

**CAMP BYLAWS
FOR
OLD ABE CAMP NUMBER 16
DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
Topeka, Kansas**



OCTOBER 14, 2002

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SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
Department of Kansas
Old Abe Camp No. 16, Topeka, Kansas
BYLAWS

Article I. Preamble.

We, the descendants of the Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines who served in the Army and Navy of the United States of America during the War of the Rebellion of 1861 - 1865, have joined this Patriotic and Fraternal Order for the purposes and objectives set forth by the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and in doing so pledge ourselves to commemorate our forefathers' deeds, render loyal service to our country, and to promote the maintenance of unqualified American citizenship with respect for, and honor to, the flag.

Article II. Name, Number and Location.

Section 2.01 The official designation of the camp shall be **Old Abe Camp No. 16, Department of Kansas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**, hereafter referred to as the **Camp**.

Section 2.02 The official location of the camp shall be **Topeka, Kansas**.

Article III. Meetings:

Section 3.01 **Regular Meetings.**

- (a) Meetings shall be held on the **Second Monday** of each month, unless otherwise directed by the Camp Commander.
- (b) Meeting location and time shall be announced by **Camp** orders.
- (c) A reasonable attempt shall be made to hold meetings at the same location each month. When it is necessary to temporarily change the meeting location or time, as much notice as is possible will be given to the membership.

Section 3.02 **Special Meetings.**

- (a) Special meetings shall be called, as necessary, by the **Camp Commander**, for the conducting of business which requires the presence of the membership.

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- (b) Special meetings shall only be used for major issues which directly affect the continued functioning of the **Camp**.
- (c) Special meetings of the **Camp** shall not be used to circumvent use of the **Camp Council**.
- (d) Notification of Special Meetings.
 - (i) A **Camp** order, transmitted either by mail or electronically, shall be used to notify members seven (7) days in advance of such a meeting, stating date, location, time, and item(s) to be covered.
 - (ii) If sufficient time does not exist to notify members by mail, an attempt will be made to contact members via telephone to inform them of the necessary details concerning the special meeting.
 - (iii) With voice approval from the **Camp Council**, a special meeting may be called with less than seven (7) days notice.

Section 3.03 **Quorum.** A quorum, for the purpose of conducting business of the **Camp**, shall consist of five (5) members or one-third (1/3) of the total number of current active members, whichever is less. Associate members shall not make up more than forty-nine (49) percent of the attendance for a quorum to exist.

Section 3.04 **Conduct of Meetings.**

- (a) **Camp** meetings shall be conducted under the guidelines of the **Rules and Regulations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War** and the rules contained in the current edition of **Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised**. **Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised** shall govern the **Camp** in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these **Bylaws** and any special rules of order the **Camp**, **Department**, or **National Organization** may adopt.
- (b) As provided by the **Rules and Regulations**, the **Camp** waives the use of the **Ritual of the Order** for the conducting of meetings. The **Ritual of the Order** may be designated for use in conducting meetings which would benefit from the use of the prescribed ritual, when directed by the **Camp Commander**.

Article IV. Dues and Fees:

Section 4.01 **Annual dues:**

- (a) **Camp** dues cover the period from January 1 through December 31.
- (b) Annual dues shall be payable by **March 1** of each year to the **Camp Secretary**.
- (c) Annual **Camp** dues shall be Thirty dollars (\$30.00), effective January 1, 2003.
- (d) New members who join the **Camp** on or after July 1 shall pay dues pro-rated to one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the regular annual dues for that year.
- (e) **2001 Life Membership Program Participants.** **Camp** members who have been accepted as valid National Life Members under the National Life Membership Program established in 2001 shall have their **Camp** dues credited with an amount equal to the annual National Per Capita Dues.
 - (i) As an example, if the National Per Capita Dues are Eighteen dollars (\$18.00) and the Annual Camp dues are Thirty dollars (\$30.00), the Life Member will be required to pay only the difference between the two amounts (\$30.00 - \$18.00). In this example, Camp Dues would be Twelve dollars (\$12.00).
 - (ii) The Camp Treasurer will not submit National Per Capita Dues for a member in this category. Department Per Capita Dues will continue to be submitted.
- (f) **Pre-2001 Life Membership Program Participants.** **Camp** members are valid National Life Members under a National Life Membership Program established prior to 2001 shall have their **Camp** dues credited with an amount equal to the amount of the National Per Capita Dues plus the amount reimbursed to the Camp by the National organization.
 - 1) As an example, if the National Per Capita Dues are Eighteen dollars (\$18.00) and the camp reimbursement amount is Twelve dollars (\$12.00), the member shall be credited with an amount equal to Thirty dollars (\$30.00). If the Annual Camp dues are Thirty dollars (\$30.00), the Life Member will be required to pay only the difference between the two amounts. In this example, no Camp Dues would be owed.
 - 2) If the amount credited for National Life Membership exceed the Annual Camp Dues, the excess amount shall become a part of the general funds of the Camp.
 - 3) The Camp Treasurer will not submit National Per Capita Dues for a member in this category. Department Per Capita Dues will continue to be submitted.

