

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

116th Department Encampment



**Mt. Union College Campus
Alliance, Ohio
June 19-21, 1998**

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Proceedings of 1998 Encampment

The 116th Ohio Department encampment, Sons of Union veterans of the Civil War was held at Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio from June 19th to June 21st, 1998 with Ohio Department Commander Keith Ashley presiding.

The only business transacted on Friday, June 19th was auditing of the Department Treasurer's books.

The Sons were the hosts for this year's Encampment.

Campfire

The Friday night Campfire served as the kick-off to a weekend of transacting business and having a time of making new friends and renewing acquaintances with the Organizations of the Grand Army family.

The entertainment was provided by a minstrel trio which took us back to the Civil War Era with both their music and their clothing. Many joined in the singing of some of the songs and seemed to be glad to be invited to do it.

After the music the Leaders of our Organizations were introduced. They expressed Good wishes for a profitable Encampment for all and introduced their National Leaders. It was announced that Commander-in-Chief Richard Orr was not present, but would be in attendance on Saturday and Sunday, and that the National President of the Daughters, Sister Goodenough, and her husband would be at Saturday's Banquets.

Tim Park, the Sons chairman for this year's Encampment and his wife presided over the bountiful refreshments.

The remainder of the evening was spent in conversation, relaxation, and renewing friendships of people we hadn't seen for a year.

Joint Opening

SATURDAY JUNE 20, 1998

The joint opening with the Auxiliary was held in the Son's meeting room, the Sons assembly is growing so the meeting was held in the lounge of McMasters Hall, Chief of Staff Robert Davis with Auxiliary Chief of Staff introduced the elected and appointed officers for both the Sons and the Auxiliary with the Sons Officers taking their stations.

Commander Keith Ashley and President Sarah Cherry both expressed wishes for a profitable Encampment for all and introduced their National Leaders, Richard Orr, our Commander-in-Chief and National President of the Auxiliary Jacquelin Johnston, who both expressed their thanks for having been invited to the Ohio Department and that would add to the advancement of our Orders.

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Andrew Johnson was recognized at this time, and who spoke of the good representation of the Sons at the meeting. Our National Leaders urged our attendance and input at the National Encampment August 6-9, 1998 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

At the conclusion of the Joint Opening, the Auxiliary retired to their meeting room and Commander Keith Ashley proceeded to open the 116th encampment of the Ohio Department Sons of Union Veterans.

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The roll call of Officers found elected Officers at their stations with the exception of the Department Council Officers, PDC Richard Smyer and PDC James Hilton. The following appointed Officers were absent from the Encampment. Personal Aide Rolland Colburn; Genealogist Eric Nagel; Ralph Scott II, Dept GAR Highway Officer and also the Officer in Charge of Department Eagle Scout Certificates.

Commander Ashley appointed the following committees to serve during the Encampment

Credentials	Donald Darby Harry Eckley
Officer Reports	PCC Charles Coffman Henry Shaw James Mesker
Resolutions	PDC Robert Grim Tim Daley PDC Larry Swogger
Restoration of Rank	PCC David R. Medert Kirby Bauman

The following Officers reports were read and turned over to the Officers Report Committee for their deliberation:
Beginning with Department Keith Ashley:

1998 REPORT OF THE OHIO DEPARTMENT

Keith D. Ashley

It has truly been an honor to have served as the commander of the Ohio Department Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Even more than that, I hope that I have shown the due respect and honor to my great-great-grandfather, Corp. William Ashley of Company I, 36th Ohio Volunteer Infantry; the fourteen other proven uncles who served (two of which died in the war) and a great-great-grandfather who served in the Meigs County Militia against Morgan's raiders.

Some say that an organization of our type has no place in modern times, but they would be wrong. Our purposes are just as important today as they were on that fateful day of April 9, 1865, at Appomattox Court House to see that the memory of the martyrs and survivors of the Union army, navy and marines be maintained. If anything, our job is even more difficult now since we face the ignorance of developers and politicians to the importance of the war of the Rebellion and its sites. Let us renew our dedication to our primary purpose that of preserving the graves, the battlefields, and monuments, the artifacts, and the stories of the "boys in blue."

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As per the instructions of the 1997 delegate body, I published the information regarding Gen. Coffman in the first general orders. Upon receiving a request from Commander-in-Chief Loomis, I published his comments in fairness to the situation.

As with any organization, all changes are not positive. I am sorry to report that Lois Camp #15 of Lucasville has surrendered its charter to me. I had offered my personal help to this camp many times as had others. But this camp was a case of one member paying the dues for all its members, which became extremely expensive for him. I sent letters to all its members urging them to affiliate with another camp or as at-large members.

There have been some opinions expressed in one Ohio camps that camps should not accept members who are not willing to participate in the work of the activities of that camp. Though no camp can be truly active without active members, let us remember that it is equally important that we allow qualified men to honor their Union ancestors just by their membership in our Order. Allow your amount of camp dues to be high enough that these brothers who are otherwise inactive support the funding of the camp's projects.

Another criticism has been questioning of the need of departments and a national organization. It has been my finding that this criticism has come from those members who have never attended a department or national encampment, which is their right to do. However, let me invite all Ohio brothers whether delegates or not, to attend our department encampments to see all of the work that we do. Then offer your constructive criticism.

The most challenging situation is the attempt to save Ohio's only Civil War battlefield. With the help of the Allied Orders and the Ohio S.C.V. I organized a group meeting at the office of Sen. Michael Shoemaker to ask that legislation be passed to save Buffington Island Battlefield. His senatorial district includes the battlefield, and he also served on the Ohio Bicentennial Commission. We packed his office. Due to the highly charged political situation over school funding as well as the current election year, Sen. Shoemaker, a Democrat, has been told by the Republican leadership that he will not be permitted to introduce any legislation.

On Jan. 28, I participated in a meeting at the Ohio Capitol Building with the Ohio Preservation Office, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, various Civil War Groups, and the Shelly Corporation of Thornville, Ohio –the company seeking to mine the Buffington Island battlefield. The Ohio Preservation Office was upset that all of us were not wanting to compromise a single inch of the battlefield. It has been my feeling that we must press for full preservation, or we give the impression that the battlefield is not important. As long as there is hope, I will continue to fight on to save this sacred soil.

As of this date, the U.S. Corps of Engineers has not held any hearings on the shipping dock the company needs to move the sand and gravel. However, it has applied in May, 1998 and received permits from the Ohio Dep't of Natural Resources to open its pits. I immediately followed this with a written appeal of this permit due to the fact that this violates Ohio Revised Code concerning the possible incursion into the at least 54 unknown dead of the battlefield. Shelly Company's archeological firm says that it can locate these but has yet done nothing.

What can you and your camps do? You must contact your state senators and representatives protesting the issuance of this permit with out the locations of these sacred graves.

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In the meantime, the Meigs County Pioneer & Historical Society has led the fight to apply for funds from the federal government purchase of the battlefield. The Allied Orders submitted written testimony for this purpose. No answer has been received at this time.

Our hope is to stop this mining permit until Gov. Voinovich is replaced in January with a new governor who may be more sympathetic to this struggle. It appears that we have helped to place a major roadblock over the issuance of this permit. On June 11, I was notified by Robert Davis, Chief of Staff, that 49 separate appeals had been issued over the permit.

On June 17, Robert Davis, Brent Nimmo, John Duncan and I attended the hearing on the stay of the permit to mine Buffington Island Battlefield. There were a total of 20 interested people there. The Auxiliary, the D.U.V. and the Ladies of the G.A.R. were present. At the time of this report, I just learned that we won a stay until October.

On 18 June, I finally decided to take off the "kid gloves" and put pressure on the state representative in my district. I bluntly asked him if he was going to introduce legislation to save the Buffington Island Battlefield. After he put out a couple of requirements for information, he at least agreed to do so. This means that all camps will be getting some notification late this year to put pressure on their own state representatives to support this legislation. When that time comes, we must be ready to act.

We need to get in tough with Robert Taft III, candidate for governor, to plead our case. He has held membership in one Ohio Lineage society, and would be more likely to appreciate the value of Ohio's endangered battlefield. This will be left to the next department commander.

In compliance with the directions from the 1997 department encampment, I went to Hamilton, Ohio, on June 16, 1998, to recover the charter and property of the defunct John Bruck Camp #96. With the help of the county veteran's service office, I located the building that held the charter and discovered which person had the camp flag poles and standards.

I picked up the charter and gave a receipt for it. I then took a Butler County deputy sheriff to the home of the former Bruck Camp member who has the other material. He was not home to obtain those materials. I received a call later that night from this man. He was more than happy to agree to ship these to me in the near future.

I was notified only a few days in advance of this year's commemoration of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's birthday of opportunity to participate in the ceremonies. As I was already scheduled out of town that day, I attempted to find a suitable person as a replacement. This was not possible. The person in charge of this event was inconsiderate to wait until the programs were to be printed to call long distance demanding our answer within 24 hours.

