
The California Column

Volume 3 Issue 4

March 2004



Department of California and Pacific Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

A Message from the Editor

Dear Brothers: It has been a great year serving as the Department's Newsletter Editor. I only wish there was more time I could spend on it and could publish more editions. Various issues, however, restrict what can be done, so we do the best we can with what we have.

If I should be named Newsletter Editor under the next Administration I hope to be able to publish a quality newsletter, and as always want to encourage EVERY member of the Department and Auxiliary to contribute to the newsletter.

*Yours in Fraternity, Charity,
and Loyalty,*

DANIEL R. EARL, Editor



Commanders Column

Awonderful 2 years in my life is coming to an end on March 20th and I want to thank each and every one of you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as Commander. It's been a great ride.

For the first time in 6 years

I don't need to write about goals, objectives, success or failures but I get the opportunity to thank all the elected and appointed officers of the Department, all the Camp Commanders and Brothers who have generated the energy that propelled our Order and Department to where it is today.



Two years ago Bob Lowe shook my hand, wished me good luck, offered his assistance whenever I wanted it and said I was going to have a

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great time. He was right. He gave me more than that; he left the Department poised to go to the next level and I think we shepherd that call quite well. To my successor I leave you a Department positioned to go to the next level, I wish you good luck and my commitment to help when you ask.



Brother Linn Hoadley has served this Department honorable and with distinction and I hope you all will support him for Commander in 2004-05.

To coin an old Bob Hope saying, "Thanks for the memories."

Brad Schall
Department Commander
Dept. of California and Pacific

Proposed Regulations

by
Robert J. Kadlec
Commander, Camp 4

Proposed Changes to Bylaws and Department Rules

There appears that there may be some confusion or misunderstanding regarding the regulatory

proposals, and their purpose, that Phil Sheridan Camp 4 will be recommending at the 118th Annual Encampment. In view of this, it might be useful to outline the proposals and rationale for the membership's consideration.

Phil Sheridan Camp 4, during its November 8th 2003 meeting, passed a resolution to submit a proposal to the Department of California & Pacific 118th Annual Encampment recommending that consideration be given to changes to the Department Bylaws. This resolution additionally called for the repeal of the Standing Rules that were approved at the 116th Encampment in 2002 and replacing them with Department Regulations to officially formalize those "rules." Concerns regarding this single proposal were raised when it was forwarded on the 13th of January 2003. Therefore, to simplify the process as much as possible, the original single proposal has been broken down into eight (8) individual proposals for the Department's consideration. The purpose of each proposal is described below for clarification.



Proposed Bylaw Changes

Proposal one of eight adds a short section to Article III

(section 5), that was inadvertently omitted in the last update of the Bylaws. It essentially delineates when Camp officers are to be elected and installed in accordance with the SUVCW National Constitution.

Proposal two of eight is a minor "housekeeping" change to Article V (section 5). It deletes the phrase "whichever occurs later" in three places. Elimination of the phrase will permit elected Department officers and Council members to assume their duties immediately upon being installed.

Proposal three of eight adds a short section to Article V (section 7), which has been an existing practice -- Department authority is vested in the Encampment and carried out in accordance with appropriate National directives. The language is essentially identical to that in the National Constitution.

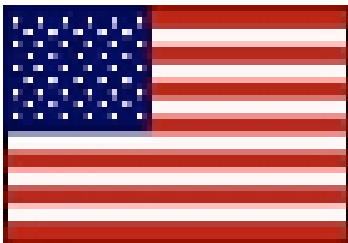


Proposed Regulation

The original Standing Rules are to be consolidated into four chapters of regulations contained in a Department Regulations document. Each chapter is addressed as a separate proposal for consideration by the Department Encampment. The four regulation chapters incorporate and replace the

rules contained in the original Standing Rules.

Proposal four of eight -- The resolution passed by Phil Sheridan Camp 4 on 8 November 2003 recommends that the Department Standing Rules, dated 16 March 2002, be repealed and replaced with a Department Regulations document. This will make the "guidelines" contained in the Rules authoritative.