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- 4) Prior to June 30 of each, the Camp Secretary shall submit a request to the National organization requesting payment from the National organization of an amount equal to the National Per Capita Dues for the following year.
- (g) Members who do not desire to renew their membership may request an Honorable Discharge from the **Camp**. This shall be accomplished by notifying the Camp Secretary in writing no later than March 1.
- (h) Members who do not renew their membership, and who have not requested an Honorable Discharge from the **Camp** by March 1 will have their names submitted to the **Camp** at the regular March meeting for vote to issue them a General Discharge and be dropped from the rolls of the **Camp**.

Section 4.02 **Initiation fee:** Initiation fee shall be a one time fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for direct applications and as established by the National organization for internet applications. This amount is in addition to the annual dues amount.

Section 4.03 **Transfer fee:** A transfer fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00) shall be charged upon receipt of a request to transfer into this **Camp**. This amount is in addition to the annual dues amount.

Section 4.04 **Fines:**

- (a) Fines have not been established.
- (b) Establishment of fines shall be approved by vote of the membership.

Article V. **Salary or Compensation:**

Section 5.01 All officers serve in a voluntary capacity with the **Camp**. Payment of salary is not authorized for such service.

Section 5.02 Compensation for reasonable expenses related to the operation of the **Camp** shall be reimbursable, if previously approved by the **Camp Council**.

Article VI. **Special Funds:**

Section 6.01 Special funds have not been established.

Section 6.02 Special funds may be established by vote of the members, provided that any such establishment of a special fund must include the purposes of the

fund, how it is to be maintained, how it is to be kept, how it will be disbursed, and when and how shall it be closed.

Section 6.03 Special funds, when created, shall be announced on **Camp** orders, to include the name of the fund, the purpose for which the fund is to be used, how the fund is to be maintained and kept, how it will be disbursed, and when and how the fund shall be closed.

Article VII. Committees:

Standing and Special Committees shall be announced by **Camp** orders. The order shall state the purpose of the committee, the membership of the committee, the period of time the committee is to be in existence, and how and when the committee will report its progress and/or final recommendations.

Article VIII. Bonds:

Officers shall perform without bond.

Article IX. Suspension of Bylaws.

Section 9.01 **Camp Bylaws** may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of the members present; provided the matter for which the **Bylaws** are being suspended does not conflict with the **Constitution and Regulations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War** nor the **Bylaws of the Department of Kansas**.

Section 9.02 Any such motion to suspend the **Bylaws** shall contain the provision to be suspended and the reason for such suspension.

Article X. Inclusion of State and National Rules and Regulations.

Section 10.01 Included herein by reference and made a part of these **Bylaws** are the following documents, and any subsequent amendments or modifications thereto:

- (a) **Constitution and Regulations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,**
- (b) **Bylaws of the Department of Kansas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,**
- (c) **Job Descriptions for Camp and Department Officers, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.**

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Article XI. Camp Awards.

Section 11.01 Authorization for **Camp Awards** is provided. The name and type of awards shall be determined by the **Camp Commander**.

Section 11.02 A copy of the citation presenting any award to a **Camp** member shall be placed into the recipient's file with the **Camp Secretary**.

Section 11.03 A copy of all citations shall be maintained in the **Camp** historical files.

Article XII. Amendments to Camp Bylaws.

Section 12.01 These **Bylaws** may be amended at a **Camp** meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership present at said meeting; provided that a copy of the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing to the **Camp** membership at the previous meeting.

Section 12.02 Any approved amendments to **Camp Bylaws** do not become effective until they have been approved by the **Department Commander**.

Article XIII. Repeal of Previous Bylaws.

Section 13.01 All **Bylaws** heretofore adopted by the **Camp** are hereby repealed.

Approval.

These **Bylaws, as amended**, having been properly submitted to the membership of the Camp, and accepted by a vote of the membership of the Camp on the 8th day of December, 2003, are hereby approved. These Bylaws, as amended, will be placed into effect upon the approval of the **Commander, Department of Kansas**.

APPROVED:

/s/ James R. Knopke
JAMES R. KNOPKE
Camp Commander

ATTEST:

/s/ Alan L. Russ
ALAN L. RUSS, PDC
Camp Secretary

APPROVED:

12/8/2003
Date

/s/ Kenneth P. Spurgeon
Kenneth P. Spurgeon, PCC
Department Commander