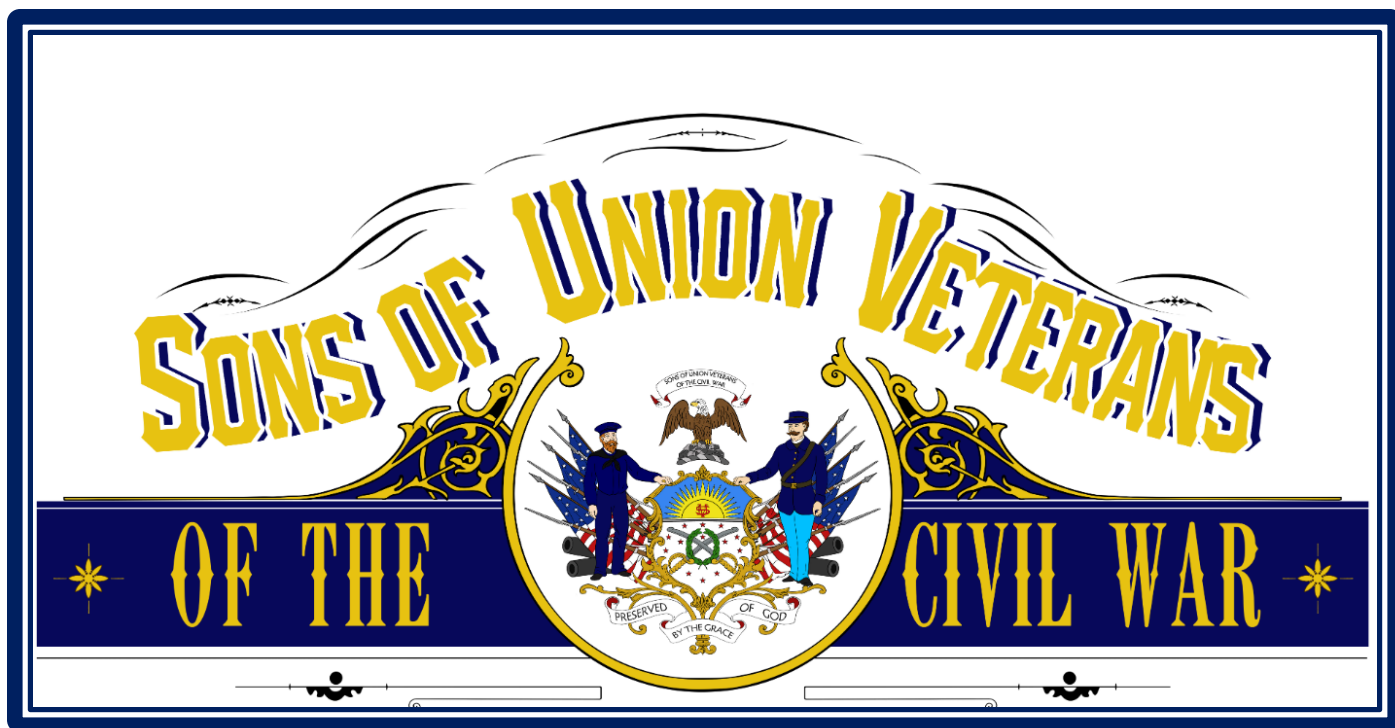




DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

144th Annual Encampment

June 13, 2026

Memorial Service, Officer, and Camp Reports

PREFACE

This is a compilation of Reports from Department Elected Officers, Appointed Officers, Committees, and Camp Reports received by the Department Secretary. This document contains the bodies of the submitted reports; the headings, salutations and signature have been removed. The financial information presented may not be handed out to anyone without the express approval of the Department Commander and Department Treasurer.

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Encampment Schedule

9:15 – Doors Open / Registration

10:00 – Memorial Service

10:15 – Meeting Starts

12:00 – Lunch

12:45 – National Officer Keynote Address to Encampment

1:00 – Meeting Reconvenes

2:15 – Elections

3:00 Meeting Ends

Please Note: Schedule is subject to change.

2026 Memorial Service for Departed Members

Commander: The Officers will assume their respective stations. All will be in order. *(Three Raps)*

Commander:

“The boatman comes, and comes again; and Brothers, one by one,
He bears away far o’er the tide, beyond the setting sun.”

Commander: Senior Vice Commander, to what purpose shall we devote these moments of our meeting?

Senior Vice Commander: to the memory of our deceased Brothers who were honored members of our Order and this Department.

(Senior Vice Commander reads the names. Chaplain rings the bell after each name.)

Name	Camp	Number	Date of Birth	Date of Death
Branstutter, Billy R.	Kountz	14	2/26/1961	5/12/2026
Cobb, Jr., James D.	Lytle	10	11/13/1934	10/18/2025
Francis, Jr., Andrew D.	Fearing	2	6/17/1936	5/23/2026
Langdon, Kerry L.	Lytle	10	1/31/1947	11/3/2025
Lochary, James H.	Townsend	108	1/10/1931	8/19/2025
Myers, Henry L.	Cadot-Blessing	126	2/15/1936	12/11/2025

Commander: Secretary, were our Brothers true to our Order, and did they loyally support it?”

Secretary: They were, and they did, Commander.

Commander: Patriotic Instructor, were our Brothers true to the principles denoted by the flag of your station, Patriotism, Strength, and Courage?

Patriotic Instructor: They were, Commander.

Commander: Senior Vice Commander, were our Brothers true to the principles denoted by the flag of your station, Charity and Purity?

Senior Vice Commander: They were, Commander.

Commander: Junior Vice Commander, were our Brothers true to the principles denoted by the flag of your stations, Fraternity and Faithfulness?

Junior Vice Commander: They were, Commander.

Commander: Brother Guide, were our Brothers true to the Flag of our County, and were they ever ready to defend it against all enemies?

Guide: They were, Commander.

Commander: *(One Rap)* Does any Brother wish to offer a tribute to the memory of our departed Brothers? If so, he may now speak. *(Here any eulogies may be given.)*

Commander: Chaplain, have you any word of comfort for us from the Holy Book which has an honored place upon our Altar?

Chaplain: “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” (Psalm 44:1) Jesus said: “I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.” (John 11:25-26) He also said: “let not your hearts be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you; and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also.” (John 14:1-3)

Commander: Brothers, what attitude should we always maintain toward the memory of our departed Brothers?

All (In Unison): The faults of our Brothers we write upon the sand, their virtues upon the tablets of love and memory.

Commander: The Chaplain will lead us in prayer.

Chaplain: Our Father, who art in Heaven, the Father of our Lord Jesus, and the Father of us all, we pray for your blessing to abide upon this humble service. Bless the memory of our departed Brothers. Bless and comfort those near and dear to them by the ties of the flesh and fraternity. Help us, each one, to appreciate more and more the blessing we receive, daily, from your great heart of love, and help us to prove our gratitude for all these good gifts, by our lives of usefulness and integrity. Bless our friends and Brothers everywhere, and may we be worthy of them and of you. Lead us graciously by your strong right hand, and make us all to be the citizens we are privileged to be in this godly land which you have given to us. We ask in the name of our savior. Amen.

All (In Unison): Amen. *(One Rap)*

2026 Department Encampment Script

Commander: *(One Rap)* The Officers and members of the 144th Annual Encampment of the Department of Ohio, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, will now come to order.
Guard, determine if all present are entitled to remain.
Color Bearer, assist on the right.

Commander: The Secretary will call the roll of Officers of the Department.
{The Commander may fill any reported vacancies.}

Elected Department Officers:

Officers	Name	Present/Absent/Excused
Department Commander	David Rish, PCC	
Senior Vice Commander	Kelly Hopkins, PCC	
Junior Vice Commander	John Edelmann, CC	
Secretary	John Edelmann, CC	
Treasurer	Tom Edelmann	Excused
Department Council 1	Don Darby, PCinC	
Department Council 2	John Huffman, PDC	
Department Council 3	Steve Ball, PDC	

Appointed Department Officers:

Officers	Name	Present/Absent/Excused
Chief of Staff	Jonathan Davis PDC	
Patriotic Instructor	R. Micheal Mershon	
Chaplain	J. Thomas McBrayer	
Counselor	Don Darby, PCinC	
Assistant Treasurer	James Crane, PDC	
Color Bearer	Ron Marvin	
Guide	Doug Bowen	
Guard	Grant Bates	
GAR Records Officer	R. A. Davis, PDC	
GAR Highway Officer	Peter Hritsko, Jr., PCinC	
Historian		
Graves Registration	Kent Dorr, PCC	
Eagle Scout Coordinator	Michael Spaulding, PDC	
Signals Officer	David Moravek/John Edelmann	
“Buckeye Bugle” Editor	Don Martin, PCinC	
Buffington Island Representative	James Oiler, CC	Excused
Memorials Officer	Ronald Marvin, Jr., PCC	

Secretary: Sir, the roll of officers is called.

Commander: Brothers, upon what principles is our Order founded and what duties do we inculcate?

All: (In Unison) Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

Commander: Brothers, we meet again as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in annual session, to review the work of the past and plan the future. May our conduct and our deliberations be marked by mutual tolerance and fraternal courtesy, ever keeping in mind our duty to our country, to our Order and to ourselves.

The Chaplain will now invoke the Divine blessing. *(Three Raps)*

Chaplain: Our heavenly father, the high and mighty ruler of the universe, who looks down upon the government of men, we earnestly ask your favor to bless our native land and preserve in purity and integrity its free institutions for all coming time. Bless our Order. Grant that it may long exist, and that it may continue to be an instrument of great good to all. Give us willing hands and ready hearts to carry out properly its principles and objectives. Keep green in our minds the memory of those who sacrificed so much that the life of the nation might be preserved, and deal with them in all things with your special mercy. Give us your aid in conducting the business for which we are assembled, and so bless us that Charity and Justice, and Peace and Harmony shall remain and flow from us. Amen.

All: *(In Unison)* Amen

Commander: Color Bearer, please lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

All: (In Unison) I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands. One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Commander: By virtue of the authority vested in me I hereby declare the 144th Annual Encampment of the Department of Ohio, Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, duly opened for the transaction of such business as may legally and properly come before it. *(One Rap)*

Commander: These are the Rules of the Encampment:

1. We will follow Roberts' Rules of Order.
2. Officers will not read their reports. Corrections and/or additions to submitted reports are not to exceed three (3) minutes.
3. Any Brother wishing to be recognized will raise his hand and wait to be called on. Once recognized by the Chair, please come to the podium and identify yourself, by name and camp, so we have an accurate record for the proceedings.
4. No Brother will speak more than once on a subject unless answering a question.
5. Brothers may speak no more than 2 minutes on a topic.
6. We are on a time limit with the room, so please bear that in mind as we try to work our way through a busy agenda as quickly as we can.
7. All discussions will be conducted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

Commander: Brother Secretary please call the roll of the Camps.

Camp Number	Camp Name	Present/Absent/Excused
1	Governor William Dennison	
2	General Benjamin D. Fearing	
7	Brooks-Grant	
10	General William H. Lytle	
12	General William McLaughlin	
14	John S. Kountz	
21	William McKinley	
26	Vienna	
33	Jacob Parrott	
43	Philip Triem	
73	Sgt. Richard Enderlin	
89	Chaplain William Earnshaw	
92	Henry Casey	
93	William T. Sherman	
108	John S. Townsend	
126	Cadot-Blessing	
142	James A Garfield	

Secretary: Sir, the roll of camps is called.

Commander: At this time, we will recognize our guests. Guide, please escort them to the podium if they wish to address the Encampment. Brothers, please join me in welcoming
(_____)

Commander: Guests if you would like to make remarks, you may do so at this time. *(One Rap)*

Commander: At this time, I would like to recognize the Past Ohio Department Commander and Past Commanders-In-Chief. Brothers, please rise and I will call your name.

Commander: Brad Tilton, James Crane, and Kent Dorr are appointed as the Credentials Committee. (James Crane) is appointed Chair of the Credentials Committee.

