

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

**133RD PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT
ENCAMPMENT**

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

JUNE 28TH, 29TH & 30TH, 2013

**EISENHOWER INN &
CONFERENCE CENTER
GETTYSBURG, PA.**

**BROTHER RICHARD ESSENWEIN
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER**

**“PRESERVED BY THE GRACE OF GOD
IN FRATERNITY, CHARITY AND
LOYALTY”**

JOINT OPENING AND MEMORIAL SERVICE

A joint opening and Memorial Service was held by the Sons, Auxiliary, and Daughters of Union Veterans. Department Commander Richard Essenwein, Department President Lucille Coe, and Department President Daryl Reed were introduced to the Encampment. Each of the Department Officers expressed their good wishes to all that were assembled for a good Encampment, and hoped that we would all appreciate the significance of meeting in Gettysburg on the 150th Anniversary of that great battle. Also welcomed to the Encampment were Commander-in-Chief Perley Mellor, Auxiliary National President Jane Graham, and National President of the DUVCW Carol Morton.

Department Commander Richard Essenwein opened the 133rd Pennsylvania Department Encampment in Ritualistic fashion at 10:10 AM, June 28th, 2013.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

Department Commander Richard Essenwein	present
Department Sr. Vice Commander Doug McMillin	present
Department Jr. Vice Commander John Frantz	present
Department Secretary/Treasurer Charles Kuhn	present
Department Council Ivan E. Frantz, Jr.	present
John McNulty	present
Howard Wolfe	present
Department Patriotic Instructor Al Carty	present
Department Chaplain Lowell Alcorn	present

The Department Chaplain invoked the divine blessing.

At this point Commander-in-Chief of the SUVCW, Perley Mellor was admitted to the Encampment and introduced to the Brothers assembled. C-in-C Mellor offered several remarks about his work during the preceding year, some of the work done by other Departments of the Order, and what to look forward to at the upcoming National Encampment.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

The following Brothers were appointed by the Department Commander to the Credentials Committee – Greg Kline, Dave Demmey, and Clark Brocht.

ENCAMPMENT COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS REPORTS – George Powell, Tim Ryan, John Gipson
 COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION & REGULATIONS – Richard Orr, Elmer Atkinson, John McNulty
 COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS – Wayne Blattner, Paul McMillin, Joseph Ferraro
 VISITING COMMITTEE – Dane Difebo, John McNulty, Tim Nupp

OFFICERS REPORTS

Department Commander Essenwein turned command of the Department over to the Department Sr. Vice Commander and presented his report to the Encampment. This report, along with all other officers reports were submitted in writing and printed in a packet that was given to each Brother. This packet of reports may be referred to for all other aspects of these proceedings.

The Department Commander's report contained three recommendations:

1. A survey be taken among the Allied Orders to see what ideas exist that could help increase attendance at Department Encampments.
2. A survey be developed to find out way members have been dropped from membership of Camps in the Department.
3. Investigate the possibility of obtaining a blanket insurance policy for the Department to cover events that the Camps and Department would become involved in.

MOTION BY Charles Kuhn/second by Richard Orr – that the report of the Department Commander be accepted with the thanks of the Department and be referred with all subsequent officers reports to the Committee on Officers Reports. MOTION PASSED

Command of the Department was returned to the Department Commander.

All of the other officers reports are contained in the information packet, and are summarized as follows:

Department Sr. Vice Commander – 2 recommendations
 Department Jr. Vice Commander – 1 recommendation
 Department Chaplain -1 recommendation
 Department Color Bearer – 1 recommendation

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE – preliminary

The Committee reports the following registrations:

Commander-in-Chief	1	54 registered
Past Commander-in-Chief	4	49 present
Department Commander	1	
Past Department Commander	4	
Camp Commander	4	15 Camps represented
Past Camp Commander	14	
Delegates	16	
Alternates	4	
Visitors	2	