Proposal five of eight-- Chapter I, Officers: This chapter in the Department Regulations addresses the authority of the Elected officers in accordance with the National Constitution and is the same language as that contained in the new section 7 of Article V of the Department Bylaws and is consistent with the SUVCW National Constitution.

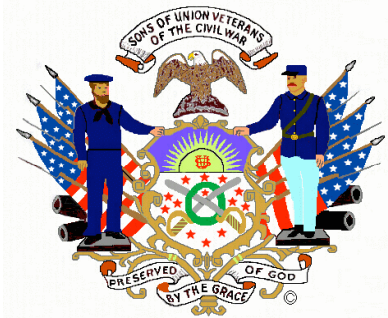


Proposal six of eight -- Chapter II, Finances: This is the most detailed chapter in the

proposed regulations and is designed to maintain control of the Department finances to prevent any misappropriation or unauthorized use of Department funds without approval of the Department as a whole. It expands the original finance rules contained in the Standing Rules to provide more specific accountability for Department finances. It incorporates old rules 8 and 15. First off, it directs the Department Treasurer to prepare a proposed budget for the following Fiscal Year and submit it to the Encampment for approval and that the budget submitted shall be in balance. The second issue defines the authority and procedures for amending the budget when necessary to satisfy an unanticipated event or expenditure as well as the use of Reserve or Contingency funds to support unforeseen financial emergencies. Finally, Chapter II defines the Department Fiscal Year, addresses submission of financial statements, establishment of accounts at financial institutions, and defines disbursement of funds to cover the expenses incurred by the Department Commander in the performance of his duties.



Proposal seven of eight -- Chapter III, Encampments: This chapter defines the basic procedures for conducting Department Encampments in accordance with the SUVCW Rituals & Ceremonies and as they are appropriate for the California and Pacific Department. The nine sections in this chapter are either identical to the original eight Encampment rules that were contained in the Standing Rules, or have been standard or accepted practice by the Department, and are consistent with the Department Bylaws and the SUVCW National Constitution.

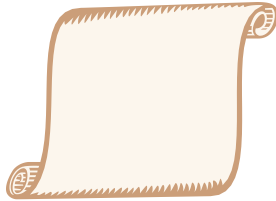


Proposal eight of eight -- Chapter IV, Camps: This chapter essentially documents the National requirement for reporting of Camp Officer Rosters. It also incorporates, and amends, the old Rule Nine in the Standing Rules that address updating of the Department web site.

Conclusion

There are a total of eight (8) proposals that are being brought before the 118th Department Encampment that address regulatory matters: Three minor changes, or updates to the existing Department Bylaws; A vote to

repeal the Department Standing Rules that were instituted in 2002 and replace them with Department Regulations; and four proposals that address each of the regulation chapters of the



new Department Regulations document. Because there may be some questions regarding the content of some portions of the proposed regulations, each chapter is addressed as a separate proposal. Each should be looked at individually and consider on its own merits for the good of the Department. If there are concerns about some items proposed in the regulations, those concerns should be addressed individually on the Encampment floor so that any changes or modifications necessary can be made before they are approved for incorporation in the regulations.

LINCOLN SHRINE DISPLAY

by
Rudy Velasco
Commander, Camp 2

On Sunday, February 8th, 2004, Rosecrans Camp 2 and Sedgwick – Granger Camp 17 united for a Civil War display at the

Lincoln Shrine in Redlands, just east of San Bernardino.

This Shrine is dedicated to our 16th president and the Civil War and some say it to be the biggest collection of Lincoln memorabilia west of the Mississippi River. It is an impressive place to visit.



The two Camp display, operated by Camp 17 Cmdr Roosevelt, Cmdr Velasco and Jr. Vice Cmdr., Ken Walker of Camp 2 had a moderate flow of visitors all afternoon. Some genuine interest was shown in our cause from people visiting from the eastern end of Riverside County and the desert area. A good deal of SUCVW information pamphlets were passed out along with a couple of membership forms for Camp 17.

The Son's did have a bit of competition just across the lawn in the form of a Civil War doctor display. The good doctor was very busy at times, "practicing" civil war medicine, amputating limbs of the bleeding soldiers lying about.

