

THE BANNER

NATIONAL JOURNAL OF THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



FRATERNITY
CHARITY
LOYALTY



THE PATRIOTIC
JOURNAL
OF AMERICA



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SAVE THE FLAGS:
23rd Michigan Infantry
regimental banner.
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100th Year – Sunfield, Michigan, G.A.R. Hall
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Civil War Sailor and Marine
raise the Colors aboard the
USS Constellation during 4th
of July Memorial Service.

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THE BANNER

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All inquiries regarding address changes or corrections must be directed to the National Membership List Coordinator. Send all address changes or corrections and all mailing list inquiries to: Richard A. Williams, National Membership List Coordinator, 1917 Teel Ave., Lansing, MI 48910-3117, or email to: rawsuvw@aol.com, or complete the form at <http://suvw.org/address.htm>

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THIS CHANGE IS PERMANENT TEMPORARY

Publishing Schedule

SUBJECT TO CHANGE	
ISSUE	
Vol. 104, No. 3 Deadline March 15	Spring/May Edition Mailed April 15
Vol. 104, No. 4 Deadline June 15	Summer/August Mailed July 15
Vol. 105, No. 1 Deadline Sept. 15	Fall/Nov. Edition Mailed Oct. 15
Vol. 105, No. 2 Deadline Dec. 15	Winter/Feb. Edition Mailed Jan. 15
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From the Commander-in-Chief

As we, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, will always remember *their* deeds and sacrifices for as long as we live, will it remain into the next generation? We know that the members of the G.A.R. did all they could to see that we, their ancestors, have brought to the eve of the 20th century. Our dedication through the years has proven that they taught us well.

Today, as we usher in a new century, a new era, a new beginning for this country, we still struggle with many of the same issues. It is important for the next generation of politicians to be aware of the history of this period, 1861-1865, if only to ensure that they do not repeat the same or similar mistakes.

It is equally important that we, as an organization, work to ensure that our young people are taught about all the issues which almost destroyed – and yet ultimately defined – our democracy.

Currently, in many of our schools, there is a push to selectively teach and to teach very little about our Civil War. This is a mistake which will not become obvious until our children become our country's politicians and leaders.

In the 21st century, we need a balanced and

accurate historical prospective about all issues, rather than only about one or two considered to be politically correct today.

It is only through our children that we can ensure that the memory and significance of all our American ancestors and their struggles to define this nation will be available to help guide this county into the 21st century.

As we enter this new century, we, as an organization, need to continue in the direction of preserving G.A.R. history, their monuments, and, through our deed of conveyance, stopping the greed of buying up gun tubes and the selling of grave markers. This is the grave robbing of our ancestors and must be stopped.

I thank each of you for the time I have been allowed to be your Commander-in-Chief, and I look forward to entering the 21st century with my fellow Brothers and Sisters in teaching and reminding our countrymen of the patriotism and love of country that those before fought and died for.

*Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Danny L. Wheeler
Commander-in-Chief*

Random Ramblings from the Editor

The votes are all in. The Holbrook cover banner of the period 1896-1951 is the landslide winner.

Those few who had reservations about *that* design felt the "old-fashioned" banner might cause the SUVCW to appear behind the times, itself old fashioned.

The Banner's 'staff' is confident that the contemporary colorization of the Holbrook design is enough to dispell those concerns. And, as you can see, the full color cover photos of present day Sons certainly doesn't hurt, either.

Here are a few comments reflecting the general feelings of stepping back into our past.

As our Organization ... perpetuates the memory of our ancestors and the G.A.R., I believe that the traditional bannerline is most appropriate. Thanks for asking the membership regarding this decision.
Camp Cmdr. Bob Lowem
Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21
Dept. of Calif. and the Pacific

Although the current masthead is fine, it lacks the emotive force of the emblems and designs found on the older example. The Union shields surrounded by the same laurels as graced the G.A.R. badge and the expression of our organizations most lofty ideals – Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty – are proud symbols.

*Robert A. Hill
Gen. Alfred Pleasonton
Camp 24*

The mottos "Fraternity, Charity, Loyalty" and "Always-For an Honorable and Lasting Peace" are the very essence of the G.A.R. and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. ... what instantly made up my mind is the presence of the Union shield on the left and right.
Daniel Kachinski
Lt. Ezra S. Griffin Camp
Scranton, Pa.

As for actual results, 82% "voted" for the Holbrook design; 18% for the most recent design (1997-99); and less than 1% for all other suggestions combined.

*Your faithful Brother
in F., C. & L.,
Editor Ken*

Submitting Material

Previously published newspaper articles or photos can not be reproduced without prior permission from the owner. As contributor, you are responsible for getting that permission.

Photos: Should be well focused and high contrast. Photocopies, laser or inkjet prints of photos are strongly discouraged. Photos send on disk or e-mail attachment should be

scanned at 200dpi/100ppi, scaled to actual or oversize. Underscale digital photos do not enlarge well.

Articles/Stories: You are the writer. Do not ask the editor to "write up a little something" from several newspaper clippings. Always include camp name and number, and dept. When submitting a new item, only send what you intend to be in the article. Do not send unnecessary "support" documents and pho-

tos. Items submitted by e-mail or disk are preferred. Typewritten hard copy is welcome. Handwritten submissions are discouraged. Ads: The Banner does not accept commercial advertising in any form. Items that appear in the Camp & Department Quartermaster section are placed as a courtesy. Camp and depts. are not charged a fee for these. They are included as space allows.

National Headquarters

GENERAL ORDERS SERIES 1999-2000

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 3

- On behalf of the National Order, its officers and myself, may each Brother and his family have a happy and joyous New Year. May everyone have a prosperous, productive and fraternal New Year.
- The 43rd Annual Remembrance Day activities were held in Gettysburg, Pa., Nov. 20, 1999. The event was well attended, and, with temperatures in the 60s, there were hundreds of people along the parade route. The Remembrance Day Committee is to be congratulated for a job well done. Also, thanks to the Gettysburg merchants for their contributions. Those contributions paid for the permit that made this parade possible.
- Requests for G.A.R. Memorial Scholarship applications should be directed to this office. All applications received will be forwarded to the Scholarship Committee. Please keep in mind that we only award two scholarships and that they are awarded on scholastic merit.
- Brothers are reminded to support the National Patriotic Instructor's Fund, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief's Fund, National Headquarters Fund, and Permanent Fund.
- On behalf of the National Order, condolences are extended to LGAR Past National President Barbara Tyler on the loss of her mother, Past National President Bonnie Weld, LGAR 1991-1992.

Sympathies are extended to all Brothers and Sisters who have lost a loved one, are ill, or are suffering in any manner.

- The Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star was presented to Brother Richard Orr of the Department of Pennsylvania for his tireless efforts and overtime hours in helping to move our organization into the 21st century.
- The Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star was presented to Brother Jerry Orton of the Department of New York for his tireless efforts in locating and keeping track of our Real Sons and Daughters, all now in their twilight years, just as was the Grand Army of the Republic.
- The National Order is preparing all SUVCW forms to be available online for use by departments.
- The National Order supports the Department of New Hampshire's efforts in the formation of a legislative Civil War committee for the repair of that state's monuments at Gettysburg and at other battlefields of the Civil War.

- I am pleased to announce the addition of another volunteer to contribute to the work of our National legal staff. He is Ralph Jones, Esq., of New York.

In addition, Brother Jones will be serving as Executive Director of the newly formed G.A.R. Foundation.

Danny L. Wheeler, Commander-in-Chief
50 Willow Ave., Ithaca, NY 14850
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- Departments wishing to have the Commander-in-Chief attend their annual encampment or a special event in their area are encouraged to submit requests as soon as possible. Conflicting dates may occur if requests are not made well in advance.
- The National Order is again working with the city of Harrisburg, Pa., to establish a SUVCW National Headquarters there in time for the June 2000 opening of the National Civil War Museum, to be located in Harrisburg.

We have been provided a detailed inventory of the six cannons in the possession of the museum. None were found to be missing or stolen cannons from cemeteries.

By Order of:
Danny L. Wheeler
Commander-in-Chief

Attested:
David Hann
National Secretary

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 4

- Recently, there has been some misinformation generated regarding the position of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (the Order) on the battle flag of the Confederacy. In attempt to clarify this, the following is the position of the Order as adopted at the 115th Annual Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War August 10, 1996, Columbus Ohio:

A resolution in support of the display of the Confederate Battle Flag over the state house in South Carolina.

WHEREAS, we, the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, condemn the use of the Confederate battle flag, as well as the flag of the United States, by any and all hate groups, and

WHEREAS, we, the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, strongly oppose the removal of the Confederate battle flag from atop the state house in Columbia, South Carolina, and

WHEREAS, we, the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, support the flying of the Confederate battle flag as a historical piece of this nation's history, and

WHEREAS, we, the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War oppose the removal of any Confederate monuments or markers to those gallant soldiers in South Carolina and the former Confederate States, and strongly oppose the removal of ANY reminders of this nation's bloodiest war on the grounds of it being politically correct, and

WHEREAS, we, as the descendants of Union soldiers and sailors who, as members of the Grand Army of the Republic, met in joint reunions with the Confederate veterans under both flags in those bonds

Continued on Page 14



USS Constellation Comes Home!

Gettysburg Camp 112 Color Guard representing the National Organization at the July 2 USS Constellation Homecoming. Left-right: CC John Price; Barry Decker; David Sosnowski; Albert Keyser; Lee Walters; Robert Dorsey; Douglas Shuttlesworth; William Guilliams; and Robert Dorsey.

It was a glorious site to see the once dilapidated Frigate reappear in the mouth of the harbor as the beautifully restored Sloop-of-War. The morning journey brought her passed Fort McHenry where a salute was fired. A salute awaited her in the harbor as well.

On Friday, July 2, the USS Constellation returned to her berth in Baltimore's Inner Harbor among much celebration and fanfare.

The celebration began around ten o'clock with antique and naval vessels and the Baltimore Fire Department Fireboat providing the Grand Flotilla. As the time neared for the Constellation to appear in the harbor more and more people began to fill the Inner Harbor and the surrounding overlooks. Many thousands would be there to see her.

With dignitaries and her restoration team aboard, the Constellation was greeted by a Navy fly over and a 19-gun salute from a Maryland National Guard battery.

The ceremony began with the Son of Union Veterans of the Civil War presenting the Colors with music provided by the US Naval Academy Band. The National Organization was represented by the Gettysburg Camp 112 who carried the National Colors, the Gettysburg Camp Colors (a Civil War US National Flag),

the Maryland and Baltimore City Colors, and the SUVCW Commander-in-Chief's Colors.

The ceremony included addresses by Gail Shawe, Chairman, Constellation Foundation, as well as the Governor of Maryland and the Mayor of Baltimore. Former Secretary of the Navy John Dalton gave the keynote address.

This celebration was not only in honor of the Constellation physically returning to the Inner Harbor, but in recognition of the efforts that went into the most extensive and most successful non-governmental ship restoration in history. The SUVCW served this effort well with donations from all levels, including Garfield Camp 1, MD; the Departments of Pennsylvania and Maryland; and the National Organization.

USS Constellation in the Inner Harbor.