At this point time was taken to go around the room and have everybody introduce themselves.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A letter from the Department of Rhode Island was received proposing a change to the preamble of the National Organization to include descendants of members of the Revenue Cutter Service as being eligible for membership in the SUVCW.
2. Dept. Secretary/Treasurer Kuhn reported that every three months throughout the year and individual from the Pittsburgh area donated one dollar to the Department.
3. The department Mid-Year meeting minutes were submitted to the Encampment.
4. A letter from Brother Gene Mortorff asking for support to be elected to the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief at the upcoming National Encampment.
5. A letter from Searfoss Camp #273 by John T. McNulty asking that the recognition of officers who have served the SUVCW in any capacity or office be given the designation "past officer", with the designation of some type of device which may be worn indicating that they have served, to encourage other Brothers to step forward to serve the order. This idea is also to be forwarded to the National Organization for consideration.
6. A letter from Gettysburg Camp #112 endorsing Brother Doug McMillin for election to the office of Pennsylvania Department Sr. Vice Commander.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Brother Richard Orr addressed the Encampment about the status of the National Organization's application for the SUVCW to become a non profit/tax exempt corporation under section 501©3 of the IRS code. This would be a change from the SUVCW currently being a 501©4 organization. The SUVCW is now registered in 36 of 39 states as a non profit, which is part of the requirement. After submitting the application the IRS had come back to the SUVCW three times for additional information. So the SUVCW is still waiting for some type of action from the IRS.

The Encampment was recessed at 11:20 AM, June 28th, 2013.

The Encampment was called to order at 11:35 AM, June 28th, 2013.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CANNON TUBE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE – no action at this time.

NATIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE – no action at this time.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE – no action at this time.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – no action at this time.

CAMP REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE – no action at this time for revitalization. The committee was looking into the possibility of forming a Camp in the Erie area, as there had been some interest from several people in that area. There was nothing definite about this subject at this time.

DEPARTMENT BY-LAWS COMMITTEE – the report of the Committee is included in the information packet along with officers reports. Please refer to this packet for exact wording.

MOTION BY I. Frantz, Jr./second by George Powell – that the necessary changes to renumber the current Article XIX to Article XX and insert a new Article XIX be adopted. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION BY I. Frantz, Jr./second by Richard Orr - that the second proposed change of a new Article XIX with the following corrections of receipt of filing a 990e being changed to 990n, and that the receipt must be filed with the Department Secretary or Secretary/Treasurer, not the National Organization SUCW, be adopted.

The Encampment was recessed at 11:55 AM, June 28th, 2013.

The Encampment was called to order at 1:05 PM, June, 28th, 2013.

Commander-in-Chief Perley Mellor was given the opportunity to address the Encampment. Brother Mellor remarked about the need for all Camp Secretaries to get their reports and necessary paperwork submitted to the Departments on time, and the Departments in turn need to get their reports to the National Organization on time. If reports are late this can create a problem with the IRS.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The item concerning the addition of the Revenue Cutter Service, making descendants of those who served in that service in the pre-amble to the SUCW eligible for membership in the SUCW, was taken up at this time. This change was approved at the last National Encampment, but needed to be ratified by the Departments.

MOTION BY Richard Orr/second by David Klinepeter – that the proposed change to the National pre-amble be adopted. As part of the discussion on the motion it was pointed out that the Revenue Cutter Service was a tax collection agency at the time of the Civil War and was not to be considered as “military”. It was also pointed out that the SUCW Congressional Charter does include wording about the Revenue Cutter Service. But the G.A.R. did not admit members who had served in the Revenue Cutter Service because they did not consider it to be a military organization.

The vote was YEA-20, Nay-12, Abstain-1. **MOTION PASSED.**

2. Command of the Encampment was given to the Sr. Vice Commander. Due to some recent attempts by Camps or members of the SUCW to mark Civil War veterans that were denied by the Veterans Administration because the SUCW is not “next of kin”. The Department Commander requests that a resolution from the Pennsylvania Department be created that legislation be drafted to change the U.S. Code to allow organizations such as the SUCW to apply for veterans headstones, and that this resolution also be sent to the National Organization for support.

MOTION BY Richard Essenwein/second by Dave Sosnowski – that the necessary resolution be drafted and submitted. **MOTION PASSED.**

3. The situation of recent damage to the 72nd Pennsylvania Inf. Monument at Gettysburg by a severe wind storm was brought up to the Encampment. This is the monument that is on the commemorative quarter about Gettysburg that has been issued by the U.S. Mint. Dept. Sec./Treas. Kuhn pointed out that of the money that was budgeted for the 150th Anniversary Service at the Peace Light, \$1,000.00 had not been spent and was available for use.

