



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Pennsylvania Department

Office of the Department Commander

403 Grand Circle, Scranton PA 18505-2870

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**DEPARTMENT ORDER 1
SERIES 2024-2025**

30 June 2024

ADMINISTRATION

1. Thank you, Brothers of the 144th Pennsylvania Department Encampment, held in King of Prussia, for electing me on 29 June 2024 to lead the department in 2024-2025; I shall endeavor to serve in a way that honors your confidence in me. Command is hereby assumed, and Pennsylvania Department headquarters are now transferred to the address above, where commander-specific correspondence should be sent.

Please note that my surname is spelled “Fischer” and not “Fisher” – thank you!

2. Congratulations to the Sisters of our Pennsylvania Allied Orders who were elected as presidents at their respective conventions/encampment. I look forward to working with you to keep green in our minds the Boys in Blue, and their families, who sacrificed to save the United States from 1861-1865. May their sacred memory never be forgotten.

3. The following Brothers were elected at encampment, or continue to serve in unexpired terms, to the department offices as indicated:

Senior Vice Commander	Michael E. Peter , PCC, Baker-Fisher Camp 101
Junior Vice Commander	Theodore J. Zeman , PCC, Searfoss Camp 273
Secretary/Treasurer (term expires 2025)	Robert J. Koenigsberg , PCC, Campbell Camp 14
Council (term expires 2025)	Ivan E. Frantz, Jr. , PDC, Ruhl Camp 33
Council (term expires 2025)	John M. McNulty , PDC, Searfoss Camp 273
Council (term expires 2025)	Dane A. DiFebo , PDC, Searfoss Camp 273

4. I have appointed the following Brothers to the positions and responsibilities indicated, and request that Brothers routinely and regularly communicate with each other to further our work:

Patriotic Instructor	Steven R. Johnston , PCC, Eaton Camp 504
Chaplain	Clark R. Brocht , PCC, Mount Union Church Camp 502
Chief of Staff	Richard R. Essenwein , PDC, Crawford Camp 43
Aide de Camp	Scott R. Teeters , Crowther Camp 89
Counselor	John M. McNulty , PDC, Searfoss Camp 273
Counselor	Richard R. Essenwein , PDC, Crawford Camp 43

Counselor	John R. Gipson , PDC, Davis ★ Camp
Color Guard	Isaac Eaton Camp 504
Guard	Alex Johnston , Eaton Camp 504
Guide	Wayne Blattner , PCC, Hartranft Camp 15
Graves Registration Officer	William E. Fischer, Jr. , DC, and PCC, Griffin Camp 8
Historian	Gregory E. Kline , PDC, Gobin Camp 503
Parliamentarian	Ivan E. Frantz, Jr. , PDC, Ruhl Camp 33
Parliamentarian	John M. McNulty , PDC, Searfoss Camp 273
Newsletter (<i>Battle Cry of Freedom</i>)	Michael E. Peter , PCC, Baker-Fisher Camp 101
Signals Officer/Webmaster	Kevin W. Kuhn , PCC, Campbell Camp 14
Memorial Camp 300 (At Large) Sec'y/Treas	David W. Demmy, Sr. , PCC, and Nat'l Executive Director