Constellation Memorial Service

On Sunday, July 4, the National Organization hosted the first worship service aboard the restored USS Constellation in memory of her crew. The service was arranged by Brother Peter Johnston, who serves as the National Aide for the USS Constellation, and Father Robert Albright of Garfield Camp 1, Md., who prepared and officiated the service.

A musical prelude by Gilmore's Light Ensemble, a period instrumental group led by Brother Stephen Adamski, Garfield Camp 1, Md., preceded the service that began at the toll of half past nine on the ship's bell. With men in Civil War naval and marine uniforms along the stern of the vessel and her flag at half mast just above their heads, Father Albright's welcoming and invocation was followed by the congregation of over one hundred people singing "America, the Beautiful."

Mr. Larry Bopp, President of Ship's Company, a naval living history unit that serves aboard the Constellation, dressed as a Union naval lieutenant, gave the address in memory of the crew of the Constellation, in which he remembered her service to our Nation for nearly one hundred years. The Chantymen, a male quartet, dressed in seaman's uniforms, then performed "The Sailor Boy's Grave."

The readings for the service were nautical in nature. The first and third readings were followed by a specially prepared responsive psalmody. The second reading was

followed by Gilmore's Light Ensemble performing "The Shining Shore." The creation story from Genesis, Christ's walking on the water, and Mr. Bopp's address were all incorporated into Father Albright's homily, in which he paid tribute to the service our Nation's fallen and celebrated the life of the Constellation and the lives of all those who served on her and for her.

The Chantymen singing "Eternal Father" followed the homily.



Then came the prayers of intercession. From the silence following the prayers, the boatswain's whistle sounded "All Hands," three slow tolls of the ship's bell floated across the harbor and a bugle's "Taps" provided the final salute to the dead.

The benediction began the closing of the service that ended on the last note of "The Star-Spangled Banner" as the ship's Colors were raised to full mast by a Civil War marine and sailor.

Each person attending the service received a program and memorial ribbon. Following the service an ivy wreath was affixed to the support of the ship's bell and flowers were placed below it in memory of her crew.

Aboard the USS Constellation following 4th of July National SUVCW Memorial Service. Left-right: Peter Johnston, National Aide for the USS Constellation; Kenneth Hershberger, PDC, Dept. of Md.; Ed Johnston, Garfield Camp 1; Father Robert Albright, Garfield Camp 1, and Ceremony Officiant; Larry Bopp, President, Ship's Company, and Guest Speaker.

Cover Photo: Civil War Sailor and Marine prepare to raise the Colors from half-mast during 4th of July National SUVCW Memorial Service.



Trading kepis for tri-corns, these well dressed Brothers found time during the 109th National Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution for a SUV "family photo." You'll recognized the gent seated front row center as PCinC/CoA Andrew M. Johnson. The gathering was held in San Diego.

Remembrance Day

The Remembrance Day Parade and Ball was held Saturday, November 20, in the city of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The 43rd annual parade honored men who fought on both sides of the Civil War and commemorated the anniversary of the date President Lincoln dedicated the National Cemetery. The original date was November 19, 1863, and this event has been held yearly on the closest Saturday to that date.

Civil War reenactors, military personnel, civilians, and members of the Allied Orders were invited. The parade started at 2 p.m., followed by ceremonies held at the Albert Woodson Statue (Union) and at the Stone Wall (Confederate). Individuals and organizations representing each side participated in both ceremonies.

Proceeds from the ball's ticket sales are used for Civil War monument preservation.



44th Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony Springfield, Illinois Saturday, April 15, 2000

Members of our Order are invited to participate in a memorial service marking the 135th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's death. This service will be conducted on Saturday, April 15, at 11:00 a.m. at the Lincoln Tomb, in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, Illinois. Headquarters will be the Lincoln Plaza Hotel and is the site of a luncheon following the rites at the Tomb. A shuttle bus will provide transportation between the Tomb and the hotel. Dr. Thomas F. Schwartz, Illinois State Historian, will be the featured speaker at the luncheon.

If your department, camp or auxiliary wishes to take part, please indicate by letter that: (1) you will present a wreath; and (2) you wish to make a specific number of luncheon reservations.

To make reservations and assure a proper listing of your organization and the name of your wreath bearer in the printed program, send your letter - giving full details, **not later than Monday, March 20** to:

Robert M. Graham, Co-chairman
Lincoln Tomb Ceremony Committee
1320 North Osborne Avenue
Springfield, IL 62702

If you plan to attend the luncheon, it is imperative that the number of reservations and the names involved be conveyed to Bro. Graham by the March 20 date. **Cancellation of luncheon reservations must be made known to Bro. Graham by Monday, April 10 at the latest.** Wreaths may be ordered for delivery at the Lincoln Tomb from local Springfield florists. If you choose to do that, instruct your florist to have your wreath delivered c/o The Lincoln Tomb, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, by 9:00 a.m., Saturday, April 15.



REMEMBRANCE DAY: Beginning of the parade - passing in review.

Photo by Rita Harned

"F., C., and L. - What the Letters Mean"

"A subscriber from Naperville, Ohio, writes us as follows: 'I notice very frequently in The Tribune the signature "Yours in F., C., and L." Will you kindly tell me what these letters signify?"

"We are rather surprised that at this late day any one should be unacquainted with the meaning of these letters, but we shall endeavor, nevertheless, to make clear to our correspondent what these letters stand for, as well as the sentiment they are intended to convey."

"To begin with, then, F., C., and L. are the initials of the words Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty, which, as every ex-soldier should know, are the cardinal principles of the Order of the Grand Army of the Republic, and it is the custom of the members of this Order when writing to each other to sign their letters, as a pledge of comradeship, with the formal expression, 'Yours in F., C., and L.' But while this form of signature is in general use among comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, it is too often used, we fear, without due reflection as to its full import and without due consideration of the pledge which it implies. What is meant by fraternity, and what by charity and loyalty when the terms are used in this three-fold association? Fraternity, as described by Webster, is the state or quality of a brother - that is to say, brotherhood; and it is the outgrowth, usually, of the association of men together in the same pursuits and for a common purpose. Thus, a fraternity of feeling may exist among tradesmen, or doctors, or lawyers. The fraternity, however, that results from association in business and pleasure is of small import compared with that which binds together the members of an organization like the Grand Army, and for the reason that it has its origin not in mere social companionship, but in that mutual exposure to hardship, and that common hazard of death which the soldiers of our armies ventured for the preservation of the Union. It is common enough for people of all classes, when thrown together under unpleasant conditions, to form strong attachments for each other, but there are no attachments so firm and enduring as those which have their origin in army companionship - in conditions that made mutual helpfulness a necessity. It is impossible, therefore, to disassociate the from the idea of fraternity, so far as it applies to members of the Grand

Army of the Republic, the remembrance of that comradeship which existed between them twenty years ago, when as soldiers, they fought side by side for their country, sharing together the hardships of camp life, the burdens of the march, the perils of the field, the privations of prison and the horrors of the hospital. No one but a soldier, indeed, may be said to know the true meaning of fraternity, for nowhere does the brotherly feeling of man so fully reveal itself in acts of kindness and helpfulness as on the battlefield, when a draught from some comrade's canteen is to the expiring veteran a sweeter boon than all earthly treasures. No one, we are sure, can scan the columns of The Tribune without finding recorded there such instances of brotherly kindness and self-sacrificing comradeship as show the fraternity which existed between our soldiers during the war to have had its origin in the noblest promptings of the human heart. When, therefore, in these days of peace, a comrade signs himself 'yours, in fraternity,' it is no empty phrase he employs. It means that as in war he was ready to share his last ration with a starving comrade, or the shelter of his only blanket, and would sacrifice his life rather than leave his comrade to perish on the field, so now he is ready to stand by that comrade when fortune misuses him or the country neglects him, or when he is stricken by sickness or poverty."

"Nor is the charity which constitutes the second tie between the members of the Grand Army to be confounded with ordinary human benevolence - mere alms-giving. It is its essential characteristic that it avoids the appearance of a benefaction and takes the form, simply, of the acknowledgment of a precious and sacred obligation. Vast as are the charities dispensed by the Grand Army of the Republic, there is nothing in them that smacks of officiousness. It is simply the exemplification of that mutual helpfulness in which the spirit of comradeship had its origin, and the comrade whose needs compel him to accept the aid of the Order does so without loss of manhood or independence. And this, perhaps, is the most beautiful and beneficent characteristic of the Order, that it succors the needy, ministers to the sick, and reclaims the fallen, without leaving behind it the slightest sense of humiliation. The comrade who signs himself 'Yours in charity,' pledges himself thereby to be helpful to his brother without requiring of that comrade an acknowledgment of the obligation."

"As for loyalty, the word as it is employed by the Grand Army is something more than a mere sentiment. It is expressive of a devotion to the Union that, tested in the hot crucible of war, will endure for all time. Whatever evolutions of politics the future

may have in store, the fidelity and patriotism of the men who overthrew the rebellion and preserved the integrity of the Union will never change or alter. Loyalty, with the members of the Grand Army, is a living, vital sentiment, looking to the protection of the Nation against the dangers that may yet assail it. When a comrade signs himself 'Yours in loyalty,' he pledges his life anew to his country and his comrades for the maintenance of the Republic and its free institutions."

"And now that we have set forth, with the clearness of actual knowledge, the principles of the Grand Army, we may well ask why any ex-soldier can be content to remain aloof from it. Why, veterans, this Order is the embodiment of all that you fought for, and the incarnation of all that is worth living for! It is worthy of you and you are worthy of it, and we trust the day is not distant when every man of you will be enrolled in its ranks. We shall be glad to send a blank application for Post charter, with instructions as to organization, on receipt of a request to that effect from any of our readers."

ATTENTION: Descendants of Veterans of Massachusetts Regiments or Batteries

If you are a descendant of a veteran of a Massachusetts regiment or battery?

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has most flags issued to its regiments and batteries during the Civil War. Until about 10 years ago, these flags were on display at the State House in Boston. Now available for a fee from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are both black and white, and full color images (i.e. photographs) of these flags. If your ancestor served in a Massachusetts regiment or battery, you would want a photograph of his regiment's or battery's flag.

For more information, contact the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Art Commission, State House, Room #72, Boston, MA 02133; (617) 727-2607, extension 517.

If you would like to know the battle honors inscribed on your ancestor's regimental or battery flag, contact Brother Douglass R. Knight, P.O. Box 955, Salem, NH 03079-0955.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Attention: Dept. Secretaries

January 6 — Brother David Hann has resigned as National Secretary. Until further notice, please send all per capita taxes to: Geraldine Orr, 153 Connie Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15214-1251. If you have questions, phone 412-931-1173, or e-mail Brother Richard Orr at suvcworr@aol.com.

California & Pacific

Memorial Day Activities

Brothers of the Dept. of California and Pacific represented the SUVCW at Memorial Day services all across the state. Cmdr. Dan Bunnell of **Phil Sheridan Camp 4** was at Redwood City Cemetery for the first services held at the new G.A.R. Monument there. Cmdr. Tom Mason of **John A. Logan Camp 20** laid a wreath at the base of the G.A.R. Monument in Los Gatos Cemetery as part of services there. A few weeks preceding, Brothers of the camp had cleaned the monument and the graves of Union veterans there. On the 30th, Cmdr. Chuck Davis of the **Gen. George Wright Camp 22** conducted a Civil War tour of Old Sacramento City Cemetery. Memorial Day found brothers of the camp leading the procession and firing the cannon to commence services in this cemetery. Brothers of the **Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp 23**, led by Cmdr. Charles Christian, cleaned the gravesites of Union veterans at Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery prior to the services there.

