

**ULYSSES S. GRANT CAMP 68  
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI**

**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 purpose and objectives set forth by the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and in so doing pledge ourselves to commemorate our forefather's deeds, render loyal services to citizenship with respect for and honor to the flag.

**ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of the Order shall be the **U.S. Grant Camp #68 of St. Louis, MO, DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI, SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR - ALLIED ORDERS OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC**, hereafter referred to as the **CAMP**.

**ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

The purpose of the **CAMP** shall be to perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who served the Union 1861-1865; to assist in every practicable way in preservation and making available for research of documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic and its members; to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in war; to teach patriotism and the duties of citizenship, the true history of our country and the love and honor of our flag; to oppose every tendency or movement that would weaken loyalty to, or make for the destruction or impairment of, our constitutional Union; and to inculcate and broadly sustain the American principles of representative government, of equal rights and impartial justice for all.

**ARTICLE III: PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES**

**Section A.** The **CAMP** shall not be conducted for profit.

**Section B.** The **CAMP** being strictly non-sectarian and non-partisan.

**Section C.** The **CAMP** shall not discriminate on the basis of race, creed or religion.

## **ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP**

**Section A. MEMBER:** A **MEMBER** shall be any male descendant, whether through lineal or collateral line, not less than fourteen (14) years of age, who are blood relatives to a Soldier, Sailor Marine or member of the Revenue Cutter Service. Who was regularly mustered and served honorably in, or was honorably discharged from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or the Revenue Cutter Service of the Union States of America during the war of the Rebellion of 1861-1865; and has never been convicted of any infamous or heinous crime; or who has, or whose ancestors through whom membership is claimed, have never voluntarily borne arms against the Government of the United States of America..

**Section B. ASSOCIATE:** An **ASSOCIATE** shall be any male, not less than fourteen (14) years of age who cannot document ancestral lineage to a Union Veteran of the War of the rebellion of 1861-1865; and who has never been convicted of any infamous or heinous crime and who has never voluntarily borne arms against the Government of the United States of America. The number of **ASSOCIATES** shall not exceed 1/3 of the total membership of the **CAMP**.

**Section C. JUNIOR:** A **JUNIOR** shall be any male descendant, whether through lineal or collateral line, not less than eight (8) years of age and not more than thirteen (13) years old, who are blood relatives to a Soldier, Sailor, Marine Corps or the Revenue Cutter Service. Who was regularly mustered and served honorably in, or was honorably discharged from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States of America during the war of the rebellion of 1861-1865; and has never been convicted of any infamous or heinous crime; or who has, or whose ancestors through whom membership is claimed, have never voluntarily borne arms against the Government of the United States of America.

**Section D. JUNIOR ASSOCIATE:** A **JUNIOR ASSOCIATE** shall be any male descendant, not less than eight (8) years of age and not more than thirteen (13) years old who cannot document ancestral lineage to a Union Veteran of the War of the rebellion of 1861-1865; and who has never been convicted of any infamous or heinous crime and who has never voluntarily borne arms against the Government of the United States of America.

**Section E.** Each application for membership, whether it is for **MEMBER, ASSOCIATE, JUNIOR or Junior Associate** shall be recommended by a **MEMBER** or **ASSOCIATE** of the **CAMP** who shall vouch for the applicant's eligibility and moral character.

**Section F.** A rejected applicant shall not be eligible to apply again for membership until six (6) months have elapsed after such rejection.

**Section G.** Any **BROTHER** of the **CAMP** who is three (3) months in arrears in the payment of dues can be dropped by a 2/3 vote of **MEMBERS and ASSOCIATES** present at the **CAMP** meeting. Until his name is dropped from the roll, the **CAMP** shall be subject to per capita tax on such a **BROTHER**. A dropped **BROTHER** may be reinstated in the **ORDER** on re-election by a 2/3 vote of members present at the **CAMP** meeting, after payment of such dues, reinstatement fee or indebtedness to the **CAMP** as it may prescribe. If the **CAMP** is no longer in existence, the

sum to be paid shall be fixed by the **DEPARTMENT COMMANDER** and paid to the **DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI**.

