

**Department of the Southwest**

**Arizona & New Mexico**



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**Sons of Union Veterans  
of the Civil War**



**2026**

**Tenth Annual Department Encampment**

**Saturday, 28 March, 2026**

**Tucson, Arizona**

## Memorial Ceremony

Department Commander Hoffay and the assembled Officers conducted a Memorial Ceremony and moment of reflection for the following Brothers lost since the last Department Encampment:

- Brother Richard L. Rice, General U.S. Grant Camp No. 3
- Brother Paul E. Sagster, General U.S. Grant Camp No. 3
- Brother Jay Simmons, Picacho Peak Camp No. 1
- Brother Gerald N. Bloom, PDC, Picacho Peak Camp No. 1 / Minty Camp No. 2 / Grant Camp No. 3

The ceremony included the following reading by Commander Hoffay and prayers by Chaplain James Heller.

Listen—all—to the Parable of Immortality  
I am standing upon the seashore.  
A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze  
and starts for the blue ocean.  
She is an object of beauty and strength,  
and I stand and watch until at last she hangs  
like a speck of white cloud  
just where the sea and sky come down to mingle with each other.  
Then someone at my side says,  
" There she goes!"  
Gone where?  
Gone from my sight . . . that is all.  
She is just as large in mast and hull and spar  
as she was when she left my side  
and just as able to bear her load of living freight  
to the place of destination.  
Her diminished size is in me, not in her.  
And just at the moment  
when someone at my side says,  
"There she goes!" there are other eyes watching her coming . . .  
and other voices ready to take up the glad shout . . .  
"Here she comes!"  
—Author: Henry Van Dyke

A Psalm of David

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. (Psalm 44:1)

Jesus said: —I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. (John 11:25-26.)— He also said: —Let not your hearts be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you; and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also. (John 14:1-3)

Our Father, who art in Heaven, the Father of our Lord Jesus, and the Father of us all, we pray Your blessing to abide upon this humble service.

Bless the memory of our departed Brothers. Bless and comfort those near and dear to him by the ties of the flesh and fraternity.

Help us, each one, to appreciate more and more the blessings we receive, daily, from Your great heart of love, and help us to prove our gratitude for all these good gifts, by our lives of usefulness and integrity. Bless our friends and Brothers everywhere, and may we be worthy of them and You. Lead us graciously by Your strong right hand, and make us all to be the citizens we are privileged to be in this goodly land which You have given to us.

We ask in the name of our Savior. Amen

## **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Department of the Southwest Encampment**

At 9:32am Commander Todd T. Hoffay, PCC officially opened the 10th Annual Department of the Southwest Encampment followed by the invocation of the divine blessing from Chaplain James Heller, PDC.

**Commander Hoffay-** “Brothers, we meet again in annual session to review our past work and plan for the future. May our conduct and deliberations be marked by mutual tolerance and fraternal courtesy, ever mindful of our duty to our country, our Order, and ourselves.”

**Chaplain Heller-** “Our Heavenly Father, the high & mighty ruler of the universe, Who looks down upon the government of men, we earnestly ask Your favor to bless our native land and preserve in purity and integrity its free institutions for all coming time. Bless our order. Grant that it may long exist, and that it may continue to be an instrument of great good to all. Give us willing hands and ready hearts to carry out properly its principles and objects. Keep green in our minds the memory of those who sacrificed so much that the life of the nation might be preserved, and deal with them, as in all things, with Your special mercy. Give us Your aid in conducting the business for which we are assembled, and so bless us that Charity & Justice, and Peace & Harmony shall remain and flow from us. Amen”

**Commander Hoffay** declared the 10th Annual Encampment duly opened for the transaction of business and provided his opening remarks.

“Brothers, Sisters, Family Members and Honored Guests:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Annual Encampment of the Department of the Southwest. It is my distinct honor to preside over the milestone, 10th anniversary of that event.

May we find our proceedings to be enjoyable and productive, and may we always remember the reason we gather:

To keep alive the memory of the courage shown, by our forebears, in the service of our great Union.

Let us seek to live with gratitude in our hearts, for the sacrifices they made on our behalf. Let us strive to show ourselves to be worthy of, and to further honor, their legacy by our own continuing commitment to the service of each other and to our great nation.

Brothers and Sisters, as I stated this year marks a historic milestone — the 10th Anniversary of the Department of the Southwest.”

**Commander Hoffay** provided an overview (abridged version) of the history of the Department of the Southwest that was originally written by Brother David Swanson, PDC.

“The history of the Department of the Southwest begins with the formation of Picacho Peak Camp No. 1, officially chartered on May 11, 1996, as a Camp-at-Large. It remained the only Camp in Arizona until 2015.

In 2014 Brother John Conrad proposed forming a new Department composed of Arizona and New Mexico. As three camps are necessary to form a Department, Brother Conrad personally committed to organizing a Camp in Tucson.

At the same time Brother David Swanson worked to establish a Camp Flagstaff.

On July 15, 2015, the General R.H.G. Minty Camp in Tucson became the second Arizona Camp-at-Large to be chartered.

General U.S. Grant Camp in Flagstaff, was soon after chartered on September 11, 2015.

The requirement of three camps having been successfully reached, the newly created Department of the Southwest received its charter on the 3rd of December 2015, thanks to the efforts of Department Organizer (and first Department Commander) Brother John Conrad.

This 10th Anniversary reminds us of the dedication, sacrifice, and brotherhood that built this Department and will sustain it in the future.

As we gather in fellowship to conduct our necessary business, let us acknowledge our debt to the following men, the original signatories of the DSW Charter, who made this gathering possible and to whom we all owe a great debt of gratitude are:

Robert E. Archibald jr., Gerald N. Bloom, John R. Conrad, Dale E. Enlow, Robert H. Haley, Mark Haynes, William R. Hearter Jr., James M. Heller, David Jackson, Robert D. McCord. Randy D. McNally, H. Alan Nash, David R. Palmateer, Timothy D. Prater, Edward Steinback II, David T. Vessels.”

**Commander Hoffay** announced a special recognition of Brother John Conrad, PDC.

“I’d like to also give special recognition and thanks to our Brother John Conrad for his generous donation of \$\$2,500.00 to the Department of the Southwest for the funding of this Department Encampment. Brother John was unable to attend this meeting in person but has joined us on Zoom.”

## **Introduction and Welcome of Distinguished Guests**

**Commander Hoffay** introduced the distinguished guests including:

**Sister Verna Maleski**, Past National President, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**Sister Terry Lee Madtson**, Current President, Margaret Warner Wood Detached Tent #1, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

**Sister Susan Burke**, Margaret Warner Wood Detached Tent #1.

Family members and wives of the membership

Followed by the introduction of the Guest of Honor and Installing Officer, **Commander-in-Chief Kevin P. Tucker**.