The widely dispersed **Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21** participated in services at several Southern California cemeteries. Brother Ed Strobbridge represented the camp at Arroyo Grande District Cemetery as a headstone was dedicated for Otis W. Smith, who won the Medal of Honor for capturing a Confederate flag. Brother Myron Roberts assisted in placing flags on veteran's graves and then represented the camp at Ioma Vista Cemetery's Memorial Day Services in Fullerton. The front page, lead Memorial Day coverage of the *Los Angeles Times*, reported the camp's prior-week dedication at Fairhaven Memorial Park in Santa Ana of a grave marker for Pvt. Martin Osborn of the 2nd Kansas Battery.

Memorial Day services at Mount Hope Cemetery, organized by Dept. Cmdr Gene Armistead and participated in by Camp 21, received extensive coverage. DC Armistead was included in a local PBS radio interview about Memorial Day on the 30th. The camp was joined by other San Diego area Civil War organizations on Memorial Day as they honored Pvt. Amos Hudgins of the 83rd U.S.C.T. Several camp Brothers and Aux. Pres. Rosemary Lowe were included in televised clips of these services - including international coverage by a Mexican TV station!

When the City of Escondido, Calif., and its historical society asked **Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21** for help in initiating an annual *Independence Day in the Park* event, the camp responded in a way that made the event, according to the city, "truly patriotic." In addition to providing SVR members in Union uniform, the camp arranged for participation by the 10th Georgia Inf. Confederate reenactors, a display of Civil War flags (Union and Confederate) posters, ladies in period dress, and a presentation of the Gettysburg Address by Lincoln impersonator Bill Peck. The camp's auxiliary distributed miniature U.S. flags to children. The camp has already been asked to assist with the 2000 celebration of Independence Day. *See photo, page 8.*

Brothers of **Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21** were joined by the Orange County Civil War Roundtable, representatives of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and the City of Santa Ana on May 23, to dedicate a headstone for Pvt. Martin L. Osborn of the 2nd Kansas Battery. Pvt. Osborn was the last Civil War veteran in the cemetery to have an unmarked grave. The president of the round table, commander of the SCV camp, and a city councilwoman were followed by Dept. Cmdr. Gene Armistead, who spoke on the importance of recognizing the veterans who served in obscurity out of duty to country. Camp 21 Cmdr. Bob Lowe and Aux. President Rosemary Lowe then unveiled Osborn's headstone, followed by a three volley salute by the reenactors of the 100th Pa. Inf. The event was organized and coordinated by Br. Paul Gillette.

George Wright Camp 22 JVC Steve Von Bima (left) and SVC Bob Bundy install the first of over a dozen plaques marking trees in the Civil War Memorial Grove of Sacramento's Old City Cemetery. The trees are descendants of "witness trees" growing at various Civil War sites.



Brothers Von Bima (left) and Bundy installing plaques. Photo by Camp Cmdr. Chuck Davis

2000 Department Encampments

For those dates and locations not listed, please contact Department Commanders listed in the November 1999 issue of THE BANNER.

California & Pacific	Elks Lodge
April 8	San Luis Obispo, Calif.
Colorado & Wyoming	
June 10	Denver, Colo.
Connecticut	
May 6	to be announced
Florida	
June 24	Lantana, Fla.
Illinois	
May 6	Springfield, Ill.
Indiana	Indiana University
June 3	Kokomo, Ind.
Iowa	
May 26, 27	Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Kansas	Cowtown Museum
April 29	Wichita, Kan.
Kentucky	
tba	tba
Maine	
June 25	tba
Maryland	Holiday Inn
April 29	Frederick, Md.
Massachusetts	
April 28, 29	Westboro, Mass.
Michigan	Clarion Hotel
May 6	Kalamazoo, Mich.
Missouri	
June 10	tba
New Hampshire	NH Hist. Soc.
April 15	Concord, N.H.
New Jersey	
tba	tba
New York	Treadway Inn
June 3, 4	Owego, N.Y.
Ohio	Mt. Union College
June 16, 17, 18	Alliance, Ohio
Pennsylvania	Eisenhower Inn
June 9, 10, 11	Gettysburg, Pa.
Rhode Island	
April 8	tba
Southwest	
tba	Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas
Tennessee	Baymont Inn
March 17-19	Montgomery, Ala.
Vermont	American Legion
April 29	Barre, Vt.
Wisconsin	
June 10	Fond du Lac, Wis.



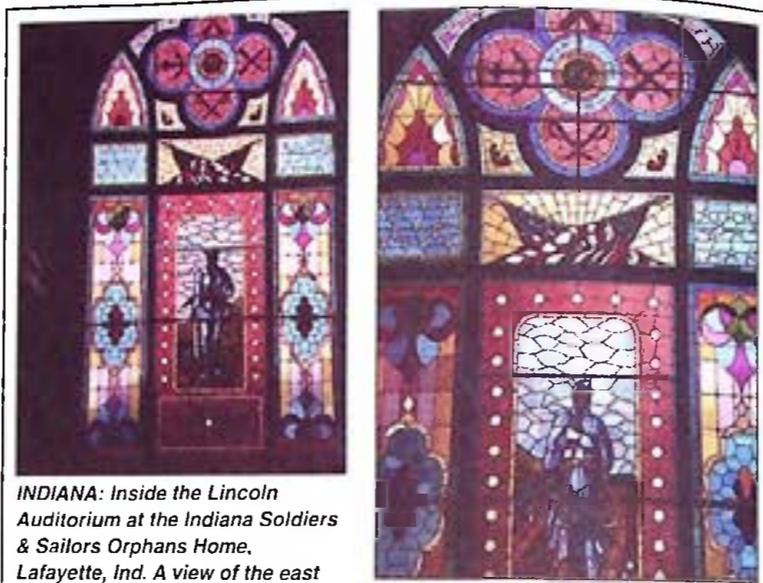
CALIFORNIA & PACIFIC
Left to right: Brothers Dave Allyn, Gene Armistead, Tom Stinson, Jon Gottshall, and Bob Lowe.

See news, page 7



ILLINOIS: U.S. Army Color Guard stands at attention, as the casket of Civil War veteran Pvt. Michael Keegan is readied for burial.

See story, page 13



INDIANA: Inside the Lincoln Auditorium at the Indiana Soldiers & Sailors Orphans Home, Lafayette, Ind. A view of the east wall inside Lincoln hall. Stained glass window depicting a Union sailor. West wall window depicting a Union soldier. The center of the G.A.R. membership badge appears at the top of each. See story, page 13

FLORIDA: Brothers at the 2nd Annual West Palm Beach Veterans Day Parade.



The event was attended by members of Maj. Gen. Thomas J. McKean Camp 3. Left to right: Jerry Lipponcott; DC Leland Smith; PDC Ronald Bair; Ed Page; Camp SVC Richard Tilford; Guy Bachmann; kneeling is Bro. Lipponcott's daughter. Present, but not shown: William Shukis. For more dept. news, see page 9.

RESEARCH CENTER

For Genealogical & Historical Research

FREE RESEARCH: To help honor our forefathers who fought to preserve the Union and free the slaves, Douglass R. Knight, Publicity Director for the New England Regional Association, SUVCW, is offering to research the military service of your Union Civil War ancestor. This research is conducted free of charge for those who apply for membership in the SUVCW. Brother D. Knight can be reached by calling (603) 898-4286 between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. or writing him at P.O. Box 955, Salem, NH 03079.

Book Wanted: Casey, James B., ed. *Libby Prison Autograph Book*, January-February

1864. Salt Lake City: Utah Genealogical Association, Monograph Series No. 1, 1984. Contact Tim Roberts, 217-522-5603.

To Whom it May Concern: Please be advised that I am looking for the following books for my personal collection: 1. Cushman, Frederick E. *The History of the 58th Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers*. Washington, DC: Gibson Brothers, Printers, 1865; 2. Wilson, John. *Seven months in a Rebel Prison*. (John Wilson served in Co. A of the 58th Mass.) [n.p., n.d.]. Thank you very much. Sincerely, Douglass R. Knight (603) 898-4286.

Colorado & Wyoming

The Memorial Day Observance commenced at noon, May 31 at the Salt Lake City "City Cemetery." Present was PDC William Ray Ward, representing the department and the National SUVCW. The activities were directed by Lot Smith Camp 1 Commander Gerald Mosley. There are 83 buried in City Cemetery and many more in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.



The how and why this monument came to be? While searching for a place to hold the 1999 remembrance on Memorial Day, Cmdr. Mosley had been informed of the existence of the monument. No one had actually seen it, so I volunteered to view it and give a report to Cmdr. Mosley. In viewing it, I noted that the monument consisted of rounded stones stacked up to the height of five feet. An indent was found at the front where an old slate slab was laying with the words "In memory of the Civil War Veterans." The slab was broken on two corners, and the stones had grass and at one time appeared to have had flowers.

On behalf of the camp, I contacted Salt Lake Monument. I mentioned to him the odd and crumbling monument across the street in city cemetery. His eyes lit up on this subject. He stated that in discussion with the sexton of the cemetery he was told that without proper release from the proper people this would not occur.

I said "Mike, let me check into this." After conferring with my leadership, I went over to the sexton's office and went through the books to locate the owners of the plot. I dis-

cussed the problems about this monument and was informed that the problem was not so much a family but the legal representative for the monument. I immediately identified myself as both camp and department secretary for the SUVCW. Mr. Huey Paul Byron immediately stated that, as such, the call was the SUVCW's as we were the legal heirs to the G.A.R. I returned to Salt Lake Monument Co. with the news. Michael Ellerbeck was elated. I worked out a deal that he would refurbish the Mt. Olivet Monument for free and we would take care of any problems with the new monument. We designed the monument and I presented it to both PCC/PDC William Ray Ward and Camp Cmdr. Mosley. I showed them the old monument and plan and introduced them to Mike and they initialed and signed the agreement. My job was essentially done. All was to do was oversight. Mike did not think that the project could be done with his work load. After much encouragement and many late nights, he had the monument ready the Saturday before the dedication. The other officers like research of names buried in the cemetery and putting it all together did all other parts.



Brother Charles Sharrock is one of the outstanding active participants in the National Graves Registration program. His efforts on behalf of fallen veterans is not bound by time. After considerable research, and still unable to locate a grave site, Charles arranged for a VA provided memorial headstone for Medal of Honor recipient John Davis.

Davis, a Private, died December 30, 1901, at Cotopaxi, Colo. He had joined Co. F, 17th Indiana Mounted Inf. at Indianapolis, Ind. As with so many Civil War Medal of Honor recipients, little is known of the circumstances that resulted in his being awarded the medal. It took place at Culloden, Georgia, in April 1865. The actual citation was for "Capture of flag of Worriell Grays (C.S.A.)," and was issued June 17, 1865. At some point during the war, Davis had also been a POW.



