

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
Department of Michigan  
Proceedings



140<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Department Encampment

April 27, 2024

Okemos Event Center

2187 University Park Drive, Okemos, Michigan

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**Gary Swain, Department Commander**

**NATIONAL OFFICERS VISITING**



**Peter J. Hritsko - Commander-in-Chief**



**Sue Freshley – Auxiliary National President**



**Brothers attending the Encampment**

## **MEMORIAL SERVICE**

The service opened at 9:06 AM with the Chaplains of the Allied Orders in attendance.

The names of the Brothers and Sisters who passed in the previous year were read. A benediction followed.

The Service concluded at 9:14AM.

# Minutes of the Encampment

Department Commander Gary L. Swain called the Encampment to order at 9:29 AM.

DC Swain introduced the National Officers in attendance: Commander in Chief Peter J. Hritsko, Jr., PDC; MOLLUS Junior Vice Commander in Chief Paul T. Davis, PDC; National Officer James B. Pahl, PCinC; PCinC Ken Freshley, PCinC Bruce Frail. CinC Hritsko if he would like to make any remarks. He replied that he would speak later in the Encampment.

DC Swain asked all past National Officers to stand: In attendance: Gary Gibson, PDC; Paul Davis, PDC; David Wallace, PDC; and L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC.

DC Swain asked all Past Department Commanders to stand and state their terms in office: Gary Gibson, PDC, 1990-1994, 2004-2005; Bill Brennan, PDC, 1994-1996; Dale Aurand, PDC, 2015-2016; Dave Smith, PDC, 2017-2018; Charles Worley, PDC, 2009-2010; David Wallace, PDC, 1996-1997; L. Dean Lamphere, Jr. PDC, 2016-2017; James Pahl, PCinC, 1992-1993, Paul Davis, PDC, 2013-2015; Robert Payne, PDC, 2018-2020.

DC Swain instructed the Department Guide and the Department Color Bearer to determine if all present were entitled to attend. The Department Guide reported that all Brothers were entitled to attend.

DC Swain directed Department Secretary Denney to call the roll of Officers. (Roll call is in Appendix A.)

Secretary Denney announced the roll was called.

Department Chaplain Buckhahn was directed to attend the alter. The Chaplain offered a prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Encampment.

## The Rules of the Encampment:

- Other than the Commander's report, Officer reports will be limited to five minutes.
- It is requested, but not required, that when officer reports are given, should that officer chair a committee, that he provides his committee report at the same time. Time will be allocated in the afternoon session for any remaining committee reports.
- Brothers will be able to speak twice on a given topic.
- When speaking identify yourself by name and Camp and come to the microphone.
- When making a motion approach the microphone and remain near the microphone to repeat the motion if required,
- If a motion is lengthy or complicated, it is expected the Brother making the motion provide it in writing to the Department Secretary.
- All debate will be done in the spirit of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.
- All voting will be done by use of the voting card issued to delegates upon arrival.
- The Department Commander reserves the right the to institute other methods of voting as the circumstances dictate.
- Please turn off or silence your cell phones. If you need to take an incoming call, please exit the meeting room.
- Past CinC James Pahl was appointed Encampment Parliamentarian.
- Lunch will be at 12:00 PM or thereabouts.

## Appointment of Encampment Committees:



Credentials: L. Dean Lamphere, Jr. PDC (Chair), Robert R. Payne, PDC, and Charles L. Worley, PDC.

Bylaws: Steven S. Martin, PCC (Chair), Richard W. Denney, PCC, Nathan L. Smith, PDC, (Counselor member), Paul T. Davis, PDC, and James B. Pahl, PCinC.

Officer's Reports: Gary Gibson, PDC (Chair) Robert Payne, PDC, and Dale Aurand, PDC.

Resolutions: David Wallace, PDC (Chair), Terry McKinch, PDC and Lloyd Lamphere, Sr., PCC.

Fraternal Relations: James B. Pahl, PCinC (Chair) and Bruce Frail, PCinC.

Report of the Credentials Committee: The report of the Credentials Committee will be given prior to the nominations.

#### Department Officer's Reports:

(Department Officer's Reports are in Appendix B.)

(Department Committee reports may be found in Appendix C.)

(Standing and Special committee reports may be found in Appendix E.)

DC Swain asked the Guide to approach the Commander's station and transfer the gavel to Senior Vice Department Commander Martin.

DC Swain presented his report.

Senior Vice Department Commander Martin asked the Guide to return the gavel to DC Swain.

SVDC Martin moved to refer the Commander's report and all subsequent officer reports to the appropriate Department Encampment Committee. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robert Payne.

Motion approved.

SVDC Martin presented his report.

JVDC Kimble presented his report.

The Department Secretary Denney presented his report.

The Department Treasurer Gosling presented the Treasurer's report and the report for the Resource Allocation Committee.

The Chief of Staff Gary Gibson presented his report. He also presented the report of the GAR Records Officer.

The Department Chaplain Buckhahn presented his report.

The Department Counselor report was sent to the Department Secretary. (He was unable to present his report due to illness.)

The Department Military Affairs Officer and Color Bearer Ed Dowd presented his report.

The Department Aide-de-Camp L. Dean Lamphere, Jr. presented his report. Along with his report, he presented the Ceremonies & Rituals Committee report, the Credential Committee report, and the Department Coordinator at Large report.

The Department Signals Officer presented his report.

The Department Historian David Wallace presented his report.

The Department Secretary read Michigan Editor and Graves Registration Officer Rick Danes report.

The Encampment recessed at 10:42 AM.

The Encampment resumed at 11:13 AM.

JVDC Kimble made announcements concerning the GAR Hall & Museum in Eaton Rapids.

Correspondence

(copies of correspondence may be found in Appendix D.)

The Department Secretary was asked to read any correspondence:

National Secretary Daniel Murray is running for the office of Junior Vice Commander in Chief.

Brother Alan Russ will run for the office of National Secretary, if National Secretary Daniel Murray is elected to the position of Junior Vice Commander in Chief.

#### Awards:

The Abraham Lincoln Award was presented to Brother Tom Bruce and Brother Comer Skinner of General Benjamin A. Pritchard Camp No. 20.

The J. Richard Greene award for best Camp newsletter was presented to General Orlando M. Poe Camp No. 444.

The Austin Blair Membership Award for the most members gained was presented to Alexander French Camp No. 28.

The Orlando LeValley Membership Award for the greatest percentage of members gained was presented to Alexander French Camp No. 28.

The Encampment recessed for lunch at 11:25 AM.

The Encampment resumed at 12:47 PM.

#### Reports of the Department Encampment Committees:

Report of the Committee on Officer's reports.

Rob Payne moved the recommendations of Officer's and Committee's reports, if unopposed be adopted at the sound of the gavel. 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Kimble. Motion approved.

Encampment Committee on Officer's Reports, Chair Gary Gibson:

DC Swains recommendations:

1. Increase the budget of the Outreach Committee from \$500. To \$1000.00. Committee concurs. Discussion ensued. Recommendation approved.
2. The recommendation to disband the 102<sup>nd</sup> Colored Troop Memorial Committee and redirect the funds to the General Budget. Committee concurs. Recommendation approved.

The Department Signals Officer recommends:

1. That every Camp in the Department, who has their online information published by the Department, submit to the webmaster no later than two weeks after the installation of their Camp Officers, the information they want published on the Department website for their Camp. Committee concurs. Recommendation approved.

The Department Treasurer recommends:

1. The proposed 2024-2025 Department Budget be approved. Since the budget for the Outreach Committee has been increased, the Committee refers this to the Encampment.

JVDC David Kimble moved to amend the budget to include the \$500.00 increase in the Outreach Committee budget. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rob Payne. Motion approved.

Encampment Resolution Committee Chair David Wallace presented a Resolution before the Encampment. (A copy of the resolution may be found in Appendix G.)

James Pahl moved to accept the resolution and forward it to the National Encampment. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rob Payne. Motion approved.

The Special Committee on Resource Allocation

(Copy of report may be found in Appendix E.)

1. A proposed Department of Michigan Eagle Scout Scholarship program.

Discussion.

Moved by Max Riekse to have the scholarship available to Eagle Scouts with an affiliation to the Order. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Williams.

Further discussion.

Bruce Frail moved to amend to eliminate the Eagle Scout requirement and open the scholarship to any member of the Sons or Allied Order.

Further discussion.

Vote on the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment. Approved.

Vote on the 1<sup>st</sup> amendment. Failed.

Bruce Gosling moved to amend the proposal by establishing a committee consisting of the Department Eagle Scout Coordinator, the Department Patriotic Instructor, and a member appointed by the Department Commander. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bruce Frail. Motion approved.

Jeff Walker moved the children of veterans be given preference in the scholarship process. Motion failed due to a lack of a second.

The proposal as amended was voted on and approved.

2. The Department of Michigan Camp Grant Matching Fund.

Proposal approved.

3. The Antietam Monument proposal.

Discussion.

Proposal approved.

Bylaws Committee report:

(Copy of report may be found in Appendix E.)

- I. Outreach Committee

Amend Article IX- Committees, Section 1 to read:

Approved.

Amend Article IX-Committees, by adding Section 14.

Approved.

- II.

Amend Article IX-Committees, Section 1 to read:

Approved

Amend Article IX-Committees, by adding Section 15.

Approved.

III. The Keith G. Harrison Most Outstanding Social Media On-Line Presence award.  
Amend Article XIX-Awards and Insignia, adding new Section 6.  
Approved.

IV. Amend Article II-Meetings, Section 1 to read:  
Approved.  
Amend Article IX-Committees, Section 1 to read:  
Approved.

Commander in Chief's remarks

CinC Hritsko spoke on General Order No. 2 series 2023-2024 requesting the Brothers of the Department of Michigan vote to approve or reject General Order No. 2. The Department Encampment voted to approve.

New Business:

Rob Payne moved for the Department of Michigan place an advertisement in the 2024 National Encampment Memorial Book. 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Bennet. Approved.

Rob Payne moved to have the Department Encampment authorize the purchase of a document scanner with a budget of \$350.00 to digitize the Department of Michigan Records stored at the GAR Hall & Museum in Eaton Rapids MI. Also, it is intended to store the scanner at the Hall and make it available for Camps use to digitize their records by authorized persons. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bruce Frail. Approved.

Report of the Department Council

(Copy of the Report may be found in Appendix F.)

Chair David Smith read the report of the Department Council.

Good of the Order:

The National Encampment is August 1-4, 2024, in Lexington, Ky. Details are on the National website.

Remembrance Day is November 16, 2024, in Gettysburg, Pa.

Ron Tyrl reported on the Jackson Muster August 24-25.

Jim Pahl reported that the Historic Fort Wayne Coalition has asked the Sons to be represented at their Civil War Muster.

Jim also invites everyone to visit the GAR Hall and Museum in Eaton Rapids, MI. New exhibits are on display.

Max Riekse encouraged Brothers to sign up their children and grandchildren to the Order. He proposed a new four-page newsletter to be mailed out yearly.

Connie Horning, President of the Michigan Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War gave a few remarks.

DC Swain wished to thank the Okemos Event Center for their hospitality.

Nominations for Department Officers:

Credentials Committee Chair Dean Lamphere reported the Delegate count at 40.

Department Secretary Denney read the Department Nominating Committee report.