Commander: At this time, would the Chairman of the Credential Committee please provide us with a first report.

Chairman of the Credential Committee: { State Report }

Commander: I am appointing the following Assignments for the Encampment:

Resolutions Committee: (John Edelmann, _____)

Parliamentarian: (_____)

Officer Reports: (John Edelmann)

Commander: The Proceedings from the last Encampment have been posted for review on the Department's website. Are there any corrections? { Discussion as necessary.} At this time, I will entertain a Motion to approve the Proceedings.

Motion made by: (_____)

Seconded made by: (_____)

All those in favor say aye. All those opposed say nay. Motion () Approved () Denied.

Officer and Camp Reports

Commander: We will now review the reports of the Officers and Camps. As a reminder, we will not read submitted reports, and there is a three-minute time limit for oral updates or corrections to submitted reports. The Secretary will now lead us through the reports.

Secretary: {Has the floor on Reports }

Commander: We will now review the Committee reports. Again, we will not read submitted reports, and there is a three-minute time limit for oral updates or corrections to submitted reports.

Monuments and Memorials: (Kelly Hopkins)

Encampment Site and Planning: (John Huffman)

By-laws Committee: (John Edelman – No Activity to Report)

Commander: We will now review any submitted resolutions. *Refer to page 43*

Commander: Are there any recommendations from Officers or Committee Reports to review?

Officers Report Chair: {States recommendations – *refer to page 43*}

Commander: Department Secretary, has the Department received any communications?

Department Secretary: (Communications received)

Commander: The Department Council has already reviewed and approved both the Department Financial Report and Budget for 2026. Assistant Treasurer, please present the financial report and budget for the record.

Assistant Treasurer: (Presents Reports and leads discussion)

Old Business

Commander: We will now turn to Old Business. Please save all “New Business” for later.

(Address Any)

Is there any other Old Business that we need to discuss?

(If none)

Commander: There being no further OLD Business, we will proceed with the agenda.

New Business

Commander: *(One Rap)* We will now move to New Business.

(Address Any)

Is there any other New Business that we need to discuss?

(If none)

Commander: There being no further NEW Business, we will proceed with the agenda.

Lunch Break

(We break at noon when lunch is prepared, could be earlier or later in the proceedings)

Commander: Chaplain, please attend to and close the Bible. *(Three Raps)*

Return from Lunch

Commander: *(Three Raps)* Chaplain, please open the Bible. *(One Rap)*

Commander: On our Form 35, the Department Annual Report, we reported 372 members in the Department, *excluding Juniors and Dual Members*, this means we are entitled to (16) national delegates plus our automatic delegates. Please raise your hand if you are planning to go to the National Encampment. Please see our Department Secretary immediately after the closing to request your delegate card.

Commander: I will now entertain a motion from the floor to accept these delegate-designates for the National Encampment.

Motion made by: (_____)

Seconded made by: (_____)

All those in favor say aye. All those opposed say nay. Motion () Approved () Denied.

Commander: I will now entertain a motion from the floor to accept all other attendees from the Department of Ohio as Alternate Delegates for the National Encampment.

Motion made by: (_____)

Seconded made by: (_____)

All those in favor say aye. All those opposed say nay. Motion () Approved () Denied.

Commander: We will now discuss items for the Good of the Order. I remind the Brothers that we are on a time limit, so please keep your comments brief. (Address Any)

Commander: Are there any further items for the Good of the Order to discuss?
(if none)

Commander: There being no further items to discuss, we will proceed with the Election of Department Officers.

Election of Department Officers

Commander: Guard, allow no one else to enter. Please secure the doors.

Commander: Credentials Committee, please provide a final report.

Credentials Committee: (Presents Report)

Commander: At this time, we will take nominations of candidates for Department Office for the year 2026-2027. First, is there a Motion that if there is only one (1) nominee for any office that the Secretary should record a single vote in favor of that candidate and the Brother **will be duly elected**?

Motion made by: ()

Seconded made by: ()

All those in favor say aye. All those opposed say nay. Motion () Approved () Denied.

Commander: Finally, according to Roberts' Rules of Order, while nominations from the floor do not require a second, should anyone wish to signal their endorsement with a second, such action will not be ruled out of order.

We will begin with the office of Department Commander.

Are there any nominations for the office of Department Commander?

(following nomination the commander continues)

Brother, you have been nominated for the office of Department Commander. What other offices in the Order do you currently hold? *(pause for reply)* If elected are you willing to serve?

Commander: Are there any other nominations for the office of Department Commander?
{ Repeat Three Times }

(If none – close nominations)

Commander: Nominations are closed.

Commander: Commander-elect, congratulations on your election to the office! *(Applause)*

Now we will take nominations for Senior Vice Commander.

Are there any nominations for the office of Senior Vice Commander?

(following nomination the commander continues)

Brother, you have been nominated for the office of Senior Vice Commander. What other offices in the Order do you currently hold? *(pause for reply)* If elected are you willing to serve?

Commander: Are there any other nominations for the office of Senior Vice Commander?
{ Repeat Three Times }

(If none – close nominations)

Commander: Nominations are closed.

Commander: Senior Vice Commander-elect, congratulations on your election to the office! *(Applause)*

Now we will take nominations for Junior Vice Commander.
Are there any nominations for the office of Junior Vice Commander?

(following nomination the commander continues)

Brother, you have been nominated for the office of Junior Vice Commander. What other offices in the Order do you currently hold? *(pause for reply)* If elected are you willing to serve?

Commander: Are there any other nominations for the office of Junior Vice Commander?
{ Repeat Three Times }

(If none – close nominations)

Commander: Nominations are closed.

Commander: Junior Vice Commander-elect, congratulations on your election to the office! *(Applause)*

Now we will take nominations for Department Treasurer.
Are there any nominations for the office of Department Treasurer?

(following nomination the commander continues)

Brother, you have been nominated for the office of Department Treasurer. What other offices in the Order do you currently hold? *(pause for reply)* If elected are you willing to serve?

Commander: Are there any other nominations for the office of Department Treasurer?
{ Repeat Three Times }

(If none – close nominations)

Commander: Nominations are closed.

Commander: Department Treasurer-elect, congratulations on your election to the office! (*Applause*)

Now we will take nominations for Department Secretary.

Are there any nominations for the office of Department Secretary?

(following nomination the commander continues)

Brother, you have been nominated for the office of Department Secretary. What other offices in the Order do you currently hold? (*pause for reply*) If elected are you willing to serve?

Commander: Are there any other nominations for the office of Department Secretary?

{ Repeat Three Times }

(If none – close nominations)

Commander: Nominations are closed.

Commander: Department Secretary-elect, congratulations on your election to the office! (*Applause*)

Commander: I will now yield the gavel to the Senior Vice Commander for the election of the 3rd Council Position.

SVC: The 1-year term for Department Council next year will be filled by (John Huffman). The 2-year term for Department Council will be filled by (Stephen Ball).

It is customary to have the retiring Commander fill the 3-year term for the Department Council. Is there a nomination for David Rish to be elected to the 3-year term for Department Council?

Brother, you have been nominated for the office of 3rd Council Position. What other offices in the Order do you currently hold? (*pause for reply*) If elected are you willing to serve?

SVC: Are there any other nominations for the office of 3rd Council Position?

{ Repeat Three Times }

(If none – close nominations)

SVC: Nominations are closed.

SVC: Councilman-elect, congratulations on your election to the office! (*Applause*)

(The SVC returns the Gavel to the Commander)

Commander: Commander-Elect, have you decided who you wish to serve as the Installing Officer?

Commander-Elect: (*Answers the Commander*)

Installation of Department Officers

[The business of the Encampment having been completed, the Encampment may designate or the Commanding Officer may appoint, some member of the Encampment, a past Officer preferably to install the Officer; the various stations being filled by retiring officers or detail or as circumstances require. Note that both the incoming and outgoing Commanders may select someone to pin on their badge and that this person does not have to be a member of the SUVCW or an of the Allied Orders. The Installing Officer will bring the Encampment to order and say:]

Installing Officer: Commander, in relieving you of the command of this Department on behalf of the officers, I convey to you their thanks for the manner in which you have discharged your duties. I trust that in surrendering the command of this Department your interest in the welfare of this Order will not cease. Having received the highest honors which your fellow members can confer upon you, your continuing commitment will point the way for others who still serve the Order. Please be seated on my left.

Installing Officer: Commander-Elect, are you prepared to announce your staff appointments? If so, the Guide will hand your list to the Secretary.

Installing Officer: Secretary, call the roll of the Officers Elect and Staff Appointees who, as their names are called, will rise.

Secretary: {Calls the roll of the newly elected officers.}

Installing Officer: *(Three Raps)* Brothers, these are your regularly chosen officers for the next term. If any Brother has any valid reason why any of them should not be installed let him now speak or forever hold his peace. *(One Rap)*

Installing Officer: Guide, please present these Brothers before the Altar for installation.

Installing Officer: Officers, you have been selected to positions of great honor and trust. With the Commander you will be responsible for the financial and material prosperity and interests of this Department and the members of this Encampment confidently expect that your discharge of the duties and responsibilities resting upon you will be conspicuous for zeal, ability and good works. I trust that you appreciate the great confidence placed in you and that you remember that the success or failure of the administration of your department will depend very largely upon the manner in which you discharge the duties of your respective offices. Are you now willing to pledge solemnly to the faithful performance of your several duties?

Each Responds: "I am"

Installing Officer: *(Three Raps)* You will each raise your right hand, place your left hand on the Bible, and repeat after me, using your name where I do mine:
{When necessary, candidates may be directed to place their left hand on the shoulder of another who, in turn, has placed his left hand on the Bible.}

I, _____, having been regularly chosen, as an Officer of the Department of Ohio, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, hereby renew, the sacred obligation, given at the time of my initiation, and in the presence of Almighty God, and the members of this Encampment here assembled, do furthermore, solemnly and sincerely, promise and declare, that I will, to the best of my ability, in word and deed, and without fear or favor, faithfully, honestly, and impartially, perform all the duties of the office, upon which I am about to enter, So help me God.

Installing Officer: Encampment. Attention. (*One Rap*) Guide, conduct the Officers to their respective stations, acting Officers vacating.

Guide: Sir, your orders have been obeyed.

Installing Officer: Guide, conduct the Commander to this station.

Guide: Sir, I have the honor to present the Commander of this Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Installing Officer: Commander, by the votes of the members of this Encampment you have been elected to the highest honor within their gift. Your election to this honorable position is evidence not only of their regard and appreciation of your work and ability as a Son of a Union Veteran of the Civil War, but it is an assurance that your conduct of the affairs of this Department will be characterized by faithful, earnest, and conscientious devotion to the responsibilities resting upon you. Grave trusts and grave cares await you, and to their faithful performance I now most solemnly direct you.

Installing Officer: (*Three Raps*) As no work of this nature can be a success without the assistance of the Divine Provider, the Chaplain will ask His assistance and guidance.

Chaplain: Almighty God, our heavenly father, we humbly ask your blessing on these brothers assembled for installation. Grant them your wisdom that they may daily perform the duties of the office into which they are to be installed, with the knowledge that thou art ever watching over them. Keep them in good health that they will not falter on the way. Bless them with your great mercies that they might be competent to administer the many problems that will confront them. Bless their every action in your name through the mediation of your blessed son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Installing Officer: Commander, your officers are now at their respective stations and I am about to place you in full control. But first I give into your care the Charter of this Department. Prize it for the privileges it bestows and guard it sacredly for the filial heritage it represents. Next, I place in your care the Ritual of our Order and a copy of the Constitution and Regulations for the government of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, both of which I advise you to study with care, to be true to its principles and faithful to its teaching. Lastly, you will receive this gavel, the emblem of your authority. (*One Rap*) calls the Encampment to order and seats the same when standing; (*Two Raps*) calls the Officers to their feet; (*Three Raps*) calls up the entire Encampment.