The location of Davis' burial is unknown as the town of Cotopaxi was abandoned some time ago.

An example of Brother Sharrock's efforts, "before and after" photos of replacement of the weathered stone of John D. Tommer, a veteran of the Spanish American War. Tommer had been a member of the 2nd Arkansas Inf. Band. Tommer is buried at the National Cemetery at Fort Lyon, Colo.

Bro. Sharrock is National Graves Registration Officer for the Sons of Spanish American War Veterans. He has served in that same capacity within the SUVCW.

Florida

Sons Honor Camp Namesake Missing For Ninety Years

The Lucius L. Mitchell Camp 4 in St. Cloud, with the assistance of the department, performed the G.A.R. ritual graveside services at the reburial of their camp namesake, according to Camp Cmdr. Ron McCracken. Pvt. Lucius L. Mitchell, whose body was missing for nearly 90 years, was returned to rest with his Comrades in Mt. Peace Cemetery and memorialized on May 15 in a moving ceremony.

Mitchell, a member of the G.A.R., moved to the new colony of St. Cloud in October 1909 with his wife and five of his eight children. Six weeks later he passed away. The cemetery was not yet completed in the colony, so Pvt. Mitchell's body was taken to the next closest town, Kissimmee, to be held temporarily until the St. Cloud graveyard could be developed. As time went by, memories dimmed and Mitchell's body could not be found. In fact, since Mitchell's family left the area after his death and moved to the west, many veterans concluded that perhaps the family relocated the body closer to their new homestead.

"But the veterans never forgot their Comrade," McCracken said. "so when the G.A.R. hall was completed in 1914, they chartered the post as the Lucius L. Mitchell Post and the post grew to be the second largest in the United States." The hall currently is a museum and has been listed as a historic site by both the State of Florida and the U.S. Department of Interior.

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DO YOU HAVE YOUR MARYLAND SUV LICENSE PLATE?

Prior to the Remembrance Day Parade in Gettysburg, Department of Maryland Commander Robert Eck displayed a sample of the newly issued Maryland State SUVCW organizational license plate to Commander-in-Chief Danny Wheeler (left). The plate has the SUVCW badge emblem in gold on the left and the inscription "Sons of Union Veterans" along the bottom.

Sorry, but you have to be a resident of Maryland to get these.



For more information about this plate, contact Brother Peter Johnson at (410) 426-8190 or farrady@aol.com.

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Looking for "Grant" and "Sherman"



G.A.R. Post 334 Commander John H. DeGraw and his daughter, Myrtle, pose with cannons 'Grant' and 'Sherman' at St. Cloud in 1912.

The Department of Florida is searching the state for historical items that once belonged to the G.A.R.

"The search has been going on for the past few years," according to Dr. Ron Bair, PDC, "and is a priority responsibility of the Sons organization."

Union veterans migrated to Florida near the turn of the century, securing land that was often offered by the veteran's association and publicized through their newspaper, the National Tribune. Entire towns were established by Union veterans, such as Linn Haven and St. Cloud. The plan was so successful in St. Cloud, that the G.A.R. post established there became the second largest in the country.

As the last local Civil War veterans passed away, documents, photos, and the official charters were removed from the post buildings by town officials or other veteran groups like the VFW and American Legion who often occupied the G.A.R. halls as meeting places until their own facilities were established. "Many of the 'Sons' who had gone off to World War I and WWII were now members of these veteran groups," Bair explained, "and most likely thought that putting the items in the new facilities was a way of protecting them."

The G.A.R. hall still stands in St. Cloud and recently, with the help of the Dept. of Florida, was added to the state and national historic sites listings. Although under private ownership, it remains as the only existing G.A.R. hall south of the Mason-Dixon Line. "Recent rumors that the owner may sell the building has prompted us to attempt to claim ownership of several documents that are in the building," Smith said, "and hopefully our claim will be recognized." Several items have been found scattered throughout the state and have been turned over to the Sons of Union Veterans. "Our ancestors required us to share these artifacts with the public and that is exactly what we will be doing."

The G.A.R. hall in St. Cloud had two cannons, which they named "Grant" and "Sherman," which are missing. "Cannons last a long time," Bair said, "and we have launched a national search for them. There are identifying marks on these guns that will permit us to confirm that they were owned by the G.A.R."

There are six camps of the SUVCW active in Florida. For information on the activities of the Dept. of Florida, Commander Smith can be reached at 1003 SW 25th Pl., Boynton Beach, FL 33426, by phone (561) 734-4689.

Camp Highlighted in Patriotic Holiday Event

Gen. Thomas J. McKean Camp 3, Palm Beach County, took the lead role in the 12th Annual *I Am An American Day* according to Camp Commander John Vaughn III. *I Am An American Day* is an official holiday in the state and the South Florida camp has been involved in its success for the past five years.

PCC Ron Bair again co-chaired this year's event and the camp served as co-sponsors of the along with with Lantana American Legion Post 269.

The holiday came about when a Lantana resident, researching information on the Statue of Liberty, discovered that such a day was called for by President Truman in remarks made following the U.S. victory in WWII. "The man, James Frederick, was a member of the Lantana Legion Post," according to Vaughn, "and with their help asked Governor Bob Martinez to establish such a patriotic day by making it an official holiday." Martinez did so in 1987, designating the third Sunday in October as *I Am An American Day* in the Sunshine State.

Bair became involved with the event in 1995 and has travelled the state, bringing the event story to various organizations in an effort to expand the program. He has addressed the American Legion Dept. of Florida leadership and contacted interested groups as far away as Michigan.

The McKean Camp has assisted by presenting living history programs on the holiday, and has provided financial support for the past two years.

On the tenth anniversary of the holiday, Bair created the Citizen/Patriot Award, which has been presented to citizens who make Americanism a part of their everyday lives. Nominations come from the community. A panel of judges choose the winner. The award is presented publicly on the holiday.

Area schools participate in an essay con-

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FINAL MUSTER

These men from our rank and file have harkened the final bugle call - heeded the final muster - joining the Comrades and our Brothers who have gone before:

Richard James Estep — Curtenius Guard Camp 17, Dept. of Mich., since 1984; a resident of Woodland, Mich.; Sept. 11, 1977-August 15, 1999; WWII D-Day veteran; great-grandson of George Richard, Co. E, 100th Indiana.

Jerry S. Friend — Colegrove-Woodruff Camp 22, Dept. of Mich.; Sept. 23, 1938. Quincy, Mich.—August 11, 1999. Battle Creek, Mich.; USAF MP veteran; retired trooper. Mich. State Police; great grandson of Andrew Jackson Friend, Co. E. 43rd Ohio Vol. Inf.

Richard L. Gray — Nash-Hodges Camp 43, Dept. of Mich., since 1997; August 13, 1932, Sylvania, Ohio—August 2, 1999, Toledo, Ohio; great grandson of William R. Gray, Co. E. 25th Ohio Inf.

Edwood E. Hawkins — Nov. 14, 1999, Shepherd, Mich., age 92; member, WA-BU-NO Camp 53 since 1994; grandson of Pvt. Abraham Hawkins, Co. E, 125th Ohio Inf.; ran 80-acre farm his Civil War veteran grandfather purchased in 1865.

Corwin T. Henkins — Camp 41, *Real Son*. See obituary, this page.

Theodore A. LaVertue — Camp 7, Dept. of N.H.; resident of Hooksett, N.H.

Gordon F. McAllister — Gen. Phil Kearney Camp 67, Dept. of Mich.; June 25, 1938, Saginaw, Mich.—April 16, 1999, Bay City, Mich.; USAF veteran; retired in 1996 from the Bay City Police Dept. after 27 yrs. of service; survived by his wife, Joann, and three children.

Dr. La Roy E. Miller — Sherwood, Ore.; Member-at-Large.

Brother Muth — Resident of Elizabethtown, Ky. No other information provided.

Don Carlos Pace — Marshall, Mich., October 20, at age 105; chaner member, Colegrove-Woodruff Camp 22, Dept. of Mich., since 1992; previously a member, Colegrove

Camp 22, Marshall, 1922-1956 when disbanded; grandson of Sgt. Isaac Grant, Co. I, 10th Mich. Cav.; US Navy veteran, WWI.

William L. "Bill" Sharpe — Charter member of Frederick H. Hackeman Camp 85, Dept. of Mich.; August 17, 1947, Kalamazoo, Mich.—June 2, 1999, St. Joseph, Mich.; great grandson of George Sharp, Co. B, 6th Mich. Vol. Cav.; great, great nephew of James Sharpe, Co. H, 6th Mich. Cav.; great grandson of Joseph Mulholland, Co. A, 82nd Ohio Vol. Inf.

Richard B. Shull — Camp 26; died Oct. 14 in Manhattan at age 70, well known television and film actor and *Tony Award* nominee.

Robert M.F. Smyser — Elizabethtown, Pa., Camp 33, Dept. of Pa.

Lowell E. Spry — Oct. 5, 1938, Lansing, Mich.—Dec. 23, 1999, Lansing; great-great nephew of Pvt. Thomas Spry, Co. H, 71st Ohio Inf.; US Army veteran, 101st Airborne and MP; George W. Anderson Camp 58, Dept. of Mich., transferred from Curtenius Guard Camp 17, where he joined in 1991; SAR member.

Stephen W. Taylor — Feb. 25, 1913-July 21, 1999; Norway, Maine; member of J.L. Chamberlain Camp 69, South Paris, Dept. of Maine, since 1974; Dept. Cmdr. 1988/89.

M. Richard Walton Sr. — May 18, 1925-Sept. 28, 1999; Norway, Maine; J.L. member of Chamberlain Camp 69, South Paris, Dept. of Maine, since 1994; WWII US Army Europe 1943-46.

William Warner — Dual member, Long Star Camp 1 and Sam Houston Camp 3, Dept. of the S.W. *Real Son*. See obituary, this page.

Frank E. Werner — Meadville, Pa.; Davis Camp #, Dept. of Pa.

Thomas I. Wolf — Groveport, Ohio; age 85; Oct. 2, 1999; served in the Ohio N.G. from WWII to the mid-50s; Volunteer firefighter; Reenactor, Bty. C, 1st Ohio L.A.

Real Son Corwin T. Henkins

Corwin T. Henkins died suddenly at Seneca, Missouri, on January 11, 1999, at the age of 99, and is buried in the Seneca Cemetery. He was born near Cameron, Missouri and was raised at Bristow. After retiring from Sun Oil Company, he traveled the country extensively before the death of his wife, Margie, in 1988.

He was the son of Abraham Corwin Henkins, who served in Company H, 44th Missouri Infantry, U.S.A. Abraham Henkins died in 1909, and his widow, Mary, received a Union pension which was used to help with the expense of raising three children.

Corwin Henkins joined the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in 1996, and was proud of his heritage.

Real Son William Warner

It is with regret that the passing of *Real Son* William Warner is reported. He died Sunday, June 6, 1999, in Austin, Texas. Brother Warner was the son of William B. Warner, a survivor of the Sultana explosion and sinking at the close of the Civil War.

He is survived by his brother, Robert Warner of Angelo, Texas. Both *Real Sons* were dual members of both Lone Star Camp 1 and Sam Houston Camp 3, the Dept. of the S.W.