(Copy of report is in Appendix C.)

Robert Payne moved that if there is only one candidate at the end of nominations for each office that the Department Secretary cast one unanimous ballot for the candidate. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dean Lamphere. Motion approved.

DC Swain: we will address each position Individually and the take any nominations from the floor. In the event there is more than one candidate, we will allow each candidate to speak for three minutes, then the elections will be by roll call of the Camps.

Election of Department Commander:

Brother Steven Martin having been chosen by the Nominating Committee, are you willing to serve? He affirmed that he would. What other offices do you hold in the Order? Senior Vice Department Commander. Three calls were made for other nominations, being none, the Department Secretary cast one unanimous ballot.

Election of Senior Vice Department Commander:

Brother David Kimble having been chosen by the Nominating Committee, are you willing to serve? He affirmed that he would. What other Offices do you hold in the Order? Junior Vice Department Commander. Three calls were made for other nominations, being none, the Department Secretary cast one unanimous ballot.

Election of Junior Vice Department Commander:

Brother Todd Cordill was unable to attend. His letter to the Nomination Committee is indicative of his wiliness to serve. What other Offices does he hold in the Order? He is currently Camp Senior Vice Commander at George W. Anderson Camp No. 58.

Three calls were made for nominations from the floor, being none, the Department secretary cast one unanimous ballot.

There will be no election for Department Secretary or Department Treasurer as they are completing a three-year term. (2024-2025 final year)

Election of Department Council No. 1:

Brother David Smith having been chosen by the Nominating Committee, are you willing to serve? He affirmed that he would. What other Offices do you hold in the Order? Camp Commander in General Orlando M. Poe Camp No. 444. Three calls were made for other nominations, being none, the Department Secretary cast one unanimous ballot.

Election of Department Council No.2:

Brother Robert Payne having been chosen by the Nominating Committee, are you willing to serve? He affirmed that he would. What other Offices do you hold in the Order? Camp Council at Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17, Camp Council at Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145, and National Council of Administration. Three calls were made for other nominations, being none, The Department Secretary cast one unanimous ballot.

Election of Department Council No. 3:

Brother Nathan Smith being ill today, having submitted a letter of intent and being selected by the Nomination Committee.

Brother David Smith vouches that he is willing to serve. What other Offices doe he hold in the Order? Camp Secretary at LeValley-Husted Camp No. 255. Three calls were made for nominations from the floor, being none, the Department Secretary cast one unanimous ballot.

Election of Delegates:

David Kimble- Austin Blair Camp No. 7.

Edgar Dowd- Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145.

Ron Shull-Curtenius Guard Camp No.17.

Steve Williams-Frederick H. Hackeman Camp No. 85.

John Minor- Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145.

Lloyd Lamphere, Sr.-Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145.

Richard Denney-March to the Sea Camp No. 135.

Jim Pahl moved the remainder of the delegate slate be filed from the Department Roster from the top in alphabetical order and that the remainder of the Department Roster be elected Alternates. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dean Lamphere. Approved.

The Encampment recessed at 3:12 PM.

The Encampment resumed at 3:35 PM.

DC Swain wished to thank the following:

Gary Gibson-Chief of Staff.

Richard Denney-Department Secretary.

Bruce Gosling- Department Treasurer.

Gifts were given.

Installation of Officers:

Department Commander-elect Martin chose Commander in Chief Peter J. Hritsko, Jr. as the installing Officer. CinC Hritsko proceeded to install the new 2024-2025 Officers.

DC Martin chose Rob Payne, PDC to pin on his DC badge. Rob proceeded to pin the badge on DC Martin.

Gary Gibson, PDC pinned the PDC badge on Gary Swain, PDC.

DC Martin gave some appropriate remarks.

Paul Davis, PDC gave a gift and tribute to Lloyd Lamphere, Sr.

The 140<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Department Encampment closed by ceremony at 3:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Richard Denney, PCC

Secretary, Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**Appendix A**  
**Roll call of Officers**

2024 Department Officer Roll Call

Office	Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Department Commander	Gary L. Swain	x		
Department Senior Vice Commander	Steven S. Martin	x		
Department Junior Vice Commander	David W. Kimble	x		
Member of Council	David S. Smith	x		
Member of Council	Robert R. Payne	x		
Member of Council	Nathan L. Smith			x
Secretary	Dick Denney	x		
Treasurer	Bruce S.A. Gosling	x		
Chief of Staff	Gary L. Gibson	x		
Counselor	Nathan L. Smith			x
Chaplain	Rev. Charles Buckhahn	x		
Patriotic Instructor	Terrance L. McKinch			x
Color Bearer	Edgar J. Dowd	x		
Signals Officer	Robert R. Payne	x		
Editor "Michigan Messenger"	Richard E. Danes			x
Historian	David F. Wallace	x		
Guide	Lloyd D. Lamphere, Sr.	x		
Guard	Leonard Sheaffer	x		
Graves Registration Officer	Richard E. Danes			x
GAR Records Officer	Gary L. Gibson	x		
Civil War Memorials Officer	Leonard Sheaffer	x		
Eagle Scout Coordinator	Lloyd D. Lamphere, Sr.	x		
Camp-at-Large Coordinator	L. Dean Lamphere, Jr.	x		
Camp Organizer	James B. Pahl	x		
Military Affairs Officer	Edgar J. Dowd	x		
Aide-de-Camp	L. Dean Lamphere, Jr.	x		



**Appendix B**  
**Officer's Reports**



**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN**  
**OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER**



GARY L. SWAIN DC, PCC

+HEADQUARTERS+

697 WYNDING OAKS, KALAMAZOO, MI 49006

**DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S REPORT**  
**SERIES: 2023-2024**

**DATE: 27 April 2024**

Brothers of the Department of Michigan:

Please allow me to express my gratitude for the confidence that you have placed in me by electing me to the position of Commander-Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for the 2023-2024 term. I am sincerely appreciative of the opportunity to assist the Department of Michigan in striving to achieve our objectives. It has been a genuine pleasure to serve with so many Brothers who so generously give their time and talent to further the objectives of the order.

Over the past year it was my honor to serve concurrently as Chairman of the Statue Committee of the Kalamazoo Abraham Lincoln Institute and to represent the Department of Michigan, as Department Commander, at the dedication of the statue of our beloved 16<sup>th</sup> President when it was placed in Kalamazoo's Bronson Park. The Kalamazoo Lincoln Project Special Committee, established in August of 2020, having achieved their objectives, was discharged in September of 2023. The Department of Michigan is most grateful for the efforts of Special Committee members; Charles Worley PDC (Chair), Bruce Gosling PCC, Department Treasurer, Terry McKinch PDC and Cameron Brown, Camp No. 135.

Further, I was most appreciative of the opportunity to represent the Department at Camp sponsored events with the Cortenius Guard Camp No. 17 in Sunfield and at the Sgt. John Cosby Camp No. 35 in Dearborn. Also, it was with great pleasure that I was able to work directly with three Eagle Scout candidates in developing and executing their projects to finalize and earn that coveted rank. No new issues were brought the attention of the Legislative Committee during the past year.

Over the past year it has been my unfortunate duty to consummate the closing of the Colgrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22 of Battle Creek, the Henry Wallace Camp No. 160 of Coruna and Carpenter-Welch Camp No. 180 of Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti. These Camps have reported similar rationale for their decision to disband including an aging membership and an inability to attract new members. Over the past several years the Department membership has declined from approximately 450 members to 363 today. Our efforts to turn around the decline in Camps and membership should be our top priority for the immediate future.

I propose the following recommendations as we look forward to the next term:

1. That the responsibilities and budget, of the Outreach Committee be expanded, within prudent guidelines, to include broader Public Relations activities and narrowly targeted advertising with

the objective of increasing awareness and recognition of the SUVCW with the ultimate objective of generating growth in new memberships. I recommend a committee budget of \$1000 for 2024-2025.

2. To date the 102<sup>nd</sup> USCT Memorial Committee has been unable to attract outside partners to share the responsibility for this proposed project. It is currently estimated that the cost of this project will run from \$100,000 to \$150,000 in today's dollars and require a decade long commitment by several dedicated and experienced members of the Department of Michigan. This does not, in my judgement, represent a realistic expectation. Consequently, it is my recommendation that this committee be disbanded and our human and financial resources, including any budgeted line items dedicated to this project, be rededicated to more pressing priorities.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

*Gary L. Swain*

Gary L. Swain, PCC  
Commander, Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

/s/

Richard Denny, PCC  
Secretary, Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



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

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**OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT SENIOR VICE**  
**COMMANDER**

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STEVEN S. MARTIN DSVC, PCC

400 CATHOLIC CHURCH ROAD, LESLIE, MI 49251-9519

2023-2024

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Department of Michigan  
Senior Vice Commander  
Annual Report

Commander-in-Chief Hritsko, Department Commander Gary Swain, Fellow Officers, Brothers, and Honored guest.

It has been my pleasure, and my honor to serve each and every one of you as the Senior Vice Commander of the Department of Michigan for the term of 2023-2024. I would like to thank all of you for the opportunity to do so.

During the term of 2023-2024, I was tasked with the assignment of chairing the Bylaws Committee. With the immense input and ideas of the Bylaws Committee, we were able to review and recommend several bylaw updates that will be presented to our brothers at the 140<sup>th</sup> Annual Department of Michigan Encampment.

I would like to thank the brothers on the Bylaws Committee for working so diligently on this important task.

Thank you all so much for allowing me to serve our order. I look forward to assisting the advancement of our order in this coming year.

Respectfully Submitted

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

Steven S. Martin DSVC, PCC



## David W. Kimble DJVC

April 11, 2024

David W. Kimble  
910 Queen St  
Owosso, Michigan 48867

Department of Michigan Officers and Brothers of the Order:

Please let me thank you for the confidence that you have placed in me by appointing me to the position of Junior Vice Commander-Department of Michigan.

During the past year I have been able to help new brothers in joining our organization. We have gained 18 new members this past year, and as of this time we have 3 potential new members at my camp Austin Blair Camp #7.

I would like to suggest that we as an organization try to get into the schools to educate our young people on the history of the Civil War and to inform them of The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

I would also like to suggest this summer if camps are possible, to set up information tables with their banners and flags at any festivals or fairs. Possibly with a laptop to help with anyone's ancestry.

I am sure there are other ways to help our great organization grow, and with everyone's help and ideas we can grow and stay strong.