**Commander-in-Chief Kevin P. Tucker provided the following remarks:**

Commander Hoffay, officers, Brothers, family, friends, and honored guests—

I thank you for your gracious welcome, and for the bond of fraternity that unites us in this place. It is a profound honor to stand before you here in Tucson—a city whose roots reach deep into the earliest chapters of the American Southwest—and to address this Encampment.

We gather not only in fellowship—but in purpose. There are moments in the life of a nation when its future hangs by a thread—when the accumulated hopes of generations stand in peril of being lost.

Such a moment came in the spring of 1865. In a quiet Virginia village, amid fields worn by war and men weary beyond words, the great conflict that had torn this nation asunder reached its conclusion. At Appomattox Court House, a war that had tested the very survival of the Republic came to its end.

The armies ceased their struggle. The guns fell silent. And the Union... endured. But let us understand this clearly—the preservation of the Union was not the end of a story. It was the beginning of a responsibility.

Yet we do this history a disservice if we confine it to the well-known fields of the East. Because the Civil War was not bounded by rivers or ridgelines—it stretched... across a continent.

It reached into lands like this—into deserts, where the sun bears down without mercy...into mountain passes, where silence carries weight...into distant outposts, where the flag of the United States stood alone.

Here, in the Southwest, the struggle for the Union took on a different form—but it was no less decisive. The Confederacy cast its gaze westward—seeking not only independence, but expansion. Toward the Pacific...toward vital routes...toward this vast and strategic land.

In 1862, that ambition reached this very place. Confederate forces entered Tucson—raising their standard in this desert settlement, near the Presidio San Agustín del Tucson. For a brief and uncertain moment, the authority of the United States was pushed aside—not in theory...but here... on this ground.

But the Union answered. From California came a column of soldiers whose march remains one of the great feats of endurance of the war. They crossed deserts...endured heat that pressed the strength from the body...followed the fragile lifeline of the Butterfield Overland Mail route.

At Apache Pass—near Fort Bowie—they fought for water...for passage...for the right to continue forward. And forward they went. Mile by mile. Step by step. Until the Union returned to Arizona. Tucson was reclaimed. The Confederate presence disappeared. And the flag of the United States rose again over this desert.

This was not the war of great formations and grand charges. Here, the war was carried in endurance. In lonely posts...in long patrols...in the quiet determination of soldiers who knew that even unseen service could decide the fate of a nation.

They held the line—not for recognition—but for the Union. Their service was no less essential. For a nation is preserved not only by great victories—but by faithful service, wherever it is required.

What did they leave behind? Not merely a reunited country. Not merely a restored flag. They left a trust. A charge. A responsibility—to ensure that what they preserved would not be forgotten... and would not be taken for granted.

From their sacrifice came transformation. Slavery was abolished. Citizenship defined. The promise of the Declaration of Independence brought closer to reality. But those achievements were not self-sustaining. They required remembrance. They required vigilance. They required citizens willing to carry forward the meaning of the Union.

And because the Union endured—this land endured within it. From the Presidio...to the mail routes...to the forts that marked the advance of the nation—Arizona's story unfolded within a preserved Republic.

The flag that flies over Tucson today does so because others carried it here—and refused to let it fall.

We now approach a great milestone in the life of our nation. This year, the United States marks two hundred and fifty years since its founding. That anniversary will invite reflection. But reflection alone is not enough.

For the question before us is not only what the nation has been—but what we will do with what we have inherited. Our nation's founding declared a promise. The Civil War tested it. And the Union ensured it would endure.

History calls. It calls across time...across distance...across generations. And today—it calls to us. Brothers—memory is not passive. It is not the quiet keeping of names and dates. It is an active duty—to speak...to teach...to remind...to ensure that the meaning of the Union remains alive in every generation.

The soldiers and sailors of the Union preserved this Republic when its future was uncertain. They chose duty over comfort—sacrifice over safety—country over self. They carried forward the promise of 1776 when it was in jeopardy.

And when their work was done, they entrusted that legacy to those who would come after them. The Grand Army of the Republic once bore that responsibility. Now—it rests with us.

As Commander-in-Chief, I am mindful—we are not merely heirs to their legacy. We are guardians of it. We are stewards of a sacred trust. We are the voice of Union soldiers and sailors in our own time.

And if we do not carry that voice forward—it will fade. But if we do our duty—it will endure. Let us prove worthy of that charge. And, Brothers, as we carry forward their memory, as we honor the past, we should not forget those who serve today.

Today, American servicemen and women are serving, in faraway lands not unlike this one fighting, sacrificing, placing themselves in harm's way on our behalf. They serve under the same flag—a flag preserved by those we remember here today, for the same enduring principles.

Let us remember them. Support them. And pray for their safe return home.

In Fraternity. In Charity. In Loyalty.

And here—in this desert where the Union once returned and held—let us resolve that we will carry forward the memory...the meaning...and the unfinished work of the soldiers and sailors of the Union—so that what they preserved shall endure...not only in history—but in us.

Forward, Brothers—always forward—in the sacred work of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.”

**Following Commander-in-Chief Tucker’s remarks:**

**Commander Hoffay** provided a heartfelt thanks to Commander-in Chief Tucker for traveling to Arizona and presented him with a Department of the Southwest Special 10th Anniversary medal...and a copy of the book; *The Civil War in Arizona (The Story of the California Volunteers, 1861–1865* by Andrew E. Masich).

Commander Hoffay proceeded to invite Sister Verna Griffith Maleski, Past National President, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War followed by Sister Terry Lee Madtson, Current President, Margaret Warner Wood Detached Tent #1, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War for their remarks.

**Roll-Call of Officers – Secretary/Treasurer Scott Martorano called the Roll.**

**Elected Officers Present:**

Commander: Todd Hoffay, PCC  
SVC: W. Mark Clark, PCC  
JVC: Richard Stephens, CC  
Council: John Lyons  
Secretary/Treasurer: Scott Martorano

**Appointed Officers Present:**

Patriotic Instructor: David Moore  
Chaplain: Mark Haynes, PCC  
GAR Records Officer: David Swanson, PDC  
Guide: Dan Huskisson  
Historian: Scott Martorano  
Dept. Newsletter /Allied organization: Kenneth Hooker, PDC  
Eagle Scout Coordinator: Timothy Prater, PDC

**Appointment of Committee on Credentials**

**Commander Hoffay** appointed Secretary / Treasurer Scott Martorano to the Committee on Credentials.

Report on Credentials – Secretary / Treasurer Scott Martorano provided the Report on Credentials.

Total delegates present: 14

Per the Department of the Southwest Bylaws, quorum requirements were met.

