology options and solutions.

(2) Remain current on emerging technologies and evaluate them for potential use by the Department of Kansas.

(3) Report regularly through the Committee Chairman (Department Signals Officer) to the Department Commander and the Department Council.

(4) Prepare and submit through the Committee Chairman (Department Signals Officer) periodic written reports to the Department Council and an annual written report to the Department Encampment.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES AND OTHER REPORTS

Special Nominating Committee – Michael A. Todd, PDC, Chairman

The 2023 Department Nominating Committee was established by Commander Boyd as an “ad hoc” Committee, all knowing that this “ad hoc” committee will cease to exist once it presents its report to the Department Encampment.

First, I want to thank Commander Boyd for his confidence in me and appointing me to chair the 2023 Department Nominating Committee. Secondly, I would like to thank Brother Stoker and Brother Bartlow for their time and effort to help complete this most important process.

Timeline of events for the 2023 Department Nominating Committee were as follows:

- February 1, 2023 - Department Commander Boyd requested the establishment of “ad hoc” committee for seeking members to fill the Department elected offices for 2023-2024 and the selection of a Committee Chairman
- February 2, 2023 - PDC Mike Todd accepted the Chairmanship of the stated committee
- February 3, 2023 - Department Secretary, Alan Russ distributed official correspondence to each Camp Commander and Secretary of the six (6) Department Camps for dissemination to respective Camp members in seeking a volunteer from each Camp to be on the Nominating Committee and to be returned by 02/18/23; Camp representatives received were from, Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill, Camp 4 - Lawrence, Franklin Camp 5 - OP/Olathe, and Old Abe Camp 16 - Topeka
- February 20, 2023 at 6:30PM - The 2023 Nominating Committee met via Zoom meeting to discuss and develop a process for seeking potential candidates for the five (5) Department Officer position to be elected
- February 21 - March 08, 2023 during this 16 day period of time, the 2023 Nominating Committee received self-nominations for each of the five (5) positions to be elected at the annual Department Encampment
- March 8, 2023 - The 2023 Nominating Committee submitted the list of self-nominated candidates to the Department Commander and Department Secretary

The Department Offices up for election and to be considered by the 2023 Nominating Committee for recommendation at the 2023 annual Department Encampment are:

1. Department Commander (currently held by PCC Robert Boyd II)
2. Senior Vice Department Commander (currently held by PDC Tom Schmidt)
3. Junior Vice Department Commander (currently held by PCC Conrad Fisher)
4. Council Member Position 1 (term expiring 2024) (unexpired term of Walter Schley, Jr.)
5. Council Member Position 3 (term expiring 2025) (currently held by PDC Roy Lafferty)

Elected Department Offices not considered for recommendation by the 2023 Nominating Committee, as their respective terms are not yet expired and therefore, not up for election in 2023 are:

1. Department Secretary (currently held by PDC Alan Russ)
2. Department Treasurer (currently held by PDC Rocky Bartlow)
3. The Council Member Position 2 (currently held by PDC Mike Todd)

All other official Department positions will be secured, announced, and duly appointed by the incoming Department Commander at the annual Department Encampment on Saturday, March 18, 2023.

Now then, the 2023 Department Nominating Committee recommends the following SUVCW Member(s) for the listed Department of Kansas elected Offices:

For Department Commander:

1. **Tom Schmidt** – Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1 - Wichita & Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4 - Lawrence

For Department Senior Vice Commander:

1. **Conrad Fisher** - Old Abe Camp 16 - Topeka

For Department Junior Vice Commander:

1. **Kent Melcher** - Pvt. John N. Eckes Camp 10 - Winfield

For Council Positions 1 & 3 (Listed in order of receipt):

1. **Roy Lafferty** - Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4 - Lawrence

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES AND OTHER REPORTS

2. **James Graves** – Corp. Patrick Coyne Camp 1 - Wichita
3. **Dawson Ballard** - Franklin Camp 5 - OP/Olathe

The 2023 Department Nominating Committee wants to thank each of the Department Members for their willingness to serve for the Good of the Order. It's people like you who sustain the SUVCW for our ancestry and honor our Boy's in Blue. Our continued personal commitment to the principles and objectives of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War organization is how we can best honor our ancestors who sacrificed so much in their lives, for the greatest of causes, which enabled us to be part of this grand organization and ensures our continued success as a great SUVCW organization.

