



**Bruce D. Frail**  
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**General Order #18**  
**Series 2022 – 2023**  
**10 February 2023**

### **Revocation of General George G. Meade Camp #5, Department of the Chesapeake's Charter**

Department Commander Brian W. Horgan of the Department of the Chesapeake has requested that the Charter of General George G. Meade Camp #5 be revoked. (Regulations, Chapter I, Article I, Section 13).

Regarding the closure of General George G. Meade Camp 5, Department of the Chesapeake, the following outlines the situation that led to the closure and includes the steps taken at the Camp level to affect this action:

- Over several years, membership in the Camp had declined from approximately 22 Brothers to 10, of which only 6 Brothers could be considered truly active.
- Steps to recruit new members into the Camp/Order (distribution/placement of recruiting brochures, etc.) were largely unsuccessful.
- Numerous officer positions for several years prior to the onset of Covid were either unfilled or filled via the recycling of just a few Camp Brothers.
- As a result of the onset of Covid restrictions instituted by the State of Maryland, all opportunities for in-person Camp activity terminated at the end of March of 2020.
- All efforts to conduct Camp business, meetings, etc. via remote meeting platforms (i.e., Zoom) from the above date forward were unsuccessful.
- Once restrictions were lifted by the State of Maryland in July of 2021, attempts to schedule Camp in-person meetings resumed, however only one or two Brothers responded. It was the intent to discuss/decide on the topic of the closure of the Camp however, due to lack of attendance, all attempts to convene a meeting failed. As such, there are no minutes to reflect subsequent actions.
- Camp Brothers were contacted during the first few months of 2022 seeking their wishes to formally close and surrender the Camp charter. No objections were received. (These communications were conducted mostly by telephone as previous efforts to connect regarding conducting Camp business in person via email/U.S. mail rarely elicited any response.)
- Concurrently, Brothers were provided detailed information on how to obtain a Transfer Form (Form 4) as well as info on obtaining an Honorable Discharge from the Order, should they choose. Additionally, they were provided contact information for nearby Camps within the Department. (It is my understanding that Camp Brothers in good standing have also been contacted by Department officers and been provided with information about Camps in the area along with providing them Transfer Forms for their use.)

The Department Commander Brian W. Horgan's request is therefore approved and the Charter of the General George G. Meade Camp #5, Department of the Chesapeake, is hereby revoked. (Constitution, Article VI, Section 2).

Brothers of the General George G. Meade Camp #5 who are in good standing may have transfer cards issued so that they may join another Camp of their choice. (Constitution, Article VII, Section 4).

All General George G. Meade Camp #5 property and assets shall be turned over to the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War via the Department Commander of the affected Camp acting as his duly authorized representative, to collect and hold all such property in trust for the National Organization Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, an organization exempt from taxes under section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code. (Regulations, Chapter I, Article I, Section 5).

**So Ordered on this 10th Day of February 2023**

*Bruce D. Frail*

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