**Roll-Call of Members- Secretary / Treasurer Scott Martorano provided the Roll Call of Member.**

Steven Bigelow  
William Blissett  
Scott Bouchard  
Kenneth Bus  
W. Mark Clark, PCC  
Dale Enlow, PCC  
Tanner Guskey  
James Heller, PDC  
Tristan Hoffay  
Todd Hoffay, PCC

Kenneth Hooker, PDC  
Daniel Huskisson  
John Lyons  
Scott Martorano  
Robert McCord, PDC  
David Moore  
Timothy Prater, PDC  
Richard Stephens, PCC  
David Swanson, PDC

19 total number of Brothers present reported.

### **Reports of Officers- Commander Hoffay called for the Department officer reports.**

Reports were presented or submitted. See attachments.

### **Reports of Camps- Commander Hoffay called for the Camp Commander reports**

Picacho Peak Camp No. 1- No Report

b. R.H.G. Minty Camp No. 2- No Report

c. General U.S. Grant Camp No. 3- Commander Richard Stephens provided a comprehensive report of the of the activity of the USG3 Camp for the reporting year.

### **Reception and Reference of Communications**

None to report.

### **Unfinished Business**

Formation of a new Camp in New Mexico was presented by **Department JVC Richard Stephens** as follows:

“Brothers, I would like to introduce you to Albert Jennings Fountain. Albert Jennings Fountain served as a Union officer during the Civil War, enlisting in August 1861 as a corporal in Company E of the 1st California Infantry Regiment.

He rapidly advanced through the ranks to first sergeant by early 1862 and participated in the grueling California Column march of over 2,000 men across the desert to recapture the New Mexico Territory and counter Confederate forces. He fought in the Battle of Apache Pass in July 1862, helping repel ambushes by Chiricahua Apaches, and aided in the forced relocation of Mescalero Apaches to the Bosque Redondo reservation in 1863. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in May 1863, was later wounded in June 1865 while pursuing hostile Apaches,

and sustained a bullet wound to his thigh and arrows to his forearm and shoulder. He was discharged as a brevet captain after recovering from his injuries, having demonstrated loyalty to federal authority in hostile, secessionist-leaning border regions.

After the war, he continued his military service with New Mexico volunteers before transitioning to a career in law and politics, eventually becoming a prominent lawyer and legislator in Texas and New Mexico. Fountain was known for his aggressive prosecution of cattle rustlers and had successfully obtained arrest warrants for 23 men involved in cattle rustling and brand defacing in Lincoln County.

On January 12, 1896, he and his eight-year-old son, Henry, left Lincoln, New Mexico, bound for Mesilla, New Mexico. They disappeared and were likely murdered on February 1, 1896. A blood-stained buggy and handkerchief were found near White Sands, but the bodies were never recovered. To this day, their murderer has never been determined and there are still active rewards for this information.

This past Tuesday, March 24, 2026, myself and Brothers Dale Enlow, David Swanson, Mark Clark, Tanner Guskey, and potential new Brother Sean Lofland met to discuss the formation of a new camp in Southern New Mexico.

Would Brother Tanner Guskey please step forward. Brothers of the Department of the Southwest, I hold here Form 51, which requests the formation of the “Col. Albert J. Fountain Camp No. 4” of the Department of the Southwest. Brother Tanner is the official Organizer of this new Camp. Brother Tanner, please hand this form, in duplicate, to the Department Secretary.

Secretary Martorano, please take a moment to review this form and please deliver to Commander Hoffay for approval and signature. Brothers of the Department of the Southwest, I hold here Form 52, which authorizes the organization of this new Camp. Brother Tanner, please deliver this Form 52, in duplicate, to the Department Secretary.

Secretary Martorano, please take a moment to review this form and please deliver to Commander Hoffay for approval. The organization of a new Camp requires a \$25.00 Charter Application Fee be paid to the National Organization, SUVCW. Commander Hoffay: I hereby move that this fee be paid by the Department of the Southwest. Brother Martorano, one copy of Form 52 is to be given to the Camp organizer, Brother Tanner.

Also, one copy of Form 51, along with the Charter Application Fee of \$25.00, payable to the National Organization, SUVCW, is to be sent to the National SUVCW Secretary. It is the findings of our meeting that the new Brothers for this new Camp should first join General R.H.G. Minty Camp so that they are properly vetted into the SUVCW. Then, when the new Camp has been organized and chartered, these Brothers only need to file Form 4s to transfer to the new Camp. Brother Tanner, there are more steps to be taken to form this Camp.

First is the recruiting of new Brothers. Here is a packet of Form 70s to hand out to prospective Brothers. If you run out, the National Quartermaster Store has plenty more. On the National SUVCW.org website, under “Governance & Forms,” please locate Form 3 for membership application. Please work with Minty Camp’s JVC, Brother Bill Sims, to have the new Brothers processed into Minty Camp.

And last, I give you Form 54, the “New Camp Data Sheet,” which is used to record the officers elected for the Col. Albert J. Fountain Camp No. 4. Throughout this process, the Brothers on this committee shall assist you when needed. We will meet again in a month (or two) to review progress. Thank you, Brothers.”

Formation of a new SVR Company was described by Department SVC W. Mark Clark.

### **Reports of Committees**

No additional reports.

### **Report of the Department Council**

See attachment.

### **New Business**

SVC Clark reported a significant step forward in the development of the Department through the establishment of a Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) unit. Following discussions with Major Wayne Eder, Commander of the 6th Military District of the SVR, authorization was granted to organize and establish a unit within the Department. **See attached full report.**

**Commander Hoffay** introduced “The Gerald N. Bloom – Honoring the Defenders of the Union Program” as follows

“As my wife can attest, and much to her dismay, randomly pulling off to the side of an unfamiliar road, to walk around an old, overgrown cemetery is one of my favorite things to do!

Finding and photographing the graves of veterans, especially of the Civil War, is my main goal. This goal is often made easier with the stone-side presence of a Military Grave Marker/Flag Holder. You have probably seen them scattered around most cemeteries, most notably after receiving a fresh American flag, often for Memorial Day. Different organizations and each military conflict has it’s own uniquely styled flag holder which identifies the conflict or organization with which the interred was associated. For the Civil War Veteran, the 5-point G.A.R. Star style flag holder is the most common marker seen. When you spot one in a cemetery, you know you have found a Civil War Veteran.

Last year, as in the past, our friends at the Pioneer & Military Memorial Park in Phoenix invited the Brothers of Picacho Peak Camp #1 and the Department of the Southwest to participate in Memorial Day activities at the cemetery. I had the honor of presiding over a short ceremony and flag raising, in front of a growing crowd, alongside Brothers Bob Cox, Dan

Huskisson, Ken Bus and Tristan Hoffay. Earlier that morning we had spent time placing new Flags on the graves of the many Civil War Veterans buried in the Memorial Park and although there are upwards of 70 Union Veterans buried in the Park I realized that only a couple of them had an actual G.A.R. Star Flag Holder. It occurred to me that procuring and placing flag holders at the graves of those Union Veteran graves that lacked them might be a good mission for the Camp to take up. The enthusiasm of the Memorial Day crowd in attendance at our ceremony inspired me to set a target date of the Memorial Day 2026 ceremonies to complete our mission. The Brothers in attendance discussed the idea and decided it was an ambitious goal and worthy of pursuing.

