



David S. Smith, LM, PCC
Commander - Department of Michigan
Headquarters - Traverse City
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



DEPARTMENT ORDERS NO. 6
Series 2017-2018

29 June 2017

Independence Day

By the authority vested in me as Commander, Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1 – Tuesday, 04 July is Independence Day, the 241st anniversary of the founding of these United States of America. On 04 July 1776, the thirteen colonies declared their independence from Britain.

Section 2 – While the Continental Congress was convened on 07 June in Philadelphia, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia presented the following resolution: “Resolved: That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.” Lee’s words were the driving force for the drafting of the Declaration of Independence, with the resolution for independence being adopted by 12 of 13 Colonies on 02 July 1776.

Section 3 – Beyond the traditional celebrations of picnics and fireworks, please take time out of your day to reflect on the sacrifices of our Founding Fathers and Patriots that risked their lives and their fortunes to establish this Republic. Their words echo today as they did that summer of 1776: *“And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.”*

The preceding Department Order is proclaimed this twenty-ninth day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen, the one hundred and fifty-first year since the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic, and of the two hundred and fortieth year of Independence of these United States of America.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

/s/

David S. Smith, LM, PCC
Commander, Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

/s/

Richard Denney, CC
Secretary, Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War