

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OHIO SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

106th Department Encampment



**Mt. Union College Campus
Alliance, Ohio
June 17-29, 1988**

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Proceedings of 1988 Encampment

The 106th Encampment of the Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, was held at Mount Union College, Alliance, Ohio on June 17, 18, 19, 1988. Department Commander Richard Smyser I, of Canton, Ohio presiding.

Commander Smyser appointed Brothers to the following committees:

Credentials.....P.D.C. Ralph Shadel
Constitution and Regulations.....P.C.C. Gordon R. Bury II
P.C.C. Keith Ashley

Resolutions.....P.D.C. Ralph Shadel
Duane Zorger

Officers Reports.....P.D.C. Charles Corfman
Tim Parks

P.D.C. Charles Corfman was also appointed Patriotic Instructor.

Officers in Attendance

Department Commander, Richard Smyser I
Senior Vice Commander, Larry K. Swogger
Junior Vice Commander, George Fetter, Jr.
Department Council:
3 year term Larry K. Swogger
2 year term Charles Corfman
1 year term Ralph Shadel
Secretary-Treasurer, Richard L. Greenwalt
Chief of Staff, Larry K. Swogger
Chaplain, Forest Altland
Counselor, Gordon R. Bury II
Personal Aide, Charles Corfman
G.A.R. Highway Officer, Larry K. Swogger
Color Guard, Ralph Swogger
1988 Encampment Representative, Richard L. Greenwalt.

Department Commander's Address

Department Commander Smyser in his report stated:

“Since being appointed, filling out the balance of Brother Steve Frederick’s job, I have done the following:

- Attended the mid-winter meeting of the Department at Orville, at which time I was officially sworn into office
- Attended a Lincoln Day meeting and diner for Given Camp, Wooster, Ohio.
- Attended a Lincoln Day diner for Philip Treim Camp, Salem, Ohio, February 12.

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- Attended a Lincoln Day dinner for McClellan Camp, Alliance, Ohio, February 22nd.
- Made a trip to Gallia County, Ohio to check G.A.R. Hall and property that are still shown in the County Records. The hall is falling down, it is beyond salvage.
- Talked with Stark County Recorder about some old records found at the Stark County Court House. Made a motion and had it passed to make a donation to the cause of restoring and preserving these books. Since Brother Larry Swogger was also involved, turned it over to him to follow-up. He and Brother Richard Greenwalt attended a ceremony in June, where the rebound books were put on display at the Court House.
- Presided over a meeting for Given Camp, Wooster, Ohio at Canton, Ohio April 10th.
- I wish to thank Forrest Altland and his wife Orma, for representing the Ohio Department and myself at the Lincoln Ceremony at Springfield, Ill.
- Participated in a Historical Demonstration and Re-enactment at Burton, Ohio May 28-30.
- Participated in a Memorial Day Parade at Canton, Ohio where we fired 3 rounds at the McKinley Monument May 31st.

Past Department Commander Larry Swogger represented the Ohio Department and myself at the recent Convention of the Daughters of Union Veterans at New Philadelphia, Ohio on June 12th."

Senior Department Commander's Report

Senior Department Commander Larry K. Swogger reported:

On February 28, The Ohio Department selected me to fill the Station of Senior Vice Commander for the remainder of the year. When Senior Vice Commander Richard Smyser was elevated to the Station of Department Commander. Unfortunately, my Mother's untimely death and my Father's repeated hospitalizations have presented me from filling the Station the way I would have wished.

I did attend the following events:

- May 30, 1988. I rode in the Memorial Day Parade in Canton, Ohio. We ended at the McKinley Monument where I sat on the Monument steps with other guests. Past Commander-in-Chief Gordon R. Bury II and his troops fired the Salute with their cannon. It was a special thrill to observe Memorial Day on the proper day!
- May 27, 1988. I participated in the Dedication of Civil War Discharge Books, which were found by County Recorder, Janet Weir Creighton and myself. I accepted a contributor's certificate on behalf of the Ohio Department. Past Commander-in-Chief Richard L. Greenwalt accepted a Certificate on behalf of the SUVCW.
- June 12, 1988. I attended the opening of the Ohio Department Encampment of the Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War at the Best Western Hotel in New Philadelphia, Ohio. I was privileged to represent the Ohio Department, SUVCW. During my remarks to the Daughters, I gave them the SUV Flag Charge. It was well received.