Installing Officer: and now, by virtue of the authority invested in me, as the Installing Officer of the Department of Ohio, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I hereby declare the Officers of this Department legally elected, and installed and qualified to enter upon the discharge of their several duties for the term ending June 2026, or until their successors are regularly elected, qualified and installed. Now, I am pleased to present you with the Badge of the Office of Department Commander.

Installing Officer: Commander, assume your command. Be true to your vow, faithful to your trust, unflinching in your loyalty and rule with civility, impartiality and firmness, and may your administration be successful. *(One Rap) then gives gavel to the Commander.*

Commander: *Presents the Past Department Commander's Badge to the retiring Commander.*

Commander: Addresses the Encampment

Closing Encampment Ceremony

Commander: There being no further business to come before this Encampment, we will proceed to close.

Commander: *(Three Raps)* You will give attention while the Department Chaplain asks the blessing of God on our deliberations.

Commander: Parade Rest.

Chaplain: Our Father in heaven, we pray you will deal with the events of this meeting as you deem proper and fitting. Please answer the heartfelt prayers of each one of us as permitted in your perfect will. Preserve us in health, strength and integrity while we remain here, and when our mission of earth is ended, take us to a better world. Amen.

Encampment: (In Unison) Amen.

[Chaplain will slowly close the Bible and return to his station.]

Commander: Brothers, we are about to leave this Encampment to retire to our respective homes, let us regulate our conduct so as to bring honor and credit upon the great patriotic organization we represent. May we be faithful to our vows, mindful of duties and exhibit toward each other an unbroken Fraternity, a tender Charity, and an unswerving Loyalty.

Commander: Color Bearer, attend to the Altar and Stations Banner. [The Color Bearer will remain at this station until the Encampment is closed before executing the order.]

Commander: Attention! I now declare the 144th Annual Encampment of the Department of Ohio, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War duly closed. *(One Rap)*

Commander's Report

1. On 14 June attended Department Encampment in Clintonville, Ohio. Elected Department Commander.

2. From 7 August to 10 August, attended National Encampment in Houston, Texas. Toured several battlefields on the way there and back including Lincolns birthplace, Shiloh, Tennessee, Corinth, Mississippi, Vicksburg, Mississippi, Chickamauga, Georgia.
3. On 25 September, attended Zoom with CinC Tucker for Department Commanders.
4. On 27 September, attended a tombstone dedication ceremony for Six Civil War veterans in New Lexington, Ohio. Installed new brother Thomas Colvin at the event
5. On 12 October, attended Department audit by Zoom
6. On 22 October, installation for William Dennison Camp #1 at Grove City, Ohio
7. On 2 November, attended a tombstone dedication in Casstown, Ohio
8. On 6 November, installed General Benjamin Fearing Camp #2 in Marietta, Ohio
9. On 8 November, installed Cadot-Blessing Camp #126 in Rio Grand, Ohio.
10. On 9 November, attended an historical marker dedicated at Ohio University for Charles McCabe, major popularizer of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic".
11. On 16 November, installed Lytle Camp #10 Cincinnati, Ohio
12. On 15 December, installed Parrott Camp #33 Kenton, Ohio
13. On 20 December, installed Garfield Camp 142 Brunswick, Ohio
14. On 29 December, attended America 250 Zoom with CinC Tucker.
15. On 11 January, installed Triem Camp #43 Salem, Ohio.
16. On 13 January, installed Sherman Camp # 93 Dayton, Ohio.
17. On 15 January, installed Earnshaw Camp #89 Oakland, Ohio.
18. On 18 January, attended a Department Audit by Zoom.
19. On 20 January, installed Enderlin Camp #73 Chillicothe, Ohio.
20. On 21 January, installed McLaughlin Camp #12 Mansfield, Ohio.
21. On 31 January, attended America 250 meeting in Hardin County, Ohio.
22. On 8 February, attended Lincoln Dinner with McLaughlin Camp #12 Shelby, Ohio.
23. On 12 February, attended Lincoln Dinner with Sherman Camp #93 Dayton, Ohio.
24. On 22 March, attended Camp Secretary zoom meeting for the Department of Ohio.
25. On 11 April attended Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony Springfield, Illinois.
26. On 11 April, attended Annual B F Stephenson Tomb Ceremony in Rose Hill Cemetery Petersburg, Illinois.
27. On 15 April, installed new James Kountz camp #14 Toledo, Ohio.
28. On 26 April, attended a Department Audit by Zoom.
29. On 28 April, attended a Historical Marker Dedication at Fort Dennison in Cincinnati, Ohio.
30. On 15 May, attended JROTC award ceremony at Springfield H S in Holland, Ohio.
31. On 22 May, attended JROTC award ceremony at Kenton H S in Kenton, Ohio.
32. On 23 May, attended a tombstone dedication at Greenlawn Cemetery in Columbus, Ohio.
33. On 25 May, was in the Memorial Day parade in Kenton, Ohio.
34. On 30 May, attended a Memorial Service held in Grove Cemetery, Kenton, Ohio.
35. On 7 June, attended a Department audit by Zoom.
36. On 13 June, attended Department of Ohio Encampment.

David A. Rish Commander, Department of Ohio

Sr. Vice Commander's Report

Dear Brothers,

I have had the great honor to serve the Department as the Senior Vice Commander.

Since the Department June Encampment, I have attended and/or participated in several events and Camp meetings throughout our great state of Ohio.

As I speak with our Brothers, the same ideas are brought to my attention. The main concern is how we bring members into our organization. I believe that this past year's slated officers and great volunteers from our Camps have continued to bring our message to the public. We have also continued to meet our obligations on retention of honoring our past members.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the great resolve that Commander Rish and others have exhibited in getting our new Camps up and running. These new members are an asset to our organization.

The Department has also stepped up our Web Page, Buckeye Bugle, and Facebook Group page. These have and will continue to spread our message about our brotherhood.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Kelly Hopkins, Sr. Vice Commander
Department of Ohio

Jr. Vice Commander's Report

Dear Brothers,

I was elected Jr. Vice Commander at the 2025 Department Encampment.

One of the main duties of the Jr. Vice Commander is to assist in recruitment. I have referred many requests for membership from National to Camps throughout the Department. Our membership continues to remain strong but we as a hereditary organization must continue to seek out individuals to fill our ranks. This is part of our continued mission to honor our Union Veterans, preserve their history and to educate.

There has been a recent uptick in National membership inquiries, that may be the result of a general renewed interest in ancestral military connections among the public, given this year’s America 250 celebrations.

In closing, with each passing year, our organization must continue to improve communications between not only our Camps, but also to the public. We have a tremendous legacy to protect, but we must share it freely, all the same.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty
John F. Edelman, Junior Vice Commander
Department of Ohio

Secretary’s Report

The Department of Ohio Members in Good Standing summary reported by the Camps as of April 30, 2026, is as follows:

Year	Members	Life Members	Associates	Jr. Members	Jr. Associates	Total	Camps
2024	331	34	17	5	0	387	16
2025	322	38	15	5	0	380	17
2026	337	44	10	4	0	385	18

The Department of Ohio added one Camp (John S. Kountz #14) and gained a net of 5 members over the course of the year. Note that the total count from 2025 was adjusted (+1) owing to an incorrect accounting of one member.

Camp Zero - 16 members (three Life, two Associates and one Junior).

A chart of the Department of Ohio Trends of Membership and Camps (2005-2026) is located at the end of this Encampment Report. In addition, the Camp Reporting Status Summary and Delegate Counts is also included as of the Department Annual Report (Form 35), May 31, 2026.

During the past twelve months, 13 General Orders and 13 Special Messages issued by National were distributed to the Camps.

At the department level, 12 Department Orders and 1 Special Message were distributed to the Camps as well. Four (4) quarterly audit meetings of the Dept Council were coordinated by the Secretary over ZOOM.

As a result of action taken by the Encampment in 2025, all 18 Camps now have their rosters maintained using Google Sheets at the Department level, as a coordinated effort on the part of the Department Secretary and the several Camp secretaries. While only a few of the Department’s secretaries rely on this method for

tracking their members locally, all members of the Department are being tracked using this approach. It has proven a useful tool to ensure consistency and accuracy across the department.

In the weeks following the Department's submission of the Annual Report (form 35), several camps have already reported member reinstatements; in addition, several camps have also submitted new member applications that are being processed.

Finally, while most Camps of the Department of Ohio submitted their election and annual reports on time, there were a few Camps that missed the deadlines by several weeks. Members of the Department staff are available for support and assistance as needed. Everyone's efforts to respect the report due dates is greatly appreciated.

As indicated in my Letter of Intent at the end of this document, and if elected, I look forward to continuing to serve and support our Order as Secretary in 2026-27. I wish to thank everyone in the Department of Ohio involved in secretarial related tasks, for your continued encouragement, cooperation, and patience, as together we endeavor to improve the *order* of our Order.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

John F. Edelmann, Department Secretary and JVC, CC
Department of Ohio

Treasurer's Report

Department of Ohio SUVCW – Financial Account Summary as of May 29, 2026

We have 4 CDs at WPCU. The accounts (Initial amounts shown) are:

ACCT 30	\$2,500	6 Month	Dividends go to General Fund
ACCT 31	\$5,000	12 Month	Dividends go to General Fund
ACCT 32	\$11,414.83	12 Month	Dividends go to Monuments and Memorials Fund
ACCT 33	\$4,000	12 Month	Dividends go to itself

We also have two WPCU Money Market accounts which gain more interest than money sitting in a savings or checking account:

ACCT 70	General Fund
ACCT 71	Monuments and Memorials Fund

Here is the breakdown of the various Funds we have including CHASE Business Checking:

Fund	Account Info		Previous		Int-Gain	Current	
	ACCOUNT	[Matures On]	I Rate	Balance		I Rate	Balance
Permanent Fund	WPCU CD ACCT 32	[3/18/27]	3.55%	\$11,414.83	\$33.83	3.55%	\$11,414.83
Monuments and Memorials Fund	WPCU Money Mrkt ACCT 71		2.50%	\$3,069.01	\$6.44	2.50%	\$3,109.28
General Fund	Chase Checking Acct		0.00%	\$4,720.82	\$12,598.87	0.00%	\$17,319.69
	Chase Savings Acct		0.01%	\$1,000.22	\$0.01	0.01%	\$1,000.23
	WPCU Savings ACCT 00		0.43%	\$28.28	\$0.01	0.42%	\$28.29
	WPCU CD ACCT 30	[9/18/26]	3.55%	\$2,500.00	\$7.41	3.55%	\$2,500.00
	WPCU CD ACCT 31	[3/18/27]	3.55%	\$5,000.00	\$14.82	3.55%	\$5,000.00
	WPCU CD ACCT 33	[3/21/27]	3.55%	\$4,375.66	\$12.97	3.55%	\$4,388.63
	WPCU Money Mrkt ACCT 70		2.58%	\$4,372.05	\$9.17	2.50%	\$4,403.45
	General Fund Totals:			\$21,997.03	\$12,643.26		\$34,640.29
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS:				\$36,480.87			\$49,164.40
							After Checks Clear (\$38,425.50)

Interest Added to Monuments and Memorial Fund

Interest Added to the WPCU Money Market General Fund Acct 70

Values relate to only the GENERAL FUND

1. Quarterly audits have been performed by the Department Council and Officers this past year.
2. Growth of Assets from 2025 Encampment = \$4,362.76 (\$38,425.50 - \$34,062.74 Less Uncleared Expenses)
3. The Permanent Fund remains fixed at \$11,414.83 unless donations are specifically made to the fund.
4. The two funds of the Monuments and Memorials Fund (WPCU and CHASE) were consolidated this term.

