

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

COMMANDER DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA

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<http://suvvw.org/in/DEPTIN.html>



Department Order 2018-1 July 9, 2018

1. I am truly honored and humbled to have been elected to the office of Department Commander. I would like to thank now Past Department Commander Dennis Rigsby for his service to the Department for the last 2 years. I would also like to thank all of the members, both elected and appointed, who have chosen to serve in the many departmental offices. The work of the department and the order would not be successfully preformed without your most able and generous service. Over the next two years I have a number of projects/goals for the Department of Indiana and the camps. These projects will need the participation and support of ALL members and camps for successful completion.
2. I encourage all brothers to always *Keep Green in Our Memories the Boys in Blue* by participating in activities such as grave stone and monument rededication ceremonies, grave stone and memorial cleanings, and educational events at schools and living histories/reenactments. These activities are not only core to what we as an order are about, but are effective in drawing in new members through our good works and as a bonus these events also tend to draw media coverage which is critical in getting the word out about our organization.
3. All camps of the Department of Indiana should have filled Graves Registration, Eagle Scout/ROTC coordinators, and Patriotic Instructor offices. These are important camp positions that enable us to carry out the mission of the SUVCW. Patriotic instruction should be provided to members at all camp meetings. In addition, all camps should be filling out the Patriotic Instructions forms 40 and 41 in detail, including any and all costs of materials like office supplies, cleaning supplies for grave stones and memorials, recruiting and education brochures, flags, etc. These reports provide essential information used by the National Treasurer in reporting our charitable activities to the Internal Revenue Service in support of our 501c3 tax exemption.
4. Brothers, it is my goal to have the 26th Indiana monument, now located off of the property of the Vicksburg National Military Park, to be moved back to the national park property by the end of 2018. Positive conversations with park personnel and other interested parties have recently taken place and it is my hope that we will get this monument moved before the end of this year. All correspondence concerning this project should be directed through the 26th Indiana Monument Committee of William Adams (PDC), Mike Beck (PDC), or Bruce Kolb (PDC).
5. New Department of Indiana Website: As most of you are probably aware, the department's web site has resided on the national server for some time now. All web sites residing on the national server will have to be moved off of their servers in the not too distant future. The time has come to update our department's web site and move it to a private server. It is my goal to have a new department web site up and running by the end of 2018 or early 2019. The cost of a new domain name was approved at the June 2018 Annual Encampment. A new domain name and server space will be secured in the very near future. Going forward, I will fill the role as department Signals Officer. On a related note, Joshua Claybourn, the department's Signals Officer for the past 5 years, has decided to not continue in this position. I would like to personally thank Brother Claybourn for his many years of service to the department as caretaker of our web site.

6. New Camp: We are nearing completion of all of the paperwork and signatures for the new John Auten Camp No. 8, to be located in South Bend. The Department anticipates receiving the charter and the final paperwork from national very soon. Please join me in congratulating Camp Organizer, Brother William Adams (PDC), and the other six charter members of the John Auten Camp for their accomplishment. After such time when the department receives the charter and paperwork, the John Auten Camp will announce the date, time, and place of the chartering ceremony.

7. Two New Camps Needed in Indiana: Brothers, we are in need of a two new camps in the Department of Indiana. One to be located in west central Indiana and in one in south/southeast Indiana. The Terre Haute area would be a logical choice geographically for west central Indiana and maybe Jeffersonville, Madison, or Lawrenceburg for the south/southeast area of Indiana. Any members who live in these areas and would like to start a new camp, please contact the department as we would be most willing to assist in any way possible in getting new camps chartered in these areas.

8. I strongly recommend all camps in the department to start utilizing social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) if they have not already done so. This is a very powerful tool to help promote our projects and the works of our order. This is especially important when trying to reach out to the younger generation. The SUVCW, as with most other organizations, need younger people to join as they are, most certainly, our future.

9. I encourage all members and camps of the Department of Indiana to continue documenting and recording all known Civil War monuments, markers and Last Soldier locations. The Ben Harrison Camp No. 356 has worked very hard in creating a user-friendly on-line Google map for this purpose. A link to this map can be found on the Department of Indiana web site or the Ben Harrison Camp web site. Please submit all monument and marker information, including pictures, histories, and any coordinates you might have to Mike Beck, Department of Indiana Civil War Memorials Officer. Special thanks to Brother Jim Floyd, Ben Harrison Camp Commander and Department Junior Vice Commander, who without his expertise, this map would not have been possible.

10. I strongly encourage all members to submit articles and pictures to the *Banner* and the *Indiana Legion*. If your camp participated in a ceremony or activity, please submit these to the editor. I have heard members complain that there is nothing from the Department of Indiana in the *Banner*. If you do not submit anything, that is what you will see.

11. This is YOUR Department of Indiana, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and I value your comments, suggestions, and concerns. The headquarters for the Department Commander will be located at 1135 N. Leland Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46219. All correspondence may be mailed to this address. I can also be reached at the following e-mail address timbeckman@gmail.com or at the following phone number: 317-410-1299.

Ordered this 9th Day of July, 2018

Timothy J. Beckman

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Commander - Department of Indiana
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

[DEPARTMENT SEAL]

Attested:

J. Alan Teller

Secretary - Department of Indiana
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War