Special Note: although we ask the Department Members in attendance here at the 2023 annual Department Encampment to respectfully consider the recommendations of the 2023 Nominating Committee in their deliberations of the day, please know too, that a duly qualified Member of the Department may be nominated from the floor by any member, for any of these 5 elected positions.

Respectfully submitted;

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty, we are;

2023 Department Nominating Committee

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 DEPARTMENT COUNCIL MEETING ACTIONS

SUMMARY OF JUNE 27, 2022, DEPARTMENT COUNCIL MEETING

1. This meeting was called for the specific purpose to determine future plans for the Department of Kansas website. The meeting was held on June 27, 2022, via Zoom.
 2. Commander Boyd informed the Council of the situation with Lee Media. This was followed by lengthy discussion.
 3. It was moved by Brother Bartlow for Brother Schmidt to send an email and letter to Lee Media for clarification of costs and options for their hosting the department website. Motion was seconded by Brother Nystrom. After a brief discussion on the motion, the vote was cast as five in favor of the motion, and none opposed. Motion carried.
 4. The meeting was adjourned.
-

SUMMARY OF JULY 14, 2022, DEPARTMENT COUNCIL MEETING

1. This meeting was called for the specific purpose to review the preliminary report of the Special Website Committee and determine future plans for the Department of Kansas website. The meeting was held on July 14, 2022, via Zoom.
 2. Brother Schmidt, as chairman of the Special Website Committee, presented the preliminary report of the committee. This report contained the following three resolutions:
 - a. The Department Council accept a proposal from Tyler Stover Design, in the amount of \$500.00.
 - b. Committee Chairman Thomas E. Schmidt, PDC, shall be authorized to sign the contract on behalf of the Department of Kansas for website development and hosting with Mr. Tyler Stover.
 - c. The Department Council approves an additional amount of up to \$200.00 to cover any additional costs which may arise during the development and first year of this process.
 3. Brother Schmidt moved to adopt the three resolutions just read. After discussion the vote was taken with seven votes in favor of the resolutions, and no votes opposed.
 4. Brother Melcher inquired about support for camps. At this time, there is a very good possibility that arrangements may be able to be made to provide hosting and support for camps on the Department website.
 5. Additional discussion covered who would work with Tyler Stover Design on the website and who would handle administrative portions of the site after it was turned over to the Department. Commander Boyd inquired of Brothers Schmidt and Melcher if they would be interested in performing these duties. Both were willing to do so. Commander Boyd will issue a Department Order appointing them.
 6. It was suggested we begin using the term "Department Signal Officer," as this is the term used in the National Regulations. The Department Bylaws Committee will prepare a proposed amendment to the Department Bylaws which incorporates the Department Signal Officer as an appointed officer of the Department and adds a description of the duties of the office.
 7. Brother Schmidt will coordinate between Lee Media Group and Tyler Stover Design for the transfer of information from the current website to the new one.
 8. The meeting was adjourned.
-

SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2022, DEPARTMENT COUNCIL MEETING

1. This meeting was called as a regular meeting of the Department Council, with the purpose of discussing and acting upon the business that came before it. The meeting was held on September 19, 2022 via Zoom.
2. Brother Russ discussed the situation of a council member who has not been able to attend any meetings since he was elected to the position on January 9, 2021. It was recommended the Department Commander remove this brother from the position. Commander Boyd asked for a motion giving the "will of the Council." Brother Schmidt moved the Council recommend the Department Commander remove the brother from office by reason of being unable to perform his duties, thus allowing the Department Council to fill the vacancy for the remaining six months of the term. Motion was seconded. After discussion the vote was taken with seven votes in favor of the motion, and no votes opposed.
3. Commander Boyd declared the brother was removed from office.
4. Brother Schmidt then moved that Roy A. Lafferty, PDC, be elected to fill the vacancy on the Council. Motion was seconded. The vote was taken with seven votes in favor of the motion, and no votes opposed.
5. Commander Boyd discussed the issue of camp commander reports. It was also discussed that the Patriotic Instructor had a report covering the period from January 1 through December 31, and that it would be good to require them to also submit their report (to the Department Patriotic Instructor) at the same time. After much discussion, it was agreed that camp commanders and camp Patriotic Instructors would be directed to file their reports by December 31. The Department Secretary will prepare a department order for the Department Commander to that effect.
6. Brothers Schmidt and Melcher, as Department Signals Officers, reported the department website has been successfully moved from the previous host to the new host. The contractor has been making significant progress in

