

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Pennsylvania Department

John M. McNulty PCC, Commanding

**Headquarters
2501 Edgecomb Ave
Glenside, PA 19038-3801
(215) 884-3487
jmm6@psu.edu**

July 25, 2008

Department Order No. 1
Series 2008-2009

(To be read in the Camps and retained in Camp files)

- 1.** I want to thank my Brothers for electing me Pennsylvania Department Commander at our 128th Department Encampment at Ligonier, PA. I could receive no greater honor than to command the First and Best Department in our Order. I will do my best to deserve the trust placed in me and hope to honorably succeed William B. McNulty who served in the same position in 1888. Many Brothers and Sisters have helped me along the path that has lead to this honor. Some have crossed over, many are still with us. I will be forever grateful to all of them.
- 2.** Headquarters of the Pennsylvania Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is established at 2501 Edgecomb Ave., Glenside, PA 19038-3801 with telephone and email contact as listed above.
- 3.** A list of the Elected and Appointed Officers of the Pennsylvania Department, S.U.V.C.W. and the Officers of the Pennsylvania Department's Camps are published at <http://www.pasuvcw.org/> and is made, by reference, as part of this order.
- 4.** I extend the appreciation and congratulations of this Department to Past Department Commander Lee Franklin Walters for excellent and faithful service to Pennsylvania these past two years. It was me personal pleasure to serve with him during his tenure.
- 5.** I extend the Congratulations of the Brothers of the Pennsylvania Department, S.U.V.C.W. and my own personal congratulations to Commander-in-Chief Charles E. Kuhn, Jr. PDC for a successful year. Brother Charlie continues a long, honored tradition of Pennsylvanians serving as the leader of our National Order.
- 6.** Special thanks to Brother Robert E. Graves PCC for his dedicated service as Department Secretary/Treasurer. Brother Rob worked untold hours and did an excellent job in one of the toughest Offices in the Department. Welcome to Brother Douglas Mc

Millin, our new Secretary/Treasurer. Thank you, Brother Doug, for stepping up to the challenge!

7. I extend my personal congratulations and the congratulations of all the Brothers of the Pennsylvania Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to:
Sisters Elizabeth “Kate” Seinerith and Mary Jane Bannon, Pennsylvania. Representatives of the Woman’s Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic
Sister Mary May, President, Pennsylvania Department, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic
Sister Katherine Roebuck, President, Pennsylvania Department, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865
Sister Cheryl Carrera, President, Pennsylvania Department, Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
on their elections to the leadership of their Orders. I hope we will indeed, be “Allied Orders” who will work together for our common goal, “to remember the Boys in Blue and the Grand Army of the Republic.” I pledge to our Sisters the full cooperation of this Office and trust that all my Brothers will do the same.

8. The Brothers in Good Standing of the Pennsylvania Department, S.U.V.C.W. who are also members of the Third United States Colored Troops of Philadelphia, PA are designated as the Pennsylvania Department Guard. These Brothers are hereby authorized to wear a ribbon of the Department colors affixed behind their regular S.U.V.C.W. membership badge for the duration of this appointment.

9. All Camps are requested and strongly encouraged to submit news of their activities for publication in our Department newsletter “The Battle Cry of Freedom”. Newsletter editor Brother Robert C. Shaffer PCC devotes tireless hours to the production and improvement of our newsletter. The Department can be justifiably proud of the result of his efforts. Please take the opportunity to share your Camp’s good works with your Pennsylvania Brothers. Please let us all know about the special events you have scheduled and any licensed merchandise your Camp has to offer. We all look forward to hearing what all our Brothers have been accomplishing. Please submit your information to Brother Bob at pappi24@verizon.net or 128 Wallace Rd, Lake Ariel, PA 18436-9343 as soon as possible but by **no later than January 5, 2009**. Electronic submission is preferred.

10. Is there a Brother in your Camp who has gone “above and beyond the call”, truly stands out for their dedication or accomplishments? If so, I am asking Camp Commanders to take the time to send me their name and information so I can consider recognizing these Brothers for their special contributions to our Department.

11. The Mid Year Meeting of the Pennsylvania Department will be held on Saturday, October 25, 2008 at Doc Holliday’s Steakhouse in the Harrisburg West Inn and Conference Center, 110 Limekiln Road, New Cumberland, PA 17070. Lunch will be your selection from the regular menu. For Brothers wishing to stay overnight, rooms will be available for Friday and Saturday evenings at the rate of \$55.00 plus taxes per night.

Please contact the motel at (717) 920-3627 and reserve the room under “Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War”.

Coffee and Doughnuts will be provided at 8:30 A.M. and our meeting will begin at 9:00 A.M. If you plan to attend the meetings please contact me by October 20, 2008 so that adequate seating will be provided. Further information about the Mid Year Meeting is provided on the enclosed flyer.