I am reading a great horror that today's veterans are being placed to rest without the benefit of military honors which are due them. There has been some discussion as to legislation correcting this situation. I believe that it is worth our time to discuss this issue here at the encampment and comes with a position on the matter if possible. I am equally appalled when I hear of other veterans' organizations charging large fees to widows for providing a firing squad at veteran's funerals. Would the G.A.R. have done this to their brothers.

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I have not sent a letter to the Greene County, Ohio. The reason this work is being done in the department on obtaining legal claim to the cannons from the Home. If I had tipped our hand to our legal claim to the property, I feared that this would jeopardize our legal claim to the cannon. Therefore, I ask that the department give permission to the next commander to issue such a letter to the Greene County, Ohio commissioners when he feels the timing is right to do so. I hope that the national organization will consider assisting the Ohio Department to reclaim this property.

I issued a formal order to Robert Druckemiller of Given Camp to cease using the department name on his stationary as he was in no way an officer of the department nor acting at its behest. At the same time, I commended him for his work to honor five brigadier generals buried in the same cemetery in the Toledo area. I have no desire to quench the desire of Brother Druckemiller or any other brother from carrying out the objects of the S.U.V., but I have an obligation to protect the name of the Ohio Department against improper use of its name.

The media has been reporting the wretched condition of Ohio Civil War battle flags. Estimates place the cost of restoration from \$1000 - \$5000 per flag. There are 200 flags. Unlike the Michigan legislature that appropriate money to save theirs, Gov. Voinovich has again turned his back on another Civil War preservation effort.

I am sorely disappointed at the response to the department commander's project. Last year, I made it clear that this program had to be approved by the delegate body. If it was approved, it would be up to the members to take back to their respective camps. Few camps have responded despite my urging in the department orders. I cannot help but wonder what the reason is for this. Is it the fact that too many funds in the S.U.V. are competing for a limited number of dollars. Did the delegates fail to take this back to their camps? Are the General Orders being read?

I am looking at the financial figures of the department in last year's journal of proceedings. I can't help but notice that we spent almost \$1000 more than we took in. We will have more expenses on this year's report because we are the host of the encampment this year. Next year, we may have expenses involved in hosting the Central District meeting. With the correction of financial problems in the national organization, it may be best if we discontinue donations to the national patriotic instructor's fund and the chief of staff's fund.

The national S.U.V. chairman for the Save Our Sculpture Committee has sent forms to give to each camp on identifying Civil War sculpture and noting its current condition. Please be sure your camp gets one of these forms.

It seems my photo has made several appearances this past year. The OHIO MAGAZINE did a short, but incomplete, story on the Buffington Island Battlefield. I protested over the phone to the incompleteness of the story since it did not give the position of Ohio Gov. Voinovich on allowing the destruction of the battlefield. The magazine informed me that they didn't do "hatchet jobs" whatever that means. The free-lance photographer assigned to take pictures for the story inadvertently referred to me obtain Civil War reenactors for pictures. I and two others appeared at the battlefield in fog and darkness and donated several pints of blood to the large mosquitoes. After 3 hours of photos, the photographer got exactly ONE picture in the magazine with me in

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front. Also, my photo in Union uniform, appears on the most recent edition of the W.Va. road map. I am also told that some brochure for Memphis Tennessee, features my photo.

Information come out on June 10 that the decay of the "Monitor" the Union's first metal-plated ship is much worse than suspected. Though salvage efforts are going forth, recovering the entire ship now is said to be impossible. The ambivalence of our government has let one of the most important vessels in world history continue to decay until too late.

This year a statue will be unveiled honoring Confederate general James Longstreet. This in itself is not a problem. However there has been some unofficial statements made within the National park Service that this is going to be the LAST such statue allowed. This is a travesty if true. Union General Farnsworth was voted to be memorialized at Gettysburg with a statue in the 1890's. As yet, Congress still has done nothing to fund this. Even if it takes private donations, it is important that the S.U.V. see that this situation is corrected.

There is now before the Congress of the United States an amendment to outlaw discretion of the U.S. Flag. As Sons of Union Veterans claims to be a patriotic organization, what symbol is more patriotic than that flag. It appears likely that the U.S. senate is going to endorse this amendment. Such actions are illegal until the U.S. Supreme Court re-interpreted the First Amendment to say that it become legal. Though some opponents say that the flag discretion is a right of free speech, federal law prohibits the discretion of the money of the U.S. Surely, the flag deserves more respect than our currency does.

One of the concerns facing me this past year is that there was a question what would happen to the property of the S.V.R. unit if the unit disbanded. Some units include membership of more than one camp. Luckily, this problem didn't result, but it could have. Since a department commander has no authority over the S.V.R. it was a serious concern.

Now to more positive items. I am pleased to announced the formation of Gen. Benjamin D. Fearing Camp #2 IN Marietta with Brother Dan Hinton of Waterford as its first commander. This camp was installed on June 14th and it was truly an honor and a pleasure to do so. I am also pleased to announce the re-activation of the charter of John S. Townsend Camp #108 of Frost, Athens County, Ohio, with Brother Terry Frost as its commander. It is important that our department continue with obtaining new camps each year in order to grow. Every time we have a new camp, we add the potential of greater growth to our order.

I wish to congratulate McLaughlin Camp of Mansfield in its work to replace the soldier's monument in that city. Thousands of dollars had to be raised to accomplish this. Equally important is the work of Richard Enderlin Camp on a monument at Chillicothe. The new Brig. Benj. D. Fearing Camp of Marietta has also refurbished a statue. Hats off to these camps.

The Ohio Historical Society is planning a state museum for the display of artifacts from all oh Ohio's wars. This museum is set to be built at or near Ft. Meigs, a War of 1812 fort at Maumee, Ohio. The Ohio Historical Society has been lax in educating the public to Ohio's rich military heritage. Though the location on the fringe of the state makes it difficult for the entire state to enjoy these materials, it is a step in the right direction.

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An independent organization known as the Ohio Civil War Trails Commission has been formed. It is patterning itself after similar groups in other state -- all of which has been very successful -- in increasing tourism to Civil War sites. It is now accepting memberships at a cost of \$15. I believe that the Ohio Department should obtain a membership in this organization.

This summer will see the dedication of the black Union Soldier's monument in Washington, D.C. The only current black member of the Ohio Department is a black member in the D.C. area -- Brother Fred Crenshaw of Suitland, Maryland. Brother Fred Crenshaw is a member by virtue of his uncles who served as black soldiers in a white unit -- the 9th W.Va. Infantry. I have already let him know that he may be called upon to represent this department at those ceremonies.

Long range planning is of great concern to the department. The Ohio Bicentennial Commission is now set up to prepare for the 200th birthday of our state. The Commission is poorly organized and lacking in leadership. It has mainly gotten most of its ideas from the Meigs County Commission for the Ohio Bicentennial, most of whose ideas were mine. We should plan for participation in at least one of the state-wide commissions -- probably to be held in Chillicothe--Ohio's first capital. We should look at setting aside some finances for a military unit, float, etc. Further, we should present our ideas to the Allied Orders in order to work together.

It is obvious from the last issue of the BANNER that our organization has a lot of important business to transact at the national encampment. I want to encourage as many Brothers to become delegates to the national encampment in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as possible.

One of the issues that is bound to come up at the national encampment is the plan to allow a private organization to build a new visitor's center on "holy ground" of the Gettysburg Battlefield. This is an issue that deserves our attention at our meeting.

It has been apparent that the ownership of G.A.R. property is being endangered when neglect is allowed. Let us renew our efforts to locate cannons, monuments, buildings, etc. that fail to us as heirs of the G.A.R. and perform some annual repair or upkeep that maintains our rights to ownership. Otherwise abandonment may result in our loss of our rights to these items.

I have attempted to have the Ohio Department to follow the CR&R by using the proper credentials system. It is difficult to get out of our rut of simply showing up for an encampment. However, as we continue to grow, we must expect eventual challenges to the rights of members to be seated as delegates.

There are plans to dedicate a memorial fountain to the Ohio veterans this summer in Columbus. It is important that we participate in this ceremony.

I have also committed the Ohio Department to conducting the 1st annual commemoration of the Battle of Buffington Island to be held At Portland, Meigs County, Ohio, at 12:30 p.m. Saturday July 18. All other Ohio Civil War organizations -- Union and Confederate -- have been invited to attend. In addition all S.U.V. camps are invited to present wreaths. The S.V.R. is also invited to attend. This year is particularly important as we need all the media coverage we can to get save the battlefield. It is being held in conjunction with the Civil War re-enactment being held there.

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The Ohio Department has been asked by the Central District commander to host the 1996 Central District convention that includes Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Brother Robert Grim has been diligent in beginning the planning stages. Though our desire would have been to hold the convention in Fremont, Ohio, the weekend used for this convention coincides with a Civil War re-enactment that same weekend making it impossible to get any hotel to accommodate this meeting. It appears that we will be going to our second choice of Lancaster, Ohio the home of Gen. William T. Sherman.

There was information presented at the mid-winter encampment concerning laws regarding the 12-volume record of the Ohioans in the Civil War printed by the Ohio Adjutant General. The volumes state that Ohio State Library was to keep several sets of these on hand for future S.U.V. camps as well as to collect sets from defunct G.A.R. camps. I have checked this out with an S.U.V. member that works there. There are NO sets of these volumes available.