**Section H.** A person holding a **CAMP TRANSFER** cannot be admitted to the **CAMP** during its sessions unless given permission by vote of the **CAMP**. He is a **BROTHER** of the **ORDER** for purposes of discipline only, and shall be considered honorably discharged if his transfer card is not deposited with and accepted by the **CAMP** within a year. A **BROTHER** thus discharged can be admitted to membership again only in the same manner as an applicant for original membership.

**Section I.** All persons duly elected by the **CAMP** for membership shall be enrolled into the **CAMP**, and, if possible, **INITIATED AS PER THE RITUAL OF THE ORDER**.

**Section J.** Voting rights are reserved for **MEMBERS** and **ASSOCIATES** of the **CAMP**, and not applicable to **JUNIORS** or **Junior Associates** until reaching the age of fourteen and becoming a **MEMBER** or **ASSOCIATE** of the **CAMP**.

**Section K.** A **CAMP** member or associate recommending a **JUNIOR** or **Junior Associate** is responsible to see to it that these **BROTHERS** receive copies of the "Banner", and assist in their participation in **CAMP** function and activities.

#### **ARTICLE V: DUES & FEES**

**Section A.** Each **BROTHER** of the **CAMP** shall be assessed annual dues. **ANNUAL DUES SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF \$35.00 FOR MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES AND A MINIMUM OF \$5.00 FOR JUNIORS and JUNIOR ASSOCIATES.** Annual dues shall become payable the 1st day of January of each year. During the November meeting of each year a report shall be given by the **CAMP TREASURER** stating the planned operating expenses of the **CAMP** for the new year. The Camp membership will increase or decrease the level of dues required of each **BROTHER** for the new year using this report as its basis for decision. New **BROTHERS** initiated into the **CAMP** during months other than January, shall be subject to appropriate dues structure based on the number of months remaining in the calendar year.

**Section B.** Each **MEMBER** or **ASSOCIATE** shall pay the **DEPARTMENT & NATIONAL DUES** upon payment of **CAMP DUES**.

**Section C.** Dues are required by the 31st day of January. If not received by the 31st day of March or arrangements made, acceptable to the **CAMP COMMANDER** or **CAMP COUNCIL**, all **CAMP** correspondence will be discontinued, and will be provided upon receipt of the appropriate payment for dues.

**Section D.** An **APPLICATION FEE OF \$10.00** shall be assessed from each new **MEMBER** upon induction into the **ORDER**.

#### **ARTICLE VI: CAMP OFFICERS**

**Section A.** **CAMP OFFICERS** shall be of two types: elected and appointed. The **ELECTED OFFICERS** shall be **COMMANDER, SENIOR VICE COMMANDER, JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER, SECRETARY, TREASURER, CAMP COUNCIL, CAMP DELEGATE** and **ALTERNATE TO STATE ENCAMPMENT**. The **CAMP COUNCIL** shall be compiled of three members of the **CAMP** not holding the office of **COMMANDER, SECRETARY, or TREASURER**. The **APPOINTED OFFICERS** of the **CAMP** shall be **CHAPLAIN, PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR, HISTORIAN, GUIDE, COLOR BEARER, GUARD, GRAVES REGISTRATION** and **COUNSELOR**.

**Section B.** The elected **CAMP OFFICERS** shall be elected at a regular or special meeting of the **CAMP** during the last quarter of the calendar year. A majority vote shall be required to elect all elective officers with the exception of **CAMP COUNCIL, DELEGATE** and **ALTERNATE**, which shall be elected by a plurality vote. The **CAMP COMMANDER** shall appoint the non-elected **CAMP OFFICERS**.

**Section C.** The **CAMP OFFICERS** shall be installed at a Camp meeting between November 1 and January 31 by a person designated by the **DEPARTMENT COMMANDER**.

**Section D.** Any vacancy which may occur in an elective office of a **CAMP** shall be filled temporarily by the **OFFICER** next in rank. Such vacancy shall be approved for the unexpired term by the **CAMP COUNCIL** or by the **MEMBERS** at the next regular or special **CAMP** meeting.

**Section E.** The **CAMP** may by a 2/3 vote of **MEMBERS** present at the **CAMP** meeting, first giving five (5) days notice by mail, vacate the position of any elective officer who shall have been absent from six (6) consecutive regular **CAMP** meetings without good cause and such vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as other vacancies.