Respectfully Submitted

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

David W. Kimble, PCC

Department Junior Vice Commander

Department of Michigan, SUVCW



**Headquarters  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



**Office of the Department Secretary  
Report to the 140<sup>th</sup> Annual Department of Michigan Encampment**

**27 April 2024**

**To Commander in Chief Hritsko, Department Commander Swain, and the Brothers of the 140<sup>th</sup> Annual Department of Michigan Encampment, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.**

**I would like to thank the 140<sup>th</sup> Encampment for the opportunity to serve as Department Secretary for the 2023-2024 Term.**

**I also wish to thank Department Commander Swain, Executive Director David Demmy, Assistant Executive Director Susan Mitchell, the Department and Camp Officers for their aid in conducting the operation of my office.**

**I wish to thank Brother Jim Pahl, PCinC for his valuable assistance in the editing and publishing of the 139<sup>th</sup> Department Encampment proceedings.**

**This term all reports, forms, and necessary documents have been submitted to National Headquarters well before their required deadline.**

**I encourage anyone who has questions about the preparation and processing of forms, or the processes involved with their duties as Camp Secretary, please do not hesitate to contact me.**

**Also, a couple of reminders, please report the illness or passing of brothers to me and the Department Chaplain as soon as possible. Please mail the appropriate Form 30 to me as quickly as possible.**

**Please be sure that the updated Form 27 Annual Camp Report is used. This is necessary as the fee structure has changed. In respect to the Camp annual reports, they are on par with previous years meaning that they are moving with the speed of a spavined turtle.**

**I do appreciate the hard work of the Camp Secretaries and please feel free to contact me at any time.**

**On another matter, Brothers, we are experiencing a rapid decline in membership. Let me provide some numbers. In the last 2 years with 12 of the Camps having provided their annual reports this year, the numbers are thus.**



**Headquarters  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



**3 Camps disbanded.  
1 Camp suspended.  
13 deaths.  
29 New brothers  
90 Discharge by drop & death.  
7 Honorable Discharges.  
3 transfer out.  
1 termination of Dual status.  
22 members suspended 2024.  
Plus, we have an increase in Life membership.  
All of this is disturbing.**

**Thank you and best regards,  
Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,**

**Richard (Dick) Denney, PCC  
Secretary, Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



## DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

April 27, 2024

### Report of the Department Treasurer

Commander Swain, Officers and Brothers of the Department of Michigan

The Department of Michigan has concluded the financial business of the 2023 Membership Year and our finances continue to be positive. We posted revenues and expenditures from normal operations of the General Fund during 2023 of \$4,188.19 and \$4,223.29 respectively to the General Fund. This resulted in a deficit of revenues over expenses of \$35.10 for the year. This is a result of decreased membership dues over the last several years.

Total Net Assets available amounted to \$34,683.29 as of December 31, 2023. Of that total, \$65.42 is restricted for Gettysburg flag replacement. A total of \$33,578.87 represents unassigned cash that may be disposed of by this Encampment, \$1,039.00 is inventory of Department merchandise available for sale.

The Department of Michigan Permanent Fund reflects a total of \$55,694.96 in total assets, which consists of a permanently restricted balance of \$54,338.95 and a temporarily restricted income accumulation of \$1,356.01.

I wish to report:

1. All bills have been paid, funds received deposited and all required reporting to the National Organization of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War have been submitted in a timely manner.
2. As directed by 2017-2018 Dept. Order #11, all IRS form 990N filings for Camps not opting to be treated as unincorporated associations have been timely filed by the Department Treasurer.
3. All permanent fund assets have been invested in government-backed securities, mutual funds invested in government backed securities or insured certificates of deposit through an Edward Jones account. A net yield of 2.43% on our investment for the year after amortization of bond premiums is improving as older investments mature and are replaced with higher rate ones.

*Organized 1881 – Legal Heir to and Representing the Grand Army of the Republic.*

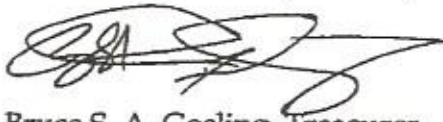


I offer this recommendation for consideration by the Encampment for the coming year:

1. That the proposed 2024 operating budget for the General Fund, attached to this report, be accepted as presented. ☺

I appreciate the trust placed in me by the Brothers of this Department in electing me to the position of Treasurer for this past term of office. It has been an honor to serve the Department, and continue to be proud to be able to offer my professional skills in this position.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,



Bruce S. A. Gosling, Treasurer  
Department of Michigan, SUVCW

Department of Michigan  
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
 Financial Report-General Fund  
 For the Year ended December 31, 2023

**Balance Sheet**

**Assets**

Cash in bank	33,644.29
Site Deposit for 2024 Dept. Encampment	0.00
Due from National Encampment Fund	0.00
Merchandise Inventory - Badges & Blazer Patches	1,039.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>34,683.29</u>

**Liabilities**

0.00

**Fund Equity**

Unrestricted Balance	34,617.87
Transfer from National Encampment Fund	0.00
Restricted Balances	
Rally Round the Flag	65.42
<b>Total Fund Equity</b>	<u>34,683.29</u>

**Total Liabilities & Fund Equity** 34,683.29

**Statement of Revenues and Expenses**

For the Year Ended  
 December 31, 2023

**Revenues**

Per-capita	1,793.20
Departmental Sales	885.00
Dept. Encampment Registration	305.00
Dept. Encampment Meals	588.88
Perm Fund Support-Encampment Costs - 2023	535.04
Donations	81.07
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>4,188.19</u>

**Expenses**

Cost of Goods Sold	292.00
Advertising - Banner & National Encampment	240.00
Shipping Costs	128.76
Department Encampment Costs	1,428.92
Insurance	90.00
Bank Fees	13.00
Donation to GAR Hall	200.00
Technology Costs	719.24
Graves Registration Project	0.00
Eagle Scout Awards	638.00
Kalamazoo Abraham Lincoln Project Donation	0.00
Gettysburg Wreaths	69.09
Officer & Committee Expenses per Guidelines	282.28
Past Dept. Commander Jewel	122.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>4,223.29</u>
<b>Net Revenue (Expense)</b>	<u>-35.10</u>

**Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
Proposed Budget  
Year ending December 31, 2024**

	Actual December 31, 2023	Proposed 2024 Budget
<b>Revenues</b>		
Per-capita	1,793.20	1,800.00
Departmental Sales	885.00	880.00
Dept. Encampment Registration	305.00	320.00
Dept. Encampment Meals	588.88	590.00
Donations	81.04	100.00
Permanent Fund Encampment Support 2023	535.07	530.00
	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>4,188.19</b>	<b>4,220.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Cost of Goods Sold	292.00	290.00
Advertising	240.00	240.00
Postage & Shipping	128.76	140.00
GAR Records	0.00	500.00
Department Archives Project	0.00	0.00
Department Encampment Costs	1,428.92	1,440.00
Bank Fees	13.00	0.00
Insurance	90.00	90.00
102 USCT Monument Pledge	0.00	200.00
Technology Costs	719.24	100.00
Graves Registration Project	0.00	500.00
Eagle Scout Awards	638.00	715.00 *
Donations-Eaton Rapids GAR Hall	200.00	200.00
Donations-Other	0.00	0.00
Gettysburg Wreaths	69.09	70.00
Officer & Committee Expenses (Per guidelines)	282.28	2,050.00
Expected Officer & Committee shortfall in requests	0.00	(2,650.00)
Past C-in-C Gift	0.00	0.00
PDC Badge	122.00	124.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>4,223.29</b>	<b>4,009.00</b>
<b>Net Revenue (Expense)</b>	<b>-35.10</b>	<b>211.00</b>

\* This budget item was increased over the \$500 approved by the Dept. Council for the purchase of Eagle Scout challenge coins to be given as awards.

Budgeted Officer & Committee expenses per Operating Guidelines are \$3,650. Of this budgeted amount, \$782.48 was submitted for reimbursement leaving \$2,867.72 of the budgeted expense not applied for.

**OPERATING BUDGET PERFORMANCE**

**Department of Michigan SUVCW 2023**

REVENUES	Proposed					Total	Difference
	Budget	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter		
Department Per Capita	2,650.00	42.00	1,721.20	28.00	2.00	1,793.20	(856.80)
Sales	750.00	420.00	100.00	160.00	205.00	885.00	135.00
Brochure Sales	0.00						
Donations	50.00	28.57	52.50			81.07	31.07
Perm Fund Costs Support 2023	900.00		535.04			535.04	(364.96)
Encampment Registration	400.00		305.00			305.00	(95.00)
Encampment Meals	0.00	467.70	121.18			588.88	588.88
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>4,750.00</b>	<b>\$ 958.27</b>	<b>\$ 2,834.92</b>	<b>\$ 188.00</b>	<b>\$ 207.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,188.19</b>	<b>\$ (561.81)</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>							
Cost of Goods Sold	200.00	110.50	47.50	67.00	67.00	292.00	92.00
Advertising	192.00	240.00				240.00	48.00
Officer & Committee Expenses	2,250.00	35.43	182.84		64.01	262.28	(1,967.72)
Officer Expenses not Claimed	(1,950.00)						1,950.00
Insurance	90.00	90.00				90.00	
Technology Costs	1,000.00			719.24		719.24	(280.76)
Department Archives Project	100.00						(100.00)
Project GAR Records	500.00						(500.00)
Postage & Shipping	110.00	120.51			8.25	128.76	18.76
Dept. Encampment Exp.	1,300.00		1,428.92			1,428.92	128.92
Eagle Scout Program Awards	500.00		638.00			638.00	138.00
Outreach Committee	500.00						(500.00)
Supplies & Other Expenses	-		13.00			13.00	13.00
Donation to Eaton Rapids GAR	200.00			200.00		200.00	
Past C in C Gift	100.00						(100.00)
102 USCT Monument Pledge	500.00						(500.00)
PDC Jewell	120.00				122.00	122.00	2.00
Donations Approved at Encpmt	-						
Gettysburg Wreaths	40.00				69.09	69.09	29.09
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 5,752.00</b>	<b>\$ 506.44</b>	<b>\$ 2,400.26</b>	<b>\$ 986.24</b>	<b>\$ 330.35</b>	<b>\$ 4,223.29</b>	<b>\$ (1,528.71)</b>
<b>Excess Revenues (Expenses)</b>	<b>\$(1,002.00)</b>	<b>\$ 451.83</b>	<b>\$ 434.66</b>	<b>\$ (798.24)</b>	<b>(123.35)</b>	<b>(35.10)</b>	<b>966.90</b>

REMARKS:

**Department of Michigan**  
**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**  
**Financial Report-Permanent Fund**  
**For the Year Ending December 31, 2023**

**Assets**

Edward Jones Money Market Fund	5,844.37
Schwab Intermediate Term US Treasury	16,404.15
Vanguard Intermediate Term US Treasuru	16,414.21
Farm Credit Bank Bond	7,022.26
Glens Falls NY Pub Impr GO	10,009.97
	0.00
	0.00
	0.00
Accrued Interest Purchased	0.00
Total Assets	<u><u>55,694.96</u></u>

**Net Assets**

Restricted Balance	54,338.95
Temporarily Restricted Balance	1,356.01
Total Fund Equity	<u><u>55,694.96</u></u>

**Statement of Revenues and Expenses**

For the Year Ended  
 December 31, 2023

**Revenues**

Interest Income	557.34
Amortization of Bond Premiums	-20.76
Dividend Income	819.43
Capital Gain Dividends	0.00
Transfer from General Fund	0.00
Total Revenues	<u>1,356.01</u>

**Expenses**

Transfer to General Fund - Encampment Expenses	535.04
Total Expenses	<u>535.04</u>
Net Revenue (Expense)	<u><u>820.97</u></u>

**Report of the Chief of Staff  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
April 27, 2024**

Commander Swain, Officers & Brothers;

It has been a pleasure to serve as your Chief of Staff.

You have kept me quite busy with several assignments that I completed to the best of my ability. These included:

The transfer of materials from the Colgrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22 to our archives at the G.A.R. Museum in Eaton Rapids. I was particularly sad to see this camp close as I signed the charter as Department Commander in 1992.

