

**Department of Illinois SUVCW**  
**139th Annual Encampment**  
**Held May 14, 2022, In Bloomington, Ill.**

The 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Encampment of the Department of Illinois was opened in due form by DSVC Gary Gunderson at 1:00pm with Chaplain Jerry Kowalski giving the opening prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag of our country.

The Roll of Dept. Officers was called with the following results:

Dept. Commander: Joe Hutchinson, PCC - Absent  
Dept. Chief of Staff: Steve Westlake, PDC - Present  
Dept. SV Commander: Gary Gunderson, PCC - Present  
Dept. JV Commander: Lars Jacobson, CC - Present  
Dept. Secretary: Leigh Franklin, CC - Absent  
Dept. Treasurer: Robert Welch - Absent  
Dept. Council: Bill Johnson, PCC/Hon. PDC - Present  
Dept. Council: Wayne Wehrheim - Present  
Dept. Council: Gene Walker - Absent  
Dept. Counselor: Harry Reineke IV, PDC - Absent  
Dept. Historian: Steve Aarli, PCC/Hon. PDC - Present  
Dept. GAR Records: Steve Aarli, PCC/Hon. PDC - Present  
Dept. CW Memorials Officer: Steve Anderson - Absent  
Dept. P. I.: Michael Zafran, CC - Present  
Dept. Chaplain: Jerry Kowalski - Present  
Dept. GAR Hwy Officer: Wayne Wehrheim - Present  
Dept. Signals Officer: Robert Welch - Absent  
Dept. GRO: Steve Aarli PCC/Hon. PDC - Present  
Dept. Eagle Scout Coordinator: John Bigwood, PDC - Present  
Dept. ROTC Coordinator - Lee Lasseigne - Present  
Dept. Organizer: Nick Kaup, PDC - Present  
Dept. Recruiting: VACANT  
Dept. Guide: Patrick McConnell - Absent  
Dept. Guard: Rob Hauff - Absent  
Dept. Color Bearer: Leigh Franklin - Absent  
Dept. Real Son Liaison - Joe Hutchinson - Absent  
Dept. Fraternal Relations: Leigh Franklin - Absent  
Dept. Quartermaster: Bill Johnson, PCC/Hon. PDC - Present  
Dept. Asst. Secretary: Steve Aarli, PCC/Hon. PDC - Present

Roll Call of Camps:

Gen. George A. Custer Camp #1 (Wilmette) Present  
Gen. Philip H. Sheridan Camp #2 (Aurora) Present  
Gen. John A. McClernand Camp #4 (Springfield) Absent  
Capt. Frank Reed Camp #24 (Tuscola) Absent  
John A. Logan Camp #26 (Rockford) Present  
Gen. E. F. Dutton Camp #49 (Sycamore) Present  
Col. John C. Bryner Camp #67 (Peoria) Present  
Col. Freidrich K. Hecker Camp #443 (Belleville) Present  
US Grant Camp #1863 (Schaumburg) Present  
Old Glory Camp #6165 (Chicago) Present

Total representatives present: 16 members – unable to establish a Zoom link.

DSVC Gunderson recognized Dept. of Illinois PDC's S. Westlake, N. Kaup and S. Stefany.

Introduction of Guests:

National Chaplain, Jerry Kowalski, representing National SVC, Bruce Frail. Brother Frail had a medical procedure and was unable to travel. He passed along greetings from the National C-in-C and reported that PDC Bob Chesnut is not doing well.

From ASUVCW: Carol Dwyer, Jen Dwyer, JoEllen Kowalski, Dr. Anna Quinzio-Zafran

Minutes of the 138th Mid Term Encampment and Camp and Dept. Officer reports were distributed via email earlier. Moved by P.I. Zafran and seconded by Bro. Lasseigne to accept all reports as distributed. Motion passed to accept as published and ordered placed on file. NOTE: Votes taken during Zoom meeting held in Nov. 2021 were deemed not valid by National Parliamentarian, James Pahl.

Dept. Treasurer Report:

**Beginning Balance:** \$19733.85

**Expenses:**

New Brothers	137.00	
Camp #39 Charter	25.00	
Moffat Cemetery Project	500.00	
Stephenson Ceremony	137.34	
Dept. of Michigan (Display Table)	25.00	
McLean Co. Historical Society	150.00	
Commander Expenses	129.62	
National Per Capita	1932.00	
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$3035.96</b>	<b>\$16697.89</b>

**Income:**

New Members	204.00
Per Capita	2652.00

**Total Income:** \$2856.00

**New Balance:** \$19553.89

A motion was made by Brother Lasseigne, seconded by Brother Aarli, and passed to accept the Treasurer's report.

**DEPT. OFFICER/CAMP COMMANDER REPORTS:** These were emailed prior to the Encampment for review. A motion was made, seconded and passed, to accept these reports and have them placed on file.

**PRESENTATION OF AWARDS:**

Dr. Mary Walker Appreciation Award to Dr. Anna Quinzio-Zafran  
Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson Certificate of Appreciation to Steve Aarli  
Dr. Benjamin Stephenson Certificate to Mark Braun  
Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson Certificate to Robert Rogers  
N. Robert Chesnut Camp of the Year to General Philip H. Sheridan Camp #2, Aurora, IL.  
Department Commander Award of Appreciation to all Department Officers.