**Section F.** The **CAMP** may impeach and remove from office by 2/3 vote of members present at **CAMP** meeting, any officer for immoral conduct or for any abuse or dishonorable practice of any kind.

**Section G.** No **JUNIOR** or **JUNIOR ASSOCIATES** of the **CAMP** shall hold a elected or appointed office of the **CAMP**.

## **ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF CAMP OFFICERS**

**Section A.** The **CAMP COMMANDER** shall preside at all meetings of the **CAMP**, He shall decide all question of the order without debate; subject however to an appeal to the **CAMP**. It shall be his duty to detail all officers and appoint all committees (of which he shall be a member ex-officio) not otherwise provided for, approve all orders of requisitions made on the **CAMP TREASURER** or **CAMP COUNCIL** for appropriations of money, or any property of the **CAMP**, and perform all other duties pertaining to his office. He shall remain impartial and govern the **CAMP** in the best interest of the **ORDER**.

**Section B.** The **CAMP SENIOR VICE COMMANDER** and **JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER** shall assist the **COMMANDER** and shall perform such duties as pertain to their office. They shall also preside over **CAMP** meetings in the absence of the **CAMP COMMANDER**.

**Section C.** The **CAMP COUNCIL** shall devise and recommend measures for preserving and increasing funds of the **CAMP**; make its investments, leases and other contracts; secure a place of meeting; settle and dispose of all disputed accounts between the **TREASURER** and members of the **CAMP**; examine the books, vouchers and other papers of the different officers, and at the end of each quarter render a complete report showing its transactions and the financial condition of the **CAMP**. The **COUNCIL** may fill any vacancy which may occur in an elected **CAMP** office with a majority vote of the **CAMP COUNCIL**.

**Section D.** The **CAMP SECRETARY** shall perform all duties pertaining to his office, keep all books of record, make duplicate quarterly reports to the **DEPARTMENT SECRETARY-TREASURER** on the 1st days of January, April, July and October upon forms prescribed by the **ORDER** and furnished by the **DEPARTMENT SECRETARY-TREASURER**, showing all gains or losses in membership and the total membership; and forwarding said report along with per capita tax to the **DEPARTMENT SECRETARY-TREASURER** on or before the 10th of the month. He shall ensure that a duplicate copy of the report is placed in the camp's file. He shall draw requisitions upon the **CAMP TREASURER** for reimbursements of **CAMP** expenditures, and submit the same to the **CAMP COMMANDER** for his approval. He shall also provide a current copy of the **CAMP** membership list to the **CAMP COMMANDER**, **SENIOR VICE COMMANDER** and the last **PAST COMMANDER** available.

**Section E.** The **CAMP TREASURER** shall be accountable for receipt and disbursement of **CAMP** funds and have charge of its property not otherwise provided for; keep the accounts between the **CAMP** and its **MEMBERS**; collect all moneys due the **CAMP**, given in all cases receipts therefore; notify all members in arrears by the 1st day of March that they are delinquent, provide monthly, quarterly, and yearly financial reports to the **CAMP MEMBERSHIP** and the fund balance in his hands. He shall make quarterly financial reports through the **CAMP SECRETARY** to the **DEPARTMENT SECRETARY-TREASURER**. He shall exhibit the account books of the **CAMP** to any elected **CAMP OFFICER** upon reasonable request; file all tax and other financial reports required of the **CAMP**; cause an audit to be performed on an annual basis; shall provide completed dues notices, to be sent by the **SECRETARY**, and perform all duties that are incident to the office of the **TREASURER**.

**Section F.** The **PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR**, **CHAPLAIN**, **GUIDE**, **GUARD**, **COLOR BEARER** and **COUNSELOR** shall perform such duties as prescribed by the **RITUAL OF THE ORDER** or directed by the **COMMANDER**.

**Section G.** All officers of the **CAMP** shall upon their retirement from office turn over to their successor all property of the **CAMP** within thirty (30) days after leaving office.

## **ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS**

**Section A.** Regular meetings of the **CAMP** shall be held quarterly (as a minimum) throughout the year. The meeting of the **CAMP** shall be at such time and place as chosen by the **CAMP COMMANDER**. All regular meeting of the **CAMP** shall be held within the boundaries of the **DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI**.