I approved camp by-laws for James A. Garfield and James McPherson Camps.

I also want to impress on all camps that the charters for all S.U.V. camps are the property of the national organization. If you locate a charter for any dormant camp, please notify the commander-in-chief immediately so that it can be reclaimed. Camp commanders- remember your obligation that you are responsible for the care of the camp charter during your term of office.

I thank Mark Eckley, Sr. Vice Commander, for representing me at the dedication of the D.A.R. Civil War museum at Camp Dennison. This is the project we were to collect money for.

I wish to thank Tim Park whose tireless efforts as chairman of the encampment committee this year has seen that all the campfire and banquet run smoothly. I also wish to thank him for representing me at the grave marking ceremony at Toledo last week and the dedication of the Lincoln-Vicksburg statue.

I also wish to thank the S.V.R. leadership in its cooperation to participate in Civil War related events. It is always a pleasure to have the S.V.R. present.

I wish to thank the state secretary for his prompt processing and mailing of the general orders. I am sure his lovely wife was also a part of that work. I also wish to thank him for handling the details of registration for this encampment.

I thank Brother Robert Davis, Chief of Staff, for his work in planning my testimonial and for representing me at two meetings of the Ohio Civil War Trails Commission and a meeting on Buffington Island.

I wish to thank Dennison #1 of hosting the mid-winter encampment.

It has been a goal of mine this year to work closely with not only the Allied Orders but all the Civil War groups. Though there is still work to be done in this line. I feel I have made great progress. The mere fact that the national delegate body of the Daughters of Union Veterans has made me an honorary member speaks volumes to this fact. Tara Honarker, Ohio president of the Ladies of the G.A.R.; Florence Mayer, president of the Ohio D.U.V.; Esther Norton, president of the Ohi Woman's Relief Corps; Sarah Cherry, Ohio president of the Auxiliary S.U.V. Lynn Bury, Ohio Preident Dames of the Loyal Legion; Karl Schaeffer, Ohio Commander of Military Order of the Loyal Lwegion; and Robert Croye, Ohio commander of Sons of Confederate Veteransm have all been most

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willing to work closely with me. Plus this year we will be honored by representation from the National Society Daughters of the Union.

I have also tried to improve the office of commander by developing guidelines for a timeline for the office. These have already been presented to the senior vice commander, which I am sure he will modify as needed for his successor. My goal was to be able for my successor to “hit the ground running” when he is elected. I hop I have accomplished this.

Now for a summary of my year’s activities:

I have been able to attend camp meetings or other functions of Vienna Camp of Portsmouth (2 trips), Gov. Wm. Dennison of Athens (3 trips), James McPherson Camp of Toledo (1 trip). Gen. Benj. D Fearing Camp of Marietta (2 trips) Dennison Camp #1 of Columbus (2 trips), McClellan Camp of Alliance (1 trip), Richard Enderlin Camp of Chillicothe (1 trip) as all of my camp meetings,.

I attended the national encampment in Utica, NY, and Remembrance Day in Gettysburg, where I was robbed. I attended the Civil War Widow’s event at Gettysburg last July, which was coordinated by Ohio’s own CinC David R Medert. I attended several Civil War re-enactments including the 135th Antietam event = the largest re-enactment ever. I served on the crew of the 1st Ohio Light Artillery (the governor’s own). I attended services at Arlington Cemetery at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on May 30 along with Brig. General David Medert, PCinC David R. Medert, Matthew Medert and Frank Foight. I participated in the Labor Day parade at Canal Winchester with Gov. Dennison Camp 1. I attended the dedication of a Civil War stone for a medal of honor winner near Toledo. I had the pleasure of representing the Gen, William T. Sherman family and the department at his annual birthday party in Lancaster, Ohio. I have the pleasure of serving as Ohio Department D.U.V. pianist and this year’s banquet speaker for the national D.U.V. convention. I attended the mid-winter encampment in Columbus and my testimonial in Lancaster. I traveled twice to Columbus for business on Buffington Island and one for the Civil War Trails Commission. I traveled to Hamilton, Ohio to reclaim camp property.

I have used over 500 sheets of letterhead stationery for this office this year most of which I photocopied for my files. Some of those letters were photocopied many times to send out. Had my computer not crashed in April, I would have given an exact number. Phone calls are also too numerous to mention. I answered requests for membership in the D.U.V. and the Woman’s Relief Corps as well as the S.U.V.

I especially wish to thank the four ladies of the Ashley household for their patience in all the work and time I have put into this job. They are all members of the Allied Orders. I am especially proud of my oldest daughter, Rachel, who has served as a national officer of the daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War since the age of 13, and is in line to be the state president in four years.

Lastly, I wish to thank my home camp, Brooks-Grant Camp #7 of Middleport, for the donation of \$200 to aid in my expenses as state commander.

Here are my recommendations to the 1998 encampment:

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1. I recommend that this department provide the department commander with printed letterhead stationary to conduct the affairs of the department if finances permit.
2. I recommend that Brother Frank Foight be given the status of “past department commander” in the Ohio Department by reason of his service as past department commander of another department.
3. T recommend that Brother Robert Grim be endorsed for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief at the 1998 national encampment and for the office of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief at the 1999 encampment if elected as Junor Vice Commander-in-Chief.
4. I recommend that the Ohio Department participate in the ceremonies at the black Union soldier’s monument in our nation’s capital and that Brother Fred Crenshaw be allowed to present a wreath on our behalf.
5. I recommend that the Ohio Department discuss plans for commemoration of the Ohio Bicentennial and establish a plan to set aside funds for this.
6. I recommend that the Ohio Department Council look at the number of funds in the Ohio Department that are asking for donations and make recommendations as to the feasibility of having a state commander’s project in the future.
7. I recommend that the Ohio Department go on record that all delegates to the 1999 Ohio Department encampment present proper credentials as required by the CR&R.
8. I recommend that the Ohio Department participate in the ceremonies of dedication of the veteran’s memorial in Columbus, Ohio to be held in 1998.
9. I recommend that the Ohio Department establish a commemoration of the Battle of Buffington Island at Portland, Ohio in the month of July annually. All Civil War organizations should be extended an invitation to participate in the event.
10. I recommend that the Ohio Department go on record requesting the Ohio General Assembly to provide the funding to preserve Ohio’s Civil War battle flags.
11. I recommend that the Ohio Department go on record supporting a museum to display the artifacts of wars of the Ohio Historical Society and participate in any dedication of this museum.
12. I recommend that the Ohio Department take a paid membership in the Civil War Trails Commission.
13. I recommend that the Ohio Department allot funds as needed to host the Central District S.U.V.C.W. convention in Lancaster, Ohio in October 1998.
14. I recommend that the Ohio Department offer its formal thans to Brother Don Hinton in the formation of Gen. Bej. D. Fearing Camp #2 of Marietta and to Brother Terry Frost for the formation of Joseph S. Townsend Camp #108 of Frost, Athens County, Ohio.
15. I recommend that the Ohio Department offer its formal thanks to Brother Richard Greenwalt and Brother Tim park for their dedication to making the arrangements for holding this encampment.
16. I recommend the Ohio Department authorize the printing of ribbons for the 1999 encampment .

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17. I recommend that the Ohio Department consider taking a position of the current problem of the lack of full military honors at the time of burial of today's veterans
 18. I recommend that the Ohio Department pay to print programs for the Buffington Island ceremonies on July 18.
 19. I recommend the Ohio Department request all Ohio Camps to assist the Ohio Civil War Trails Commission in the location of important sites in their corresponding areas of the state.
 20. I recommend the Ohio Department take out an ad in the 1998 national encampment program book.
 21. I recommend that the Ohio Department formally ask the national organization to endorse a statue to Gen. Farnsworth on the Gettysburg National Park as he is the only general not so honored.
 22. I recommend the Ohio Department endorse an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to prevent the discretion of the U.S. Flag and send such an endorsement to the national organization for their approval.
 23. I recommend that the Ohio Department ask an addition to the Standard Operating Procedures of the S.V.R. to include regulations regarding the disposition of property of an S.V.R. unit upon its disbandment.
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Senior Vice Commander Report

As Senior Vice Commander I have attended the following events representing the Department of Ohio.

7/4-6 1997 Participated in the Gettysburg 134 Anniversary Re-enactment

8/9-10/ 1997 Participated in the Hartsville, Ohio, Civil War Encampment. Helped to answer questions at the Garfield Camp Booth

9/6/97 Filled in for Commander Ashley at the Camp Dennison Museum opening in Cincinnati.

9/20-21/97 Participated in the Kirkland, Ohio Civil War Encampment

10/4-5/97 Participated in the Hayes Presidential Civil War Encampment and wreath laying.

Participated in the President Garfield wreath laying ceremony at Lakeview Cemetery, Cleveland, Ohio. Commander the 21 gun-salute.

