



# Frederick H. Hackeman CAMP 85

May 2024

## Editor's Notes

Brothers,

I attendd the Department of Michigan's annual Encampment in Okemos Saturdaay Aparil 27. There were more Brothers in attendance at this year's encamment than attended last year - 41 to be exact with the current CnC and a past CnC.

For those of you who thinkthat this usually a long drawn out affair, this was anything but long and drawn out. While there were several braks during the morning and afternoon session to accomodate needs to stretch lega and visit the men's room, this did not lengthen the meeting any at all. Inn fact I left earlier than I had imagined I would be able to leave.

I have been at othr Department of Michigan encampments and also epartment of NY encampments that were rather lomg and tedious. Those meeting were affteced tby numerous Bylaw changes that created discussions that took time to complete before voting on the motions - or tabling the motion. This year for the proposed Bylaw changes, there was minimal discussion and quick voting which is a relief.



There were 3 Recommendations in New Business that had some dis- [To Page 12](#)



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Camp Communicator  
Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War

Next Camp Meeting  
**May 16, 2024 - 6:30 p.m.**  
Location - Lincoln Twp Library, 2099 W John Beers Rd, Stevensville



# LOGISTICS AND THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR: Part One

By  
Oscar J. Dorr, CPL, Fellow

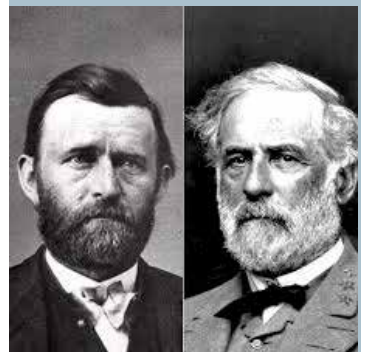
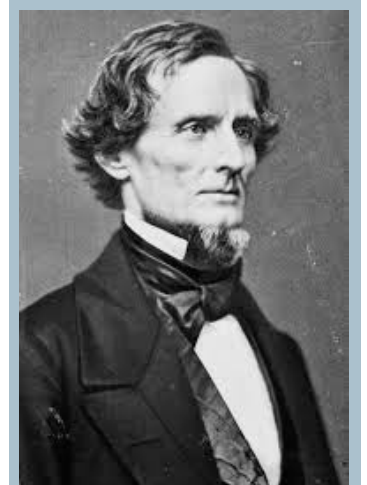
*Reprinted from the Camp 4 Florida Dept newsletter with permission of the Editor*

**Politically**, the Civil War began in December 1860, when South Carolina reacted to the election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency by seceding from the Union. But innumerable factors - economic, social, and political - had played upon and intensified the breach between the North and South for several years.

More than the secession of South Carolina and the other Southern states was required for war to break out. However, it is not the purpose of this paper to discuss the factors leading up to the break; I want to limit the scope to the logistical factors at the beginning of hostilities, and as the war progressed.

Tactics and strategy, though they impact upon, and are acted upon by, logistical factors, will only be discussed peripherally .

Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, and Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, had quite different backgrounds . Lincoln lacked both military education and experience. He had been a lawyer and politician prior to his election to the presidency. He also lacked administrative experience. But he apparently was a fast learner, as evidenced by his choice of commanders and grasp of military tactics. Davis on the other hand was a graduate of West Point, had a broad administrative background, and had served in the Army in the Mexican War as a regimental colonel. He had also gained experience, albeit primarily peacetime experience, as Secretary of War, and chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee. However, Davis' personal military experience, in my opinion, had little effect on the outcome of the war . In fact, there were times when he withheld military strategic actions to satisfy political goals. He also, in my opinion, had a poor understanding of the importance of logistics in a military conflict. James Archer in his book "Civil War Command and Strategy" says, "The South frittered away its resources in local defense; it lost because of the casualties suffered in futile frontal attacks; and its best general wasted his men in a hapless search for an annihilating victory . "



In order to understand the logistical factors of the Civil War, it is necessary to understand the logistical environment of the time. In 1861, transportation was by road, waterways and railroad. And the last of these, the railroads, were in their infancy. Less than 50 years had passed since the development of the first practical steam locomotive. At first neither side considered railroads a factor in the impending war. Railroads and their logistical use were new to the U. S. Army. When Robert E. Lee was graduated from West Point, no railroad in the world was longer than 100 miles. Ulysses Grant was younger than Lee, graduating later, and had served seven years in the Army following graduation before the first railroad crossed the Allegheny Mountains. In the South, railroads were built in an insular fashion, serving only to haul cotton from the back country to Southern ports, and did not link with other railroads. The North had a different perspective, being more industrially oriented, and was in the process of attempting to spread west, opening up new markets for its goods. Roads, outside the cities, were unpaved. In rainy weather they could turn into muddy quagmires. Even when dry, some roads seemed to be little more than cleared paths. Because of the slow pace of road travel, few goods moved any distance by road. Logistics support for an area tended to be localized. Food was grown, or obtained from local farmers. Goods were either manufactured locally, and used locally, or were brought in to the closest rail depot, then transferred to wagons for the slow haul to their ultimate destination. There was considerable water travel over major tributaries by steamboat and other methods, but this was limited to certain rivers located primarily in the North and West. Except for the Tennessee and Mississippi Rivers, there were few navigable rivers in the Deep South.

Railroads, Northern and Southern, had few interline connections. City politics had a great influence at major terminals. Most city politicians and businesses wanted railroads to terminate in their city, requiring transit passengers and freight to be moved by local carriage and cartage across town to rail connections. This tended to increase local commerce, and resulted in construction of hotels and restaurants near rail connections.

At the outbreak of the war, there were only 30,000 miles of railroads in America, with about 21,000 in the North and 9,000 in the South. In all of Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas, there were only 700 miles of railroads, and, as mentioned, Southern lines lacked connections, both with each other, and outside the South. Travel by rail, however, was relatively safe and reliable.

In comparison, travel by road for any distance was slow and hazardous, at best. Goods were hauled by wagons pulled by teams of horses or mules, over dirt roads that could become impassable in heavy rains, literally sinking wagons to their beds in mud.

Travel by water was much more reliable and comfortable, and steamships moved up and down the Mississippi, Ohio and other large rivers of the eastern states, as well as the Missouri River. Later, these steamboats played an important part in the logistical support of the Union Army, but were of less importance in Southern logistical support, because of early loss of control of the waterways to the North.

In preparing this paper, my first interest had been to discover how both the North and South could reach a war fighting capability from a logistical standpoint in such a short time. Later, as I became more familiar with the events of the war, my interest broadened to encompass how logistics impacted the outcome of the war.

Neither side was really prepared to fight a war. There was no federal war machine in place in 1861. The regular army consisted of 1,105 officers and 15,259 enlisted. Of the 197 companies of federal troops, 179 were in the Western Territories and only 18 in the Eastern Territories. The South, of course, had no standing forces.

The Confederate government was formed on February 4, 1861, between Lincoln's election in 1860, and his inauguration in March 1861. The South feared that Lincoln would take drastic political steps as president to declare slavery unlawful, among other political concerns. During this period, the seceded Southern states seized federal property, forts and arsenals within their borders without casualties, but this was not adequate in itself to make a substantial difference. When Fort Sumter surrendered, the Southern general allowed all Federal troops to march out and return to the North without harm.