From the Syracuse Post Standard

John Sanderson Dietz, 79, of Fayetteville, N.Y., died July 24. Mr. Dietz was the husband of Julia Grant, the daughter of PCinC Ulysses S. Grant III. The couple was married for 53 years. He is survived by two sons and five grandchildren.

Sympathy cards were sent on behalf of the SUVCW and the WRC.

Vera Harris: R.I.'s Last Real Daughter

December 22 — It was an honor to attend the memorial service on this day for Rhode Island's only known daughter of a Civil war veteran.

About 150 family, friends and those who wish they were filled the church. I have never been to a memorial service in my life that was more moving. I felt I had missed something for not being acquainted with Vera Harris.

The choir was present and members indicated that, though a chair was missing, Vera was there singing — as she had for so many years before.

The comments and tributes were heartwarming — reaching the soul. One thing learned at this beautiful service was the way Vera lived her life; how she treated and got along with others throughout her life — by remembering the meaning of *JOY*.

J is for putting Jesus first, *O* is putting others second, and *Y* is putting yourself last.

The memorial service was attended by myself and Greg and Mary Meirka from the SUVCW and the Auxiliary. Though not a National officer, and not a member of the Dept. of R.I., I felt respect was owed to this daughter of a Union veteran.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty
Alan Peterson



l.-r.: PCC Wayne Tice; (rear) PDC Dr. Ron Bair; CC Ron McCracken; Mitchell's grandson, Bruce Looper; PCC Gary Guinan; and Mitchell's great grandson, Larry Looper, holding a copy of a G.A.R. charter.

Dept. Chaplain Robert Fisk performed the ritualistic service, and the moving ceremony brought many onlookers to tears. Ms. Megan Harris sang the Battle Hymn Of The Republic and bugler Brian Edwards performed Taps. The military salute was carried out by an honor guard made up of the 47th New York reenactors.

Benediction was pronounced by Bro. Wilton Rider, Past Dept. Chaplain. PDC Dr. Ron Bair, also acknowledged the assistance given by National Quartermaster/PCinC Bud Atkinson in obtaining copies of the G.A.R. Burial Ritual for use at the service. Members of the Lucius L. Mitchell Camp will soon ask the town council to establish "Lucius L. Mitchell Day" to be held annually, so that the history of the creation of the colony by Union soldiers will be shared with all citizens.



Mrs. John Janeway is shown in her tiny cabin in northeastern Tenn. during a visit by the Andersons. Photo by Catherine Goss

Merry Christmas, Mrs. Janeway

Husband and wife "team" John and Sarah Anderson had the honor of forwarding a cashier's check to the Civil War's last Union widow, 91 year old Mrs. Gertrude Janeway of Tennessee.

Mrs. Janeway, the last Civil War widow to receive federal compensation, is an honorary member of the SUVCW. John Janeway, her husband, served in the 14th Illinois. When they married in 1927, he was 81; she was 18.

The check, in the amount of \$650, was the result of an e-mail "campaign" to raise funds as a Christmas gift for Mrs. Janeway. Recently, the well pump feeding water to Janeway's cabin home failed. At least a portion of the funds given are earmarked to replace that pump.

With the exception of her well pump, Mrs. Janeway is reported to be doing well.

Brother Anderson is PDC of the Dept. of Tennessee. Sister Anderson currently serves as National Patriotic Instructor for the ASUVCW and as President of Tent 2, Dept. of Tenn., DUVCW. Here is their modest report on those who generously gave:

This is the sort of thread that great novels and movies are woven from; strangers banding together at CHRISTmas to provide some small amount of comfort for a poor, old widow in very frail health.

Following is a list of twenty-two extraordinary people and organizations that answered the call for assistance for a very special lady:

Mrs. Gertrude Janeway/January

Widow of Union veteran Pvt. John January, 14th Illinois Cav., Co. E

Sister Anne Iannitto, National Press Correspondent, ASUVCW

Lucius L. Mitchell Camp 4, SUVCW

John W. Spaulding Auxiliary 38, ASUVCW

Camp 23, Dept. of Calif. and Pacific, SUVCW

Nash-Hodges Auxiliary, ASUVCW

Margaret E. Alkinson, PNP, National Co-Counselor, ASUVCW

Maj. & Mrs. Jack Grothe, SUVCW

Brother Jerome & Sister Lorraine Orton, SUVCW and WRC
Gettysburg Camp 112, SUVCW

Brother Billy J. Darnell, SVC, Farragut Camp 6, SUVCW
Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21, SUVCW

Jennie Wade Auxiliary 27, ASUVCW

Brother Shawn E. Atchely, Cmdr., Farragut Camp 6, SUVCW

Wisconsin Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
Sister Frances A. Murray, National Secretary, ASUVCW

John M. Byers Jr.

Gen. John W. Noble Camp 28, SUVCW

Mary Ann (Mother) Bickerdyke Tent 2, Dept. of Tenn., DUVCW

Sister Renee L. Miller-Baird

Brooks-Grant Camp 7, SUVCW

Brother John & Sister Sarah Anderson, SUVCW, DUVCW, ASUVCW

Real Brother & Sister



Jewel Huffman, left, and her brother, Madison Gadberry, kneel beside the gravestone of their father, Milton Gadberry. The late Mr. Gadberry served as a Pvt. in Co. H, 8th Iowa Cavalry. Sister Huffman is a charter member of Tent 2 of Tennessee (Detached), DUVCW. Brother Gadberry is a member of Farragut Camp 6, Dept. of Tenn.

Two Real Sons

Pictured are SUV Brothers Madison Gadberry (left) and Waldemar Williams. This photo was taken at the Gen. U.S. Grant Headquarters marker at the National Cemetery at Shiloh National Battlefield. Brother Gadberry is the son of Milton Gadberry, Pvt., Co. H, 8th Iowa Vol. Cav. Brother Williams is the son of A.C. Williams who served the Union as a bugler for the 1st U.S. Alabama Cavalry. Both men are members of the Farragut 6 Camp.

An urgent plea from descendants of Union veteran Sgt. Andrew Jackson Smith

Medal of Honor for Color Sgt. Andrew Jackson Smith, 55th Massachusetts

Thank you for your past support. Our efforts have progressed to the point where we urgently need letters of support from your Congressional Representatives to move this bill from the Armed Services Committee to the floor of the House. The bill is HR 2858. The bill is stalled in Committee.

We need you to call your Representative TODAY to help advance HR 2858 out of Committee to the floor of Congress under suspension of the rules. Have your Representative call Representative Thomas Ewing at (202) 225-2371 and speak to Brad Close to record your support.

This award is long overdue and has been approved by the military. This situation is unique because Sgt. Smith, who served gallantly in the Civil War, has a 92-yr old daughter who is still living. She is largely responsible for preserving the documentation and his history. We must expedite this award because every day is valuable and we cannot afford to lose precious time. This story was aired on CBS Sunday Morning News on September 15, 1996.

This is a non-controversial veterans matter and is being held up by Representative Steve Buyer (Republican - 5th District, Indiana), chairman of the Personnel Sub-committee of the House Armed Services Committee. Why would Representative Buyer hold this veterans bill hostage? Is Rep. Buyer against veterans?

Andrew S. Bowman (317) 253-9774, Aeprise@aol.com.



DEPARTMENT NEWS

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test which challenges student's thinking about patriotism, our founding fathers, our flag, and Americanism. Grades four and five, middle and high school students submit entries, each level assigned a different topic. First place winners receive a \$50 U.S. savings bond and a specially designed certificate. There were twelve winners this year and each were invited to a program held at the Legion hall, where they were able to read their creations to the crowd. Members of the McKean Camp, along with Legion members, served as judges, reviewing hundreds of entries. Each winning essay was printed in the newspaper over a three week period. Extensive press coverage is given the event each year and the McKean Camp was prominently featured.

Son's Life Member Named Citizen/Patriot



When someone nominated life member Brice Scalley for the James Frederick Memorial Citizen/Patriot Award, Cmdr. Bair had to remove himself from the judging process. "It was a great surprise when Brice was named the winner. But it was obvious that he deserved it," Bair said. Since the winner is kept secret each year, Bro. Brice didn't know about it until the presentation, according to Bair. Scalley devotes much time to patriotic organizations and veterans causes, historical presentations in schools, and to flag displays throughout the community. He is an associate member of the Viet Nam Veterans of America and formed an organization devoted exclusively to Zouave regiments in the Civil War. He has held numerous posts within the McKean Camp and the Dept. of Fla. A Paralegal, he is considered an expert on the history and mission of fraternal orders.

Illinois

Veterans Day was a significant one for Gen. George A. Custer Camp 1, headquartered in Chicago. The camp participated in the reburial of Civil War and Indian Wars veteran Pvt. Michael Keegan. Thomas Day, one of the camp's newest members, was one of those instrumental in organizing the ceremony. He helped organize many of the units and put the

program together. Also in attendance at the ceremony were Sr. Vice Cmdr.-in-Chief Edward Krieser, Brother Ron Gill and Dept. Cmdr. Byrd Shephard. See photo, page 8.

Indiana

Indiana Veterans Home Lafayette, Ind.

The Sons of and Daughters of Union Veterans of Civil War made their annual visit to the Veterans Home in September to pay our respect and learn more about the facility. Bill Roudebush, a resident of the facility lead us on a tour of the various sections. It was interesting to learn how well the veterans are being cared for daily. The facility houses veterans that take care of themselves in their private rooms to those that need daily care and assistance. The hospital takes care of various illnesses and long-term patients.

The residents have a varied program of fishing, bowling, trips to Wal-mart and K-mart, Bingo and the latest movies in the theaters.

After lunch we held a memorial ceremony at the flag pole circle. Those in attendance included DUVCW Dept. of Indiana President, Vicky Layman; SUVCW Dept. Cmdr. Russ Kirchner; Dept. JVC Thomas Crawford; Secretary-Treasurer J. Alan Teller; and Noel Reen of Kokomo's A.O. Somers Camp 1.

The facility is laid out in the shape of a giant "U." The buildings are connected so that you can walk or use a wheel chair to get through the complex without going outside.

The veterans appear to be well cared for in this fine facility with excellent medical staff and equipment.

One interesting point of the visit is the display of oil paintings of Union generals by Captain Alexander Lawrie. He served with the 17th Pennsylvania Inf. Early in 1863, he became disabled and was discharged in June 1863. When the facility was started, following the Civil War, Lawrie asked to be admitted to the facility because of his poor health. He was interested in painting and agreed to paint for the cost of supplies. He painted a total of 167 portraits, now located at the veterans home. The paintings are certainly worth reviewing when you visit the Indiana Veterans Home.

Knightstown Visit Indiana Soldiers & Sailors Orphans Home

In October, the Sons of and Daughters of Union Veterans of Civil War visited the former orphanage in Knightstown. Today, this facility is a school for "at risk" children. There has to be a relationship to a veteran in order to be ac-

cepted as a student.

A tour was given of the complex and afterwards a luncheon was graciously served by the students dressed in the proper style for an exquisite restaurant. The guide was especially proud of the various courses students were able to participate in, such as barbering or cosmetology, woodworking projects, drafting and radio communication.