Budget (2026-2027)

(Approved by the Department Council on June 7, 2026)

INCOME		Budget 25-26	Actual 25-26	Budget 26-27
Encampment	Registration	\$ 250.00	\$ 190.00	\$ 225.00
Encampment	Luncheon	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,302.00	\$ 1,400.00
Chief of Staff Fund	Misc.	\$ 300.00	\$ 356.00	\$ 300.00
Dues & Fees	Dept and Nat per capita	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 16,155.00	\$ 16,000.00
Interest	Permanent Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ 426.48	\$ 500.00
Interest	General Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ 480.74	\$ 500.00
TOTAL INCOME:		\$ 17,950.00	\$ 18,910.22	\$ 18,925.00
EXPENSES		Proposed 25-26	Actual 25-26	Proposed 26-27
Cadot-Blessing Camp	Buffington Island	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Department Commander	Travel to National Enc.	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
Encampment	CinC Representative	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
	Luncheon	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,153.00	\$ 2,200.00
	Printing	\$ 225.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 300.00
	Decorations & Awards	\$ 400.00	\$ 109.11	\$ 400.00
	Proceedings	\$ 350.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 350.00
Townsend Camp	Frost GAR Hall	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
ZOOM Comm, Inc.	Department Meetings	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00
National Encampment	Booklet Ad	\$ 50.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 50.00
SUVCW Executive Dir.	National Dues and Fees	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,384.00	\$ 12,500.00
BlueHost.com	Website Hosting	\$ 230.00	\$ 217.13	\$ 230.00
Office supplies	Operating expense	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00
Postage	Operating expense	\$ 100.00	\$ 36.78	\$ 100.00
Printing	Operating expense	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
Adobe	Operating expense	\$ 170.00	\$ 166.40	\$ 170.00
Miscellaneous	Operating expense	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Bereavements	Operating expense	\$ 500.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 500.00
CinC Sword	Gift	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 18,105.00	\$ 17,356.42	\$ 18,630.00
NET GAIN or (LOSS)		\$ (155.00)	\$ 1,553.80	\$ 295.00

Indicates Accrual Charges (unexpensed)

Tom Edelmann, Treasurer
Department of Ohio

Chief of Staff Report

Dear Brothers,

As serving as Chief of Staff, I sent out message to all camp commanders and secretaries to notify myself along with Department Commander Rish when they would be holding their 2026 Installation meetings and any events they wished that the commander or an officer of the department to attend.

As the year went on, I assisted Department Commander Rish in communications with any camps that did not respond previously to arrange their installation of officers.

The Chief-of-Staff Fund letter was set to all camps in March with donations to be sent to the Department Treasurer.

Funds received should be reported in the department budget during our encampment.

Submitted by Jonathan Davis, PDC, Chief of Staff

Graves Registration Report

Figures for 2025/5 (Since 2025 OH Dept Encampment):

1,962 new Ohio burials registered on National Database

Ohio total 93,678. Since 2007, Ohio has registered 41,347 new burial locations. Ohio has currently registered approximately 30,000 more burials than any other state. New York has 60,000 while Michigan & PA have both registered 50,000 plus burials. National has over 465,000 registered.

Ohio backlog (To be entered in National database): 4,000

Status:

The previous two years had been very slow for registering new Ohio burial locations in the database but things have picked up well so far for 2026. We need the Camps and Brothers to continue their grave registration efforts in their areas. Our goal is to achieve 100,000 Ohio burials registered!! If any camp needs assistance in participating in this important program, please reach out to Ohio Dept GRO Kent Dorr at Dorr64ovi@aol.com.

Submitted by Kent Dorr,
Ohio Dept SUVCW Graves Registration Officer

Council Report

Four quarterly Audit Meetings were held during the year, and all financial statements were reviewed and approved by the Council as required. The partial 2nd quarter financial statement and 2026-2027 Budget has been approved by the Council on June 7, 2026, and will be reviewed at the Encampment for the record.

Submitted by John Edelman, Secretary

Patriotic Instructor's Report

This year has been a busy one for the Camps in the Department of Ohio. The Camps that have sent in Patriotic Instructor reports only represent about 38% of the Ohio Camps. Some Camps are small so that officers must take on multiple positions. This means that patriotic instructor reports are intermittent at best and nonexistent in other cases.

Still, the Camps that reported have been busy with education events and have certainly involved the public. This always is a positive situation because public involvement can often lead to interest in the Sons of Union Veterans and perhaps new membership. This is always good, since we as a group are always looking for "new blood".

The most popular event is Memorial Day ceremonies. All reporting Camps take part in these ceremonies. The public is always invited and they often take part in the strewing of petals on the grave makers. This practice goes back to the very earliest days of what was then called "Decoration Day".

Wreaths Across America is another very popular event, with the public involved in the process. Civil War grave markings also draw public attention because of the solemn ceremonies which usually involve color guards and buglers.

Eagle Scout Award programs and JROTC and ROTC Cadet programs are popular public events and Lincoln Day Dinners as well as Civil War Round Tables draw prospective members.

The interest of the public is always an important adjunct to our meetings and ceremonies. New members and the interest of the public are always things to be considered. Visit other Camps and be ready to be spokesmen for our brotherhood. Be a good representative for our Order always.

Respectfully submitted,
R. Michael Mershon Patriotic Instructor, Department of Ohio

Memorials Officer Report

During the past year I have been continuing my research and compiling a list of known Civil War monuments and memorials located throughout the state. When I started my work last year several sources mentioned that not all 88 counties contained memorials. I have found this to be inaccurate and have documented at least one monument or memorial in every county.

One of the questions I needed to decide was: What actually constitutes a true Civil War memorial according to the SUVCW? There are dozens of monuments dedicated to “Veterans of All Wars,” flagpoles dedicated to veterans, and other modern memorials making mention of the Civil War or Union soldiers. After consulting fellow Officers and Brothers, it was decided that only memorials created specifically to honor Civil War veterans, units, or associated activities would be added to the list. The majority of these were installed or dedicated from the late 1860s through the 1930s. Further, I broke down these known memorials into categories such as cannons, statuary structures (to include stained glass windows and other building materials), monuments (memorial stones), and plaques. A large majority of the memorials are located in cemeteries or near public structures such as county courthouses. One of the newest memorials on my list is a reproduction Napoleon six-pounder cannon recently installed in front of the Kenton Armory.

I have searched several online databases containing lists of existing monuments and memorials in the state, which has made researching the memorials a little easier. The vast majority of military monuments that I have located are for other conflicts or more modern all-encompassing installations. By removing the more recent monuments from my previous list, it was reduced from nearly 800 monuments and memorials to approximately 300, focusing strictly on the Civil War. I know this number will change as I continue my research. Currently, I am compiling a basic list of Civil War memorials located in each county. In the future, I will research each of their histories. This information will be compiled in a format for future publication.

One of my goals for the coming year is to begin adding missing memorials to the national database. This is not as easy a task as adding names to the National SUVCW Graves Database since the form is several pages long and almost always requires an onsite visit to compile the requested data. After consulting the National Monuments Database records for Ohio on the National SUVCW website, it appears that only about 31 counties have a monument or memorial listed, accounting for roughly 100 entries. Several counties surrounding Jacob Parrott Camp’s hometown of Kenton (Hardin County) are not included and will be test cases as I learn to fully complete the form. Another goal is to have at least one memorial or monument from each county listed on the national database, which will require several road trips across the state.

In addition to my research on memorials, I have also been active in other work to honor the Boys in Blue. During the past year, I have added hundreds of memorials to the National SUVCW Graves Registration Database, completed paperwork to order missing veteran headstones, worked on writing two Civil War themed books, continued my project to research G.A.R. Posts by number and their namesakes, presented public programs with a Civil War focus, and participated in numerous local Camp activities including veteran headstone straightening work sessions.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Brother Ronald Marvin, Jr., PCC
Jacob Parrott Camp #33

Eagle Scout Coordinator Report

The total number of Eagle Scout Certificates awarded in the Department of Ohio from June 2025 to May 2026 was 13 that came through the Department ESCC. Of these, Sherman Camp #93 presented 10 certificates. The remaining three certificates came to me via the National website. Other Camps may have presented certificates I am not aware of, but the only Camp that I have knowledge of that is active with the SUVCW Eagle Scout program is my own Camp.

As National Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator, I have visibility to the Eagle Certificates presented in other Departments. Ohio has dropped three places since last year and is tied for eighth most certificates awarded. The top 4 Departments are New Jersey (42), New York (31), Pennsylvania (28), and Michigan (27). In all cases, these are the awards that I have visibility to. Some Camps and Departments may award certificates that I have not been notified about, which is completely fine. Nevertheless, I expect the Department ranking to remain approximately unchanged.

Each year the Department grants Eagle certificates to only a tiny percentage of all newly-awarded Eagle Scouts in Ohio and far fewer than some other comparable Departments, so I encourage and recommend that every Camp find at least one local Boy Scout troop, sponsored perhaps by a local church or American Legion (etc.) chapter, and discuss the SUVCW Eagle Scout Program with them. I have found that these in-person Eagle Scout presentations are an effective way to meet parents and other adults who can be often potential members for our order.

There is no lineage requirement for recipients of the SUVCW Eagle Certificate and the (very easy) application can be found on the National website (Form 14). Both male and female Eagle Scouts qualify for the certificate. I am happy to help the Camps with presentation materials.

The Boy Scouts, the GAR, and the SUVCW have a long history of partnership. If you are interested in learning more, please contact me at eaglescouts@suvchw.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Spaulding, PDC

Signals Officer Report

The Signals Officer position underwent considerable churn during the 2025-2026 term. Brian Brown stepped down in November 2025, and was replaced by John Smith initially, and then David Moravek, in May 2026. John Edelmann, Secretary and JVC, was assigned assistant in the May Department Order No. 11. Over the course of the Winter and Spring 2026, the Department Website was brought up to date in terms of posted orders, Patriotic Instruction updates, Camp detail, and bylaws information. Biographies of Past Department Commanders were added in addition to portraits of each where available.

Additionally, administration of the department's Facebook Group page was updated to permit control of the group by the Signals Officers (Moravek and Edelmann). This action also ensures dual access to digital media, as directed by the recent General Order 14 regarding Department and Camp Digital

Assets. The Department will investigate establishing an actual Department of Ohio Facebook PAGE (vs the current GROUP), as the capabilities afforded by a Page differ significantly from the existing Group.

Meanwhile, Br. Moravek continues to work on a total redesign using “WordPress” as the graphical tool to reimagine the website. Once all existing content is migrated to the new site, the Department will be notified accordingly (planned in the coming months).

Bluehost continues as the Department’s website hosting service. Including the new prototype site in development, the Department is only using 2 of the available 20 websites our subscription supports. The Signals Office therefore recommends that the Camps be invited to leverage these available websites should they desire a hosting service for their own local Camp website. This can be accomplished with access credentials separate from those used to manage the Department’s site. If approved, an invitation will be sent to all Camps of the Department to solicit interest in this endeavor. The Department’s Signals Office will not be responsible for any design or other support should Camps wish to take advantage of this offer.

GAR Records Officer Report

After the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War, there was a strange lessening of interest in said war, and in those who brought the War to its conclusion. Nor did there develop any real surge of interest in the Grand Army of the Republic (acronym: GAR), the largest organization of Union veterans of the American Civil War. This was a shock, given the fact that our great country exists because of those who fought, and died, for it.

Will it be a case of déjà vu all over again?

The 250th anniversary of the signing of The Declaration of Independence is at hand, and myriad organizations are immersed in plans to celebrate the event. Many people have rediscovered that these United States have an exciting history that is well worth exploring. For example, one family recently became aware that its current patriarch is the great-grandson of a soldier who served in a regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry and that his grandfather was a member of the Sons. Indeed, in the artifacts treasured by the family, is an “SV” sleeve-button and a metal hat-badge of the Wreath-and-SV design of more than a century ago.

Let us all work together so that the current semi quincentennial hoopla does not just sputter out

The Department of Ohio should, and could, be THE source of complete and accurate information about the Civil War in the State of Ohio, whether by personal contact with individuals, with historians, with The Press, etc., ... and augmented by Public presentations.

