

The INDIANA LEGION

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA • ALAN TELLER, COMMANDER

Volume 20

Fall 2003

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1 All SUVCW updated forms are available on the web site <http://www.suvcw.org>. Click on "web site index," and go to "SUVCW supplies, forms and documents, and National proceedings."

2 All files and copies of forms should be discarded. The only reason to keep any is for future reference or historical purposes. Only updated forms are to be used in the future.

3 If you need a form and do not have internet access, please ask another member to aid you; or go to your library and use its computer to obtain the form required.



Alan Teller
Commander

4 At the National Encampment I listened to the names of Brothers who had passed away during last year. I did not hear of any Brother from Indiana. I hope we will continue to be that lucky.

Why is he smiling? See p.5

5 Please be sure deceased Brothers are reported, so that their names will be remembered at National Encampments and at other appropriate times.

6 We have many activities besides the camp meetings and visitations planned for this fall. Please go out of your way to attend as many as possible.

7 This is your organization. Use it. Attend its functions.

8 Those Brothers who have a computer should visit the web site, www.suvcw.org, often. There are many new and updated items on OUR web site.

Calendar of Events

This list may not contain all of the events scheduled for the next two months. "SVR" indicates that the Sons of Veterans Reserve will be welcome to participate in the event in uniform.

October

3rd & 4th: Central Regional Meeting
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Airport Hilton
Starts 8:30 A.M.—10/4/03 - SVR

11th: Knightstown Children's Home
Knightstown — 10:00 A.M. - SVR

25th: Ben Harrison Camp
Recognition Ceremony for the Camp Morton Camp
Markers, Indianapolis, 8:00 A.M. - SVR.
See story page 2, for further information

25th: Camp Morton Civil War Show
Indiana State Fairgrounds — 9:00 A.M. - SVR

25th: Benjamin Franklin Williams Cemetery
Rolling Prairie Cemetery, Rolling Prairie
3:00 P.M. EST- SVR

For a map, contact: Alan Loomis (arlsuvcw@aol.com)

November

8th Father Corby Ceremony
Notre Dame
South Bend, 9:00 A.M. EST.
See story page 4 — SVR

Attention!

Make further announcements for camp events on the IndianaSUVCW news list. To subscribe, contact David Wiley at dwiley@earthlink.net or IndianaSUVCW-owner@yahoo.com. If you are already a member, simply address IndianaSUVCW@yahoo.com with your message.

*Remembering the sacrifices made by the soldiers and sailors of the Civil War who fought to preserve the Union,
we are dedicated to continuing the patriotic work begun by our parent organization,
The Grand Army of the Republic*

Hoosiers at the National Encampment

Fifteen brothers from the Indiana Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War attended the 122nd National Encampment held at Fort Mitchell, Kentucky, in August. An excellent showing.

Past Commander-in-Chief, Alan W. Moore; Past Department Commanders,



Cody Shaw of the David Porter Camp receives his full-fledged membership certificate from Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Grim at the National Encampment while National Secretary Ed Krieser looks on.

Russell W. Kirchner and Thomas Crawford, along with Department Commander Alan Teller, and camp members Lance Stevens and Brian D. Henry represented the Orlando A. Somers Camp of Kokomo.

The David Porter Camp of Valparaiso sent five more distinguished members from the Indiana Department: past Commanders-in-Chief Alan Loomis and Edward Krieser, who is also secretary of the National Organization, and Ronald Gill, past Department Commander and member of the Council of Administration, along with camp members Jack Shaw and his son, Cody.

Champion Hill Camp of Huntington sent Brothers Robert Stephan, James Perry, Eric Frickle and Camp Commander Gilbert Young.

NEW KENTUCKY COLONELS

Among the highlights of the Encampment was the presentation of Kentucky Colonel Awards by Com-

mander-in-Chief Robert E. Grim to past commander-in-chiefs Alan Moore, Alan Loomis, Edward Krieser, and past department commander, Ronald Gill. Just what Kentucky regiments these gentlemen will command has not been recorded.

Another special moment took place when Commander Grim presented Cody Shaw with his certificate to full adult membership.

