

Department Orders No. 2
Series 2008 – 2009
1 September 2008

1. I cannot stress enough the importance of 100% compliance in regards to on time reporting by the Camps of this Department. On 2 June 2008 then Commander-in-Chief Charles E. Kuhn, Jr., suspended 13 Departments for failing to submit their Annual Reports on time. Not only were these Departments suspended, they were prohibited from conducting any business, including holding their Annual Encampments and their Delegations were barred from attending the National Encampment until such time as they submitted their properly completed Annual Reports, paid Per Capita Tax in full and reinstated by the Commander-in-Chief. This is the reason why this Department has been so adamant about on time reporting over the last 3 years. We knew this day was coming and National has now made it clear that strict compliance to reporting deadlines is not optional and there will be consequences for failure to comply.
2. I have the sad duty to report the passing of two of our Brothers. Brother Clair “Bud” Tallman of the Austin Blair Camp No. 7 passed away on 7 July 2008 and Brother Fred Knoodle of the Robert Finch Camp No. 14 passed away 21 August 2008. All Charters are to be draped for a period of 30 days in memory of these Brothers.
3. Congratulations to Brother Gregory D. Hayes, PDC! The 127th Annual National Encampment, SUVCW acted favorably on the request of the 119th Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan, SUVCW to restore his Past Department Commander Rank.
4. I am pleased to report that the Service Numerals Resolution adding 10, 15 and 20 year service numerals to the Constitution & Regulations of the Order which was introduced by the LeValley-Heusted Camp No. 255 and supported by the 119th Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan was adopted by the 127th National Encampment, SUVCW.
5. The Resolution introduced by Austin Blair Camp No. 7 and passed by the 119th Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan to request that the National Organization pro-rate the National Per Capita Tax for Brothers who take an Honorable Discharge and later apply for readmission to the Order was ruled to be without basis by the 127th Annual National Encampment, SUVCW. A Brother, who has taken an Honorable Discharge and later applies for readmission into the Order, does so, the same as a New Brother.

6. The Resolution introduced by Austin Blair Camp No. 7 and passed by the 119th Annual Encampment of the Department of Michigan to pro-rate the Department Per Capita Tax for those Brothers who take an Honorable Discharge and later apply for readmission to the Order is also without basis.
7. All Brothers are encouraged to attend Remembrance Day activities on Saturday, November 22, 2008 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. This year the Department of Michigan, SUVCW will be holding its' annual wreath laying ceremony at the Michigan Cavalry Brigade Monument. Also, Brother James B. Pahl, PC-in-C has suggested those attending from the Department of Michigan meet for dinner at General Picket's after picking up the flags from the National Cemetery. I think this is an excellent idea and that it should become an annual tradition.
8. Also in regards to Remembrance Day, I would like to create a list of the Michigan Monuments and the years wreath laying ceremonies were held at each one. This way, each year we will not have to try to remember when a ceremony was last held at a particular monument. It would also allow us to rotate the ceremony from year to year through the list of monuments. Any Brother who can provide any of this information is asked to please contact both me and Brother Jim Pahl so we can start compiling the list. Once completed, I will have the list posted on the Department Website.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

/s/

Dennis C. Derr II

Commander

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

/s/

Kevin J. Lindsey

Secretary

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War