Respectfully submitted,
R. A. Davis

GAR Highway Officer Report

Thank you for the honor to submit my report to the Department of Ohio Encampment as the Department Grand Army of the Republic Highway Officer. I have inspected the GAR Signs that have been placed along US Route 6. I am happy to report that all signs are still in their original location and are in great condition like they were placed there yesterday. I still promote the GAR Highway signs whenever I can. However, since COVID the price of materials for making these signs have increased making the signs to go up in price drastically. Now we face the dilemma of the oil prices, just when I thought the prices might go down. I am following the economy closely and as soon as I see a chance I will send out letters again to the different representatives of cities, villages and townships with the new price of the GAR signs. All of our neighboring cities have found the funds to make lane additions for bikes on the road and it seems to be a lot of road and bridge repair in this area. Hopefully these cities will decide it's an important part of our history that needs to be known and not forgotten. This means much to me and I stand strong to continue to promote the GAR sign placements along US RT 6 they are very dear to my heart.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity serving as your GAR Highway Officer
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Peter J. Hritsko, PC-in-C
Dept. of Ohio GAR Highway Officer

ROTC Coordinator Report

There were a total of 14 presentations made by 3 camps this past spring.

Lytle camp #10 - 6 awards
Jacob Parrott Camp #33 - 2 awards
William T. Sherman Camp #93 - 4 awards
John S Townsend Camp #108 - 2 awards

Brothers, this is 10 awards out of a possible 84. We need to do a better job of this.

Tom McBrayer
419-673-5693

Chaplain's Report

None of the camps contacted the chaplain for assistance during the 2025-2026 year. Please, if you have need, do not hesitate to contact me:

Tom McBrayer
419-673-5693 JohnTM@columbus.rr.com

Monuments and Memorials Committee Report

The Monuments and Memorials Committee has received no requests from any camps within the Department of Ohio for the 2025-2026 term. The amount in the Monuments and Memorials fund will be updated at the Department Encampment.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Kelly Hopkins, Sr. Vice Commander
Department of Ohio

Governor William Dennison Camp #1

Our average attendance at camp meetings is 10 – 12 members.

On May 24th, 2025, Camp Dennison #1 held at Greenlawn Cemetery for its Memorial Day Services, a headstone rededication for PVT. Frederick Wilcox of Co. C, 185th Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

Department Commander Steve Ball conducted the chaplain duties as a member of the camp. The 110th O.V.I performed firing salutes and Taps.

Our camp was represented by Commander Jim Allen; Brothers Steve Ball, Jonathan Davis, David Rose and Andrew Rose at the June 14th, 2025, Department Encampment.

Installation of Camp officers was held during the October meeting and was presided over by Department Commander David Rish. Brother Andrew Rose was installed as Camp Commander.

On November 19, 2025, Dennison Camp 1 installed a new member...Brother Jared Del Orfano.

In lieu of a business meeting, the Camp held a holiday luncheon in December at Bob Evans.

PDC Steve Ball and other members of the Camp continue to dedicate their time to the task of finding and correcting the grave markers of Civil War veterans in Greenlawn Cemetery, Franklin County, Ohio. Brother David Rose, PCC, was inducted into the Ohio State Army ROTC Hall of Fame during the April 16th ceremony.

On May 23rd, 2026, Wm. Dennison Camp #1 along with Greenlawn Cemetery held a new headstone dedication for PVT. John Duvall of Co. D, 22nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry, enlisting at 15 ½ years of age and discharging from the Army at 18 years. A biography and work to get Duvall's grave marked was given by Brother Steve Ball and Mr. Randy Rogers of Greenlawn before the official ceremony. This resulted in the completion of marking 170 unmarked soldier graves and correcting 6 others. Former Ohio Congressman Steve Stivers, Department Commander David Rish and about 19 people, including 3 Ohio Department Camps, were on hand. The 73rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Band and the 110th OVI provided firing salutes and the playing of TAPS.

At our last meeting May 27th, a new member was voted in, Jeremy Kevin Weaver, who derives his membership from CPL Stephen B. Eveland, Co. I, 1st Regiment Ohio Heavy Artillery.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Andrew Rose, PCC, Camp Commander, Governor William Dennison Camp #1

General Benjamin D. Fearing Camp # 2

Dear Brothers of the Department of Ohio:

Below are Camp #2 activities 2025:

- Held Monthly Meetings
- Attended History in the Park at Marietta, Ohio of historical groups and set up a Civil War display and handed out SUVCW brochures.
- Participated in Wreaths Across America and functioned as a color guard firing a musket salute.
- (1) Camp #2 Brothers attended the 2025 Ohio Department Encampment.
- Attended General Rufus Dawes Grave Dedication on Memorial Day
- Attended Buffington Island Ceremony
- Awarded SUVCW 250th Anniversary medals to all active members
- Presented membership to Buffington Island to all active members

Fraternally Yours

Ted Cox, Camp #2 Commander

Brooks-Grant Camp #7

*The camp meets five times a year. The meetings are in March, May, July, September, and November. They are on the third Tuesday of the month.

*The camp recently hosted the Appomattox Bean Day Dinner and made plans for the camp's Memorial Day Service at the Civil War Monument at the Meigs County Courthouse.

*We take part in the Buffington Island ceremony each year.

* Camp Secretary Alan Holter is good about keeping the camp up-to-date on upcoming events.

*Camp officers were sworn in at the November meeting. Officers for 2026 are Camp Commander Thomas Galloway, Senior Vice Commander Ron Eastman, Junior Vice Commander Keith Whaley, Secretary/Treasurer Roy Alan Holter, and Chaplain/Patriotic Instructor Gregory Michael.

*Camp officers made repairs to headstones and items in the cemeteries during the year.

*News items and meeting dates are placed in local newspapers.

Thomas Galloway, Camp Commander

General William H. Lytle Camp #10

Below is a list of the activities for Camp #10 since the last Department of Ohio Encampment.

1. 14 June, 2025 Department of Ohio Encampment
2. 17 June, 2025 Camp meeting. Scarlet Oaks School
3. 5 July, 2025 John Haap Grave Marker Ceremony
4. 12 July, 2025 National Society Of Daughters of the Union Picnic
5. 16 Sept, 2025 Camp meeting. Scarlet Oaks School
6. 21 Sept, 2025 General W. H. Lytle Ceremony Spring Grove Cemetery
7. 21 Oct., 2025 Camp meeting. Scarlet Oaks School
8. 15 Nov., 2025 Brother Kerry Langdon PDC PCC Celebration of Life
9. 16 Nov., 2025 Camp #10 Officer Installation
10. 13 Dec., 2025 Wreaths Across America, Spring Grove Cemetery
11. 20 Jan., 2026 Camp meeting. Scarlet Oaks School
12. 7 Feb., 2026 Brother Jim Cobb Celebration of Life
13. 12 Feb., 2026 Lincoln Dinner
14. 17 Mar, 2026 Camp meeting. Scarlet Oaks School
15. 18 Apr., 2026 ROTC Awards Navy and Air Force Miami U. Presented by Bro. Zac Haines
16. 21 Apr, 2026 Camp meeting. Scarlet Oaks School
17. 22 Apr., 2026 ROTC Award University of Cincinnati Army Presented by Bro. Jack Bredenfoerder
18. 23 Apr., 2026 ROTC Award Xavier U. Presented by Bro. Richard Davis
19. 29 Apr., 2026 ROTC Award Princeton High School Presented by Bro. Gary Duffield
20. 5 May 2026 ROTC Award Diamond Oaks Career Center Presented by Bro. Woody Cook
21. 16 May., 2026 Civil War Marker Ceremony , St. Bernard, OH
22. 19 May., 2026 Camp meeting. Scarlet Oaks School
23. 25 May., 2026 Memorial Day Ceremony at Spring Grove Cemetery

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Rob Kidd, Commander

General William H. Lytle Camp #10

General Wm. McLaughlin Camp #12

A project that we started in September of 2024 came to fruition in 2025, when we were able to hang the first veteran banners in the square of Mansfield and in the village of Lexington to honor veterans of Richland County. As of this writing, 50 banners have been displayed. After expenses \$2,000 have been raised and donated the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Building in Mansfield. This is the “**home**” of the *General William McLaughlin Camp 12*.

In February the Camp hosted our annual Lincoln Birthday Dinner in Shelby. Our guest speaker enlightened us about many aspects of President Lincoln.

In March we donated to the Frost GAR Hall project in Athens County.

In April several of our brothers began a landscaping project for the 120th Ohio Infantry Regiment Monument, in South Park, Mansfield.

In the first weekend of May we had a table at the Ohio Civil War Show, were our able avail ourselves to possible new members and promote the Sons of Union Veterans.

For Memorial Day several brothers participated in the placing of flags in the Mansfield Cemetery.

In June we donated to the Ashland Cemetery in Ashland Ohio. There was extensive damage to headstones including many veterans.

Also, in June several brothers attended the Department Encampment in Clintonville.

In September three brothers attended a headstone cleaning class. As of this writing, they have cleaned several veterans' markers.

In October we held our first Fall Dinner at the log cabin at South Park.

In December we held our annual Christmas Dinner at a local eatery in Mansfield.

Also, in December several brothers participated in the Wreaths across America in cemeteries in Richland Couty.

We began a new project to recognize an earthen replica of a Civil War Fort, called the GAR Fort, in North Park in Mansfield. We a planning to have metal display stand with a QR Code, linked to the history of the fort and its purpose.

We have brothers who are on two committees. the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Building Board of Trustees, and the Rich History Alliance.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Baker, Camp Commander, Camp 12

John S. Kountz Camp #14

In July 2025, Brother James N. Phillips Jr was designated by Department Commander Rish to serve as Organizer, for a Camp in NW Ohio. From July 2025 to December 2025, membership was sought to establish a camp, with the name John S. Kountz Camp 14. John S. Kountz was the 13th Commander in Chief of the GAR and Medal of Honor Recipient from the Missionary Ridge Campaign. Camp 14 was to honor the 14 OVI mustered from Lucas County, and later to represent the many GAR Posts of Northwest Ohio.

In January, Membership applications were submitted to the Department Secretary for these new brothers, adding them to the rolls of the Members at Large (MAL). Of significant note, Br. Billy Ray Branstutter was elected to serve as the Commander.

In late February, with sufficient membership, the members in the MAL Camp were transferred to the John S Kountz Camp 14 and a date of rank was given (February 18, 2026).

In March, we discovered that Commander Branstutter had an accident and could no longer serve as Commander, a second election was conducted, and Br. James N. Phillips was elected as commander with David Weber, Christopher Dziubek, Brian Miller, and John Huffman to serve as Councilmen. Br. Billy Ray Branstutter was elected to serve as Sr Vice Commander.

In April, Department Commander David Rish attended the Camp meeting to install the officers and to provide the Camp with much needed support and direction. In May, SVC Branstutter succumbed to his medical problem, and passed away. Secretary Edelmenn was made aware of our first loss.

At this point we are putting together plans for operations and focusing on membership growth. To date, we have 13 members (& 1 Junior) with growth centered in Toledo. We are actively recruiting new members, preferably residents in the counties of Northwest Ohio that are in, or adjacent to, Lucas County.

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

We have acquired a bank account to conduct the financial business of the camp and obtained an EIN number. We are awaiting tax-exempt status certification.

Fundraisers: Planning to start a website to include a donation button. Initiated a yearly camp dues and have a bank account for accepting donations.

CAMP OPERATIONS

As we are still gathering ourselves, our focus at this time in the program season is to participate where we can to the extent we can. Accordingly, we attended a flag raising and honoring ceremony at the Woodlawn Cemetery GAR section 41 on 25 May.

MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITING

We have obtained a roster for the now defunct camp of McPhearson Camp 66. We are contacting those living past brothers and seeing if they have an interest in joining Camp 14. We are finding people and cultivating leads. At present we have ~25 leads. It is worth noting that we lack a Jr Vice Commander to lead this initiative, so the task is shared by the Executive team.