Committees

Eagle Scout Coordinator	Donald B. Houston , PCC, Searfoss Camp 273
Eagle Scout Coordinator (Philadelphia)	Albert El , Anna M. Ross Camp 1
GAR Highway Officer	Dane A. DiFebo , PDC, Searfoss Camp 273
Civil War Monuments	Alfred C. Carty , PDC, Searfoss Camp 273
Public Relations	Dane A. DiFebo , PDC, Searfoss Camp 273
National Park Service Relations (East)	Vacant
National Park Service Relations (West)	Robert J. Koenigsberg , PCC, Campbell Camp 14
Long Range Planning	John M. McNulty , PDC, Searfoss Camp 273
Long Range Planning	Wayne Blattner , PCC, Hartranft Camp 15
Legislative Affairs	Vacant
Camp Revitalization/Development	Dane A. DiFebo , PDC, Searfoss Camp 273
Encampment Site	Robert K. Wrigley , PCC, Thomas Camp 19
Encampment Site	Gregory E. Kline , PDC, Gobin Camp 503
Encampment Site	Steven R. Johnston , PCC, Eaton Camp 504
Credentials	Gregory E. Kline , PDC, Gobin Camp 503
Credentials	Scott A. Debo , PCC, Gobin Camp 503
Bylaws	John M. McNulty , PDC, Searfoss Camp 273
Bylaws	John B. Crider , PCC, Crowther Camp 89
Bylaws	Richard R. Essenwein , PDC, Crawford Camp 43
GAR Memorials	Theodore J. Zeman , PCC, Searfoss Camp 273
GAR Memorials	Alfred C. Carty , PDC, Searfoss Camp 273
Education	Vernon D. Stout , PCC, Hartranft Camp 15
Education	Scott A. Debo , PCC, Gobin Camp 503

5. Brothers, as you can see in the list above, there are many camps not represented at the department level. I encourage interested Brothers across the department to consider serving in vacant positions, or as non-voting informal committee members ("interns," if you will), with Council approval, in order to learn committee work from our sage, experienced Brothers. Doing so shall enable the department to have knowledgeable Brothers prepared to step in and provide a smooth transition when situations dictate. Corporately, that's known as "succession planning," and our department desperately needs it.

6. All business correspondence, bills, and approved requests for departmental payment should be forwarded to:

PA Dept Secretary/Treasurer **Robert J. Koenigsberg**, PCC, 504 Prospect St, Portage PA 15946-1630

7. Camp secretaries, please ensure that changes in Brothers' status are recorded on the Form 30 and timely forwarded to the PA Dept Secretary. Particularly important are Form 30s for deceased Brothers. In addition to forwarding the Form 30s for deceased Brothers, contact Chaplain Brocht so that those Brothers will be remembered at the annual PA Department and National Memorial Services.

8. Camps, please throughout the year provide the department commander with dates, times, and locations of camp meetings, with as much lead time as possible to reduce scheduling conflicts. I am honored to visit camps, and in particular, to conduct camp officer installation whenever possible.

9. Camps, please provide details of upcoming camp events on the department Facebook page as early as possible so that Brothers are made aware of, can plan to attend, and support your efforts to honor our Boys in Blue. Similarly, reach out early to your local media outlets, place event information on free online community calendars, and be sure to have membership applications (only use the current Form 3) on hand at your events. However, ensure that all events, etc, include Paragraph 4 of General Order No. 7 (Revised) (Series 2021-2022), which reads as follows:

"It is Ordered that the following statement be noted on the Official Programs for all SUVCW events, ceremonies, and meetings, along with posting on any SUVCW website homepage and photo galleries:

'Individuals attending events hosted by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, by virtue of their attendance, agree to the usage of their likeness in the Banner, any Camp or Department Newsletter, any SUVCW website and/or on any SUVCW Social Media outlet, promotional brochures, or any other SUVCW material'."

10. Engage youth at every opportunity, but do so within Order, PA Department, and PA Youth Protection guidelines. Youth are our future, but ensure a parent/legal guardian participates with him.

11. The National Encampment will be held from 1-4 August 2024 at Lexington KY; consider attending.

12. The 145th Pennsylvania Department Encampment will be held in 19-22 June 2025 in Cranberry Township PA, north of Pittsburgh. Note that:

Dept officer and camp reports are due to Chief of Staff Richard Essenwein NLT 15 May 2025.

If you have nothing to report, then state "Nothing to Report," but complete the report. See you there!

SO ORDERED IN FRATERNITY, CHARITY AND LOYALTY



William E. Fischer, Jr., PCC
Commanding

ATTEST:

Robert J. Koenigsberg, PCC
Secretary