



Pennsylvania Department
Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War
Office of the Department Commander
1222 Van Kirk St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19149
(215)-533-5392 eric_schmincke@verizonmail.com

August 25th, 2005

Series 2005-2006
Department Order No. 1
(To be Read in the Camp and Filed)

1. Brothers please allow me in thanking you for reelecting me to a second term to represent You as Department Commander. It was an honor serving you this past year and I will do My best for you this upcoming year. I would invite any Brother to contact me at anytime If I can help, I also encourage any Brother to contact any Department Officer that they Feel can help them. A list of all Department Officers and Committees will be enclosed With this correspondence.
2. Headquarters for the Department of Pennsylvania again are 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 allow me to congratulate PDC Charles Kuhn Jr. on his election to the Post of Junior Vice Commander in Chief. Let us all wish him the best on his new job as we all Know that he will do a great job. As most of you know that the Junior Vice Commander's Job on any level(Camp, Department, National) requires much work and PDC Kuhn is the Right man for the moving us forward. Our Best Charlie!!
4. The Department of Pennsylvania would like to extend congratulations to all of our Sisters Who were elected to President on the Department Level of the Allied Orders. 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 .
5. Many new items reached the floor at the 125th Department Encampment in Scranton, Pennsylvania this past June. Proceedings of what transpired will be published & will be available at the Mid Year Meeting.

In accordance with a majority vote at this Encampment, the Department Per Capita For each Brother will be raised from the now \$5.00 per year to \$6.00 per year starting 2006. This dollar increase is to offset the rising costs in running the Department and much debate was had on the floor of the Encampment. All Camp Officers should take note on this increase and must act accordingly when sending in what is required of them.

- 6 The Mid Year meeting will be held October 29th, 2005 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 lunch break during our meeting, the cost will be \$8.00 and should be sent to Robert Graves CC, At 827 S. Jefferson St., Apt. 4, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18103. Deadlines for reservations is Saturday, October 13th. Make checks payable to Pa. Dept., S.U.V.C.W.

All Officers & Committee Chairs must submit a report to Chief of Staff George L. Powell, PCinC no later than Saturday, October 7th. I ask that as many Brother attend as possible. The reports can be sent electronically or by mail, but all must be of the typed fashion. Please find his information below:

George L. Powell, PCinC
6114 Gillespie St.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19135
215-338-7558
glpsuvcw@comcast.net

ALL Officers & Committee Chairs must submit reports, even if your position, job or Committee did not act on anything!

- 7 I am instructing the Department Web Master to publish the 125th Department Encampment Proceedings on the Department Web Site for those that wish to read them. This important information Should be available for any and all Brothers to refer to. This to give them the knowledge Of how their Department operates. I hope that in the future that all Proceedings from the Encampment are as well placed on our web site.
- 8 Please find the suspension has been lifted on Washington Camp #120 and that of Howell Camp #48. I thank the Brothers who worked hard to straighten out the issues at hand.
- 9 I must remind & direct all Camp Commanders & Brothers to continue the cannon tube Survey that was started 3 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. 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 Jeff Heagy. 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 LEESUVPC@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!!!!!!!
- 11 Please find that next year will be special to us as the Department of Pennsylvania will Be hosting the 125th National Encampment in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Encampment Committee will need some help to make sure that this is enjoyable for all of our Brothers And Sisters who will be visiting our state. Much is already planned for our Anniversary And much more work needs to be accomplished. If there are any volunteers who would like To help, even if just for a few hours during the weekend of the event it would benefit all Of us. More and detailed information will be sent to all of the Camps and posted on The web. We hope that since this is our 125th year that we will see as many Brothers As possible attend.
- 13 I invite both the 2006 Department Encampment Committee & the 2006 National Encampment Committee to make a report on their efforts at the mid year meeting in Gettysburg. I ask that both committees please send as quick as possible all information and contact persons for both the Department and National Encampments to the Department Web Master and to that of the Department SVC so that all can be published.
- 14 I direct that the 2005 Andersonville Committee from Gettysburg Camp #112 present their Final plans to the Mid Year meeting .
- 15 The 124rd Encampment held in Nashua, N.H. was completed on Saturday, August 6th. Please see the next issue for the "Banner" as to any changes that will affect our order.
- 16 It has come to the attention of this Office that some or all of the Department Orders sent To the Camp Secretary never get read to the Brothers of the Camp or at the least passed On to the Camp Commander or that of a Junior Camp Officer. Secretaries, it is not just Your job, but your responsibility to make sure that these are read and if needed, acted on. I have had several Camp Commanders last year state that they had no idea that orders Were even sent. This because the Brother who is the Camp Secretary do not attend the Meetings for many reasons. Yes as a volunteer you have lives, but you also accepted a Position that may require some work as well. I ask that if you can not attend a meeting for Any reason, please pass on the Order so it can be read, so that your Brothers have a clue As to what is transpiring.