Our first hurdle was to get permission from the cemetery to see if we would even be allowed to place the flag holders there. Brother Bob Cox, who serves as a volunteer with the cemetery and spends many hours working there, took the lead, presenting our idea to the Board of Directors, where he obtained their permission for us to proceed. Next, we had to present our idea to the Camp to see if they wanted to take up the project. Secretary/Treasurer Scott Martorano drafted a motion for the Camp to vote on. He gave the project the name "Honoring the Defenders of the Union". Also included in the motion; creating a go-fund-me account for outside donations, allowing for donors to sponsor flag holders for specific soldiers, allowing for donor participation in flag holder placement ceremonies and, if our Memorial Day efforts proved to be successful, expanding and continuing the project throughout Arizona and the Department.

At our August meeting, the Brothers of Picacho Peak Camp #1 voted unanimously to take up the project. In attendance at that August meeting was our much-honored Brother Jerry Bloom. Sadly, this would be Brother Bloom's last Camp meeting as he passed away soon afterward. However, in his last act of Brotherhood, Brother Bloom, in his enthusiasm for the Defenders of the Union mission, left a generous donation which funded our entire Memorial Day Project!

In November, the Brothers of Picacho Peak Camp #1 voted to rename our project to honor it's greatest early benefactor to the "Gerald N. Bloom – Honoring the Defenders of the Union."

Donations continued to come in as enthusiasm for the continuing project mounted.

The Brothers of Picacho Peak Camp #1 also voted to invite the Brothers of all Camps in the Department of the Southwest to participate in the Gerald N. Bloom – Honoring the Defenders of the Union program, and to present a motion at the next Department Encampment for the transfer of all remaining funds raised and future control of the program to the Department of the Southwest.

At this Encampment today, Secretary/Treasurer Martorano will make the motion to establish the Gerald N. Bloom – Honoring the Defenders of the Union Program as a Department of the Southwest program. It is my hope that you will support this motion and we will continue the

mission to ensure that all Union Veteran graves within the Department's domain receive due recognition with a proper Civil War Veteran's G.A.R. Flag Holder.

Thank You to the following who have also generously donated to the program:

Scott Martorano Dan Huskisson Verna Maleski Michael Booth David Swanson Richard Kind

Richard Uplinger James Heller Stephen Schumacher Robert Cox Doug Krause Jerald Hill

Barre Shepp Sr. Margaret Warner Wood Tent #1 Peggy Munson Gene Munson Maura Machowski and Brother Dale Enlow, whose donation it is proposed, will purchase a plaque, to be displayed at future Encampments, which will annually record each Camp's marker placement and memorial activities associated with the The Gerald N. Bloom – Honoring the Defenders of the Union Program.

**Following the program overview Secretary / Treasurer made the following motion to the membership.**

**1. S/T Martorano Motion 1:**

Establish within the Department of the Southwest the "Gerald N. Bloom – Defenders of the Union Program" to raise funds for the purchase and placement of GAR markers at Union soldiers' graves in the State of Arizona and the State of New Mexico. The Department of the Southwest Camps shall support the program and assist in fundraising when possible.

Commander called the Motion: Brother Martorano has made a motion to Establish within the Department of the Southwest the "Gerald N. Bloom – Defenders of the Union Program"

The motion received a second and was passed unanimously.

**2. S/T Martorano-Motion 2:**

Accept the \$2,000.00 donation from Picacho Peak Camp #1 and establish a separate fund for these monies within the Department of the Southwest Treasury. Upon request by a designated officer of a Department of the Southwest Camp, the Department Secretary shall purchase and provide GAR markers for the Camps as funds allow.

Commander Hoffay Called the Motion: Brother Martorano has made a motion that the DSW Accept the \$2,000.00 donation from Picacho Peak Camp #1, establish a separate fund for these monies, purchase and provide GAR markers for the Camps as funds allow.

The motion received a second and passed unanimously

**Secretary / Treasurer Martorano informed Commander Hoffay that Brother Dale Enlow had donated \$100.00 to the Department of the Southwest in honor of Gerald N. Bloom.**

3. **S/T Martorano Motion 3:**

Using the generous donation provided by Brother Enlow, purchase a plaque that can be updated annually to record each Camp's marker placements and memorial activities associated with the Gerald N. Bloom – Honoring the Defenders of the Union Program. The plaque will be displayed at future Department Encampments.

Commander Hoffay Called the Motion: Brother Martorano has made a motion that Brother Enlow's donation be used to, purchase a plaque, to be updated and displayed at the annual DSW Encampment, recording each Camp's activities associated with the Gerald N. Bloom – Honoring the Defenders of the Union Program.

The motion received a second and passed unanimously.

Commander Hoffay invited Susan Burke, Gerald N. Bloom's daughter, to come forward to receive a gift from the Department of the Southwest.

### **Department Per Capita Review**

**Secretary Treasurer Martorano** provided Department Per Capita review and made a motion as follows

Commander, Brothers, the Department of the Southwest per capita tax has been held at \$8.00 since 2017. However, in that period the cost of the goods and services used by the Department have seen significant price increases. This includes items purchased from the national QM Store, administrative supplies, computer services/ software, meeting venues, etc.

1. Motion: Per Department of the Southwest Bylaws as amended, I motion to increase the Department per capita rate \$12.00 per year.

Commander called the motion: ST Martorano has made a motion to increase the department per capita tax to \$12.00 per year.

The motion received a second and was passed unanimously.

### **Department Recognitions were provided by Commander Hoffay**

**Service Pin** was awarded to:

Charles S. Albaugh – 15 years (Brother Swanson accepting on his behalf)

**Special Recognition** was given to Vernon McDannald – Member since 1984 Longest serving Brother in our Department as follows.

“Special Message 01 (SERIES 2025-2026)

Recognition of Brother Vernon Aubrey McDannald

As we prepare to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Department of the Southwest at our forthcoming Department Encampment, I have the distinct honor of reviewing the many accomplishments of our Camps, and more particularly, those of our Brothers over the past year.

Secretary/Treasurer Martorano brought to my attention that Brother Vernon A. McDannald of Picacho Peak Camp No. 1 was initiated into the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War on March 3, 1984, and has remained a member in good standing for forty-two years. This distinction makes him the longest-serving member of the Department of the Southwest.