MOTION BY Charles Kuhn/second by George Powell – That \$500.00 from the surplus money designated for the 150th Anniversary Peace Light Service be donated to the National Park Service at Gettysburg to help with repairs to the 72nd Pennsylvania Monument. MOTION PASSED.

4. It was pointed out to the Encampment that at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Hanover, Pa. headstones were vandalized, including some Civil War veterans headstones. Since there is no Camp in Hanover, but three Camps in the nearby area, the question was raised if a committee could be formed to assist with this problem, and to see if any money could be designated to help with repairs to the veteran's headstones. Brother John M. McNulty cautioned about the possibility of opening up unlimited funds to any cemetery because of problems like this happening in many places. The Pennsylvania Department could find there are many more requests than there are funds available.
5. MOTION BY George Powell/second by John McNulty – that the listing of Past Department Commanders and Encampment sites be listed on the Department web site. MOTION PASSED.
6. MEMBERSHIP AWARDS – the Department membership awards were given out for the last year. The Ivan E. Frantz, Sr. award of \$50.00 for the largest percentage increase in membership goes to Camp #141. The Donald J. Rosenberg Award of \$50.00 for the largest number of new members goes to Camp #503 of Sunbury.
7. Brother Tim Nupp from Camp #43 presented to Department Commander Essenwein and Commander-in-Chief Perely Mellor a program booklet and letter of appreciation for their help in getting the new Civil War monument placed in Indiana, Pa.
8. MOTION BY Charles Kuhn/second by John T. McNulty – that commemorative badges struck for the 150th Anniversary Ceremony at the Peace Light be given to the dignitaries and members of the Honor Guard that will be participating in the ceremony. MOTION PASSED.

The Encampment was recessed at 2:13 PM, June 28th, 2013.

The Encampment was called to order at 2:32 PM, June 28th, 2013.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE ON OFFICERS REPORTS

The Committee on officers reports thanked the Department officers for a year of good work and activity in the Department, and for the effort put by each officer into his report. The Committee offered the following recommendations to the Encampment:

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER’S REPORT -

First recommendation for a survey to be taken among the Allied Orders about advice and guidance on membership. The Committee did NOT CONCUR. As a substitute MOTION BY George Powell/second by John M. McNulty – that a survey be developed by the Fraternal Relations Committee and be shared with the other Allied Orders. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION BY Richard Orr/second by Lowell Alcorn – that as succeeding recommendations of the Committee be read, if no objections be raised, they be adopted “ad seriatum” at the sound of the gavel. MOTION PASSED.

Second recommendation – survey of Jr. Vice Commanders about dropped members. The Committee concurred. PASSED.

Third recommendation – obtaining blanket insurance policy for events, The Committee concurred. PASSED. It was pointed out that the National Organization does have a blanket policy for which the Department can obtain a rider, but there is no objection to the Department looking into getting its own policy.

DEPARTMENT SR. VICE COMMANDER’S REPORT

First recommendation – that a training program be developed for the Department. The Committee concurred. PASSED.

Second recommendation – that a training course be developed for Camp Secretaries. The Committee concurred. PASSED.

DEPARTMENT JR. VICE COMMANDER/CHAPLAIN

Both reports contained a similar suggestion that a list of all Camps and Camp Officers be placed on the Department website and distributed to all Department officers to help foster better communication within the Department. The Committee did not concur. Brother Richard Orr asked that the recommendation be modified to include all Camp officers as required in the National Constitution & Regulations and the Department BY-laws.

MOTION by George Powell/second by Lowell Alcorn – that the list be made and published as amended. MOTION PASSED.

DEPARTMENT COLOR BEARER

One recommendation concerning proper procedures for retiring flags. The Committee did not concur. It was recommended that a link be added on the Department web site to the National Flag Foundation, which does have the National Flag Code available, which does address the proper procedure for retiring old flags. PASSED.



A visiting Committee from the Daughters of Union Veterans was received by the Encampment and consisted of Sisters Ellen Higgins and Mary Anne Herbsleb. The Sisters offered their greetings and best wishes to the Sons, and hoped that we were having a good Encampment. Brother John McNulty responded to the Sisters.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

The Committee on Resolutions had four items to address before the Encampment:

First item – a change to the Department BY-laws which has previously been acted on.