DEPARTMENT COUNCIL MEETING ACTIONS

improving and updating the website and testing continues. Within the next couple of weeks, the contractor will be training the Signals Officer on updating and maintaining the site.

7. Brother Melcher, on behalf of the host camp for the 2023 Department Encampment, provided an update to the Council.
8. Brother Bartlow led a discussion of the 2023 Department Budget. A meeting will be scheduled meeting in October or November to finalize and approve the 2023 budget.
9. Brother Russ stated he would like to see the department encampment use voting cards for floor votes, such as is done at National encampments. There was favorable discussion. Brother Russ moved that voting cards be used at department encampments for floor votes. Motion seconded. The vote was taken with eight votes in favor of the motion, and no votes opposed.
10. Commander Boyd adjourned the meeting.

SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 12, 2022, DEPARTMENT COUNCIL MEETING

1. This meeting was called as a regular meeting of the Department Council, with the purpose of discussing and acting upon the business that came before it. The meeting was held on December 12, 2022, via Zoom.
2. PDC Bartlow presented the proposed 2023 Department budget was reviewed. After discussion, it was moved to postpone action on budget until after action was taken on later item.
3. PDC Schmidt presented status report for the website committee. After the report, PDC Russ moved that camps who only had a link to an offsite camp page would pay nothing for this link on the website, and camps who had the more detailed page on the Department website would pay \$10.00 per year. Motion was seconded. After discussion, the vote was taken with nine votes in favor of the motion and no votes opposed. Motion carried.
4. PDC Bartlow then moved to approve the 2023 Department Budget with a modification showing \$50.00 as income from camps for camp webpages on the Department website. Motion was seconded. Vote was taken with nine votes in favor of the motion and no votes opposed. Motion carried.
5. After a brief discussion of the LGAR provided menu for the Department Encampment, PDC Schmidt moved that the Kansas LGAR be allowed to plan a menu and provide information for people who might wish to purchase the noon meal from them. Motion was seconded. Vote was taken with eight votes in favor of the motion and one vote opposed. Motion carried.
6. Commander Boyd adjourned the meeting.

SUMMARY OF JANUARY 30, 2023, DEPARTMENT COUNCIL MEETING

1. This meeting was called as a regular meeting of the Department Council, with the purpose of discussing and acting upon the business that came before it. The meeting was held on January 30, 2023, via Zoom.
 2. Motion was made by PDC Schmidt to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2022, meeting, as submitted. Motion was seconded. Vote was taken with six votes in favor of the motion and no votes opposed. Motion carried.
 3. PDC Russ moved to modify the 2023 Department Budget to change the amount budgeted for National Encampment advertisement from \$40.00 to \$50.00 due to the increase in price by the host department. Motion was seconded. Vote was taken with seven votes in favor of the motion and no votes opposed. Motion carried.
 4. After a report on the upcoming Department Encampment, PDC Schmidt moved that, since there would not be a gravesite activity, the encampment starting time be changed from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Motion was seconded. Vote was taken with eight votes in favor of the motion and one vote opposed. Motion carried.
 5. PDC Russ requested permission of the Department Commander to distribute to camps information concerning hosting the 2024 Department Encampment. Commander Boyd agreed.
 6. PDC Bartlow moved the Department approve the purchase of a reusable wreath for use at the April 15, 2024, Lincoln Tomb Ceremony and future such ceremonies. Cost is not to exceed \$150.00. Motion was seconded. Vote was taken with nine votes in favor of the motion and no votes opposed. Motion carried. PDC Melcher is to acquire an appropriate wreath.
 7. Commander Boyd adjourned the meeting.
-