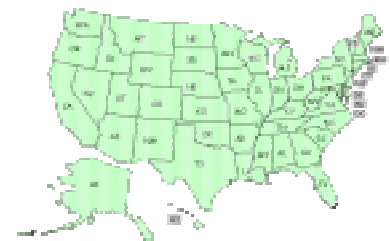
The following Monday, *The Sun*, a newspaper of San Bernardino County featured a photo of Brother Ken Walker marching his guard post in front of the Lincoln Shrine and printed a short interview with Brother Glen Roosevelt.

It was a Sunday afternoon WELL spent.

CAMP JURISDICTION BOUNDARIES

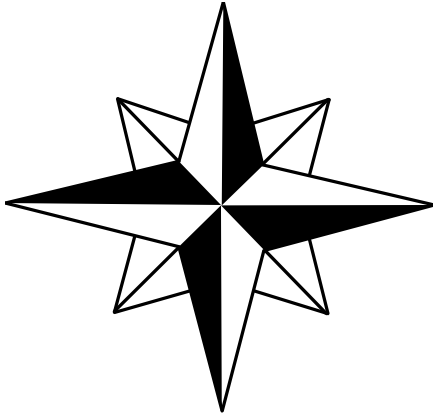
by
Robert J. Kadlec,
Commander, Camp 4

The Department of California & Pacific has continued to grow in the number of Camps over the last few years. In 2002 there were nine Camps in the Department. As we commence this year's 118th Annual Encampment, there are twelve Camps with two more forming for a total of fourteen. That is an increase of 55-percent in the past two years. Until recently, the issue of geographic areas of responsibility has not really been an issue. When a new Camp was formed they would indicate that they would like to be responsible for various geographic areas.



With adjacent Camps forming, decisions have to be made on which Camp would have primary responsibility for a geographic area. This has the potential of causing confusion between the Camps in determining who was responsible for an area. Also,

one Camp may have an area as small as a city, where as another Camp may be responsible for multiple counties. This disparity could cause problems, particularly for the Camp with a large area, if the Camp did not have the resources to oversee activities within their area.



There is no National policy that defines how Camp jurisdictions should be assigned, however, a Camp is not permitted to assume responsibility for an area that is outside of the National designated jurisdiction of the Department. After a review of the National Constitution and Regulations, including obtaining National Counselor clarification, National Headquarters of the SUVCW advised that there is no specific policy, however, it is not out of order for the Department Encampment to establish areas for each Camp. This way several Camps then have a voice in this system, as the decision impacts each Camp. The Department Commander can then be given authority to temporarily adjust these boundaries when a new Camp is taken into the Department, until the next Department Encampment.

As a result of this review of assigning jurisdictional boundaries for Department of California Camps, Phil Sheridan Camp 4 has prepared a resolution to be presented at the 118th Department of California & Pacific Encampment. This resolution proposes that "Areas of Responsibility" and "Areas of Interest" boundaries be assigned to Department Camps based on the area in which the Camp is Chartered. Essentially the "Areas of Responsibility" would be very narrowly defined and may only encompass the specific county in which the Camp is Chartered. Additionally, "Areas of Interest" boundaries that might encompass multiple counties and would be assigned to indicate that the Camp would assume responsibility if their resources permitted. More than one Camp may be included in these "Areas of Interest." Should an event be occurring within one of these areas, for example in San Francisco which might be an area of interest for Camp 4, Camp 23, and Camp 24, the Camps would petition, or submit a proposal, to the Department Commander to take the lead.



The Department Commander would determine which of the Camps would be

in the best position to coordinate the event for the Department in that area. If it is a recurring event, jurisdiction responsibility might be rotated between the Camps.

PRESIDENT'S DAY IN LOS GATOS

by
Robert J. Kadlec,
Commander, Camp 4

The History Museum of Los Gatos sponsored an event on Presidents' Day and invited Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) participation from Northern California Department Camps. The theme for the 16th of February ceremony was "A Nation Mourns: Remembering President Lincoln." The Los Gatos Museum used the ceremony to mark the opening of their new exhibit, "Ashes to Ashes: The Birth of the Death Industry 1850-1920," which will run through May 2004 and contains memorabilia from Lincoln's 1865 funeral.

