



*For Immediate Press Release:*

## **GAR/SUV Reference Book Is The First Of Its Kind**

*Plates, Belts, and Swords of the Grand Army of the Republic  
and the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War*

by Douglas W. Roussin

Greybird Publishers

148 pgs, Hardcover

Suggested Retail Price \$34<sup>95</sup>

**A** long-awaited reference book concerning the belts, swords and plates of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) and the Sons of Veterans (S.O.V.) has just been released. With the growing collector's market of Civil War veteran related memorabilia, it was of vital importance that a standardized reference work be published in order to facilitate collecting this important part of Americana. *Plates, Belts, and Swords of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War* was authored by longtime G.A.R./S.O.V. collector and authority Douglas W. Roussin. Drawing on his own knowledge and that of other noted authorities, Mr. Roussin has filled a vital need for anyone with an interest in either of these organizations' trappings. While the book is not intended as a full history of either group, Roussin presents several pages of background information to familiarize the reader with each organization before going into detail on the plates, belts and swords. He also shows several veteran photographs, many never before published, of members in uniform and wearing the trappings shown in detail in this reference work.

The book shows clear and concise photographs of each item (most often multiple views) along with measurements, construction methods, materials, and other pertinent information. There are also several pages shown from regalia catalogues of the period. In addition to giving more insight into the items and the companies selling them, it is quite interesting to note the original prices from over 100 years ago.

Perhaps the greatest contribution to the collecting community in this work is establishing a numbering system for referencing such memorabilia. The collecting world has long needed such a system and Mr. Roussin delivers it in this book. He also uses a simple rarity scale for each item. This is much more concise than trying to give an actual monetary value in a market which may change almost daily.

This work will be recognized as the definitive work on this subject. With Civil War memorabilia becoming harder to obtain, GAR/SUV collectables are in increasing demand and will only become more so. We congratulate Mr. Roussin on providing a reference that is sorely needed.

***To obtain a copy of this book for review in your publication or medium, or for interviews with the author concerning this subject, please contact the publisher below. Wholesale inquiries are also welcomed.***

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