OTHER ENCAMPMENT NOTES

• Kent L. Armstrong, Department of Michigan, was elected Commander-in-Chief. Our new Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief is Stephen A. Michaels, Department of Wisconsin, and the new Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief is Donald E. Darby, Department of Ohio.

• The Indiana Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) was represented, and three members took an active part in flag ceremonies.

• Tom Crawford, PDC, ran for Council of Administration and lost. He fought a good fight—it took four ballots to determine a winner from the three candidates. Dave Stephans from Iowa won the election.

• An outstanding Civil War Memorial Service was held at Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati, Ohio. A tour of the cemetery followed the service. Forty Union generals are buried in this cemetery.

• The Memorials and Monuments Officer will now be known as the Memorials Officer.

• The Allied Orders of the G.A.R. held its National Encampment in Ft. Mitchell coincidentally with the SUVCW.

• The Daughters (DUVCW) will be invited to join our National Encampment in 2006. The Women's Relief Corps (WRC) will join us at our National Encampment Banquet in 2004. Currently the Auxiliary of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (ASUVCW) and the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR) meet concurrently with the SUVCW at the Allied Orders National Encampment.

• There was much ado over Encamp-

ment Badges at the meeting. The LGAR and ASUVCW women were not given badges, but had to buy them. The SUVCW voted to give them badges and refund any monies they had spent. The Encampment also voted to treat them as equals on badges and such in future at the National Encampment.

• Because of the ongoing problem of persons trying to buy memorial and monument cannons a committee was established to set up a fund and to decide what cases will be fought in court. As members, we can donate to the fund and should do so to protect our ancestors' monuments.

• The 2004 Encampment will be held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. In 2005 it will be held in Nashua, New Hampshire; in 2006 in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and in 2007, in Missouri.

— Alan Teller & Allen W. Moore

Ben Harrison Camp Commemorates the Camp Morton Boundary

At the beginning of the Civil War the animal barns and stockades of the Indiana State Fairgrounds were converted into a training ground for newly recruited soldiers. The camp was named after Oliver T. Morton, certainly the most famous, powerful and tenacious state governor of Indiana in that or any subsequent era.

After Grant captured Fort Donelson in Tennessee on 16 February 1862, the camp began to be used as a staging area

continued on page 3

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Camps should send news items, photographs, ancestor accounts, and so on, to the editor by E-mail or regular mail on or about 1 January 2004.

for captured Confederates who suffered northern winters in inadequate shelter, a misery further compounded by limited rations, promulgated by Commissary General of Prisoners as a cost-saving measure.

From 1862 to 1865, the camp would reach a peak population of 5,000. During this period there were 1,763 deaths and more than 150 escapes—at times achieved by throwing stones to draw fire and then simply rushing the guards.

After the war, despite the privations they experienced, former prisoners remembered Camp Morton with some fondness by erecting a statue of its 1862 commander, Colonel Richard Owen in the State Capitol.

Over the years the borders of the State Fairgrounds shifted, and the exact



Colonel Richard Owen, Commander of Camp Morton in 1862. Pictured is a replica in the Indiana University Memorial Union of the original statue in the State Capitol. The sculptor was Belle Kinney (1890-1959). Born the same year that Owen died, she was commissioned to do the work in 1911 by S. A. Cunningham of Nashville, Tennessee, editor of the Confederate Veteran. Dedicated in 1913 in the presence of many Civil War veterans of both sides, the sculpture was called "a bond between North and South." — See Elise L. Smith, "Belle Kinney and the Confederate Women's Monument," *Southern Quarterly* 32 (1994) 2-27.

location of the original Camp Morton became uncertain. Several years ago, the Brothers of the Ben Harrison Camp, determined to recify this situation by designing markers, researching the exact boundaries, and raising money to manufacture them. A task finally



On 15 July 2000, Mike Baldwin, chairman of the Camp Morton Marker committee of the Ben Harrison Camp, carefully guides a marker stone onto its pedestal.

achieved in the summer of 2000 when they were at last installed. In October the camp will recognize those contributions in a special ceremony (see inset notice).

