



Pennsylvania Department
Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War
Office of the Department Commander
1222 Van Kirk St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19149
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Series 2004-2005
Department Order No. 1
(To be Read in the Camp and Filed)

- 1. I hope all finds you well. My many thanks to the Brothers of the 124th Annual Encampment of The Department of Pennsylvania, S.U.V.C.W., for allowing me to serve as your Department Commander for the 2004-2005 term. You have entrusted in me the honor of representing you and I will endeavor to do so. I will give all that I can to all of you in upholding our Orders name and its Constitution & Regulations. My very best wishes to all Officers for the upcoming term, I look forward to serving with you and ask all of you and all brethren to contact me if I may be of any help at any time. I earnestly hope to see all of you at many of the functions that allow us to meet, either at a stated meeting, encampment, or any other event where we can say hello to each another.**
- 2. Headquarters for the Department of Pennsylvania are now located at 1222 Van Kirk Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19149. Please direct all e-mail messages to: eric_schmincke@verizonmail.com .and please find that I can be reached by phone at: 215-533-5392. There is an answering machine if you need to leave a message or please call after 6 P.M. if you can.**
- 3. Please share with me in giving a resounding HUZDAH to Past Department Kern for his outstanding & dedicated service during his term as Department Commander. I can only hope to do as good. We must also recognize all retiring Department Officers and thank them for all of their hard work in promoting our Order and also for the dedication within their works that helps keep the memory green of our boys in Blue. My hat is off to you all.....Please let us also congratulate PDC, Kuhn who was elected to the Council of Administration of our National Level in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.**
- 4. The Department of Pennsylvania would like to extend congratulations to Mary Smith, President of the Auxiliary; Kelly Rose, President of the Ladies; Charlotte Walters, President of the Daughters & Kate Sienerth, representative of the Woman's Relief Corps. I would like to extend the help of the Department or the Camps in our Department in any way possible as we must continue to promote & support one another, just as we have done in the past . We are here for you Sisters.....**
- 5 Much work was acted on at the 124th Department Encampment in Williamsport, Pennsylvania this past June. Proceedings of what transpired will be published & will be available at the Mid Year Meeting**

- 6 The Mid Year meeting will be held November 13th, 2004 at the Corporal Skelly Post #9, G.A.R. Hall in Gettysburg. The address is 53 E. Middle St. Gettysburg, Pa. The meeting Will start promptly at 9:30 A.M. with coffee & Doughnuts available. We will have a working Lunch during our meeting, the cost will be \$8.00 and should be sent to PDC Charles Kuhn Jr., At 464 Lake Meade Drive, East Berlin, Pennsylvania 17316 Deadlines for reservations is Saturday, November 6th. Make checks payable to Pa. Dept., S.U.V.C.W.. All Officers must Submit a report of their position to Chief of Staff George L. Powell, PCinC no later than Saturday, October 30th. I hope to see as many Brothers come to the mid year meeting as possible.**
- 7 A testimonial Luncheon honoring the Department Commander will be held at Williamson's, Restaurant, Easton Road(U.S. Rte. 611) & Blair Mill Road, Horsham, Pa., Saturday September 11, 2004, 1:00 P.M. Checks can be made Payable to Anna M. Ross #1, S.U.V.C.W. and send reservations to John M McNulty, PCC, 2501 Edgecomb Ave. Glenside, Pa. 19038. Cost is \$20.00 per person. Any questions can be directed to jmm6@psu.edu**
- 8 Please find that the two Camps placed under suspension by PDC Kern are no longer under the same suspension. Camp #48, Capt. Theo. Howell is in good standing & Camp #182, Luckenbaugh, its Commander and members have decided to turn in their charter but bring all of their energies by transferring to Camp #273, Joel Searfoss in Bangor, Pa. Please allow me to thank the Brothers in all the Camps for helping out on resolving these issues. I must thank Camp #182, Luckenbaugh's Camp Commander, Sherwood Kindred especially for all of his help and also to Commander of Camp #48, Bruce Wagner. We may have lost a Camp, but not a member, good work again to all.**
- 9 I must remind & direct all Camp Commanders & Brothers to continue the cannon tube Survey that was started 2 years ago so that we do not lose these precious parts of history to those who only see them as a profitable venue. Through the efforts of brothers in this Department & some really dedicated individuals, some of these tubes have been rescued & brought back to where they resided. Our history is slowly being saved, however we must continue to work at this project so we do not lose any more of what belongs to us and our ancestry to profiteers. Please contact Committee Chair, PDC at chapkuhn@adelphia.net or at PDC Charles Kuhn Jr., At 464 Lake Meade Drive, East Berlin, Pennsylvania 17316 for more information.**
- 10 As a reminder to all Camps, any Camp with records older than 7 years must forward them to the Department Historian for storage at the State Archives in Harrisburg. Camps exempt from that are Davis Star, Camp #1 & Camp #8 as they house these records in their respective museums. Please contact Department Historian , Wayne Blattner at wblattner@erols.com if needed.**
- 11 I am directing all Camp Grave Registration Officers to submit their documentation to Department Grave Registration Officer(GRO) Keith Searfoss via e-mail at Navy3313@earthlink.net or by U.S. Postal at 2229 Ritner, Highway, Shippensburg, Pa., 17257. Pennsylvania has submitted less that 6,000 Civil War Veterans to the National Database. I ask every Brother to help in this effort to record our veterans. Forms can be located on the National Web site at www.suvcw.org or Brother Searfoss can get one to you by mail so that you can make copies, but help as it is important.**