The storm that passed through the Bay Area on Monday prevented the planned outdoor presentations at the Los Gatos High School and "funeral procession" to the Forbes Museum, located in the former Forbes Flour Mill. However, in spite of the inclement weather, the scaled down event was successful.

Over twenty-five "citizens," members History San Jose's "Portraits of the Past" performers, in period dress, participated in the ceremony held inside the Museum. The Mayer of "Forbes Town," known today as Los Gatos, California, presented the keynote address to the assembled mourners on the occasion of the funeral of President Lincoln.

SUVCW Brothers from Phil Sheridan Camp 4 in San Jose and Lincoln Camp 10 in Santa Cruz joined with the 79th New York Infantry Cameron Highlanders representation from the American Civil War Association (ACWA) to honor the passing of President Lincoln. Members of Company C, 8th California Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR), provided the Color Guard for the opening and closing ceremony.



Pictured above L-R:

Thomas Brown (aka MGEN George H. Thomas), Lincoln Camp 10, SUVCW Brian O'Rourke, Commander, Company C&D, 79th NY Infantry Cameron Highlanders, ACWA, Bob Kadlec, Commander, Phil Sheridan Camp 4, Robert Nelson, Commander, Lincoln Camp 10, Rick LaRosa, James Welch, SVC Dave Schleeter, and Steve Welch, all of Phil Sheridan Camp 4.



Phil Sheridan Camp 4 Commander Bob Kadlec eulogized President Lincoln with the reading of an 1865 English article from the London Spectator that was written on the occasion of Lincoln's Funeral. The article addressed the eulogy given on the death of George Washington and the early English remarks that Lincoln was merely a "rude and illiterate village lawyer" in comparison. The Spectator reported that "Mr. Lincoln was called from a humble station, at the opening of a mighty Civil War, to form a government out of a party in which the habits and traditions of official life did not exist." Through all his trials and tribulations, the Spectator eulogized that "Mr. Lincoln has persevered through all without ever giving way to anger, or despondency, or exultation, or popular arrogance, or sectarian fanaticism, or cast prejudice, visibly growing in force of character, in self-possession, and benevolence...." The newspaper stated that the high eulogy given President Washington was equally well earned by the "Illinois peasant-proprietor and village lawyer...."

Camp 4 Commander Kadlec introduced Major General George H. Thomas, portrayed by his Great-great-

grand-nephew, and member of Lincoln Camp 10 in Santa Cruz, Thomas Brown.

"General Thomas" spoke of his career from the second Seminole War and the War with Mexico, through his work during the Reconstruction following the Civil War.

Lincoln Camp 10

Commander Robert Nelson, attired as Union Veteran and member of the Grand Army of the Republic, joined with his wife Joan, in 1890's period dress, in the mourning to our fallen President.



Monica Tucker, History San Jose and Guest Curator at the History Museum of Los Gatos, had these words to say following the event: I just wanted to thank everyone who made our Monday museum reception such a success. Throughout the day I heard positive comments, many from folks who had traveled from out of the area to be there. The historic re-enactments and presentations received much praise for adding atmosphere to the event and encouraging guests to place themselves in the mindset of 1865."

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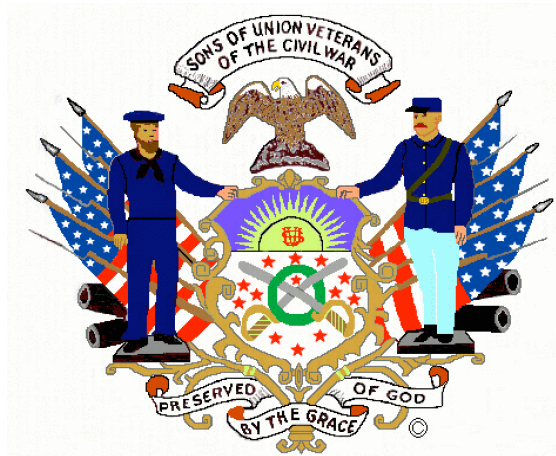
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**Fraternity Δ Charity Δ Loyalty**

6 March 2004

“General Phil Sheridan’s Birthday”

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