Neither side expected a long war. Initially, Lincoln, after his inauguration, called for 75,000 men to serve three months. On March 6, 1861, President Jefferson Davis created the Confederate Army, calling for 100,000 volunteers to serve 12 months. When this occurred, the 296 Southerners in the Federal Army resigned or were dismissed. Of these, 239 joined the Confederate Army before the end of 1861, with 31 joining later, for a total of 270. The remaining 26 took no part because of age, health or other reasons. Of the 824 West Point graduates on the active list, 184 joined the Confederacy. Including West Point graduates obtained from the civilian force, the Federal Army ended up with 754 graduates to the South's 283, a ratio of almost 3 to 1.

There were about 1,556,000 soldiers who served in the Union armies. Of these, 359,528 were killed, and 275,175 wounded. Confederate forces numbered approximately 850,000, with 258,000 killed and 225,000 wounded. This means 41 percent of Union soldiers and 56 percent of Confederates who fought were either killed or wounded. The 1,117,703 casualties on both sides represented 3.6 percent of the total U.S. population of 22 million in the North, and 9 million in the South. The greatest tragedy was that the casualties represented 21 percent, or more than one-fifth, of the nation's youth killed or wounded.

Contrary to my initial belief, neither the North nor South had a viable militia organization, and both sides built their armies almost from scratch. The Union had a 5 to 2 ratio advantage over the South as a pool of manpower from which to draw.

The Confederate States of America formed an army based on the U. S. model, staffed primarily by the U.S. Army regular officers who joined the CSA, followed by some enlisted ranks who held allegiance to their home states. The CSA had the benefit of graduates of several military colleges, particularly the Virginia Military Institute. Some were veterans of the Mexican War. Both North and South relied

heavily on volunteer forces, rather than the ill-trained militia units. States relied on individual entrepreneurs, prominent individuals who received authorization from the governor to raise a regiment that they would command as colonels. The state governor appointed the officers, but most had previously been elected to leadership by the volunteers in the formed unit. This assured the acceptance of the newly appointed officers by their followers .

Some statistics on the relative strengths of the North and South are interesting, particularly from a logistics viewpoint:

**Manufacturing Firms:**

North - 100,000 with 1,300,000 workers

South - 18,000 with 110,000 workers

**Railroads:**

North - 21,973 miles South 9,283 miles

**Draft Animals:**

North - 800,000 South - 300,000

**Railroad Manufacturing:**

South had only 4% of the nation's locomotive manufacturing capacity.

**Firearms:**

South had only 3% of the U.S. capacity.

**Size:**

The South had over 750,000 square miles, equal in area to the United Kingdom, West Germany, France, Italy, and Spain, plus an open border to Mexico, and 3,500 miles of coastline with 184 harbors. However, of the numerous harbors, only 10 Southern seaports had railroad connections . Six of these had fallen by 1862. Only Norfolk, VA remained to handle ships of more than 20' draft.

The logistical requirements for 19th century combat were primarily food for troops, forage or fodder for horses and mules, and ammunition and powder.

Men in the field on both sides prepared their own food, so there was no central mess. Some units designated cooks, but most soldiers cooked their food over open fires. Food supplied was primarily pork, beef, bread and desiccated potatoes, coffee, tea, and sometimes fresh vegetables . Beans, rice, peas, hominy and sometimes beets were available. Beef cattle on the hoof often accompanied the armies. Troops obtained much of their food off the land. Much food was wasted in preparation, by spoilage , and even child-like food fights between groups of soldiers in high spirits. To support the Union army, hog production in Chicago between 1861 and 1865 went from 270,000 hogs per year to 900,000, tripling the supply . Food for horses and mules was 26 pounds per day for horses and 24 pounds for mules. Supply trains normally carried 12 pounds of grain per day per horse and 10 pounds per day per mule. The balance of 14 pounds for each animal had to be obtained from forage. This was a heavy demand for an army in place. An army on the move fared better, as new territory could supply more food and forage.

Each soldier carried from 60-100 rounds of ammunition per man, plus a like number of powder cartridges. The standard weapon for the foot soldier was a .55 caliber smooth bore, or rifled, musket. Both types were used. Ammunition was of lesser importance in the Civil War as a logistical item for two reasons.

First, armies did not stay in close contact for extended periods. Second, individual rate of fire was relatively slow with muzzle loading weapons. Fire and fall back, was the general rule. Troops would open fire from staggered ranks to maintain a reasonable rate of fire. Fire rate varied from 5-10 rounds per minute, though the higher rate often made the weapon too hot to handle. Black powder used often caused weapons to foul after a dozen rounds. Generally a regiment's ammunition would last up to two hours, but sometimes troops ran out of ammunition in a firefight, requiring a quick retreat.

Weapon making had actually become easier at the time of the Civil War. The manufacture or fabrication of bows, arrows, breastplates, spears, shields, helmets, crossbows, and other implements of warfare used prior to the 15th and 16th centuries all required the use of skilled artisans. On the other hand, simple machines could be used to manufacture guns, not requiring the



## Officers 2018 - 2019

Camp Commander:

Rex Dillman

SVC: Rex Dillman

JVC: Steven Williams

Secretary :Ray Truhn

Treasurer : Ray Truhn

Council 1: Charles L Pfauth Jr

Council 2: Keith Chapman

Council 3: Charles L Pfauth Sr

Patriotic Instructor:

Ted Chamberlain

Chaplain : Steven Williams

Graves & Memorials:

Rex Dillman

Historian: Rex Dillman

Signals Officer:

Steven Williams

Guide: Jeff Chubb

Guard: Jeff Chubb

Color Bearer: Rex Dillman

JROTC contact: Unassigned

Editor

Steve Williams

[sarwilliamssa@gmail.com](mailto:sarwilliamssa@gmail.com)



Springfield

sides could make guns, or could import them. Some used hunting rifles, more common in the rural South. There was no shortage of gunpowder on either side. From January 1861 to June 1865, the U. S. Army procured over 670,000 Springfield rifle-muskets from the Springfield Armory and 22 subcontractors .

They also bought over 428,000 British Enfield rifles, plus over 2,000 other rifles from European suppliers . The Con-



Enfield

work of a skilled gunsmith. Soldiers needed only a rifle, or a smooth bore musket. Both sides could make guns, or could import them. Some used hunting rifles, more common in the rural South. There was no shortage of gunpowder on either side. From January 1861 to June 1865, the U. S. Army procured over 670,000 Springfield rifle-muskets from the Springfield Armory and 22 subcontractors . They also bought over 428,000 British Enfield rifles, plus over 2,000 other rifles from European suppliers . The Confederacy used Springfield rifle muskets, or copies, plus some smooth bore muskets of U. S. and British manufacture.

Uniforms were, strangely enough, not a serious requirement. Many troops wore civilian clothes, adapted to military use by dyeing. Some uniforms were captured, and some were home woven and dyed. There were some imports and some large-scale production. The CSA Quartermaster performed well. They bought from independent contractors, and, in some cases, operated their own works. The Atlanta unit of the quartermaster had 20 tailors and 3,000 seamstresses . Jackets were produced at the rate of 12,000 per month, and pants at 4,500 per month. The Quartermaster issued 146,000 pairs of shoes to Lee’s army. But soldiers on both sides resorted to robbing the dead on the battlefield of boots and other clothing because of the delays in re-supply.