11/23/97 Elected Camp Commander McClellan Camp #91

Assisted Larry Laboda of Fair Oaks, NC in getting a proper grave marker for Private Alora Boosinger of Battery A, 1st Light Artillery

5/23-24/98 Participated in the Burton, Ohio. Reenactment

5/25/98 Celebrated Memorial Day with brother of McClellan Camp 91 in Alliance, Ohio. Since being elected Sr. Vice Commander, I have sent out numerous press releases to the Civil War Magazines and Newspapers.

I have been trying to find out from those brothers, who have either left our Order or do not become active, hoping to find some ideas to make our order more interesting.

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Recommendation:

1. To place someone in the Cincinnati that is more localized to bring that camp around. Cincinnati is too rich an area to let it drag behind. We have had too many complaints from potential members when I was Jr. Vice that their applications are not being taken care of in a timely manner. I understand Dave is experiencing similar problems from that area. We need to grow Cincinnati.
2. That we computerize the Department membership. Addresses, and Camp contacts. To be distributed to all Department Officers.
3. The Department officially support Past Department Commander Robert Grim for the Office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.
4. That we offer our assistance, but not assume responsibility, of the Ohio Military Flag Restoration Project.

Submitted in F.C. & L

Mark Eckley
Sr. Vice Commander, Department of Ohio.

June 1998

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER REPORT

This had been a very busy year with referrals for the prospective members into the SUVCW from the National Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. We received 169 referrals from his office and know of 15 members that have joined the Order. The increase is as a direct result of the SUVCW's Web page. Prospective members query the Jr. Vice CNC for information and he in return sends the query to the respective Department Jr. Vice Commander.

In May 1998, the SUVCW application was placed on the web page and prospective members are now able to download the application and submit it to the camp or Department of his choice. This is a quicker process for the new member but does make it difficult for the Department Jr. Vice to track new members. The National Jr. Vice CNC still receives inquiries and continues to forward them to Department Jr. Vice Commanders.

Although technology has enabled us to promote the SUVCW to a much larger audience, it has also increased the responsibility of the Department Jr. Vice Commanders to "sell" the SUVCW to prospective new members without the ability to look him in the eye and visually promote the Order.

In May 1998, a request was made to all camps to provide this office with their respective Camp Officers, points of contact, meeting locations and dates, as well as activities their camps are involved in. This was done in order to provide the new Department Jr. Vice Commander the ability to better promote the SUVCW in new member's areas. As of June 1, 1998, only two of the 17 camps responded.

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Proceedings of 1998 Encampment

During my term as Department Jr. Vice Commander, I attended the following events, many of which recruitment tables were placed:

1. McConnelsville (Reenactment)
2. National Encampment
3. Testimonial Dinner for Commander Ashley
4. Sommerset (Reenactment)
5. Springfield, Ohio (Civil War Show)
6. LHA Burr Oak
7. INSTALLED Camp officers for the Vienna Camp in Portsmouth
8. Fall Festival of Leaves (Bainbridge)
9. Remembrance Day (Gettysburg)
10. Mid Winter Meeting in Columbus
11. Department of Michigan's mid winter meeting in Lansing
12. SVR School of the Piece in Chillicothe, Ohio
13. Homecoming Living History in Gallipolis
14. As Commanding Officer SVR, guest speaker for Pomeroy's Memorial Day Service
15. Memorial Day Service in Chillicothe
16. Delivered Senator Garfield oration for Memorial Day service in Arlington Cemetery in Washington DC
17. Guest Speaker at the following organizations: Local elementary school, Kiwanis and Lions.

Recommendations

1. As mentioned in the above paragraphs, recommend all Camps provide the Department Jr. Vice Commander information regarding their respective Camp's officers (including email addresses_ meeting locations/dates, and activities the camp is involved in. Whenever the camps update their projects/activities or change points of contact. That information be submitted to the Jr. Vice Commander
2. Recommend each Department Officer and all Camps be provided a roster of the Department of Ohio's membership. Updates to the roster should be provided when the quarterly per capita tax is submitted.
3. Recommend whenever a referral is submitted to a camp, the camp provide the Department Jr. Vice Commander a status of the new member. This will better aid the Department and national in determining how well the SUVCW web site is operating with regards to new members.
4. I have enjoyed my term as Ohio Department Jr. Vice Commander and want to thank everyone for the support they have provided. Without the support, our Order would not prosper.

Submitted in F.C. & L

David V. Medert

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Proceedings of 1998 Encampment

SECRETARY REPORT

To Department Commander Keith Ashley
Officers and members of the Ohio Department
Sons of Union veterans of the Civil War
116th Annual Encampment

I was glad that I could attend Remembrance Day at Gettysburg, PA and the Mid-winter meeting in Columbus, Ohio

I have a feeling of regret over the loss of Lois Camp No. 16 at Minford, Ohio during the last quarter of 1997. Brother Joseph Stockham worked hard to keep it going.

It is my proud pleasure to announce the re-instatement of Camp No. 108, John S Townsend using the original Charter and meeting in the GAR Hall at Frost, Ohio. This Camp has as of now a membership of 8. Much of the credit for this Camp belongs to our Department Patriotic Instructor Terry Frost.

On June 14, 1998 I had the distinct pleasure of attending the chartering of General Benjamin D. Fearless Camp No 2 in Marietta, Ohio. This Camp started with 6 transfer members and 11 new members, it has required a great deal of patience and persistence to accomplishment. Special recognition is due to Danny Hinton and to Department Commander Keith Ashley.

During the year we have lost 4 members to death

Kenneth Shew of Camp No. 91 on August 13, 1997

Raymond Fawcett of Camp No. 1 on March 3, 1998

Jerry Devol of Camp No. 7 on April 5, 1997

Drennan Goldbury of Camp No. 7 on April 26, 1997

It was reported from Brooks-Grant Camp No. 7 on their report for the quarter ending June 30, 1997 of the loss of two members due to death

Until this quarter which ends June 30, 1998 the Department has gained

63 by initiation

one by transfer from another Department

eight by re-instatement

The Department lost

Four by death

One by transfer to another Department

One by Honorable Discharge by dropped

A very strong recommendation that all Camps Quarterly Reports, Per Capita Checks, application blanks for new members along with fees for the same, are sent to the Department Secretary-Treasurer by the 15th of the month, following the close of the Quarter, EXAMPLE quarter ending June 30th in by July 15th, so that the Department Secretary-Treasurer will have what he needs to make his Department Report to the National Organization on time. Including: names and addresses of members gained, members lost and why, and new addresses for members who have moved.

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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In F.C. & L
Department Secretary
Richard Greenwalt

TREASURER REPORT

To Department Commander Keith Ashley
Officers and Members of the Ohio Department
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
116th Annual Encampment

Again Thank you for allowing me to serve another year as your Department Treasurer.
This is a report of my office from June 1, 1997 to 1 June 1998

RECEIPTS:

\$25.00	Auxiliary Gift
\$35.00	Registration 1997 Encampment
\$180.00	Chief of Staff Fund
\$100.00	Patriotic Instructor Fund
\$6,700.00	Per Capita and new member fees
\$168.00	Members at Large
\$74.51	Interest from Saving Account
\$100.25	Interest from Checking Account
\$33.00	Garfield Camp No 142 Dept Commanders Project
\$9.50	Vienna Camp No 26 Dept. Commander's Project
\$25.00	McClellan Camp No 91 Dept Commander Project
<u>\$84.00</u>	Vienna Camp No. 26 1998 Dept Chief of Staff Fund
\$7,534.26	

	June 1997	June 1998
Checking Account and Certificate of Deposit	\$6,157.81	\$7,210.91
Permanent Fund	\$8,090.16	\$8,539.99

DISBURSEMENTS:

\$155.00	1997 Department encampment
\$61.45	1997 Department Printing for Encampment
\$61.60	1997 Printing for Encampment
\$45.14	1997 Department Ribbons for Encampment
\$100.00	William T. Sherman Memorial
\$50.00	Senior Vice Commander-Chief Fund
\$50.00	National Patriotic Instructors Fund

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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\$100.00	Soldier's Monument Fund
\$4,755.00	National Organization Per Capita and new members fees
\$411.25	Printing, General Orders and 1997 Proceedings
\$150.00	Dept. Commander toward his National Encampment
\$28.00	Given Camp – over payment
\$21.00	Gov. Dennison Camp – Over payment
\$66.02	David V. Medert – postage
\$20.00	Tim Park – 1998 Department Encampment
\$13.28	Karl Schaeffer – paper company 1998 Dept. Encampment
<u>\$406.25</u>	Secretaries supplies
\$6,974.59	

In F.C. & L
Richard Greenwalt
Ohio Department Treasurer

Sons of Union Veterans Of the Civil War Dept. of Ohio Report 1997-1998

June 20, 1998

June 1997 Submitted five nominees of the Civil War Veterans to the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame. They were Col. Knauss, 2nd Let. And Capt. Krum. The selected for 1997 were Doctor David Gilliam and Col. James Kilbourne. Both are buried at Greenlawn Cemetery, Columbus, Ohio

June 28, 1997 Had a recruiting table at reenactment at Somerset, Ohio. Attended General William T. Sherman's statue fund raiser dinned at Lancaster, Ohio. As of May 1998, \$56,000 of \$65,000 has been raised.