In August, with Brothers Worley and Shull, you and I flew and then drove to attend the National Encampment in Nashua, New Hampshire. On that trip, I learned that in New England, in order to go north, one must first go south.

At your request I sent out a communique to the Brothers of the Department containing information for those who may be planning to attend the unveiling of the statue of Abraham Lincoln at Kalamazoo on August 27. I am pleased to report that the Sons of Union Veterans were well represented not only by Brothers of several Camps of the Department of Michigan, but the Department of Indiana as well.

When requested by the Camps, I arraigned for Department representatives to officiate at Officer Installations. I personally installed officers for Camps 20 and 58. I was scheduled to install the officers of Camp 135, but that evening a large accident on US 131 involved a semi-truck blocking the highway for several hours, where I sat in the middle of traffic, with nowhere to go. Thus, I was unable to get to the Camp 135 meeting, and called to notify the Brothers. Past Department Commander Chuck Worley ably filled in for me.

Although not a part of my "official" duties as Chief of Staff, I continued as I have for many years to act on behalf of the Department in securing the necessary permit from Gettysburg National Military Park for our participation in the Remembrance Day events.

Various other duties were assigned to me including the organization and execution of various aspects of this Encampment.

I was happy to do whatever I could to help your administration run smoothly. I have no recommendations to make at this time.

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty.

Gary L. Gibson, PDC  
Chief of Staff  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**Report of the G.A.R. Records Officer and Committee  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
April 27, 2024**

Commander Swain, Officers & Brothers

It is my pleasure to report that it has been a very successful year for your G.A.R. Records Committee. Numerous inquiries were received and answered, including one being forwarded by Mr. Matt Van Acker, custodian of the Michigan Battle Flag Collection. Although Matt is a personal friend, his trust in our organization to be THE go-to for questions relating to the Grand Army of the Republic shows the high regard we are held in, even from the State of Michigan.

Your committee continues to seek out records and information related to posts and comrades of the Department of Michigan. The teamwork of your committee, coupled with the willing assistance of a few other Brothers and Sisters, has resulted in the following:

Brother Richard Denney of Camp No. 135, with his connections to the Community Historical Society of Michigan, was able to secure records relating to the B.G. Bennett Post No. 71 of Burr Oak, Michigan, located in St. Joseph County. These records include original copies of intermittent Post Adjutant and Quartermaster records submitted to the Department of Michigan, G.A.R. from 1885 to 1896. A full inventory accompanies this report.

In January I was contacted by a lady from northeastern Wisconsin who was searching for records pertaining to the Wadsworth Post No. 49, which was located in the Village of Lawrence in Van Buren County. Working together, she and I were able to uncover that a piece of those records was recently purchased by the archives of Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. The record they have is one volume of the minutes of the Post, beginning in 1897 through 1904.

Soon after the Department Encampment last year, Brother David Smith, PDC, contacted me about a trip he and Brother Dale Aurand, PDC, took to Forest Hill Cemetery, located in Evart, in Osceola County. While there, they found a monument that has a bronze plaque that list every member of Sedgwick Post No. 16, and Corps No. 187, of the Woman's Relief Corps. Brother Dave took a photo of the plaque and forward it to this office.

Although not related to Post records, Brother Rick Danes forwarded an inquiry to me as the Secretary of Pritchard Camp No. 20, about the grave of a veteran in a local cemetery. The inquiry was from a great-great granddaughter of Wellington Shook, a Private of Co. K, 54<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry, whose grave was unmarked. In working with the veteran's descendant, I assisted in the process of ordering the headstone and then setting it at the grave, with the assistance of Department Commander Gary Swain. It is very rewarding to be able to help a veteran's family member in such a way. Of course, I encouraged her to join one of the Allied Orders.

I have no recommendations.

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Gary L. Gibson, PDC  
G.A.R. Records Officer  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

## **Inventory of Records**

**B.G. Bennett Post No. 71, G.A.R., Burr Oak, Michigan**

**8 April 2024**

### **Adjutant's Reports (Copies for Post Files)**

31 December 1884

28 June 1883

Third Quarter, 1884 – not filled out

31 December 1884

10 June 1885

31 December 1885

30 June 1886

3 January 1888

2 April 1888

4 January 1889

27 December 1893

6 January 1896

31 December 1896

### **Combined Reports of Adjutant and Quartermaster (Copy for Post Files)**

31 December 1896

### **Quartermaster's Reports (Copies for Post Files)**

31 March 1885

1 October 1886

30 June 1887

30 September 1887

5 April 1888

8 October 1888

3 January 1888

30 June 1889

30 September 1889

31 December 1889

12 April 1890

1 July 1890

31 December 1890

31 December 1891

30 June 1892

31 December 1892

30 June 1893

30 June 1895

6 January 1896



### **Misc. Items**

Key to the Cypher for passwords & countersigns  
Receipt for dues of Davis M. Wait 27 April 1891

Statement from U.S. Pension Agency for payment of \$67.73 4 June 1889 (No Name)

Envelope from Assistant Adjutant General, Department of Michigan, G.A.R. at Lansing, addressed to M. Marvin, Adjutant of Post 71, no date, empty

Envelope from Assistant Adjutant General, Department of Michigan, G.A.R. at Flint, Michigan, addressed to Commander of Post 71 Burr Oak, Michigan. Dated 5 March, 1889, empty.

Envelope from the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Pensions, Washington, D.C., addressed to Davis M. Wait at Jackson, Michigan. Dated 23 December 1918. Empty.

Receipt from B.G. Bennett Post for \$12.50 for "second quarter rent on Hall" signed by Jerusha A Ribbe. Dated 17 April, 1889.

Requisition form for reimbursement to Edward A Cross from B.G. Bennett Post No. 71, for the amount of 50 cents. Dated 14 January 1890. Signed by D.M. Wait, Post Commander.

Department Chaplain's Report  
140<sup>th</sup> Department Encampment  
Department of Michigan, SUVCW  
April 27, 2024

Brothers:

During the past year, the Camps of the Department witnessed the passing of five brothers. They are:

Brother Lamont Sible of Alexander French Camp 28 on 09 October 2023;

Brother Joseph Edward Osborn of Albert & James Lyon Camp 266 on October 12, 2022;

Brother William W. Giegerich of Robert Finch Camp 14 on September 12, 2023;

Brother James Harris of Israel B. Richardson Camp 2 on April 14, 2023; and

Brother Gerald Richard Watson of Wa-Bu-No Camp 250 on February 18, 2023.

During the past year, I served as chairman on the J. Richard Greene Award Committee.

To help the Department Chaplain in his duties, I urge the various Camp Secretaries to inform the Chaplain of any serious health problems of any Brother and of any death within their Camp. It is the policy of the Chaplain to send get-well cards to the sick, and to inform the Department of the passing of a Brother and to send a sympathy card to the family.

At the invitation of Gov. Crapo Camp 145, I participated in both the Memorial Day and Veterans Day Observances at the Soldier's and Sailor's Monument in the City of Flushing Cemetery.

As the Encampment takes place during the Season of Easter, I do pray a most joyous Easter to all the Brothers of the Department of Michigan and their families. Our Captain in the well-fought fight is risen! He is risen indeed, hallelujah!

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,  
Chaplain Charles F. Buckhahn, PCC  
Department Chaplain, Department of Michigan, SUVCW



Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of  
the Civil War  
Office of the Department of  
the Department Color  
Bearer



Commander and Brothers assembled,

Several years ago. A request was given to me to be the Color Bearer for the Department of Michigan. It has been an honor to be caretaker of those "Colors" for the year 2023-2024. It is an honor I cherish and to the best of my ability, try to fulfill. Throughout the past year the "Colors" have been in many parades, ceremonies, and dedications in and around Michigan and several other states. Just recently, the "Colors" were at the Remembrance services at Lincoln's Tomb and the Dr. Stephenson memorial.

Fast approaching is Memorial Day, both observed and traditional, the day when we remember those who, in the words of President Lincoln, "Gave the last full measure of devotion".

Other notable dates, but certainly not all to fly the flag are: May 18, Armed Forces Day, June 6, D-Day, July 4<sup>th</sup> Independence Day, September 11, Patriots Day, November 11, Veterans Day, and December 7, Pearl Harbor Day, to name a few.

We should always fly our Flag with pride!

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Loyalty, and Charity,

Edgar Dowd, PCC  
Color Bearer  
Department of Michigan  
SUVCW



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
**DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN**  
OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT COUNSELOR

NATHAN L. SMITH, PDC



**DEPARTMENT COUNSELORS'S REPORT**  
**SERIES: 2021-2022**

**DATE: 27 April 2024**

Brothers of the Department of Michigan,

It has been a pleasure serving as the Department Counselor for the 2023-2024 term. I would like to thank our Department Commander, Gary Swain for putting his faith into me to serve in this appointment and would also like to thank all of the Department Officers for the countless hours they put in to make this organization tick. During this administrative term I assisted the Department Commander with providing official opinions and offering advice on a range of topics concerning the organization.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Nathan L. Smith, PCC  
Commander, Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

# Eagle Scout Report

md22lamphere <md22lamphere@yahoo.com>

Wed 1/31/2024 8:20 PM

To: cwsonvet@hotmail.com <cwsonvet@hotmail.com>; Lloyd Lamphere <wanda60@lentel.com>

📎 2 attachments (218 KB)

EagleScoutReport13124.pages; EagleScoutReport13124.docx;

TO: MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF SUVCW  
FROM: LLOYD D LAMPHERE, SR EAGLE SCOUT COORDINATOR  
DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 2024  
SUBJECT: EAGLE SCOUT REPORT

Miles Driven: 1917  
48 Eagle Scout Awards Presented  
4-15-23 Cameron Steele  
4-15-23 Clayton Austin  
4-15-23 James Tottingham  
4-15-23 Alex Michael-Aaron Tease  
4-23-23 Andrew James Romanski  
4-23-23 Joshua Joseph Grondhofer  
5-4-23 Tristan Dee Graves Hutchinson  
5-4-23 Riley David Truog  
5-4-23 Noah Henry Will  
5-4-23 Abigail Louise Wakeley  
5-4-23 Jacob Donald Snover  
5-4-23 Benjamin Michael Lober  
5-4-23 Cole James Harding  
5-4-23 Kathryn Rose Hanes  
5-4-23 Joseph Robert Gantlet  
5-4-23 Corbin Eaton  
5-4-23 Jacob Michael Carnes  
5-4-23 Case Jacob Brooks  
5-4-23 Trey William Harding  
5-4-23 Alexander Cole Macpherson  
5-4-23 Lucian Christopher Averill  
5-4-23 Ford Edward Brown  
5-4-23 George Allen Decker  
5-4-23 Aaron Niedecken  
5-4-23 Johnathon Edward Vandrie  
5-4-23 Benjamin David Leman  
5-28-23 Sam Cole  
5-28-23 Wyatt Reid  
5-28-23 Micah Withal  
6-12-23 Alexander Kevin France  
8-13-23 Colin Walpole  
9-10-23 Lukas Dimaria  
9-16-23 Liam Drake  
10-28-23 Ethan Slovinski  
12-10-23 Jackson Goodwill  
12-10-23 Quentin Goodwill  
12-17-23 Melissa Castaneda

2-10-24 Conor James O'Neil  
2-10-24 Michael Mason Hull  
2-10-24 Harvey Jacob Lebeau  
3-2-24 Zachary Douglas Wieler  
3-15-24 John Ostrander

## EXPENSES/POSTAGE

04-03-23 \$2.46  
04-08-23 \$1.11  
05-01-23 \$1.74  
06-08-23 \$5.22  
06-15-23 \$1.74  
11-23-23 \$3.03  
Total \$15.30

Supplies on hand Start 1-1-23

64 Eagles Scout Certificates  
14 Large 6" Patches  
20 Small 3" Patches  
21 Challenge Coins

Supplies on hand at Start 1-1-24  
492 Eagle Scout Challenge Coins (New)  
7 Small 3" Patches  
24 Large 6" Patches  
21 Challenge coins (metal)  
14 Certificates

A big thank you to David Wallace who prints the certificates and letters of the commendation for each Eagle Scout.