Department of Kansas, SUVCW Monthly Treasurer's Report

| Date | Activity | Description | Debit | Credit |
|---|----------|--|-------|--------------------|
| 1/1/2022 Statement Date | | | | |
| 12/31/2022 | | Beginning Balance | | \$ 4,317.20 |
| Receipts | | | | |
| 3/4/2022 | XFR | 16-Annual Per Capita | \$ | 598.00 |
| 3/5/2022 | XFR | 16-Fisher, J | \$ | 28.00 |
| 3/4/2022 | XFR | 16-Annual Per Capita | \$ | 46.00 |
| 3/9/2022 | XFR | 16-Annual Per Capita | \$ | 23.00 |
| 3/11/2022 | DEP | 1-Annual Per Capita | \$ | 690.00 |
| 3/11/2022 | DEP | 10-Hare | \$ | 28.00 |
| 4/4/2022 | DEP | 10-Annual Per Capita | \$ | 276.00 |
| 4/4/2022 | DEP | 5-Stoker, K; Stoker, W | \$ | 66.00 |
| 4/4/2022 | DEP | 5-Annual Per Capita | \$ | 741.00 |
| 4/14/2022 | DEP | 1-Baxter | \$ | 5.00 |
| 4/17/2022 | DEP | 4-Annual Per Capita | \$ | 460.00 |
| 4/2/2022 | DEP | 9-Annual Per Capita | \$ | 276.00 |
| 5/5/2022 | XFR | 16-Fisher, J (xfr error below 4/4/2022) | \$ | 28.00 |
| 5/13/2022 | DEP | 10-Shaw | | 22.25 |
| 6/9/2022 | DEP | 5-Langemeier, Lawson, Guliford Jr | \$ | 92.50 |
| 6/21/2022 | DEP | 10-Scott | \$ | 22.25 |
| 9/2/2022 | XFR | 16-Russ Supp Apps (5) | \$ | 25.00 |
| Expenses | | | | |
| 2/2/2022 | | 1010 Void | | |
| 12/18/2021 | | 1009 Alan Russ (postage) | \$ | 48.36 |
| 11/2/2021 | | 1008 National Org-SUVCW (9-Young) | \$ | 5.00 |
| 3/3/2022 | DBT | Quartermaster-SUVCW (Dept Off Badge) PP Rcpt # | \$ | 33.00 |
| 2/2/2022 | | 1011 Dept of Ks LGAR (Frail lunch for Dept Encampment) | \$ | 12.00 |
| 3/23/2022 | | 1012 Alan Russ (encampment printing) | \$ | 105.63 |
| 3/26/2022 | | 1016 Alan Russ (SVCinC Frail Lodging) | \$ | 157.08 |
| 3/29/2022 | DBT | Zoom (yearly membership) | \$ | 163.61 |
| 4/4/2022 | XFR | 16-Fisher, J (xfr error see above-5/5/2022) | \$ | 28.00 |
| 2/22/2022 | | 1013 National Org-SUVCW 5-Guiliford) | \$ | 28.00 |
| 3/29/2022 | | 1017 Emporia Senior Center (Encampment Venue) | \$ | 100.00 |
| 4/4/2022 | | 1018 National Org-SUVCE (16-Fisher, J) | \$ | 28.00 |
| 4/4/2022 | | 1019 National Org-SUVCW (5-Stoker,K; Stoker, W) | \$ | 56.00 |
| 4/9/2022 | | 1020 National Org-SUVCW (1-Baxter) | \$ | 5.00 |
| 4/29/2022 | | 1021 National Org-SUVCW (Dept Per Capita) | \$ | 3,105.00 |
| 3/3/2022 | | 1015 National Org-SUVCW (10-Hare) | \$ | 28.00 |
| 5/12/2022 | DBT | USPS (Postage) | \$ | 11.60 |
| 5/10/2022 | | 1023 National Org-SUVCW (10-Shaw) | \$ | 22.25 |
| 2/25/2022 | | 1014 Void | | |
| 5/6/2022 | | 1022 Alan L Russ (Postage) | \$ | 30.34 |
| 6/4/2022 | | 1024 National Org-SUVCW (5-Langemeier, Lawson, Guliford) | \$ | 60.25 |
| 6/18/2022 | | 1025 National Org-SUVCW (10-Scott) | \$ | 22.25 |
| 6/21/2022 | | 1051 Dept of MI-SUVCW 2022 (Prog Book Ad) | \$ | 40.00 |
| 6/30/2022 | DBT | Lee Media (Invoice 6367 Hosting, Domain Name) | \$ | 100.99 |
| 7/17/2022 | | 1052 Tyler Stover (Web Design-ok'd by Council) | \$ | 250.00 |
| 10/29/2022 | DBT | Tyler Stover (Web Design-ok'd by Council) | \$ | 250.00 |
| Total Expenses | | | \$ | 4,690.36 |
| Total Receipts | | | | \$ 3,427.00 |
| Balance | | | | \$ 3,053.84 |
| Obligated Funds | | | | |
| 12/16/2022 | | 1054 Black Cat Creative (inv 1006-Mon/Mem Website) | \$ | 200.00 |
| 9/2/2022 | | 1053 National Org (Russ-16 supp apps-5) | \$ | 25.00 |
| Total Obligated Funds | | | \$ | 225.00 |
| Available Funds | | | | \$ 2,828.84 |
| Envista End of Year Statement Total: | | | | \$ 3,053.84 |

