



**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
COMMANDER
Department of Indiana**

Travis LeMaster
506 Maple St
Sweetser, Indiana 46987
Phone: (765) 667-1940
Email: travis.lemaster@gmail.com

**DEPARTMENT ORDER 2026-3
SERIES 2025-2026
APRIL 20, 2026**



Brothers of the Department of Indiana,

1. I am truly honored and humbled to have been elected to a second one-year term to the office of Department Commander. I would like to thank all of the members, both elected and appointed, who have chosen to serve in the many Departmental offices for another year. The work of the Department and the Order would not be successfully performed without their generous service.
2. It was my great pleasure to present the first Oliver P. Morton Award to the David D. Porter Camp for adding the most members during the year and the Lew Wallace Award to Brother Herb Smith of the Porter Camp for recruiting the most members during the year. Recruitment and retention will be critical to the sustaining of the Order.
3. It was also my pleasure to recognize several Brothers with Department Commendations for work they've done in the Order to *Keep Green in Our Memories the Boys in Blue*. Obviously, not everyone was recognized for the good work they have done. Please nominate and let me know of the good work that is being done in your Camps so that I may recognize the Brothers at the next Encampment.
4. I am encouraged to learn of the progress being made on the establishment of two new Camps - one in the Paoli area and one in the Lafayette area. The Brothers involved in Camp Organization will need our support and encouragement to make sure these new Camps are supported and sustained.
5. The exciting news that Indiana has been chosen as host of the 2028 site of the National Encampment was announced at the Department Encampment. Brothers, we will need volunteers to serve on various committees and sub-committees as the planning for the event begins. What an exciting honor for the Department of Indiana!

6. I highly recommend that all members of the Department consider attending the 2026 National Encampment, to take place in Gettysburg, PA, 30 July - 02 Aug, 2026. See the National Encampment website for more details at <https://suvvcw.org/national-encampment>
7. Brothers are strongly encouraged to continue to submit articles and pictures to the *Banner* and *Indiana Legion*. If your camp has participated in a ceremony or activity, please submit these to the editor. As Signals Officer Beckman mentioned at the Encampment, please make sure your Camp members are subscribed to the Department Google group as well.
8. As always, this remains your Department of Indiana, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and I value your comments, suggestions and concerns.

Ordered this 20 Day of April, 2026.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,



Travis J. LeMaster
Commander - Department of Indiana
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

[DEPARTMENT SEAL]

Attested:

Dennis C. Hutchinson, PDC
Secretary - Department of Indiana
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War