In attendance were Vicky Layman, President of the DUVCW; Russ Kirchner, Dept. Commander; and J. Alan Teller, Secretary-Treasurer. In May, a representative will be attending graduation ceremonies, with a donation for the students.

Of interest was the Lincoln Auditorium. The day we visited, the auditorium was decorated for a wedding of a alumni. The stained glass windows were of special interest. The west side was a picture of a Civil War soldier in uniform. The east side had a picture of a Civil War sailor. The accompanying pictures display the brilliant colors better than words could describe. Each of the auditorium seats along the aisle had an embossed picture of Lincoln in gold, which were very striking. See photos, page 8.

Maryland

31st Annual Massing Of The Colors

A Ceremony Honoring the Flag of the United States of America and Those, Living and Dead, Who have Struggled to Preserve it.



l.-r.: 2nd Lt. J. H. (Pete) Peterson, the Potomac Guard's second in command; Lt. Col. Ken Hershberger, PCC; Lincoln-Cushing Camp 2 Commander and Potomac Guard Commander 1st Lt. Ralph Miller.

The 31st Massing of the Colors was held November 7 at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis. Organizations such as the Armed Forces of the United States, the Reserve and Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps, the youth of America (Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, etc),

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February 2000 THE BANNER 13

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

November 21, 1999, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania — The Council of Administration (CoA) meeting was called to order by Commander-in-Chief (CinC) Danny Wheeler. The following is a summary of those events.

The Council was brought up to date by Tom Williams esquire, concerning our case against HGAC. The Council voted on what direction we wish to proceed in if a settlement can not be reached in the next 60 days.

The council met with George Hicks, director of the new National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, about possible office space for a National Headquarters. Included in the office space would be an area for our G.A.R. foundation. Mr. Hicks also provided us with data on the cannon tubes that are in storage for the museum. The council agreed to open negotiations with Mr. Hicks about having our National Headquarters at the museum. The museum is scheduled to open July/August 2000.

Approved the purchase of 500 new charters. These charters will be compliant for the year 2000.

Terminated the Special Advisory Committee to the Council.

Voted to extend the date for resume submission for the position for Executive Director to November 30, 1999.

Approved the Meritorious Service Award with the Gold Star to Past Commander-in-Chief

Rich Orr, and Jerry Orton for all of their outstanding work on the behalf of the order.

Approved use of the logo for Hartranft Camp 51, Department of Pennsylvania for use for belt buckle. The Council also asked Camp 51, if they could look into the production of a rectangular belt plate with the SUVCW Coat of Arms for use on sword belts.

Approved Camp 51, Department of Ohio to sell Camp and Department flags.

Created a new award, the Founders Award, to be given once a year by the Council to a group or individual who performs outstanding service in the memory of Union Civil War Soldiers. The first award will go to Columbia Gas for their outstanding work in refurbishing the Eternal Peace Light Memorial in Gettysburg.

The National Military Affairs Committee has looked into an event on the order of a Remembrance Day to be held in the mid-west. This event is tentatively slated for March 21-22, 2001, at Chattanooga, Tenn. There is the possibility that this event could take place in the year 2000.

Approved a letter to be sent to the Department of New Hampshire supporting them for their efforts in forming a legislative Civil War committee. This committee seeks to get into legislation the repairing of all Civil War monuments at Gettysburg, and other Civil War battlefields.

Proposed that all SUVCW forms will be available on line.

The restoration of the A.P. Davis portrait in near completion.

The council wants to remind all Departments and Camps that the Eagle Scout Certificate must be purchased from the National Quartermaster.

Denied a request from Homer-Searle Camp 114, Department of New York for use of the SUVCW logo for use on a tee shirt until a prototype can be submitted.

Denied a request for a term extension for Wisconsin Department Commander Stephen Michaels.

The Council heard reports on and discussed production problems regarding the Banner.

The next meeting of the Council of Administration will be March 2000, with a site, and date to be determined.

CinC Wheeler adjourned the meeting.

*Respectfully submitted, David K. Hamm,
National Secretary*

Next CoA Meeting

The next meeting of the National Council of Administration is scheduled for **March 25 in Erie, Pennsylvania**. Officer/committee reports must be sent to National Chief-of-Staff Kent Armstrong prior to Saturday, March 18.

General Orders

Continued from Page 3

of Fraternal Friendship, pledge our support and admiration for those gallant soldiers and of their respective flags;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, in 115th Annual National Encampment hereby adopt this resolution and present it to the Governor of the state of South Carolina. Dated in Columbus, Ohio, on this tenth day of August, in the year of our Lord One thousand Nine hundred and ninety-six.

2. The above resolution of support remains unchanged by this Order and should be conveyed as such when inquiries are made.

By Order of: *Danny L. Wheeler*
Commander-in-Chief

Attested: *David Hamm*
Nat. Sec.

INQUIRIES AND RESPONSES

Edited by Richard D. Orr, PCinC

With this issue of the Banner, we are beginning a new column. The purpose of the column is to answer your questions concerning how the SUVCW operates, its history, how to complete the various forms, identifying memorabilia and any other questions related to the SUVCW except membership records, department records, and camp records. This

Q1. *Please explain Life Membership. What dues is a Life Member exempt from paying; how does a camp get the annual reimbursement; what if a Life Member belongs to more than one camp; who notifies the camp of the change in status?*

A1. The Constitution of the SUVCW clearly defines a Life Member in Article VII Membership Section 1. Membership classes. Subsection (b) Life Members. "Members who have paid the requisite Life Membership fee as established by the National Organization. Life Members are exempt from the National per capita tax and otherwise, enjoy all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of membership."

It is clear that Life Membership only excuses the Life Member from paying the National Per Capita tax. A Life Member is

is not a genealogy service or a source for information on individual soldiers, sailors, marines or ships, regiments etc.

Questions can be submitted to Richard D. Orr, PCinC, 153 Connie Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15214; e-mail suvcworr@aol.com, or faxed to 412-931-7720. Every attempt will be made to obtain answers to your questions from those Brothers most familiar with the topic. If the inquiry cannot be answered, the question will be printed to solicit information on the topic from the membership.

still subject to Department per capita tax and the camp dues less the National Per Capita Tax and the reimbursement from the National Organization. The Regulations Chapter III, Article Finances Section 2 Life Membership requires the camp to pay the Department per capita tax from the reimbursement.

For example if the Camp dues is \$30.00 and a reimbursement of \$10.00 is received for the Life Member, the member at the discretion of the camp may be subject to paying annual dues of \$10.00. \$30.00 less \$10.00 National per capita tax forgiven, less the \$10.00 reimbursement.

If a Life Member belongs to more than one camp, he is obligated to tell the camps and the National Organization which camp is his primary camp. Only the primary camp will receive the reimbursement. However, the Life Member is not subject to the National per capita tax at any of the camps. Thus, he may be required to pay the camp dues less the

National per capita tax to each of the non-primary camps.

It is the responsibility of each Life Member upon receipt of his Life Membership card to notify the Camp Secretary and Treasurer of the change in his status.

Each year the National Secretary supplies pre-completed forms to the Department Secretary for distribution to the Camps with Life Members. These forms list those members who have been a Life member for at least one calendar year. The Camp Secretary is required to verify that the members are still active in the camp and make any other corrections or additions to the form. The form must be signed by the Secretary, Camp Commander or Camp Treasurer and returned to the National Treasurer for approval and payment. All claims must be received not post marked prior to June 30 or they are foregone.

National G.A.R. Post Roster Project

Brother Jeff Henningfield, of Olympia, Washington, has been named National chairman of an effort to record a list of all G.A.R. posts in the U.S. and internationally. Br. Henningfield will be working with National Historian Dr. David G. Martin and National Webmaster Keith G. Harrison, PCinC.

Though the project has only been underway in earnest since the first of the year, nearly complete rosters for more than 14 states have already been gathered.

Jeff was recently elected Secretary and appointed Webmaster for Gov. Isaac Stevens Camp 1, Olympia, Washington. His findings so far are located in the Links section of that camp's website at <http://www.home.earthlink.net/~jeffnkim/camp1/camp1.htm>.

Realizing that a truly complete record of the many hundreds of G.A.R. posts may be a number of years away, Henningfield's goal is to have a fairly comprehensive list be year's end.

At an absolute minimum, the roster will

include post names and numbers, and the city where each post was located, broken down by department. The project's more far reaching objective is to include charter and closing dates, the number of charter members, if a post had a hall or "burial ground" of its own and where, and if a SV/SUVCW camp or other allied order was attached to the post. It may also include photos of G.A.R. halls and memorials as they are submitted.

The project directly addresses the first two purposes of the SUVCW. One, to perpetuate the memory of the G.A.R. and the men who saved the Union. Two, to assist in every practicable way in the preservation and making available for research of documents and records pertaining to the G.A.R. and its members.

Individuals, camps and departments are asked to become active participants in the project by contacting Jeff R. Henningfield, 2130 - 91st Ave. SW, Olympia, WA 98512; (360) 943-4580; jeffnkim@earthlink.com.

2000 National Encampments Lansing, Michigan

Thursday, August 17 thru Sunday, August 20

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War 119th Encampment
Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veteran 114th Encampment
Ladies of the G.A.R. 113th Encampment

You are cordially invited to attend the 2000 National Encampment of our organizations, to be held in Lansing, Michigan on August 17-20, 2000.

The Encampment will be held at the HOLIDAY INN SOUTH / CONVENTION CENTER, 6820 South Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan; site of the 1994 and 1988 National Encampments. Please be advised that overnight guest rooms have been reserved by the Department of Michigan - SUVCW at \$69 + tax for single/double occupancy, and \$79 + tax for triple/quadruple occupancy. Toll-Free calls for reservations, and for courtesy transportation from Lansing's Capitol City Airport, may be made to the hotel directly by dialing 1-800-333-8123.

Please note location of Exit 104 off of I-96, and the Holiday Inn, on the South Side of Lansing



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____
(PRINT OR TYPE)
ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

ANCESTOR'S NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____ REGIMENT OR SHIP: _____

RELATIONSHIP: _____

CAMP: _____ DEPARTMENT: _____

ENCLOSED FIND \$ _____ (SEE FEE SCHEDULE BELOW) AS MY FIRST
PAYMENT/ FULL PAYMENT FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS
OF THE CIVIL WAR. I HEREBY DECLARE THAT I WAS MUSTERED INTO THE SUVCW ON
THE _____ DAY OF _____ AND I AM A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING.

(SIGNATURE) DATE _____

FEE SCHEDULE

AGE	FEE
LESS THAN 25	\$760
25-29	\$730
30-34	\$600
35-39	\$570
40-44	\$530
45-49	\$495
50-54	\$445
55-59	\$400
60-64	\$340
65-69	\$295
70-74	\$240
75-79	\$195
80-84	\$160
85 AND GREATER	\$140

Not less than one-third of the fee shall accompany the application and the remainder shall be paid at the convenience of the Brother within three (3) years from the date of the application. If the total fee is not paid within three years of the date of

application, the application will have been deemed to be withdrawn and all payments shall be forfeited as donations to the Permanent Fund. Interest payments are payable after January 1 of each calendar year upon written request by your camp. Request for payment must be received by the National Treasurer on or before June 30 or the payment is forfeited. A member is not considered a Life Member until all Life Member fees have been paid. No interest payment shall be made to a camp until the entire fee has been paid for at least one calendar year.