Department of Kansas, SUVCW Monthly Treasurer's Report

| Date | Activity | Description | Debit | Credit |
|---|----------------|--------------------------|--------|-------------------|
| 1/1/2022 | Statement Date | | | |
| 12/31/2022 | | Beginning Balance | | \$1,471.00 |
| Receipts | | | | |
| 1/31/2022 | Credit | Dividend | | \$0.12 |
| 2/28/2022 | Credit | Dividend | | \$0.11 |
| 3/31/2022 | Credit | Dividend | | \$0.12 |
| 4/30/2022 | Credit | Dividend | | \$0.12 |
| 5/31/2022 | Credit | Dividend | | \$0.12 |
| 6/30/2022 | Credit | Dividend | | \$0.12 |
| 7/31/2022 | Credit | Dividend | | \$0.12 |
| 8/31/2022 | Credit | Dividend | | \$0.13 |
| 9/30/22 | Credit | Dividend | | \$0.12 |
| 10/31/22 | Credit | Dividend | | \$0.13 |
| 11/30/22 | Credit | Dividend | | \$0.12 |
| 12/31/22 | Credit | Dividend | | \$0.13 |
| Expenses | | | | |
| Total Expenses | | | \$0.00 | |
| Total Receipts | | | | \$1.46 |
| Balance | | | | \$1,472.46 |
| Obligated Funds | | | | |
| Total Obligated Funds | | | \$0.00 | |
| Available Funds | | | | \$1,472.46 |
| Envista End of Year Statement Total: | | | | \$1,472.46 |

Department of Kansas, SUVCW Monthly Treasurer's Report

| Date | Activity | Description | Debit | Credit |
|---|----------------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------|
| 1/1/2022 | Statement Date | | | |
| 12/31/2022 | | Beginning Balance | | \$ 5,889.81 |
| Receipts | | | | |
| 1/31/2022 | Credit | Dividend | \$ | 0.50 |
| 2/28/2022 | Credit | Dividend | \$ | 0.45 |
| 3/2/2022 | DEP | 5-Guliford | \$ | 33.00 |
| 3/31/2022 | Credit | Dividend | \$ | 0.50 |
| 4/30/2022 | Credit | Dividend | \$ | 0.49 |
| 5/31/2022 | Credit | Dividend | \$ | 0.50 |
| 6/30/2022 | Credit | Dividend | \$ | 0.49 |
| 7/31/2022 | Credit | Dividend | \$ | 0.50 |
| 8/31/2022 | Credit | Dividend | \$ | 0.50 |
| 9/30/2022 | Credit | Dividend | \$ | 0.49 |
| 10/31/2022 | Credit | Dividend | \$ | 0.50 |
| 11/30/2022 | Credit | Dividend | \$ | 0.49 |
| 12/31/2022 | Credit | Dividend | \$ | 0.50 |
| Expenses | | | | |
| Total Receipts | | | \$ | 38.91 |
| Balance | | | \$ | 5,928.72 |
| Obligated Funds | | | | |
| Total Obligated Funds | | | \$ | - |
| Available Funds | | | \$ | 5,928.72 |
| Envista End of Year Statement Total: | | | \$ | 5,928.72 |