We extend our sincere congratulations to Brother McDannald on this exceptional milestone and commend his steadfast dedication to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. I respectfully encourage all Brothers of the Department of the Southwest to convey their congratulations and express their appreciation for his many years of faithful service.

Issued this 21st day of March 2026, in the City of Scottsdale, State of Arizona”

**Acknowledgment of Life Membership:**

Picacho Peak Camp #1:

John P. Munro	728
David A. Swanson	794
John R. Conrad	844
Dr. John E. Oakley, Sr.	948
Robert L. Cox	985
Richard G. Cups	1030
Scott T. Martorano	1219

General R H G Minty Camp #2:

John W. Lyons	1135
Dennis P. Scanlan	1244

Gen U.S. Grant Camp #3:

Timothy D. Prater	849
Dale E. Enlow	1037

Additionally, Commander Hoffay acknowledged and thanked all to the Department Officers and Camp Commanders that served in this tenure.

**Department Awards**

**Department Certificates of Commendation** presented to:

- Timothy Prater
- Dale Enlow
- David Moore
- Jeffrey Burgess
- W. Mark Clark

**Lt. James Barrett Award (2nd Annual)**

Was awarded to Brother Kenneth J. Hooker. For outstanding service and dedication to the Order.

**PVT. George Johnson and PVT. William S. Leonard Certificate of Recognition** was awarded to:

Scott Martorano  
W. Mark Clark  
David Moore

**Election of National Encampment Delegates**

Delegates elected for the 145th National Encampment (Gettysburg, PA) are as follows:

Scott Martorano  
Scott Bouchard  
Tanner Guskey  
Richard Stephens  
David Moore

**Commander Hoffay** introduced a motion to appoint all Department Brothers in good standing as Alternates delegates.

The motion received a second and was passed unanimously.

**Nomination and Election of Officers for 2026-2027**

The following slate of elected and appointed officer was presented by SVC Clark and elected unanimously:

**Elected Officers:**

Dept Commander - W. Mark Clark, PCC  
Senior Vice Commander - Richard A. Stephens, CC  
Junior Vice Commander - Scott P. Bouchard, CC  
Council Member - John W. Lyons  
Council Member - Dale E. Enlow, PCC  
Council Member - Kenneth P. Bus  
Secretary/Treasurer - Scott T. Martorano

**Appointed Officers:**

Patriotic Instructor - Dave C. Moore  
Chaplain - Mark J. Haynes, PCC  
Graves Registration Officer - Ronald L. Hyer  
Historian - Scott T. Martorano  
GAR Records Officer - David A. Swanson, PDC

Counselor - Robert D. McCord, PDC  
Eagle Scout Coordinator - Timothy D. Prater, PDC  
ROTC/JROTC Coordinator - Dan K. Huskisson  
Civil War Memorials Officer - TBD  
Color Bearer - TBD  
Guide - Dan K. Huskisson  
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer - TBD  
Signals Officer - Jeffrey D. Burgess, PCC  
Allied Orders Relations Officer - Todd T. Hoffay, PDC  
Newsletter Editors - Kenneth J. Hooker, PDC

### **Installation of Officers**

The installation of the Department of the Southwest 2026-2027 officers was conducted by Commander-in-Chief Kevin P. Tucker.

**“C-in-C Tucker :** Commander Hoffay, in relieving you of the command of this Department on behalf of the Officers, I convey to you their thanks for the manner in which you have discharged your duties. I trust that in surrendering the command of this Department your interests in the welfare of this Order will not cease. Having received the highest honors which your fellow members can confer upon you, your continuing commitment will point the way for others who still serve the Order. Please be seated on my left.

**C-in-C Tucker:** Commander Clark, are you prepared to announce your staff appointments? If so, the Guide will hand your list to the Secretary.

**C-in-C Tucker:** Secretary, call the roll of the Officers Elect and Staff Appointees who, as their names are called, will rise.

**Secretary Martorano:** called the roll of newly elected and appointed officers.

**C-in-C Tucker:** Brothers, these are your regularly chosen Officers for the next term. If any Brother has any valid reason why any of them should not be installed, let him now speak or forever hold his peace.

**C-in-C Tucker:** Brother Dan Huskisson, act as Guide and present these Brothers before the Altar, for installation.

**C-in-C Tucker:** Officers, you have been selected to positions of great honor and trust. With the Commander you will be responsible for the financial and material prosperity and interests of this Department and the members of this Encampment confidently expect that your discharge of the duties and responsibilities resting upon you will be conspicuous for zeal, ability and good works. I trust that you appreciate the great confidence placed in you and that you remember that the success or failure of the administration of your Department will depend very largely upon the manner in which you discharge the duties of your respective offices.

Are you now willing to pledge solemnly to the faithful performance of your several duties?

All officers replied "I am."

**C-in-C Tucker:** You will each raise your right hand, place your left hand on the Bible, and repeat after me, using your name where I do mine:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, having been regularly chosen as an Officer of the Department of the Southwest, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, hereby renew the sacred obligation given at the time of my initiation, and in the presence of Almighty God | and the members of this Encampment here assembled do furthermore solemnly and sincerely promise and declare that I will to the best of my ability, in word and deed, and without fear or favor, faithfully honestly and impartially perform all the duties of the office | upon which I am about to enter. So help me God.

**C-in-C Tucker:** Encampment. Attention.

**C-in-C Tucker:** Guide, conduct the Officers to their respective stations, acting Officers vacating.

**Guide Daniel Huskisson:** Sir, your orders have been obeyed.

**C-in-C Tucker:** Guide, conduct the Commander to this station.

**Guide Daniel Huskisson:** Sir, I have the honor to present the Commander of this Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

**C-in-C Tucker:** Commander, by the votes of the members of this Encampment you have been elected to the highest honor within their gift. Your election to this honorable position is an evidence not only of their regard and appreciation of your work and ability as a Son of a Union Veteran of the Civil War, but it is an assurance that your conduct of the affairs of this Department will be characterized by faithful, earnest and conscientious devotion to the responsibilities resting upon you. Grave trusts and grave cares await you, and to their faithful performance I now most solemnly direct you.

**C-in-C Tucker:** As no work of this nature can be a success without the assistance of the Divine Provider, The Chaplain will ask His assistance and guidance.

**Chaplain James Heller:** — Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we humbly ask Your blessing on these Brothers assembled for installation. Grant them Your wisdom that they may daily perform the duties of the office into which they are to be installed, with the knowledge that Thou art ever watching over them. Keep them in good health that they will not falter on the way. Bless them with Your great mercies that they might be competent to administer the many problems that will confront them. Bless their every action in Your name through the mediation of Your Blessed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**C-in-C Tucker:** – Commander, your Officers are now at their respective stations and I am about to place you in full control. But first I give to your care the Charter of this Department. Prize it for the privileges it bestows and guard it sacredly for the filial heritage it represents. Next, I place in your care the Ritual of our Order and a copy of the Constitution and Regulations for the government of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, both of which I advise you to study with care, to be true to its principles and faithful to its teachings.