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I am sorry that I was not able to do more and that special circumstances prevented me from attending even my own Camp meetings, but I have done the best that I can. I thank you for allowing me to serve in this capacity. I have enjoyed it.

Department Secretary Report

PCinC Richard L. Greenwalt, Department Secretary made the following report:

Again I had the pleasure of serving another year as your Department Secretary. I attended the National Encampment in Buffalo, New York where I had the honor of nominating P.D.C. Charles Corfman for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

I installed Officers for Philip Triem Camp and McClellan Camp. I served as Camp Secretary for McClelland Camp, also Memorials Day Committee in Alliance, and continued my service as District #3 Commander in the Sons of Veteran Reserves.

Some of the Camps have been neglectful in sending their Quarterly Reports in the dates specified by the National Organization. As of this report all Camps are current with the exception of Gov. Dennison Camp #1 which is 3 quarters in arrears.

Membership reported at last years Encampment was 8 Camps with a membership of 118.

The membership as of May 31st, 1988 was 8 Camps with a membership of 123.

I am glad to be able to report, that no deaths in the Department have occurred since last years Encampment.

The change in leadership that took place during the year was accomplished smoothly and is a credit to all involved.

The mid-winter meeting, introduced business concerning this Office. The matter regarding the Cemetery situation in the vicinity of Hamilton, Ohio, brought to our attention by Brother Thomas Standler, has resulted in your Secretary sending out communications to the Champion Paper Company and Brother Standler in an effort to prevent graves of Veterans of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, from being covered with a sludge pit. Hopefully we have been help in preventing this to happen.

Another year without the BANNER has been a detriment to the Members of the Ohio Department. My sincere thanks to our Commander-in-Chief for the effort that he has expended in circumventing this problem by having the National Secretary, Frank M. Heacock send General Orders to the Department Secretaries, so that we can be aware of what is occurring at the National level.

Thanks to the Camp Secretaries for their efforts in behalf of our organization.

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Department Treasurer Report:

PCinC Greenwalt acting as Department Treasurer as well, reported:

- Permanent Fund contained \$3,434.96.
- Total for the Checking, Savings and Certificate of Deposit was \$4,286.26

Patriotic Instructor and Chief of Staff Report:

Patriotic Instructor reported contributions of \$8.00

Chief of Staff reported contributions of \$84.50

Grand Army of the Republic Highway Report

Brother Ralph Shadel reported:

I did not transverse the entire length of the GAR Memorial Highway, U.S. Route 6, through Ohio. I did inspect the section through Huron and Sandusky Counties and found it was in reasonably good shape. But I failed to find that it or see one marker indicating this was the GAR Memorial Highway. More and more it seems that the memory of the men of the Grand Army of the Republic is fading. We as a body should consider a letter writing campaign to our Congressmen and State Legislatures to make right this terrible wrong, and ask for their assistance in obtaining suitable and satisfactory markers every fifty miles or perhaps more frequent. I offer this suggestion to this Encampment, with the hope that some effort will be made to honor our men in blue.

Resolutions:

The following Resolution was adopted by the Department of Ohio and forwarded to the National Encampment:

Be it resolved: That the Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, does recommend that the National Organization of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, AUTHORIZE, PROVIDE and ENCOURAGE the use of the Ribbon of the National Organization in the center of which shall be a be inscribed "Life Member." This to add to the distinction of the Life Membership Badge.

Endorsements:

During the 1988 Encampment of the Department of Ohio, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War June 17 thru 19th, 1988, the Endorsement of Past Department Commander Charles Corfman for the Office of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief was forwarded

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unanimously approved and the Department Secretary was ordered to forward to the National Organization for consideration.