Make check payable to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Mail application and payment to:
Asst. National Treasurer
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
153 Connie Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15214-1251

All previous forms are void. Form LM 12/99

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War NATIONAL QUARTERMASTER 2000 ORDER FORM

(This List Supersedes All Previous Years)
Only Orders Received on Current Requisition Forms will be honored

(Print this form and send it to the address below)

No.	Item	Unit	Price	Quantity	Color	Total
101	Transfer Form (Form 4)	10	\$1.00			
102	Department Transfer Form (Form 4 1/2)	10	\$1.00			
105	Camp Council Quarterly Reports (Form 13)	10	\$1.00			
106	Statement of Account (Form 12)	100	\$3.50			
107	Notice to Delinquent Member (Form 14)	100	\$3.50			
108	*Honorable Discharge (Form 6) Camp use only	10	\$1.00			
109	Promotion & Advertising Pamphlet	25	\$7.50			
111	Membership Application (Form 3)	25	\$2.50			
113	Application for War Medal (Form 5)	10	\$1.00			
114	*Son's Letter-head Stationery	10	\$2.00			
115	Eagle Scout Certificate	each	\$0.35			
116	Note Cards w/ Envelopes - Blue or Cream	10	\$4.00			
200	*Membership Cards Camp use only	48	\$4.00			
201	*Membership Certificate - Blue	each	\$0.10			
202	*Membership Certificate - Tri color	each	\$5.00			
205	*Membership Certificate - White	each	\$0.25			
256	Credentials - National & Department	25	\$2.50			
257	Certificates for Camp Officer	1	\$1.00			
300	Constitution & Regulations 1998	each	\$5.00			
302	Ritual & Ceremonials (Specify small or large)	each	\$5.00			
350	*Life Membership Bar (Life Members Only)	each	\$5.00			
351	*Membership Rosette	each	\$5.00			
352	*Membership Badge	each	\$19.00			
353	*Associate Badge	each	\$19.00			
354	*Junior Badge	each	\$19.00			
355	*Camp Commander Badge (Camp use only)	each	\$25.00			
356	*Past Camp Cmdr. Badge (Camp use only)	each	\$19.00			
357	*Department Commander Badge (Dept use only)	each	\$30.00			
358	*Past Dept Commander Badge (Dept use only)	each	\$50.00			
359	*50 Year Badge	each	\$25.00			
360	*Miniature Badge (Member, Dept Officer, National Officer)	each	\$8.00			
361	*War Medal (Application must be included see Item #113, Form 5 above)	each	\$22.00			
	Service Bars Worn on War Medal Only					
362	World War II Service Bar	each	\$4.50			
363	Korean Conflict Service Bar	each	\$4.50			
364	Vietnam Action Service Bar	each	\$4.50			

365	Persian Gulf Service Bar	each	\$4.50			
367	Replacement Ribbon for Badges (6 inches)	each	\$1.25			
368	Replacement Ribbon for Miniature Badges (6 in)	each	\$1.25			
369	Service Numerals (Attach to Badge 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75)	each	\$5.00			
370	*Bronze Recognition Button	each	\$10.00			
371	*SVR Insignia for Badge	each	\$5.00			
372	*Decal (Inside Window)	each	\$3.00			
372	*Decal (reflective)	each	\$3.00			
For Miniature Badges Only						
374	1/8" Stars (bronze, silver or gold)	each	\$0.50			
375	Silver Palm (War Service)	each	\$1.25			
376	Neck Ribbon (36 inches)	each	\$7.00			
500	Neck Tie (blue or red)	each	\$16.00			
501	*Tie Clasp with insignia	each	\$10.50			
502	*Tie Tac (Polished Bronze)	each	\$5.00			
503	*Cuff Links with Insignia	pair	\$10.50			
504	*SVR Collar Insignia 1/2"	pair	\$10.00			
504	*SVR Collar Insignia 3/8"	pair	\$10.00			
505	*SVR Tie Clasp	each	\$10.00			
506	*SVR Membership Badge	each	\$10.00			
507	*GAR Commemorative Badge	each	\$11.00			
Sub-Total						
Postage						\$3.00
TOTAL						
Name _____		<p>Make checks payable to: National Organization, SUVCW</p> <p>Mail this form and payment to: Elmer F. Atkinson, PCinC SUVCW National Quartermaster 1016 Gorman Street Philadelphia PA 19116-3719 Email: budqmsons@aol.com</p>				
Street _____						
City _____ State _____						
Zip _____						
Department _____ Camp _____						
Telephone No. (_____) _____						
Email: _____						
* Sales restricted to members with appropriate documentation						

If purchasing either a Past Camp Commander or Past Department Commander Badge, one of the following statements must be completed.

The _____ Department/Camp will present this Past Department/Camp Commander Badge to Brother _____ on _____

_____, Department/Camp Secretary.

I declare that I have served the _____ Department/Camp as Commander and I was awarded the honor of Past Department/Camp Commander for having completed the term of office for the year ending _____

(Signature)

For Office Use Only	
Req. No.	Dt. Received
Dt. Shipped	Shipping Cost

What does it mean to wear this badge?

On the back cover of the June issue, we asked Brothers this question. Three took to the challenge. Here are their comments. Naturally, the views expressed here are not necessarily those of The Banner, its staff or the SUVCW.

It would be worn with pride and in honor of one's ancestor who served in the Union Army.

Guy Folger, McAlester, Okla.

An essay by Timothy Downey, Danville, Ky.,
Cndr., Sgt. Elijah P. Marrs Camp 6, Dept. of Ky.

What does it mean to wear the SUVCW membership badge? It means I am honoring the memory of a group of true heroes and our nation. I pay honor to all Union Civil War veterans in general and two in particular: Sherrod W. Downey and Adam Ellis. I have often wondered why these two men left their homes and families to fight. Was it to restore the Union? Was it to free the slaves? Was it to just do something different, to experience the "glory" of war?

The desire to free the slaves and uplift the status of the black man probably did not enter into their thinking. It is doubtful these men would have been acquainted with the slave's trials in bondage. It is also possible that they simply did not care about the black man's lot in life, as harsh as that may sound. Such was the thinking of many at the time, as well as, unfortunately, today.

The desire to experience "glory," to "see the elephant," was in place in the minds of the young men of that age. No doubt it was in the minds of soon-to-be Privates Downey and Ellis. This yearning could induce a man to leave the safety and comfort of home for a great unknown. The prospect of spending the rest of one's life farming, without any hope of riches, could have been enough to send a man searching for something. The fact the two men joined the cavalry could be seen as a desire to experience the dashing, romantic aspect of war.

So far I have speculated, although from a basis of reason, about why these men enlisted. Perhaps the best answer was the desire to restore the Union. To "Rally 'round The Flag." It would seem that too many people today have lost sight of the ideas of "country," "democracy," and "republic." Apparently, these notions were firmly implanted in the minds of the common person in 1861. Implanted to the point where the willingness to fight for these notions was just as strong as the notions them-

selves. While both sides chose to fight for this idea of "country," only one side was truly doing it. The other was fighting for the "right" of a few to, as Lincoln termed it, wring "their bread from the sweat of other men's faces".

While recently explaining my membership in the SUVCW to someone, I was confronted with the idea that my ancestors had helped to free the blacks, so, they were in the wrong somehow. The implication was the country would be better off if the blacks had never been freed. Despite the fact that I learned long ago that one cannot argue with a fool, I attempted to explain what I have set forth in this essay. My ancestors probably did not fight to free the slaves, but to restore the Union. Either way, I am very proud that my great-great grandfathers did fight and on the right side.

I called some friends of mine...the other day to make arrangements to see them... I explained the organization, and my membership in it. My friend was shocked that my ancestors were not Confederates, since I'm from Kentucky. I then had to explain that despite the popular view, Kentucky was not a pro-Southern state. While the people of the Commonwealth supported both sides, a majority remained loyal to the legitimate government of our nation.

I find myself confronted daily with the flag of the Confederate States of America, or at least some historically inaccurate version of it. It seems one rarely sees any symbol of the Union, other than the flag of our great nation on holidays. I think when I fly my 35 star Federal colors, wear my SUVCW badges at camp functions, by blue uniform at reenactments, and my SUVCW tie tac on occasion, I am doing my little bit to preserve the memories of our awful, yet glorious past. Awful in that a horrible, destructive war had to be fought to preserve the idea that "All men are created equal." Glorious in that we, as a nation, have been able to carry on as a nation, a republic, despite the differences of our people.

...I see the colors of the United States flag in the ribbon and swear allegiance to it. ... The crossed cannon symbolize disarming the state in rebellion and the material used to strike the G.A.R. [badges] for our veterans. Preserved By The Grace Of God shows the divine faith that made it all possible. Most important is the bar at the top. Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Wearing this means I have accepted the responsibility to perpetuate and preserve the history and memory of our veterans' service in this nation's greatest war. I am honored to be the grandson of two Civil War veterans and know their blood flows through my veins.

This badge is a symbol of pride to me. Not for me, but for two veterans who were willing to risk everything for their beliefs. Wearing this badge means I will not let you forget their sacrifices that helped make the world's greatest nation... Service in a war that made all men free.

...I fully appreciate my grandfathers' sacrifices and hardships, and know these veterans stand alone as the greatest army in our nation's history. Wearing this badge means an obligation to keep our Civil War veterans'

memory and principles alive, to keep our nation strong. My badge is original and somewhat tarnished. Not by age or appearance, but by some others I observed at functions. Many have the wrong ribbon. Mr. A.P. Davis only accepted the eldest son of the veteran in his organization. ... I feel all direct sons should be eligible. ... The membership badge was intended for this purpose. The Associates badge, with the blue ribbon, was intended for members who trace their lineage to great uncles, etc., as on the membership application. That's why the organization is Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

I was told...it is not necessary to prove your lineage to be a member. This contradicts the name and is the only organization that uses Sons of that doesn't require proof. I...cast a questioning eye on other membership badges... That is how my membership badge is tarnished. What does it mean to wear this badge? A great deal more than it could possible mean to some members.

This is solely my opinion and responsibility.

James R. Fisher III
Falling Waters, W.V.

GUEST COLUMNIST-COMMENTARY

When the new Century/Millennium begins
Though I have been bothered by this for some time, it has gotten worse in recent weeks as all kinds of references have been made by advertisers' magazine articles, news reporters and most recently announced at the beginning of the Huntington Beach July 4th Parade as the last parade of this century.

Hopefully some of these people will see this article which will inform the public that the end of the century/millennium is not 1999, but 2000.

Here is how it works.

There was no "0" year between 1 BC and 1 AD. Each decade consists of 10 years. Each century contains 100 years and each millennium contains 1000 years. With these facts in place we can see that the first decade AD were the years 1-10, the second decade was 11-20 (that is 10 years) and so on. The first century was 1 AD-100 AD, the second century was 101-200 (100 years), and so on. The first millennium was 1 AD-1000 AD and the second millennium is from 1001-2000 (1000 years).

With the above facts in place that means that this century runs from 1901-2000, this millennium as shown above runs from 1001-2000, and the last decade runs from 1991-2000. That means that the new decade, century and millennium will begin on Jan. 1, 2001!