GRAVE REGISTRATION REPORT

Br. David Weber was appointed the Camp Graves Registration Officer. Our Camp 14 has a long-term goal to find & create SUVCWDB records for all Civil War veteran burials in the 8 counties of NW Ohio (see green map below) We have started with Lucas County which had 1525 records in Jan 2026 & it has increased to 1932 (or ~71% of the probable burials, our Goal is >75% this year for all 8 counties of NW Ohio). Later this year, Williams and Defiance Counties will be worked on. ~674 more SUVCW DB records creations are needed for the 2nd half of this year to meet our 2026 goal.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

We have a mission statement of: To honor Civil War veterans, promote Patriotism, teach history, and uphold constitutional principles. And we have drafted goals for 2026. Parades Participation, the Toledo Memorial Day parade was cancelled this year. We will investigate full participation for 2027. However, the Brothers of the Camp took part in a variety of events in Lucas County such as at the Old Toledo State Hospital Cemetery, GAR Tour of Historic Woodlawn Cemetery, family remembrances of those who died in service, and a Cemetery Historical Tour at Calvary Cemetery.

Respectfully Submitted

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

James N. Phillips Jr
Commander

Br. David Weber
Secretary

William McKinley Camp #21

William McKinley Camp No. 21 has had another active and successful year dedicated to the principles of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. Camp members participated in numerous memorial ceremonies, cemetery preservation efforts, parades, living-history events, and public educational programs throughout the year. Highlights included our participation in America 250 events in downtown Lancaster, continued interpretation of our Civil War educational displays and Sherman campaign cannon, and public library lectures on Civil War topics, including the Great Locomotive Chase. Our camp newsletter continues to keep members informed and engaged while promoting the mission of the Order.

The Camp also strengthened fellowship through Brotherhood activities and historical excursions to Chattanooga and Cincinnati. We are pleased to report continued membership growth and strong community engagement as we work to preserve Civil War history, honor the service of Union veterans, and educate the public. We remain committed to expanding our preservation and educational efforts in the year ahead.

Submitted by Mason Prater, Camp Commander

Vienna Camp #26

It is our honor as Camp Vienna to be a part of the Ohio Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. It has been a very good year for our chapter. One of our most recent highlights of our unit was to accompany other members of our Civil War Artillery Unit Battery L on a tour of Gettysburg spending time on Little Round Top. We hired a Gettysburg guide familiar with Battery L's participation in that battle. Our unit laid a wreath at the site of the battle, conducted a short ceremony, and pulled the wreath up before leaving.

Upon returning to our community, we conducted a joint meeting Battery L/SUV at the local Greenlawn Grave site of local Civil War Veterans and laid a wreath at the site recognizing Scioto County Ohio's first Civil War Soldiers.

On Memorial Days past and this most recent Memorial Day, our unit led the nationally recognized Ironton Ohio Memorial Day parade as their color guard unit.. The attendance was especially large this year with anticipation of our 250th Anniversary of our country. It was later reported that more than 5000 were in attendance. Our unit and cannon are highly regarded in this parade.

Also, this year, our unit attended an evening program about Abraham Lincoln at the Ironton Ohio Library. Educational programs over the year included a one-day Civil War educational event for students at Clay High School, grades K -12. Most recently we helped the Minford 8th Grade conduct its three-day Civil War Encampment. Our unit always does the educational parts for this program, and we have done it for many years. The students conducted a special program recognizing us for the event. This was a first time for this to happen and we were very honored by that.

The local Shawnee State University recently again invited our unit to participate in a Veterans Recognition program, where we fired the cannon in honor of Veterans. To the middle of this last year, our group set up an approximate six-month Civil War Display. Several of our guys recently added to the Lucasville Heritage house museum for this year's display and conducted a Saturday historical event.

Battery L and Camp Vienna are scheduled to participate in several 250th Recognition events in the next few months. One will be a parade and educational event in Minford Ohio sponsored by the American Legion. We have scheduled a community Civil War Educational event cooperating with the Portsmouth Public Library. Parades in which we have participated in, other than Memorial Day, include Saint Patrick's Day Parade, Jackson Apple Festival Parade and the Portsmouth Apple Festival Parade!

As Commander of Camp Vienna, I personally attended the Gettysburg Remembrance Day Parade this November, as to my knowledge the first time anyone in our unit had done so. I wanted to observe this time and determine what it would be like for our unit to attend the event at a future time!

In your humble service, Randy Rucker
Commander, Vienna Camp 26

Jacob Parrott Camp #33

This year has presented a regular number of challenges, starting off with cancellation of our first meeting of the year due to inclement weather. Rebounding in February the camp resumed regular business using our recently acquired period Bible for the Altar, and turning our attention to the activities we needed to address. Modern times caught up with the Hardin County Courthouse placing security restrictions on opening hours and metal detector installation, threatening our very access to the venerable room in which we convene. We were able to adjust our meeting time from 7pm to 5pm and accommodate the better part of our membership and avoid security issues.

Membership has been steady and recently added another member as recruitment is an ongoing process. Age and health concerns plus the new meeting time has curtailed attendance for some and we are working to address these issues. Regular volunteer work on mapping out and carrying out headstone marker maintenance in area cemeteries including resetting and enzymatic cleaning of our ancestors' stones that need lichen and moss growth removed. In May alone, over 30 CW Veterans' markers were reset or cleaned to remove the effects of the elements.

Our Decoration Day Ceremony on May 25 was carried out in prime fashion by the Brothers of Camp #33, beginning precisely at 12 noon and opened by Bugler Jeff King rendering the National Anthem, and the performance of TAPS at the ceremony's conclusion. Mr. King is a volunteer bugler for the internet organization of "Buglers Across America". Eagerly accepting our request for a live bugler he performed and added a great degree of dignity and respect to our ceremony and expressed interest in returning next year as well.

We will continue our cemetery projects this summer and beyond weather and attendance permitting. The camp has several items to follow up on, including care and maintenance of our GAR furniture, flag holders and other odds and ends, and PR considerations to further the image and the presence of the camp in the community.

Respectfully submitted, Michael R. Sherman
Commander, Jacob Parrott Camp #33

Philip Triem Camp #43

No report submitted.

Richard Enderlin Camp #73

-20 Members, 8 meetings per year, Patriotic Instruction typically sent via email prior to meeting.

-One Brother is a Submariner in the US Navy, when at sea may or may not be in harm's way.

-One new member recruited.

-Brothers Participated in:

- Baltimore Opera House Concert, MD Feb. 1, 2026
- Ohio Civil War Show, Mansfield, OH May 3, 2026
- Memorial Day Grandview Cemetery, Chillicothe, OH May 26, 2025
- 4th July Service, Frankfort, OH, 2025
- Camp Chase Confederate Cemetery Ceremony Jun 8, 2025
- Remembrance Day, Gettysburg, PA Nov 15, 2025
- Annual Battle of Buffington Island Commemoration, OH July 19 2025
- Wright Memorial Library Civil War Speaker Series, "Music of Civil War" Dayton, OH, 10/16/2025

- Headstone Dedication, Casstown, OH Nov 2 2025

Commander, Sergeant Richard Enderlin Camp #73 Report, Donald L. Martin, PCinC

Chaplain William Earnshaw Camp #89

1. The following is the meeting/program schedule of the camp/roundtable from September 2025 through May 2026. All meetings are held at 7 pm on the third Thursday of the month in the Wright Memorial Public Library's Community Room; (1776 Far Hills Avenue, Oakwood, OH 45419-2531). Open to the public, except January meeting.

18 September 2025 = Greg Hedgcorth, "Union Army Signal Corps"

16 October 2025 = Steve Ball, "The Music of the Civil War"

20 November 2025 = John Weaver, "Religion and the Civil War Soldier"

18 December 2025 = Thomas Robisch (president of Cincinnati CWRT), "General Sherman and the Law of War," (and elections)

15 January 2026 = No presentation; SUVCW Ritual & Ceremonies, Installation of Officers (Not open to non-members)

19 February 2026 = Charles Dickerson, "The History of the Dayton Soldiers Home"

19 March 2026 = Allan Howey, "The War in the Air"

16 April 2026 = Stuart McAllister, "Civil War Alternate Histories"

21 May 2026 = Civil War Trivia Contest

25 May 2026 = Memorial Day Services – 1100 at Dayton National Cemetery and 1300 at Troy's Riverside Cemetery.

2. All meetings begin with a 45-minute to one-hour history presentation, followed by a short camp/roundtable business meeting. For more information, contact Allan Howey at <ahsuvew@gmail.com>

ALLAN W. HOWEY, PDC
Commander, Earnshaw Camp 89
President, Miami Valley Civil War Roundtable

Henry Casey Camp #92

The Camp has conducted 6 regularly scheduled meetings since the 2025 Department Encampment.

The following is a list of activities Henry Casey Camp Members have been participants in:

PCC Kelly Hopkins installed as Department Senior Vice Commander

Dept. SVC Kelly Hopkins attended the Buffington Island Ceremony

PDC Commander Shane Milburn and Jared Robinson attended the 2025 National Encampment in Houston, Texas

In September, five members participated in the Bible Baptist Fall Weekend.

<https://www.wnewsj.com/2025/09/15/thousands-attend-bible-baptist-church-fall-family-weekend/>

In October, five Members participated in the Washington Cemetery Tour in Washington Court House, Ohio.

Officer Installation for 2026 was conducted at the November meeting.

<https://www.recordherald.com/2025/11/25/henry-casey-camp-92-installs-officers-for-2026/>

Six Members participated in Wreaths Across America, laying Wreaths for Veterans at three Cemeteries in Clinton and Fayette Counties.

Eight Members receive Kentucky Colonel Honors at the January meeting.

<https://www.recordherald.com/2026/02/02/henry-casey-camp-92-launches-america-250-celebration-with-kentucky-colonel-honors/>

In preparation for Memorial Day, Wreaths were placed on Medal of Honor recipients Henry Casey, Francis McMillan, David Jones and Isaac Carman as well as the last Civil War Veteran Elon Thornton in Fayette County.

<https://www.recordherald.com/2026/05/21/sons-of-union-veterans-honor-civil-war-heroes-in-fayette-clinton-counties/>

Bloomington Memorial Day Ceremony

<https://www.recordherald.com/2026/05/25/bloomington-memorial-day-service-honors-local-decorated-veterans-historic-legacies>

Lees Creek Memorial Day Ceremony

<https://www.wnewsj.com/2026/05/25/lees-creek-marks-102nd-annual-memorial-day-parade-and-cemetery-tribute>

Shane Milburn, PDC

Secretary

Henry Casey Camp #92

William T. Sherman Camp # 93

During the year 2025-2026, Sherman Camp conducted regular monthly hybrid meetings (in person and Zoom) at the Dayton Masonic Center, conducted two Memorial Day ceremonies, and hosted the annual SW Ohio Lincoln Dinner held in Dayton, Ohio, on February 12th. Department Commander David Rish, PDC John Huffman, National Secretary and PDC James Crane and others attended the dinner along with members of Lytle Camp 10 (Cincinnati) and Sister Anthony O'Connell Auxiliary #10.

We gained three (3) new brothers bringing the number of members in good standing of the Camp at 39 as of April 30, 2026.

During the year, Eagle Scout Coordinators Mike Spaulding and John Grismer coordinated 10 Eagle Scout certificates regionally.

This year's Memorial Day events were held again at both Woodland Cemetery and Old Greencastle, both in Dayton, Ohio. The guest speaker this year was the Honorable Rick Perales, former Ohio State Representative of the 73rd District. The Dayton Daily News published a front-page article on 5/25/2026, that covered the activities of Sherman Camp at area cemeteries, as well as providing an in-depth review of the SUVCW mission and legacy in concise detail.