Horses were plentiful at the beginning, and many men were experienced riders, particularly in the rural South. Cavalry pistols and sabers were in short supply at first, but troops frequently used workaround solutions, using shotguns, and even hatchets, when required.

Artillery also was not a problem. Soldiers preferred smooth bore, muzzle loading cannon. Existing foundries could make this type of weapon easily. Both sides used the more complicated rifled cannon with explosive shells, but preferred smooth bore because explosive shells tended to bury themselves in the ground before exploding. Shrapnel shells were devastating, but timed fuses were difficult to set and inaccurate. The cannon had wooden carriages, and caissons were of simple manufacture .



# The Grand Army of the Republic in Michigan

The Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) was the first truly national veterans organization in the country. Membership was limited to veterans of the American Civil War who served as soldiers, sailors or marines during 1861-1865.

The structure included the National Organization, State level organizations known as Departments and local units known as Posts. All members belonged to a Post. The Post usually met twice a month. Delegates represented the Post at annual meetings of the Department known as Encampments. The Department Encampment elected delegates to attend the annual National Encampments.

Those seeking membership completed applications stating their background and military service. Upon acceptance this information was recorded in a Post Descriptive Book. Financial records, including payment of dues and other related information were kept. Many Posts purchased, or were presented, large bound volumes known as Memorial Books. A page was provided for each member and contained personal background information and the reminiscences of the member about his military service and his closest friends in the service and obituary comments upon his death. Minute Books contain the history of the actions and activities of the Post.

All of the above noted materials are “one of a kind” records. The Post was not required to file copies of this material elsewhere.

Each Post filed Quarterly Reports (later semi-annual, and finally annual reports) of new members, suspensions, drops, transfers and deaths of their members. The Department copies of these reports are found at the State of Michigan Archives. Department headquarters were located in the Capitol Building in Lansing from 1897 to 1956.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is the heir and successor organization to the Grand Army of the Republic. We are chartered by Act of Congress and are one of the five Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Among the charges given to us by the GAR was that we were to preserve and make available, for research, the records of their Order and information on all who served during the Civil War. In this fashion we would keep alive the memory of the sacrifices they made to secure the future of the country and keep green their memory in the eyes of the nation.

# Book Report

## Hard Tack and Coffee

*Hard Tack and Coffee: The Unwritten Story of Army Life (1887)* is a memoir by John D. Billings.

Billings was a veteran of the 10th Massachusetts Volunteer Light Artillery Battery in the American Civil War. Originally published in 1888, *Hard Tack and Coffee* quickly became a best seller, and is now considered one of the most important books written by a Civil War veteran. The book is abundantly illustrated by the pen and ink drawings of Charles Reed, also a veteran, who served as bugler in the 9th Massachusetts Battery. Reed received the Medal of Honor for saving the life of his battery commander at Gettysburg. *Hard Tack and Coffee* is not about battles, but rather about how the common Union soldiers of the Civil War lived in camp and on the march. What would otherwise be a mundane subject is enlivened by Billings' humorous prose and Reed's superb drawings which are based on the sketches he kept in his journal during the war.

The book is noteworthy as it covers the details of regular soldier life, and as such has become a valuable resource for Civil War reenactors.

The volume is divided into twenty-one chapters which treat the origins of the Civil War, enlisting, how soldiers were sheltered, life in tents, life in log huts, unlucky soldiers and shirkers ("Jonahs and Beats"), Army rations, offenses and punishments, a day in camp, raw recruits, special rations and boxes from home, foraging, corps and corps badges, some inventions and devices of the war, the army mule, hospitals and ambulances, clothing, breaking camp and marching, army wagon trains, road and bridge builders, and signal flags and torches.

Some of the information is specific to Billings' experiences as a Massachusetts volunteer artillery veteran. However, much of it is very useful to anyone researching or simply reading about the ordinary soldier in the Union army. Reed's drawings add a great deal to the text.

Billings has been described as a skilful writer, both humorous and informative. The historian Henry Steele Commager called the work "one of the most entertaining of all civil war books".

Among the interesting items Billings describes are:

- Tents used includes the **Sibley** (or Bell) tent until 1862, A or Wedge tent, the Hospital, and the shelter or **Dog** tents. 5 or 6 soldiers fit into the Wedge tent depending on the size of the men. The shelter tent consisted of two halves and required two soldiers to use their halves and button them together to form the completed tent. Up to a dozen men fit into the Sibley tent and slept in spoke fashion around the center pole. He describes the adventure that the soldier on night duty would have in navigating over/around his sleeping companions in going on duty and then getting off duty.
- Rudimentary ponchos were used made from vulcanized rubber over unbleached muslin.



## Meeting Schedule

Our meeting schedule is every month between March through November meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month except as noted. At 6:30 PM.

Location -

Currently -  
Lincoln Twp  
Public Library



7th corps Kepi patch

Stamps were used at the beginning of the war as barter money (hard coins being rare) to trade for anything that a soldier might need. And indeed the stamps often got wet resulting in the soldier having to peel one stamp from the glued pile.

- The boring camp periods between marching and fighting were occupied in various amusements that included socializing around the omnipresent pipe smoking, vocalizing (singing) and dancing. The occasional dancing might be done on the Hard Tack box and sometimes took place by having one of the contraband persons (Negros) perform the dances. Billings lapsed into calling these contrabands Ethiopians.

- Long term camps were typically comprised of log huts using wood sides and covering the walls with the wedge tents or shelter tents. The soldiers inhabiting these huts would have a place to stage their 'kits' of underclothes, socks, threads, needles, buttons, stationery, photos, stamps, Etc. During winter encampments, packages from home increased the amount of items that the soldiers stored in their huts. On campaign the soldiers used their bayonets for candlesticks – jamming the bayonet into the ground and using the upturned socket to hold the candle.

- Sleeping anywhere did not involve putting on PJs since those weren't available then but instead only meant as taking of one's boots, coat, and if one was had, their vests.

- Coffee and sugar were preferred apportioned to the soldier in raw form as many were better able to make coffee to their taste than to let the company cooks prepare the coffee.

- Most camps had someone designated as the company barber. Some preferred to do the shaving themselves while a few chose to let their beards grow.

- Rations consisted of at various times and most assuredly not all at once: salt pork (most common), fresh beef, salt beef, rarely ham or bacon, hard bread, soft bread, potatoes, an occasional Onion, flour beans, split peas, rice, dried apples, dried peaches, desiccated vegetables, coffee, tea, sugar, molasses, vinegar, candles, soap, pepper, and salt. The entitled daily ration was 12 oz or pork or bacon, OR one pound four oz of salt or fresh beef; one pound six oz of soft bread or flour, OR one pound of hard bread, OR one pound four ounces of corn meal. This as the cap ration. The marching ration 1 pound hard bread; 12 oz salt pork OR 20 oz of fresh meat; sugar, coffee, salt. Hard bread is hardtack. Quite frequently the hardtack became infested with weevils and when the hardtack was typically softened by placing it in the boiling coffee the weevils came to the top and were skimmed off making the hardtack consumable. (!) Soldiers had access to pies – from Sutlers. And their description is “Moist and indigestible below, tough and indestructible above, with untold horrors within.”