We of the Ohio Department feel that the service which Past Department Commander Corfman has given to our Order at the Camp, Department and National levels merits your consideration for his elevation to this high office.

Actions taken at the Department Encampment:

1. After second reading of the Department By-Laws; the changes were unanimously approved and presented to Commander-in-Chief for his approval. If he approves the updated copies of the By-Laws will be sent to each Officer of the Department and to all Camps.
2. Application and the required fee for a Camp Charter for William Dennison Camp No. 125 at Albany, Ohio was received and given to the Commander-in-Chief for further action. Hopefully the Camp will receive its Charter and Elect and Install Officers on July 30, 1988.
3. Authorized Donation of \$50.00 to National Patriotic Instructor's Fund.
4. Authorized usual contributions to the Christmas Funds for the Homes at Sandusky and Xenia.
5. Encouraged representation at the State Genealogical Society Meeting to pass out literature and hopefully recruit new members.
6. The idea of a suitable Depository for Donated Memorabilia be continued.
7. The Secretary is to write a letter that the proceedings of the Department Encampment be sent by first-class mail to all Members of the Department, that are in good standing for this year. Hopefully, this will create interest and increase attendance at future Encampments each June.
8. The Secretary is to write a letter to the Knights Templar Magazine for its Knights Voices Column, seeking donations of G.A.R. and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Memorabilia.
9. The project concerning the Department Banner is to be continued for another year with authorization expense not to exceed \$100.00
10. Department Secretary given permission to not renew Department's Post Office Mail Box. All Department communications are to be sent to 616 W. Summit, Alliance, Ohio 44601.
11. Department Treasurer was given permission to change the Department Checking Account to another Financial Institution to obtain a better rate of service charges.
12. Recommend that the following article be brought to the attention of all interested people. The Ohio Department recommends that each member write to all names listed and ask to have an amendment to the bill be made. Time is important.

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Ohio Vital Records

THE FOLLOWING IS A REPORT GIVEN AT THE OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY BROAD OF TRUSTEES MEETING HELD ON MAY 23, 1988 BY MR. TOM NEEL, THE OFFICE MANAGER.

This last bit of information is important. Fred Vierow, a Worthington member, has called me several times this week and sent me a copy of Amended Substitute House Bill No. 790, which has a section on vital records. Section 3705.23 gives the local registrar at the county health department the right to permit or not permit the inspection of vital records. The patron must have a "direct and tangible interest in a vital record." The bill continues to define this phrase as (1) the registrant, a member of his immediate family, his guardian, or a legal representative of any of them, and (2) others who are able to demonstrate to the state or local registrar that information contained in the record is needed for determination or protection of a personal or property right. Mr. Vierow is concerned because genealogists are apparently left out. The bill has passed the House; the first hearing in the Senate is Weds. May 25th, Afternoon session, 1st Floor Senate Hearing Room. The bill is currently with the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, David Hobson, Chairman, Republican of Springfield, the other members are Scott Oelslager, Grace Drake, Roy Ray, Gary Suhadolnik, Michael White, Robert Burch, Linda Furney and Richard Pfeiffer. Mr. Vierow recommends that we issue a statement opposing Section 3705.23 of House Bill No. 790, and request that an amendment to the bill be made to include genealogical and historic and scientific researchers among those with a "direct and tangible interest" in vital records. He recommends that a board member be present at the hearing Wednesday. I suggest that each board member send a letter this weekend to each committee member.

After some discussion, the board decided to write and also include statisticians. The Following are the addresses of the Senate committee members. Please take time to write.

