

## **Department of Illinois SUVCW**

### **137th Mid Term Encampment**

**Held May 13, 2020 Via**

#### **Zoom Format**

The 137th Annual Encampment of the Department of Illinois was opened in due form by DC Harry Reineke IV at 11:00 am with Dept. 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: Harry Reineke IV – Present

Dept. Chief of Staff: Steve Westlake, PDC – Present

Dept. SV Commander: Joe Hutchinson – Present

Dept. JV Commander: Gary Gunderson – Present

Dept. Secretary: Steve Aarli – Present

Dept. Treasurer: Wm. Johnson – Present

Dept. Council: Leigh Franklin- Present; Tom Oestreicher- Present; Gene Walker - Absent

Dept. Counselor – Ron Clark - Absent

Dept. CW Memorials Officer: Steve Anderson - Present

Dept. Chaplain: Jerry Kowalski – Present

Dept. Historian: Terry Dyer, PDC - Present

Dept. Signals Officer: Robert Welch - Present

Dept. Eagle Scout Coordinator: Vacant

Dept. ROTC Coordinator – Nick Kaup – Present

Dept. Guide: Patrick McConnell – Absent

Dept. Guard: Rob Hauff CC – Absent

Dept. P. I.: Michael Zafran - Present

Dept. GAR Hwy Officer: Vacant

Dept. GRO: Steve Aarli PCC – Present

Dept. Organizer: Nick Kaup PDC Present and Steve Westlake PDC – Present

Dept. Real Son Liason – Joe Hutchinson PCC – Present

Dept. Fraternal Relations: Leigh Franklin – Present

Dept. Color Bearer: Leigh Franklin – Present

Dept. Quartermaster: Robert Welch - 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) Present

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

Old Glory Camp #6165 (Chicago) Present

US Grant Camp #1863 (Schaumburg) Present

Total representatives present: 37 members and 1 guest CinC Ed Norris.

DC Reineke IV recognized Dept. of Illinois PDC's S. Westlake, J. Bigwood, T. Dyer, N. Kaup, S. Stefany, & J. Lickey. Guest: CinC Ed Norris.

Minutes of the 136th Mid Term Encampment were distributed via email earlier. Moved by S. Aarli and seconded by J. Hutchinson. Motion passed to accept as printed and ordered placed on file.

Dept. Treasurer Report: As Wm. Johnson was excused, S. Aarli presented the following Treasurers report:

**Beginning Balance:** \$17694.04

**Expenses:**

Jim Lyon Eagle Scout expense	4.92	
Steve Aarli Secretary Expenses	104.58	
Terry Dyer Brochures	91.70	
Stephenson Memorial Fund	500.00	
New Brothers	149.00	
US Liability Ins	676.00	
Web site annual fee	39.99	
Nat'l per capita	4776.00	
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$6342.19</b>	<b>\$11351.85</b>

**Income:**

New Members	317.00	
Lapel pin	7.50	
Member dues	7504.92	
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$7829.42</b>	
<b>New Balance:</b>	<b>-2-</b>	<b>\$19181.27</b>



## Benjamin Stephenson Memorial Plaza

**Beginning Balance:** \$5893.34

### Income:

Dept. of Ill	\$500.00		
Brick	250.00	<b>Total: \$750.00</b>	<b>\$6643.34</b>

The following left over 2016 Nat'l Encampment items are in Bro. Johnson possession and are available for sale: 27 Bronze medals @ \$50.00 each; 64 gold medals @\$100.00 each; 20 give away medals; centerpieces and signed art @\$15.00 each. These items are to be sold at their full price. It was suggested that these items be given to the Dept. Quartermaster so he can list them on the Dept. website for sale.

A motion was made by J. Hutchinson and seconded by S. Westlake and passed to accept the Treasurers report.

**DEPT. OFFICER/CAMP COMMANDER REPORTS:** These were emailed prior to the Encampment for review with the exception of DC Reineke which he proceeded to read. A motion was made seconded and passed to accept these reports and have them placed on file.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** All communications received since last October have been sent when received via email.

**AWARDS:** DC Reineke proceeded to read his Dept. Orders #7 – 9. DO #7 announces that Bro. Steve Aarli was selected as Dept. Brother of the year for his dedicated work as Dept. Secretary; DO #8 Dept. Camp of the Year presented to Gen. P H Sheridan Camp #2 for their work on Grave Marker work, supporting the GAR Hall in Aurora, Ill. among other worthy endeavors. DO #9 presenting the Dept. Level Dr. Mary Edwards Walker Award to Sister Jo Ellen Kowalski Chaplain of Mary Ann Bickerdyke Auxiliary #2 for her dedicated support of the Allied Orders.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The proposed Dept. by-law change concerning Dept. per capita for Real Sons and Life members was withdrawn by Bro. S. Aarli. The previous discussion concerning the \$300.00 seed money for camps hosting Dept. Encampments was ordered laid over until our October Encampment. Revision of the calendar for host Camps for Dept. Encampments was discussed. Bro. Tom Oestreicher moved to appoint a committee to work on this. PDC Nick Kaup was appointed Chairman with Bro's Dave Wildermuth, Bill Shipper and Joe Kessler to report back at the October Encampment.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Discussion on a central location for Dept. Encampments was ordered laid over pending what the Committee on Dept. Encampment Calendar recommends. After the Installation, Bro's Wildermuth, Kessler, Shipper and PDC Nick Kaup (as Chair) were appointed as a committee to revise the Encampment Site calendar revision. DC Reineke created a new appointed Dept. Office called Dept. Quartermaster and appointed Bro. Bob Welch to this office.