- The infantry soldier was issued cap/hat, overcoat, dress coat, trousers, shirts, drawers, socks, shoes, a woolen and rubber blanket.

- Ammunition. In describing the Army of the Potomac, Billings says that soldiers were to have 40 rounds in their cartridge-boxes. During the Wilderness campaign he was to have 100 rounds stored everywhere.

- Logistics - the transporting of supplies with the troops involved wagon-trains. A regiment might have 25 wagons (and the associated teamsters and mules) – 2 for each company and 5 for the regimental HQs. The wagons were filled with the tents, kettles, stoves, pans, chairs, desks, trunks, valises, knapsacks, boards and other paraphernalia. General Sherman said that it often took 25 to 50 wagons to move a regiment from one place to another.



## Flag Day

In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress.[1] The United States Army also celebrates the U.S. Army Birthdays on this date; Congress adopted “the American continental army” after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1775.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; in August 1946, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress. Flag Day is not an official federal holiday. Title 36 of the United States Code, Subtitle I, Part A, CHAPTER 1, § 110 is the official statute on Flag Day; however, it is at the president's discretion to officially proclaim the observance. On June 14, 1937, Pennsylvania became the first U.S. state to celebrate Flag Day as a state holiday, beginning in the town of Rennerdale. New York Statutes designate the second Sunday in June as Flag Day, a state holiday.

Perhaps the oldest continuing Flag Day parade is in Fairfield, Washington.] Beginning in 1909 or 1910, Fairfield has held a parade every year since, with the possible exception of 1918, and celebrated the “Centennial” parade in 2010, along with some other commemorative events.

Appleton, Wisconsin, claims to be the oldest National Flag Day parade in the nation, held annually since 1950.

Quincy, Massachusetts, has had an annual Flag Day parade since 1952 and claims it “is the longest-running parade of its kind in the nation.” The largest Flag Day parade is held annually in Troy, New York, which bases its parade on the Quincy parade and typically draws 50,000 spectators. In addition, the Three Oaks, Michigan, Flag Day Parade is held annually on the weekend of Flag Day and is a three-day event and they claim to have the largest flag day parade in the nation as well as the oldest.

### *Observance of Flag Day*

The Betsy Ross House, Philadelphia  
The week of June 14 (June 11–17, 2017; June 10–16, 2018; June 09–15, 2019) is designated as “National Flag Week.” During National Flag Week, the president will issue a proclamation urging U.S. citizens to fly the American flag for the duration of that week. The flag should also be displayed on all government buildings. Some organizations, such as the town of Dedham, Massachusetts, hold parades and events in

140th U.S. Flag Day poster. 1777-1917. The birthday of the stars and stripes, June 14th, 1917. 'Tis the Star Spangled Banner, oh, long may it wave, o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!' Library of Congress description: "Poster showing a man raising the American flag, with a minuteman cheering and an eagle flying above."



celebration of America's national flag and everything it represents.

The National Flag Day Foundation holds an annual observance for Flag Day on the second Sunday in June (June 10, 2018; June 09, 2019). The program includes a

ceremonial raising of the national flag, the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, the singing of the national anthem, a parade and other events.



The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House in Baltimore, Maryland birthplace of the flag that a year later inspired Francis Scott Key (1779-1843), to pen his famous poem, has celebrated Flag Day

since the inception of a museum in the home of flag-bannerpennant maker Mary Pickersgill on the historic property in 1927. The annual celebrations on Flag Day and also Defenders Day (September 12, since 1814) commemorates the Star-Spangled Banner and its creator Mary Pickersgill, for the huge emblem that flew over Fort McHenry guarding Baltimore harbor during the British Royal Navy's three days attack in the Battle of Baltimore during the War of 1812 (1812-1815).

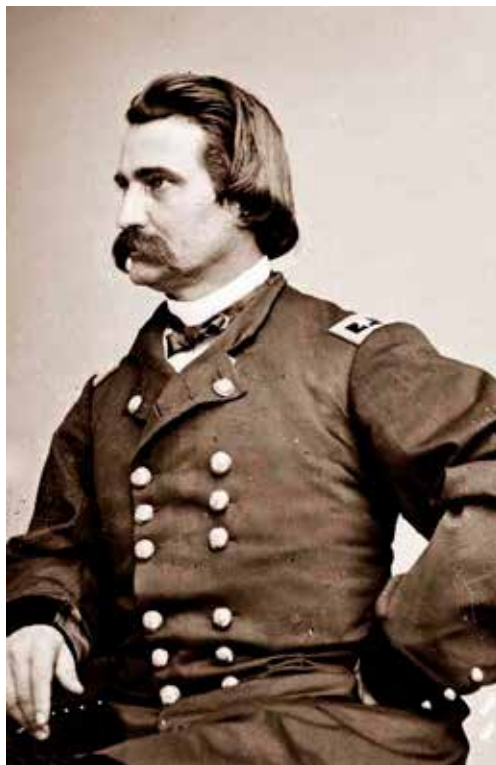
The Betsy Ross House, home of legendary Betsy Ross has long been the site of Philadelphia's observance of Flag Day.

Coincidentally, June 14 is also the date for the annual an-

niversary of the "Bear Flag Revolt." in California. On June 14, 1846, 33 American settlers and mountain men arrested the Mexican general in command at Sonoma, and declared the "Bear Flag Republic" on the Pacific Ocean coast as an independent nation. A flag emblazoned with a bear, a red stripe, a star and the words "California Republic" was raised to symbolize independence from Mexico of the former province of Alta California. The Bear Flag was adopted as California's state flag upon joining the Union as the 31st state in 1850, after being annexed by the United States following the Mexican-American War of 1846-1849.[20] Prominently flying both the U.S.A. and state flags on June 14 is a tradition for some Californians.

## The First Decoration Day Celebration

By proclamation of General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, the first major Memorial Day observance is held to honor those who died "in defense of their country during the late rebellion." Mourners honored the Civil War dead by decorating their graves with flowers. On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery.



The 1868 celebration was inspired by local observances that had taken place in various locations in the three years since the end of the Civil War. In fact, several cities claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day, including Columbus, Mississippi; Macon, Georgia; Richmond, Virginia; Boalsburg, Pennsylvania; and Carbondale, Illinois. In 1966, the federal govern-

ment, under the direction of President Lyndon B. Johnson, declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day. They chose Waterloo—which had first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—because the town had made Memorial Day an annual, community-wide event, during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers



with flowers and flags.

By the late 19th century, many communities across the country had begun to celebrate Memorial Day, and after World War I, observers began to honor the dead of all of America's wars. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May. Today, Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington National Cemetery with a ceremony in which a small American flag is placed on each grave. It is customary for the president or vice president to give a speech honoring the contributions of the dead and to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. More than 5,000 people attend the ceremony annually. Several Southern states continue to set aside a special day for honoring the Confederate dead, which is usually called Confederate Memorial Day.