Lastly, you will receive this gavel, the emblem of your authority.

One (\*) rap calls the Encampment to order and seats the same when standing;

two (\* \*) raps calls the Officers to their feet; three (\* \* \*) raps calls up the entire Encampment.

**C-in-C Tucker:** And now, by the virtue of the authority invested in me, as the Installing Officer and Commander in Chief, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I hereby declare the Officers of this Department legally elected, and installed and qualified to enter upon the discharge of their several duties for the term ending March, 2027, or until their successors are regularly elected, qualified and installed.

Now, I am pleased to present you with the Badge of the Office of Department Commander. Commander, assume your command. Be true to your vow, faithful to your trust, unflinching in your loyalty and rule with civility, impartiality and firmness, and may your administration be successful.

**C-in-C Tucker** presented the Past Department Commander's Badge to retiring Commander Hoffay and newly installed Department Commander Clark with his Department Commander Badge.

**Department of the Southwest Commander W. Mark Clark:** Presented PDC Hoffay with a plaque acknowledging his service as Commander and presented Commander-in-Chief Tucker with a gift with sincere thanks for his role in the Department Encampment.

Department of the Southwest Commander Clark proceeded to give his acceptance speech and set out his goals for the coming year.

**Commander Clark** conducted the closing of the Department Encampment with a benediction by the Chaplain.

Benediction by the **Chaplain Heller:**

“Our Father in Heaven, we pray You will deal with the events of this meeting as You deem proper & fitting. Please answer the heartfelt prayers of each one of us as permitted in Your perfect will. Preserve us in health, strength & integrity while we remain here & when our mission on earth is ended, take us to a better world. Amen.”

**Commander Clark** declared:

“I now declare the 10th Annual Encampment of the Department of the Southwest, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, duly closed.”

## Encampment Attendance and Financial Overview

### Attendance

Brothers in attendance:	18
Affiliated Orgs & VIP:	4
Guest:	8
<b>Total attendance:</b>	<b>30</b>

### Financial Overview

2026 Encampment Budget:	\$2,041.00
Actual Expense:	<b>\$2,152.89</b>

Budget vs Expense: **-\$111.89\*\***

### **10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Badge Supplemental Encampment Expense:**

Revenue:	\$800.00
Expense:	<b>\$1015.00</b>

Revenue vs Expense: **-\$215.00\*\***

### Encampment Revenue:

Donation:	\$2,500.00
Brochure Fund Raising:	\$320.00
Silent Auction:	\$600.00
DSW Encampment Badge:	\$10.00
Registration:	\$1000.00
10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Badge:	\$800.00

Total Revenue:	\$5230.00
Total Expenses:	<b>\$3167.89</b>

**Dept Net =/- \$2,062.11**

**\*\* fund raising offset overbudget expenses**

Formation of a new **SVR Company** was presented by **Department SVC W. Mark Clark**.

SVC Clark began his report by noting that the Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) is the ceremonial uniformed military component of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). The National Military Department of the SVR consists of the General Staff and seven geographical Military Districts across the nation. SVR Units participate in Civil War related ceremonies, parades, living history programs, and re-enactments.

In the fall of 2025, Maj. Wayne Eder, the Commander of the 6<sup>th</sup> Military District of the Sons of Veterans Reserve contacted SVC Clark and authorized him to work on recruiting sufficient brothers to form the first SVR unit in the Department of the Southwest. He charged SVC Clark with recruiting 11 Brothers to establish the unit. With the strength of 11 brothers, the unit would be authorized to be commanded by a First Sergeant and have two Corporals and an Adjutant.

SVC Clark informed the Commander that he would accept the challenge to recruit an Infantry Company, to be named the Company G of the First California Infantry Volunteers, after one of the companies in the California Column. This Company was briefly stationed in Tucson on its eastward March. One of its Sergeants was George Hand who, following his discharge in 1864 returned and lived the rest of his life in Tucson. His remains are buried in the GAR plot of Evergreen Cemetery. The Brothers of Minty Camp decorate his and the graves of other deceased veterans of the 1<sup>st</sup> CA Infantry each Memorial Day.

During the Fall, SVC Clark undertook various recruitment activities. And ultimately, he was successful in exceed the goal, recruiting 13 members for the Company. In January, following the submission of the required reports and other documents, Commander Eder official promoted SVC Clark to the rank of 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt of Company G 1<sup>st</sup> CA Infantry Volunteers, SVR for a two year term of office. Upon the expiration of that term the Brothers of the Company will elect their commander. 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Clark appointed Department Commander Todd Hoffay and Department JVC Richard Stephens to be the Corporals of the Company. He appointed Past Department Commander Robert McCord to be the Adjutant.

1<sup>st</sup> Sgt Clark further reported that the Company had its first face-to-face gathering earlier that morning in an informal breakfast with the Commander-in-Chief. And he noted that much of the year will be spent organizing the company and seeking opportunities to preserve the history and legacy of veteran heroes who fought and worked to save the Union in the American Civil War. He also noted that copies The Western Dispatch, the official newsletter of the 6<sup>th</sup> Military District were available on the registration table.



# 2026 General U. S. Grant Camp No. 3 Report

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## Membership

In 2025, we added 3 new Brother Members and losses included 2 deceased brothers and 3 that did not renew. There are 8 Brothers not in good standing because we are awaiting their renewals. Grant Camp now totals 43 Brothers, 39 of which are primary to our camp. Renewals for 2026 were 35/44 for a 79.5% renewal rate.

## Activities

In April and May, several Brothers attended ROTC/JROTC graduation ceremonies throughout Northern AZ, where certificates were presented to outstanding young men and women.

Our Camp opened its online store for hats, shirts, coffee mugs, etc., all bearing the new Grant Camp logo and/or SUVCW logo.



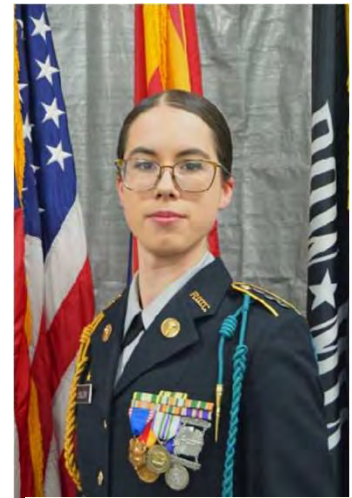
Grant Camp awarded two \$1,000.00 Marion Prater scholarships in 2025.

Brigid Enlow of Coconino High School JROTC was one recipient. Brigid is the grand-niece of PCC dale enlow.

