



Central Region Association

Allied Orders of the
Grand Army of the
Republic

The Central Region Conference of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic was founded with the purpose of "bringing the Departments closer together in the true spirit for which they were organized, and to receive information and inspiration for renewed efforts" when participants returned home.



In 1940, a "Tri-State Conference" was held in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. By 1941, the "Upper Mississippi Valley Region", as it was then called, included four departments: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa. By the 1950's, the departments of Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Colorado were included and the association became known as the "Central Region". In 1960, the departments of Missouri and Kansas were welcomed into the organization. Over the ensuing years, the addition of the departments of Kentucky, Nebraska, Tennessee and Wyoming have been accepted.

Beginning in 1959 and over the next 35 years, under the leadership of Wisconsin's Thomas L.W. Johnson, the Central Region Conference included a roundtable discussion on a Civil War topic or an issue affecting the Allied Orders. A Saturday morning tour of an historic site and a Saturday evening banquet with a guest speaker became regular features.



In 1997, "how-to" seminars and presentations started to appear in the Conference program with regular frequency. These were aimed at strengthening the basic knowledge and skills of those in the region's corps, circles, tents, caps and auxiliaries. The following year the Conference voted to create a committee for training and steering the Region Conference into the next century.



The Central Region By-laws were created and adopted in 2008. One of the features of the new by-laws was to make membership in the Central Region automatic for all members of all departments of all the Allied Orders. There are no dues. The only fees are the individual registration of each attendee member at the annual conference. These one-day conferences have been held in various states since the beginning with the only interruption during WW II, because of travel restrictions.

Our website: <http://www.alliedorderscra.org> or [www.http://llcra.alliedorders.org](http://llcra.alliedorders.org)