

DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS SUVCW

129th Mid Term ENCAMPMENT

HELD Oct. 27, 2012 AT

O'FALLON, ILLINOIS

The 129th Mid Term Encampment of the Department of Illinois was opened in do form by SVC Jody Switzer at 12:20 pm with Dept. Chaplain Jerry Kowalski giving the opening prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag of our Country.

**The roll of Officers called with the following Dept. Officers present:
Dept. Commander: Kirk Dermint - absent**

Dept. SV Commander: Jody Switzer - present

Dept. JV Commander: Marc Finnegan - present

Dept. Secretary: Steve Aarli - present

Dept. Treasurer: Wm. Johnson - present

Dept. Council: Terry Dyer & Nick Kaup – present, T. Oestreicher absent

Dept. Councilor: Randall Abbott - present

Dept. Chaplain: Jerry Kowalski - present

Dept. Signals Officer: Paul Zeien, Jr. - present

Dept. Eagle Scout Coordinator: Tom Oestreicher - absent

Dept. ROTC Coordinator: Nick Kaup - present

Dept. Monuments/Markers: Greg Carter - present

Dept. Guide/Guard: Stephen Wheat – absent

Dept. GAR Hwy. Officer Bob Kurek – absent

Dept. GRO Greg Zelinski – 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)	absent
Col. John C. Bryner Camp #67 (Peoria)	absent
Col Friedrich K. Hecker Camp #443 (Belleville)	present

Total representatives present: 22

Plus one (1) guest: Bob Petrovic Nat'l. site Committee

SVC Switzer had the pleasure of introducing Bro. Bob Petrovic, National Site Committee of the SUVCW.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 129th Annual Encampment of May 12, 2012.

Dept. Treasurer Wm. Johnson presented the following report:

Beginning Balance:	\$10653.93
Per capita from Camps	5634.00
5 New members	179.25
Total Income:	\$ 5813.25
Balance:	\$ 16467.18
Expenses:	
Steve Aarli DSec. Expenses	189.42
Hirschberg Trophies (Greg Carter)	43.20

New Member per capita from Camps 2, 26, 443	159.45
Tom Oestreicher BSA	55.06
Terry Dyer PDC Stephenson Mem'l. flyers	84.26
Chap. Kowalksi	500.00
Nat'l. per capita	4329.00
10th Illinois Volunteers donation	100.00
Membership Badge for Bro. Glen Bower	26.50
Total expenses:	\$5471.39
Balance as of May 12, 2012:	\$10995.79

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the Treasurers report. PDC Steve Westlake, Chairman of the Dept. Audit Committee, reported that the Dept. Treasurers books had been audited and found in good order.

Dept. Officer and Camp Commander reports were sent via email to the Camps prior to the Encampment for their review. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept these reports and have them placed on file.

Communications: Chap. Jerry read a communication from CinC Mellor. A rather long discussion began with regards to advertising beginning on the National level with DTreas. Johnson. Bob Petrovic, PCC Carter and others commenting on the lack of action from National. Many suggestions were offered where and how to advertise in several media outlets. Brother Petrovic said he would relay our concerns to National. DSec. Aarli read or referenced several emails regarding Nat'l. change in mailing address effective Nov. 30, 2012 (closing P. O. Box). A thank you card from Chap. Jerry was read. Nat'l. Treas. Orr reminder concerning dead line for submitting IRS 990N by Nov. 15. A congratulations card was passed around for everyone to sign for PDC Ron Clark who was getting married today. A get well card was passed around for everyone to sign for PDC Dermint.

Old Business: The proposition brought up in May 2012 by SVC Switzer on rotating Dept. Encampment around the State allowing each Camp to host an Encampment was discussed and revised as follows: Camp #1 May 2013; Camp #4 Oct. 2013; Camp #2 May 2014; Camp #24 Oct. 2014; Camp #26 May 2015; Camp #67 Oct. 2015; Camp #49 May 2016; Camp #443 Oct. 2016.

New Business: CC Garry Ladd of the Col. Hecker Camp #443 reported that he has retrieved all Dept. of Ill. items that were in the possession of DC Dermint and has brought them to the Encampment and passed them along to Acting DC Switzer. He also reported on health issues of Bro. Dermint.

DC Dyer presented a report on an information packet he presented to the City of Petersburg outlining a restoration and upgrade to the Dr. Stephenson burial plot. This project was very well received by the City and several local contractors and landscapers were willing to support this project. The Nat'l SUVCW has allotted \$1000.00 with a possible additional allotment of \$1000.00 which is pending and will go into a special fund maintained by the City of Petersburg, Ill. for the Dr. Stephenson project. Additional fund raising such as memorial bricks/benches for about \$100.00 each will be established in the near future.

