

Chapter VA 5

G.A.R. MEMORIAL HALL

VA 5.01 Objective

VA 5.03 Superintendent, duties and responsibilities

VA 5.02 Veterans organization headquarters

VA 5.01 Objective. The department shall maintain a memorial hall in the capitol designated as the G.A.R. Memorial Hall and dedicated to the soldiers and sailors who served in Wisconsin commands in the Civil War of 1861 to 1865 or any subsequent wars for the following purposes:

(1) To provide the headquarters of the Grand Army of the Republic, department of Wisconsin;

(2) To provide the headquarters of the United Spanish War Veterans, department of Wisconsin;

(3) To provide a suitable place for the collection, care, management and display of the battle flags of Wisconsin units in the Civil War and the Spanish American War and the war relics, books and mementos of the memorial collection of the G.A.R. Memorial Hall.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1965, No. 111, eff. 4-1-65.

VA 5.02 Veterans organization headquarters. The department shall make a specific space allocation to the Grand Army of the Republic, department of Wisconsin, and to the United Spanish war veterans, department of Wisconsin, for the state headquarters of each organization for so long as it shall exist, and either such organization may permit a sharing of such headquarters space with any state council or association of veterans organizations with which it may be affiliated.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1965, No. 111, eff. 4-1-65.

VA 5.03 Superintendent, duties and responsibilities. (1) **OPERATION OF HALL.** The superintendent under the direction of the secretary shall operate and conduct the G.A.R. Memorial Hall pursuant to Wisconsin statutes and in accordance with the policies established by the board.

(2) **MEMORIAL COLLECTION.** He shall have charge and custody of the battle flags of Wisconsin units in the Civil War and the Spanish American War and the war relics, books and mementos of the memorial collection of the G.A.R. Memorial Hall.

(3) **PRIMARY FIELD.** If space for display covering the Civil War or any subsequent wars shall be inadequate, the primary field of the memorial collection shall be the Civil War and the Spanish American War, and all materials in the memorial collection not related to such wars or in duplication of materials in the collection related to such wars may be made available on loan to the museum at the Grand Army Home for Veterans at King, [Wisconsin Veterans Home], or to other public museums.

(4) **CATALOG COLLECTION ARTICLES.** He shall identify and prepare and maintain a current catalog of all articles in the memorial collection and all acquisitions thereto.

(5) **RESTORE, PRESERVE AND SAFEGUARD.** He shall take such steps as may be necessary to restore, preserve and safeguard all articles in the memorial collection and all acquisitions thereto. He shall not sell, mortgage, transfer or dispose of in any manner or remove from the memorial hall, except for temporary purposes, any article therein a part of the memorial collection, but upon the recommendation of the secretary and the approval of the board any duplicate article or article outside the field of the memorial collection may be sold or exchanged for the purpose of procuring additional materials for display.

(6) **ACQUISITION.** He shall procure by loan, gift, exchange or purchase such additions to the memorial collection as may be necessary in order to develop a representative museum collection depicting and commemorating the service of Wisconsin men and women in the nation's wars.

(7) **DISPLAY.** He shall display the memorial collection so as to make it instructive and attractive to visitors to the state capitol.

(8) **RESEARCH.** He shall permit such research to be conducted upon any materials in the memorial collection, whether on display or in storage, as is consistent with the preservation and safeguarding of such materials.

(9) **VISITORS.** He shall welcome and register visitors to the hall, conducting them through the hall and explaining the exhibits and displays of the memorial collection and the historical significance of the service and the events they depict.

(10) **UNWELCOME VISITORS.** He shall take such steps as may be necessary to protect visitors and the memorial collection from persons who would interfere with the peaceful enjoyment of the memorial hall, the memorial collection, and may forcibly eject all such persons if necessary.

(11) **THEFT OR VANDALISM.** He shall take such steps as may be necessary to protect the memorial collection from theft or vandalism and shall report promptly to the secretary and the capitol police any evidence of theft or vandalism coming to his attention.

(12) **RECORDS AND REPORTS.** He shall keep records on all matters affecting the memorial hall and the memorial collection, including acquisitions, articles borrowed or loaned for research or display, and visitors to the memorial hall, he shall prepare an annual report to the board on the operation of the memorial hall, and he shall make such other reports as the secretary may require.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1965, No. 111, eff. 4-1-65; am. (1), (5), (11) and (12), Register, October, 1967, No. 142, eff. 11-1-67.