July 2, 1997 With Dep'. Commander Ashley attended a meeting in the office of Senator Michael Shoemaker for the purpose of asking for his help to save Ohio's only Civil War Battlefield, Buffington Island Battlefield.

July 26, 1997 Attended reenactment at Buffington Island

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Proceedings of 1998 Encampment

- Aug. 31, 1997 Prepared and held Testimonial Dinner for Comdr. Keith Ashley and Auxiliary President Sarah Cherry at Best Western at Lancaster, Ohio
- Sept. 6, 1997 With Senior Vice Comdr. Mark Eckley attended the rededication ceremony at Camp Dennison Ohio Civil War Museum. 7509 Glendale, Milford, Ohio (513) 576-6327 (Home Page [http://www.erinet.com/tomt/dennison, html](http://www.erinet.com/tomt/dennison.html))
- Sep. 26, 1997 Occupied a recruiting table for Dept. of Ohio at Somerset, Ohio. Also handed out forms to save Buffington Island.
- Sept. – Oct. Attended several Franklin County Veterans Day parade meetings, Veterans Memorial Building, Columbus, Ohio.
- Oct. 25, 1997 Attended first meeting of Ohio Civil War Trails Commission held at Muskingum College, New Concord, Ohio Purpose of the commission is to: (1) Catalog all Civil War related sites in the State of Ohio (2) Obtain a tax exempt – non profit status (The commission is not funded by the State of Ohio) (3) Classifications as follows: Biographies (soldiers, sailors, politicians, generals) Status, Museums, Memorials (including gravestones) J.H. Morgan's raid into Ohio, Pre-war causes, Prisons, Regimental histories (including muster in/out camps) (4) Description of sites, (5) To print a book on all documented sites. Will then be transferred to CD Rom format for easy computer research (6) Produce a large map (brochure style) by year 2002 companion audio tape to accompany the map. (7) Produce an informative video tape highlighting the trail and Ohio's contribution to the war. (8) A Plan for future funding and perpetuation of this project.
- April 25, 1998 Civil War Trails Commission meeting at Ohio Statehouse. Result of meeting: Ohio divided into five districts with a coordinator for each district. Districts are N.E., N.W., S.E., S.W., and Central. This is for compiling historical sites. Representatives from Kentucky and Indiana showed slides on J.H. Morgan's marked history trail. (Signs and brochures) Ohio wants to follow with the same idea creating a Tri-State trail of J.H. Morgan. Interest persons who would like to join the commission may join, the membership is \$15.00. You will receive a news letter (The Pathway). Make checks payable to "Ohio Civil War Trail Commission. Mail to : Dale L. Clark, 313 Woodlawn Ave., Zanesville, Ohio 43701 (Phone (740)-452-6840 Next meeting July 24, 1998, possibly in Freemont, Ohio.

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- Oct. 30, 1997 Received O.K. from Canal Winchester, Ohio Historical Society to raise funds and place monument to Pvt. Alfred Cannon, 95th O.V.I. at town's historical square. Pvt. Cannon gave up his spot on an exchange at Andersonville, Georgia, so a comrade who had family could go home. Pvt. Cannon later died in a confederate prison. He is buried in a National Cemetery at Salisbury, N.C. (Grave #470). The G.A.R. Post in Canal Winchester was named in his honor.
- Nov. 6, 1997 Accepted plaques for two civil war veterans who were inducted into the 1997 Ohio Veterans hall of Fame. Both were members of the J.C. McCoy Post #1. They were Colonel James Kilbourne, Co. H, 95th O.V.I. He was director of Columbus Board of Trade, Vice Pres, of the Franklinton Centennial Commission, President of the Board of Trustees of Columbus Public Library System and President of Columbus Childrens Hospital. Doctor David T. Gilliam, MD, 2nd Virginia Cavalry (Union). He was chairman of Columbus Pathology dept. of the Columbus Medical College. Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of women. Prepared many scientific papers. Wrote three books on medicine, pathology and gynecology. Taught 30 years at the medical college. His practice promoted surgical work and knowledge was used world-wide.
- Nov. 8, 1997 Marched in the Columbus Veterans Day Parade and attended the reception at the Statehouse.
- March 1, 1998 Mailed to all Ohio camps requests for donations to the Chief of Staff Fund
- Apr. – May 1998 Prepared packets for the 1998 nominees for the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame (summaries attached) George K. Nash, Lorenzo Myers, Gustavus Innis, William H. Knauss and Frederick Krum. All members of the Grand Army of the Republic, and contributed to the betterment of Ohio as veterans,
- May 1, 1998 S.O.U.V.C.W. and S.O.C. co-sponsored Civil War Valley Forge Elementary school, Columbus, Ohio. Each room or outside scene had thirty, twenty-minute classes North-South Camp outside. President Lincoln and Governor William Dennison were in a room. Jefferson Davis and General Robert E. Lee in another room.
- May 20, 1998 Unveiling of plaque for 1997 inductees of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame at the soldiers/sailors home at Sandusky, Ohio
- May 23, 1998 Rededication ceremony with descendants of Colonel James Culbertson McCoy, aide-de-camp to General William T. Sherman

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from 1862 to 1875. He died while serving the general. Burial was with full military honors June 1, 1875 at Greenlawn Cemetery, Columbus, Ohio. Sherman and staff attended this funeral. The G.A.R. Post of Columbus was named J.C. McCoy Post #1. Thanks to all brothers who attended, including Major Robert Grim 3rd Military District S.O.U.V.R. who escorted members of the family.

- May 25, 1998 marched in the Grove City Memorial day Parade. Attended Operation Flag Memorial Day Service at Primitive Baptist Cemetery, Reynoldsburg, Ohio. This was the cemetery chosen for the 1997-1998 Franklin County cemetery restoration. Wreaths were laid at twelve civil war and one War of 1812 graves.
- May 31, 1998 Attended charter presentation for new auxiliary of the Vienna Camp, Portsmouth, Ohio
- June 1, 1998 Attended a meeting in Columbus at the Mines Reclamation Office of Tom Snider of the Ohio Civil War Trail Commission. With Ms. Osterman of that office, filed an appeal against Shelly Materials, Inc. 49947 State route 338, Racine, Ohio 45771, to stop mining operations in area of Civil War Site at Buffington Island, Portland, Ohio that evening met with Commander Ashley with papers and information on subject.

I wish the Allied Orders a great encampment. It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as Department of Ohio Chief of Staff.

I remain your obedient servant in the future,

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Robert W. Davis

1998 CHIEF OF STAFF FUND DONATIONS

\$80.00	Vienna Camp No. 26
\$ 3.00	Department Commander Keith Ashley
\$ 3.00	Tim Park
\$ 5.00	PCC Charles Coffman
\$35.00	James A. Garfield Camp No 142
\$5.00	Thomas Gorrell
\$10.00	Sgt. Richard Enderlin Camp No. 73
\$5.00	Bob Davis
\$5.00	Mark Eckley Senior Vice Commander
\$5.00	PDC Larry Swogger

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\$5.00	Kirby Bauman
\$5.00	PCC Richard Greenwalt
\$5.00	Terry Frost
\$5.00	Jason Moore
\$10.00	Henry Casey Camp No 92
\$10.00	PDC Bob Grim
\$10.00	Gov. William Dennison Camp No. 125
\$5.00	Andy Johnson – Maryland Department
<u>\$2.00</u>	Jon B. Silvas

\$217.00

OHIO DEPARTMENT S.U.V.C.W. PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR 1997-1998 REPORTS

It has been my pleasure to serve as you Patriotic Instructor. I have been since the last time we were together. The following is a list of functions I attended during this time.

July *	I attended the McConnelsville, Ohio Civil War days
August *	I participated in the Athens, Ohio Bi-centennial
September *	I attended the Somerset, Ohio Civil War days
October *	I attended the Springfield Ohio Civil War days I attended the Burr Oak State Park Harvest Fest I attended the Festival of Leaves in Bainbridge, Ohio
November *	I participated in the Remembrance Day activities in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

I have replaced 22 pains (sic) of glass in the H.G. Frost #341 G.A.R. Hall #341 in Frost, Ohio. While doing this I found an SUVCW Charter for John S. Townsend Camp #108. I am at this time trying to get this camp started again. I have signed up seven members at this time with two of them being new.

I attended Brooks-Grant Camp #7 installation of officers meeting and installed their officers.

I attended Sgt. Richard Enderlin Camp #73

I have attended all of the Camp Dennison #125 meetings.