Payton Tachenne of Hopi Jr/Sr High School JROTC was the other recipient.

On the day before Memorial Day, several Brothers and other volunteers did a general cemetery clean up and placed flags at the graves of veterans at Prescott Citizens Cemetery.

Memorial / Decoration Day was observed at Prescott Citizens Cemetery. Camp members paraded in behind our camp's banner and PDC Tim Prater read the Gettysburg Address. Two hours later PCC Dale Enlow read the Gettysburg Address at the Prescott National Cemetery.



Memorial / Decoration Day was also observed at Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Camp Navajo where PDC David Swanson read the Gettysburg Address.



On June 21<sup>st</sup>, Grant Camp held a “Last Soldier of Navajo County” ceremony for Lt. David Hart, Co. G, U. S. Colored Troops, 71<sup>st</sup> Infantry at Desert View Cemetery in Winslow. Descendants of Lt. Hart attended and told stories of his life in Arizona. Sister Carmen Wendt represented the DUCVW and took part in the ceremony.

CC Stephens and Brother Moore attended the National Encampment in Houston in August.

Grant Camp marched once again in the Williams, AZ Patriot Day Parade on September 6<sup>th</sup>. PDC Tim Prater, PCC Dale

enlow, and CC Rick Stephens participated.

Sister Verna Maleski attended our October Camp meeting and surprised PDC Tim Prater with their inaugural Joshua L. Chamberlin Award.



General U. S. Grant Camp celebrated 10 years at their October meeting.

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, Grant Camp Brothers attended the Gravestone Dedication Ceremony for Pvt. Green in Phoenix. CC Stephens was honored to perform the ceremony.

Brothers Frantz and Stephens joined Brother Williamson with the Arizona Rough Riders in the Veteran’s Day Parade in Prescott.

## Meetings

The camp held 4 quarterly meetings in 2025-2026: April 5<sup>th</sup> and October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Taverna Moderna Restaurant in Flagstaff, July 12<sup>th</sup> and January 10<sup>th</sup> at Augie’s Restaurant in Prescott. All of these meetings were Zoom hybrid meetings.

## Presentations

Eagle Scout presentations were coordinated and presented by Brothers Gregg Poehlmann and Steve Bigelow. In 2025, Grant Camp presented certificates to 3 Eagle Scouts: Ellen Peterson (5/24), Amelia Gonsalves (11/22), and Max Lynot (12/14).

Grant Camp officially thanks the hard work of Brothers Poehlmann and Bigelow, as well as PDC Tim Prater for their dedication to the Eagle Scout program!



## **Goals (New and Ongoing)**

Grant Camp has decided to keep our quarterly meetings as hybrid meetings to accommodate Brothers that cannot make the meetings in person.

We will continue our cemetery/memorial work and have plans for more “Last Soldier of the County” ceremonies planned for Mojave and Apache counties.

We will continue our community work involving JROTC, ROTC, and Eagle Scouts.

Richard (Rick) Stephens  
Commander, General U. S. Grant Camp No. 3

## Department Secretary / Treasurer (plus Historian/Archivist) Activity Report covering the period of 03/27/2025—03/28/2026

- Prepared the Minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Department of the SW Encampment.
- Maintained the business banking account with online account maintenance
  - including a "virtual" account for the combined Memorial / General donation fund.
- Prepared / submitted the 1/4 ly and annual financial reports which were approved by Department Council and Commander
- Maintain Excel spreadsheets to track membership rosters and all reports of the Department and Camps
- Maintain electronic and paper copies of **all** received Forms, Orders, rosters, membership actions, ancestor documentation, newsletters, etc.
  - Maintained Department Zoom for virtual meetings plus a DocuSign account for electronic signatures
- Responded to all requests for info / reports from National (taxes, EIN, member database, etc.)
- Timely submittal of all reports to National to include all membership actions, tax filings, and required annual reports of all 3 Camps plus the Department.
- Prepared and submitted the proposed CY 2026 budget to Dept. Council

### DEPSW finances as of 3/20/2026

**checking balance: \$5,714.54 Virtual Memorial/General Fund: \$3,462.00 Total assets: \$9,176.54**

	2025					budgeted	plus / minus
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	annual		
<b>balance forward</b>	\$6,587.57	\$7,162.13	\$5,632.63	\$5,612.66	\$6,587.57		
<b>Income</b>	\$1,936.75	\$4,077.00	\$190.50	\$0	\$6,204.25	\$6,585.00	(\$380.75)
<b>Expense</b>	(\$1,362.19)	(\$5,606.50)	(\$210.47)	(\$67.53)	(\$7,246.69)	(\$6,585.00)	(\$661.69)
<b>ending balance</b>	\$7,162.13	\$5,632.63	\$6,679.48	\$5,545.13	<b>\$5,545.13</b>		<b>(\$1042.44)</b>

- Department status as of **03/01/2026**:
  - 3 Camps, **114** Brothers inc. **11** Life Members, **0** Jr. & **5** Assoc.  
(**total in good standing: 123** includes dual/triple members) **3** Brothers maintain their Primary Camp in another Department
  - **17** Brothers < 41 yoa (average age: **65**)
- **11** new DEPSW members since last Department Encampment, **4** Deceased, **0** TXO, **0** TXI, **6** Gen. Discharge, **3** Honorable Discharge, **5** Supplemental Ancestor (SA) forms
  - Picacho Peak No. 1: **57** total / **56** primary
  - Gen'l RHG Minty No.2: **22** total / **18** primary
  - Gen'l. US Grant No. 3: **44** total / **40** primary
  - **Captain Alexander McRae No.4: none** (we currently have 14 Brothers in NM)

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

*Scott T. Martorano*

Secretary / Treasurer (Historian) Department of the Southwest, SUVCW

Since last Department Encampment



*Deceased Brothers*

**Bloom Gerald N**

**Rice Richard L**

**Sangster Paul E**

**Simons Jay**

*New Members*

**Burleson James R**

**Hoffay Tristan TF**

**Johnstone Joel C**

**Longstreet Jeremy D**

**Miller Charles R**

**Poehlmann Gregg R**

**Scanlan Dennis P**

**Stoler Mark**

**Swaney Dennis B**

**Wienand Joseph D**

**Wienand Marcus R**

*Honorable Discharge*

**Agner John R**

**Gray David B**

**White George W**

*General Discharge*

**Case Richard N**

**Lessard Dennis J**

**Morgan Kenneth**

**Russell David N**

**Schaeffer Eric A**

**Schaeffer Kevin P**

## **SUVCW-SW Signals Officer Annual Report for 2025 – 03/28/26**

The continuing management strategy for the Department's website is to promote our organization, attract new members, and improve the site's design while trying to control its cost.

For several years the website's *Contact Us* form has been our biggest source of new members, as most of the site's visitors are new users. The website had 134 visitors in the last 30 days, and 128 of them were new ones.