Chap. Jerry brought up a proposal to look into purchasing an insurance liability policy for the Dept. Encampment at Rose Hill Cemetery during our May 2013 Dept. Encampment which was requested by the Cemetery Board. Also the possibility of doing the same to cover any and all events for grave and monument dedications conducted by the Dept. of Ill. and our Camps. This would cover any injury liabilities should someone get hurt during these activities. Chap. Jerry moved and PDC Dyer seconded, the motion passed.

Bro. Bob Petrovic was present to field questions concerning 1) advertising by National and 2) Dept. of Ill. bid for 2016 Nat'l.

Encampment. A very emotional discussion was had about the lack of progress and little if any movement on the subject with several attempts by Dept. Treas. Johnson to suggest advertising the SUVCW on all levels to no avail. It was the consensus of all present that this needs to be done especially now during the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. There are many media formats that can be utilized. Bro. Petrovic would share our frustration with National Officers.

It was made clear to Bro. Petrovic, who is a member of the National Site Committee, that the Dept. of Ill. is serious about its intent to host the 2016 National Encampment in Springfield, Ill. Apparently there has been a lack of communication, confusion on all levels as to what is going on, who has or has not done or received past proposal packets. Bro. Petrovic suggested we revisit our presentation packet and update or revise the material and resubmit the proposal ASAP. The following are members of the Dept. of Ill. Site committee: Bill Johnson, Chair; Greg Carter; T. Dyer; R. Clark; N. Kaup; P. Zeien, Jr.; S. Westlake; Jim Zingales; J. Bigwood; T. Oestreicher; J. Kowalski; J. Switzer; J. Lyon; Steve Aarli.

A letter of resignation as Dept. Commander was read from DC Dermint do to health issues.

A letter of resignation was read from Dept. Historian Richard Norris for personal reasons.

A request for donations was read from Acting DC Switzer on behalf of Bro. Bob Kuzma who relayed a message from the Joliet Area Historical Museum who is starting a fund raising effort to restore the 100th Ill. Regimental (The Will County Regiment) National Flag. A motion was made, seconded and passed to donate on behalf of the Dept. of Ill. \$100.00.

A request from our Bryner Camp #67 requesting a donation for the restoration project of the GAR Hall in Peoria, Ill. A motion was made, seconded and passed to donate \$100.00.

Gen. Order #4 dated 18Sept2012 issued by CinC Mellor stating at the 131st Nat'l. Encampment of the SUVCW in L. A. 9-11Aug2012 delegates voted in favor to amend the preamble to the Nat'l Constitution of the SUVCW to read: "We the descendants of soldiers, sailors, or marines who served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States of America during the War of the Rebellion of 1861-1865." This change reflects the addition of "Marine Corps and Revenue Cutter Service" as part of the membership requirements per Art. 3 of the Nat'l C & R. This change requires passage by at least 50% of the Departments per Art. 9 of the Constitution. Per instructions, this will be balloted upon at our May 2013 Annual Encampment.

Acting DC Switzer thanked everyone for their condolences on the passing of his Father-in-Law.

Chap. Jerry also spoke briefly on DC Dermint and asked that we keep him in our prayers as well.

Bills: The following bills were read and ordered paid: Dept. Sec Aarli supplies, postage, etc. \$79.14.

Mid Term Encampment: A motion was made, seconded and passed to hold the 130th Annual Encampment on May 11, 2013 at Rose Hill Cemetery in Chicago, Ill. hosted by Gen. George A. Custer Camp #1.

Dept. Officer Elections: Do to the resignation of DC Dermint, the following Brothers were elected to serve for the balance of this term which ends May 2013. They are DC Jody Switzer; SVC Marc Finnegan; JVC Greg Carter. Bro. John Bigwood was appointed Dept. P.I. do to the resignation of Bro. Greg Carter from that position. All other elected and appointed officers remained the same.

Installation of Officers: Chap. Jerry proceeded to install DC Switzer, SVC Marc Finnegan, JVC Greg Carter and Dept. P. I. John Bigwood. DSec. Aarli was acting Chaplain.

Our new DC Switzer took the opportunity to thank the Delegates for their attendance and taking part in a successful meeting. He also thanked CC Garry Ladd and the Hecker Camp #443 for hosting this Encampment.

There being no further business to bring before this Encampment, DC Jody Switzer formally closed the 129th Mid Term Encampment of the Department of Illinois at 3:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Steve Aarli, Dept. Sec.

Dept. of Illinois SUVCW