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Proceedings of 1998 Encampment

- Feb 7th 1998 Attended the Ohio Department Mid-Winter Meeting in Columbus, OH. Here I gave my reports on the 2nd half of 1997 and two months of 1998
- March I checked graves sites in SW Vets.
- April 17-19 Attended Artillery school held in Chillicothe, OH. Applications were handed out to persons not belonging to a CW Camp.
- April 24-26 Attended the Gallipolis, OH living history weekend. Here I signed up 1 new member into the SUV. He joined John S. Townsend Camp #108, Jeff Robinson
- May 1 Went to Morrison Elementary School for the purpose of setting up a display (outside History Day). However, it rained so hard the event was a washout.
- May 2 Attended Mansfield Civil War Show. Several people asked about the SUVCW and copies of the History were passed out when they asked for it.
- May 13 participated in a Memorial Service held at Burr Oak State Park. The event was hosted by William Dennison 125. Brother Robinson was also initiated during this service.
- May 24 Attended a Memorial Service at Frost, Ohio hosted by the Auxiliary to the Sons of Frost, OH. While at this service 4 new members were also signed up to join the SUV. These members were also initiated:
- Eric Frost = Zenus Frost Co. A 129 OVI
Stephen M Coen = John Lonas Pvt Co. D 18 OVI
Gregory Coen = John Lonas PVT Co. D 18 OVI
Earl Coen = John Lonas PVT Co. D 18 OVI

As of this date I have checked 796 graves of CW veterans. Over half of these will new gravestones. This will be attempted when all of Athens County has been checked.

I will also be attending the installation of a new camp. Benjamin D. Fearing Camp #12 around June 14th.

As of this date I have signed up 14 new members into the SUV. This total could rise at least (2) two applications are still out. A total of 20 members now belong to John S. Townsend Camp #108 at Frost, Ohio.

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Proceedings of 1998 Encampment

I have also gotten on the internet. I am sending e-mail all the time and also check the web sites of all CW pages.

Yours in F.C. & L

Howard T. Frost
Ohio Department
Patriotic Instructor.

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR FUND

Charles Corfman	\$5.00
Larry Swogger	\$5.00
Sgt. Richard Enderlin Camp	\$10.00
Thomas A. Gorrell	\$5.00
Mark Eckley	\$5.00
John S. Townsend Camp #108	\$10.00
Howard Frost	\$10.00
Kirby Bauman	\$5.00
Camp Dennison #125	\$10.00
Charles Coffman	\$5.00
Richard Greenwalt	\$5.00
Bob Davis	\$5.00
Robert E. Grim	\$10.00
Henry Casey Camp 92	\$10.00
Tim Parks	<u>\$5.00</u>
Total	\$105.00

Thanks to all camps and Brothers that donated to my fund.

F.C.& L
Howard T. Frost
Patriotic Instructor
Ohio Department

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Proceedings of 1998 Encampment

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, S.U.V.C.W. HISTORIAN AND GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER'S REPORT 1997-1998

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

As the Ohio Department Historian, I attended the unveiling of the Lincoln-Vicksburg Monument, at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus, Ohio, which was held on February 12, 1998. I was representing our State Commander, Keith Ashley.

On Monday, May 25th, 1998, I attended the re-dedication of the Richland County Soldiers Monument. This was held in Central Park in Mansfield, Ohio and I was representing the Ohio Department S.U.V.C.W.

On June 14th, 1998, I attended the re-dedication of five new grave markers for five Brvt. Brig. Generals and one Corp. This was held at Forest Cemetery in Toledo, Ohio. I was representing the Ohio Department along with Chuck Coffman and Danny Coffman.

GRAVE REGISTRATION OFFICERS REPORT

As the Ohio Department Graves Registration Officer, I have been kept very busy working with two townships; Blooming Grove and Springmill.

Between the two townships, I have ordered a total of 115 new headstones and 12 bronze plates. The plates have already been installed and I will also help install 86 of the 115 headstones in September for Blooming Grove Township. The headstones for Springmill Township have yet to be installed, and will depend on when they are received.

I have also ordered 6 headstones for my family and two bronze niche plates. During my research, I located two Civil War Veterans that earned the Medal of Honor.

In addition, I am also working with the Village of Ontario with their cemeteries and with Sandusky Township's cemeteries. I am also having a cemetery relocated into another cemetery, so that the veterans buried there will have their graves taken care of in an appropriate manner.

While attending the Civil War Show in Mansfield, Ohio, I passed out 35 applications for Government Headstones. Five of these were given to one of the displays for his son's Eagle Scout project. I also took two headstones to the show so that the public could be aware of how our organization can be of service to them.

I have also answered several letters of inquiry, pertaining to Civil War veterans.

This past year, I have attended the following events:

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Proceedings of 1998 Encampment

Re-enactment at McConnelville July 1997
Recognition dinner for Keith Ashley and Sarah Cherry August 1997
Dinner for General Sherman in Lancaster, Ohio
Remembrance Day at Gettysburg, PA. November 1997
Memorial Day parade in Canton, Ohio May 1998
Re-dedication Ceremony in Mansfield, Ohio May 1998
Re-dedication Ceremony in Toledo, Ohio June 1998
Re-dedication ceremony in Columbus, Ohio Feb. 1998

Respectfully submitted
Tim Park
Historian and
Graves Registration Officer

TO: Keith D. Ashley, Commander, Department of Ohio, Sons of Union Veterans of
The Civil War
RE: State G.A.R. Highway Project, Annual Report

It is my honor to report on the G.A.R Highway, having served for two years now as the
G.A.R. Highway Officer.

The State of Ohio road map now lists US Route 6 as the Grand Army of the Republic
Highway. My next step will be to see the Rand McNally interstate maps also recognize
US 6 officially.

The news about signage also Route 6 isn't good unfortunately. I spoke personally to
State Representative Bill Ogg about our problem. He instructed me to send him all
relevant information. This was done shortly after his request sometime around the
beginning of the year. Thus far, I have received no confirmation of receipt and have yet
to hear of any progress. I'm not quite sure why no person in state government seems to
take our requests as valid. It may be better to wait for a change of administration.

With guarded optimism I still believe that this project will be accomplished.

Your obedient servant,
Ralph F. Scott III
G.A.R. Highway Officer
Department of Ohio

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Proceedings of 1998 Encampment

June 18, 1998

TO: Keith D. Ashley, Commander, Department of Ohio, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

RE: Ohio Eagle Scout Annual Report

Sir:

It is my honor to report to you the progress of the Eagle Scout Certificate Program.

Each camp has been sent a letter that they are to have a representative from their camp to be Camp Eagle Scout Coordinator. Many camps have responded.

Thus far the previous year I am aware of approximately 30 certificates that have been given to deserving Boy Scouts.

This program has been enthusiastically received by the Scouts and I hop to see it grow in the future.

Your obedient servant

Ralph F. Scott III
Department of Ohio
Eagle Scout Coordinator

The 1998 Ohio Departments Encampment Committee Report

Funds Spent for Encampment:

\$88.48	paper goods, punch, chips, etc., for campfire and banquet
\$80.00	Cheese plates for campfire
\$150.00	Entertainment for campfire
\$29.00	4 dinners for entertainment
\$158.00	Printing of programs for encampment and Memorial Service

Total Cost \$505.48

Donations received for encampment:

Favors for banquet, received from Bank One	\$150.00
4 Civil War Figures, from Red Mills, Inc	\$25.00 each
1 Civil War Figure, from the Statehouse Museum Shop	\$25.00

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17 Civil War figures, from Tim Park each	\$25.00
.....	
14 Bases and misc. material to make center pieces for banquet	\$150.00
Total Donations Received	\$850.00

Total cost with funds spent and donations received \$1355.48

Report Respectfully submitted by;
Tim Park, Encampment Chairman.

GOVERNOR WILLIAM DENNISON CAMP #1 OF COLUMBUS, OHIO

The camp continues in cemetery restoration in Franklin, County, Ohio and is helping “Operation Flag” to restore cemeteries under a program of the county auditor. We marched in the Memorial Day Parade in Grove City, the Labor Day Parade in Canal Winchester and Veterans Day Parade in Columbus.

We held a dinner in February in honor of Pres. Lincoln. In April, we participated in a Civil war Day at Valley Forge Elementary School to educate children about the Civil War.

On Memorial Day, we place approximately 3000 flags on Civil War veterans graves at Greenlawn Cemetery in Columbus. We had “Remembrance Day” in Section “0” of Greenlawn Cemetery to honor Col. James Culbertson McCoy, aide-de-camp to Gen. William T. Sherman. He served from 1862 to 1875 and died in service. Sherman and his staff attended the 1875 funeral. The G.A.R. post in Columbus was named M.D. McCoy Post #1.

At the re-dedication of J.C. McCoy’s grave we had descendants of Col. McCoy attending. We had a bagpiper, Civil War gun volley, and “Taps” provided.

A ritual ceremony was held at Circle “M” for Civil War veterans. We placed a G.A.R. memorial wreath and fired a volley.

This year we attended Memorial Day ceremonies at Primitive Baptist Cemetery in Reynoldsburg, Ohio where 13 wreaths were placed for the 12 Civil War veterans and one veteran of the war of 1812

John Duncan, Commander

MCCLELLAN CAMP #91 OF ALLIANCE, OHIO

During this period the camp membership has remained constant. We had one death, Kenneth Shaw. The camp received its first junior – Nick Eckley. He attends meetings with his father and uncle. Nick fills appointed officer’s stations.

We use the ritual for camp meetings. Each member at meetings is given the opportunity to share materials and thoughts at meetings.