There are also some camps that have been late in submitting reports no matter which one. Some have not sent in any at all on occasion. This due to just not doing what is required or that is a learning cure. We again understand that life does get in the way and we do have family and Life outside of the "Sons". But please remember that by you not getting the required reports In to the Department that it now creates a headache for someone else. This on both the Department and National Level. These Brothers are volunteers as well and also have families And the such. They would rather be spending more time having fun then pulling their hair Out trying to get your reports. So please get all in that is required of you, and make sure that All of the reports are filled in completely. If they are not, they will be sent back to you. If You are missing something, they will be sent to back to you and your Camp risks suspension. Camp Commanders it is your job to check on your Brother Secretary to make sure he has Done the work. So you too are just as responsible.

If you have a question then please get in contact with Robert Graves, the Department Secretary/Treasurer. His contact information is:

Robert Graves
827 S. Jefferson St.
Apt. 4
Allentown, Pa., 18103
610-434-1075
graves827@juno.com

- 17 Last year the goal of the Department was to retain Brothers and to bring in new Brothers. We achieved it last year to a certain point, but we still have much work to do. This point of Retention seems to be something that has been brought up year after year, with no clear Cut way how to handle it. It was addressed this year by our JVC John McNulty to the body Of the Encampment in Scranton. I must state that much if not all of the retention has To occur at the Camp level. Brothers in the Camp must make a concerted effort to make Contact by phone or at the least by mail and ask the Brother if we did something wrong Or if there is another issue. A good portion of the time the Brother just forgot, but then There can also be other reasons, some personal. We are a fraternal order so we should be Reaching out as well to our Brothers. Camp Junior Vice Commanders, one of your Responsibilities is to make contact with the Brothers, if you can't then let someone else help You. It is all of our jobs to help.

This year we installed one new camp and one other on the way so we are moving forward But again, there is still much to do.

- 18 Brothers, we are working on a new web site and that of an increased Newsletter, it was Increased last year in content and it looks as though we will be doing more again this Year, more news then last year! I still can not understand why so many Camps, Camps That are active are not sharing with us what you do, to put it in print or on the web for others To see. After all some of your dues support these items, so why not use them. I have visited Camps this year that have done wonderful things but yet never see any of it in print. I hope That this will change as again we have increased the means of communications, but it is up to you to let us know what you are doing, so how about it....Your Department Senior Vice Commander, Lee Walters and that of the Editor, Bob Shaffer are up to the task so please get those great stories and images into Brother Lee. His contact information is:

Lee F. Walters, PCC
534 Saw Mill Road
Mechanicsburg, Pa. 17055
717-766-6341
LEESUVPCC@msn.com

All news must be in by no later then December 31st, 2005. This information has been placed
In these orders twice so that we can bug you for your news.

Brothers I again 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 not hamper our meeting. I want to thank the Camps that
asked me to attend their meeting, their social event or dedication ceremonies. The last year
was great and I must give much credit to all that you accomplished and are continuing to do so.
I truly hope to spend some more time with you.

By Order of



ERIC J. SCHMINCKE
Department Commander

Attest:



Robert Graves, CC
Department Secretary/Treasurer