A motion was made by Bro. Welch and seconded by Bro. Zafran to transfer \$2500 to the Dept. Qtr. Master for startup costs on brass dome buttons containing the Coat of Arms of the SUVCW. These will come in two sizes for coat and cuffs.

Signals Officer Bob Welch has produced a new Dept. Website and will be deleting our old one in the near future. He will be the manager of the site and said there is an annual fee of \$99.00 that he is paying for. Bro. Welch made a motion that the Dept. reimburse him for this fee. Bro. Oestreicher seconded, motion passed.

A motion was made by Bro. Aarli and seconded by Bro. Wildermuth that the Dept. purchase a full page ad in the amount of \$40.00 in the Nat'l Encampment program book, motion passed. DC Reineke offered to produce the ad.

Bro. Joe Hutchinson requested support for a CW Marker project in Moffit Cemetery near Peoria. He will prepare a resolution of support and present it at our Oct. Encampment. Bro. Welch made a motion to have the incoming DC to appoint a Dept. Bylaws Committee to be chaired by the Dept. SVC (ex officio) for the purpose of examining proposed changes and submitting recommendations on those proposed changes at the Dept. Encampment and that the Bylaws Committee be empowered with examining and proposing their own changes to the Dept. Bylaws at the Dept. Encampment. PDC Lickey seconded, motion passed. (PDC Reineke, Bro's Welch, Lars Jacobson, Aarli and Hutchinson were appointed to this committee).

Bro. Welch offered three (3) resolutions and one (1) proposed Nat'l C & R change concerning War Service Medals (see attachments) for the Dept Encampment to adopt for presenting at the Nat'l Encampment to be held in August 2020 in Atlanta, Ga. Motions were made, seconded and passed to support these items to be forwarded to Nat'l.

**BILLS:** The following bills were presented and ordered paid: Steve Aarli, Dept. Sec. supplies \$97.17

**Next Encampment:** Dept. Mid Term Encampment will be held in Oct. 2020 in Chicago area to be hosted by Camp #1. Date, times and location TBD.

**Initiation of new members:** None



**Dept. Officer/Delegate Elections:** PDC Steven Westlake, Chair of the Dept. Nominating Committee, presented the following slate for election of Dept. Officers: DC: Tom Oestreicher; SVC: Joe Hutchinson; JVC: Gary Gunderson; Sec: Steve Aarli; Treas: Bill Johnson; Council: Gene Walker, Leigh Franklin & Dave Wildermuth. As there were no nominations from the floor, the above officers were elected by acclamation. The following were elected as Delegates to the Nat'l Encampment in Atlanta in August 2020: Bro's Gary Gunderson, Dave Wildermuth, Jerry Kowalski, Wayne Wehrheim, Jerome Smith, Joe Kessler, Bob Welch, Lars Jacobson, Larry Werline and Bob Kurek.

**Installation of Officers:** CinC Ed Norris proceed to install the following Bro's of the Dept. of Illinois into their respective office: DC Tom Oestreicher; SVC Joe Hutchinson; JVC Gary Gunderson; Council: Dave Wildermuth, Leigh Franklin, Gene Walker, Sec. Steve Aarli; Treas. Bill Johnson; PI Michael Zafran; Chaplain Jerry Kowalski; GRO Steve Aarli; Historian PDC Terry Dyer; Counselor PDC Ron Clark; GAR Highway Wayne Wehrheim; CW Memorials Steve Anderson; Camp Organizer PDC Nick Kaup; Color Bearer Leigh Franklin; Guard Rob Hauff; Guide Pat McConnell; Signals Officer Bob Welch; ROTC Coordinator PDC Nick Kaup; Real Son Liason Joe Hutchinson; Fraternal Relations Leigh Franklin; Chief of Staff Dennis Maher & Quartermaster Bob Welch.

**Announcements & Good of the Order:**

**Closing of Encampment:** There being no further business to bring before this Encampment, DC Oestreicher thanked everyone for their attendance and formally closed the 137th Annual Encampment of the Department of Illinois at 2:55 pm in due form.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Steve Aarli, Dept. Sec.

