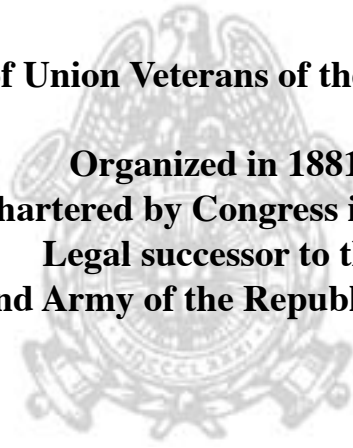


**QUARTERLY JOURNAL  
TIME-DATED MATERIAL**

**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

**Organized in 1881  
Chartered by Congress in 1954  
Legal successor to the  
Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)**



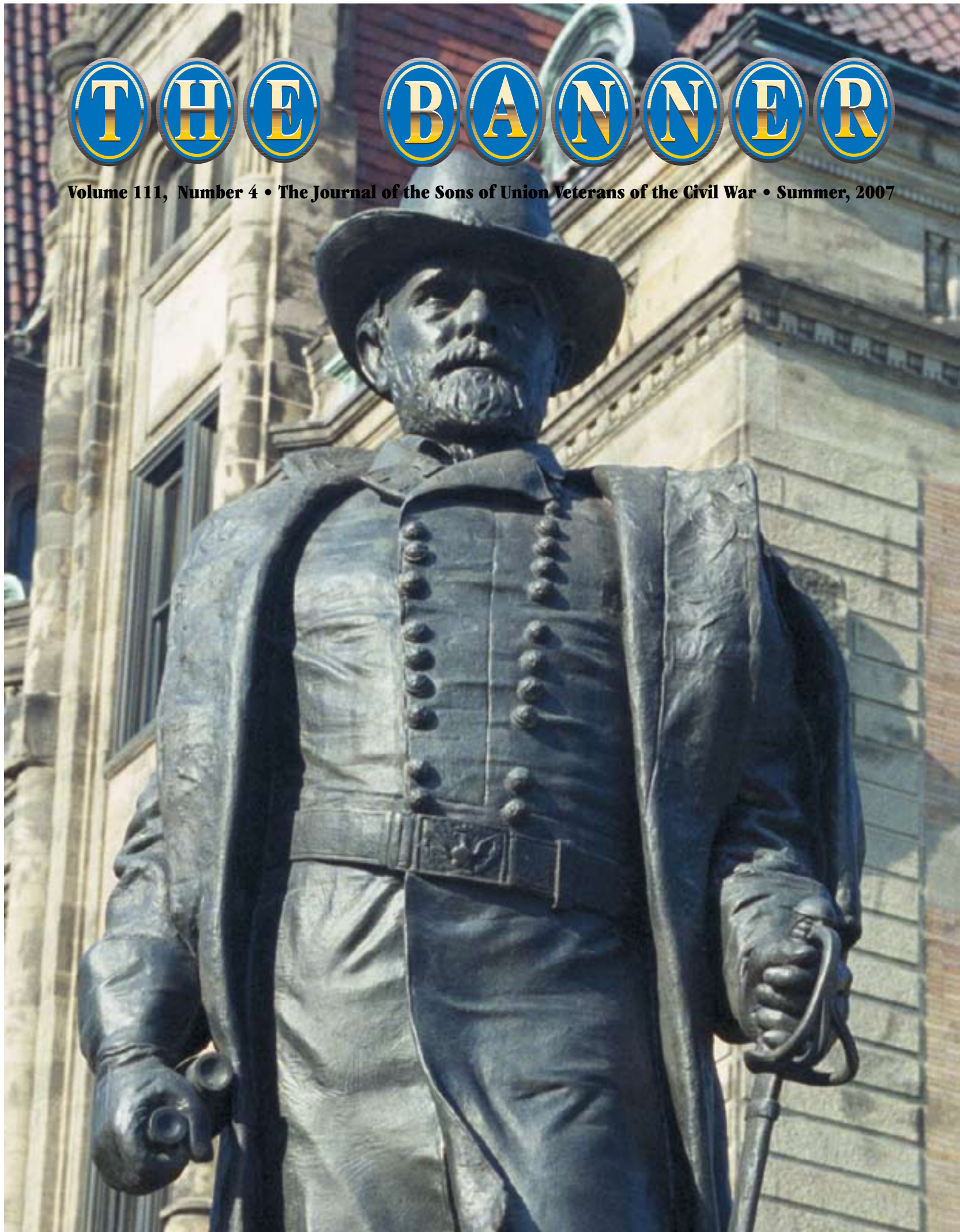
# Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War 126th National Encampment St. Louis, Missouri – August 9-12, 2007

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Officer in Charge</u>
<b>THURSDAY, AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup></b>		
2 – 4 pm	On site Registration	PCinC George Powell
3 – 8 pm	Tour of Jefferson Barracks & U.S. Grant Historic site	PDC Robert Petrovic
7 – 9 pm	On site Registration	PCinC George Powell
8:30 pm	Council of Admin. Meeting	CinC James B. Pahl
<b>FRIDAY, AUGUST 10<sup>TH</sup></b>		
7:30 am – 5 pm	On site Registration	PCinC George Powell
8 – 9 am	Memorial Service	Nat. Chap. Jerry Kowalski
9:30 – 11:30 am	Business Session	CinC James B. Pahl
11:30 am – 1 pm	Lunch	
1 – 5 pm	Business Session	CinC James B. Pahl
5:30 pm	PCinCs' & PNP's Dinner	
7 -8:30 pm	Campfire Program	Missouri Department
8:30 – 10 pm	Courtesy Hour	CofS PDC Donald Palmer
<b>SATURDAY, AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup></b>		
7 – 8 am	SVR Breakfast	BG David V. Medert
8 – 11:30 am	On site Registration	PCinC George Powell
8:30 – 11:30 am	Business Session	CinC James B. Pahl
11:30 am – 1 pm	Lunch	
1 – 5 pm	Business Session	CinC James B. Pahl
6:30 – 8:30 pm	Banquet	PDC Robert Petrovic
8:30 pm - ?	Open House	CinC James B. Pahl
<b>SUNDAY, AUGUST 12<sup>TH</sup></b>		
8 am	Council of Admin. Meeting	CinC Elect

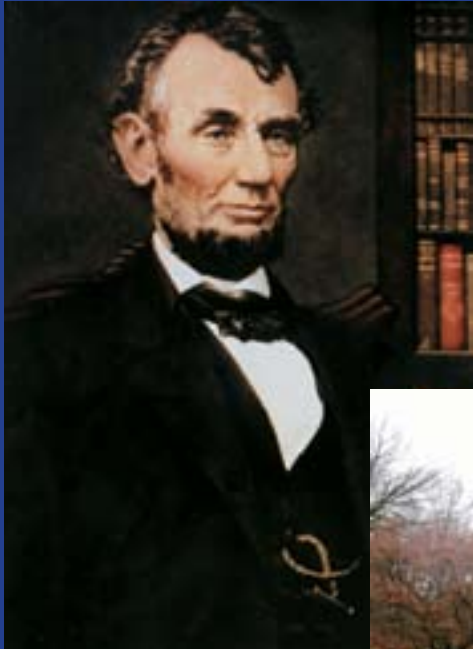
# THE BANNER

Volume 111, Number 4 • The Journal of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War • Summer, 2007





# Lincoln Tomb Ceremony Springfield, IL



*Below: Photo by Tim Beckman*



*Below: 33rd Illinois Vol. Regiment Band marching (photo by Edward L. Corley)*





# GAR Founder's Ceremony Petersburg, IL



*Left: IL PDC Ron Clark summarizes the life of GAR Founder Dr. B.F. Stephenson*



*B.F. Stephenson*



*Right: Nat. Chaplain Jerry Kowalski leads the ceremony at Dr. Stephenson's grave.*





# On the Road With the Commander-in-Chief



*Left: New Iowa DC Kevin Pearson getting pinned*



*Above: With officers of the Nebraska Department at their Encampment*



*Left: With DC Tad Campbell at the 121st Encampment of the Department of California and Pacific.*



*Installing new officers at the Michigan Dept. Encampment.*







Photo at left: Who are they really? Answer on Page 18

*On the Cover: St. Louis' General Grant statue stands in Washington Park, in front of City Hall. Sculpted by Robert P. Bringham, the city's first professional sculptor, the monument is the earliest in the downtown area, which still stands today. It was presented by the Grant Monument Association in 1888 and was moved to its present location ten years later, when a new city hall was built. A plaque on the front of the statue depicts the Battle of Lookout Mountain.--Photo by Cher Petrovic*

# 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.

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SUVCW Commander-in-Chief  
James B. Pahl

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Please support the financial funds of our Order. All contributions are fully tax deductible. Your check or money order should be made payable to "National Organization, SUVCW." On the Memo line, please indicate where to direct your donation (Honor Roll, GAR Fund, Civil War Memorial Preservation Fund, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Fund, National Headquarters Fund, General Fund, or the Permanent Fund). For Honor Roll donations (\$10 min.), please enclose the name of the person whom you wish to memorialize. Mail all contributions to:  
Max L. Newman, National Treasurer - SUVCW  
4995 E. Wilkinson Rd., Owosso, MI 48867-9616

### PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

Winter  
Deadline - Oct. 15

Spring  
Deadline - Jan. 15

Summer  
Deadline - Apr. 15

Autumn  
Deadline - Aug. 15



## Council of Administration Meeting Minutes - Springfield, IL

The Nat. Council of Administration meeting, held April 14<sup>th</sup> in Springfield, IL, was called to order by CinC James B. Pahl at 7:05 PM. In addition to the CinC, voting Council Members answering the roll-call of officers were Nat. Treas. Max Newman, Nat. Sec. Michael Bennett, Council Members James Hanby, Leo Kennedy, Daniel Murray, and D. Brad Schall, and Immediate PCinC Don Darby. Nat. Counselor Donald Shaw, a non-voting member of the Council, was also present. Additional PCinCs present were Keith G. Harrison, Alan R. Loomis, Edward J. Krieser, and Stephen Michaels. Guests: Exec. Dir. Lee Walters, Nat. Chief of Staff Donald Palmer, Foundation Dir. Robert Petrovic, and Brs. Henry Shaw, Dean Sargent, Keith Young and Tom Brown. SVCinC Charles Kuhn, JVCinC David Medert, Nat. QM Danny L. Wheeler, PCinC, Council Member Eric Schmincke, and Nat. Washington D.C. Rep. Andrew Johnson, PCinC were excused.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by an opening prayer led by Chief of Staff Palmer.

The New York Dept. requested via PCinC Danny Wheeler a license to use the SUVCW logo on a 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary Dept. badge. A photo of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary badge, which this new badge will be modeled after, was shown. PCinC Darby moved, Council Member Hanby seconded and the motion that the license be granted passed unanimously.

A communication was presented from MO DC John Avery, requesting an extension of the deadline for submission of Election Report Form 22s, as two Camps had not yet submitted their reports. No reason for the Camps' tardiness was provided and the Camps had not been suspended. PCinC Darby moved that the request be denied, and that the Dept. be directed to suspend the two Camps currently in violation of Regulations. Council Member Hanby seconded and after thorough discussion, the motion passed five votes to two, with Council Members Kennedy and Schall in opposition.

The GAR Post Records Committee then gave a presentation, recommending that a GAR Post Records Officer be created at the Camp and Dept. level, to assist in the work of the Nat. Standing Committee. PCinC Darby moved that the matter be forwarded to the C&R Committee for their review and the creation of these new Officer positions, and that the Prog. and Pol. Committee be directed to create job descriptions for the Dept. and Camp level GAR Post Records Officers, as well as for the Nat. Standing Comm. itself. A second was offered by Brother Kennedy. The motion passed unanimously.

CinC Pahl proposed approaching the other Allied

Orders and asking them to send a representative member to an exploratory committee, which would determine what would be required to bring all five Orders together for annual Encampments. Council Member Hanby moved, Council Member Kennedy seconded and the motion to do this was passed unanimously.

CinC Pahl noted that a SUV plain blade sword from the Ames Sword Company will be available for sale through the Nat. QM. The sword can be engraved for an additional fee.

The three nominations/recommendations received for the SUVCW Founders Award were then shared. They were for Milwaukee's Reclaiming Our Heritage Chairman Laura J. Rinaldi, Harrisburg, PA Mayor Stephen R. Reed, and Lindsay Misegades of Missouri. After some discussion regarding how many nominees could receive the award this year, Council Member Schall moved that only one recipient be chosen in 2007. This was seconded by PCinC Darby and passed unanimously. Council Member Kennedy then moved that, since there are three worthy candidates, ballots be cast by the members of the Council with the recipient of the most ballots being given the award. This was also seconded by PCinC Darby and passed unanimously. Council Members cast six ballots for Ms. Misegades, and one for Mayor Reed. Lindsay Misegades will receive the 2007 Founders Award.

CinC Pahl then announced his recommendations for the Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star. The names have been omitted from these minutes. Council Member Schall moved, Council Member Hanby seconded and the motion that these Brothers receive the award passed unanimously.

It was then noted that Gen. George G. Meade Camp 5 (MD) had requested a license from the Council to use the SUVCW name and logo on a Challenge Coin. Council Member Hanby moved and PCinC Darby seconded that the request be granted. The motion was unanimously approved.

CinC Pahl then noted that there were three electronic boardroom votes that had not yet been closed. Council Member Hanby voted that the call for voting for all three motions be closed and, with a majority in favor in each case, these motions be approved. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kennedy and passed unanimously.

Br. Henry Shaw then spoke on two artillery pieces in Hermosa, SD in need of restoration work. These pieces were presented to the GAR and are reported to have come from Ft. Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas. The guns' ownership may have been incorrectly transferred to the local cemetery association some time ago. Br. Shaw



asked if the Council wished him to continue to work with Hermosa residents to clear up the title matter, as well as assist in obtaining and directing funds for the guns' restoration. PCinC Darby moved and Council Member Hanby seconded that Br. Shaw be authorized to continue working on the legal aspects of this project. The motion passed unanimously. To aid in future restoration, Council Member Schall agreed to make a visit during his upcoming travels to that area to examine the pieces and survey their condition and needs.

Sec. Bennett updated the Council on his attempts to reacquire lost or misplaced records of the Order. Several boxes of SUVCW records had been retrieved from the Carlisle War College, where they had been left and were in danger of damage or disposal, and found their way to a PA brother's garage. At the 2006 Nat. Encampment, this Brother was asked to make these records available to the Order so that they can be moved to the Nat. HQ in Harrisburg. Although he agreed, this has not yet been done and this Brother has also declined to respond to Sec. Bennett's written reminder. Sec. Bennett was directed to seek the assistance of SVCinC Kuhn of PA.

Sec. Bennett then read an e-mail from Washington D.C. Rep. Johnson in which he encouraged the Order to examine our Protection of Veterans Memorials Resolution and match it with the Resolution passed by the American Legion, and then begin a program of supporting State legislation where needed. CinC Pahl suggested that we need to identify the specifics of the current House Bill, as well as what actions the American Legion has already taken, and then make this information available to the Council for review and appropriate action.

Sec. Bennett shared a new Wilson Camp 1 (TN) history, which will be archived with other histories at the Nat. HQ.

Noting that the Dept. of Cal. and Pac. had voted favorably on the proposed amendment to our Nat. Constitution, Sec. Bennett encouraged all Brothers attending Dept. Encampments to ensure that the matter came before each Encampment for discussion and vote. It was noted that Iowa and Rhode Island had already approved of the amendment.

The subject of insurance for Camps and Departments was discussed. PCinC Krieser was asked to



*National Council of Administration meets in Springfield, Illinois. Left to right: PDC Michael Bennett, PDC Don Palmer, Br. Don Shaw, PDC Dan Murray, PCinC Keith Harrison, PDC Leo Kennedy, CinC Jim Pahl, PCinC Ed Krieser, PDC Brad Schall, PCinC Steve Michaels, PDC James Hanby, PDC Bob Petrovic, PCC Max Newman, DC Lee Walters and PCinC Don Darby. (Photo by PCC Tom Brown)*

contact Br. Gib Young to obtain additional information.

Council Member Murray then brought up the timing of Camp Annual Reports and Dept. Encampments, Dual Membership, and the need for Nat. representation at several upcoming Dept. Encampments including NH, KY and WI, which were discussed in turn. Chief of Staff Palmer thanked those who had submitted reports, and noted that he received a 90% response to his request for Officer reports. He noted the reports that contained recommendations.

Nat. Counselor Shaw reported on inquiries received, regarding references in our Ritual to a Visiting Committee. No information in current SUVCW operating documents, publications or forms provides any explanation as to the composition or purpose of this Comm. An entry in the SUVCW Digest from 1883 does make reference to a Visiting and Relief Comm., but there is no description available to Camps following the Ritual. CinC Pahl will direct the Prog. & Pol. Comm. to either define that aspect of the Ritual or recommend its removal.

A brief recess was taken.

PCinC Michaels made copies of the winter Banner available, as well as the Spring edition, which was due to be mailed shortly. He noted that portions of the Banner have been placed on the Nat. Website, and confirmed that an e-mailed copy, in its entirety, will now replace the copy formerly sent to Council members by 1<sup>st</sup> class mail. PCinC Darby recommended that a notice be sent to all who used to receive a first class mailing to inform them of this change.

PCinC Krieser reported that the SUVCW Charitable Foundation has started an ongoing Lincoln Fellow Program with 80% of the funds received going into an Endowment Fund. The Foundation Directors are

very excited about the potential of this new program. He also noted that the Lincoln Bicentennial coin being produced by the Foundation should be available by the 2007 Nat. Encampment.

PCinC Harrison noted that there's now a Letter of Understanding between the MOLLUS and SUVCW regarding the annual Lincoln Tomb event. It is hoped that this will enable the two groups to work together to coordinate and grow this annual event.

PCinC Darby presented hardware options for scanning and archiving the voluminous paper records at our Nat. HQ and a discussion ensued.

Nat. Treas. Newman then gave his Financial Report. PCinC Darby moved that a new and separate account be opened for finances related to the memorials grant fund. This was seconded by Council Member Hanby and passed unanimously. Br. Hanby then moved that a separate account be opened for the Lincoln Tomb Observance Comm. This was seconded by Council Member Kennedy and passed unanimously.

Br. Newman then proposed that the SUVCW purchase and place a granite bench featuring the Sons' name and logo in the garden near a statue of Julia Dent Grant at the home of Gen. U.S. Grant in Galena, IL. This project is being coordinated by the DAR. PCinC Darby moved that up to \$1500, as required, be contributed for this purpose. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hanby and passed unanimously.

Br. Newman then updated the Council on difficulties encountered with the Order's accountant/auditor, and the steps currently being taken to rectify the situation. The CinC and National Counselor are now actively involved.

All were reminded that the next Council of Admin. meeting would be just prior to the 2007 Nat. Encampment in St. Louis, MO. CinC Pahl thanked the Brothers assembled for their participation in the meeting and for their dedication and service to the Order.

The meeting was adjourned at about 10:30 PM.

Submitted in F, C, and L,  
Michael S. Bennett, PDC  
National Secretary, SUVCW

### AWARDS

**PDC Alan Russ**, Camp 4 (Dept. of Kansas) was awarded the Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star for work with the NMAL.

**Michael Virts**, Camp 2, (Dept. of Maryland) was made a National Aide for his recruiting efforts.

## CENTRAL REGION TO MEET

by PDC J. Alan Teller

The Indiana Dept. invites all members of the Allied Orders to attend the Central Region Association (CRA) Conference in Crawfordsville on October 6th. The CRA includes Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Crawfordsville is on I-74, just 34 miles east of the Illinois state line.

The 2007 Conference will begin with two tours: (1) Lane Place – Henry Lane, was Indiana's first Republican Governor and Senator. He served as an honorary pallbearer for President Lincoln in 1865; and (2) Lew Wallace's study – built with profits from Ben Hur. Wallace served as a Major General, judge at the Lincoln conspirators' trial, Governor of New Mexico Territory, and U.S. Minister to Turkey.

The afternoon program on "Recruiting the Troops" will offer ideas on gaining members, including handouts and a Q&A period. The business meeting will follow.

Programs and meals will be at St. John's Episcopal Church in downtown Crawfordsville. Attendees will enjoy a buffet lunch and later, a banquet with entertainment provided by the Company Singers from Huntington, IN.

For information on the Conference go to: [www.suvcw.org/in/DEPTIN.html](http://www.suvcw.org/in/DEPTIN.html) or contact Alan at [alanteller@insightbb.com](mailto:alanteller@insightbb.com) or (765) 455-0484. Call the Holiday Inn (765) 362-8700 to reserve a room. Ask for Block Code CRA. Rates are \$73.95 to \$79.95 plus tax, before September 14<sup>th</sup>. The lower priced rooms will be the first booked, so do not delay.

Crawfordsville is just about 30 northwest of Park County, IN, home of 30 wooden covered bridges.



**Serving  
Lunch & Dinner  
Daily**

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



# ORDER WELCOMES NEW CAMPS

## NEW CAMPS CHARTERED

- Gen. John W. McLane Camp 83** (PA),  
organized by Br. Edward J. Podpora
- Maj. Sullivan Ballou Camp 3** (RI),  
organized by PCC David J. Duggan
- Maj. Gen. John A. Logan Camp 4** (C-A-L) NC,  
organized by Br. Kevin B. Motter

## NEW CAMPS TO BE CHARTERED

- John A. Logan Camp 26** (Rockford, IL),  
organized by PDC Stuart Stefany
- Hiram W Pursell Camp 104** (Doylestown, PA),  
organized by Br. Wm. A. Kleintop
- Sgt. Hiram Pursell Camp 104** (Lambertville, NJ),  
organized by Jeffrey Heagy
- Maj. James H. Bridgewater Camp 7** (Stanford, KY),  
organized by PDC Timothy H. Downey
- Gilman E. Sleeper Camp 60** (Salem, NH),  
organized by PDC Ellsworth W. Brown
- Elmer E. Ellsworth Camp 18** (McKinney, TX),  
organized by DC Brian R. Glass
- Gov. Samuel J. Kirkwood Camp 4** (Council Bluffs, IA),  
organized by Henry A. Krecklow
- George W. Dean Camp 21** (Dubuque, IA),  
organized by C.R. Stephen



*Above: Some members of newly formed Gilman E Sleeper Camp 60/Aux 60 of Salem NH gathered at the graveside in Pine Grove Cemetery in Salem to honor the CW Veteran who provided the name for their Camp and Aux, Lt Colonel Gilman E Sleeper of the 1st and 4th NH Volunteers.*

*Left to right - Dorothy Randall, Gloria Lasnier, Georgette Silva, Auxiliary President Eleanor Becotte, Vernon Thomas, Camp Commander George Rutter, Cynthia Brown PNP, Dana Frost, Dorothy Goldman, Kathleen Cote - kneeling in front is Ellsworth Brown PDC who read Gen'l Logan's Order #11 at Veterans Park following the Memorial Day Parade. (Photo by member Sid Smith)*



*Above: Dept. Commander and CofA member Daniel Murray (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) initiates new members of the Gilman E. Sleeper Camp 60 in Salem, NH: Sid Smith, Prof. Michael Pierson, Arthur Ober, Ivan Muise, Vernon Thomas. Observing are (l-to-r): DSVC & Camp 5 Co. Daniel Meehan, Camp 5 SVC Lance Robicheau and Chaplain Dana Frost. Camp Organizer PDC Ellsworth Brown is at extreme right. Br. George Rutter was elected Camp 60's Commander.*



## ANSWER THE CALL !!!

### FLEETWOOD HEIGHTS IS IN DANGER!

A large portion of this ridge, the focal point of the Battle of Brandy Station and the opening battle of the Gettysburg campaign, is now FOR SALE at a price of nearly three million dollars!

In the desperate cavalry fighting on Fleetwood Heights and adjacent plains, the Union forces tested the best cavalry the southern army had and this battlefield must be saved.

The destiny of this critical portion of the battlefield is in our hands. Whether you had ancestors who fought there or not, the Brandy Station Foundation needs the help of all the Sons of Union Veterans to preserve this hallowed ground.

The Foundation is asking all Sons of Union Veterans and Sons of Confederate Veterans camps across the country to join us and contribute \$500.00 per camp (or more) to this effort. Don't let this opportunity to honor the courage of your Union ancestors pass by.

*Please! Answer the call, just as they did on that bloody day in June, 1863.*

**For further information, please contact the Brandy Station Foundation, "Partners in Preservation", at  
138 North Main Street, Suite 101,  
Culpeper, Virginia 22701; 540-825-1110  
[efgentry@aol.com](mailto:efgentry@aol.com)**

(Detach and mail)

-----  
**\* PLEDGE FORM \***

\_\_\_\_ *Yes, I want to help preserve the site of the largest cavalry battle in the Western Hemisphere and become a "Partner in Preservation"! My donation is enclosed.*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Donation amount enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

**Phone:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Credit Card Acct. No:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Visa - Master Card) Three digit number on reverse of card: \_\_\_\_\_

**Expiration date:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ **Cardholder's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and donation to: The Brandy Station Foundation, "Partners in Preservation", 138 N. Main St., Suite 101, Culpeper, VA 22701



## Acting Out a Dream



PCC John Portanova of New York City's Capt Oliver Tilden Camp 26 has been active in theater for the last 17 years. He recently got his big film break in the "Devoured," a Church Hill Production.

Brother Portanova portrays a police informant in the film, which tells the story of a gangster who infiltrates the justice system. The film had its premier screening at New York City's Pioneer Theater in March.

Afterwards, the film went national and world wide. It will be out on DVD this coming December.

This film appearance has led to roles in several upcoming independent film projects, including Pushing the Limit, the psychological thriller "Emerging Past," "Distant Society," and "Sabers & Roses," a film based on General Jeb Stewart in which he'll play Gen. George McClellan. Previously, Br. Portanova appeared in "Gettysburg," "Gettysburg-the 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary," and a "System Devoured."

Br. Portanova has been active in the Sons for the last 9 years, serving as CC from 2002-04. He's currently Camp Treasurer and the Adjutant of Co. I, 83rd NYVI, SVR, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Military District. He regularly participates as one of the instructors of the Greenpoint Montior Museum "Road Show," presenting the Civil War in area schools. His topics include:

### The Battle of Brandy Station

In the early dawn of June 9<sup>th</sup>, 1863, Union Cavalry under Generals Buford, Kilpatrick and Duffie, crossed the Rappahannock River into Culpeper County, Virginia. Their mission: discover the location of Lee's infantry. Guarding these fords across the river were the Confederate troopers, commanded by General J.E.B. Stuart.

In what turned out to be the opening battle of the decisive Gettysburg campaign, Union and Confederate troops fought savagely all day; first along the Beverly Ford Road, toward the Gee House and St. James Church. Then, later that day on the heights, slopes and plains of Fleetwood Heights, near the village of Brandy Station.

In the desperate swirling melee on Fleetwood Heights, thousands of mounted cavalry fought to seize and maintain control of this high ground, which commanded the battlefield for miles. A three gun section of New York



*Br. Portanova talks to students at John Ericsson Junior High .*

Structure of Union Army including comparison of brigades, regiments, rank, etc.

Uniforms of the common soldier including all required gear

The loading process of a Springfield Rifle

The Youngest and Oldest soldiers of the Civil War

Life of the Common Soldier in battle and at camp

He also serves as Assistant Cub Master of his son's Pack, 312 in Maspeth Queens, NY. He was recently received the Unit Leader Award from the Pathfinder District, Greater New York Council, Boy Scouts of America.

artillery attached to Gregg's command was advanced to within "point blank" range of the crest of the heights and was taken and retaken numerous times. Thirty-one of its 36 gunners were killed or wounded in this battle.

At the end of the day, the Union troops, having surprised the Confederate cavalry, fought valiantly and discovered the location of Lee's infantry retired from the field and across the Rappahannock River. The next day, Lee's army left Culpeper County on its march into history at a small Pennsylvania town called Gettysburg.

Now, nearly 100 acres of the core portion of Fleetwood Heights is for sale to the highest bidder. The Brandy Station Foundation, founded in 1989 to preserve the battlefield, is making a valiant effort to raise the nearly 3 million dollars it will take to save this most heavily fought over ground. For what you can do to help in this effort, see their ad in this issue.



# Mapping Graves in California

by Charles Beal, Generals Sedgwick-Granger Camp 17  
Department of California & Pacific

In 1999, the Civil War Round Table of Orange County located 730 Civil War Veteran graves in nine local cemeteries. Gordon Bricken maintained a database and I started to research local newspapers and GAR records for additional names to add to his listing.

While studying for a Land Surveyor's license, I thought about using my land surveying experience to document these graves.

My goal was to determine latitude & longitude coordinates, photograph every grave and to plot them on aerial photographs. As an added bonus, I would later discover that this project would also perpetuate the grave stones forever as many are becoming very hard to read.

I approached the County Surveyor, who agreed to loan me a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit capable of obtaining coordinates within the size of a dime. Another local surveyor also agreed to loan me the use



*(Photo by Br. Floyd Farrar)*

of his Total Station instrument and data collector. Using the GPS unit to set up my control points and the Total Station instrument, I collected data on a majority of the graves in two weekends with results of +/- 1.00 feet for each grave. Volunteers helped me with this project.

My project documented 701 Union (30 unmarked) and 89 Confederate (4 unmarked) veteran graves.

The data was stored on a DVD-Data disk that was distributed to local historical groups and local cemeteries. The coordinates and grave photos were also placed on Find-A-Grave at <http://www.findagrave.com>, making them available to the internet community.

The Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society has posted all of the data on its website at <http://www.santaanahistory.com/civil-war.html>.



## *"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 our website [www.dmww.org](http://www.dmww.org) for membership information and to download an application, or send a request for an application with SASE to DMWV, Membership Dept., Box 830482, Richardson, Texas, 75083-0482

***Descendants of Mexican War Veterans***



## Real Son, Real Brotherhood

by Br. Michael J. Rowley

While driving through the rural Irish settlement of Melrose, Iowa, I pulled off of Shamrock Street into North Hill Cemetery. This final resting place for many pioneers is surrounded on three sides by pasture, cattle and timber. My eyes were drawn toward the old markers signifying the graves of Civil War era veterans. There was the grave of Pvt. John Brandon, born November 25, 1844. He served in Co. A, 6th Wis. Volunteers and died December 9, 1930. This is not the John Brandon I was looking for, although I knew they were related.

Heading south on Highway 5, north of Albia, I turned onto North A Street. Turning a corner onto a dirt road and seemingly lost, I did what all Iowans do. I stopped to ask the first farmer I saw outside, working in his garden.

“Excuse me Sir; I’m looking for a John Brandon.” The response from the man with ocean blue eyes, a witty disposition and rather energetic demeanor caught me by surprise. “You’re looking at what’s left of him.”

I had done it. I had found perhaps Iowa’s last “Real Son.” Not being a journalist I struggled for the right questions to ask. I started with the logical but sometimes boring, “When and where were you born?” He replied, “1913, Monroe County, Iowa.” So, young John was 93 years old.

I noticed an empty glass bottle of goat’s milk on his kitchen table and asked him about it. It seems that in the mid 1940s, after his service as a medic in the States during WWII, he suffered from ulcers. An acquaintance suggested one quart of goat’s milk every other day. In John’s words, “It put out the fire like water.” So much so, that he bought his own goats and often gave away the milk to friends with the same condition. After I agreed to try some myself, the conversation seemed to come a little easier.

John told me he was 17 when his father died

and like many young people, did not have a great interest in his father’s experience. However, when he invited me into his home, I noticed that he had newsletters from the Dodge Camp in Des Moines and a newsletter from the Ottumwa Civil War Round Table. He said he reads the *Banner*. He had a framed copy of a certificate commending his father’s service and verifying him as a Real Son.

He had newspapers from the Civil War that were in an old chest he bought for \$2.50. Although I am younger by about 45 years, he joked that I must be



*John Brandon, Sr.*



*Real Son John Brandon, Jr.*

older than him since I was having trouble reading the small print of the old newspaper.

He spoke with pride as he told me his father fought in the Iron Brigade and was at one time, under Gen. U.S. Grant. John’s father was taken prisoner and sent to Libby prison, located in Richmond Va. His father was actually kept near the prison in the Castle Thunder Building, an old large tobacco warehouse.

John has had many experiences, from racing horses in Oklahoma to collecting Cadillacs to gardening. His family includes three children, eight grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. While it is difficult to recreate or re-live history, it is possible to share a little brotherhood. All you need is a glass of goat’s milk and a friend.

# Brothers clean-up on CWPT Park Day

On Saturday, April 7, 2007 the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) and the History Channel sponsored the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Park Day. Throughout the country at over 100 Civil War sites, Park Day volunteers put forth their time and effort to clean and repair grounds and make park improvements. Thanks to all members of the Allied Orders who donated their time and skills.



## Park Day in Santa Barbara

In Santa Barbara, about 25 hardy volunteers converged on Cieneguitas Cemetery in what may be the most western participation in the history of Park Day.

Cieneguitas Cemetery holds 20 headstones of veterans of Co. C, California Native Cavalry. This Company served under Captain Antonio Maria de la Guerra, who was from one of the oldest families in Santa Barbara.

William T. Sherman Camp 28 in conjunction with the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus (ECV) sponsored this year's Park Day at Cieneguitas Cemetery. About 25 volunteers donated approximately 100 hours of mowing, trimming, raking and painting. Our SUVCW members included: CC Bob Duncan, SVC Tom McCullough, JVC Alex Grzywacki, Council members Bill Stewart and Everett Lee, and Brothers Al Hardy and John Woodward.

As a parting touch, the volunteers planted a large patch of California Poppies, the state flower, near the veteran's headstones.

## Gen. John A. Logan Museum

Of the 85 CWPT Civil War sites in Illinois, two participated in 2007: Galena's U.S. Grant Historic site and the Gen. John A. Logan Museum at Murphysboro.

Director Mike Jones is a brother of Col. Hecker Camp 443 and founded the Logan Museum in 1989 in a beautiful older residence, very near John Logan's original home site. At the beginning, the museum had only one room for displays. Today, the facility boasts five spacious rooms, telling Logan's Civil War and peacetime story in exceptional displays, pictures and words.

A new 1600 square foot addition, attached to the rear of the museum, will more than double the display area. This will house permanent and visiting displays. This addition starts a new phase that promises an even greater future for the museum and sharing of Logan's story for generations to come.

Despite cold weather, about a dozen volunteers turned out to paint the interior walls of the addition and help move display cases from storage back into the museum, preparing for a May 20<sup>th</sup> grand opening. Check out the museum website: [www.loganmuseum.org](http://www.loganmuseum.org)



*Brs. Dennis Herman and Mike Jones*

# Department News

## IOWA

Recently, the Iowa Department, the Iowa Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (IASSAR) partnered with the Iowa Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (IASDAR) and the local American Legion and the Iowa CAR in a patriotic flag retirement ceremony at Lion's Park, in Urbandale. The event was organized by the DAR and they graciously invited the SUVCW to attend and participate.

## MARYLAND



*Eagle Scout Craig Jankowski is recognized by Cpt. John White Spencer Camp 9 CC Michael Myers. Jankowski discovered a neglected Union veteran's grave, cleared debris from the site, researched the name, ordered and set a new government headstone.*



*(Left to right): Kevin L. Martin, Tyler J. Martin, Richard L. Martin and CC Donald R. Cumberland, Jr.*

Frederick's Antietam Camp 3 Co. Donald R. Cumberland, Jr. announces that Tyler J. Martin, son of SVC Kevin L. Martin and grandson of Treas. Richard L. Martin, has joined the Camp. Three generations of the Martin Family have joined the Camp.

Their Civil War ancestor was Capt. Adam B. Martin, a veteran of the Mexican War and Commander of Co. H, 6th Maryland Inf. Reg., who was killed in the Battle of the Wilderness. Their Revolutionary War ancestor, 2nd Lt. Adam Martin, served with Zieglers Company of Col. Matthias Slough's Battalion of the Pennsylvania Militia.

Tyler Martin also has a Mayflower ancestor, Edward Doty.

## MASSACHUSETTS



*Massachusetts SUVCW and Auxiliary members participated in the rededication of 33 new grave markers for Civil War soldiers, buried in the East Street Cemetery in Chicopee.*

## INDIANA

David D. Porter Camp 116, Valparaiso recently honored Private John F. "Neighbor" Cromley, Marshall County's Last Civil War Soldier. He was buried in Culver's Masonic Cemetery. The graveside service honored the man and a Bronze plaque was placed, denoting Pvt. Cromley as the last Civil War Soldier to die in that County. The annual Memorial Day program started at the Porter County Court house and moved to Culver for the Dedication Ceremony for Pvt. Cromley.

Pvt. Cromley was born December 17, 1844, in Sandusky, Ohio and came to Culver when he was ten years old. His family made their way by covered wagon from Ohio to make their home along the shores of Lake Maxinkuckee. Native Americans still lived in that area. At 17, he enlisted in Co. H, 68th IN Inf. and saw duty at Washington, DC and in South Carolina. After the war, he returned to Culver, operated a meat market and served as Town Constable and as Marshall County Deputy Sheriff. He was 96 when he died March 10, 1941 of pneumonia at Argos' Kelly Hospital.

To help raise money for this project, the David D. Porter Camp held a raffle.

## NEW JERSEY

Gen. George Armstrong Custer Camp 17 and Dept. Monuments & Memorial Officer PDC Clark D. McCullough are making sure that the two Civil War Rodman Cannons at Fort Monmouth in Eatontown are kept in the state of New Jersey. Fort Monmouth is expected to close in the next three to four years and what will happen to the two cannons is still unknown.

Since last Fall, Br. McCullough has led a letter writing campaign to his U.S. Senators and Congressmen. The Center for Military History at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C. was contacted also.

When Br. McCullough also wrote to Governor Jon S. Corzine, seeking his help, noted Civil War author Br. Joe Bilby joined the cause and wrote an article on the two Rodman's, describing their historical significance. Br. Bilby also wrote letters and got the National Guard's (Ret) Gen. James Pierson to write letters, asking to keep the two Rodman's in the State of New Jersey.

U.S. Congressman Rush Holt from New Jersey said "that he is keeping a close eye on what's happening with the Rodman cannons at Fort Monmouth. I'm glad that Mr. McCullough, brought this important matter to my attention. I have a keen interest in preserving the history of New Jersey. I think all New Jerseyans deserve to have access to the monuments and memorials that help commemorate the sacrifices of our ancestors who fought during the Civil War to preserve the Union, and that's why I'm looking into this matter." Congressman Holt will be contacting the Secretary of the Army.

DC Robert Wilhelm, has also written letters, as has PDC Buzz Smithcoors and his wife DP Viola of the Auxiliary.

## OHIO

Last year, West Virginia began surveying a new highway route through a mostly abandoned cemetery in Putnam County. After finding Roland Gillispie's bronze marker, the Division of Highways did some research with local genealogical societies and contacted Joyce Saunders, Roland's great-granddaughter, about the grave.

Gillispie joined the 8<sup>th</sup> VA Inf. in 1861, and stayed through its conversion to the 7th WV Cav. He was a private in Co. F, operating in the Kanawha Valley. After the war, he returned to farming and died at the age of 75 in 1911.

The state offered to move Roland to Huntington's Spring Hill Cemetery, the last resting place for more than 200 other Civil War veterans. Joyce contacted

Cadot-Blessing Camp 126, asking for help organizing and performing a funeral ceremony. The Camp began to practice their casket-carrying and flag-folding skills in the city park.

Last May, the Gillispie family, re-enactors, and the public gathered for Roland's reburial. The Camp 126 honor guard followed the glass-sided, horse-drawn hearse, and ladies in mourning dress and members of the public followed. At the grave site, the honor guard removed the casket from the hearse and carried it to the grave, remaining at attention during the ceremony.

CC James Oiler, SVC Roger Caldwell, JVC Henry Myers Sr., and Chap. Heath Jenkins read from the SUVCW 1890 Ritual for the Burial of the Dead. Historian Robert Leith spoke about the 7th WV Cavalry and g-g-grandson Christopher Saunders read Roland's eulogy. DC Ken Freshley and SCV Camp 1470 presented wreaths. Following a rifle and cannon salute, the honor guard folded Roland's flag and CC Oiler presented it to Mrs. Saunders as a fiddler played *Amazing Grace*. The ladies in mourning paid their respects, placing flowers on the casket as a bugler played *Taps*. And then Roland's body was lowered into the new grave.

## PENNSYLVANIA



Two Camps recently participated in a ceremony in South Philadelphia, honoring an African American patriot. Anna M. Ross Camp 1 and Baker-Fisher Camp 101 were among those paying homage to Octavius V. Catto. Catto was heavily involved with voting rights and raising African troops during the Civil War. He was murdered in 1871 near the site of the ceremony, after returning from voting at an African American polling place he had set up. Also participating were the 3rd USCT, Post 1 of the Union League and MOLLUS. The annual event raises awareness of Catto's work and aims to place an appropriate marker near the site of the ceremony.





*Left to right: SVCinC Charlie Kuhn, CJVC Fred Clark, Br. Doug McMillan and his son, Junior Joshua McMillan*

Brothers of Gettysburg Camp 112 recently traveled to Washington, D.C., to assist with clean up and maintenance efforts at the Historic Congressional Cemetery.

Founded in 1807, this was our young Nation's first National Cemetery. Although owned by Christ Church, it was used for the burial of Congressmen and Government dignitaries until Arlington National Cemetery was established. By 1832, it was the final resting place for more than 40 Congressmen, Federal Officials and Military Officers. That year, Congress appropriated funding for the construction of stone cenotaphs for the burial of Congressmen who had died in office. These are unique and nearly 185 of these structures line the cemetery's entrance way.

The Historic Congressional Cemetery is the final resting place for over 200 Civil War veterans. Famous people buried there include Declaration of Independence signer Eldridge Gerry, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, Civil War photographer Mathew Brady, and Marine Corps Band director and composer John Philip Sousa.

By the early 1970s, the cemetery had deteriorated to a terrible state of disrepair. Located near the Navy Yard, it was situated in a rough neighborhood and monuments were vandalized. In certain areas of the cemetery, the headstones were hidden by overgrown grass and brush and the cemetery had become a home for prostitution and drug dealing. In 1976, the Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery was formed to save the cemetery and work commenced. In 1997, the Historic Congressional Cemetery was listed as the 11<sup>th</sup> most endangered historic site in the Nation. With this listing came new support, awareness, and funding.

Currently, the National Park Service is restoring the cemetery's cenotaphs. Only a portion of these still contain remains. Work on the public vault was completed and other crypts are being worked on. The U.S. Navy Sea Bees are installing a water line throughout the facility.

Visit [www.congressionalcemetery.org](http://www.congressionalcemetery.org) for more info.

## RHODE ISLAND

By DPI Stephen Hackett

Recently, Col. Zenas R. Bliss, Camp 12 conducted the 1917 GAR Service of Dedication at the village of North Scituate's Civil War monument. The monument, which depicts an artilleryman holding an upright sponge-rammer, had been in vandalized about a decade ago. Camp 12 got measurements, quotations for repair estimates and a grant from the National SUVCW Memorial/Monument Grant Fund. The grant allowed the missing sponge-rammer to be replaced early this spring.

During the ceremony, PDCs Joe Hall and Bob Bromley provided a very moving rendition of Echo Taps. PCCs Mike Lannigan and Steve Hackett also participated. Scituate Town Council Pres. Bob Budway and State Rep. Carol Mumford presented a wreath at the foot of the statue. The ceremony became a state-wide affair when members of Maj. Sullivan Ballou Camp 3, Elisha Dyer Camp 7, General Elisha Hunt Rhodes Camp 11 and Camp 12 took part as either participants or spectators. Many thanks to the Firing Detail under the command of 1Sgt Bob Howe of Co. B, 2<sup>nd</sup> R.I. Inf. and to the Color Guard under the guidance of 1Sgt John Currier, 3<sup>rd</sup> R.I. Heavy Art., SVR. PDC Brian Guiot acted as Honor Guard. All were proud to honor the boys from Scituate, who served their country in time of need. Many felt that the 'old boys' were pleased with the efforts to fix their wronged statue...may they all rest in peace. And finally, the Camp's grateful for the monetary support from National that allowed it to reach its goal.

## TENNESSEE



The MG James H. Wilson Camp 1 in Montgomery, AL, has restored two historic markers commemorating the camp's namesake. CC Barry Spink, Sec/Treas. Bill



Butler and Br. Tom Lauria worked on the markers at Maxwell AFB commemorating Gen Wilson and his entry into Montgomery on 12 April 1865. The Camp's marker restoration projects are coordinated with the Alabama Hist. Assoc., which oversees the marker program.

## GEORGIA C-A-L

Elias Moon Camp 2 celebrated the 170<sup>th</sup> birthday of their namesake on 21 April 21<sup>st</sup> in Lawrenceville. About 30 guests attended, including Camp 2 members and their families, members of Georgia's new At-Large Camps-- Gen. James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson Camp 1, and Kennesaw Mountain Camp 3, At-Large (in organization).

The Guest Speaker, Camp 1's Ward Zischke of the Military History Division, Office of Army Reserve History at Fort M<sup>c</sup>Pherson, who spoke on POWs in the War.

The observance was the brainchild of Camp 2 PI Ernest E. Blevins, who hopes it will become an annual tradition.

The M<sup>c</sup>Pherson Camp received a copy of the *Roster and History of the Department of Georgia (States of Georgia and South Carolina), Grand Army of the Republic (1894)*. This historical document was uncovered by Br. Blevins last summer and reprinted by Camp 2. Each new camp in Georgia will receive a copy as part of their chartering.

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Ten lepers came to Jesus and asked Him to heal them. He told them to go and show themselves to the priests in the Temple. They were the ones who had declared them unclean, and were the ones who would declare them healed. Later, one leper came back and thanked the Lord for the return of his health. Jesus said "Where are the other nine? Didn't I heal ten of you?"

The Lord notices when we are thankful. He notices when we stop to show our appreciation. How many times have you sat down to eat and not given thanks to the Almighty for the bounty which you have been given? Are you too embarrassed, when with friends or family in a restaurant, to bow your head and thank God for all of the wonderful things He has given you, and for the food which you are about to eat? Are you afraid someone will think less of you because you pray in public?

Brothers, they should not think less of you for praying in thanksgiving, but should be ashamed that they did not do it themselves.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty  
National Chaplain Jerry Kowalski

# Final Muster

James H. Gaffney  
Harpers Ferry Camp 6 (MD)  
January 15, 2006

Russell H. Milnes  
W. W. Brown Camp 1 (NH)  
February 5, 2006

George E. Flagg  
Grenville Dodge Camp 75 (IA)  
April 17, 2006

Dale D. Collier (Real Son)  
McLaughlin Camp 12 (OH)  
May 10, 2006

Don Gilbert  
Col. Louis R. Francine Camp 7 (NJ)  
May 31, 2006

Richard L. Murphy  
Grenville Dodge Camp 75 (IA)  
July 10, 2006

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

Charles Groft  
Theodore Pfiffer Camp 60 (PA)  
August 14, 2006

John Crossen  
Gettysburg Camp 112 (PA)  
September 12, 2006

George Johnson  
Col. Louis R. Francine Camp 7 (NJ)  
October 25, 2006

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

Herbert Hann  
Col. Louis R. Francine Camp 7 (NJ)  
January 4, 2007

Wayne E. McElfresh  
Twonsend Camp 108 (OH)  
January 14, 2007

Fred Herbing  
Gettysburg Camp 112 (PA)  
February 16, 2007

James Lockie  
Col. Louis R. Francine Camp 7 (NJ)  
March 9, 2007

Bill Max Elzea  
Sgt Samuel J. Churchill Camp 4  
(KS)  
March 21, 2007

Ronald Hurlburt  
Austin Blair Camp 7 (MI)  
April 11, 2007

John Porterfield  
Wa-Bu-No Camp 250 (MI)  
April 29, 2007

Daniel Lee Pyatt  
Ben Harrison Camp 356 (IN)  
May 11, 2007

B. Remi Gregoire  
C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1 (WI)  
May 15, 2007

Rev. PCC Maurie Felton  
C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1 (WI)  
May 22, 2007





*Grenville M. Dodge Aux. 8 of Des Moines, Iowa, presented a program at Woodland Cemetery. Front row: Karen Tegtmeier, DP Marilyn Rittel, PDP Helen Dodd Back row: Mary O'Bannon-Rittel, Peggy Murphey*

### JROTC Cadets Recognized

JROTC Cadet Stephanie Estrada was recognized by Massachusetts' Sumner H. Needham Auxiliary 128 as the outstanding graduating female cadet at Lawrence High School. PNP Cynthia Brown presented the annual (monetary) award and Aux. certificate at the 11th annual Awards Ceremony.

Similar presentations were made to JROTC cadets in Greenfield and Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

### NEW AUXILIARY INSTITUTED

On March 24, Gilman E. Sleeper Auxiliary 60 was instituted in Salem, at the Kelly Public Library. Gilman E Sleeper Camp 60 CC George Rutter opened the meeting and the ceremony began with the initiation of three new sisters, Dorothy Goldman, Kathleen Cullen and Gloria Lasiner, who received their badges and rituals. Mathew Coll, grandson of the new Auxiliary's President-elect, was also initiated.

NP Barbara Mayberry and NH Dept. VP Linda Murray then installed the new Auxiliary's Officers:

- President Eleanor Becotte
- Vice President Dorothy Goldman
- Council 1 Nancy Sullivan
- Sec/Treas. Cynthia Brown
- Chaplain Gloria Lasnier
- Press Correspondent Kathleen Cullen

To be installed at a later time:

- Council 2 Elizabeth Kelly
- Council 3 and Dept. Delegate Lois Rutter

Also attending were:

- NVP Judy Trepanier (CT)

- Nat. Council 3 Eleanor Becotte (NH)
- PNP Mary Scofield (CT)
- PNP Cynthia Brown (MA)
- Nat. CofA member and NH DC Daniel Murray
- MA DC Perley Mellor
- Nat. Pers. Aide & MA DP Nancy Fournier
- NH Dept. Sec. PDP Doris Glendinning
- RI PDC Ellsworth Brown

After several presentations, the meeting was closed and all enjoyed refreshments.

### Galveston's Auxiliary



Emma Seelye Auxiliary President Marjorie Henck greeted those gathered on Galveston Island, Texas, for the annual Battle of Galveston Commemoration on Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. The ceremony is conducted by Houston's LtCmdr. Edward Lea USN Camp 2. The Auxiliary, originally chartered in 1996, was recently reactivated with six sisters.

### Aux. Pres. meets Virginia Governor

National Chaplain, Aux. #91 President, and school teacher Nancy Hilton recently attended the rededication ceremony of the Virginia Capital at Richmond. She and her six students were among the 400 selected to participate in the ceremony and tour of the restored capital building. Sr. Nancy's class was chosen based upon an essay she submitted, which mentioned her avid interest in the Civil War and her students' local history instruction. They were the first group to enter the building and were able to meet Gov. Tim Kaine and the speaker of the house. The capital, designed by Thomas Jefferson, was the subject of a 2-year, \$104.5 million restoration.



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# SAVE OUR COLORS!

by CC Robert H. Moore, II  
National Aide - Flag Inventory Program

*Referencing CinC Pahl's GO 9, this is a series of articles about each state's efforts to preserve the Union's battle flags*

## **Maryland National and Regimental Flags at the Maryland State Archives**

At the close of the Civil War and as regiments were mustered out of service, many of the flags of Union regiments were turned-over to state authorities. In the case of Maryland's Union regiments, according to a 1906 newspaper account, between the end of the war and the early 1880s, many of these flags were neglected and at one time were left in a pile in the basement of the Maryland state capital until rescued by Wilson GAR Post 1.

In addition to the GAR's efforts, in 1900, the Maryland Legislature passed "Chapter 485." This act saw to the care, preservation and exhibit of battle flags carried by both Union and Confederate Maryland regiments in the Civil War. The law provided for a Battle Flag Commission with representatives from both sides of the conflict. Governor John Walter Smith appointed four men to the Commission: John Rigdon King (Chairman and, subsequently GAR CinC. in 1905) and George W. Johnson, representing the Union Army; and James R. Wheeler and Spencer C. Johnson from the Confederate Army. Between December 1904 and December 1907, the Commission was able to arrange for flag donations from the Wilson Post and the Society of the Army and Navy of the Confederate States. They also arranged for the War Department's return of the 9<sup>th</sup> Maryland Vol. Inf. flag. The Union Flags were presented to the state on November 30, 1906; the Confederate, a year later. To accompany the display, Adjutant General Clinton L. Riggs, a veteran of the Spanish-American War, prepared a detailed description of the flags. Following the Confederate donation, the Commission turned responsibility for the battle flags over to the State Adjutant General's office.

Between 1906 and 1983, the State House "Flag Room" in Annapolis displayed battle flags, representing the military actions of Maryland citizens from the Revolution through WWI. Civil War battle flags, however, comprised the majority of the display. By the 1980's, space considerations and the flags' increasingly fragile nature resulted in their removal to the Archives, where they are currently stored in a more protective environment.

Regretfully, there is no Maryland State flag preservation program. A protective netting was hand-sewn on each flag in the 1930s as a means of reinforcement/preservation.

Despite the good intention, the netting has only proven to be a problem and is frequently removed today in programs across the nation, as a more effective means of long-term preservation. But the removal of the netting is only one part of the preservation process, as we will see in future articles in this series.

One of the most recent banners to undergo surface cleaning by the Maryland State Archives was the regimental standard of Cole's Maryland Vol. Cav. (1<sup>st</sup> Potomac Home Brig. Cav.).

A number of regimental colors/guidons and National flags are in the Maryland State Archives' collection. Also found in the collection is the brigade colors for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, 5<sup>th</sup> Corps, Army of the Potomac. A brief description of each can be found at: [http://speccol.mdarchives.state.md.us/msa/speccol/catalog/dsp\\_series.cfm?speccol=1560](http://speccol.mdarchives.state.md.us/msa/speccol/catalog/dsp_series.cfm?speccol=1560).

NOTE: The Maryland State Archives' efforts should not be confused with those of the Maryland Historical Society, which also holds several Civil War battle flags.

**WHO ARE THEY REALLY? FROM INDEX PAGE:**  
**Frederick Douglass impressionist, Michael E. Crutcher, Sr. of Nicholasville, Kentucky and Rochester, New York's Abraham Lincoln 6 CC James Walzer.**

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# The Guidon



## Hardscrabble Monument Re-Dedicated

Members of the 34<sup>th</sup> Illinois Vol. Inf. and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri Vol. Inf. SVR, served as Color Guard for the re-dedication of a monument (shown above), marking the site of Ulysses S. Grant's 1855 cabin, in St Paul's Cemetery in Afton, Missouri. The original monument was placed by the DAR in 1947 and had deteriorated over time, and the National Park Service arranged for replacement. The current location of the thrice moved and nominally rebuilt cabin, is at Grant's Farm, an animal theme park owned and operated by the Anheuser Busch Brewing Company, and is open for public viewing.

Assisting in the re-dedication were re-enactors from the Turner Brigade, Stan Prater as Gen. Grant, Girl Scout Troop 1445, Boy Scout Webelos Pack 30, and the DAR's Carol McKay. Also attending as honored guests were Grant family descendants, members from the Allied Orders of the GAR, and Mr. Chris Eckhart Chief of Interpretation at the U.S. Grant NHS. During the ceremony, wreaths were placed by the W. T. Sherman Camp 65 and the Julia Dent Camp 16, DUVCW.

## SVR PERSONNEL ACTIONS

The following are promoted to:

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Military District

1Lt. Robert A. Dorsey, Commander of The Gettysburg Blues

1Lt. Robert L. Pugsley, Co. of 355<sup>th</sup> Northcoast Vol. Inf.

2Lt. Justin M. Dorsey, Adjutant of The Gettysburg Blues.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Military District

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gregory R. Decker, Adjutant of Co. C, 5<sup>th</sup> Reg., MO Vol. Cav. (re-commissioned).

### 6<sup>th</sup> Military District

1Lt. Charles J. Gardali, Commander of Co. G, 1<sup>st</sup> CA Vol. Inf.

2Lt. Charles O'Hartz, Adjutant of Co. B, 1<sup>st</sup> Nevada Vol. Inf.

2Lt. D. Brad Schall, Commander of Co. B, 8<sup>th</sup> CA Vol. Inf.

At their own request, the following were reduced in rank to:

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Military District

Pvt. Lee F. Walters, The Gettysburg Blues

Pvt. William S. Poulton, 355<sup>th</sup> Northcoast Vol. Inf.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Military District

Pvt. Mark L. Breckner, Co. B, 8<sup>th</sup> CA Vol. Inf.

Pvt. Steven E. Hauk, Co. B, 1<sup>st</sup> NV Vol. Inf.

### Please note SVR Challenge Coin Shipping Costs:

5 & under = \$3

6 to 11 = \$5

12 to 15 = \$6

Over 15 = contact Col. Shaw

at (740) 369-3722 or hshaw@columbus.rr.com





## City Point, Virginia: Gem of Union Army Historic Site

By SVC Michael Virts, Lincoln-Cushing Camp # 2  
Department of Maryland

Last March, I had the opportunity to visit nearby City Point, Virginia, the site of the Union Army's supply depot for the Petersburg-Richmond Campaign of 1864-1865. This was the Civil War's most impressive logistical center, transforming a village of 209 inhabitants into a bustling supply center for many thousands of Northern soldiers on the siege lines in front of Petersburg. By spring 1865, a mile of new wharves, hundreds of new buildings, and a vastly expanded railroad were present at City Point. For 10 months, City Point was the world's busiest seaport, averaging 40 steamers, 75 sailing ships, and 100 barges daily.



*Close up of part of the Union Fort at City Point*

Today, the boardwalk at City Point is the site of the historic waterfront. On Appomattox Street are the remains of 1864 breastworks of a Union fort that protected the supply depot and Grant's Headquarters. Both the General's Headquarters Cabin and Appomattox Manor, the Eppes family home, where Union Army Quartermasters were headquartered, are open daily for public touring.

City Point is part of Virginia's Civil War Trails' "Lee vs. Grant: the 1864 Campaign" and is often overlooked by visitors to that part of Virginia. Other nearby historic sites include the U.S. Army Quartermaster Museum, the Eastern and Western Fronts of Petersburg National Battlefield, and Pamplin Historical Park.



*From this cabin on the Eppes property at City Point General Grant conducted the Petersburg Campaign.*

From his headquarters cabin on the Eppes property at City Point, General Grant directed the attack upon Gen. Robert E. Lee's forces at Petersburg, ultimately resulting in surrender. City Point's Union telegraph system provided rapid transfer of information to all field commanders and Washington, DC.

President Abraham Lincoln visited General Grant at City Point twice. It was during his second visit in March and April 1865 that both Petersburg and Richmond fell. The President was here for two of the last three weeks of his life. Generals Phil Sheridan and William T. Sherman also conferred with General Grant at City Point.



*View of the James River from General Grant's Headquarters Cabin*

## This is NOT a GAR Badge

by George G. Kane  
Special to The Banner



For more than 15 years, a Masonic degree badge has been masquerading as a GAR badge. In the 1960's, the centenary of the American Civil War jump-started the fairly dormant collecting of memorabilia from that war. In 1990, Ken Burns' PBS miniseries "The Civil War" also popularized Civil War collectibles. Between these two events, a small badge emerged that no

one could identify. Because it had an all-black ribbon, it was thought to have something to do with funerals. The Maltese cross pendant gave no hint to its origin. The US seal in the center with its eagle and "E Pluribus Unum" inscription seemed to point towards its use by a military society. The misidentification of this badge gained steam as two small booklets on Civil War veterans' memorabilia were published. In 1990, Rev. Brad Long noticed that no collectibles book had ever been written about the GAR. He attempted to create an all-encompassing guide, producing a 40-page booklet, "Collecting Grand Army of the Republic Memorabilia." This booklet for the beginning collector showed common examples of GAR badges, books, uniform regalia, postcards, photos, and stamps.

Unfortunately, a time bomb lurked in the pages of this booklet. On page 34, a small badge with a black ribbon and a Maltese cross was labeled as the "Death Medal." Rev. Long's description states, "*The medal is perhaps mistaken for a Masonic Order or VFW device. The medal was usually given to the widow or surviving family upon the death of a GAR member. When family members were not available, the medal was buried with the veteran. ... This medal was also used extensively by non-GAR fraternal organizations.*" Soon after publication, Rev. Long attended the Ashland, Ohio, Civil War Show, where various dealers and collectors informed him that this badge was Masonic, not GAR. In 1992, Rev. Long published a 2<sup>nd</sup> edition with a weak attempt to correct the description. The badge's photo,

unfortunately, remained in the book with a new description: "*This is not an official badge... Likewise, it was not standardized...the origin of this badge can be traced to other fraternal organizations, to include, but not limited to, the Masonic orders.*" For some reason the Reverend decided to blur the origin rather than declare it totally Masonic and having no GAR usage. Both editions of his book sold out, 1,000 copies for each edition.

A year after Rev. Long's 1<sup>st</sup> edition, a second author, Dixie Gun Works retired founder Turner E. Kirkland, published a similar book. In 1991, Kirkland photographed his massive collection and created "Civil War Veterans' Organizations, Reunions, and Badges." On page 21 is illustrated four Malta Jewels, similar to the one pictured here. Kirkland described the badges: "*Four Gold Edged Union Medals with black ribbon given to a soldier's family upon his demise. This practice was not standardized in G.A.R. and varied by region of county and/or by department. Some feel areas with heavy Masonic population influenced this medal.*"

It seems strange that Kirkland and Long, in his revised edition, both use the words "*was not standardized*" in their description. It appears that Rev. Long in the interim between his two editions had read Kirkland's book. Kirkland had found Malta Jewels in a number of Union Veteran collections and assumed a relationship between the badge and the GAR...probably the only known case of "guilt by association" perpetrated upon a Civil War society and a badge.

Just when you think its over, a third book, "American Society Medals" by Bishop & Everitt listed the Malta jewel as the "GAR Death Badge". Lee Bishop told me he used the Long book as the source for his information. He promised a retraction in a 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, but none has ever been published.

In reality, the badge has a closer relation to the "DaVinci Code" than it does to the GAR. The badge is the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree of a Masonic order called the Knights Templar. The 1<sup>st</sup> degree of the Knights Templar society is the Order of the Red Cross. The second is the order of Malta. The 3<sup>rd</sup> degree is the Order of the Temple. More information can be found at: [www.yorkrite.com/degrees/](http://www.yorkrite.com/degrees/). This badge can be bought at any number of Masonic supply websites.

Most defenders of the term "GAR Death Badge" state that it is a multi-fraternity badge. What other badge is used by more than one Society? If this is truly the "Death Badge", then why are there photos of members wearing this badge? Shouldn't they be dead? It appears that despite evidence to the contrary, this badge will always be misidentified. Part of the reason is money. Most dealers know that they can get more money for a GAR piece than they can for a Masonic piece. Until we can reach the entire badge collector fraternity with the cold hard facts, it appears this error will persist.



# Memorial Day Memories



*Left: CinC Jim Pahl lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (Photo by DC Steve Hammond)*



*Above: Br. Dean Collins serves Communion during Milwaukee's C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1 & Aux. 4 Memorial Day Field Mass and Ceremony at Calvary Cemetery (Photo by PDC Kent Peterson)*



*Above: Lincoln-Cushing Camp marching unit at the 2007 National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C.*

*Right: Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day Ceremony at President Benjamin Harrison's grave in Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis. (Photo by Br. Tim Beckman)*



*Pictured are Brs. Robert Pollock, Robert Heath, Michael Paquette, Lee Stone, Michael Beard, Mary and Abraham Lincoln, Brs. Michael Ayoub, Richard Griffin, Robert Armidon, Robert Roser, & Calvin Zon.*



*Left: Col. Edward D. Baker Camp 6 JVC David Burkett reads General Order 11 at the Eugene, Oregon Memorial Day ceremony*



*Right: MA DC Perley Mellor renders honors at National Cemetery, Bourne, Cape Cod. (Photo by PDC Bill Ryerson)*



## 2007 Remembrance Day Schedule Saturday, 17 November

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Cost</u>
8 am	SVR Breakfast	Eisenhower Inn Emmitsburg Rd. (US 15) South of Gettysburg	\$10 by November 9 <sup>th</sup> to Col. Henry E. Shaw, Jr. 27 Griswold St. Delaware, OH 43105 (\$15 at door)
9:30 am	Unit Commanders Parade Briefing Distribution of event streamers	Eisenhower Inn	None
11 am	51 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary GAR Ceremony	Woolson Monument	None
1 pm	Parade Step-off	Lefever Street	None
6 pm	77 <sup>th</sup> Ann. Dedication Day Dinner (all are invited)	Eisenhower Inn	\$25 by November 11 to 1126 Hanover Road York, PA 17408
9pm-1am	National Civil War Ball Music by 28 <sup>th</sup> Penn. Reg. Brass Band (cash bar and snacks)	Eisenhower Inn	\$15 by November Col. Bud Atkinson 1016 Gorman St. Philadelphia PA 19116 (\$20 at door)

## Post Remembrance Day Sunday, 18 November

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Cost</u>
7-11am	Camp 112 Pancake Breakfast	GAR Post 9 Hall 53 E. Middle Street Gettysburg	\$6 at door
8 am	Nat. Council of Administration Meeting (open to Nat. Officers, PDCs and DCs)	Eisenhower Inn	None

# Don't Let Remembrance Day Pass You By . . .



**. . . Plan to Attend November 17 in  
Gettysburg**