

**Orlando A Somers Camp #1  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

**Meeting Minutes—January 19, 2008—Richard's Restaurant**

Commander Matt Elkin presided and opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. Chaplain Jacob Elkin led the group in the opening prayer, and members joined to recite the American's Creed and the Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary Gayle Eikenberry reported that minutes of the December meeting had been sent to members and asked for corrections. Allen Moore moved that the minutes be accepted, Jon Ayres seconded, and the motion passed. Treasurer Randy McNally gave our account balance as \$2,639.82, of which \$398.37 remains in the Cannon Fund. A motion to accept the report was made by Russ Kirchner, seconded by Alan Teller, and passed. Treasurer McNally then read a letter from the Howard County Veterans Council stating that the restoration work on the monument in Crown Point Cemetery had been finished with funds left over. The Council gave us a check for \$300 to use without restrictions. It was noted that this was very generous since the Council also let us keep the proceeds from the sale of the replica monuments and the prints. Commander Elkin will send a thank you note to the Council.

Members present were: Matt Elkin, Jacob Elkin, Allen Moore, Tom Crawford, Randy McNally, Alan Teller, Russ Kirchner, Jon Ayers, Todd Dwigans, and Gayle Eikenberry. Lee Ann Teller and Cella Kirchner attended as our guests.

Commander Elkin explained that our camp charter was to be draped for thirty days by order of our Department Commander due to the passing of a long-time member of the Ben Harrison Camp in Indianapolis.

**Old Business:**

Commander Elkin asked for volunteers to clean the cannon, stating that he would clean it in February. Alan Teller volunteered for March and Russ Kirchner for April.

Commander Elkin requested an update on plans for honoring Carroll County's last surviving Union soldier. Tom Crawford said that he had been working on the wording of the plaque and still wanted to find out if Beck had belonged to a chapter of the G.A.R. The proposed wording of the plaque is given below. Suggestions are welcome.

George W. Beck was the last surviving Union soldier from Carroll County.  
May we always remember and honor all of Carroll's Union veterans.

Commander Elkin reminded us of the mid-winter encampment and asked for a show of hands of those planning to attend so appropriate plans could be made. Approximately 5-7 members plan to attend.

Commander Elkin asked Treasurer McNally how many members still had not paid their 2008 dues. Eight have not yet paid. (It is important to get membership finalized before filing form 27, our annual camp report, which is due by April 30. IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR DUES YET, SEND THEM TO TREASURER MCNALLY ASAP!)

**New Business**

Jon Ayers offered the November issue of the Civil War Courier, which Randy McNally accepted.

1990-1991  
Annual Report of the Board of Directors

Dear Shareholders:

I am pleased to report that the company has achieved significant milestones in the past year. Our revenue has increased by 15% compared to the previous year, and our market share has grown steadily. We have also successfully launched several new products that have received positive feedback from our customers. Our financial performance remains strong, with a healthy profit margin and a solid balance sheet. We are confident that these achievements are a result of the hard work and dedication of our employees and the support of our shareholders.

Looking ahead, we are committed to continued growth and innovation. We will focus on expanding our product lines, improving our operational efficiency, and strengthening our relationships with our customers and partners. We believe that these strategies will position us for long-term success and provide a strong return on investment for our shareholders.

Thank you for your continued support and investment in the company. We are grateful for the trust you have placed in us and look forward to working together to achieve our shared goals.

Sincerely,  
[Signature]

For more information, please contact our Investor Relations department at [Phone Number] or visit our website at [Website URL].

Our financial statements for the year ending [Date] are available on our website. We encourage all shareholders to review these documents carefully to understand the company's financial position and performance.

We are also pleased to announce that the company has been recognized as a leader in its industry. This recognition is a testament to our commitment to excellence and our dedication to providing high-quality products and services to our customers.

Thank you again for your support. We are excited about the future and look forward to sharing our success with you.

Commander Elkin reminded us of the Lincoln Day Ceremony in April and the program on February 10 (2:00 p.m. CST/3:00 p.m. EST), the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial Celebration.

Commander Elkin distributed copies of the proposed amendments to Article VII of our national Constitution concerning classes of membership. These will be voted on at the Department Encampment in June. (Copies included with these minutes)

Commander Elkin reported that he had received a call from John Martino, Director of the Kokomo Parks and Recreation Department stating that the building to house the cannon had been completed, requesting to know when and how we wanted the cannon moved, and offering help with a plaque. There was much discussion, including the following:

- Have a public dedication after the cannon is placed in the building and the display is complete.
- Concern was expressed about moving the cannon without damage to it or the building.
- Move the cannon while the ground is frozen.
- Have a Civil War battle scene painted on the doors behind the cannon, perhaps by local high school art students.
- Russ Kirchner offered the use of a truck and trailer to move the cannon.
- Have the Park Dept. move the cannon and place it in the building so if any damage occurs to the building it isn't our responsibility.
- The cannon will face the front window straight on due to the size and shape of the building.
- The safety attachment should be removed before the cannon is placed.
- When the cannon was in the museum at the Johanning Center, there was a plaque on a stand which was moved with the cannon to storage. Does anyone at the Parks Dept. know where the plaque is?
- Items included in the display should remain the property of our camp, with a document signed indicating this.
- There are two photographs with different women dressed in period costume standing by the cannon that could be included in the display.
- A plaque indicating that the mannequin is on loan would be appropriate.
- Donate the caisson to the city.
- The federal government actually retains ownership of such pieces of artillery.