A big thank you to Dean Lamphere and Rob Payne for the development of the new Eagle Scout challenge coins. We purchased 500 at the cost of \$740 which is much cheaper than the medal ones \$14.00 each and going up.

Respectfully submitted:  
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

Lloyd D. Lamphere, Sr.  
Eagle Scout Coordinator

I hope this works on your end.

I'm Lloyd Lamphere son Mark D Lamphere

Sent from my iPad

TO: MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF SUVCW  
FROM: LLOYD D LAMPHERE, SR EAGLE SCOUT COORDINATOR  
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8-13-23 Colin Walpole  
9-10-23 Lukas Dimaria  
9-16-23 Liam Drake  
10-28-23 Ethan Slovinski  
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12-10-23 Quentin Goodwill  
12-17-23 Melissa Castaneda  
  
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EXPENSES/POSTAGE

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Respectfully submitted:  
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

Lloyd D. Lamphere, Sr.  
Eagle Scout Coordinator





## SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC  
Aide-de-Camp – Department Commander  
1062 Four Seasons Blvd  
Aurora, Illinois 60504

24 April 2024

Gary Swain  
Department Commander  
140<sup>th</sup> Encampment of the Department of Michigan  
Son of Union Veterans of the Civil War

RE: Appointed Offices Report of L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC

Department Commander Swain, Sir,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and your administration during your time in office this last year.

I worked on several projects:

- Through the assistance of Robert Payne, PDC and Lloyd Lamphere, Sr., PCC – Eagle Scout Coordinator we have completed the Eagle Scout award as a path to show the tie between the Union Veterans, the Boy Scouts of America and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.
- Exploring the use for QR Code bar codes for getting access to key information. I have prepared examples of 10 quick shortcuts that any member might find useful with instructions are to scan and use. These could be a way to share information with others inquiring about the SUVCW. The “dot.card” project lowest cost I can get is \$15.00 per card but not the custom cards as initially thought. The custom card option would cost \$50.00+ per card. If the council wishes to discuss further, we can at the next scheduled meeting.

If the incoming Department Commander wishes for me to continue in this capacity that is welcome.

Respectfully in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC



## SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC  
Camp-at-Large Coordinator  
1062 Four Seasons Blvd  
Aurora, Illinois 60504

24 April 2024

Gary Swain  
Department Commander  
140<sup>th</sup> Encampment of the Department of Michigan  
Son of Union Veterans of the Civil War

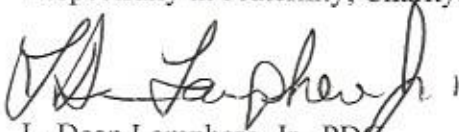
RE: Appointed Offices Report of L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC

Department Commander Swain, Sir,

Respectfully after much internal debate and turmoil I respectfully report that if selected by the incoming Department Commander to serve as Camp at Large Coordinator, in the coming year this will be my last term at this post. This is a post that I have been appointed to under four different and separate terms, with the last being since 2020-2021 command year.

We have had no adds or transfers during this reporting year and stand at 15 members strong. We have one transfer that will soon be in process and one new member application in the works. Completing these in the coming months should leave us at 15 members forecasted in the coming term.

Respectfully in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

  
L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC

Report of the Civil War Memorials Officer for the 140<sup>th</sup> Annual Department of Michigan  
Encampment, Saturday April 27, 2024

I would like to report that the records of the Michigan Memorials and Monuments erected to the Veterans of the Civil War is in possession and secure.

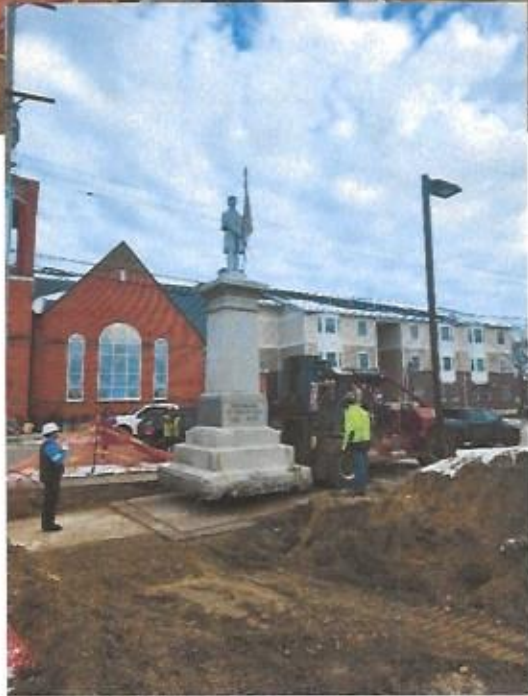
On April 1, 2023 I was nominated and elected as an officer of the department of Michigan Monuments and Memorials. On October 10, 2023 I met with Brother John McGill of the Sgt. John S. Cosbey Camp 427 and the transition of records to my possession was made. As of October 10, 2023, I assumed the responsibility of these records.

Prior to me taking possession of the records on April 28, 2023 I received an email addressed to myself, the Officer of the Monuments and Memorials from concerned Brothers "stating" that they heard on the Channel 7 Detroit News that they planned on taking down the Soldiers and Sailors Monument at Campus Martius Park in Detroit, Michigan. They said it was for planning purposes for the 2024 NFL Draft. After making phone calls and reaching out to different media sources I found this not to be the case.

On Sunday, August 27, 2023, the Lincoln Stature dedication took place at Bronson Park in Kalamazoo, Michigan. This dedication will be covered in Department of Michigan Commander Brother Gary Swain's report.

On December 6, 2023, I was notified that they were excavating around the 1904 statue of the Civil War Union Soldier on the southeast corner of Allegan's Courthouse square. So, at that time I drove to downtown Allegan and approached the work crew and identified myself as the Department of Michigan Monuments and Memorials Officer for the SUVCW and I was informed by Matt Wilson, Project Manager from Freedom Construction that because of the renovations in downtown Allegan, including expansion of the courthouse they had been contracted to move the statue. Matt put me in contact with Carrie Wilson, owner of Freedom Construction and we discussed plans going forward. On December 20, 2023, I once again met with Matt and Carrie Wilson along with the Allegan County board of commissioners to share history of the statue and witness the moving of the statue to the northwest corner of the courthouse square. It was also discussed that there would be a future dedication ceremony.







Page 3 of 4

#### Plans for 2024

- A) Work on better familiarization and organization of documents as the Memorials and Monuments Officer for the Department of Michigan
  
- B) Contact the Memorials and Monuments Officers from each camp and get an inventory of the monuments, memorials and cannons in their respective areas and compare them to the current documents.

It has been an honor to serve as the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War as the Monuments and Memorials Officer. I am looking forward to working with and assisting each Camp and updating and keeping current the documents at hand.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Len Sheaffer

Memorials and Monuments Officer, Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Camp Commander-General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20

April 8, 2024

Commander and Brothers of the Department of Michigan,

This has been a hectic year for the Signals Officer and Webmaster. I have been hard at work maintaining the department Website. I have been able to proactively maintain the Department Website, uploading all Department and General Orders in a timely manner, Uploading the Michigan's Messenger shortly after it is produced.

Looking back at last year's recommendations, we are still working on many of the items I pointed out last year.

1. The Department still needs to move to a new style of Website. With the following criteria:
  1. A template based, Content managed system, probably WordPress. This is due to the reduced number of Brothers able to code. WordPress is also included in our Web Hosting Service at BlueHost. A Limited technical advise contract has been procured.
  2. A Web Redesign committee was created. It continues to be a work in progress.
2. The Department discontinued it's support of a Department Graves database and moved our information to National. We now need to decide how long we will maintain the graves URLs and the information stored on the database.
3. The Department stil needs to actively seek brothers with a desire to assist in the technology areas of the Order. These could be new brothers or current brothers who have not been reached out to.
4. I recommend that every camp in the Department, who has their online information published by the Department, submit to the Webmaster, no later than 2 weeks after the installation of their Camp Officers, the information they want published on the Department Website for their camp. **This has not been followed through on by the camps**, as a result, many camp pages remain outdated. ☹

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Robert R Payne, PDC  
Department Signals Officer  
Department Webmaster





Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
Department of Michigan

David F. Wallace, PDC  
507 Oakbrook Circle  
Flushing, Michigan 48433-1706  
dwallace@govcrapocamp145.org



REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN

April 27, 2024

Commander,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and your administration as Historian during this term. Unfortunately, an unexpected health issue impacted on my ability to fulfill my responsibilities, and I appreciate your assistance with these duties, especially with the handling of several Camp closures within our Department during this term. Regarding Camp closures, I would recommend that the Department consider drafting a simple procedure and checklist to assist with the orderly closure and accounting for all equipment, Charter, monies, and coordinating with the Department Secretary in determining the status of any remaining Camp members. It is my understanding that the National Organization is in the process of finalizing a memorandum of understanding with Michigan's GAR Memorial Hall & Museum in Eaton Rapids, our Departments' designated repository for closed Camp materials, so this can also be addressed as part of the procedure/checklist. I would be willing to assist in this effort. Again, thank you for your assistance and support during this term.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

David F. Wallace, PDC



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVILWAR  
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN



Office of the Editor –*Michigan's Messenger*

*To Department Commander Gary L. Swain and the Attendees of the 140th Department of Michigan Annual Encampment,*

*Greetings.*

*This will serve as the final report for the year 2023-2024 activities of the Editor of Michigan's Messenger the official newsletter of the Department of Michigan Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.*

*Currently, Michigan's Messenger is sent electronically to all Camps within the Department. In addition, Michigan's Messenger is sent to all Department Officers and to the Commander-in-Chief*

*Each of the quarterly editions were completed and released on time, and at the 2011 National Encampment, the Messenger was awarded its third Marshall Hope Award for the best Department Newsletter in the Nation.*

*As Officers and Camps continue to submit articles that they want to share with the Department, and as Camps supply me with current e-mail addresses, Michigan's Messenger will continue to be the nationally recognized publication that it is today, and will be provided to the Membership at no cost.*

*Under the Department Commander's leadership, Michigan's Messenger continues to flourish, and remains a publication second to none in the National Organization.*

*I remain your faithful servant in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,*

*Richard E. Danes, PCC  
Editor Michigan's Messenger\_  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*



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



**OFFICE OF THE GRAVES REGISTRATION  
OFFICER**

*To Department Commander Gary L. Swain and the Attendees of the 140th Department of Michigan Annual Encampment,*