REAL MEMORIAL DAY

On Friday, 30 May, members of the Ben Harrison Camp gathered at Crown Hill Cemetery to celebrate the real Memorial Day at the modest grave of Colonel Ivan N. Walker, not far from the more elaborate stones of Col. Eli Lilly and President Benjamin Harrison. Walker served with the 73rd Indiana Volunteers; after the war he was active in state government, and in 1895 became Commander-in-Chief of the national G.A.R.

During the ceremony, camp members heard John A. Logan's General Order No. 11, establishing Memorial Day, an account of Colonel Walker's career, and a reading of Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes famous Memorial Day Speech, usually titled, "In Our Youth Our Hearts Were Touched With Fire."

CHANGE OF MEETING PLACE

In September, the Ben Harrison Camp, after several years at the Indiana War Memorial, has now changed the time and place of its meetings. Except for the special gathering on 5 October, until further notice the camp will muster on the second Saturday of the month at the Speedway American Legion Post. The meeting will commence at 11:15 A.M. and will be followed by lunch. The next regular meeting will be on 8 November.

The post is located at 1926 Georgetown road, three blocks north of the Georgetown and 16th street intersection.

CAMP MEMBER HONORED

Camp members were pleased to learn of the award granted to one of their own. In July, Brother Alan T. Nolan was named an "Indiana Living Legend" by the Indiana State Historical Society, adding to the many honors he has received over a distinguished career as a civil rights attorney, and as a Civil War scholar.

His books include *The Iron Brigade*, *Lee Considered*, *Giants in Their Tall Black Hats*, *Myth of the Lost Cause and Civil War History* (all published by the Indiana University Press), and *Rally Once Again* (Madison House Publishers). He was a founder of the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table and has been awarded the Nevins-Freeman writing prize by the Chicago Civil War Round Table, the Civil War history lifetime achievement prize by the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and an honorary doctorate from Indiana University. He is a former president of the Indiana Historical Society.

— David Wiley & Stephen Bauer

Notice

On Saturday, 25 October, at 8:00 A.M. the Ben Harrison Camp #356 will hold a formal recognition ceremony for all those who worked so diligently on the Camp Morton Boundary Markers. The ceremony will be held at the Camp Morton Shelter (19th and Alabama Streets) rain or shine. The SVR has been asked to provide a color guard. Parking will be available on the street. Following the ceremony the members will move to the Camp Morton Civil War show to be held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds at the corner of 38th and Fall Creek.

All members and friends of the SUVCW and their guests are invited.

Father Corby Ceremony Planned at Notre Dame

I would like to invite all SUVCW members in the Department of Indiana to



Plaque commemorating Father Corby at Gettysburg

attend a ceremony at Father Corby's statue on the University of Notre Dame campus on Saturday, 8 November 2003.

The ceremony is set for 9:00 A.M. eastern standard time.



Dr. Ed Frome. (Notre Dame '56) and the statue of Father Corby at Gettysburg.

The reason for the ceremony is that Father Corby was a Chaplain with the 88th New York Infantry, which was a part of the Irish Brigade. He also es-

tablished G.A.R. Post 569 on the Notre Dame campus in 1897, which was unique in that it was made up only of clerics.

The statue is a replica of the one on the Gettysburg Battlefield and depicts him giving General Absolution to the Irish Brigade on the 2nd day of the battle. This occurred just before the brigade went forward to help General Sickles, who had extended his line out into the Peach Orchard and Wheat Field area.

—Alan Loomis

David D. Porter Camp Commander

AN ALUMNUS REMEMBERS

Brother Ed Bensman of the Ben Harrison Camp tells us that Father Corby's statue is known as "Fair Catch Corby."

The uplifted right arm is part of the Catholic ritual for a General Absolution of sins. It was also the original gesture used by football officials to designate a fair catch. As a result, for the generations of students who knew him only as the statue immediately in front of Corby Hall on the Notre Dame campus, he was Fair Catch Corby. "Amazing," writes Ed, "the important data one recalls from college!"