## General Garfield's Speech

*I am oppressed with a sense of the impropriety of uttering words on this occasion. If silence is ever golden, it must be here beside the graves of fifteen thousand men, whose lives were more significant than speech, and whose death was a poem, the music of which can never be sung. With words we make promises, plight faith, praise virtue. Promises may not be kept; plighted faith may be broken; and vaunted virtue be only the cunning mask of vice. We do not know one promise these men made, one pledge they gave, one word they spoke; but we do know they summed up and perfected, by one supreme act, the highest virtues of men and citizens. For love of country they accepted death, and thus resolved all doubts, and made immortal their patriotism and their virtue. For the noblest man that lives, there still remains a conflict. He must still withstand the assaults of time and fortune, must still be assailed with temptations, before which lofty natures have fallen; but with these the conflict ended, the victory was won, when death stamped on them the great seal of heroic character, and closed a record which years can never blot.*

*I know of nothing more appropriate on this occasion than to inquire what brought these men here; what high motive led them to condense life into an hour, and to crown that hour by joyfully welcoming death? Let us consider.*

*Eight years ago this was the most unwarlike nation of the earth. For nearly fifty years no spot in any of these states had been the scene of battle. Thirty millions of people had an army of less than ten thousand men. The faith of our people in the stability and permanence of their institutions was like*

*their faith in the eternal course of nature. Peace, liberty, and personal security were blessings as common and universal as sunshine and showers and fruitful seasons; and all sprang from a single source, the old American principle that all owe due submission and obedience to the lawfully expressed will of the majority. This is not one of the doctrines of our political system—it is the system itself. It is our political firmament, in which all other truths are set, as stars in Heaven. It is the encasing air, the breath of the Nation's life. Against this principle the whole weight of the rebellion was thrown. Its overthrow would have brought such ruin as might follow in the physical universe, if the power of gravitation were destroyed and*

*"Nature's concord broke,  
Among the constellations war were sprung,  
Two planets, rushing from aspect malign  
Of fiercest opposition, in mid-sky*

*Should combat, and their jarring spheres confound."*<sup>2</sup>

*The Nation was summoned to arms by every high motive which can inspire men. Two centuries of freedom had made its people unfit for despotism. They must save their Government or miserably perish.*



*As a flash of lightning in a midnight tempest reveals the abysmal horrors of the sea, so did the flash of the first gun disclose the awful abyss into which rebellion was ready to plunge us. In a moment the fire was lighted in twenty million hearts. In a moment we were the most warlike Nation on the earth. In a moment we were not merely a people with an army—we were a people in arms. The Nation was in column—not all at the front, but all in the array.*

*I love to believe that no heroic sacrifice is ever lost; that the characters of men are molded and inspired by what their fathers have done; that treasured up in American souls are all the unconscious influences of the great deeds of the Anglo-Saxon race, from Agincourt to Bunker Hill. It was such an influence that led a young Greek, two thousand years ago, when musing on the battle of Marathon, to exclaim, "the trophies of Miltiades will not let me sleep!" Could these men be silent in 1861; these, whose ancestors had felt the inspiration of battle on every field where civilization had fought in the last thousand years? Read their answer in this green turf. Each for himself gathered up the cherished purposes of life—its aims and ambitions, its dearest affections—and flung all, with life itself, into the scale of battle.*

*And now consider this silent assembly of the dead. What does it represent? Nay, rather, what does it not represent? It is an epitome of the war. Here are sheaves reaped in the harvest of death, from every battlefield of Virginia. If each grave had a voice to tell us what its silent tenant last saw and heard on earth, we might stand, with uncovered heads, and hear the whole story of the war. We should hear that one perished when the first great drops of the crimson shower began to fall, when the darkness of that first disaster at Manassas fell like an eclipse on the Nation; that another died of disease while wearily waiting for winter to end; that this one fell on the field, in sight of the spires of Richmond, little dreaming*

*that the flag must be carried through three more years of blood before it should be planted in that citadel of treason; and that one fell when the tide of war had swept us back till the roar of rebel guns shook the dome of yonder Capitol, and re-echoed in the chambers of the Executive Mansion. We should hear mingled voices from the Rappahannock, the Rapidan, the Chickahominy, and the James; solemn voices from the Wilderness, and triumphant shouts from the Shenandoah, from Petersburg, and the Five Forks, mingled with the wild acclaim of victory and the sweet chorus of returning peace. The voices of these dead will forever fill the land like holy benedictions.*

*What other spot so fitting for their last resting place as this under the shadow of the Capitol saved by their valor? Here, where the grim edge of battle joined; here, where all the hope and fear and agony of their country centered; here let them rest, asleep on the Nation's heart, entombed in the Nation's love!*



## Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall & Museum

224 S. Main Street Eaton Rapids, MI 48827  
The Grand Army of the Republic was an organization created by the Union Veterans of the Civil War. This museum is the only one in Michigan exclusively dedicated to the memory of the Union veterans of the Civil War and the fraternal organization they founded and participated in.

It is located in the actual building the veterans used, which is just a block away from GAR Island Park where our Civil War veterans held their summer encampments, or reunions, for many years.

You will find us downtown Eaton Rapids, next door to the Eaton Rapids Public Library. The Museum is open the first and second Wednesday of each month and patriotic holidays. Admission is free, but donations are always welcome! Check out the Museum calendar.

**AMAZON SMILE:** When you shop at Amazon-Smile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price of some items to Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall and Museum. Bookmark the link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-3229085> and support us every time you shop. It doesn't cost you anything extra, but the Museum will receive a small donation from your purchase.

The GAR Memorial Hall and Museum is a federally recognized 501(c)3 tax exempt Michigan non-profit corporation. All donations to the GAR Memorial Hall and Museum are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

### *A History of the James B. Brainerd Post #111 Building*

#### **Property History:**

The original property owner for this land parcel was Amos Spicer who received the patent on the property in 1835. It changed hands numerous times over the years, and in November of 1890 the property was sold to the Eaton Rapids Building Company for \$600.00. The Eaton Rapids Grange, an agricultural advocacy group formed after the Civil War, purchased the building in March, 1918, and held onto it until 1947. The property went into an estate until 1967, when it was purchased by Robert and Marceil Warren for a dance studio. In 2004 Harold and Lisa Hovey purchased the building. In 2013 Don Limpert purchased the building, and deeded it over to the GAR Museum Board of Directors, the current owners.

#### **Property Occupancy:**

The G.A.R. occupied the site through 1922, and the Post was disbanded in 1929. The building sat unoccupied for a number of years, and then from 1944 through 1947 the Hansen Packaging Co., a dairy, was utilizing the site. Munger Hardware used both 224 and 226 S. Main Street in 1951. By 1954, the Grange Hall was occupying the site, and stayed there through 1972. In 1973, two dancing schools were at this address, with the Brenda Hampton Dancing School on the ground level, and the Marceil School of Dancing on the second floor. The Marceil

School of Dancing became the only inhabitant of the site after 1976, which later became Island City Dance Centre. In 2013 it became the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Michigan, James B. Brainerd Post 111, Memorial Hall & Museum, Inc.

### Building Features:



The building measures 99 feet long and 22 feet wide. The building has two floors, the upstairs which was used for GAR and the Woman's Relief Corps (WRC) meetings, and the lower level which was rented out to merchants, including the G.A.R. Drug Store and Boice's Bazaar. At one time there was a bowling alley downstairs. The 60' x 20' "auditorium and the

door directly at the top of the stairs were used by the men for their meetings, with the smaller ladies parlor or ante-room towards the front of the building and the door to the right were reserved for the ladies of the WRC.