*Greetings.*

*This will serve as the final report for the year 2023 - 2024 of the activities of the Department Graves Registration Committee.*

*Reiterating my report from past years, the achievements of the Committee, although significant, did not meet the stated goals of previous year's Committee Reports - we were not able to recover all graves related records from all camps, and although we encouraged all camps to appoint an active Graves Registration Officer (CGRO), some camps still fail to do so. I will be happy to share the Camps that do not participate at a later time.*

*The Committee met twice this year, creating a meaningful dialog that is useful to Camp Graves Registration Officers and provided a forum to express ideas, concerns, and to spend time teaming about the resources available to them.*

*We use a handbook developed by the committee that standardizes abbreviations, sources, and report content.*

*Starting in 2023, we are no longer updating the Michigan Graves Database. It will still be available to utilize, but we recommend using the National Graves Database at [www.suvcwdb.org](http://www.suvcwdb.org) for the latest information. As always, we are continuing to support the National Graves database.*

*Under the Department Commander's leadership, the Department of Michigan Graves Registration Program continues to flourish, and remains a program second to none in the National Organization.*

*I remain your faithful servant in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,*

*Richard E. Danes, PCC  
Graves Registration Officer  
Department of Michigan, and Member  
National Graves Registration Committee  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

**Appendix C**  
**Committee Reports**



## SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC  
Ceremonies and Rituals – Chair  
1062 Four Seasons Blvd  
Aurora, Illinois 60504

24 April 2024

Gary Swain  
Department Commander  
140<sup>th</sup> Encampment of the Department of Michigan  
Son of Union Veterans of the Civil War

RE: Ceremony and Rituals Committee

Department Commander Swain, Sir,

We have seen the Department of Michigan and the Camps of the Department participate in the Lincoln Tomb Service, Memorial Day and Decoration Day Services as well as honoring our veterans on Veterans Day and Remembrance Day activities in Gettysburg. They are well attended and well received at the events. This is a good sign the members of the Department of Michigan are standing up and remembering our ancestors wishes and instructions.

This year at the Lincoln Tomb Service we did not see as many participants as we have in previous years. We would respectfully request that the Department Commander through Department Secretary communicate with the other Departments of the Order encouraging them to participate in the Lincoln Tomb Service in Springfield, Illinois at Oak Ridge Cemetery where President Lincoln is buried. Next years' service is planned for 12 April 2025 at 10:00am. There is also an additional opportunity to participate with the brothers from the Department of Illinois at the Dr. Stephenson Grave for a service that same day in the afternoon time to be defined but generally after 3:00pm.

Respectfully in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

  
L. Dean Lamphere, Jr. PDC

**Appendix D**  
**Correspondence**

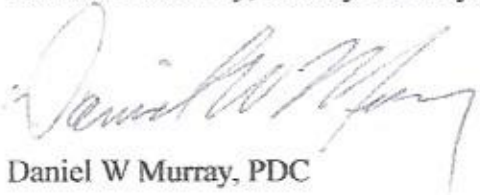
January 26, 2023

Brother Secretary,

I am writing to you today to announce my intention to run for the office of Junior Vice Commander in Chief and to ask for your Departments consideration and support at the 143<sup>rd</sup> National Encampment that is going to be held in Lexington, Kentucky. Enclosed you will find my letter of intent along with my resume.

If time allows at your Department Encampment, I ask that you present my letter of intent and resume to the Department Officers and Delegates attending your Encampment. This will help to better inform the Brothers attending about me as they review the candidates and decide their choices for the office of Junior Vice Commander in Chief.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Daniel W. Murray".

Daniel W Murray, PDC

I hold a commission as a Captain in the Sons of Veterans Reserve, serving as the Adjutant for the First Military District, covering the Departments of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. I joined the SVR in 2005 as a member of Co A 12<sup>th</sup> New Hampshire Volunteers and later served as First Sergeant of the Unit from 2012-2019.

I have served on four National Host Committees, two as Chairman ( 2005 &2023) and two as a member (2008 &2018). I have also been on numerous Host Committees for both the Department of New Hampshire and the Department of Massachusetts Annual Encampments. I have organized the Massachusetts Department Bus trips to Remembrance Day for the past 13 years.

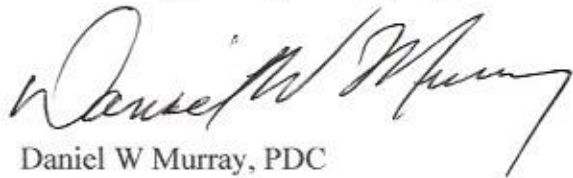
The Department of Massachusetts has honored me by making me the recipient of the Roger L. Olsen Award as the Department's Brother of the Year two times.

I was also honored to have been a member for 10 years of the State of New Hampshire Civil War Memorials Commission. I have been a member of the New Hampshire Battle flags Preservation Committee since 2003.

I served the Town of Allentown NH on several appointed committees and was elected to a 3-year term on the towns budget committee. I have been a member of the American Legion since 1985 and have served my post as Vice Commander, Finance Officer, and Chaplain. I was also the District Chaplain. I have been a member of Jewell Lodge 94 F&AM.

I would like to thank you for your consideration and respectfully ask for your support and vote at the 143<sup>rd</sup> National Encampment in Lexington KY,

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Daniel W. Murray". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Daniel W Murray, PDC



Daniel W Murray  
40 Lake Rd  
Brentwood, NH 03833  
d\_lmurray@yahoo.com  
603-340-6571



At the encouragement of fellow Brothers, and after careful contemplation, I have decided to announce my intention to run for the office of Junior Vice Commander in Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and am seeking your support for my candidacy.

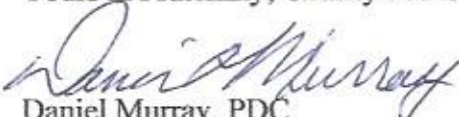
I claim eligibility through my ancestor Sgt Andrew J Kelley, Co E 1<sup>st</sup> United States Sharpshooters.

I am a member of WW Brown Camp 1, Department of New Hampshire and hold dual membership in Charles A Bond Camp 104, Department of Massachusetts. I have been a member of the Order for 25 years and have served in every elected office at the Camp and Department level.

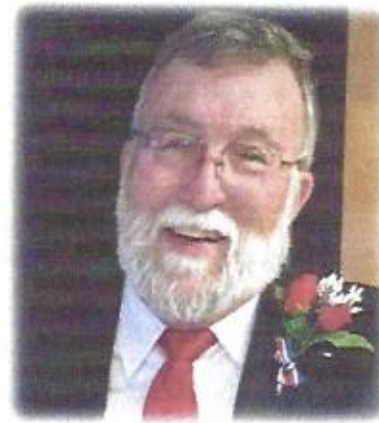
I am the current National Secretary and have also served one term on the National Council of Administration. I have been the Department Secretary/Treasurer for 9+ terms and have performed secretarial duties with several other organizations including Adjutant of the First Military District.

I have tried to represent the interests of the Order and all Brothers to the very best of my abilities. Therefore, I humbly come to you today and ask for your support and for your vote at this year's National Encampment in Lexington Ky.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

  
Daniel Murray, PDC

**Daniel Murray**  
**Candidate for Junior Vice Commander in Chief**



It has been my great honor to serve you and this Order for the last two years as National Secretary. I have tried to represent the interests of the Order and all Brothers to the very best of my abilities. Therefore, I humbly come to you today and ask for your support and for your vote for Junior Vice Commander in Chief at this year's National Encampment in Lexington Ky.

I have been an active member of the SUVCW for 25 years and belong to W.W Brown Camp 1 in the Department of New Hampshire. I claim eligibility through my ancestor Sgt Andrew J Kelley, 1<sup>st</sup> United States Sharpshooters. He mustered into "E" Co on 8/8/1861 as a Private. He re-enlisted on 1/2/1864. When the 1<sup>st</sup> was disbanded, he was transferred out on 9/15/1864 into "G" Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> US Sharpshooters. He was promoted to Corporal on 3/1/1864 and then Sergeant on 7/1/1864. When the 2<sup>nd</sup> was disbanded, he was transferred into the 5<sup>th</sup> NH Vol Inf and was mustered out on 6/28/1865.

I served for three years in the United States Army, enlisting during the Vietnam War and served as a radar operator on a Nike Missile site with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Missile Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Artillery in the Federal Republic of Germany. I attained the rank of Specialist E-4 before being honorably separated. I also then served two years in the New Hampshire National Guard with the 3643<sup>rd</sup> Maintenance Co.

At the National level I am currently the National Secretary and have served on the National Council of Administration (2005-2008), National Committee on Civil War Grant Fund (2005-2008), and the National Military Affairs Committee (2004-2005).

I served 5 terms as New Hampshire Department Commander ( 2002-2004, 2005-2007, 2012-2013). I also served as the Department Junior Vice Commander and Senior Vice Commander. I served in all of the elected positions at the Camp level. As a dual member of Camp 104, Department of Massachusetts I served for two terms as Massachusetts Department Commander, 2018-2020. I have served in every elected position in the Department, including Department Secretary, Department Treasurer and Department Council. I also served the New England Regional Association SUVCW as both the Vice-Commander (2002-2003) and as the New England Regional Commander (2003-2004).

**Alan L. Russ, PDC**  
**Old Abe Camp 16, Department of Kansas**  
2825 Crystal Lake Drive  
Salina, Kansas 67401  
Email: [secretary@suvcwks.org](mailto:secretary@suvcwks.org)

### **Candidate for National Secretary**

Brothers,

I am announcing my candidacy for the office of National Secretary at the August 2024 National Encampment. This is for the unexpired portion of the current term of office, which ends in 2025 and is based upon the current secretary being successful in his pursuit of election to the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief this August.



It has been my pleasure to have been a member of the SUVCW with Old Abe Camp 16, Department of Kansas, since 1998. I am a direct descendant of my great grandfather, Private George Henry Russ who served with Company I, 28<sup>th</sup> New Jersey Infantry, and my great-great grandfather Private Henry Camp who served with Company A, 71<sup>st</sup> New York State Militia. Additionally, four of my great-great grand uncles served the Union in the Civil War.

I have been involved with the National Organization for almost twenty years, serving on various committees and National Membership-at-Large Coordinator until 2023. Additionally, I served as National Chief of Staff under CinC Brad Schall, was on the Council of Administration from 2010-2011, served as National Secretary from 2013 to 2016 and was served again as National Secretary from April to August 2022.

At the Department of Kansas I held most elected positions, including Department Commander. Additionally, I have been the Department of Kansas Secretary for over seventeen years and still hold that position.

I believe we need to continue to encourage a strong working relationship between the National Organization and the Departments. I will be proactive in working with Departments to ensure the needs and requirements are met. I also have a strong working relationship with the National Headquarters through my current position as Department Secretary and previously having been National Secretary. I have strived to ensure all requirements were met correctly and in a timely manner, and I will continue that same commitment as National Secretary.

With this, I ask for your support of me to be National Secretary again.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

  
Alan L. Russ, PDC

See attached resumé.