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Camp members participate in the observance of Veteran's Day, Remembrance Day of Gettysburg, Abraham Lincoln's birthday in Washington D.C., the Lincoln Death Day ceremonies at Springfield, IL, McKinley's Tomb at Canton, Pres. Garfield ceremonies, General Gant and Gen. Custer observances. We promote the organization through our join membership with Civil War Roundtables.

Members participate in re-enactments and school programs. We are proud that our camp member Karl Schaeffer, is currently commander of the Ohio Commandry Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the U.S. We enjoy an exchange of ideas with the Ohio Commandry.

Mark Eckley, Commander

BENJAMIN D. FEARING CAMP #2 OF MARIETTA, OHIO

The first organizational meeting was held February, 1997, at the American Legion Post #64 of Marietta with 19 interested people attending. It was decided to re-activate the old name and number of the camp. Temporary chairman and monthly planning meetings were held. Programs on the Civil War began in May, 1997 and have continued since. One of the camp's founders, Jerry Devol, died expectedly on April 4, 1997. The first event of our camp was Memorial Day 1997 with a ceremony at the Washington County Civil War Soldier's Monument in cooperation with the Elizabeth Rector Beull Tent #19 Daughters of Union Veterans of Marietta. In August 1997, we cooperated with other veterans' groups to provide a 24-hour guard for the traveling "Wall that Heals," Vietnam. We provided a color guard for the 1997 Veterans Day parade wearing Civil War uniforms. This brought more requests for information on membership.

In May, 1998 we were officially chartered. We had official installation ceremonies of our charter officers in June, 1998, with Keith Ashley, Ohio Dep.t commander as the installation officer. We have also restored the G.A.R. memorial arch in Oak Grove Cemetery, Marietta commemorating the "Unknown Dead" in the cemetery. We participated in the 1998 Marietta Memorial Day parade with a color guard. We are working on grave registration and have located 17 unmarked graves of Union Soldiers.

Dan Hinton, Commander

BROOKS-GRANT CAMP #7 OF MIDDLEPORT, OHIO

Though the camp has had a temporary loss in membership, several applications are pending. We have had excellent programs at our bi-monthly meetings. We have done the long-form initiation this year along with the installation of officers. The camp has been active in working to save the Buffington Island Battlefield by passing petitions, contact legislators, and placing newspaper articles. We also have a membership table at the re-enactment.

Ohio Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Proceedings of 1998 Encampment

Our camp assisted in the dedication of historical markers to the path of Morgan's Raiders' military records and places of burial in Meigs County. As soon as this is done, the records will be checked for accuracy with the Ohio Adjutant General's records following by a trip to all cemeteries to look at the presence and condition of stones. One unmarked Union grave has had a marker placed by this camp this year.

Our camp has purchased a Civil War reproduction drum and now has a camp drummer. Brig. Gen. David Medert, S.V.R. spoke at Decoration Day services at the Meigs County Union Statue by the Courthouse with 25 in attendance.

The camp received a \$500 donation from a Mason, W.Va. V.F.W. post to help in our activities. We have located a picture of Col. Cyrus Grant for whom our camp is partly named.

The University of Rio Grande is preparing tours of Civil War Battlefields beginning next year. Our camp has been asked to furnish guides for these trips.

JAMES A. GARFIELD CAMP #142 OF CLEVELAND, OHIO

The camp was given a Springfield rifle that we raffled off. We raised our goal of \$2000 for our treasury. Our next step is our overall plan to reimburse one member who had ordered and paid for our camp flags. We have also procured all materials and equipment to properly set up our meeting room to perform the official ritual.

Our camp continues to grow (sic). We have exceeded 70 members spanning ages from 20 to 80.

We are currently filing an application with the I.R.S. to obtain 501 © 3 status. We are trying to secure camp offices in the Cleveland Grays Armory in downtown Cleveland.

On Memorial Day 1998, we dedicated seven headstones for Civil War veterans who were unmarked in Butternut Ridge Cemetery. We are continuing our efforts to identify other veterans interred there. Some graves go back to the War of 1812.

James Pykare, Commander

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions approved by the Resolutions Committee were given unanimous approval by the Encampment and the Department Secretary was instructed to send copies to the National Secretary to be presented at the National encampment.

A Resolution of nomination and support for Brother Robert E. Grim for the office of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at the 1998 Encampment. This was submitted by the Officers and Brothers of Henry Casey Camp No. 92, included was a list of offices that Brother Grim has had in the Sons of

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Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Sons of Veterans Reserve. As well other Patriotic Organizations to which he is a member and renders services.

The G.A.R. Highway Officer Roster list Resolution as follows:

WHEREAS, the 1995 national encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War voted to print a list of department and camp officers for the entire organization: and

WHEREAS, the national G.A.R. Highway Officer cannot function in his job properly without the addresses of department G.A.R. highway officers: therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the name, address, and telephone number of all department officers requested from all departments be placed in the 1999 roster and all subsequent annual printed rosters of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

SUBMITTING Robert W. Davis 5/5/1998
National G.A.R. Hwy. Officer
Dept. of Ohio Chief of Staff
S.O.U.V.C.W

Approve
Governor Dennison Camp #1

Note: For the last two years as Nat'l G.A.R. Hwy. Officer I've had to waster two or three months of getting names of Dept. Of State G.A.R. Hwy. Officers names and addresses. Some State had not appointed said officer. State Dept. forms should include appointed officers.

Robert W. Davis

The business sessions on Saturday – centered on various areas of interest.

PCC David R. Medert's report on the ceremony at Gettysburg, Penn. On July 1, 1997 honoring the last 2 widows of the Civil War and the hands across the Wall Ceremony, that took place during the program.

It was stated by PCC Karl Schaeffer that it had appeared in print recently that the Government is still paying pensions to 15 Civil War widows, so there must be more than the 2 at Gettysburg still living.

That there are 5 cities that claim to have held the first Memorial Day and that the Federal Government recognizes Waterloo, New York as being the first.

The condition of Civil War Monuments and Statues in different locations and what action is being taken to keep them in repair.

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The June 6, 1998 observance in New Rumbly, Ohio, that was honoring George A. Custer, attending the ceremonies were men pertraying (sic) several of the Civil War Generals.

The Buffington Island problem which has been going on for several years. Participation was urged for programs planned for the Buffington Island Site, July 18 and 19th. Hopefully a show of strength will help to preserve this site it is the only Civil War Battle Site in Ohio.

Civil War Sculpture Literature was passed out and members were urged to locate Monuments and Civil war Headstones that need attention and to do something about them.

Record the names of Civil War dead in your area and see that the Department Graves Registration and the National Graves Registrar each get a copy of such information.

Receive from Townships the money that is allotted for Memorial purposes.

The Central Regional Conference of OUR Organization is to be held in Lancaster, Ohio the last weekend in October, with PDC Robert Grim presiding. Support is urged.

Support was urged for the observance scheduled for Veteran's Plaza, Columbus, Ohio on August 21 to 23rd.

The problem that came to light in some newspaper articles that at the time of death of a Veterans, that their families requesting Military Honors for their deceased have sometimes had to pay \$100.00 or more for this service, as there were no one in their area providing this service.

The situation at Xenia, Ohio seem hopeless, regarding the land and the buildings, this information came from PDC Herb Webb.

Several asked what about the 2 Napoleon Cannons and what can be done about them.

Problems connected with last year's Remembrance Day Observance in Gettysburg, such things as paying for Parade Permits needs to be addressed.

The possibility of the Ohio Department having a Department Encampment Booklet as a possible means of earning money.

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Commander-in-Chief Richard Orr, expressed his appreciation for being invited to the Ohio Encampment and for the efforts and achievements of the Ohio Department, in behalf of the National Organization. He stressed that there will be issues at this year's National Encampment that should be of vital interest to the membership. Such as the subject of an Executive Director.

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Possible changes to the Constitution and Regulations, and possible appeals to some of the rulings that he had made during his year as our Commander-in-Chief. He strongly reminded us that the Organization is US and WE have every right to be a part of the decision making that takes place at the National Encampment. He urged attendance helps make what you feel is right – happen.

He added a great amount about the 1999 National Encampment to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana. This will be the 50th Anniversary of the Final Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Gar. Plans are to have the Campfire Extra Special in recognition of this. A strong possibility for a parade and if possible the appearance of the United States Marine Band, as was the case for man7 GAR Encampments.

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Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Andrew Johnson was called on to make remarks regarding our Organization. He stressed that membership is vital, that the establishing of several new Camps is a good sign for the Organization in the years to come. He said that we should never lose sight of our major mission which is to honor the Boys in Blue. That we should do all we can to preserve GAR Memorials, Statues, Plaques, and other, that have been used to honor the Memory of those who so proudly wore the Union Blue. That grave location and registration is very important and should be taken as a responsibility by all of us members. Keeping the Departments and National Organization aware of what you are finding and doing so by written reports. Keeping our Organization before the Public by the use of Camp Color Guards or Members appearing as Groups at Parades or at Patriotic and Civil Functions, especially at schools whenever the opportunities to try to arouse in the young people an appreciation for Patriotism.

