

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Department of Florida

Department Order No. 2

Series 2017-2018 (3/5/17)

- 1) The Special (Mid-Year) Meeting 7/29/17 is cancelled.
- 2) A Replacement Special Meeting is called 5/19/17 to support Camp #4 during the St. Cloud GAR Historical Marker Dedication Ceremony scheduled for 5:30PM 5/19 at the GAR Hall. Dedication Ceremony will last a maximum of ½ hour followed by other planned activities by the City. Would request that you stay at least for the Dedication Ceremony.
- 3) Our Special Meeting at this moment is planned to start 1PM at the St. Cloud Senior Annex located 702 Indiana Avenue (between 7th and 8th Streets). Take Indiana Avenue off St.Cloud's Main Street (US Route 192).

There is the Veterans Library on the right side of Indiana Ave. after you make the turn onto Indiana.

- 4) The agenda for a Special Meeting must be established prior to the Meeting and only items on the agenda can be discussed at the Meeting. At this moment, the only items I have are: membership recruitment status, proper Department Response to the National Committee on the issue of the Confederate Flag, and future Department Meeting dates—should we change our Annual Encampment Date and the Special Mid-Year Meeting Date. I have had several suggestions that support rethinking our Annual Encampment date. I note that Other Department usually have their Annual Encampment in April or early May and a Special Meeting either Late October or early November. If you have other items that you feel should be on the agenda for discussion please advise.

Have decided to call a Special Meeting 5/19/17 after discussions with the Members of the Dept. Council, Brother Skip, and Camp #4 Commander, Mike Urell. All were in favor of the change in Special Meeting from 7/29 to 5/19. The decision was based upon several factors:

- 1) The most important one being to support Camp #4 during the Dedication of the Historical Marker at the GAR Hall which is planned for 5/19. I understand that the Confederates have also been invited and I feel it is imperative that we have a good Union Present at the event. This will be a Camp Activity not a Department One—we are there to support Camp #4.
- 2) Have had several complaints about meeting during the Summer—a Vacation and Family time.
- 3) We have no business that I anticipate will need to be conducted during the Meeting, which had been planned for 7/29 ,that can't be addressed at the 5/19 Meeting.
- 4) Attendance at our Annual Encampment in February was lightly attended and the two previous Special (Mid-Year) Meetings were also lightly attended.
- 5) Most past attendees at either the Annual Encampment or the special (Mid-Year) Meetings have been Retired Members so a Friday presents no special problem. Also checked that no reenactments are planned for that time frame.

Those that wish can meet at Cat Fish Place for Lunch at 11:30 AM prior to the Meeting. Following the Special 5/19 Meeting we will attend the Dedication Ceremony. Request that you be prepared to be in as much of a Union Uniform as you have with appropriate cap/hat or Blue/Black sport coat for the Dedication Ceremony. Also request that you wear your appropriate badges.

Additional information regarding the Special 5/19 Meeting along with the Agenda will be provided in early May.

Yours in F,C & L,
Dave Palmer, commander Dept. of Florida SUVCW