Second item – Suggestion by John M. McNulty and Camp #273 about developing a badge to recognize the services of a Brother who has served in any office within the order for which a specific badge had not been designated. It was pointed out that this could be in conflict with the National C&R and would most likely require action by the National Organization. Because of this, this particular item was tabled.

Third item – Endorsement of Brother Gene Mortorf for election to the office of National Junor Vice Commander-in-Chief. The Committee did not concur. **PASSED.**

Forth item – Nomination of Brother Doug McMilin to the office of Department Sr. Vice Commander by Gettysburg Camp #112. Because of the way the letter was worded it was ruled out of order because nominations for Department office must be made from the floor of the Encampment.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION BY Richard Orr/second by George Powell – in light of the action concerning training of Camp officers, the Department should be divided into three areas, with an assistant Secretary/Treasurer for each area to monitor and assist Camp Secretaries to complete forms and paperwork if needed. Considerable discussion was held on this motion, pointing out the additional layer of complication this would entail for the Department Secretary/Treasurer to coordinate all of this in a timely fashion. It was pointed out that former Camp and Department officers should assist Camp officers with advice and help if necessary to complete the duties of their office and help to clarify the filling out of forms if necessary. **THIS MOTION WAS WITHDRAWN.**

The Encampment was briefed about the Dr. Mary Walker Award that had been established by the National Organization in 2011. Three ladies would be honored by the Department with this award at the banquet planned for this evening with a “Court of Honor” presentation.

Brother Richard Orr addressed the Encampment about the importance of including the IRS EIN number for each Camp being submitted on the annual Form 22, Camp Officer Installation report, and that these reports need to be filed on time to meet the annual reporting to the IRS by the National Organization.

DEPARTMENT BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2013-2014

The proposed Department Budget for the year 2013-2014 was presented to the Encampment by senior member of Department Council Ivan Frantz, Jr. Each item was explained as to why it was on the budget and the reason for the amount. Pending any action requiring change to the proposed budget it would be voted on in final form at the business session tomorrow.

The Encampment received a visiting committee from the Auxiliary to the SUVCW which consisted of Sisters Diane Mellor, Barbara Indan, Joyce Dowler, and Anne McMilin. The Sisters offered their greetings and best wishes to the Encampment and expressed their wish that we were all having a good and productive Encampment. Brother Elmer Atkinson responded to the Sisters.

OFFICERS REPORTS

MOTION BY Richard Orr/second by Elmer Atkinson – that the subject of honors for past officers be removed from the table. MOTION PASSED.

To honor past officers the Department can adopt a badge that does not contain any symbols that are held in copyright by the National Organization. It was proposed to have a badge in the shape of a Keystone, with the Pennsylvania Coat of Arms, and the designation on the badge “OFFICER EMERITUS” with the notation PA. DEPT. SUVCW.

MOTION BY Richard Orr/second by Charles Kuhn – that a committee of three be appointed to design a badge, establish criteria for awarding the badge, and seek the lowest cost bidder to supply the badge, and to report their results at the Mid-Year meeting. MOTION PASSED.

Dept. Commander Essenwein appointed Brothers John M. McNulty, Richard Orr and George Powell to this committee.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION BY Doug McMilin/second by Charles Kuhn – that the Pennsylvania Department endorse Brother Richard Orr for re-election to the office of National Treasurer. MOTION PASSED.

The Encampment was recessed at 4:10 PM, June 28th, 2013.

The Encampment was called to order at 8:30 AM, June 29th, 2013.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION BY Richard Orr/second by John Frantz – that the Encampment reconsider an endorsement for Brother Gene Mortorff for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION BY Richard Orr/second by John Frantz – that the Pennsylvania Department endorse Brother Gene Mortorff for election to the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. MOTION PASSED.

A discussion was held about the requirements for awarding the special recognition badge for 75 years of service to the Pennsylvania Department SUVCW. It was felt by all members of the Encampment that the requirements should include the fact that the recipient be a Past Department Commander and have served in an elected Department Office for a total of at least 5 years.

MOTION BY John Frantz/second by John Gipson – that these stated policies be adopted for awarding a 75 Year Honors badge. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION BY Richard Orr/second by Lowell Alcorn – that the Committee on Department By-Laws be instructed to draft the appropriate wording and necessary changes to the Pennsylvania Department By-Laws concerning the 75 year recognition badge, and submit that proposed change at the Mid-Year meeting. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION by John M. McNulty/second by Dave Sosnowski – that the special 75 Year “Bud” badge be designated as the badge for delegates from the Pennsylvania Department to the upcoming National Encampment. MOTION PASSED.