Camps Participate in Jeffries Monument Dedication

Recently, John Boyd Nelson of Marion, a World War II veteran who saw action on Iwo Jima, erected headstones at the graves of his great-great grandfather Smith S. Jeffries, Sr., a War of 1812 veteran, and for his great uncle, Smith S. Jeffries, Jr. at the Oak Chapel Cemetery in Jadden.

Smith S. Jeffries Jr. enlisted for one year in Company D of the 54th Indiana Volunteers and died of wounds on 29 January 1863. He was only 21 years, 11 months and twenty-three days of age.

Mr. Nelson requested a suitable dedication ceremony at the cemetery that was planned by Alan W. Moore, PC-in-Chief, of the Orlando A. Somers Camp, Kokomo.

Attorney Martin Lake of Marion and his War of 1812 re-enactors brought their 1812 cannon and participated in

the event. A color guard was provided by the Marine Corps League of Marion.

The ceremony was held on Sunday 29 June. Approximately 115 persons were in attendance.



At the Jeffries Monument Dedication left to right, Ned Baker carrying wreath, Alana W. Moore, master of ceremonies, John Boyd Nelson, Mrs. John B. Nelson and Mr. Nelson's niece.

Alan W. Moore welcomed the gathering and assisted in the memorial remarks; Gib Young of the Champion Hill Camp in Huntington, read "The Name of Old Glory" by James Whitcomb Ri-



At the Jeffries Monument dedication from left to right, Company Singers, Martin Lake in 1812 uniform, John Ayers, and Mrs. Francis Frederick in Civil War dress

ley; Francis Frederick of the Link Camp in Fort Wayne placed the Colors and flowers on the graves; Ned Baker of the Somers Camp laid wreaths, and Jon Ayers, also of the Somers camp, spoke the benediction.

Mr. Nelson provided a dinner for all those in attendance at the Oak Chapel Church, just across the road from the cemetery.

— Alan W. Moore, PC-in-C



Dedication Ceremony at Rolling Prairie

A very special and moving ceremony is now in preparation for 8 November at the Rolling Prairie Cemetery in Rolling Prairie, La Porte County.

The David D. Porter Camp will dedicate a new headstone and G.A.R. flag holder in memory of Benjamin Franklin Williams, Private, 21st Indiana Light Artillery.

Expected to participate with appropriate salutes are re-enactor units from the 21st and 7th light artillery, the 9th and 19th Indiana Volunteer Infantry and the 102nd Infantry USCT.

Kokomo's Gun Carriage Is About to Roll

As the Kokomo Tribune reported in a five-column story in August, "It's been a long haul for the thirty-six members of the Orlando A. Somers Camp #1, but the conclusion of a two-year historical project is in sight."

The story featured an interview with Ned Baker, Somers Camp Commander; Tom Crawford, Past Department Commander, and Department Commander Alan Teller.

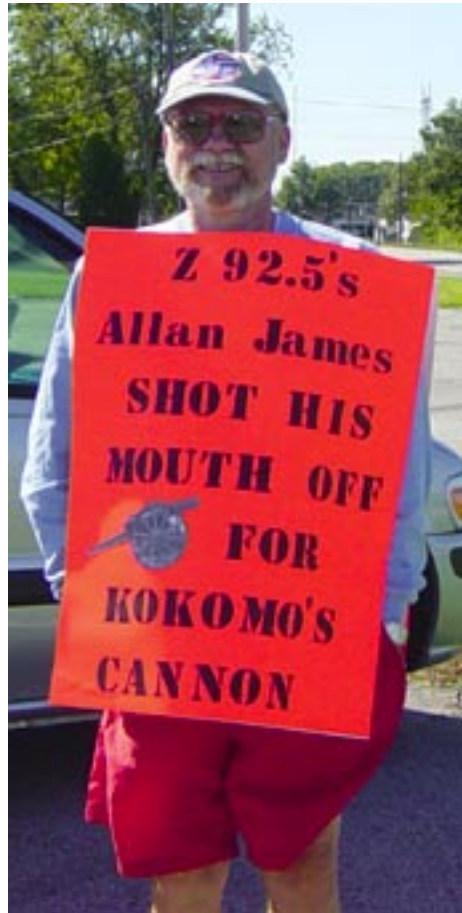
Now, as October begins, the end is indeed quite near, but more help is needed to restore a neglected cannon to its full splendor on a new carriage.