**NOMINATIONS FOR NATIONAL AWARDS:** (Nominations by Chaplain Kowalski, Forwarded)

Meritorious Service Award & MSA with Gold Star submitted for David Wildermuth  
Meritorious Service Award & MSA with Gold Star submitted for Nick Kaup

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Stephenson Committee: Both benches have been ordered and unfinished bricks are done.

National Encampment: Motion to pay \$25 for display table made by Bro, Johnson, seconded by Bro. Wildermuth, and passed. Motion to pay \$40 for full page add in National Program Book made by Bro. Johnson, seconded by Bro. Wildermuth, and passed.

Resolution, by Camp #67, for online meetings to allow Departments to hold Zoom meetings was tabled until next Encampment.

Camp Projects: Hecker Camp #443 request for \$455 from the Department to help defray costs in moving and resetting a GAR/Sp. Am. War marker in Fairview Heights, IL is complete. Fundraising for Camp #67 project for Moffatt Cemetery GAR plaque, sourced from the Illinois State Historical Society, is complete and plaque is being cast. Plaque is one of three. Dedication date is to be determined.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Dept. Commander, Joe Hutchinson's resignation was not accepted by the Department Council, so he will be considered as Past Department Commander and receive a PDC Badge after the new officers are installed.

Bylaws change to return to two Encampments per year – motion made by Bro. Aarli, seconded by Bro. Jacobson, and passed.

Bro. Wildermuth that Department communications be forwarded to Camp Commanders and Secretaries to ensure that they are received and acted upon in a timely manner.

### **Department Officer Budgets:**

Suggested max: \$250 for DC awards purchases; \$250 for Secretary and Treasurer supplies and postage. \$250 for ROTC/Eagle Scout awards and mailing supplies. Dates for submission will be from date of last Annual Dept. Encampment to date of next Dept. Annual Encampment. Receipt copies to be submitted to the Dept. Treasurer for payment. Only purchases directly related to the office will be accepted. Amount not spent does not mean that the future budget will be reduced. Officers should not feel the need to spend their entire budget if not needed. Amounts over the budget will need to be approved by Dept. Council or wait until the next Dept. meeting/Encampment for approval. If a Dept. Officer wishes to donate materials and receive a tax receipt, the Dept. Treasurer will be authorized to provide a tax letter. Note: rough budget provisionally approved previously by Dept. Council via email. Motion made by Bro. Zafran, seconded by Bro. Aarli and passed.

Camp Projects: Hecker Camp #443 request for \$1000 for a historical interpretive marker near the gravesite of Camp namesake, Friedrich K. Hecker, was withdrawn for now. Custer Camp #1 requested \$800 in matching funds for their Last Soldier Project for Lake County Illinois. Motion made by Bro. Wildermuth, seconded by Bro. Johnson and passed. Old Glory Camp #6165 requested \$200 to complete their project for placing a headstone for a Civil War Soldier in an unmarked grave. Motion made by Bro. Wildermuth, seconded by Bro. Johnson, and passed.

### **Initiation of new members: None**

**Dept. Officer/Delegate Elections:** The following slate for Dept. Officer elections was presented: DC: Gary Gunderson; DSVC: Robert Welch; DJVC: Lars Jacobson; DSecretary: Donald Sherman; DTreasurer: Lee Lasseigne; DCouncil: David Wildermuth, Wayne Wehrheim and Richard Hoover. As there were no nominations from the floor, the above Officers were elected by acclamation.

\*The following Brothers were elected as delegates to the National Encampment this August in Grand Rapids, MI: Jerry Kowalski, Dave Wildermuth, Richard Hoover, Michael

Zafran, William Johnson, Leonard Cassaro, Lee Lasseigne, Wayne Wehrheim and Thomas Hauff. All other Brothers are Alternates.

**Installation of Officers:** At this time Chap. Jerry proceeded to install Bro. Gary Gunderson and the rest of the newly Elected and Appointed Department Officers for the 2022-2023 year. See Form 49 for complete list.

**Announcements & Good of the Order:** DC Gunderson dedicated his term in office to his great-grandfather, Pvt. Charles Gunderson, 95<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry, Co I. He then thanked the Encampment for attending the meeting and for the trust in his leadership.

**NEXT ENCAMPMENT:**

Our Mid-Term Encampment will take place in October, date to be determined, possibly in Springfield, IL. There was a suggestion to hold next Annual Encampment, in May 2023, at the McLean County Museum of History in Bloomington, IL.

**Closing of Encampment:** There being no further business to bring before this Encampment, DC Gunderson thanked everyone for their attendance and formally closed the 139th Annual Encampment of the Department of Illinois at 3:40 pm in due form.

**ADDENDUM to the Minutes:** The National Organization of the SUVCW has ruled that the Department of Illinois Council acted in violation of the bylaws of the organization related to the resignation of former Department Commander Joe Hutchinson. The vote taken by the Department to award the past commander badge was therefore not a legal vote. Therefore, the Department of Illinois will not award a past commander badge to Joe Hutchison.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,



Donald W. Sherman, Jr.  
Department Secretary  
Department of Illinois, SUVCW