**Section B.** Special meetings of the **CAMP** shall be called by the **CAMP COMMANDER**.

**Section C.** Notification of Regular and Special meetings to the **MEMBERS** shall be the responsibility of the **CAMP SECRETARY**. A minimum of five (5) days notice shall be given to **MEMBERS** for either Regular or Special meetings.

**Section D.** Special meeting of the elected **CAMP OFFICERS** may be called by the **CAMP COMMANDER**. All business conducted at said meeting shall require ratification by the **CAMP MEMBERSHIP** at the next Regular or Special meeting of the **CAMP**.

**Section E.** A minimum of 10% of the **CAMP MEMBERS** shall be required to be present in order to conduct business at a Regular or Special meeting of the **CAMP**. Said members minimum shall not be composed of associates in excess of 49% pursuant to Article IV, Section A of the bylaws. All matters brought before the **CAMP** at a Regular or Special membership meeting shall be decided by a majority vote of those present and entitled to vote at said meeting with one exception, that being the election of **CAMP COUNCIL, DELEGATES** and **ALTERNATE** who shall be elected by plurality vote.

**Section F.** Any members of the **AUXILIARY** to the **SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**, the **WOMEN'S RELIEF CORPS**, the **DAUGHTERS OF THE UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**, and the **LADIES OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC**, may be admitted to the session of the **CAMP**.

**Section G.** All meetings of the **CAMP** shall have the **UNITED STATES FLAG** and the **CAMP CHARTER** displayed.

**Section H.** All meetings of the **CAMP** shall be conducted by the guidelines of the **RITUAL OF THE ORDER** and the current edition of **ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER**, in that order.

## **ARTICLE IX: COMMITTEES**

**Section A.** **SPECIAL COMMITTEES** may be created by action of the **CAMP COMMANDER** and shall be for the period of time designated in the creation thereof. Duties and responsibilities of the **SPECIAL COMMITTEE** shall be defined by the **CAMP COMMANDER**.

**Section B.** The **CAMP COMMANDER** shall serve as ex-officio on all Special Committees unless otherwise noted.

**Section C.** The **MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE** shall be charged with the responsibilities of: (1) increasing the Camp's membership in the **CAMP GUARD**, (2) advising the **CAMP** on all matters relating to appropriate era military dress, mannerism and formalities associated with Camp ceremonies, parades and activities, (3) assisting the members in obtaining appropriate uniforms, (4) election of the Camp's commissioned and noncommissioned officers and (5) establishment and maintenance of communication and coordination channels between the Camp Guard, Department, S.V.R. and local Civil War reenactment organizations. The **MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE** shall be chaired by the **CAMP COMMANDER**.

#### **ARTICLE X: BOOKKEEPING**

**Section A.** The fiscal year of the **CAMP** shall begin on the 1st day of January and end on the 31st day of December of each year.

**Section B.** Annual financial statements of the **CAMP**, prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, that offers full General Ledger Accounting, shall be prepared shortly after the end of each fiscal year. All financial statements and records shall be subject to an annual audit; the results of which shall be reported to the **CAMP COUNCIL** and **CAMP COMMANDER**.

**Section C.** All Camp funds shall be deposited in a reliable depository as the **CAMP COUNCIL** may direct. The **CAMP** may have a checking and savings account, and may establish such financial accounts as necessary for the **CAMPS** welfare. The **CAMP COMMANDER** may disburse funds from the checking account. In the case of the **CAMP TREASURER**, he shall for reimbursements of personal losses occurred from **CAMP** expenditures, have a sign receipt from the **CAMP COMMANDER** or **SENIOR VICE COMMANDER**, or must have a receipt signed within 30 days of verbal approval from the **CAMP COMMANDER** or **SENIOR VICE COMMANDER**. The **CAMP TREASURER** or the **CAMP COMMANDER** may withdraw or transfer funds from the savings account, withdraw or transfer must be reported to the **CAMP** at the next regular or special **CAMP** meeting.

**Section D.** Camp officers may be entitled to reimbursement of certain expenses necessary for the conduct of their respective office provided, however, that a written request is presented to and approved by the **CAMP COMMANDER**. In the case of a request from the **CAMP COMMANDER**, approval for reimbursement of expenses, must be secured from the **SENIOR VICE COMMANDER**. Typical expenses would include, but not limited to, long distance telephone costs, postage and mileage.