It was brought to the attention of the Encampment for historical information that in the early 1900’s there were Camps in the Pennsylvania Department that were not in the boundaries of Pennsylvania. One Camp was located in Buenos Aires, Argentina and another was located in the state of West Virginia. It was also pointed out that in about the same time frame the Pennsylvania Department of the G.A.R. had a Post in Lima, Peru.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The Credentials Committee reported that the following Brothers were registered for the Encampment:

Commander-in-Chief	1	57 Brothers Registered
Past Commander-in-Chief	4	54 Brothers Present
Department Commander	1	
Past Department Commander	4	15 Camps represented
Camp Commander	5	
Past Camp Commander	11	4 Visitors
Delegates	22	
Alternate Delegates	3	

DEPARTMENT BUDGET

Department Council presented the proposed budget to the Encampment, with changes made to reflect business that had been acted on by this Encampment. Each line item was explained as to why it is included in the budget, and why the amount is set at a certain figure. It was pointed out that the budget was projected to have a small surplus at the end of the year 2013-2014.

MOTION BY Ivan Frantz, Jr./second by Richard Orr – that the Department budget as proposed for the year 2013-2014 be adopted as presented. MOTION PASSED.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Brother Paul McMillin spoke about the possible formation of a hymn singing group of Brothers for Department Special Occasions. Interested Brothers could talk with him after the Encampment closed.

Brother Ivan Frantz informed the Encampment that he would look into the possibility of obtaining more microphones to use with the portable PA system that the Department uses for Encampment business session. He explained that he has found a source of the necessary materials from a mail

order business that has very reasonable prices to obtain such material and felt that he could get the items for a cost of less than \$100. This would include microphones, chords, and the necessary plugs.

MOTION BY Doug McMillin/second by Lowell Alcorn – that the “easy up” tents that the Department purchased for use at the Peace Light Ceremony be donated to the local Boy Scouts after the end of the Encampment.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

The floor of the Encampment was opened for the nomination of Department Officers.

MOTION BY Richard Orr/second by John Frantz – that the nominations for Department Officers be closed. MOTION PASSED.

Because no new Brothers were nominated for officers positions, the Brothers already serving will continue to serve another years term of office and no installation of officers in necessary.

Commander-in-Chief Perley Mellor presented Department Commander Richard Essenwein with his Past Department Commander's Badge.

MOTION BY Ivan Frantz, Jr./second by Richard Orr – that the “traditional housekeeping motions” from prior years again be adopted, spread upon the minutes, and be placed in effect by this Encampment. The motions are as follows:

- 1. That a letter of thank you be sent to the Encampment Committee, the local municipality, and the hotel expressing the pleasure of having a good Encampment.**
- 2. That the delegates to the National Encampment be instructed to support, and Past Commanders-in-Chief and Past Department Commanders be requested to support, actions taken by this Encampment to the National Encampment.**
- 3. That the Department Secretary/Treasurer be empowered to transfer funds as necessary to meet the financial obligations of the Department during the coming Department year.**
- 4. That the Department Committees for this Encampment with the exception of the Credentials Committee be discharged with the thanks of the Encampment, and the Credentials Committee may be discharged after it makes its final report.**
- 5. That the Department Patriotic Instructor be permitted to make a post Encampment financial report.**
- 6. That the Department purchase a full page ad in the National Encampment program booklet to list the Past Department Commanders and current Department Officers.**

MOTION PASSED.

The Department Commander expressed his thanks to the Encampment Committee for planning and making come to pass a good Encampment, especially with the extra items and events that were included for the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION BY Ivan Frantz, Jr./second by Lowell Alcorn – that the minutes and tapes as recorded and transcribed become the official Proceedings of the 133rd Pennsylvania Department Encampment.
MOTION PASSED.**

The Encampment Site Committee informed the Encampment that the site for next year's Encampment had not yet been finalized, but the greater Williamsport area, including Lewisburg, was being considered.

Department Commander Essenwein closed the 133rd Pennsylvania Department Encampment in ritualistic fashion at 9:20 AM, June 29th,2013.