All Officers and Committees must submit a report on their activities to the Department Chief of Staff, Brother Kimber D. Smith PCC no later than October 15, 2008. Electronic submission is preferred. Reports should be sent to: kdsmith@rcn.com or 424 N. Main St., Allentown, PA 18104. Even if there has been no activity or recommendation from your Office or Committee, a report is still required.

12. Membership continues to be a concern for this Department. The current number of “Brothers in Good Standing” was recently reported as 774. This time last year it was 775. Three new Camps are in the process of being formed and should be installed soon. We are actively recruiting in many areas of the Commonwealth as this is written. This indicates that we can anticipate an increase in membership this year.

Recruitment of new members must be a priority if this Order is to remain active, but retention of current members is equally, if not more, important. This organization has a tendency to bring in new members and loose as many or more current members. This loss of current members is a far more serious situation because we are losing Brothers who are the most likely to be our future Camp and Department Officers. The dwindling number of men willing to serve as Officers is becoming more of a threat to the health of this Department than the number of Brothers who are members of the Department. We must have men willing to serve as Officers so that we can fulfill the requirements needed for this organization to function.

We must all work to retain more members and encourage Brothers to consider service to our Order as Officers. This must start with the Camps since the Camps form our Department. The Officers and Past Officers of the Pennsylvania Department are committed to the retention of Brothers and the development of new Officers. We ask the Officers and Brothers of our Camps to make the same commitment. The Pennsylvania Department is only as strong as its Camps are.

13. We have a continuing problem with the submission of Form 30, Camp Status Report. Some Camp Secretaries have been neglecting to send these forms to the Department Secretary/Treasurer within the required time frame. This has gone to the extreme of Camp Secretaries turning in stacks of Form 30's with their annual report to the Department.

The requirements on Form 30, Camp Status Report are as follows:

“ATTENTION Camp Secretary: After the Camp Annual Report has been filed (Form 27 deadline = April 30) two copies of Form 30 shall be submitted to the Department

Secretary by the 15th day of the next month following a change to the Camp's membership due to: (1) a new Brother joins the Camp; (2) a Brother is reinstated after being dropped for non payment of dues; (3) a Brother dies; (4) a Brother has a change of address; (5) a Brother transfers in or out of the Camp.”

Form 30 is, by reference, a part of the National Regulations of this Order and bears the full authority of those regulations. It is far simpler for the Camp Secretaries to turn in a Form 30 when they are required rather than turning them all in at the end of the year. It is certainly much easier for the Department Secretary/Treasurer if these forms are turned in on time and not added to his already heavy volume of work at annual reporting time. We are all volunteers and we all need to work together so that no Brother is unduly overloaded with work.

I ask all Camp Commanders to make sure that your Camp Secretaries are fulfilling the requirements of Form 30, Camp Status Report. Since this requirement is part of the National Regulations, all Camps will comply with the stipulations of Form 30 or this Department will take appropriate corrective measures.

14. It has come to the attention of this Department that some Camps are neglecting to read Department Orders at Camp meetings and to retain said Orders in Camp files. Since this is an important method of communication between this Department and its Brothers and since these requirements are part of each set of Department Orders, all Camps will comply with this requirement or the Camp Commander and Camp Secretary will face possible disciplinary action from this Department.

15. Many of our Pennsylvania Brothers are doing wonderful work perpetuating the memory of our ancestors, the men who saved the Union and then formed the Grand Army of the Republic. I want to thank all of you for your efforts. It is all of you who make Pennsylvania the BEST Department in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War!

By Order of

John M. McNulty PCC, Commander
Pennsylvania Department S.U.V.C.W.

Attest:

Douglas McMillin, Secretary/Treasurer
Pennsylvania Department, S.U.V.C.W.

Pennsylvania Department

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Mid Year Meeting

Saturday, October 25, 2008

9:00 A.M.

(Light breakfast will be provided starting at 8:30 AM)

**Doc Holliday's Steak House
110 Limekiln Road
New Cumberland, PA**

Take Pennsylvania Turnpike to Exit 242 Harrisburg West. Turn right (north) onto I-83. Stay in right lane and proceed about 500 feet to the first exit (Limekiln Road). Turn left on Limekiln Road and make left into hotel / restaurant complex.)

Lunch break will be taken during the meeting, at which time each participant can order what they wish from the restaurant menu and pay individually.

Rooms are available at the rate of \$55.00, plus taxes, for Friday and Saturday evenings at the **Harrisburg West Inn and Conference Center**. Doc Holliday's is located in this motel. For reservations call (717) 920-3627. Please make reservations under "Pennsylvania Department, Sons of Union Veterans, Mid Year Meeting".

All Brothers of the Pennsylvania Department are welcome and encouraged to attend the Department's Mid Year Meeting. You do not need credentials from your Camp, as you would for the Department Encampment. Please come out, get involved, meet your other Pennsylvania Department Brothers, and help chart the future of our Department.