Commander Edelmann also established the position of Camp Librarian, which office will archive and maintain historically significant artifacts, documents, and publications on behalf of the Camp. Brother Michael Smith was appointed to this position.

As predicted in the 2025 Sherman Camp Report, Camp activities and work projects at Old Greencastle Cemetery in Dayton were completely suspended, because of the new ownership of the cemetery. As a result, at the May 2026 Camp meeting, the existing residual funds originally designated for OGC maintenance were reallocated to a Monuments and Memorials Fund. The Camp bylaws were amended at that same time to establish a new committee which will direct the use of said funds for projects related to such efforts.

Br. Tony Cochren continues to serve as our ROTC Coordinator. Working closely with Department of Ohio ROTC Coordinator, Br. Cochren and CC Edelmann made several presentations at area schools in April and May 2026.

Members of the Camp also attended a Headstone Dedication service for six Civil War Veterans at the High Street Community Church in New Lexington, Ohio, on September 27th, 2025.

Our primary fund-raising activity consists of manning concession stands at the Dayton Dragons minor league baseball games. Dragons Coordinator and Chaplain Davidson continues to serve over and above the call of duty in this capacity, as his dedication and that of a few others in the Camp brings in more than \$3500 annually.

Br. Grant Bates continued in 2026 in his position of Patriotic Instructor for the Camp. He has coordinated with other speakers (including member Ron Helms) and led lively monthly historical discussions during his third term to the delight of the Camp.

Sherman Camp continues to support the community in sharing the history and memories of the Civil War at meetings and public events throughout the year. We look forward to continuing the legacy of our forebearers in inculcating the traditions and spirit of the Order in the years ahead.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

John Edelmänn, Commander
Sherman Camp #93

John S. Townsend Camp #108

Here's a list of the major projects that our camp is working on, some of which are completed and some of which are still works in progress:

- 1. Charles McCabe/"Battle Hymn of the Republic" Historical Marker.** After over a decade of planning and running the gauntlet of university bureaucracy, we finally received permission to place an historical marker in front of Tupper Hall on the Ohio University campus. One of the wings of this building occupies the space where once stood the birthplace and boyhood home of Charles C. McCabe, chaplain of the 122nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry. McCabe was credited by Julia Ward Howe as being the major popularizer of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic." He once sang the "Battle Hymn" in a meeting of the Christian Commission in the Capitol building in D.C., where President Lincoln is reported to have been so moved by the rendition that he rose up, with a tear in his eye, and proclaimed, "Sing it again!" The marker was dedicated on Veterans Day weekend in 2025 with DC David Rish in attendance as well as the famed 73rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regimental Band, under the direction of PDC John Huffman. The event was well attended with great publicity both before and after the event in *The Athens Messenger* and *Athens News*.

2. Ft. Street Cemetery Headstone Rededication Ceremony.

On Memorial Day Weekend in 2026 we held a well-attended “virtual” rededication ceremony for the graves of three United States Colored Troop soldiers buried in the Ft. Street Cemetery in Nelsonville. Because of the difficult terrain of the cemetery and the uncertain weather, we had the ceremony at the Nelsonville Public Library. The event began with a welcome and slide show by Commander Denbow that provided information about each man from service, pension and medical records obtained from the National Archives. A real highlight was a dramatically presented history of the USCT by Sgt. Bertram Floyd, Co. G, 5th USCI re-enactor, and an inspiring and patriotic recitation of the Paul Lawrence Dunbar’s poem, “The Colored Soldiers,” by Frederick Smith, Co. G, 5th USCI re-enactor. This poem was inspired by P. L. Dunbar’s father, Joshua Dunbar, who had served in the both the 55th Massachusetts Infantry (colored) and the 5th Massachusetts Cavalry (colored) during the war. This project also received excellent local publicity with front page articles in *The Athens Messenger* both before and after the event.



1 Sgt. Bertram Floyd gives dramatic portrayal of the history of the United States Colored Troops

- 3. Major Arza Goodspeed Grave Restoration.** Major Goodspeed, major of the 4th West Virginia, is buried in an unmarked grave in the West State Street Cemetery in Athens. A nearby family stone mentions Arza, but it is not over his grave but his parents’ grave. The custodian of the cemetery has located the major’s grave site, and we are in the process of asking the State of West Virginia to place a smaller version of the marker they have in Vicksburg over his grave. This Vicksburg marker commemorating the 4th WV Infantry’s contribution to the victory on that battlefield features a bust of Major Goodspeed at the top. Our West Virginia contact, Rob Cornelius of Wood County, has recently told us that he has cleared the pathway for us to directly contact several state officials about funding this project. Among these state officials are two legislators who have Civil War re-enacting experience.
- 4. Civil War Tour Brochure.** This project has been delayed several years, but we do have a rough draft of the copy for the brochure for a self-guided tour of the City of Athens and Athens County. The tour includes many spots that have significance to the local story of the rebellion, such as the site of Camp Wool, the County Fairgrounds where Co. C of the 5th USCI was raised, the grave and former home of Custer’s Cook Eliza Brown Davison, and the site in Nelsonville on Canal Street where Morgan’s Raiders burned canal boats and stole supplies. Our next step is to revise and update the text, obtain GPS coordinates for the various locations, and hire a graphics artist to do a layout of the brochure. The Southeast Ohio History Center has agreed to work with us on this project.
- 5. Frost GAR Hall.** We are still working to try to get the necessary funds to renovate this

historical gem. The current plan calls for moving the building a few miles to a park that's being developed in Stewart, Ohio. This would provide much better access to the hall, and it could serve as a community center and historic museum. PDC Steve Ball and PDC John Huffman have been very helpful in this endeavor. State Senator Brian Chavez is working to find sufficient funds for the renovation, which is estimated to cost about \$750,000. In April we had a productive meeting with Senator Chavez that was attended by PDC Ball, Brother Frank Scaturro, Camp Commander Carl Denbow, as well as Senator Chavez and one of his aides. For the record, I have received permission to lobby not only members of the Ohio General Assembly, but also the U.S. Congress for renovation funds, and I have recently been in contact again with U.S. Representative Troy Balderson.

- 6. Recruitment** – We added three new members during the last year, including one dual member, Civil War Scholar Frank Scaturro. We have several more now in the pipeline. We are also working with some local women to try to re-activate the Mrs. John Ellis Wool Tent 100 of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War. This Athens-based tent has been moribund since about the 1950s.

Carl Jón Denbow, Commander Townsend Camp 108

Cadot-Blessing Camp #126

The Cadot-Blessing Camp #126 would like to respectively submit the Camp Report for the annual Encampment of the Ohio Department Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. This report includes activities for the calendar year 2025-2026.

1. Installation of officers in November 2025 by Dept. Commander David Rish
2. Held our annual Memorial Day ceremony at the Pine St. Cemetery and participated in local parade.
3. Conducted with our sister camp in Marietta July the Buffington Island Ceremony for the Ohio Department Sons of Union Veterans music by Steve Free. Commander Huffman attending.
4. Participated in the Emancipation Proclamation Celebration September held in Gallia County which is the oldest and longest running celebration in the United States.
5. We participated in the Vinton Bean Dinner and parade as well as a living history at the Rio Grande Bean Dinner. Steve Free also appeared with his music.
6. Participated with the Buffington Island Preservation Group in selling Christmas Ornaments supporting the organization.
7. Participated in the annual Veterans Day Parade and ceremony in the city park.
8. Participated in the Civil War Book Club sponsored by the Bossard Library and hosted by our Sr. Vice Commander Eugene Huffman.
9. Conducted Memorial Day services at Pine St. Cemetery and joined with the VFW at the Gallipolis Park at the WWI Doughboy monument.
10. Clean and mowed the old Abner Holcomb Cemetery in Vinton, Ohio.
11. Joined with the V.F.W. and the Wounded Warrior Project along with Wreaths Across America place wreaths on the fallen graves at Tyn Rhos Welch Cemetery in Dec.2025.
12. Participated at the Bossard Library for the Civil War Authors Symposium.

James W. Oiler, Commander: Cadot-Blessing Camp # 126

James A. Garfield Camp #142

No report submitted.

Officer Report Recommendations

Eagle Scout Coordinator page 26

I encourage and recommend that every Camp Eagle Coordinator or Camp Commander find at least one local Boy Scout troop, sponsored perhaps by a local church or American Legion (etc.) chapter, and discuss the SUVCW Eagle Scout Program with them.

Signals Officer page 27

The Signals Office recommends that the Camps be invited to leverage [the] available websites should they desire a hosting service for their own local Camp website. This can be accomplished with access credentials separate from those used to manage the Department's site. If approved, an invitation will be sent to all Camps of the Department to solicit interest in this endeavor. The Department's Signals Office will not be responsible for any design or other support should Camps wish to take advantage of this offer.

Resolutions

No Resolutions submitted.

Letters of Intent



Br. Benjamin J. Frail, PDC

Major Sullivan Ballou, Camp 3
Department of Rhode Island
75 Rotary Drive, West Warwick RI, 02893
E-mail: civilwarfan@msn.com

Brothers,

I am honored to officially announce my candidacy for a seat on the Council of Administration at the 145th National Encampment to be held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Attached with this letter, you will find my resume that shows the details of my over 20 years of dedication to our beloved Order. I have served as the National Patriotic Instructor for the 4 years, was the Chief of Staff for Br. Bruce D. Frail's Administration as Commander-in-Chief, as well as serving on a multitude of National Committees, including but not limited to the National Programs and Policies Committee and the National Special Committee on Social Media. Because of my experience at all three levels of our organization over the past 20 years, I believe that I am an excellent candidate to serve on the Council of Administration.

I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve the Brothers of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and to honor all the men that served in the United States Armed Forces from 1861-1865, including my ancestor that I claim my lineage from, Pvt. Hugh Frail Sr, 67th Pennsylvania Infantry. I humbly ask for your support at the 145th National Encampment in Lexington and thank you for your consideration.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Frail' followed by a circled 'X'.

Br. Benjamin J. Frail, PDC
Major Sullivan Ballou, Camp 3
Department of Rhode Island
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



CDR Roderick J Fraser Jr., USN (Retired)

162 Fiat Ave., Cranston, RI USA

Tel.: (617) 201-0105 Email: rjfraserjrusrn@gmail.com

Candidacy for the Council of Administration

Dear Brothers of Ohio,

It has been my great honor to serve you and this Department for the past three years on the National Council of Administration. In fact, it was the votes of you, my Brothers from Ohio, which put me over the top to win the election to this position. Thank you for your support.

I value and appreciate all of the hard work you, the Brothers of this order, do to keep alive the memory of our ancestors who fought so valiantly to preserve the Union.

With this letter, I am seeking your vote for reelection to the Council of Administration at the 2026 Annual National Encampment at Gettysburg. I have attached a resume outlining my accomplishments.

It is my great honor to represent my great, great, great-grandfather, George Alexander McCluskey, who served in the 1st Maine Cavalry, Company K. George, a Canadian and an orphan, joined the First Maine Cavalry under an alias when he was only 17 years old. At the Battle of St. Mary's Church, he was captured by the Confederates. He was held as a prisoner of war at Camp Sumpter at Andersonville, Georgia, and remained a prisoner until the end of the war. Additionally, I have a supplemental registration for my great, great uncle Francis Xavier Albert, 10th Maine Infantry, Co. D.

I look forward to serving you once again on the Council of Administration and humbly ask for your support.

Yours,

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

Rod



Kelly Hopkins
780 W. Truesdell Street
Wilmington, Ohio
Cell: 937-725-0436
Email: corporalhopskins@yahoo.com



Brothers of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,

I come to you today to inform you of my intent to run for Commander of the Department of Ohio.

I hold the values and principles of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in the highest regard. I understand that the office of Department Commander requires dedication, accuracy, and the following of policies and procedures stated in our by-laws.

I believe I have a good foundation and understanding of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, along with a great support system of several brothers within our organization. I am a past Commander of Henry Casey Camp #92 and have also held other officers' positions with other civic and veteran organizations.