The building originally had a balcony across the front for parade and street viewing. Some of the metal fasteners for the balcony still remain attached to the building. There is a recessed area in the bricks on the upper front of the building where the painted letters "G A R" can still very faintly be seen. There is no inside entrance to the upstairs Memorial Hall; it is accessed only through the doorway outside, to the left of the downstairs entrance, more than likely due to the commercial businesses being downstairs.

### Grand Army of the Republic Usage:

The Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) was a fraternal veterans group formed after the Civil War, similar to the VFW or AMVETS today. Membership at that time was limited to "honorable discharged veterans of the Union Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or the Revenue Cutter Services who had served between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865. An active group, they had meetings, officers, and annual encampments, both local and national. There was also a women's auxiliary, the W.R.C. (Woman's Relief Corps).

The post was organized March 14th, 1883, and

named in the memory of Lieut. James B. Brainerd, 6th Michigan Heavy Artillery. James was one of three Brainerd sons who enlisted, and the only one who didn't return home. In 1864, Brainerd died of typhoid pneumonia in New Orleans. He was only 23, unmarried and had no children.

In 1908, the G.A.R. requested of the City that the Island be used for the annual encampment of the Eaton County Battalion of the G.A.R. Before this the encampments would have been rotated around Eaton County. This request was granted and the battalion erected a tent city on the Island for one week every August until 1929 when their advancing ages forced them to discontinue the encampments. These veterans were the ones responsible for bringing the two Civil War cannons, known as Parrott rifles, to the Island.



cussion:

- Eagle Scout Scholarship Program
- Camp level Grants
- Antietam Michigan Memorial fund raising.

## From Page 1

The Eagles Scout Scholarship discussion was the longest of the day and had several Brothers working out what the Scholarship was, who would be the recipients (obviously an Eagle Scout), how much to award, and ultimately if this proposal is worth doing. Without going into all of the various comments (the ones that I can remember anyway), the comments broke down to

1. Initial Scholarship award would be two \$1,000.00 scholarships to an Eagle scout for pot-high school education )College/trade school). Initial proposal was for a male Eagle scout who is a member of the SUVCW. It was determined that there are only 3 current males members of the SUVCW in Michigan between 14 and 18 and they may not be getting the Eagle Scout badge. Of course, the discussion led to the point that the SUVCW's intent and goal is to work with all of the Allied Orders (Ladies of the GAR, Daughters of UVCW, Auxiliary to SUVCW) which would include female scouts who are working for their Eagle Scout badge thus expanding the likely pool of awardees. At the end of the discussion, it was voted to open the scholarship fund up to any applicant regardless of Eagle Scouts and to include members of the Allied Orders. Additionally, the position of Department of Eagle Scout coordinator was apparently deleted.

2. Camp Grants The is a proposed pool of \$5,000.00 avail for camps to apply for up to \$500.00 for any projects that the camp needs funds to accomplish. Projects that would support the viability of the camp or increase membership through various means/activities.

3. Antietam Michigan Memorial The goal is to raise approximately \$250,000.00 for the placement of this memorial near the Dunker Church where a site has been set aside for the memorial statue. The department is encouraging any camps and Brothers to donate any amount to this effort.

In looking at these proposals that were voted and approved, I would wish that the camp discuss each of these at the next camp meeting. I believe that the camp could develop a plan for certain events and/or activities that we should be able to get a grant for funding: more parades which may require some cost, information table(s) at other community events which require registration costs, etc. These types of activities are opportunities for chapter growth. Standing still or treading water hasn't been working too well so more active endeavors need to be tried.

Each of us has different reason(s) why we joined and remain in the SUVCW. When recruiting we need to express those reasons to the public. IOW to get them to relate what they would be able to get out of membership - besides the obvious reason to honor their ancestor(s).

Pictured right is the camp banner (second from left) at the Department Encampment.



The SVR roots date back to 1881 with the "Cadet Corps" of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) – the largest Union Veterans organization which formed in 1866 after the Civil War. The members of the GAR encouraged the formation of their sons as the SUVCW in 1881. These units eventually became known as the Sons of Veterans Reserve, when the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War moved toward a more patriotic and educational organization in design.

Many of the Sons of Union Veterans Camps (local organizations) formed reserve military units which volunteered their services during the Spanish – American War, World War I, and with the National Guard. Just prior to World War I, over 5,000 men wore the blue uniform of the SVR. As late as the 1930's, several states regarded their local SVR units as a military training component. Since World War II, the SVR has evolved into a ceremonial and commemorative organization. In 1962, the National Military Department was created by the SUVCW and consolidated the SVR units under national regulations and command. Since 1962, there have been five SUVCW Brothers that have held the SVR rank of Brigadier General and have had the honor to serve as the Commanding Officer of the SVR.

# Camp Training Aids

As located on the Department of Michigan web site. It is recommended that Camp members visit these URLs and familiarize themselves with the information contained within these documents.

Handbook of Instruction for the Department Patriotic Instructor  
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Department%20PI%20Handbook.pdf>

Handbook of Instruction for the Camp Patriotic Instructor  
Missing link

Handbook of Instruction for the Civil War Memorials Officer  
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Michigan%20CWM%20Handbook.pdf>

Department Membership Initiative  
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/DeptMemInitiative.pdf>

Department of Michigan Member Recruitment & Retention Report  
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Dept%20of%20Michigan%20Member%20Recruitment%20&%20Retention.pdf>

National Chaplain's Handbook  
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Dept%20of%20Michigan%20Member%20Recruitment%20&%20Retention.pdf>

Recommended Education & Additional Department Officer Duties  
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Department%20Orders/Series%202017-18/Recommended%20Ed%20&%20Add%20Dept%20Officer%20Duties.pdf>



## SVR Dates to Note

### November:

- 21st - 25th - Gettysburg Remembrance Day Trip - Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

### April

- 2024 Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL at 10 AM on Saturday,



## Donations to **SUVCW**

Can you write off donations to a 501 C 3?

Contributions to civic leagues or other section 501(c)(3) organizations generally are deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. They may be deductible as trade or business expenses, if ordinary and necessary in the conduct of the taxpayer's business.



## Department of Michigan Officers

Commander -	Robert R. Payne, PCC
Senior VC -	Steven S Martin, CC
Junior VC -	Nathan Smith, CC
Members of the Council -	Robert R. Payne, PDC Nathan L. Smith, PDC David Smith PDC
Secretary -	Dick Denney, CC
Treasurer -	Bruce S.A. Gosling
Chief of Staff	Gary L. Gibson, PDC
Counselor -	Nathan L Smith PDC
Chaplain -	Rev. Charles Buckhahn, PCC
Patriotic Instructor -	Terry McKinch PDC
Color Bearer -	Edgar J. Dowd, PCC
Signals Officer -	Robert R. Payne, PDC
Editor, "Michigan's Messenger" -	Richard E. Danes, PCC
Historian -	David F Wallace PDC
Guide -	Leonard Sheaffer CC
Guard -	Lloyd Lamphere Sr PCC
Graves Registration Officer-	Richard E. Danes, PCC
GAR Records Officer-	Gary L. Gibson, PDC
Civil War Memorials Officer-	Leonard Sheaffer CC
Eagle Scout Coordinator -	Lloyd Lamphere Sr PCC
Camp-At-Large Coordinator -	L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC
Camp Organizer	James B. Pahl, PCinC
Military Affairs Officer -	Edgar J. Dowd, PCC
Aide de Camp	L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC
Ceremonies and Rituals Officer	L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the members of **Frederick H. Hackeman Camp 85** of activities and events related to the mission of the SUVCW and its interests.