#### **ARTICLE XI: DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

**Section A.** The **CAMP COMMANDER** shall have original jurisdiction over charges preferred against any **MEMBER** of the **CAMP** by a **MEMBER** of the **CAMP**.

**Section B.** Charges may be preferred for violation of duties and obligation to the **ORDER** and subordinate bodies, or the doing of anything tending to injure a veteran or **BROTHER** of the **ORDER** or the **ORDER** itself.

**Section C.** Charges shall be made in writing and shall be addressed to the **CAMP COMMANDER**. **CAMP COMMANDER** shall send a copy of charges to Accused within reasonable time before the hearing.

**Section D.** Upon filing of such charges the **CAMP COMMANDER** may appoint a **TRIAL COMMISSIONER** who shall give at least five (5) days notice to the party preferring the charges and to the Accused by registered mail, and shall state in said notice the time and place of the hearing. The **CAMP COMMANDER** or **TRIAL COMMISSIONER** shall have the power to postpone or continue the hearing, subpoena witnesses and shall impartially ascertain all the facts relative to the issue, **TRAIL COMMISSIONER** shall make a report with his recommendations in writing, to the **CAMP COMMANDER**, and to the party preferring the charge, and to the Accused. The **CAMP COMMANDER** shall then decide the issue. The **CAMP COMMANDER** shall report his decision to the **CAMP MEMBERS** at the next regular or special meeting.

**Section E.** The sentence may be a reprimand, suspension from the rights and privileges for a given period of time, or expulsion from the **ORDER**. In addition, the convicted member may be required to reimburse the cost of the trial incurred by the **CAMP**.

**Section F.** An appeal can be made, by either the party preferring the charges or the Accused, to the **DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI** and shall be addressed to the **DEPARTMENT COMMANDER**. The **DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS** decision will be final and accepted without debate

**Section G.** Charges preferred against the **CAMP COMMANDER** by a member of the **CAMP** shall be made in writing and addressed to the **DEPARTMENT COMMANDER** and a copy delivered to the **CAMP COMMANDER**.

## **ARTICLE XII: CAMP GUARD**

The **CAMP** may have an independent military organization (**CAMP GUARD**) composed of members of the **SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**.

## **ARTICLE XIII: COLOR GUARD**

The **CAMP** may have a **COLOR GUARD** unit composed of members of the **SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**. **COLOR GUARD** shall not consist of more than fourteen (14) **MEMBERS**, with the highest rank being a colonel. At such time, **COLOR GUARD** is larger than fourteen (14) **MEMBERS**, they must join the **SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE (S.V.R.)** and follow the guidelines of the **NATIONAL MILITARY AFFAIR COMMITTEE**.



#### **ARTICLE XIV: INCLUSION OF STATE AND NATIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Included herein by reference and made a part of these Bylaws are the following rules and regulations, and any subsequent amendments or modifications thereto:

- 1. Constitution and Regulations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.**
- 2. Bylaws of the Department of Missouri, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.**

#### **ARTICLE XV: DISSOLUTION AND DISPOSITION OF ASSETS**

In the case of the surrender or forfeiture of the **CAMP CHARTER**, all **CAMP** property and funds shall be turned over to the **DEPARTMENT COMMANDER** or to his duly authorized representative, and shall be held by it as a charitable trust that is held and used for the purpose which the **ORDER** exists. Any such transfer or disposal within six (6) months of disbandment or surrender of the Camp's charter without the written consent of the Department is prohibited. The property and funds of the **CAMP** shall not be divided among its members.

#### **ARTICLE XVI: SUSPENSION OF BYLAWS**

There shall be no suspension of these Bylaws during any meeting of the **CAMP**.

#### **ARTICLE XVII: BYLAWS AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the **CAMP** by a 2/3 vote of the **MEMBERS** and **ASSOCIATES** present at the **CAMP** meeting, provided however that a copy of the proposed amendment had been submitted in writing to the **DEPARTMENT COMMANDER** and the Camp membership at the previous Camp meeting.

#### **ARTICLE XVIII: CAMP AWARDS**

**CAMP** awards shall be given by the **CAMP COMMANDER**, as per recommendation of the **CAMP COUNCIL**.

Date of Approval by Camp:

Date of Approval by Department Commander: