

THE BANNER

Volume 111, Number 3 • The Journal of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War • Spring 2007



RESTORE MEMORIAL DAY

*By PDC Al Peterson,
William B. Keith Camp 12
Department of California/Pacific*

Back in 1868, Gen. John Logan, then GAR Commander-in-Chief, issued General Order # 11, establishing May 30th as Decoration Day. This order was designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion. It was encouraged that on May 30th of each year this order be carried out.

Over the years, Decoration Day observances were carried out with great pride and effort to remember our war dead.

In 1954, Decoration Day became Memorial Day by an act of Congress. Only the name changed. Many organizations continued to carry out this General Order and performed the ceremonies without encouragement or persuasion by others; it was the thing to do.

In 1971, Congress changed the day to the last Monday of May, for reasons I have not seen or heard. This is where the problem arises. By placing it on the last Monday of the month, the meaning of the day is lost. When Congress made the day into a three day weekend with the National Holiday Act of 1971 (PL 90-363), it became easier for us to be distracted from the day's spirit and the meaning.

Today and since 1971, Memorial Day is another day out of work or school, time for vacation plans to be made, bargains at the malls and cookouts. What happened to remembering those who gave their lives for us? What happened to remembering those who died for this country to make it a better place to live? We have almost forgotten the meaning of Memorial Day.

Fewer and fewer observances are conducted throughout this great country because citizens are thinking of themselves and forgetting those who sacrificed for our freedom. Too many do not know what the day stands for.

Therefore, I feel it is our sacred duty and responsibility to pay honor to those who gave of themselves, not only because we are the SUVCW, but because we as American citizens are obligated to do so. It is our duty and responsibility to restore this sacred day to May 30th.

There are a couple of ways to support this matter: Go to www.suvcw.org, follow the links to sign the petition online, or sign your name on a piece of paper and Email it to me at AEPSUVCW@COX.NET

From the Tomb of the Unknowns . . .



To the Vietnam Wall . . .



And throughout Small Town America. . .



Americans Remember Their Heroes



On the road with the Commander-in-Chief

The Commander-in-Chief, in photo at left, visits with Department of Tennessee officers during their annual encampment.



The Commander-in-Chief, at right, listens to discussions at the Wisconsin Mid-Winter Meeting.

CinC Pahl's Travel Schedule

27 January	Dept. of Tennessee Mid-Winter Meeting	Huntsville, AL
3 February	Dept. of Wisconsin Mid-Winter Meeting	Wauwatosa, WI
17 March	New England Conference	Boxborough, MA
23-24 March	Dept. of California & Pacific Encampment	San Luis Obispo, CA
31 March	Dept. of Iowa Encampment	Des Moines, IA
7 April	Dept. of Rhode Island Encampment	Warwick, RI
14 April	Lincoln Tomb/GAR Founder's Ceremonies	Springfield & Petersburg, IL
21 April	Dept. of Nebraska Encampment	Omaha, NE
28 April	Dept. of Michigan Encampment	Lansing, MI
5 May	Dept. of Oklahoma Encampment	Oklahoma City, OK
12 May	Dept. of Illinois Encampment	Peoria, IL
19 May	Daughters of the Union 1861-1865 Nat. Congress	Grand Rapids, MI
28 May	Memorial Day @ Arlington Cemetery	Washington, D.C.
1-3 Jun	Dept. of New York Encampment	Waterloo, NY
8-9 June	Dept. of Missouri Encampment	St. Louis, MO
15-17 June	Dept. of Ohio Encampment	Alliance, OH
28-30 June	Dept. of Pennsylvania Encampment	Bethlehem, PA
9-12 August	126 th National SUVCW Encampment	St. Louis, MO
Various National Officers will represent CinC Pahl at the Encampments and events not listed.		



The Brothers' Primer

SUVCW Event Recruiting Checklist

- ___ Assign Officer-in-Charge
 - Select event recruiting staff (should be your most outgoing members)
- ___ Determine if event is geared toward:
 - Adults (SUVCW, ASUVCW, WRC, DUVCW, LGAR)
 - Youth (Juniors) Tip: Don't forget parents
 - Both youth & adults
- ___ Set event goals
 - # of event "contacts"
 - # of unit meeting visitors
 - # of new members
- ___ Determine potential # of attendees
- ___ Plan to provide extra "sizzle" outside the booth
 - Tip: Provide color guard to open/close event, memorial ceremony, period games, etc.
- ___ Plan display booth or tabletop display
 - Pick booth location in main traffic flow (if possible)
 - Determine size of booth
 - Order/secure banner
- ___ Set dress code – uniform, business casual w/kepi, badges and insignia
- ___ Set booth rules
 - Tip: No food or drink in the booth, no smoking, no horseplay, keep chatting among members to a minimum – you're there to meet prospective members.
- ___ Plan traffic-builder or promotion
 - (i.e. video in booth, demos, static displays, etc.)
 - Secure raffle license, prizes, if needed
- ___ Set booth schedule – members to work booth on specific days and/or times
 - Tip: don't work one or two people all day' – rotate personnel, if possible. Also, make sure to give breaks and provide back-up
- ___ Order handouts:
 - Go to www.suvcw.org – Forms, Documents and Proceedings; SUVCW Supplies
 - (#109 – Promotion & Advertising pamphlet)
 - Local Allied Orders brochures and materials, Form 3 applications
 - Tip: You really don't have to give a handout to every contact – only to those who you feel have a real interest in becoming a member.
- ___ Collect contact information
 - Create a simple form: Name, street address, City, state, Zip, phone number(s), e-mail address
- ___ Plan for Post-event follow-up
 - If large-scale event: Divide up prospect list among respective Camps
 - Assign members to complete follow-up
 - Phone call and/or letter to prospect:
 - Invitation to meeting – Day, time, location
 - Answer any questions/concerns
 - Assign a "visitor contact" to ask for when they come to meeting
- ___ Measure success
 - # of event "contacts"
 - # of unit meeting visitors
 - # of new members



PHOTO AT LEFT - What is it really? Answer on Page 22.

ON THE COVER - Cpt. Henry Held, late of Co. I, 8th OVI, explains the importance of the day to young John Foster Froemming. Originally published in the Milwaukee Journal, May 24, 1936

Inside The Banner



THE BANNER

The Banner is published by the authority of the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, a Congressionally Chartered organization.

All material contained herein is the intellectual property of the SUVCW. All illustrations are either proprietary, in the case of emblems and objects, in the public domain, or are used with the permission of the owner. Reproduction of the content by mechanical or electronic means without prior written notice is prohibited.

SUVCW Commander-in-Chief
James B. Pahl

Editorial Production Services
and advertising information:
Dunmore Publishing, Inc.
John M. Hart Jr.
Publisher

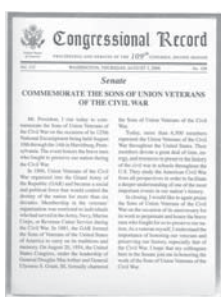
Dunmore Publishing, Inc.
1175 Morel Street
Scranton, PA 18509
(570) 558-6397

e-mail: delaneydelacy@aol.com

Material for consideration to be published should be sent to:
PCinC Steve Michaels, Editor
6623 S. North Cape Road
Franklin WI 53132-1227
(414) 425-4648
e-mail: banner@suvchw.org

Subscriptions and address changes:
Lee F. Walters, PCC
Executive Director, SUVCW
P.O. Box 1865
Harrisburg, PA 17105-1865
(717) 232-7000
e-mail: EXECDIR@SUVCW.org

- Commander Pahl's General Orders Page 6
- Missouri Welcomes Real Son Page 7
- Honor Roll / New Life Members Page 8
- Brother Sets Sail in Sooner State Page 9
- SUVCW Camp List on line Page 10
- Records Conservation in Michigan Page 11
- America Honors its Heroes Page 12
- Department News Page 15
- Final Muster Page 16
- Auxiliary News Page 19
- New Civil War Museum Opens Page 20
- SVR Guidon Page 21
- Collecting the Sons Page 23



A copy of the Congressional Record honoring the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War during its annual encampment in Harrisburg in 2006.

PUBLISHING SCHEDULE	
Winter	Deadline - Oct. 15
Spring	Deadline - Jan. 15
Summer	Deadline - April 15
Autumn	Deadline - Aug. 15



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War • General Orders Series 2006-2007

James B. Pahl, Commander-in-Chief

Post Office Box 86, Mason, MI 48854 • Phone (517) 676-8403 • cinc@suvcw.org

GENERAL ORDER 7

I was very sad to learn of the death of Gerald Ford, former President of the United States. Raised in Michigan, I worked many a motorcade detail while he was President and traveling home.

Therefore, all charters are ordered draped for a period of 30 days from the date of this Order, as a memorial to President Ford, including our web site and brother's badge. This order is effective as of December 29, 2006.

GENERAL ORDER 8

Upon the recommendation of Michigan Department Commander Richard Greene, being fully satisfied that all efforts to preserve the Camp have been taken, IT IS ORDERED the Charter of the George W. Howe Camp #9, Department of Michigan, is revoked for failure to submit Annual Camp Reports and Per Capita Tax. This order is effective as of December 31, 2006.

GENERAL ORDER 9

1. Brother Robert Moore, Commander of the Luray-Carlisle Reunion Camp #1881, Department of Maryland, is hereby appointed a National Aide and charged to complete an inventory of all Union battle flags held by the Federal government and various state entities.

2. An Exploratory Committee is hereby authorized and charged with exploring the possibilities of erecting a suitable monument to commemorate the services of Canadians in the Union army during the Civil War. This committee is to study the feasibility, explore possible locations, review preliminary designs and fund raising opportunities, to report to the 126th National Encampment, with the view of potentially appointing a Special Committee to pursue this venture. Brother Bob Heath, Member at Large and residing in Canada, is appointed chair of this exploratory committee. Any brother of the Order interested in serving on this committee should contact the Commander-in-Chief. This order is effective as of January 20, 2007.

By Order of
James B. Pahl
Commander-in-Chief

Attested:
Michael Bennett
National Secretary

AWARDS

John Moscoe, Camp 63, (Dept. of Maryland) was made a National Aide on January 23 for recruiting efforts.

Michael LaMott, Camp 1 (Dept. of Wisconsin) was made a National Aide on February 3rd for his recruiting efforts.

Jerry Strowsnider, Larry Green and Phillip Soyring Jr. (Dept. of New York) received the Meritorious Service Award, upon recommendation of PCinC Danny Wheeler.

CHARTERS AWARDED

Power-Dunlavy Camp 3, Dept. of Iowa
Gen. Frederick W. Lander Camp 5, Dept. of Mass.

NOMINEES SOUGHT

U.S. Grant Cup (est. 1939)—presented to Dept. with the greatest percentage growth in membership during the last year.

Augustus P. Davis-Conrad Linder Award (est. 1969)—presented to the Department with the greatest numerical growth in membership during the last year.

Founders Award (est. 1998)—presented to non-Allied Orders group or individual, who performs outstanding service in memory of Union soldiers, sailors and marines. Concurrence of the Council of Administration required.

Marshall Hope Award (est. 1992)—presented to the Camp and Department with the most outstanding newsletter.

Abraham Lincoln C-in-C Award (est. 1994)—presented to CinC's choice for the most outstanding Camp during the last year.

Cornelius F. Whitehouse Award (est. 1994)—presented to CinC's choice for most outstanding brother during last year.

B.F. Stephenson Award (est. 1996)—presented to the brother, who is the top recruiter during the last year.

Joseph S. Rippey New Camp Award (est. 2003)—presented to the most successful new Camp.

Meritorious Service Award—with Gold Star—presented to a brother or brothers, who served the Order for an extended period of time in an outstanding and exemplary manner. Concurrence of the Council of Administration required.

Nominees may be submitted via email at cinc@suvcw.org

IRS TO CHANGE REPORTING RULES

(By CinC James Pahl, based upon info from Bruce Gosling, Gen. Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 (MI).

Beginning with tax year 2007, every Camp and Department must annually provide, in electronic form, certain information to the IRS in a manner prescribed by new IRS regulations: the organization's legal name, any name under which it operates and does business, its mailing address and internet website (if any), its taxpayer ID number, the name and address of a principal officer and evidence of the continuing basis for the organizations exemption from filing requirements. Also, the organization must notify the IRS when its existence is terminated.

Failure to do this for three consecutive years will result in the organization's loss of exempt status. The IRS will notify every organization of the requirement and the penalty for failing to comply. It's important for each Camp and Department to ensure their contact information is current and accurate. Each Camp should be listed under the SUVCW master GEN number, to show the subordinate relationship to National. This also ensures that any gift made to the Camp is covered by our 501c4 status.



Missouri Real Son Welcomed into Our Order



Grant Camp members (standing left to right): Brs. Gary Scheel, Dan Jackson, PCC Bob Amsler, PDC Don Palmer, PDC Bob Petrovic, PCC Mark Coplin, Marty Aubuchon, CC Walt Busch, Chris Warren and PCC John Avery. Real Son George Williams is seated.

On March 5th, U. S. Grant Camp 68 in St. Louis initiated their newest member, Real Son George Grover Williams. About 45 people, including 25 relatives representing four generations of the Williams family were present to witness the initiation. The Camp presented George with his membership medal and a Real Sons certificate. George was born on October 15, 1911 in Jeff, Missouri, the son of Henry Williams, who was born October 18, 1847 and passed away on October 14, 1927.

The elder Williams was mustered into Co. I, 37th Regiment Kentucky Infantry (Mounted) on September 13, 1863 and was honorably discharged on April 19, 1864. He was then mustered into service on July 1, 1864 in Co. K, 4th Kentucky Infantry (Mounted) to serve 3 years as a private. He was honorably discharged on August 17, 1865 and returned to Kentucky on a freight train. But life there was difficult, so he moved to southern Missouri. After marrying and divorcing the same woman twice, Henry married another woman, Melvina Marnell, in 1900. He was 53, she was 22. George was one of three children born to them. The family made its home near Thayer, Missouri, near the Arkansas border, where Henry was awarded 40 acres for his military service.

After the installation George told some stories about the Civil War that his father told him. One story described Henry helping release Union prisoners at Camp Sumter, a notorious Confederate

military prison in Andersonville, Ga. Other stories his father told him were about the major battle in Shiloh, Tennessee. Henry spent his last years at the State Federal Soldiers' Home of Missouri in St. James.

George Williams moved to St. Louis in the 1940s, where he worked for McDonnell Douglas. He and his late wife had seven children. The U. S. Grant Camp #68 is honored to have George Grover Williams as its newest member.



Real Son George Williams

Photos by Cher Petrovic



Honor Roll

Br. Robert D. Metcalf (dec) Austin Blair Camp 7 (MI)
by Austin Blair Camp 7 (MI)

Cpl. Thomas P. Jarvis
Co. I, 9th West Va. Inf. & Co. G, 1st Vet. Vol. Inf.
by Br. William R. White

Br. Floyd E. Wallace (dec) Gov. H. Crapo Camp 145 (MI)
by Floyd Wallace Memorial

Pvt. George Siddall, Co. H, 2nd PA Inf.
by Br. Joseph W. Bonner

Pvt. Richard A. Virts
Ind. Rangers, Loudon Cty., Va.
by Br. Michael Vierts

Cpl. William Blake
Co. E, 81st IN Vol. Inf.
by Br. Robert B. Reid

Br. James D. Lockie (dec)
J.S. Durgin Camp 7 (NJ)
by IBEW Local 456

Conor Lighthizer
Br. James Lighthizer's Son
by Gen. Meade Camp 5 (MD)

Pvt. John Bond
Co. C, 126th NY Inf.
by Br. John R. Bond

Pvt. Frederick Hillman
Co. D, 1st KY Vol. Inf.
by Br. Russell J. Wunker

Pvt. George Siddall
Co. H, 2nd PA Vol. Inf.
by Br. Joseph W. Bonner

New life Members

672. Andrew P. Bollen, III
Lt. Alonzo H. Cushing Camp 5
Department of Wisconsin

673. John C. Metcalf
Henry Harnden Camp 2
Department of Wisconsin

674. William R. Anthes
Gen. Geo. Armstrong Custer Camp 17
Department of New Jersey

675. Earl E. Allen
Homer Searle Camp 114
Department of New York

676. Lauritz R. Smitt
Member-at-Large
South Carolina

677. James F. Bond
Cpt. Oliver Tilden Camp 26
Department of New York

678. Gary E. Parrott
Gen. Wm. Passmore Carlin Camp 25
Department of CA & Pac

679. J. Alan Teller
Orlando A. Somers Camp 1
Department of Indiana

680. Raymond Sulger
Lt. Ezra Griffin Camp 8
Department of Pennsylvania



"Before Manassas, there was Mexico"

Many Civil War leaders and troops got their start in the war with Mexico. Leaders like Grant, Sherman, McClellan, and many of the soldiers they commanded saw action in the Mexican War.

The Descendants of Mexican War Veterans is an organization of men and women who have an ancestor or just an interest in the Mexican War of 1846-1848.

Please visit www.dmww.org for membership information and an application, or send a request with SASE to DMWV, Membership Dept., Box 830482, Richardson, Texas, 75083-0482

Descendants of Mexican War Veterans

HISTORIC
1776
*Dobbin House
Tavern*



**Serving
Lunch & Dinner
Daily**

**89 Steinwehr Ave.
Gettysburg, PA
(717) 334-2100**

Brother Sets Sail in Sooner State

Oklahoma is not the first place that comes to mind when one thinks of Civil War era steamboats. Nevertheless, Brother Keith Weaver and his wife, Marneth, of Stillwater have been interested in steamboats and steam powered vessels since reading "Life on the Mississippi" by Mark Twain. Despite great trepidation, they designed their boat, the USS Phoenix, after many years of reading texts of marine architecture and got started building it about ten years ago.

This type of steam launch was used from the Civil War until the early 1920s, when they were replaced by internal combustion engines. The Phoenix's condensing engine operates with a maximum pressure of 150 psi, delivering 10 h.p. at 350 rpm.

All of the wood in the USS Phoenix was cut and milled locally except for a small part of the floorboards. A single white oak log was used for the hull. Pecan and walnut were also used. The only original part of the boat is the propeller, which is a manganese bronze casting taken from a similar 1903 Navy craft.

The Phoenix measures 8'4" wide and 30'6" long and has a draft of three feet. It weighs 5500 lbs empty (no water, fuel, or passengers) and can carry up to five tons, traveling at 6 mph. The vessel is enrolled with the U.S. Coast Guard.

Oklahoma has more man-made lakes that any other state, with over one million surface areas of water and 2,000 more miles of shoreline than the Atlantic and Gulf coasts combined.



Aboard The Phoenix are Brothers Jim Trent and Keith Weaver.





SUVCW Camp List available on-line

By PDC James T. Lyons
National Secretary 1989-94

For many years the record of SUVCW Camps formed was relegated to the dark recesses of the National Secretary's office files. These records consisted of a four drawer card file, two ledgers used to record approved Applications for Camp Charter and information on the coming and going of Camps posted to the Membership Accounting Journal.

The card file, which may have been started shortly before 1900, records the earliest Camps formed, including notation that some were from the "Post System." At the bottom of the card there's a line labeled "Former." Notations were occasionally made there with a community name and a date (example - '89), indicating that a Camp may have operated there previously using either the name or number.

The ledgers, listing approved Applications for Camp Charter, begin in 1905 and run to the late 1940's. Although some of the material duplicates information in the card file, this listing provides dates of approval,

issuance of the Charter and when it was forwarded. Also included is the name of the Commander-in-Chief approving and issuing the Charter, and the General Orders in which these actions were recorded and published.

The material in the Membership Accounting Journal is more fragmentary and consists mostly of Camps dropped or disbanded. Also noted is the loss of Departments during our Order's difficult period from 1948 to 1973.

No comprehensive listing of Camps formed, or dropped, exists for the period from 1973 to the present. This remains a research task for another effort at a later time.

The material listed is an extract from the complete record and gives the location of the Camp. We can provide a report on the full line of information regarding an individual Camp, or multiple Camps in a community, if that applies. We can also provide a full listing for a Department (Division) if desired.

Both the State (Department) or Division is listed in all cases. During the early 1900s, the states making up Divisions shifted considerably, particularly in the Western States. Thus, we can provide a listing for a "Division" with multiple states showing the Camps that existed during that alignment.

It's helpful to review the introductory statement and commentary before going into the listings, as there are some search suggestions. Access to the state lists is secured through clicking on the state in the map provided.

This information will facilitate the search for surviving records of defunct Camps and could aid our search for surviving G.A.R. Post records. If there was a Camp in the same community, it should be as simple as asking another question. This searching should develop into parallel tracks.

The originals of the materials noted here have been placed at National Headquarters.

If you have, or find, information on Camps not listed in these data bases, please send it along so that we may update these files. Comments and suggestions are solicited. Contact information is provided on the site.

We have a great challenge before us to locate, preserve and share the records of our parent organization, the GAR, and to reclaim our own history. Hopefully this information now posted as the last item in the Special Projects section of our National web site will move us forward on this important work, HAPPY HUNTING!

GETTYSBURG HOTEL

Best Western

Established
1797

**Recapture the spirit
of Gettysburg at
the historic
Gettysburg Hotel.**

One Lincoln Square,
Gettysburg, PA 17325
(717) 337-2000

Toll Free Reservations:
1-866-EST-1797

E-mail - info@hotelgettysburg.com
www.hotelgettysburg.com





Michigan Dept. Supports GAR Record Conservation

By James T. Lyons,
GAR Records Officer

The Michigan Dept. GAR records are housed in the Michigan Archives at Lansing's Historical Center. The collection consists largely of Post reports on membership changes from 1879 to 1948.

The reports are grouped and filed by Post and include occasional correspondence regarding the need for changes or corrections in the reports filed. The Application for Charter and the report of the Post Mustering Officer, following the organization of a Post, are also often included.

Occasionally, Post Charters are included. Another collection of Dept. records includes a series of Charters organized and filed in numerical sequence, open and flat, in eight oversize folders.

The quality of paper used and the condition of the Charters varies greatly. Some Charters were in almost mint condition while others were in pieces and extremely fragile. I discussed the situation on a number of occasions with the Archives staff.

Last fall, an inventory of the Charters revealed there were 112 in the group filed flat. A search of the 77 archival boxes of the Post records added another 86 Charters to the count. (A listing is posted on the GAR Records Project page of the Michigan Dept. site)

Several significant items were found, including three Charters from Posts from which no other records survived. Now we have the names of these Posts' Charter members. The most interesting find was a Charter for a Post that operated at first, failed, and



Archivist Helen Taylor explains conservation work at Archives of Michigan to PDC James T. Lyons.

attempted Dept. operations from 1867 to 1872. This Post 50 Charter was dated Oct. 12, 1869. All other records from this time period were lost.

The survey finding and subsequent discussion with State Archivist Mark Harvey has led to the Archives developing a conservation and preservation program. The Michigan Dept. has provided funding of \$900 to get the project started.

The first task is to conserve and preserve the Post Charters. Tears and broken folds are being repaired, using special Japanese rice paper. Some Charters have been treated to reduce the paper's level of acidity. Those with severe damage will be pieced together, reinforced and encapsulated in polymer sheets to provide stability, but still allowing handling. Missing pieces cannot be replaced, but this will allow these documents to survive long into the future. Each of the Charters will now be stored flat in individual folders.



Veterans honored . . .



Camp 60 honors WWII Veteran

Theodore Pfeiffer Camp 60 (PA) held its annual Veterans Day service in New Oxford's Center Square. This past year's service was dedicated to the memory of Tech. 5th Grade John J. Yingling, one of two native sons, who was killed in action in WWII near Rennes, France, receiving the Purple Heart. Yingling's two surviving sisters placed a memorial wreath during the ceremony. Camp 60 has placed a bronze marker at the Yingling family gravesite.

Ohio Camp Dedicates Headstone

Last Veterans Day, John S. Townsend Camp 108 (OH) held a dedication ceremony for a new headstone in the New Lebanon Cemetery, Junction City. Pvt. Samuel Kokensparger, Co. C, 43rd OVI died in 1882 from diseases he contracted in the service and his grave had never been marked. After serving in Fuller's Ohio Brigade during Sherman's March to the Sea and through the Carolinas, Kokensparger was mustered out and returned to farming in Perry County.

Two great-great grandsons and two great-great-great grandsons are members of Camp 108.

Mass. Camps mark, dedicate grave

On Veterans Day, Members of Willie Grout Camp 25 were joined by AA Sherman Camp 18 and LA Tift Camp 15 in dedicating a stone to a previously unmarked grave in Worcester's Rural Cemetery. During the ceremony, the grave of Henry Wispalaere was decorated with a rose by his descendant, Robert Murray.



Members of C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1 and Auxiliary 4, and MG John Gibbon Camp 4 (WI) march in the annual Veterans Day Parade through downtown Milwaukee.



In Branson, MI



Photo by Christy Lindberg

The Parade of the American Soldier is made up of members and friends of Phelps Camp 66. Each participant represents a common soldier of a war/conflict in American history, from the Revolution to present day. Each “soldier” wears authentic uniforms and carries period weapons and equipment, and almost all of the members purchase these items with their own funds.

Besides participating in Veteran’s & Memorial Day parades

In Johnstown, PA

Col. Jacob M. Campbell Camp 14, Johnstown, Pa., teamed up with other like minded organizations in order to “right a wrong”, in honoring a local Civil War Medal of Honor Recipient. The Marine Corps League asked the Camp for assistance in correcting the improper grave stone of Cpl. George W. Reed, Co E, 11th PVI...the MOH emblem on Reed’s stone was upside down.

Under the direction of CC Randy Beisel, Br. Robert Dowler and PCC Harry Muncert, plans were made and funds were raised. Mary Campbell Aux., 11th PVI Preservation Fund, 11th PVI, Co K re-enactors, 54th PVI re-enactors and the Conemaugh Valley Marine Corps League lent support.

On Veteran’s Day, a new stone and brass plaque were unveiled in a ceremony at Johnstown’s Grand View Cemetery. Approximately 100 Camp officers and members, re-enactors and spectators were in attendance. There were three descendants of Cpl. Reed, as well as numerous descendants of other Civil War veterans. Salutes were fired by an Honor Guard and by Battery K, 5th US Artillery. His Citation reads:

Reed, George W., Pvt US Army,

Company E, 11th Pennsylvania Infantry

Braved enemy fire to capture the flag of the 24th North Carolina Volunteers (CSA)

Afterwards, the uniformed Color Guard and an Honor

“Shamed is a country with no heroes.

But shameful is the country that has them and forgets them.”

- Sir Winston Churchill

and ceremonies in Springfield and Branson, Missouri, the Camp members have also presented the Parade of the American Soldier program to various civic & educational groups, as well as a living history program at Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield. In 2001, at the SUVCW National Encampment in Springfield, Missouri, Phelps Camp members presented the Parade of the American Soldier as a special “campfire” program.

Guard moved to the GAR Circle, which is a center piece at the cemetery. The contingent read aloud parts of the service records of 64 veterans buried there.

Some of the group then attended a walking tour of the historic cemetery conducted by Camp P I. Scott Kubay. Later that afternoon, many of the attendees marched in the Johnstown Veteran’s Day Parade.

For more information or to make a donation, contact Robert Dowler, 724-238-6237 or mailto:

rjdowler@laurelweb.net rjdowler@laurelweb.net

Submitted by PCC Brad Foust, GRO.

Col. Jacob M. Campbell Camp 14, Johnstown, Pa.

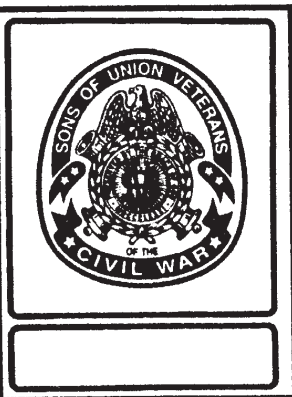
In Junction City, Ohio

Last Veterans Day, John S. Townsend Camp 108 (OH) held a dedication ceremony for a new headstone in the New Lebanon Cemetery, Junction City. Pvt. Samuel Kokensparger, Co. C, 43rd OVI died in 1882 from diseases he contracted in the service and his grave had never been marked. After serving in Fuller’s Ohio Brigade during Sherman’s March to the Sea and through the Carolinas, Kokensparger was mustered out and returned to farming in Perry County.

Two great-great grandsons and two great-great-great grandsons are members of Camp 108.



CAMP/DEPARTMENT ADS



Multi-Purpose Road Sign or Recruiting Sign

18" x 24" aluminum sign, silk-screened 3 colors for exterior use.

PRICES

(shipping included)

1-3 signs \$35 ea.

4 or more \$25 ea.

Custom lettering is not supplied, and is the responsibility of purchaser.

Send a check for the proper amount made to:

Dept. of Wisconsin Road Sign

641 Bowen St.

Oshkosh, WI 54901

Include a street address for UPS delivery. E-mail questions to: **tcraft@thesurf.com.**

SUVCW Pocket Patches / Hat Badge



Emblem Patch (shown left) = \$20
 Suitable for breast pocket on blazer
 (with gold & silver bullion thread)
 SUV-Wreath Kepi Hat Badge = \$30
All prices include S & H.

Send check or money order, made payable to
 "Department of Michigan, SUVCW" to:
 Brian Shumway, Dept. Treasurer
 127 W. Walnut, Hastings, MI 49058
 Email: brianne127@sbcglobal.net



TRUE BLUE S.U.V.C.W. BUMPER STICKERS ARE NOW AVAILABLE
 ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE USED TO REPLACE MISSING OR DAMAGED GRAVE MARKERS.

13x 3.5 S.U.V.C.W. Bumper Stickers are \$3.00 each plus postage.

POSTAGE:

1 for 2 stickers: \$.50 - 3 TO 6: \$.60

7 TO 11: \$.85 - 12 TO 15: \$1.10

Send Check or Money Order Only, Payable to The Dept. of Mass., S.U.V.C.W.

Mail your order to:

Kevin Tucker, DJVC

Dept. of Mass., S.U.V.C.W.

58 Forest Street

Wakefield, MA 01880

SUVCW Camp and Department Flags

Flags	3x5	4x6	
Camp	\$400	\$450	
Department	\$500	\$550	
26 star US	---	\$230	
Adjustable Parade Pole			\$52.00
Eagle			\$22.00
Spear			\$20.00
Neck Strap			\$25.00

Please send check or money order with order. Allow six weeks for delivery. Orders must be typed.

Given Camp No. 51

9057 Sr 83N

Holmesville, OH 44533

U.S. Grant Camp 68 Offerings

SUVCW & GAR Embroidered Items

Polo Shirts / Satin Jackets

Denim Shirts / Sweat Shirts

Plus: Address Labels; Coffee Mugs;

2 x 3 inch Plastic Name Badges;

Banners with Camp or Dept. Name.

6 - 8 weeks for delivery.

Current prices? Contact: Gary Scheel,
 809 Summit Park Drive, Pacific, MO 63069
 (636) 257-5247 • garymaryscheel@aol.com

BRASS BUCKLES

\$20 +\$5 SHIPPING



MAIL TO :

HARTRANFT CAMP 15

c/o DAVID SOSNOWSKI

8063 WOLSY COURT

PASADENA, MD 21122-6459

Department News

California & Pacific

The Generals Sedgwick-Granger Camp 17 recently performed a "Last Soldier" grave marker dedication at the Anaheim Cemetery. The project was researched and spearheaded by Camp GRO Charles Beal, and Camp SVC Paul Gillette acted as the master of ceremonies.

William Burton Crandall was a Civil War veteran, the last Malvern Hill GAR Post Commander, and Orange County's last living Civil War veteran, when he passed away on December 2, 1945 at the age 95. His grave in the small GAR plot was unmarked and the plot had become neglected over the years.

Born March 10, 1851 in Cohoes, NY; Crandall was said to be large for his age and ran away to enlist as a substitute at age 13. While serving in Co. I, 52nd NY Inf., he was wounded twice in Spring 1864; once in the hand at Fredricksburg, and then severely in the head near Spotsylvania Court House, Va.

President Lincoln visited him at Washington DC's Finley Hospital and upon asking Crandall's age exclaimed, "I didn't know that we were taking soldiers from the cradle." By special order, Crandall was to be immediately discharged from the Army. Ironically, this was predicated on repayment of any bounties that he may have been paid. His father had to enlist the help of a Congressman to persuade the War Dept. that his son had received no bounty. A further irony was that Crandall was given a 30-day leave to his home to help recover from his wound while his discharge was processed; but having not recovered sufficiently; he was reported as a deserter, when he did not return to the hospital after 30 days.

After the war, Crandall recuperated with his family in New York. He married, had one son, and lived for some time in Toledo, Ohio and New Bedford, Mass. William was admitted to the Sawtelle Soldiers Home in April 1919 and moved to Orange County in 1933, where he lived with church friends. Although the Purple Heart Medal did not exist during the Civil War, the War Dept. presented the medal to William in 1935. In October 1942, he gave the Malvern Hill GAR Post Charter and records to the Fullerton City Library and lived out his last years in a convalescent home.

The SUVCW, in cooperation with the Anaheim Cemetery and the Orange County Cemetery District, dedicated a new VA marker last Remembrance Day. Three other Civil War veteran grave markers were rededicated, along with a plaque identifying the GAR plot. Also participating was the Elizabeth Hill-Mills Tent 88, DUVCW, and an honor guard from the 5th New York zouave re-enactors.

William T. Sherman Camp 28 (Santa Barbara County area) was established on July 24, 2006. Certification and

installation of officers was recently held at the IHOP restaurant in Santa Barbara on December 2nd. The camp was honored with the presence of DC Tad D. Campbell, who performed the official swearing in ceremonies.



Left to right: JVC Alex F. Grzywacki, DC Tad D. Campbell, SVC G. Thomas McCullough, Councilmember Everett R. Lee, CC Robert E. Duncan and Councilmember William J. Stewart. Not pictured: Secretary/Treasurer Roger Knox and Councilmember David Pettitt.

Florida



Florida DC Harvey Linscott mans the SUVCW display at the Battle of Olustee re-enactment. The display, constructed by Br. Jerry Lippincott, attracted a lot of favorable attention and several applications were distributed to interested men in the Daytona Beach and Flagler County area.

(Please turn to Page 16)



Michigan

(Continued from Page 15)

HISTORY CHANNEL CALLS BROTHERS

By PCC Neal F. Breaugh.

Robert Finch Camp 14, Dept. of Michigan

Last year, Robert Finch Camp 14 Commander and sharpshooter historian Bill Skillman responded to a researcher who wanted to make a film about Native Americans in the Civil War. Writer Tom Hart wanted to include the Co. K, 1st Michigan Sharpshooters. Bill was very familiar with the Odawa and Chippewa soldiers and promptly recommended Ray Herek and Chris Czopek. Ray authored *These Men Have Seen Hard Service* (Wayne State University Press 1998), the first-ever chronicle of the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters. He was also a Charter Member of a Harrisville Camp. Chris, nicknamed "The History Detective," is a member of Marshall's Colegrove-Woodruff Camp 22.

The 'Company K' story began in the early 1990's, with the start of the Michigan Dept.'s Grave Registration project. Chris became intrigued by gravestones bearing lyrical names like 'Payson Wolf', 'Daniel Mwa-ke-wenaw' and 'Sash-ko-ban-quot'. Their headstones bore the same unit: Co. K, 1st MI. SS. There were 152 Odawa and Chippewa Indians who, because of their superior marksmanship, were organized into that single company. In 1993, Chris and Ray Herek began corresponding, freely sharing all of their information.

Mr. Hart was working for Emmy award winning documentary writer/producer Marcy Marzuki, who wanted to tell the story of Native Americans' roll in the American Civil War. So Chris informed her of Ray's book and offered her his own considerable files. Ray then flew to Oklahoma City and

spent a day being filmed as one of the expert commentators.

Unfortunately, the film was edited to primarily focus on Creek Indian-Gen. Stand Waitie, whose command was the last to surrender to U.S. forces in July 1865. Ray's general comments and a brief mention of Michigan Sharpshooter Indians were included. Both Ray and Chris were credited as consultants...the first Sons to share this distinction.

Last November 26th, the History Channel broadcast "Indian Warriors – The Untold Story of the Civil War". Many of the Michigan Sons who had learned of Ray and Chris' association with the film project were watching.

Afterwards, Ms. Marzuki told Ray and Chris that "Indian Warriors" had received praise from both professional critics and the viewing audience, and she was hopeful that a sequel would be made. Both Ray and Chris are confident that if filming begins, they will be there, doing their part to 'keep green the memory.'

Ohio

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the death of the last GAR member, Albert Woolson, Henry Casey Camp 92 had a replica of the GAR membership badge custom made for placement on the Veterans Wall in the Washington Cemetery. This section of the cemetery is on the National Register of Historic Places. The GAR emblem joins the insignias of other veterans groups previously mounted on the Veterans Wall. Both Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies are held at this location in the cemetery. Financial grants from the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Charitable Foundation and the SUVCW Memorial Fund helped pay for the GAR emblem.

Final Muster

Robert M. Bettinson
Gen. D Couch Camp 26 (MA)
May 30, 2006

Donald Gilbert
Francine Camp 7 (NJ)
May 31, 2006

Martin E. Smith
Gore Camp 141 (PA)
June 4, 2006

Kent M. Ruhl
Brindle Camp 50 (PA)
June 19, 2006

Percival Royston
Baldwin Camp 544 (NY)
July 12, 2006

Robert H. Crawford
Fredrick Jackson Camp 7 (FL)
July 27, 2006

Joseph F. Salmon, Sr
Willard Camp 154 (NY)
September 7, 2006

Sylvester G. Murphy
Jenkins Camp 129 (MA)
October 2006

Albert Fudger
Sydney Camp 41 (NY)
October 5, 2006

Louis Smith
Meade Camp 5 (MD)
October 15, 2006

George H. Johnson
Francine Camp 7 (NJ)
October 25, 2006

Robert E. Mallett, Sr.
William T Sherman Camp 25 (FL)
October 24, 2006

William C. Surray
Lincoln Camp 6 (NY)
November 17, 2006

Walter H. Ashmead, Jr
Lincoln Camp 6 (NY)
November 23, 2006

Richard E. Locke, Jr
Patchin Camp 26 (CA&Pac)
November 29, 2006

Merle J. Hagerman
Prichard Camp 20 (MI)
December 2, 2006

Ralph Michaels (LM 392)
Col. J. M. Campbell Camp 14 (PA)
January 2007

Jerome Harter
David D. Porter Camp 116 (IN)
January 2, 2007

Wayne E. McElfrish
Townsend Camp 108 (OH)
January 14, 2007

James B. Pugsley III
Carpenter - Welch Camp 180 (MI)
January 15, 2007

Wilbur E. Pash
Benjamin Harrison Camp 356 (IN)
January 17, 2007

Michael D. Mitchell
Curtenius Guard Camp 17 (MI)
January 22, 2007

Dale F. Calder
Russell A. Alger Camp 462 (MI)
February 2, 2007

Rev. Henry Reimmwald
Boyce M. Tope
Grant Camp 101 (MI)



Cemetery Superintendent Rankin Kirkpatrick (right), Camp 92 PCC William E. Radabaugh (left) and PCC Robert E. Morris (center) inspect the GAR emblem recently installed in Washington Cemetery.

Pennsylvania

Davis * Camp rescued this Civil War MOH stain glass window. As best as can be determined, it's from the Alexander Hays Post 3 Hall, in the Pittsburgh area.

The Ebay seller, who had no idea what it was worth, was contacted and was not interested in entertaining a price if she ended the auction. She agreed to have our curator see the piece. He placed a value on the window and the Camp placed a bid, winning it for well under its value.

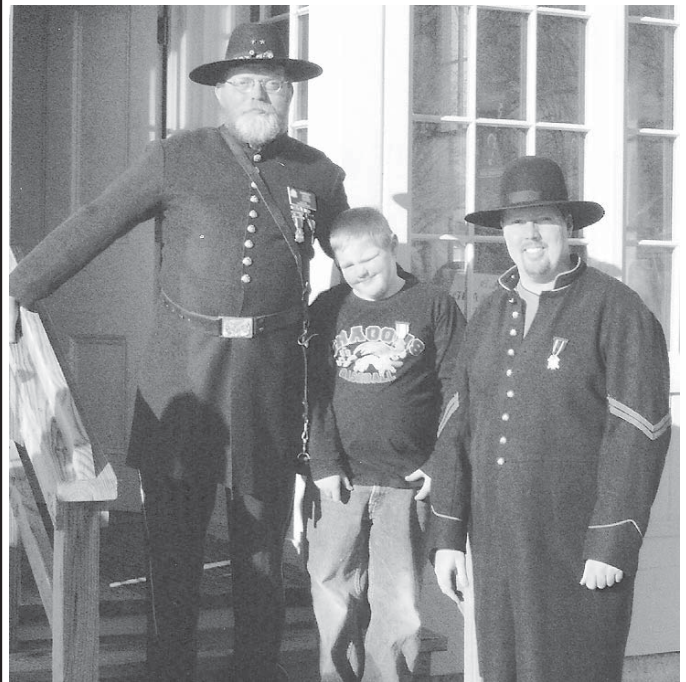


The Museum paid the bid amount and had it picked-up by the curator. The Camp acted as an intermediary, as a Camp member had first found the window on eBay. This avoided price inflation, had it become common knowledge that the Museum was interested in the piece.

Only the 8x11 center of the window survived. It now resides in Soldiers and Sailors Hall of Valor, mounted in a protective display.

Over a damp, but warm weekend in January, several members of Anna M. Ross Camp 1 cleaned up the Gen. U.S. Grant GAR Post 5 and Courtland Saunders GAR Post 21 plots in Philadelphia's Mt Moriah Cemetery. The plots contained large amounts of trash and were in poor condition, over run by brush, thorns and poison

Iowa



Three generations of SUVCW members (left to right): Iowa DC Ron Rittel, Junior Austin Rittel and CC Dan Rittel pause after ceremonies at the Redfield GAR Hall.

ivy. The sections of Mt Moriah where the GAR plots are located are largely forgotten and neglected by everyone, including the cemetery staff... everyone except for the members of the SUVCW. Clearing the large amount of undergrowth now will allow the Camp to maintain the plots easier later this year.



Pictured are Chuck Gilson, Ralph Prince, Diane Harris, Chris Harris, Al Harrison, Andy Carr, Pete Matijasick and John Green.

Rhode Island

On the 125th Anniversary of the SUVCW, the Rhode Island Dept. GR Committee held a rededication of the Prescott GAR Post 1 burial site in Providence. Despite cold temperatures, *(Please turn to Page 18)*



(Continued from Page 17)



rain, and howling wind, the ceremony was well attended. SUVCW representatives from National, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and New Jersey attended, as well as more than 30 re-enactors, Infantry and Artillery units for salutes, SVR Color Guard, and the Providence Brigade Band. (There are 316 Veterans, representing 15 states, buried within the Post's plot and 627 American Civil War Veterans in the entire Cemetery with more being discovered. It's central location within the State with high visibility from three major roadways including I-95 made the site a natural focal point. (The Dept. GR Committee includes brothers Benjamin Frail, Robert Howe, Henry Duquette, David Duggan, Mike Lannigan, Brian Guiot, Perry Denham, Robert Renehan, Geoffery Gardner, Francis Gussie and Thomas J Cinq-Mars. Information on the cemetery can be found at <http://prescottpost1.tripod.com>

Wisconsin

C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1 recently celebrated its 105th Anniversary at the home of one of its members, Glen Grippen, who is director of Milwaukee's Zablocki VA Medical Center. Brother Glen lives in the 1866 military governor's mansion of the historic Soldiers Home, on the grounds of the VA. The Camp enjoyed the company of J. Phillip Walthers, a descendant of Camp founder and former JVCinC, Frederick Julius Walthers, and Soldiers Home Foundation president Kristin Gilpatrick, who's a descendant of Sons founder Maj. A.P. Davis' first wife. C.K. Pier Badger Auxiliary 4, the Woman's Relief Corps, and Reclaiming Our Heritage were also represented.

Camps at Large

Georgia

On January 17, Elias Moon Camp 2, Snellville, Ga., presented a copy of the "Roster and History of the Department of Georgia Grand Army of the Republic 1894" to the Georgia Archives in Morrow, Ga. The book, which documents the history of the GAR in Georgia, is a rare publication of which only two copies are known to exist. It provides a detailed snapshot of the GAR posts chartered in Georgia and South Carolina as of 1894, listing membership and members' former regiments. It documents the ten posts

in existence at that time. 19 GAR posts were ultimately established in the two states. The copy presented to the Georgia Archives originated from the Minnesota Hist. Soc., which graciously permitted Elias Moon Camp to make copies of its original printing.

This document was discovered by Elias Moon Camp member Ernest E. Blevins, MFA, during research for a related historical project. It's an exciting piece of history that tells the little known story of the numerous Union Civil War veterans, both native Southerners and "Yankee" transplants, who resided in Georgia and South Carolina in the aftermath of the Civil War.



Members of Elias Moon Camp 2, gather at grave site of Civil War MOH Recipient Pvt. Dennis Buckley for rededication ceremonies at Marietta National Cemetery.

North Carolina



Police Lieutenant Kevin Motter was recently awarded the S.A.R. Law Enforcement Medal in ceremonies conducted at the Fayetteville Ind. Light Infantry Armory [Fayetteville NC] by the Marquis de Lafayette Chapter Pres. Bob Henderson. Lt. Motter serves as Secretary/Treasurer of the Thomas H. Ruger Camp 1 At-Large. Lt. Motter greatly exceeded the requirements for the award by his exceptional training, deep patriotism and outstanding work on the Spring Lake NC Police force.



Washington remembers Lincoln on his birthday



PDP Janice Harding and NP Barbara Mayberry place wreath at the Lincoln Memorial while MOLLUS members look on.

*By Helen L. Geppi,
National Press Correspondent*

The 198th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birthday was celebrated Monday, February 12th, 12 noon, at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. A beautiful day for a beautiful celebration! Master of Ceremonies was Peter Arrott Dixon, LBNCC. Presentation of wreaths were made by the represented Allied Orders which included MOLLUS CinC Benjamin C. Frick, Esq., SUVCW CinC James B. Pahl, WRC NP Lois Didier assisted by Carole LaRue, LGAR NP Phylliss Houston assisted by PCinC Charles Corfman, DUVCW PNP Shirley Boris; ASUVCW Nat. Rep. to Washington, D.C. Millie Ames, and ASUVCW NP Barbara Mayberry assisted by Nat. Patriotic Instructor PDP Janice Harding.

The Air Force Band played a melody of patriotic hymns and our Nation Anthem. Other organizations and government dignitaries were present and many fitting tributes were made. The ceremonies ended with the playing of "Taps".

Following the ceremonies at the Lincoln Memorial, a luncheon was held at the Channel Inn in Washington. Good food and fellowship prevailed.

Such a fitting tribute was done by so many for our dear President Lincoln on that his 198th birthday. God Bless you, Father Abraham!



**A
U
X
I
N
L
E
I
W
A
S
R
Y**

Wisconsin meets



Auxiliary sisters discuss membership initiatives and fund-raising during the Wisconsin Department Mid-Winter Meeting in February.

Auxiliary Department Encampments:

Date	Department	Location
7 April	Rhode Island	Warwick
14 April	Massachusetts	Boxborough
21 April	New Hampshire	Concord
	Maryland/Delaware	Chantilly, VA
28 April	Maine	Waterville
	Vermont	Rutland
5 May	Connecticut	East Windsor
1-3 June	New York	Waterloo
9 June	Wisconsin	Boscobel
16 June	New Jersey	Lawrenceville
15-17 June	Ohio	Alliance
28-30 June	Pennsylvania	Bethlehem



New Civil War Museum to Open **“Hearts Touched By Fire”**

A new regional Civil War Museum is being built on the western shore of Lake Michigan and is slated to open on March 29, 2008.

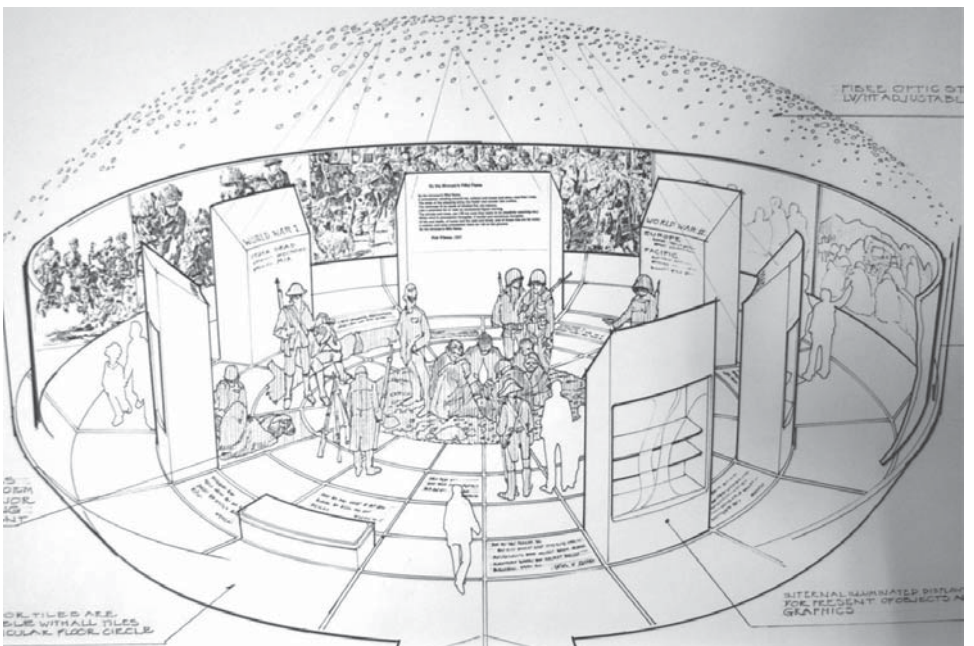
When completed, the new museum in Kenosha, Wisconsin, will encompass 59,000 square feet and its exhibits will focus on the role of six Midwestern states before, during and after the Civil War: Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Through state-of-the-art museum technology, life-size dioramas and interactive engaging exhibits, visitors will travel back in history to the social, political and economic influences that contributed to the war.

The new museum is part of the revitalization of 69 acres of the city’s lakefront, left blighted in 1989 after the Chrysler Plant closed. In addition to both the Kenosha Public Museum (opened in 2001) and the new Civil War Museum, HarborPark includes 300 new apartments and condominiums, restaurants, parkland, a marina and a 2-mile authentic electric street-car route.

Kenosha is a city of 90,000, located on the southwestern shore of Lake Michigan, 35 miles south of Milwaukee and 60 miles north of Chicago.

The museum has offered meeting space to the Wisconsin Department and support for a new Camp in the area.





The Guidon

4th Military District Artillery School Planned

A School of the Piece, a muzzle-loading artillery safety qualification program for re-enactors and living historians, will be held June 23-24, at Jefferson Barracks County Park in south St. Louis County, MO. The program is presented by the National Civil War Artillery Association and the SVR's 4th Military District.

NCWAA staff members will instruct and qualify. BG Charles Corfman, SVR instructor at the last four St. Louis artillery schools, will also instruct. Cannoneers successfully



Men training on mountain howitzer drill during the 2005 Artillery Safety School in Missouri. Ames 3-pdr shown.

Personnel Action

Effective 26 February 2007, 1st Sergeant Frank C. Avila, having been duly elected Commander of Co. C, 8th California Volunteer Infantry, 6th Military District, is commissioned a First Lieutenant, SVR.

NOTICE TO ALL SVR ATTENDING THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT:

JOIN YOUR BROTHERS
AT THE ANNUAL SVR BREAKFAST
ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 2007
AT 0700

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS ARE
RECOMMENDED

SEE THE INSIDE REAR
MAILING COVER
OF THIS BANNER
FOR YOUR RESERVATION FORM.

completing the course will be issued a qualification card valid for two years.

Crews and guns from all muzzle-loading periods (Civil War and earlier) and serving under all flags are welcome and encouraged to attend. Re-enactors and living historians who do not regularly serve with the artillery, but who wish to extend their knowledge, are also welcome.

Interested individuals and units should contact Maj. Jack Grothe, SVR, at (314) 631-7492, or Cpt. Randy Baehr, Turner Brigade, at (314) 962-4690, email robaehr@earthlink.net, for registration materials. Registration forms are also available online at <http://home.earthlink.net/~turnerbrigade/artyschl.htm>. Registration will close on June 2, 2007. Checks for the \$15 registration fee should be made payable to "HQ 4th Military District, SVR" and should be submitted with registration forms by the close of registration.

Period camping will be permitted on site. Water, straw, firewood, and indoor sanitary facilities will be provided free. Motels are located nearby for those participants who do not want to camp. A variety of restaurants are available nearby for evening dining.



The Guidon

SVR Challenge Coin Offered

Coining has its roots in the Roman Empire, where coins were presented to reward achievements. In the U.S. military, it's said coining began during WWI, when a young American pilot down behind enemy lines, escaped his captors carrying a medallion, showing his unit insignia in a pouch around his neck. The medallion or coin proved his identity, as he made his way back to his squadron, which soon adopted the practice of carrying a unit medallion. Years later, WWII soldiers were given a coin when they mustered out of the service.

During the 1960s, a member of the 11th Special Forces Group took old coins, had them stamped over with a different emblem and then presented them to unit members. The 10th SFG adopted the idea and was the first and only Army unit with its own coin until the mid-1980s. Numerous units in various branches of the service picked up on the idea and the tradition has spread to paramilitary units like the U.S. Marshall's SWAT Team. Coins from all organizations have become highly collectible.

Originally, the coins, which bore the unit crest on the front and whatever the unit wanted on the back, were given out by commanders and sergeants major to recognize outstanding acts performed by soldiers in the course of duty. It wasn't until the Vietnam era that a "challenge-response" was added to the tradition. The initial challenge to prove unit membership was followed by the requirement to "buy a round." Today, the challenge can be anything. If you don't have your coin, you get the detail.

The SVR recently introduced its own challenge coin. The front shows the SVR emblem. The reverse shows the GAR emblem, found on grave markers. The SVR Challenge Coin sells for \$5.00 ea. plus shipping.and can be ordered in quantity or in individually. Make all checks payable to "TAG-SVR"

Contact Col. Henry Shaw, Adjutant General, SVR, 27 Griswold St., Delaware, Ohio 43015 or at hshaw@columbus.rr.com

* From Soldiers Magazine, August '94, Vol. 49, No. 8: Coining A Tradition by Maj. Jeanne Fraser Brooks.



FRONT



BACK

New Units Organized

Since last November, the following new SVR units have been chartered:

<u>District</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Commander</u>
2 nd MD	Co. A, James River Rifles	Madison Heights, Virginia	1Sgt. T. N. Ake
	Weber Guard	Lackawanna, New York	1Sgt. R. A. Wiltshire, II
3 rd MD	Bridgewater Scouts	Lincoln County, Kentucky	1Sgt. Timothy H. Downey
6 th MD	1 st Reg. Indian Terr. Guard	Tulsa, Oklahoma	1Sgt. Bernard R. Cooper

WHAT IS IT REALLY? FROM INDEX PAGE: A free meal? Not really. A creative brother obviously unable to sleep created this whimsical sign on his computer to remind us that recruiting time is just around the corner.

Collecting the Sons



The Maj. AP Davis
By PDC Robert J. Wolz, National Historian

An unusual badge that occasionally turns up in antique shops and on online auctions is the Major AP Davis badge. At least five different varieties have been found. While the metal pendant and pin bar are the same, the ribbon clearly indicates different badges. No determination as to quantities made has been located, but it is relatively rare. The badge consists of an oval pendant bearing the likeness of Augustus Plummer Davis, founder of the Sons of Veterans, USA. The reverse reads: "Major A.P. Davis born Gardiner, Maine May 10, 1835." Logically, it was issued while the Major was alive, as there is no death date. The pin bar is an elongated US eagle with spread wings. Both badge and pin bar are made of antiqued bronze. Three different ribbons have been discovered (Type I, II, and III). Photos confirm that these badges were in use in the early 1890s, so they were most probably used as recruiting awards presented by Major Davis. Blue, red and gold ribbons likely indicate increasing levels of members recruited. Type IV was awarded to participants at Major A.P. Davis' funeral. The badges were probably produced by Bailey, Biddle and Banks Jewelers of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Type I - blue/gray grosgrain ribbon edged in red & gold

Type IIa- red grosgrain with thin gold and blue edging.

Type IIb- red grosgrain ribbon single thin gold stripe on each side. Three thin gold stripes in center of ribbon

Type III – gold ribbon with red and blue edging.

Type IV - black grosgrain ribbon .In 1899, Mrs. A.P. Davis issued these badges to the members of the Sons Order that participated in her husband's funeral in Pittsburgh. An example with the black ribbon is displayed at the Soldiers & Sailors Building in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Type V- On May 21, 1999, the centennial of Major Davis death, Davis * Camp of Pittsburgh, Pa issued a re-strike of this badge made of pewter with antique gold plate and modern clutch pin

Look what's under our arches this August . . .



**The 126th National Encampment of the
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

August 9, 10, 11, 2007

St. Louis Hilton Frontenac

Information may be found on your mail cover of this edition!

MEDAL COMMEMORATES LOGAN, 1887 ENCAMPMENT



In September, 1887, the GAR held its 21st National Encampment in St. Louis. The GAR had 372,600 members and approximately 40,000 attended the event. All the hotels were filled; people opened their houses and tent cities were set up to house the veterans attending. GAR PCinC John Logan had passed away the preceding December 26th and so, a limited edition medal was produced for the 1887 National Encampment honoring him.

A numbered reproduction of the medal is being produced with a date reflecting this year's SUVCW National Encampment. A two medal limit per person has been set. Medals are \$15 each plus \$5 S&H if mailed. Make your check payable to Department of Missouri.

2007 Commemorative Medal
c/o Robert M. Petrovic, PDC
6519 Cherokee Lane,
Cedar Hill, MO. 63016-2527