If you wish to place a civil war article or SUVCW item please submit to the Editor at [sarwilliamssa@gmail.com](mailto:sarwilliamssa@gmail.com)

*The Editor reserves the right to censor and/or edit all material submitted for publication to the Camp Communicator newsletter without notice to the submitter.*

## Camp Website

Be sure and visit our Camp Website at <http://www.suvcwmi.org/camps/camp85.php>.

## Sutler Links

Link to list of vendors for any items to fill out your uniform and re-enactor accessories.

<http://www.fighting69th.org/sutler.html>

<http://www.ccsutlery.com/>

<http://www.crescentcitysutler.com/index.html>

<http://www.regtdqm.com/>

<http://www.cjdaley.com/research.htm>

<http://www.fcsutler.com/>

<https://www.militaryuniformsupply.com/civil-war-reenactment-clothing-gear>

## MICHIGAN'S MESSENGER

is a quarterly publication of and for the membership of the Department of Michigan, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

## Ancestor Biographies Needed

Whatever you may have on your ancestor's life story submit for inclusion of future issues. It can be short or long as it takes to tell us about your ancestor's life, i.e., what he did before the war, where he served, and if he survived, what he did after the war - farmer, merchant, politician, etc. And if your family history has a photograph submit that, too.

## National Officers

Commander-in-Chief Peter J. Hritsko, Jr., PDC [CinC@suvcw.org](mailto:CinC@suvcw.org)  
 Senior Vice CinC Kevin Martin, PDC [SVCinC@suvcw.org](mailto:SVCinC@suvcw.org)  
 Junior Vice CinC Kevin P. Tucker PDC [JVCinC@suvcw.org](mailto:JVCinC@suvcw.org)  
 National Secretary Daniel Murray, PDC [secretary@suvcw.org](mailto:secretary@suvcw.org)  
 National Treasurer D. Michael Beard, PDC [treasurer@suvcw.org](mailto:treasurer@suvcw.org)  
 National Quartermaster Robert Welch, PDC [qm@suvcw.org](mailto:qm@suvcw.org)

## Council of Administration

Council of Admin (24) Joseph S. Hall, Jr., PDC [CofA4@suvcw.org](mailto:CofA4@suvcw.org)  
 Council of Admin (24) Shane Milburn, PDC [CofA2@suvcw.org](mailto:CofA2@suvcw.org)  
 Council of Admin (26) Rodrick Fraser Jr [CofA6@suvcw.org](mailto:CofA6@suvcw.org)  
 Council of Admin (25) Robert Payne, PDC [CofA3@suvcw.org](mailto:CofA3@suvcw.org)  
 Council of Admin (25) Chris P. Workman, PDC [CofA5@suvcw.org](mailto:CofA5@suvcw.org)  
 Council of Admin (Outgoing CinC) Bruce D. Frail [PCinC CofA1@suvcw.org](mailto:PCinC CofA1@suvcw.org)

## Non-voting

Banner Editor James B. Pahl, PCinC [banner@suvcw.org](mailto:banner@suvcw.org)  
 National Signals Officer Tim McCoy [signalsofficer@suvcw.org](mailto:signalsofficer@suvcw.org)

# Upcoming Events

## National

Stay tuned for information about the 2024 National Encampment being hosted by our Brothers in the Department of Kentucky

The Campbell House, 1375 South Broadway, Lexington, KY 40504  
Dates: August 1 - August 4, 2024 Lexington, Kentucky

## Department

### ***May 2020***

- 26 May, Sunday - Memorial Sunday.
- 27 May, Monday - Federal Holiday - Memorial Day.
- 30 May, Saturday - Traditional Memorial Day.

### ***June 2024***

- 14 June , Friday - Flag Day

### ***July 224***

- 4 July, Thursday - Independencs Dayy.

### ***Auugust 2024***

- 01-04 August, Thursday - Sunday - 2024 National Encampment, Lexington KY

## Camp

- ***May 16, 2024*** Camp meeting
- ***May 25-27 LOCAL*** Memorial Day activities as scheduled
- ***June 9, 2024*** Three Oaks Flag DCay parade 1:00 pm - 5 pm
- ***June 13, 2024*** Camp meeting
- ***July 4, 2024 LOCAL*** Independence Day activities as scheduled
- ***July 18, 2024*** Camp meeting
- ***August 15, 2024*** Camp meeting
- ***September 19, 2024*** Camp meeting
- ***October 17, 2024*** Camp meeting **Officer nomiations**
- ***November 21, 2024*** Camp meeting **Officer Elections/Installations**



Peter J. Hritsko Jr  
Commander in Chief

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
12710 Darrow Rd  
Vermilion, Ohio 44089  
CinC@SUVCW.org

### General Order #13

Lobbying for the Department of New  
York  
Series 2023-2024

22 April 2024

The National Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is granting permission for the Department of New York to lobby the legislature of that state in accordance with the SUVCW National Policy on Lobbying regarding C-inC Pierson's General Order #14 dated 13 April 2020.

The for-said policy establishes the guideline under which the Department of New York must comply.  
As stated below.

**Introduction. GO #35**, Series 2019-2020, dated 14 August 2020, was a prudent measure to keep the SUVCW from any inadvertent violations while the 501(c)3 status of subordinate organizations was still under review by the IRS. The IRS has since granted that status, and the Order has had sufficient time to investigate and understand the rules for lobbying to develop long term guidance for Departments, Camps and SVR Units.

**2. Revocation of GO #35.** Therefore, the aforesaid GO #35 is hereby revoked and replaced with the following guidance regarding lobbying.

**3. Status of the SUVCW.** The National Organization, subordinate Departments, Camps, and Sons of Veterans Reserve Military Districts and Units are now considered 501(c)(3) entities.

**4. General Rules on Lobbying and Definitions.** In general, a 501(c)(3) organization can do a limited amount of lobbying (attempting to influence legislation), but too much could jeopardize its tax-exempt status (i.e., it cannot be a substantial part of its activities).

a. Legislation includes action by Congress, any state legislature, any local council, or similar governing body, with respect to acts, bills, resolutions, public referendum, ballot initiative, constitutional amendment, or similar procedure.

b. Legislation does not include actions by executive, judicial, or administrative bodies.

c. An organization will be regarded as attempting to influence legislation if it contacts, or urges the public to contact, members or employees of a legislative body for the purpose of proposing, supporting, or opposing legislation, or if the organization advocates the adoption or rejection of legislation.

**5. Scope of Permitted Lobbying.** The National Organization, subordinate Departments, Camps, and Sons of Veterans Reserve Military Districts and Units are permitted to undertake a limited amount of lobbying as long as the subject of the lobbying is directly related to one of the six purposes stated in the SUVCW's Congressional Charter (36 USC, Chapter 2003, §200302), and in particular to the following:

- To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and the men who saved the Union in 1861 to 1865.

- To assist in every practical way in preserving and making available for research documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic and its members.