- 12. Please forward all Camp News to Department Senior Vice Commander Lee Walters. This so that it can be forwarded to the Department Newsletter Editor, Past Department SVC Bob Shaffer for inclusion our Department Newsletter the “Battle Cry of Freedom” and what will be our news area on the Department Web Site edited by Brother Walters & placed on the site by Web Master Jim Michaels. Brother Walters will direct all news to the appropriate party. It must be in either a word document format and can be sent electronically to him or typed and sent via U.S. Postal. Photographs can be sent as *.jpgs or images sent to him. No hand written material will be accepted. Brother Walters can be reached at LEESUVPCC@msn.com or 534 Saw Mill Road, Mechanicsburg, Pa. 17055 We really would like to publish so folks can see what Patriotic or Social events you are Involved with, so please send us some news!!!!!!!!!!**
- 13 I invite both the 2005 & 2006 Department Encampment Committees & the 2006 National Encampment Committee to make a report on their efforts at the mid year meeting in Gettysburg.**
- 14 I direct that the 2005 Andersonville Committee from Gettysburg Camp #112 present their Plans to the Mid Year meeting .**
- 15 The 123rd Encampment held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa was completed on Saturday, August 14th. Please see the next issue for the “Banner” as to any changes that will affect our order.**
- 16 I direct the Department Bylaws Committee to review the Department Bylaws to see that they are current and are in line to what is required by our National Order. Please bring a report to the Mid Year meeting.**
- 17 The 125th Department Encampment will be held in Scranton, Pennsylvania on June 24th, 25th, 26 2005, at the Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel, 700 Lackawanna, Ave. Scranton, Pa. room rates are \$80.00 per night plus tax. Much more information will be located in the future on the Department Web Site. I ask that all Brothers of our Department to make every effort to attend. Please talk to your Camp Officers as to attending. The Department Web Site can be accessed by visiting www.suvew.org and looking under Departments, then clicking on Pennsylvania.**
- 18 Brothers, please find that the goals of the Department of Pennsylvania this year will be to bring forth new members, but to also to find ways of retaining those that we have. Retaining our existing members should be just as important. The Department will do its best to help the Camps with this issue, however it will be the effort of the Camp that will meet this issue head on. I ask the Camp JVC and Camp Commander to work on this together along with any other Brother that wants to add their ideas.**

The Department will also try to make communications between the Camps & Department easier. We now have an Editor for the Department Newsletter, this job was formally the responsibility of the Department Senior Vice Commander. The SVC will now be able to spend his time working with the Department Web Master in updating our site and getting more Camp news and information on the site. I ask all Camps to submit as much news as possible to the Department SVC Walters so that you can let us know what you are doing.

Brothers I also ask that you allow me to visit your Camp, possibly at a meeting to meet you all, but most of all to see if you have any ideas or thoughts that you can share to make our Department stronger. All I can do is ask to meet you, that is up to you and your Camp, but please make an opportunity for us to meet. If you do decide to ask me to visit, please try to do so when any winter weather may hamper our meeting.

By Order of

**ERIC J. SCHMINCKE
Department Commander**

Attest:

**CHARLES E, KUHN, Jr, PDC
Department Secretary**