

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Office of the Commander

622 N. Pitt St

Carlisle, PA 17013

(717) 462-9012

dpmcmillin@gmail.com



July 14, 2014

Department Order # 2

Series 2014 – 2015

(To be read in camps and retained in camp files)

Brothers,

By action of the 134th encampment of the Pennsylvania Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the following two programs have been recommended and passed to be put into effect.

1. An educational program to be paired with the Boy Scouts of America and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is to be developed and put into action. This educational program is to be an immersive Civil War life experience. Through the use of stations teaching different specific aspects of Civil War soldier life, civilian life, and historical perspective; Scouts will get a taste of what life was like during the greatest struggle in the history of the United States of America. As the program is targeted at scouting organizations, the program is to be developed in such a way as to provide useful aspects of related merit badges to further promote not only the history we wish to teach but provide the scouts with a benefit they may use in their scouting career.

Such a program has been developed and implemented successfully by Gettysburg Camp #112. In the course of one weekend 400 scouts participated. The response from the scouting organizations in attendance was overwhelmingly positive.

Much credit is due to brothers Eugene Mortorff, PDC, and Charlie Kuhn, PCnC, who spearheaded the development and execution of this project. It is the request of the Department Commander that any information, program formatting, or contact information be forwarded to this office in order to assist in the formation of a Department level version of the same program.

Volunteers are called for to assist in running this program. We require brothers and sisters of the Allied Orders who wish to teach, are willing to assist in logistical support, or can provide outreach assistance to scouting organizations throughout the state and surrounding areas. Reenactment units are invited to participate. All volunteers however, must be willing to undergo any required youth protection training and vetting process that may be required by both the Boy Scouts of America and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War as well as comply with required safety rules regarding youth protection and youth and adult interaction. Volunteers are asked to contact the Department Commander by e-mail at the following address dpmcmillin@gmail.com .

2. One of the greatest hindrances and threats that this Department faces comes from a lack of training and education regarding the workings of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. New members to the order are not receiving historical perspective on the organization that they have joined. This leads to loss of interest and discouraging mistakes that cause brothers to drift away from membership. Camp officers and Department officers are lacking knowledge of the offices they hold and the duties these offices require. Camp secretaries struggle to fill out forms with no information on proper format, timeframe requirements, or the understanding of legal ramifications for noncompliance. This makes recruiting new officers difficult. If our organization is to grow it must first stabilize itself.

To this end it has been determined that a clear and easy-to-follow source of training and education must be provided by the Department. Such training should be easily accessible to every member of this Department. To achieve this goal the Pennsylvania Department Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is developing a You-Tube channel which will contain short training videos. These videos can be linked to from the www.pasuvcw.org website.

Topics will include an introduction to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Camp Officer Training, Proper Filing of Common Forms, Annual Reporting, Roberts Rules Basics, Running an Effective Meeting, The Ritual Meeting, History of the Grand Army of the Republic, History of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, History of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, interviews with brothers and sisters of the Allied Orders who knew the Grand Army, and any other such topics as may provide beneficial information to members of the SUVCW. This page will be an ongoing project and videos will become available over time as they are made.

The Department Commander is seeking volunteers familiar with the use of video recording equipment, internet video posting, or who posses interview skills to assist in this program. Volunteers may contact the Department Commander at the same email address dpmcmillin@gmail.com .

In finishing, one last piece of department administration remains from the 134th Pennsylvania Department encampment.

I hereby refer the remaining sections of PA Department order # 4, series 2013 – 2014, issued October 24, 2013 to the newly appointed bylaws committee of the Pennsylvania Department for consideration of inclusion.

By order of:

Douglas P McMillin, Commanding,
Pennsylvania Department, SUVCW

Attest:

Charles Kuhn, PCn C
Department Secretary