



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Pennsylvania Department

Office of the Department Commander

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**DEPARTMENT ORDER 9
SERIES 2024-2025**

1 August 2024

2024-2025 COMMEMORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

1. Brothers, in our busy world it's easy to miss opportunities to honor and remember our proud American heritage. Here's a non-inclusive list of notable dates that your camps and auxiliaries might consider for commemorative activities either alone or in partnership with civic, service, and fraternal organizations. Of course, you know best your local community celebrations that you can join in. Some are standing dates, others vary year by year.

2024

August

4 – US Coast Guard Birthday (1790 as the Revenue Cutter Service)

September Hispanic Heritage Month (15 Sep-15Oct)

11 – Patriot Day (2001)

17 – Battle of Antietam (1862)

17 – Allegheny Arsenal Explosion (1862)

17 – Constitution Day (1787) and Citizenship Day

18 – US Air Force Birthday (1947)

20 – National POW/MIA Recognition Day (1979), third Friday in Sep annually

21 – Birth of John Fulton Reynolds (1820)

24-25 – Conference for Governors of the Loyal States (1862, Altoona)

October

13 – US Navy Birthday (1775)

26 – 20 inch Rodman Gun test fired at Fort Hamilton NY (1864)
(largest muzzle-loading cannon, made at Fort Pitt Foundry)

November American Indian Heritage Month

8 – Birth of Samuel Wylie Crawford (1829)

10 – US Marine Corps Birthday (1775)

11 – Veterans Day (earlier known as Armistice Day; Remembrance Day elsewhere)

12 – Son of Veterans of PA organized by A.P. Davis (1881)

13 – Birth of John Adolphus Bernard Dahlgren (1809)

16 – Remembrance Day and Parade, Gettysburg PA

28 – Thanksgiving, fourth Thursday in Nov annually

December

- 3 – Birth of George Brinton McClellan (1826)
- 7 – Pearl Harbor Day (1941)
- 16 – Birth of John Frederick Hartranft (1830)
- 20 – US Space Force Birthday (2019)
- 30 – Birth of John White Geary (1819)
- 31 – Birth of George Gordon Meade (1815)

January

- 1 – Emancipation Proclamation issued (1863)
- 20 – Edwin McMasters Stanton becomes Secretary of War (1862)
- 20 – Inauguration Day and MLK, Jr. Day of Service

February African American Heritage Month

- 12 – Lincoln Birthday (1809)
- 14 – Birth of Winfield Scott Hancock (1824)
- 17 – Presidents Day
- 27 – Birth of William Buel Franklin (1823)

March Women's History Month

- 17 – St. Patrick's Day
- 26 – Birth of Herman Haupt (1817)
- 29 – National Vietnam War Veterans Day

April

- 6 – Grand Army of the Republic established (1866)
- 9 – Appomattox Surrender (1865)
- 10 – Birth of David McMurtrie Gregg (1833)
- 12-14 – Bombing of Fort Sumter (1861)
- 15 – Lincoln calls for 75,000 volunteers (1861)
- 15 – Lincoln Assassination (1865)
- 18 – Camp Curtin opened (1861)
- 22 – Andrew Curtin Birthday (1815)
- 27 – Ulysses S. Grant Birthday (1822)
- 27 – Explosion aboard Sultana (1865)

May Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

- 15 – Montgomery Cunningham Meigs appointed Quartermaster General (1861)
- 17 – Armed Forces Day
- 20 – Homestead Act Passed (1862, Speaker of the House Galusha Grow from PA)
- 22 – Bureau of Colored Troops established (1863)
- 26 – Memorial Day (Observed)
- 30 – Memorial Day (Traditional)

June

- Frankford Arsenal provides critical weapons/ammo to PA "Emergency Militia" (1863)
- 8 – Birth of David Dixon Porter (1813)
- 14 – US Army Birthday (1775) and Flag Day
- 19 – Juneteenth (1865)
- 28 – Burning of the Wrightsville Bridge

July

1 – Shelling of Carlisle (1863)

1-3 – Battle of Gettysburg (1863)

4 – Independence Day

4 – Opening of Camp William Penn (1863)

30 – Burning of Chambersburg (1864)

2. As a charitable, fraternal, patriotic and educational organization, outreach should be at the core of camp activities so that local communities understand that the sacrifices of our Boys in Blue from 1861-1865 are still relevant and paved the way for a nation that helped saved the world during the 20th century. Had the Boys in Blue, the “Grandfathers of the Greatest Generation,” not succeeded, it’s questionable whether our nation could have been the free world’s “Arsenal of Democracy” later.

SO ORDERED IN FRATERNITY, CHARITY AND LOYALTY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William E. Fischer, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

William E. Fischer, Jr., PCC
Commanding

ATTEST:

Robert J. Koenigsberg, PCC
Secretary