Some background is in order. Once, in distant memory, a 12-pound howitzer mounted on a carriage with limber attached sat at the entrance of Kokomo's Highland Park. Now only the tube remains, stored in a garage at the Parks and Recreation Department.

Research reveals the cannon to be one of nine manufactured by Leeds and

Company of New Orleans. Only three are known to exist; two are in the hands of the federal government; the other is one of two field pieces brought to Kokomo by the General Thomas J. Harrison Post #30 of the G.A.R., following congressional authorization in 1882.

The Somers Camp needs to raise \$9,500 to completely restore the cannon and its carriage. The Community Foundation of Howard County has awarded a \$3,000 grant, so the Brothers of the Somers camp have been busy raising the balance.



Alan Teller walked five and a one half miles to raise money on a dare from Allan James, a radio personality on the Z 92.5, a Kokomo FM station. He raised \$1,300 for the cannon fund on that short jaunt. That's why he is smiling!

Departmental Officers Directory for 2003-2004

Commander

J. Alan Teller, 3003 Lamplighter Lane, Kokomo, IN 46902-8125, 765-455-0484, atllr@iquest.net

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David W. Wiley, 3800 Woodmere Way, Bloomington, IN 47403-4123, 812-337-0649, dwiley@cecasun.utc.edu

Department Council

1. Ron Gill, PDC, 655 Sheffield Drive, Valparaiso, IN 46385, 219-462-1984, rrgill:11@netnitco.net
2. Russell W. Kirchner, PDC, 39 Hidden Acres, Greentown, IN 46936, 765-628-2236, russ@hpally.com,
3. Thomas C. Crawford Jr., PDC, 1916 S. Webster, Kokomo, IN 46902, 765-452-4773, crawford@netusa1.net

Secretary/Treasurer,

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Department Graves Registration Officer

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Department CW Monuments Officer

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Department Signal Officer

Edward J. Krieser, PC-in-C, 1354 Gilleevan Drive, Valparaiso, IN 46383, 219-462-7163, EJKSUV@msn.com

SAVE THE KOKOMO CANNON!!

The Somers Camp intends to have the restored cannon publicly displayed in honor Howard County's Civil War Veterans and to act as a reminder of Kokomo's participation in this great conflict. We are still in need of approximately \$3,200 and are requesting donations to aid this endeavor. Checks can be made to "Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Advised Fund" and mailed to the Community Foundation of Howard County, 202 N. Main, Kokomo, IN 46901. This fund is tax deductible under IRS regulations.

PLEASE HELP!



Captured Confederate troops, from a contemporary sketch

Dispatches . . .

- On 20 September the Indianapolis *Star* reported that the Hartford City Cemetery Board refused an offer of \$10,000 to sell a cannon that had served in its cemetery for over a century as a monument to the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic. The board declared, moreover, that it would *never* sell the cannon. They are to be congratulated, but the temptation remains for many trustees or boards of public and private institutions that have cannon in their possession.
- The *Star* article quotes Past Department Commander Tom Crawford's estimate that about 5,000 Civil War artillery pieces remain in the nation, about 114 in Indiana. Marion, for example, once had three Civil War Cannon; now in the Grant County seat only one remains.

The **INDIANA LEGION**
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,
Department of Indiana
3800 W. Woodmere Way
Bloomington, IN 47403-4123

30 September 2003

Notes to Brothers in Cyberspace:

Because more and more brothers have spam blocking devices, and because some Internet Service Providers are blocking attachments—particularly large ones—you may have had some difficulty opening this copy of the Legion. Indeed, there may come a time when electronic distribution of the publication may no longer be practicable. We shall see.

Let me know if you have difficulty, or if you have any other comments or suggestions.

This issue is optimized for the screen and for quick download; photographs may not look their best when printed. Set Acrobat at 100% for best viewing of photos on screen, though you may want to go to 150% for easier reading.

Faithfully in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Your Editor,

David Wiley
dwiley@earthlink.net