April 18, 2024

# Resumé

## Alan L. Russ, PDC

### Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War:

Life Member, Old Abe Camp 16, Department of Kansas  
Dual Member, Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4, Department of Kansas

### **Camp Level:**

Camp Commander, Old Abe Camp 16, 2001  
Secretary/Treasurer, Old Abe Camp 16, 2004-2009  
Secretary/Treasurer, Sgt. Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4, 2005

### **Department of Kansas:**

Department Council 2000-2001  
Senior Vice Department Commander, 2001-2002  
Department Commander, 2002-2003  
Department Secretary/Treasurer, 2004-2007, 2008-2019  
Department Secretary, 2021-present  
Recipient, Captain Patrick H. Coney Award for Brother of the Year (2004)  
Recipient, Leander Stillwell Outstanding Achievement Award (2006)  
Recipient, Department Emeritus Status (2007)

### **National Organization:**

National Secretary, 2013-2016 and 4/2022-8/2022  
Member, National Policy and Procedures Committee, 2003-2011 (served as acting chair for 8 months in 2010)  
Member, National Constitution and Regulations Committee, 2011-2013 and 2022-2024  
National Chief of Staff, 2010-2011  
Member, National Council of Administration, 2010-2011  
Recipient, Meritorious Service Award with Gold Start (2007)  
Recipient, Cornelious F. Whitehouse Award for Outstanding Member (2011)

### **Education:**

A.S., Business Administration, Marymount College of Kansas (1978)  
B.A., Computer Information Technology, Washburn University of Topeka (1986)

### **Employment:**

Federal Civil Service with Kansas Army National Guard and U.S. Coast Guard in both Military Personnel and computer programming areas  
System Analyst (Plant Computer Systems), Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corp.  
Inventory Analyst (Materials Management), Westar Energy.  
Retired July 2010

### **Military Service:**

Active duty with U.S. Army as Army Postal Clerk, 1969-1972  
Kansas Army National Guard (Civil Service and active duty) in Military Personnel (1972-1990)  
U.S. Army Reserve Control Group (retired) 1990-2009  
U.S. Army (Retired) 2009 as Chief Warrant Officer-2

## **Appendix E**

### **Special and Standing Committee Reports**



The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
Department of Michigan  
Resource Allocation Committee  
Committee Report

Bruce S. A. Gosling, Chairman  
20388 US Highway 12  
White Pigeon, MI 49099

Brothers,

Department Commander Swain issued Dept. Order #9 following the acceptance by the 139<sup>th</sup> annual Encampment's of the Dept. Treasurer's recommendation to create a committee to explore possible avenues of using funds accumulated in excess of the operating needs to better further the work of the Order and the Department of Michigan. The Order creates the Department Resource Allocation Committee and charged it with defining a sustainable and equitable allocation of financial resources in excess of Department operational needs. These opportunities should be in line with the overall educational and charitable goals of the Order as a whole and be pursuant to the five-year strategic plan of the Department.

**Background:**

On February 8, 2017 the National Organization of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) was granted IRC Section 501(c)(3) status by the Internal Revenue Service. Its stated mission is "To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic; to honor all those who have served our nation; to teach patriotism, the duties of citizenship, the true history of our country and love the flag; to oppose every tendency or movement that would weaken loyalty to, destroy, or impair our constitutional union; and to inculcate and sustain the principles of representative government, equal rights, and justice for all."

As a subordinate unit filing under the exempt status of the Nation Order of the SUVCW, the Department of Michigan SUVCW also enjoys the benefit of the 501(c)(3) status. It also is subject to the requirements to maintain that status by acting to carry out the mission of the National Order of the SUVCW. This requirement argues against accumulating large sums of money in favor of spending it to further that mission.

At December 31, 2023 the Department of Michigan SUVCW (Department) reported cash balance in the General Fund of \$33,644.29 and an invested balance in the Permanent Fund of \$55,694.96. The annual operating budget of the Department is under \$5,000. Further, the Department has consistently reported profitable or near break even results of operations. These balances have been enhanced by successfully hosting National Encampments for the SUVCW in 2017 and 2022 which resulted in a combined profit of \$16,621.86. These finances would argue to excess accumulated funds that could be expended to pursue the mission of the SUVCW in a range of \$15,000 to \$20,000.

As a result of the foregoing, the Department Treasurer made a recommendation to the 139<sup>th</sup> Department Encampment to form a committee to explore possible uses for the accumulation of cash. This was approved and led to the issuance of Department Order #9 by Department Commander Swain.

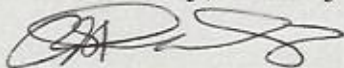
### **Recommendations of Committee:**

The committee, consisting of Dept. Treasurer Bruce Gosling PCC Chairman, Terrence McKinch PDC, David Kimble DJVC and Brother John Bennett. The committee solicited ideas from the Department membership at large and then met on December 9, 2023, January 6, 2024, February 3, 2024 and March 23, 2024 via Zoom to evaluate and formulate proposals to present to the 140<sup>th</sup> Department Encampment for consideration. Our proposals are as follows with details attached to this report:

- Department of Michigan Eagle Scout Scholarship Program
- Department of Michigan Camp Grant Program
- Financial support for a Michigan monument at the Antietam Battlefield

Finally, it is the recommendation that this committee be reappointed for the 2024 fiscal year of the Department to evaluate success of any of these proposals that are accepted and make recommendations to the 141<sup>st</sup> Department Encampment accordingly.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,



Bruce Gosling, Chairman  
Resource Allocation Committee  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

### **Dept. of Michigan Eagle Scout Scholarship Program**

This proposal would create a pool of funds to be made available for providing scholarships to youths residing in the State of Michigan who have received their Eagle Scout designation thereby furthering the objectives of the Order. Qualified applications would be reviewed for approval by a committee consisting of the Dept. Eagle Scout Coordinator, the Dept. Patriotic Instructor and one other member appointed annually by the Department Commander.

The total pool for making scholarships will be for a maximum of two \$1,000 awards for the 2024-25 academic year. The success of this program will be reviewed and recommendation made to the 141<sup>st</sup> Department of Michigan Encampment for determination of continuing or terminating the program.

Qualifying youths would be residents of the State of Michigan who have graduated high school and have received their Eagle Scout Award. Membership in one of the allied orders will not be a requirement for consideration.

The application will be in a format based on the National Organization of SUVCW scholarship program applications. The Eagle Scout Scholarship Committee will be charged with developing the scholarship application subject to Dept. Council approval.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Bruce Gosling, Chairman  
Resource Allocation Committee  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



### **Dept. of Michigan Camp Grant Matching Program**

This proposal would create a pool of funds to be made available for providing Camps of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War with matching grants for funding projects furthering the objectives of the Order. Qualified proposals would be reviewed for approval by a committee appointed annually by the Department Commander.

The total pool for making grants will be \$5,000. Grants will be on a dollar-for-dollar matching basis for funds raised for the project by the applying Camp up to a maximum of \$500 annually. Total grants available for award in any given year to all Camps of the Dept. of MI will be a maximum of \$1,000.

Once the \$5,000 pool is expended, the program will be terminated unless renewed by a future Encampment of the Department of Michigan.

Qualifying Camps would be members of the Department of Michigan SUVCW that are not under suspension by the Department Commander or National Organization of the SUVCW.

The application will be in a format based on the National Organization and/or SUVCW Foundation monument grant program applications. The Camp Grant Committee will be charged with developing the grant application subject to Dept. Council approval.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Bruce Gosling, Chairman  
Resource Allocation Committee  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN**  
**OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER**

GARY L. SWAIN DC, PCC

**+HEADQUARTERS+**  
697 WYNDING OAKS, KALAMAZOO, MI 49006



**ANTIETAM MICHIGAN MONUMENT PROPOSAL**

The Michigan Civil War Association (MCWA) is currently conducting a fund drive to place a monument commemorating Michigan's Civil War soldier's participation the Civil War Battle of Antietam. The monument will be placed in the Antietam Battlefield located in Sharpsburg, MD. Michigan Colonel Norman G. Hall will be the model for the monument. The MCWA has procured an easement, near the Dunker Church, on property now owned by the Battlefield Preservation Trust.

Michigan played a significant role at Antietam. Three Michigan Generals commanded Divisions including MG Israel B. Richardson, BG Orlando Wilcox and BG Alpheus Williams. Michigan regiments engaged in the battle included the: 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Cavalry, 1<sup>st</sup> Mich. Inf., 7<sup>th</sup> Mich. Inf., 4<sup>th</sup> Mich. Inf., 8<sup>th</sup> Mich. Inf., 16<sup>th</sup> Mich. Inf., 17<sup>th</sup> Mich. Inf., plus Brady's Co. of the 1<sup>st</sup> Mich. Sharpshooters and Co B of the 2<sup>nd</sup> U. S. Sharpshooters.

The Board of Directors of the MCWA include several well known Civil War historians, preservations and friends of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War including Matt VanAcker, Jack Dempsey, Brian Egon, Jack Egon, Dave Finney, Margaret O'Brien and others. The proceeds from the sale of several Michigan related history books, authored by members of the Board, are dedicated to funding this project.

The financial goal of the MCWA is to collect a total of \$225,000 which is intended to cover all costs associated with the monument's creation, placement and perpetual care thereafter. They have to-date collected approximately \$60,000 toward that goal.

- It is proposed that the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War donate \$2,000 in fiscal 2024 to the MCWA in support of this very worthwhile project.
- It is further proposed that all Camps and Brothers, within the Department of Michigan, be encouraged to support this program at any level commensurate within their financial abilities.
- Finally, the program should be reviewed annually by the Department of Michigan to evaluate progress and determine appropriate ongoing support.
- Donations should be made out to the Michigan Civil War Association and mailed to Dickinson-Wright, PLLC, 350 South Main Street-Suite 300, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48104-8814, Attn. MCWA, Jack Dempsey, Jacqueline Tinney

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
DRAFT BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE 140<sup>TH</sup> DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

Recommended language will be in **Red**. Eliminated language will be crossed out in ~~Red~~.

I. Outreach Committee

Amend ARTICLE — COMMITTEES, Section I to read:

The Standing Committees shall be as follows: Bylaws, Legislative, Membership, Graves Registration, Civil War Memorials, G.A.R. Records, Communications and Technology, Nominating, Ceremonies and Rituals, ~~and~~ Credentials **and Outreach**.

Amend ARTICLE IX — Committees, by adding Section 14.

Section 14. The Outreach Committee shall consist of the Department Senior Vice Commander as Chair, the Junior Vice Department Commander, and any other brother(s) of the Department as the Senior Vice Department Commander deems necessary, with the consent of the Department Commander. The committee shall cultivate activities related to the outreach needs of the Department of Michigan, including liaison with Civil War Roundtables, genealogy clubs, veteran's organizations and other organizations, for mutual benefit.

II. Military and Veterans Affairs Committee (presuming item I will pass)

The Standing Committees shall be as follows: Bylaws, Legislative, Membership, Graves Registration, Civil War Memorials, G.A.R. Records, Communications and Technology, Nominating, Ceremonies and Rituals, Credentials. Outreach **and Military and Veterans Affairs**.

Amend ARTICLE IX — Committees, by adding Section 15.

Section 15. The Military and Veterans Affairs Committee shall advise the Department and Camps of items of interest that concern Veterans and current members of the U. S. Armed Forces. The committee may seek opportunities and recommend actions in which the Department can aid Veterans and current members of the U. S. Armed Forces. The committee shall consist of the Military and Veterans Affairs Officer (if so appointed) as Chair, with no fewer than four additional brothers (with preference to Veterans or current members of the U. S. Armed Forces when possible) of the Department appointed by the Commander.