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During the afternoon session the giving and receiving of Greetings from the other Organizations of the Grand Army Family who were also meeting at Mount Union College at this time. Commander Keith Ashley appointed the following to take the Greetings from the Sons – to the Auxiliary, Tim Park and Karl Schaeffer – to the Ladies of the Grand Army, Kirby Bauman, PC Charles Coffman and PDC Larry Swogger, and to the Woman's Relief Corps, Duane Gettings and David V. Medert.

Representatives from our Sister Organizations who brought their Presidents Greetings and some added remarks about previous Department Encampments and how glad they were to see the increase in the attendance of the Sons. Each group has responded to with appropriate friendly Thanks for their efforts through the years and the Department Auxiliary was thanked for its annual Love Gift.

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SATURDAY evening Banquet

At the Banquet Saturday evening we were honored to have at the Head Table, not only the Presiding Officers of the Department of Ohio, from each of the Grand Army Family, but also the Presiding Officers at the National Level were in attendance as well.

They were Commander-in-Chief of the Sons - Rich Orr
 National President of the Auxiliary – Jacquelyn Johnston
 National President of the Woman’s Relief Corps – Linda Bennett
 National President of the Ladies of the Grand Army – Barbara Tyler
 National President of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 Beverly Goodenough
 Ohio MOLLUS Commander – Karl Scheaffer
 Dames of the Loyal Legion President – Lynn Bury
 Ohio Commander of the Sons of Confederate Veterans – Robert Croye

The President of Mount Union College, Dr. Harold Kolenbrander was introduced, and he welcomed us and expressed his feelings that he was glad that we had held our Encampments at Mount Union for so many years and that he hoped that we would continue to hold them at Mount Union.

The speaker for this year’s banquet was Dr. Lori Porter – Professor of History at Muskingham College. She gave an interesting and inspiring program, dealing with the Ohio Civil War Trails. She urged our support of the Ohio Civil War Trails Commission, which she pointed out, is an important organization if we are to preserve Ohio’s Civil War History for future generation.

The Ashley Sisters rendered a Civil War Song that fit right in with the Speaker’s topic.

It was announded by Commander-in-Chief Orr and National President Johnston that Rachel Ashley, daughter of Ohio Department Commander Keith Ashley, was the receipient of this year’s National Scholarships 1 from the Sons and 1 from the Auxiliary. It was great to see a member as active a Rachel is of the Organization, so Honored.

The evening concluded with a Reception held for Commander Ashley and President Sarah Cherry for a time of socialibility. Some SVR members in attendance held a meeting afterwards.

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SUNDAY

Sunday morning the Annual Memorial Services were held to Honor those from our Organizations who had died during the past year. This is a joint Memorial Program, Department Chaplain Ralph Sulser, was in charge. The Program was outstanding and inspirational.

Those Brothers who answered their muster were:

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Raymond Fawett	Camp No. 1
Jerry DeVol	Camp No. 7
Drennan Goldbury	Camp No. 7
Kenneth Shew	Camp No. 91

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ACTIONS TAKEN DURING THE DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

1. Recognized the following National Officers in Attendance
Commander-in-Chief – Richard Orr
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief – Andrew Johnson
Council of Administration – PCC David R. Medert
Commander of the Sons of Veterans Reserve – Brigadier General David V. Medert
Past Commander-In-Chiefs from Ohio – Richard Greenwalt
 - Charles Coffman
 - David R. Medert
2. Gave Department Commander Keith Ashley, a standing ovation in appreciation of his years of service as our Commander
3. Gave a round of applause to Tim Park and Richard Greenwalt for their efforts on behalf of the Ohio Department Encampment
4. Department continues to show dis-approval of the disposition of the Xenia Home property and the Artifacts that should be the property of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.
5. The Department exert efforts to hold Buffington Island Battlefield Site as Historical Ground – not to be desecrated by a Company wanting to improve its business opportunities.
6. Received with regret the report that Lois Camp No. 16 has surrendered its Charter.
7. Received good news that 2 new Camps
 - Benjamin D. Fearing Camp No. 2 of Marietta , Ohio
 - John S. Townsend Camp No. 108 at Frost, OhioIn the case of Camp No. 2 received its Charter during the past year and that Camp 108 had been re-activated and again making use of its Charter which has been dormant for many years.
8. Brother Danny Hinton was given special recognition for his efforts on behalf of Camp No. 2 and Brother Terry Frost was given special recognition for his efforts on behalf of Camp No. 108.
9. Unanimous vote for the Endorsement of the following National Offices”
 - Andrew Johnson for Commander-in-Chief
 - Danny Wheeler for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief
 - Robert Grim for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief
 - Charles Coffman for Member of the National Council of Administration

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10. Approved that the Department Treasurer pay all the bills of the Department hosting of this year's Department Encampment and report the cost in his report at next years Encampment.
11. Approved a donation of \$50.00 for the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Fund
12. Approved a donation of 450.00 for the National Patriotic Instructors Fund.
13. Approved the expenditure of \$150.00 toward the expense of the Department Commander for his attendance at the National Encampment.
14. Approved the expenditure for \$20.00 for a half page ad in the National Pennsylvania Program Book.
15. Approved expenditure of \$150.00 for the restoration of the Monument of William T. Sherman.
16. Approved to reimburse Keith Ashley for telephone and postage during his term of office. Commander Keith did not request this but the Department felt that it should be done.
17. Approved contributions of \$100.00 to the Meigs County Pioneer and Historical Society, toward their legal expenses to help save the Buffington Island Battlefield Site.
18. Approved the contribution of money to help host the Central Regional Conference on Saturday October 3, 1998 in Lancaster, Ohio.
19. Department Secretary is to continue to mail Department Orders, no more than 4, by first class.
20. The purchase of Ribbons for the 1999 Ohio Department Encampment at Mount Union was approved.
21. Approved the report of the Audit Committee
22. Approved the report of the Officers Reports Committee and expressed appreciation for the services which the Officers rendered.

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The final order of business of the 1998 Ohio Department was nomination and elections of Officers for 1998-1999.

The following officers were elected or appointed by our incoming Department Commander Mark Eckley

They were installed by Commander-in-Chief Richard D. Orr, assisted by Installing Chaplain Ralph Sulser and Thomas Gorrell, who served as Installing Guide.

1998-1999 Department of Ohio Officers

Commander

Mark Eckley 2959 Duquesne Dr. Stow, Ohio
44224 330-342-3692 email firstovc@en.com

Sr. Vice Commander

David V. Medert 489 Caroline Dr. Chillicothe,
Ohio 45601 614-773-7646 email
batteryi@bright.net

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Jr. Vice Commander	Terry Frost 149 Estates Dr. Athens, Ohio 45601-3405 614-592-4818 Email hfrost1@copuserve.com
Secretary/Treasurer	Richard Greenwalt 2449 Center Ave. Alliance, Ohio 44601-4531 330-823-6919
Council	PDC Keith Ashley 34465 Crew Rd. Pomeroy, Ohio 45769-9715 740-992-7874
Council	PDC Robert Grim 5367 St. Rt. 725, Sabina, Ohio 45169 513-584-4622
Council	Richard Smyer 1201 Suffield Circle, Canton, Ohio 44708 330-477-3261
Personal Aide	Nick Eckley 2959 Duquesne Dr. Stow, Ohio 44224 330-342-3692 email firstovc@en.com
Chief of Staff	Tim Park 434 Cline Ave. Mansfield, Ohio 44907
Patriotic Instructor	Jon Silvas 19731 Laurel Ave. Rocky River, Ohio 44116 440-331-0340
Chaplain	Tim Daly 22560 Morton Ave. #6 Fairview Park, Ohio 44126 440-979-9985
Counselor	Henry Shaw Jr. 27 Griswold St. Delaware Ohio 43015 740-369-3722 email cpctshaw@midohio.net
Color Guard	Skip Eckley 249 N. 19 th St. Sebring, Ohio 44672 330-938-3202
Guide	Henry Burke Rt. #4 Box 126, Marietta, Ohio 45750 740-373-3125
Guard	Dan Hinton Rt. 2 Box 139-1A, Waterford, Ohio 45786 740-749-3534
GAR Highway	Ralph Scott II 1422 Lincoln St. Portsmouth, Ohio 45662 740-363-4162
Historian	Robert W. Davis 84 Kramer St. Canal Winchester, Ohio 43110-112 614-837-3580

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Genealogist	PDC Larry Swogger 205 Pershing Ave. N.E. Canton, Ohio 43110-1122 330-499-4056
Civil War Sites	PDC Keith Ashley 34465 Crew Rd. Pomeroy, Ohio 45769-9715 740-992-7874
Graves Registration	Don Darby 1382 Western Ave. Chillicothe, Ohio 45601 614-772-6081 Email darby@bright.net
Eagle Scout	Thomas Gorrell Rt. 2 Box 7 Sandyville, West Virginia 25275-9704

This completed the business and meetings of the 116th Ohio Department encampment

Lunch was served in Mount Union College Hoover-Price Hall then good-byes and department for our homes.