Dept. of Ill. SUVCW

**Resolution to Include Combat Operations Ribbons, Badges, and Medals  
as Qualifying for the War Service Medal**

**Whereas** the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is bound by its Congressional Charter “to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war”;

**Whereas** military combat operations across the globe are fluid and ever changing and the United States Military being fully cognizant of this fact, has instituted several ribbons, badges, and medals to recognize individual service members for their role in combat operations;

**Whereas** the Combat Action Ribbon is awarded to those Sailors, Marines, or Coast Guardsmen who have actively participated in ground or surface combat;

**Whereas** the Combat Infantryman Badge is awarded to Infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers, who fought in active ground combat at any time after 6 December 1941;

**Whereas** the Combat Medical Badge is awarded to any Soldier in the Army Medical Department who is assigned or attached to a ground combat arms unit which provides medical support during any period in which the unit was engaged in ground combat at any time after January 1945;

**Whereas** the Combat Action Badge is awarded to any Soldier, who is not a member of an infantry or special forces unit, for being present and actively engaging or being engaged by the enemy, and performing satisfactorily in accordance with prescribed rules of engagement, at any time after 18 September 2001; and

**Whereas** the Air Force Combat Action Medal is awarded to any Airman for active participation in  
ground or air combat; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Illinois:

1. calls upon the National Encampment to follow through with honoring all who have patriotically served our country in a time of war; and
2. recommends that the National Encampment include the aforementioned combat ribbons, badges, and medals as qualifying for the War Service Medal.

**Resolution to Include the Global War on Terror Expeditionary and the Inherent Resolve  
Campaign Medals as Qualifying for the War Service Medal**

**Whereas** the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is bound by its Congressional Charter “to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war”;

**Whereas** the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal is awarded to those military service members who have deployed overseas in direct service to the War on Terror from 11 September 2001 to present; and

**Whereas** the Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal is awarded to those military service members for service in Iraq, Syria, or contiguous waters or airspace from 15 June 2014 to present; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Illinois:

1. calls upon the National Encampment to follow through with honoring all who have patriotically served our country in a time of war; and
2. recommends that the National Encampment include the aforementioned expeditionary and campaign medals as qualifying for the War Service Medal.



**Resolution to Remove the Armed Forces Service Medal as  
Qualifying for the War Service Medal**

**Whereas** the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is bound by its Congressional Charter “to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war”;

**Whereas** the Armed Forces Service Medal has been previously used to qualify a Brother for the War Service Medal; and

**Whereas** the Armed Forces Service Medal is awarded to those military service members who participate, or have participated, as members of U.S. Military units, in a U.S. military operation that is deemed to be a significant activity; and encounter no foreign armed opposition or imminent threat of hostile action; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Illinois:

1. calls upon the National Encampment to follow through with honoring all who have patriotically served our country in a time of war;
2. recommends that the National Encampment allow the Brothers who have previously received the War Service Medal based on their award of the Armed Forces Service Medal, keep their medal; and
3. recommends that the National Encampment remove the Armed Forces Service Medal from the list of qualifying medals for the War Service Medal from this point forward.



## Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and Regulations

### Proposal #1

#### Chapter V

#### Article VI – Badges and Medals

#### Section 3 part G

Amend by removing “Campaign Ribbon/Medal” in the first sentence and replace with “Campaign, Service, or Expeditionary Medals; or one or more Combat Action Ribbons, Badges or Medals”

Justification – Clarify the language by adding Service Medals as they are listed on Form 5 and adding Combat Action Ribbons, Badges, or Medals as they fall within the intent of the War Service Medal.

### Proposal #2

#### Chapter V

#### Article VI – Badges and Medals

#### Section 3 part G

Amend by removing “Campaign Ribbon/Medal” in the second sentence and replace with “Campaign, Service, or Expeditionary Medal; or of the Combat Action Ribbon, Badge, or Medal”

Justification – Clarify the language by adding Service Medals as they are listed on Form 5 and adding Combat Action Ribbons, Badges, or Medals as they fall within the intent of the War Service Medal.

### Proposal #3

#### Chapter V

#### Article VI – Badges and Medals

#### Section 3 part G

Amend by adding “official” before “military lapel pins” in the second to last sentence.

Justification – To designate which lapel pin shall be used, keeping the intent of smartness and uniformity.

#### **Proposals 1 – 3 written as proposed.**

G. War Medal. Authorized for any Brother who has served honorably in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States during a period of war or military conflict as defined by the Council of Administration, and received one or more ~~Campaign Ribbon/Medal~~ **Campaign, Service, or Expeditionary Medals; or one or more Combat Action Ribbons, Badges, or Medals** as defined by the Council of Administration. A Form DD214 or DD215 official documentation from the Brother's uniformed service's personnel center/ bureau noting the award of the ~~campaign or service Ribbon/Medal~~ **Campaign, Service, or Expeditionary Medal; or of the Combat Action Ribbon, Badge, or Medal** must accompany any application for the War Medal. Entitlement is determined by the Brother's Camp at a regular meeting of that Camp. A bronze bar naming the war or conflict in which the Brother served may be attached to the ribbon of the medal. This bar may not be attached to any other Badge of the Order. If the Council of Administration decides to stop issuing the bronze bar denoting a conflict/war Brothers may substitute up to three (3) **official** military lapel pins denoting such service. Only the bar or the lapel pin may be used; not both.