- To cooperate in honoring all those who have served our country in any war.

a. The following limited lobbying activities are allowable activities for Departments, Camps, and SVR subordinate units once the CinC has granted his written permission (see paragraph 7, below):

1) The encouragement of members and non-members to write letters;

2) Conduct educational meetings to inform the public about planned projects and events. Education sessions for current legislative leaders and potential candidates for elected office may be conducted as long as the information is offered to all parties and candidates without partisanship;

3) prepare, and distribute educational materials or otherwise consider public policy issues in an educational manner that does not jeopardize our tax-exempt status;

4) Testify at public hearings;

5) Provide research, analysis, and commentary;

6) Join amicus curiae briefs (additional permission is required on a case-by-case



basis).

**6. Restrictions and Prohibitions.** Lobbying shall remain nonpartisan. It is prohibited to conduct or engage in political campaign activities to intervene in elections to public office. The Johnson Amendment to the 1954 Tax Code applies to all 501(c)(3) organizations, not just religious 501(c)(3) organizations. This includes, but is not limited to the following restrictions:

a. At no time will any Department, Camp, or SVR subordinate unit of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, contribute or otherwise donate funds to any political campaign;

b. At no time will any Department, Camp, or SVR subordinate unit raise funds for candidates in any manner;

c. At no time will any Department, Camp, or SVR subordinate unit publicly support or oppose any candidates;

d. At no time will the National, Departments, Camps, or SVR subordinate units post partisan political messages on any social media platform (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, Reddit, Imgur, Gab, etc.) or on organizational websites;

e. At no time will the National, Departments, Camps or SVR subordinate units engage in ad hominem criticism of public officials, or give the appearance thereof (including but not limited to attacks on one's personal characteristics or one's status or qualifications);

f. At no time will the National, Departments, Camps or SVR subordinate units connect, compare, or assess the organization's position on an issue(s) with voting recommendations for or against candidates for office in any election(s). This prohibition includes but is not limited to making and/or distributing voter guides for or against candidates;

g. At no time will the National, Departments, Camps, or SVR subordinate units, during an election, compare the organization's issue position with that of a candidate.

**7. Permission to Lobby.** Prior permission of the Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans must be obtained before any Department, Camp, or SVR subordinate unit conduct any lobbying efforts whatsoever.

a. Requests for permission must be made in writing to the Commander-in-Chief, a duplicate copy to be filed with the National Executive Director, National Treasurer, and National Counselor in writing or by electronic means. No lobbying activities will take place prior to receiving the Commander-in-Chief's written permission under penalty of suspension. Copies of the aforesaid written requests and permissions will be maintained on file by the Executive Director and National Treasurer.

b. Once the lobbying activity has been completed, the Department, Camp, or SVR subordinate unit which was engaged in a lobbying effort shall report to the Commander-in-Chief as follows:

1) Who was contacted and on what date(s);

2) What was discussed, and any other relevant information concerning the lobbying activities, including how many hours were spent;

3) The report shall include copies of any written communications to and from the party(s) which were lobbied;

4) For in-person (face to face) meetings, a synopsis of the conversation(s) shall be attached.

**8. Rights of Brothers as Private Citizens.** Brothers are free to communicate as private citizens with their local, state, or national representatives on any legislation; however, in this case, they must refrain from mentioning or otherwise implying they are representing the SUVCW, nor may they use letterhead of the SUVCW National Organization, Department, Camp, or SVR Military District or Unit.

**9. Penalties for Non-Compliance.** As the failure of a Department, Camp, or SVR subordinate unit to comply with this order may jeopardize our 501(c)3 tax exempt status, the National Organization must practice prudence and take action for the good of the Order against any subordinate body which fails to follow this General Order, namely suspension as well as any other actions as necessary to ensure the Order retains its 501(c)3 tax exempt status.

Ordered this 22nd day of April 2024

Respectfully In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

*Peter J. Hritsko Jr*

Peter J. Hritsko Jr  
Commander-in-Chief

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest

Daniel Murray, PDC

National Secretary

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



We are always looking for content suggestions, comments, Book Reports, Family Civil War stories, advice.

Send your contributions to the Editor at [sarwilliamssa@gmail.com](mailto:sarwilliamssa@gmail.com)

## Member Ancestors

Compiled from current and past member information.

Red Text indicates publication of a biography in the *Camp Communicator*

Current Members		Ancestor		Unit
Darren	Bettinger	Brewer	James M	Pvt, Co. A 78th OH Vol Inf
Theodore J	Chamberlain	Chamberlain	Jeremiah M	Pvt, Co B 176 <sup>th</sup> OH Vol Inf
Keith Alan	Chapman	Stillman	Samuel	Pvt, Co B 94 <sup>th</sup> IL Inf
Steven	Chapman	Stillman	Samuel	Pvt, Co B 94 <sup>th</sup> IL Inf
Jeffrey L	Chubb	Brownell	(William) Henry	Pvt., Merrill's Horse, MO
Rex	Dillman	Yaw	Benjamin Franklin	Pvt, Co G 26 <sup>th</sup> MI Inf Reg,
Glenn	Palen	Palen	Charles	Pvt Co E 128 <sup>th</sup> IN Inf
Rodney Samuel	Krieger	Jacob	Krieger	Pvt, Co I, 19th MI Inf
Charles L	Pfauth Jr	Shopbach	Henry	Pvt, Co F 52 <sup>nd</sup> PA Vol Inf
Charles L	Pfauth Sr	Shopbach	Henry	Pvt, Co F 52 <sup>nd</sup> PA Vol Inf
Ray	Truhn	Goodenough	Alonzo	Pvt, Corp(x2) Sgt. Co A 2 <sup>nd</sup> VT Inf
Steven Allen	Williams	Carter Mountjoy/Munjoy  Wetmore Wetmore Wetmore McKee	Oren George W  Abiather Joy/JA Gilbert Helon/Hellen Albert	Pvt, Co B 186 <sup>th</sup> NY Vol Inf Pvt, 11 <sup>th</sup> MI Vol Cavalry & 1 <sup>st</sup> MI Sharpshooters Pvt 66 <sup>th</sup> IL Inf Pvt 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reg NE Cavalry Pvt 13 <sup>th</sup> Reg IA Inf Pvt Co K 177 <sup>th</sup> Reg OH Inf
Matthew Carter	Williams	Carter	Oren	Pvt, Co B 186 <sup>th</sup> NY Vol Inf
Past Members		Ancestor		Unit
Roger C	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 <sup>st</sup> IL Lt Artillery
Kenneth A	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 <sup>st</sup> IL Lt Artillery
Dennis L	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 <sup>st</sup> IL Lt Artillery
Michael	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 <sup>st</sup> IL Lt Artillery
Irving	Hackeman	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 <sup>st</sup> IL Lt Artillery
Richard	Horton	Horton, Jr	William	
Virlin	Dillmam	Mason	Daniel W	
Daniel	Stice	Pegg	Henry Riley	Co E 17 IN
Amasa	Stice	Pegg	Henry Riley	Co E 17 IN
Richard	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 <sup>st</sup> IL Lt Artillery
Harold L	Cray	Barrett	George W	Pvt., Co F 54th Reg Ohio Inf

# Camp Communicator

Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War

Frederick H. Hackeman CAMP 85

*Happy Birthday to Brothers*

Brother Theodore Chamberlain May 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Brother Ray Truhn May 13<sup>th</sup>

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