The site is regularly updated, which includes the posting of the Department's quarterly newsletters, which can be downloaded as PDF files. Visitors to the site are referred to the Department's most recent newsletter for information about our upcoming meetings and events, as the use of an online calendar proved problematic.

A detailed list of the 2026 expenses for the website, which is hosted by Bluehost, is attached. But the Department also owns five domain names to prevent someone from using them in a way that might harm us. They are still parked in our old GoDaddy account, where they are up for renewal on July 17, 2026. They include the following domain names:

- suvcw-southwest.com
- suvcw-southwest.info
- suvcw-southwest.net
- suvcwsouthwest.com
- suvcwsouthwest.org

Renewing them with GoDaddy would cost \$22.99 per year for each of them, while renewing them while transferring them to Bluehost would cost \$18.99, and then everything would be in a single account, and we could close our GoDaddy account. I recommend we do that.

The Department also has a companion social media Facebook page that currently has 426 followers, up from 397 the previous year. The Facebook page also provides our email address and a link to our website.

Submitted by Department Signals Officer Jeffrey D. Burgess

**Report of the Department Graves Registration Officer  
Department of the Southwest  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
Department Encampment – 2026**

After the resignation of the newly elected 2025–2026 Department Graves Registration Officer, I assumed the duties of Department Graves Registration Officer. I had previously served in this position for many years and was therefore able to resume the responsibilities of the office without interruption.

At this time, the vast majority of Union veterans buried within the State of Arizona have been identified and recorded. During the past year, fewer than five additional previously unrecorded Union veterans were located through ongoing research and documentation.

Between 2025 and 2026, I ordered a total of eleven government headstones for Union veterans whose graves had previously been unmarked. These headstones were ordered for placement in cemeteries including Tonopah Cemetery, Liberty Cemetery, and Mesa City Cemetery. The placement of these markers ensures that these soldiers of the Union are properly recognized for their service and sacrifice.

During the past year, the Department also conducted the dedication of one newly placed headstone in Phoenix, Arizona, honoring a Union veteran whose grave had previously gone unmarked.

In addition, I am currently in the process of ordering another government headstone for an identified Union veteran buried in Boothill Graveyard. This soldier's grave is presently unmarked; however, research into his obituary revealed that he was buried beside his brother. This information has greatly assisted in determining the likely location of his grave within the cemetery.

During this reporting period, I also submitted two Memorials Reports to the National Memorials Officer concerning Union memorials that have been destroyed within the last six years. One report concerned a memorial located in Santa Fe, and the other concerned a memorial in Portland. Both monuments commemorated Union soldiers, and their loss has been documented.

In F. C. L.,

**Avery Frantz**  
Department Graves Registration Officer  
Department of the Southwest  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTHWEST  
EAGLE SCOUT REPORT  
SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026**

**Re: Fro Jul 1, 2025 to Mar 28 2026**

**Picacho Peak Camp:**

- **4 Eagle Scout Awards**

**Minty Camp:**

- **2 Eagle Scout Awards**

**Grant Camp:**

- **8 Eagle Scout Awards**

**Department of the Southwest**

- **14 Total Eagle Scout Awards**

Subject: **Encampment Reports, 2025-2026 – Approved report by Council, Feb. 28, 2026**

From: DSW Council 2025-2026

To: SUVCW DSW

Date: March 28, 2026

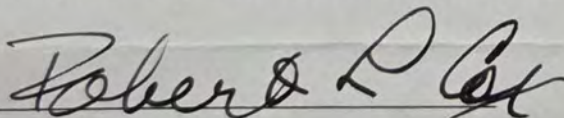
**A) Council Activities 2025:**

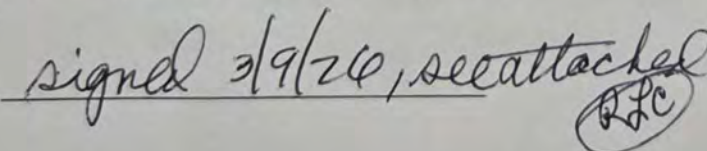
- a. The Council reviewed and approved all necessary and requested authorizations and reports. Otherwise, the Council has no other report.

**B) Audit 2025-2026 of DSW bank accounts and budget:**

- a. **Bank Accounts:** The Council, in lieu of the bank accounts, has reviewed and audited each of the four (4) quarterly 2025 Treasurer's Reports. As signed chronologically via DocuSign, the Council continues to attest to the accuracy of those reports and the financial condition of Department of the Southwest, SUVCW.
- b. **Budget:**
  - i. The 2025-2026 requested funding by DSW Officers resulted in one request in the amount of \$\$82.50 plus s/h from the Eagle Scout Coordinator, the total need with s/h expected to be around \$100.
  - ii. Other funding requests might be submitted during the year 2025-2026.
  - iii. The projected CY2026 Budget shows a net loss of \$403.39.
  - iv. *Given that projected loss, the Council makes the following recommendations to the 2026 DSW Encampment:*
    1. The DSW commence a modest fundraising drive to secure an amount to cover these minor expenses, i.e., the above \$403.39 plus an amount to cover unexpected expenses. A suggested goal is to raise \$1000 to be used to place the 2026 budget into a useful positive balance position.
    2. **Or**, one or more of the following in order to 'balance the budget':
      - a. DSW cancels budgeted expenses, e.g., \$350 Gifts and another,
      - b. DSW votes to disallow any further non-projected expenses,
      - c. DSW solicits donations totaling \$500 to cover the above negative position of \$403.39.

Respectfully submitted by the 2025-2026 DSW Council,

Robert Cox 

John Horton 

John Lyons - Approved via email, February 24, 2026

Reported at DSW 2026 Annual Encampment by John Lyons this date.

6:03

25%



DSW Council Reports Feb 2026 - 3r...



DOCX - 17 KB

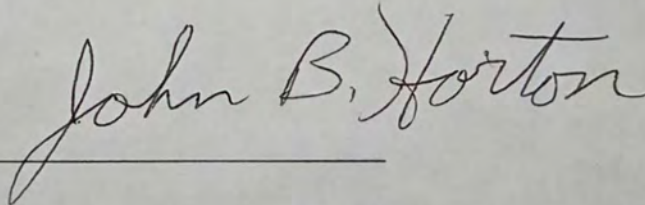
Gifts and another,  
b. DSW votes to disallow  
any further non-projected  
expenses,  
c. DSW solicits donations  
totaling \$500 to cover the  
above negative position  
of \$403.39.

Respectfully submitted by the 2025-2026 DSW  
Council,

Robert Cox

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John Horton



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John Lyons - Approved via email, February 24,  
2026

Reported at DSW 2026 Annual Encampment by  
John Lyons this date.

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Edit in Word