Commander Elkin read a thank-you note from the North Central Indiana Blue Star Mothers acknowledging our contribution of \$50.00.

Todd Dwigans requested information about presentations to Eagle Scouts by our order in regards to an honor court that will be held in one week for a new Eagle Scout. Information will be obtained from our Eagle Scout Coordinator, Ned Baker.

### **Program**

Commander Elkin gave an interesting presentation about sacrifice during war times, focusing on the Civil War, but offering statistics and details from other conflicts to put the Civil War in perspective. The unreliability of casualty statistics, especially from the South, was presented with ideas for further research.

Commander Elkin closed the meeting at 2:40 p.m., and the closing prayer was given by Chaplain Jacob Elkin. The next meeting will be February 16.

Gayle Eikenberry, Secretary



The Department of \_\_\_\_\_ with all of its Officers and Brothers seated there in on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008 met in annual Encampment and voted on the following amendment to the Constitution of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War;

ARTICLE VII.  
Membership

Section 1. Membership classes. There shall be ~~three (3)~~ **four (4)** classes of membership.

(a) Members. Males at least fourteen (14) years of age who meet the qualifications stipulated in Article III of this Constitution and **Section 200303 of the Articles of Incorporation as amended in 1998**. Members enjoy all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of membership.

***(d) Junior Members. Males less than fourteen (14) years of age who meet the qualifications stipulated in Article III of this Constitution and Section 200303 of the Articles of Incorporation as amended in 1998. The minimum age for Junior Members shall be specified in the Regulations of the Order.***

Section 4. A ~~Member~~ **Brother** in good standing upon written application to his Camp shall be entitled to receive a Transfer Card or ~~Honorable Discharge~~ **of the appropriate type** and, if his Camp be disbanded or suspended shall be entitled to receive a Transfer Card from the Commander of the Department.

***Section 5. Restrictions on Junior Members and Junior Associates.***

***(a) Neither Junior Members nor Junior Associates may be elected to any National, Department or Camp office.***

***(b) The National Organization may further provide for the regulations of Junior Members and/or Junior Associates in the Regulations provided they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section.***

The amendment **PASSED** ~~FAILED~~ (circle one) by a simple majority of the delegates and Brothers present and entitled to vote.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Commander

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attest; Department Secretary



The Department of \_\_\_\_\_ with all of its Officers and Brothers seated there in on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008 met in annual Encampment and voted on the following amendment to the Constitution of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War;

Section 2. Associates. There shall be ~~one~~ **two** classes of Associates.

(a) Associates are males at least fourteen (14) years of age who do not meet the qualifications stipulated in Article III of this Constitution and Section **200303** of the Articles of Incorporation **as amended in 1998** but otherwise meet the requirements for membership established by the National Organization.

(b) Junior Associates are males less than fourteen (14) years of age who do not meet the qualifications stipulated in Article III of this Constitution and Section 200303 of the Articles of Incorporation as amended in 1998 but otherwise meet the requirements for membership established by the National Organization. The minimum age for Junior Associates shall be specified in the Regulations of the Order.

(c) The **combined** number of Associates **and Junior Associates** in any Camp shall not exceed one-third (1/3) of the total roster of the Camp at the time of election. At no time during a meeting of a Camp, a Department, or the National Organization shall business be transacted if the number of Associates in attendance exceeds forty-nine per cent (49%) of the total attendance then present at said meeting.

(d) Associates may not be elected, appointed, or otherwise assume the offices of Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, National Secretary, National Treasurer or be appointed Commanding Officer of the Sons of Veterans Reserve.

(e) Associates **and Junior Associates** shall not be counted toward the required number of members to establish a new Camp. The names of Associates **and Junior Associates** may not appear on the Camp Charter nor may Associates **or Junior Associates** be designated as Charter Members of the Camp. Associates otherwise enjoy all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of membership

Section 3. Establishment of Associates **and Junior Associates** by Departments and Camps. Departments, at their own discretion, may establish Associates **and/or Junior Associates provided that no Department may establish Junior Associates without previously or concurrently establishing Associates**. Departments may impose further restrictions on Associates **and Junior Associates**, provided that the rights established in Chapter V, Article VI of the National Regulations may not be altered, reduced, or vacated. If a Department specifically establishes Associates **and/or Junior Associates** by amending its By-Laws, Camps within said Department may amend the Camp By-Laws and establish Associates **and/or Junior Associates provided that no Camp shall establish Junior Associates without previously or concurrently establishing Associates**. Camps may impose further restrictions in accordance with the provisions of the Department By-Laws and provided that the rights established in Chapter V, Article VI of the National Regulations may not be altered, reduced, or vacated. If a Department does not establish Associates **and/or Junior Associates**, Camps within the Department's jurisdiction may not establish Associates **and/or Junior Associates**.

The amendment **PASSED FAILED** (circle one) by a simple majority of the delegates and Brothers present and entitled to vote.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Commander

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attest; Department Secretary