In closing, I would appreciate your vote of endorsement for Commander of the Department of Ohio because Service, Accuracy, and Stewardship are principles that I believe in and will continue to exhibit within our organization.

I would also like to thank each of you for your time, service and consideration and look forward to servicing the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department of Ohio.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Kelly Hopkins
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Department of Ohio
Sr. Vice Commander 2025-2026
Jr. Vice Commander 2024-2025
Department Secretary 2022-2024

JOHN EDELMANN – SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Brothers of the Department of Ohio, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,

I wish to announce my intent to run for the positions of Senior Vice Commander and Secretary, Department of Ohio.

While a more recent addition to the Order we all serve (having been accepted into membership in the William T. Sherman Camp, No. 93, Dayton Ohio in 2020), I have held multiple offices in the Camp, including Council Member (2021), JVC (2022), Secretary (2023 - 3 years) and Commander (2024 - 3 years).

I obtained membership in the Order through the lineage of my Great Grandfather, Pvt. James C. Holobaugh, Company H, 91st OVI. Among other battles, he fought at the Battles of Cedar Creek and Lynchburg, Va., where he was wounded by a cannon shot.

At the 2023 Ohio Department Encampment, I was elected Secretary for a 3-year term. I remain presently in the 3rd term of that office. At the 2025 Ohio Department Encampment, I was elected Junior Vice Commander.

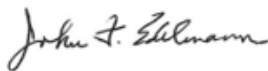
I have held various leadership positions in both religious and civic organizations. I have been a director of Music for 3 parishes since 1990 (St. Paul in Englewood OH, St. Agnes, Dayton OH, and until June 2024, the Church of the Holy Angels, Dayton OH), and I have been an appointed member of the Clear Creek Township Zoning Commission in Warren County, Ohio, since April 2001. During this 25-year span, I have held the office of Chair for most of that time, having been re-elected to the position in May 2026. I am a member of the National Eagle Scout Association, and was commissioned as a Kentucky Colonel in 1994 by Governor Brereton C. Jones.

I am also an IT Specialist/Team Lead with the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), based at WPAFB, since 2009.

Serving the past several years as the Department Secretary has been and continues to be a true privilege. In this and in the more recent JVC capacity, I have had the opportunity to work with many elected and appointed officers of the department, as well as many officers of our several Camps. I believe the abilities and enthusiasm I bring to our Order have positioned me well for both increased responsibility and leadership.

I would be honored to serve the Department in the offices of SVC and Secretary, and look forward to the opportunity, if elected, to do so.

With every good wish I am, Sincerely yours,
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,



John F. Edelmenn





**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
William T. Sherman Camp #93
Department of Ohio
Dayton, Ohio**

**CAMP RESOLUTION FOR THE ENDORSEMENT OF BROTHER JOHN F. EDELMANN FOR THE
OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT OF OHIO SENIOR VICE COMMANDER (2026-2027)**

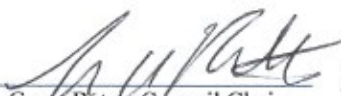
WHEREAS Brother John F. Edelmann's obligations and charges in the diverse offices held in the Department of Ohio as Secretary and Junior Vice Commander, and in Sherman Camp as Council Member, Junior Vice Commander, Secretary, and Commander, has, and continues to provide him with the required knowledge to serve the brothers of the Order; and

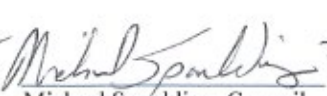
WHEREAS Brother Edelmann has a tenure of six (6) years in good standing in the SUVCW; and

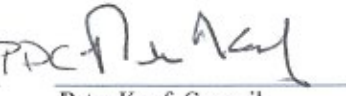
WHEREAS Brother Edelmann has been the recipient of the Meritorious Service Award (140th National Encampment - 2021) and the Sherman Camp Commanders Award (2020):

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Gen. William T. Sherman Camp endorses and recommends the election of our esteemed Camp Brother to the Department of Ohio office of Senior Vice Commander, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, at the 2026 Department of Ohio Encampment, on June 13, 2026.

SIGNED


Grant Bates, Council Chair


Michael Spaulding, Council


Peter Kopf, Council

ATTEST


John Grismer, Camp Secretary

Robert J. Kidd, Sr.
159 W. 73rd St.
Cincinnati, OH 45216

Dear Brothers of the Department of Ohio, SUVCW,

I am announcing my candidacy for the Office of Jr. Vice Commander for the Department of Ohio.

I am a member of the Order through my 2nd Great Grandfather, Pvt. William M. Boles of the 5th Kentucky Cavalry. He served from 1861-1865.

I have been a member of the Order since March, 2017. Below are the offices I've held with Camp #10:
Jr. Vice Commander, November 2017-November 2019 (2 terms)
Sr. Vice Commander, November 2019-November 2020
Camp Commander, November 2020-November 2022 (2 terms)
Camp Council, November 2022-November 2024
Camp Commander, November 2024-Present (2 terms)

I am a retired Police Sergeant with thirty years of service to three departments, including full time, part time and auxiliary positions. I also served as a U. S. Marine for three years active duty then six years as an active reserve. I worked in a few other jobs while a reservist and between full time police jobs.

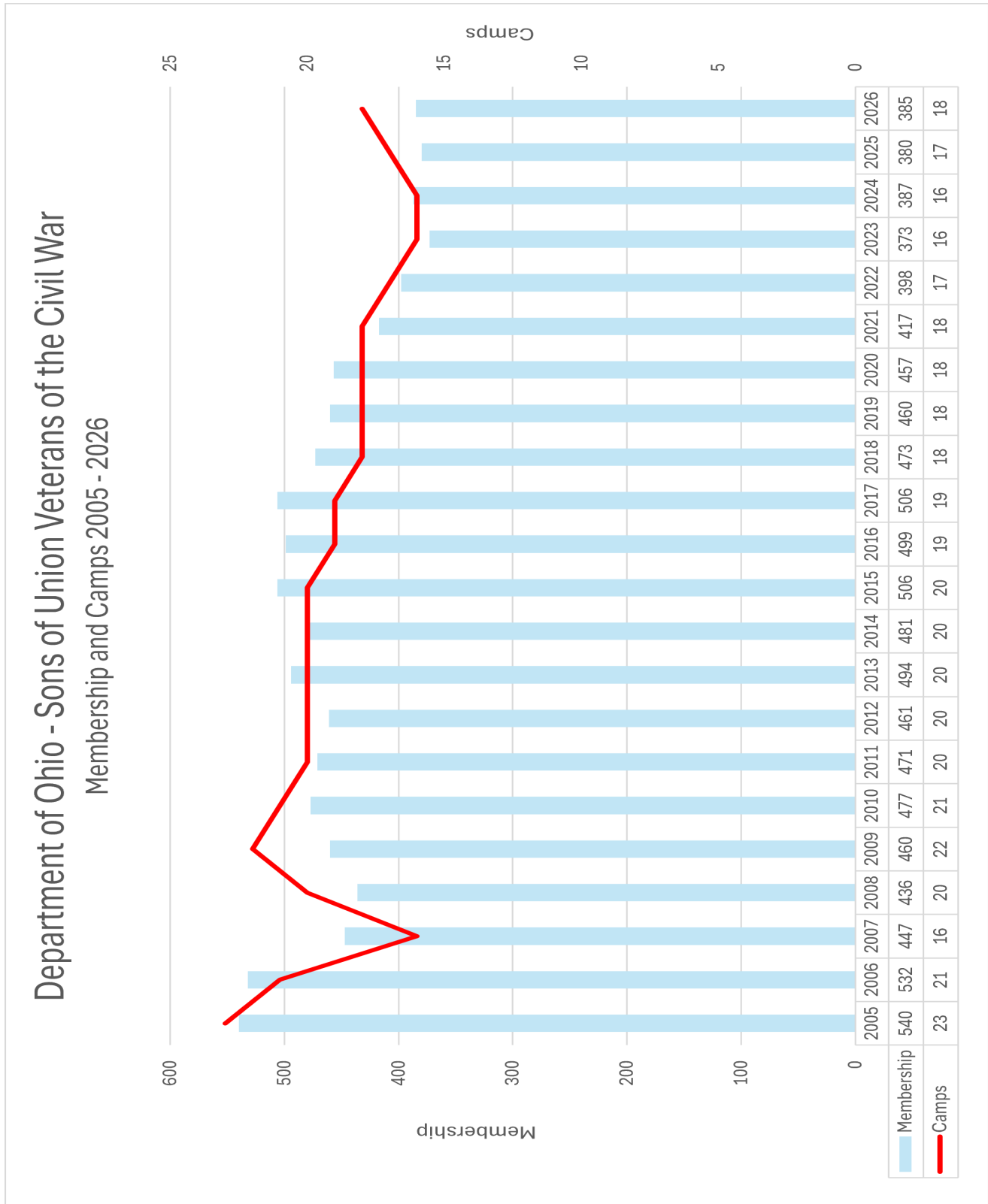
I believe I am qualified for the position of Jr. Vice Commander because of the positions I've held with Camp #10. I will try to develop, along with you, ways of retaining current members and recruiting new members. Many fraternal organizations are disappearing because they can not retain members and new members are hard to find.

I am asking for your support in this endeavor.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Robert Kidd, Sr.
Commander
General William H. Lytle Camp #10
Department of Ohio
SUVCW

Department Membership and Camp Strength



DEPARTMENT OF OHIO - SUVCW - CAMPS

2026

CAMP NUMBER	CAMP NAME	ELECTION REPORT	ANNUAL REPORT	PER CAPITA DUES	CHECK NUMBER	TOTAL MEMBERS	TOTAL MEMBERS EXCLUDING JR. AND DEPT DUAL	TOTAL MEMBERS EXCLUDING JR. AND NAT DUAL	CALCULATED DELEGATE QUOTA
0	Zero			\$ 503.00		16	15	15	2
1	Governor William Dennison	x	x	\$ 920.00	1295	26	26	25	4
2	General Benjamin D. Fearing	x	x	\$ 450.00	132 +Cash	14	13	13	2
7	Brooks-Grant	x	x	\$ 622.00	1411	16	16	16	3
10	General William H.	x	x	\$ 1,499.00	123	41	41	40	5
12	General William	x	x	\$ 814.00	1432	22	22	22	3
14	John Kountz	x	x	\$ 53.00	2010+cash	14	12	11	2
21	William McKinley	x	x	\$ 440.00	539	12	11	11	2
26	Vienna	x	x	\$ 268.00	10987	7	7	7	2
33	Jacob Parrott	x	x	\$ 1,596.00	281	38	38	37	5
43	Philip Triem	x	x	\$ 258.00	213 9249	9	9	9	2
73	Sgt. Richard Enderlin	x	x	\$ 728.00	256	20	18	18	3
89	Chaplain Earnshaw	x	x	\$ 430.00	1014	13	10	10	2
92	Henry Casey	x	x	\$ 857.00	1085	23	22	22	3
93	William T. Sherman	x	x	\$ 1,426.00	239	39	38	38	5
108	John S. Townsend	x	x	\$ 1,085.00	357	28	27	26	4
126	Cadot-Blessing	x	x	\$ 946.00		22	22	22	3
142	James A Garfield	x	x	\$ 1,042.00	2547	25	25	25	3
Dept Totals:	18			\$ 13,937.00		385	372		55
Nat Totals:	18			\$ 10,636.00				367	16

Note: Dept Totals shows total Camps in Good Standing, Total Dept and National Per Capita Dues Submitted, as well as total Dept membership strength, and total delegates based on calculation of Camp size (including Camp Zero membership) + one for every chartered camp. National Totals show same data, except for the separate calculation of delegates for total Dept membership. Dept delegates are 1 for every ten camp members or major fraction thereof. Nat delegates are 1 for every 25 dept members, or major fraction thereof. Junior and Dual members are excluded from Dept and National calculations accordingly.