David L. Hobson, Ohio Senate, State House, Columbus 43215
Robert L. Burch, 128 N. Broadway, New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663
Grace L. Drake, 5954 Briardale Lane, Solon, Ohio 44139
Linda J. Furney, 1953 Brussels, Toledo, Ohio 43613
Scott W. Oelslager, 318 Twenty Second NW, Canton, Ohio 44709
Paul E. Pfeiffer, 221 Popular St. Bucyrus, Ohio 44820
Roy L. Ray, Ohio Senate, State House, Columbus Ohio 43215
Gary C. Suhadolnik, 9313 Roxbury Road, Parma Heights, Ohio 44130
Michael R. White, 1057 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44108.

Commander-in-Chief Compliments

Commander-in-Chief Richard Parkington, complimented the Department for its efforts, he congratulated and thanked the men from the proposed Camp, William Dennison No. 125 Camp, for wishing to join our Order, he welcomed the Brothers from McClellan Camp No. 91 that were initiated at the same time as the 3 Brothers from proposed Camp No. 125, he informed the Members that there is a new Editor

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for the "Banner" as of July 1, 1988. He urged attendance at the National Encampment in Lansing Michigan, August 14 thru 17 and thanked the Department for its hospitality.

Banquet

The Saturday night banquet found the presiding Officers of the Allied Orders that met in Annual Session at Mount Union in attendance. Each in turn introduced their National Head and these Officers attendance always adds much to our Encampment.

The entertainment for the evening was provided by a Masonic Chorus from Trumbull County, Ohio. Their program was well received and everyone seemed to really enjoy the Sing-Along portion of their program. The colors were presented and posted by members in Civil War Uniforms.

The evening concluded with a reception for the Sons and Auxiliary, hosted by the Auxiliary.

Joint Memorial Service

The Joint Memorial Service was held on Sunday Morning with Past Department Commander Forrest Altland representing the Sons.

It was great to know that the Grim Reaper had not struck our ranks since last year's Encampment.

Past Department Commander Larry K. Swogger sang a beautiful solo in tribute to his mother Hilda Swogger who was a member of the Auxiliary and also the Ladies of the Grand Army, she passed away during their year.

Audit

The Audit Committee reported prior to the Nomination and Election of Officers that they had examined the Department Records and using Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, found them to be in good shape and complimented the Department Secretary-Treasurer for another year of dedicated service.

Elected Officers

The following officers were elected to serve the Ohio Department for 1988-1989:

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Richard Smyser I
1901 Suffield N.W.
Canton, Ohio 44705

Senior Vice Commander

George F. Feters, Jr.
1020 4th St. S.W.
Canton, Ohio 44707

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Junior Vice Commander

Duane Zorger, Sr.
12223 Marlboro Ave.
Alliance, Ohio 44601

Department Council

3 year

Forrest Altland, P.D.C.
972 Washington St.
Wooster, Ohio 44691

2 year

Larry K. Swogger, P.D.C.
205 Pershing N.E.
North Canton, Ohio 44720

1 year

Charles Corfman P.D.C.
9057 S.R. 83
Holmsville, Ohio 44633

Secretary-Treasurer

Richard Greenwalt
616 W. Summit
Alliance, Ohio 44601

Appointed Officers

Chief of Staff

Ralph Shadel, P.D.C.
P.O. Box 545
Mansfield, Ohio 44901

Patriotic Instructor

Tim Parks
988 Delwood Road Apt #3
Mansfield, Ohio 44905

Chaplain

Ralph Swogger

Counselor

Gordon R. Bury II, P.D.C.

Guide

Charles Corfman, P.D.C.

Guard

Thomas E. Hoffman

Assistant Guard

Ralph

Personal Aide

Richard Smyser II

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Genealogist and Historian	Larry Swogger, P.D.C.
GAR Highway	Keith Ashley
Color Guard	Dave Medert
Johnson Island	Ralph Shadel P.D.C.
Camp Chase	Thomas E. Hoffman, P.D.C.
1889 Encampment Representative	Richard Greenwalt, P.D.C.

The Officers were installed by P.C.C. Gordon R. Bury II, with P.D.C. Charles Corfman, acting as Guide and Ralph Swogger serving as Chaplain,