III. The Keith G. Harrison Most Outstanding Social Media On-Line Presence Award.

ARTICLE XIX — Awards and Insignia, add Section 6,

Section 6. Authorization for a Department Keith G. Harrison Outstanding Social Media Online Presence Award. A three member panel consisting of three brothers appointed by the Department Commander shall decide which Camp has the most outstanding website within the Department of Michigan based on a review of Camp websites as nominated by Camps of the Department via the Department Secretary and/or the Department Commander and thusly forwarded to the three member panel for review over a course of a year, Encampment to Encampment, with a majority decision made 30 days prior to the Annual Michigan Department Encampment. Items to be evaluated by the three-member panel may include visual aesthetics and design of the website, functionality of the website, inclusion of interesting information, ease of contacting the Camp, up-to-date Camp information such as events and activities, cross referencing links to Camp Social media channels, new features, etc. A certificate will be awarded with the winning Camps name and webmaster listed.

#### IV. Amend Article II — Meetings, Section 1 to read:

The Annual Michigan Department Encampment shall be held on a day between the first day of January and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July. ~~The Department Commander will appoint the appropriate number of brothers, being no less than three, to serve on the Annual Michigan Department Site Committee. The Annual Michigan Department Encampment Committee shall select the time and place for the Annual Michigan Department Encampment and report their findings to the Department Commander before February 1<sup>st</sup> in any given year.~~

Amend Article IX —Committees, Section I to read: (presuming item I & II above passes)  
The Standing Committees shall be as follows: Bylaws, Legislative, Membership, Graves Registration, Civil War Memorials, G.A.R. Records, Communications and Technology, Nominating, Ceremonies and Rituals, Credentials, Outreach, Military Affairs, and Annual Michigan Encampment Site.

#### Amend Article IX — Committees, to add section 16, to read:

Section 16. The Annual Michigan Department Site Committee shall recommend the time and place for an Annual Michigan Department Encampment to the Department Commander no later than March 1<sup>st</sup> of the year before the proposed Department Encampment. If approved, the Department Commander shall sign all contracts necessary. Any funds that may be required as a deposit for securing or as a condition of the contract shall be paid by the Department Treasurer. In the event of the failure of the Annual Michigan Encampment Site Committee to fix the time and place of an Annual Michigan Department Encampment by the deadline, the Department Commander shall select the time and location of that Annual Michigan Department Encampment. In any event, the date and location of the next Annual Michigan Department Encampment shall be announced by the conclusion of each year's Annual Department Encampment. The Annual Michigan Encampment Site Committee may make recommendations for two or more years in advance of the next Department Encampment. Once a contract is signed, the Department Commander may appoint an Encampment Coordinator for that particular Encampment, to assist the Department Commander in working out details and coordinating with the host hotel and other Allied Orders that may be also attending.

V. Should any of these proposed amendments not pass the section numbers of the remaining amendments shall be adjusted accordingly.

# Guidelines for the Encampment Committee

## A. DATES & PARTICIPATION:

**DATES:** The annual Encampment usually occurs in early to mid-May. It should not be scheduled for the weekends on or before April 15, Easter, Palm Sunday or Mother's Day for obvious reasons.

**PARTICIPATION:** The Committee should try to coordinate efforts with the other Allied Orders active in Michigan, trying to meet jointly whenever practicable. In the event one or more of the Allied Orders are meeting on different dates and/or locations, once the date is set, the Encampment Committee shall extend invitations to the President Of each of the other Allied Orders active in Michigan to attend and deliver greetings

**ROOM NIGHTS:** When the date for the Encampment has been decided upon between the Committee and the Department Commander, it is recommended the contract allow for 20 room nights — 10 on Friday and 10 On Saturday, and more rooms will be added as reservations are received by the hotel prior to the reservation deadline.

**GUIDEBOOK:** Committee members should obtain a copy of the "Hosting a National Encampment of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic" prepared by the National Encampment Site Committee for reference and guidance.

## B. HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS

1. Confirm the number of room nights. suggested at 20 room nights (10 Friday night, 10 Saturday night) will need to be "blocked" for the dates of the Encampment with the ability to have additional rooms added as reservations are received by the hotel prior to the reservation's deadline. Also consider scheduling a Hospitality Room for Saturday evening.
2. There should be a coffee/tea/ water setup — with glasses and cups — for the meeting room.
3. If other Allied Orders are attending, check to see if they need a meeting room on Friday afternoon.
4. A hotel with a complimentary hot breakfast is a plus.
5. The contract should include the times that we can get into the meeting rooms for setups and guest
6. The meeting room should have a raised speaker platform with a podium for five people.
7. The podium should have a microphone and there should be two microphones on the floor for delegates to address the Encampment.
8. If other Allied Orders are meeting with us, consideration should be given to a joint opening ceremony and a joint memorial service for departed members.
9. Consideration should be given to non-traditional meeting places, such as VFW or American Legion Halls, community meeting rooms and the like, so long as the facility can accommodate any other Allied Orders meeting with us.

**D. SUGGESTED JOINT OPENING/MEMORIAL SERVICE** in the event we are joined by other Allied Orders. One of the Department Chaplains gives a joint opening prayer- Possible posting of the colors and Pledge of Allegiance. Each Department introduces their Department Officers, visiting National dignitaries, past CinC, 'National Presidents. Then a Memorial Service Agenda is: Opening prayer, each Order's Chaplain read a list of members who have departed since the last Encampment and Closing Prayer. The Allied Orders Chaplains are responsible for conducting the Memorial Service.

**Appendix F**  
**Department Council's Report**



Department Council  
2023-2024  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



12 April 2024

Department Commander Swain and the Brothers of the Department of Michigan,

During the 2023-2024 administrative term, the Department Council has performed the following activities:

- Per the Department Bylaws, the Department Council set the dues for the Camp-at-Large to remain as the current Department and National per capita with no additional increase.
- Reviewed the Department Financials throughout the year as submitted by Department Treasurer Gosling.
- Reviewed and approved a 26 January 2024 request for \$715 for a challenge coin that will be presented as part of the Eagle Scout Certificate & Award Program by the Department. The request was to reimburse the payment of \$715 by PDC Lamphere to the coin manufacturer CombatBet for the order of 500 coins.

In closing, the Department Council would like to thank Department Treasurer Gosling for his continued diligent work in administration of the Department Treasury and timely reporting of the quarterly financials.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Department of Michigan Council

David Smith, LM, PDC – Chair  
Nathan Smith, PDC – Vice Chair  
Robert Payne, LM, PDC – Secretary



**Appendix G**  
**Resolutions**

RESOLUTION  
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN  
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

The Department of Michigan, in Encampment assembled, proposes the following amendment to National Regulations, Chapter III, Article VI, Section 4(b) and Section 4(c). Proposed additional language in RED. Eliminate language in 4(c) that is ~~crossed-out~~.

Chapter III, Article VI, Section 4:

(b) Whenever an elected officer of the National Organization declares to the Commander-in-Chief and the Council of Administration that he is unable to discharge the duties of his office, and until he declares to them the contrary, such duties shall be discharged by the appointment of a temporary officer serving in an Acting capacity, appointed by the Council of Administration. ~~If the elected National Officer is unable to declare he is now ready to resume office within six (6) months or the next National Encampment, whichever occurs first, in that event, he shall be deemed to have resigned from office. If the elected National officer requests an extension beyond six (6) months or the next National Encampment, the Council of Administration may grant such request, the extension not to exceed six (6) months.~~

(c) If the Commander-in-Chief determines that an elected national officer is unable to discharge the duties of his office or that a national officer is failing to discharge the duties of his office he shall notify the Council of Administration. Upon receiving such notification the Council of Administration may ~~by three-fourths (3/4) vote of its elected members~~ appoint a temporary acting officer to discharge the duties of that office. The temporary acting officer shall hold his appointment until such time as the Council of Administration ~~by three-fourths (3/4) vote of its elected members~~ restores the effected officer to his duties. ~~If the elected National Officer is unable to resume his duties within six (6) months of the Council of Administrations vote, in the judgment of the Council of Administration, in that event, the elected National officer shall be deemed to have resigned from office.~~

If passed, a copy of this Resolution to be filed with the National Secretary, National Counselor, Chair of the National Committee on Constitution and Regulations and the Commander-in-Chief.

**Appendix H**  
**Credentials Committee Report**



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC  
Credentials Committee – Chair  
1062 Four Seasons Blvd  
Aurora, Illinois 60504

24 April 2024

Gary Swain  
Department Commander  
140<sup>th</sup> Encampment of the Department of Michigan  
Son of Union Veterans of the Civil War

RE: Credentials Committee

Department Commander Swain, Sir,

The Credentials Committee reports that this year's pre-registration program is working well and as a process should be continued. We had 21 pre-registered for 2023 Encampment and 42 for this year's Encampment. The time windows that were provided worked for the team to prepare for the Encampment.

Next year additional name tag holders will need to be purchased, maximum attendees that I have recorded for an encampment is 68. Avery 74549 Pin Style Name Badges or Avery 74461 Clip Style Name Badges are needed, they come in kits of 100 unit per package and cost approximately \$32.00 to \$37.00.

It seems as if I have been working on this committee forever, but it has only been for the last decade plus. Should the incoming Department Commander have me, I will continue to serve the Department of Michigan in this capacity.

Respectfully in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC  
Credentials Committee, Chair

**Appendix I**  
**Nominations Committee Report**



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

**Office of the Nominating Committee**



*To Department Commander Gary L. Swain and the Attendees of the 140th Department of Michigan Annual Encampment,*

*Greetings.*

*This will serve as the final report for the year 2023-2024 of the activities of the Department Nominating Committee.*

*This year the committee members appointed by Commander Swain were Brothers Dale Aurand PDC, Gary Gibson, PDC, Gary Naugle, PCC, and my self as chair.*

*All committee members worked as a team and achieved the goal of presenting a slate of good men for this Encampment's consideration for election as your 2023 - 2024 Department Officers.*

*This is the fourteenth year that a webpage containing information about Brothers who seek office was used, due to the excellent work of our Department Signals and Communications Committee. This feature enables the members to read about and see who is seeking office before the Department Encampment.*

*This year, the Nominations Committee was able to find volunteers who were acceptable to fill all positions.*

*Of course any time prior to our election of officer's, any Brother may rise and nominate any other Brother for consideration for any of the elected offices.*

*The recommended slate of officers are:*

<i>Commander</i>	<i>Steven S. Martin, PCC</i>
<i>Senior Vice Commander</i>	<i>David W. Kimble, PCC</i>
<i>DJVC</i>	<i>Todd Cordill, CSVC</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>*Bruce S. A. Gosling, PCC</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>*Richard Denny, PCC</i>
<i>Department Council</i>	<i>David S. Smith, PDC</i>
	<i>Robert R. Payne, PDC</i>
	<i>Nathan L. Smith, PDC</i>

*This slate as presented by the Nominations Committee does not necessarily constitute an endorsement for any candidate.*

*On behalf of the Committee members, thank you for the opportunity to serve.*

*Chairman, 2022 Nomination Committee  
Department of Michigan  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

*\*Elected until 2025.*