2022 DEPARTMENT BUDGET

| | | Budgeted | | Actual | | +/- | Notes |
|---------------|--------------------------------|----------|--------|-----------|--------|----------|-----------------------|
| | | Expense | Income | Expense | Income | | |
| N-QM | National Quartermaster | | - | \$ 33.00 | | (33.00) | Dept badge |
| D-WH | Web hosting (NOTE BELOW)) | 600.00 | - | \$ 550.99 | | 49.01 | Lee Media; Tyler |
| D-POSTAGE | Postage | 125.00 | - | \$ 46.94 | | 78.06 | Russ and Bartlow |
| N-EN-DC | Dept Commander National | 130.00 | - | | | 130.00 | Not received |
| N-EN-REG-DC | Dept Commander National | 10.00 | - | | | 10.00 | Not received |
| N-EN-PROG | National Encampment | 40.00 | - | \$ 40.00 | | - | 2022 encampment |
| D-EN-FAC | Department Encampment Facility | 100.00 | - | \$ 100.00 | | - | Emporia Senior Center |
| D-EN-SUPPLIES | Department Encampment | 40.00 | - | \$ 105.63 | | (65.63) | Printing programs |
| NEW | Department Encampment-National | | | \$ 157.08 | | (157.08) | Frail lodgin |
| NEW | Department Encampment-National | | | \$ 12.00 | | (12.00) | Frail lunch |
| D-LICENSE | Department License for ZOOM- | 200.00 | - | \$ 163.61 | | 36.39 | 2022 license |
| N-PERCAPITA | National Per Capita | - | - | | | - | |
| D-PERCAPITA | Department Per Capita | - | - | | | - | |

Total 1,245.00 \$ 1,209.25 \$ - 35.75
(Over)/Under Budget

NOTE:Original budget \$100; \$500 later approved by council for Website

2023 DEPARTMENT BUDGET

| | Budgeted | | Actual | | +/- | Notes |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| | Expense | Income | Expense | Income | | |
| National Quartermaster | 130.00 | - | \$ - | | 130.00 | PDC Badge |
| Web hosting | 100.00 | 50.00 | \$ - | | 100.00 | \$8/month Wordpress; \$10/camp |
| Postage, Secretary | 100.00 | - | \$ - | | 100.00 | |
| Postage, General | 75.00 | | \$ - | | 75.00 | Treasurer, DC, SVDC, JVDC, DESC |
| Dept Commander National Encampment | 10.00 | - | \$ - | | 10.00 | |
| National Encampment Advertisement | 50.00 | - | \$ - | | 50.00 | \$10 Increase approved 1/30/23 |
| Department Encampment Facility Expense | 100.00 | - | \$ - | | 100.00 | |
| Department Encampment Supplies | 50.00 | - | \$ - | | 50.00 | General Supplies |
| Department Encampment Printing | 150.00 | | \$ - | | 150.00 | |
| Department Encampment-National Rep | 162.00 | | \$ - | | 162.00 | \$150 Lodging; \$12 meal |
| New Camp Charter | 25.00 | | \$ - | | 25.00 | |
| ZOOM-Pro annual license | 175.00 | - | \$ - | | 175.00 | |
| Lincoln Tomb Ceremony Wreath (Approved 1/30/23 Council Meeting) | 150.00 | | | | 150.00 | |
| National Per Capita | 4,620.00 | 4,620.00 | | | 4,620.00 | 140 brothers x \$33 |
| Department Per Capita | - | 700.00 | | | - | 140 brothers x \$5 |
| Interest Received on accounts | | \$ 10.00 | | | | |
| Transfer from General Fund | | \$ 517.00 | | | | |
| Total | 5,897.00 | 5,897.00 | \$ - | \$ - | | - |
| (Over)/Under Budget-Projected | | | | | | |
| (Over)/Under Budget-Actual | | | | | | 5,897.00 |

Approved by Dept Council 12/12/2022