This means that anyone who purchases vacation packages, coins, or stamps to name a few from companies who are advertizing their product to ring in the new millennium are being defrauded, if the purchasers are unaware of this. This is a crime for which the companies promoting these items could be sued for fraud as they are misleading customers on when the new millennium begins.

Those purchasing vacation packages that will cover the period from Dec. 31, 1999-Jan. 1, 2000, will not be ringing in the new millennium where ever they may be as it is still a full year away. Any coin or Stamp companies that advertize new products to celebrate the new century/millennium in the year 2000 are wrong. Should they produce these items and sell them as such will not only be a case of fraud, but they will have created "error" issues which will become a desired collectable for certain collectors that are into "error" stamps and coins. The market price on these items could skyrocket depending on the number of items issued and the demand on the open market.

So beware of advertisers and be aware of the actual dates for the beginning of the new decade, century and millennium. This way you won't be taken for a ride that is over a year away.

Kudos goes to the game show Jeopardy that has on at least three occasions that I am aware of has given the correct information that the new decade/century/millennium will begin on Jan. 1, 2001.

James F. Blauer
418 Pirate Rd.
Newport Beach, CA 92663-5829
(949) 548-6871 (home), (949) 646-7701 (work)
7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (M-F); jblauer@pacbell.net

Ed.: Point taken! :-1



SVR GENERAL ORDERS

From the Commander Officer
SVR Brigadier General V. Medert, Commanding

Sons of Veterans Reserve

Military branch of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

National Staff

Commanding Officer
Brigadier General
David V. Medert
489 Caroline Dr.
Chillicothe, OH 45601
(740-773-7646)
battery@bright.net

Deputy Commander
Colonel Robert J. Bateman
361 Paoli Woods
Paoli, PA 19301-1546
(610-408-8761)
thefianna@cs.com

Chief of Staff
Colonel David R. Medert
16 Shawnee Dr.,
Chillicothe, OH 45601
(740-775-7913)
suvcw@bright.net

Adjutant General
Lt. Colonel Robert Grim
5367 SR 72 South
Sabina, OH 45169-9425
(937-584-4622)
robert.grim@dragonbbs.com

Inspector General
Colonel Elmer (Bud) Atkinson
1016 Gorman St.
Philadelphia, PA 19116
BudQMSons@aol.com

Washington D.C. Liaison Officer
Colonel Andrew M. Johnson
1200 S. Monroe St.
Arlington, VA 22204
amjohnson@juno.com

National Chaplain
Lt. Colonel Larry D. Freed
2462 Lincoln Dr.
Williamsport, PA 17701
(717-326-4768)
LandSFreed@aol.com

Public Information Officer
Captain Glen E. Zook
410 Lawndale Dr.
Richardson, TX 75080
(972-231-3987)
gzook@home.com

GENERAL ORDER 1999-1 19 July 1999

- Effective 3 June 1999 Private Ralph R. Miller, Jr. is commissioned a First Lieutenant, SVR, having been appointed Commander, Company A, The Potomac Guard in the Second Military District.
- This commission will expire on 2 June 2002 unless the same shall otherwise be lawfully determined void and annulled.

<i>David V. Medert</i>	<i>Robert E. Grim</i>
Brigadier General, SVR	Lt. Col., SVR
Commanding Officer	Adjutant General

GENERAL ORDER 1999-2 10 August 1999

- Effective 25 April 1999 Sergeant Kenneth H. Martin is commissioned a First Lieutenant, SVR, having been elected Commander of the 30th Michigan Infantry in the Third Military District.
- This commission will expire on 24 April 2002 unless the same shall otherwise be lawfully determined void and annulled.

<i>David V. Medert</i>	<i>Robert E. Grim</i>
Brigadier General, SVR	Lt. Col., SVR
Commanding Officer	Adjutant General

GENERAL ORDER 1999-3 10 August 1999

- Effective 25 April 1999 Private William R. Morris is commissioned a Second Lieutenant, SVR, having been appointed Adjutant of the 30th Michigan Infantry in the Third Military District.
- This commission will expire on 24 April 2002 unless the same shall otherwise be lawfully determined void and annulled.

<i>David V. Medert</i>	<i>Robert E. Grim</i>
Brigadier General, SVR	Lt. Col., SVR
Commanding Officer	Adjutant General

GENERAL ORDER 1999-4 13 August 1999

- Effective 1 June 1999 Second Lieutenant Gary K. Gilbert is commissioned a First Lieutenant, SVR, having been elected Commander, Company C, 34th Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry in the Fourth Military District.
- This commission will expire on 31 May 2002 unless the same shall otherwise be lawfully determined void and annulled.

<i>David V. Medert</i>	<i>Robert E. Grim</i>
Brigadier General, SVR	Lt. Col., SVR
Commanding Officer	Adjutant General

GENERAL ORDER 1999-5 14 August 1999

- Effective 1 May 1999 Private Frank B. Harned is commissioned a Second Lieutenant, SVR, in Company C, 26th Wisconsin Infantry in the Third Military District.
- This commission will expire on 30 April 2002 unless the same shall otherwise be lawfully determined void and annulled.

<i>David V. Medert</i>	<i>Robert E. Grim</i>
Brigadier General, SVR	Lt. Col., SVR
Commanding Officer	Adjutant General

GENERAL ORDER 1999-6 18 November 1999

- Effective 4 September 1999 Private Jay Homer Peterson is commissioned a Second Lieutenant, SVR, in Company A, Potomac Guard, in the Second Military District.
- This commission will expire on 3 September 2002 unless the same shall otherwise be lawfully determined void and annulled.

<i>David V. Medert</i>	<i>Robert E. Grim</i>
Brigadier General, SVR	Lt. Col., SVR
Commanding Officer	Adjutant General

REMEMBRANCE DAY

The 43rd Annual Remembrance Day was a great success on November 20, 1999. Provost Marshal Major Anthony Waskie did an outstanding job in overseeing the parade activities. We had a good turn out for the SVR breakfast and Brig. Gen. David V. Medert presented several awards at the breakfast.

The Distinguished Service Medal was presented to Second Lieutenant Frank Harned. His citation notes the award was, "For exceptional service in promoting the objects of the Sons of Union veterans of the Civil War and the Sons of Veterans Reserve throughout the 7th Military District. Your tireless efforts in aiding the Sons of Confederate Veterans in reclaiming a Confederate Cemetery clearly demonstrates your dedication in maintaining fraternal relations with our cousin organization. Your continued willingness to devote extra hours on behalf of the Sons of Veterans Reserve in forming the 26th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and the Cracker Company, clearly displays the concern you have for our Order and the intense pride you have in yourself and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War."

The Meritorious Service Medal was awarded to First Lieutenant Ronald Aronis, Commander of Cushing's Battery in the 4th Military District. He was cited "For exceptionally meritorious service and sustained outstanding performance of duty while a member of the Sons of Veterans Reserve. Your continued devotion to the SUVCW and the SVR clearly demonstrates the genuine concern you have in maintaining the memory of those who fought so gallantly to preserve the Union. This is evidenced by your many activities in forming SVR units, artillery training, recruitment into the Sons and SVR, and through community

events. Noteworthy are your efforts in aiding local law enforcement officials in locating a stolen plaque from Cushing's Monument, as well as your volunteer efforts in helping to build 'Ft. Cushing' playground in the park."

A Letter of Appreciation was presented to Mrs. Margaret Harned for the outstanding support she has given her husband, 2nd Lt. Frank Harned.

NEW UNITS

We want to welcome two new units in the 2nd Military District: The 20th New York State Militia and Company B, Torbert Guards.

In the 1st Military District: Company I, 6th Mass. Vol. Infantry has been changed to Company E, 15th Mass. Vol. Inf. A new unit has been organized under the command of 1st Sgt. Ellsworth W. Brown and been designated Company I, 6th Mass. Vol. Inf.

UNIT REPORTS

I would like to remind all unit commanders and adjutants that the following SVR reports should be filed by February 15, 2000 with the District Adjutant: The ANNUAL UNIT APPLICATION (Form 3, NMD SVR) with the dues for your unit and the SEMI-ANNUAL STRENGTH REPORT (Form 19, NMC SVR) with a roster of unit members. The roster should include the rank, and name and address of each member of the unit. District Commanders and adjutants are reminded that these reports are due in my office by March 1, 2000.

Those SVR members who are assigned to the National Headquarters Company should mail their annual dues directly to the Adjutant General.

6th Annual Chillicothe Artillery School

Battery I, 1st Ohio Light Artillery, hosted the 6th Annual Chillicothe Artillery School in Chillicothe, Ohio on the weekend of June 5.

Over 100 cannons registered to be certified by the



National Civil War Artillery Association. This year, Sgt. Michael Bash ran a School of the Mortar that received great reviews by those that attended.

Next year, there may be a School of the Mountain Howitzer.

Battery I wants to thank the 5th Ohio Independent Battery for their black powder demonstrations, the 63rd Volunteer Infantry out of Chillicothe for the wonderful lunch, and all the instructors.

We hope to see you there next year.

Corporal Don Darby is shown instructing.

NATIONAL MILITARY DEPARTMENT

National Headquarters and the following Military Districts

First Military District
Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

COMMANDER
Major Norman F. Wheeler
3 Bray Ln.
Bristol, RI 02809
(401-253-2584)

Second Military District
Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington DC, West Virginia

COMMANDER
Major Ed Grismer
313 Earle Ave.
Lynbrook, NY 11563
(516-599-9256)

Third Military District
Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio

COMMANDER
Major Howard T. Frost
149 Estate Drive
Athens, OH 45701-3405
(740-592-4818)
hfrost1@compuserve.com

ADJUTANT
Captain Donald E. Darby
1382 Westem Ave.,
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
(740-772-6081)
darby@mail.bright.net

Fourth Military District
Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin

COMMANDER
Major Jack Grothe
727 Zeiss Ave.
Saint Louis, MO 63126
(314-631-7492)

Fifth Military District
Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Wyoming

COMMANDER
Temporary
Colonel Robert Bateman
361 Paoli Wood
Paoli, PA 19301-1546
(610-408-8761)

Temporarily Inactive:

Sixth Military District
Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington

Seventh Military District
Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee

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veterans organization, and patriotic and fraternal organizations. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was represented by the SVR's Potomac Guard, in turn representing Lincoln-Cushing Camp 2, Dept. of Md.

Massachusetts



WWI veteran Clifton Gaunt being initiated by Cmdr. Roy Henry Jr. (left) and acting Chaplain Norman Wheeler.

Saturday, October 12 was a day to remember in the annals of A.A. Sherman Camp 18 of Uxbridge. For on that day, they had the privilege of not only initiating as a member a veteran of the First world War, but also honoring his grandfather, a veteran of the Union Army of the Civil War. The members of the camp, assisted by members of several other camps of the department, met at the Union Cemetery in Smithfield, Rhode Island, formed up and proceeded under Colors to the grave of Pvt. Alphonso Steere, Co. B, 2nd Mass. Heavy Artillery. There they met Alphonso's grandson, Clifton E. Gaunt of Millville, Mass., accompanied by his wife and John McNamara, a WWII Marine veteran and member of the VFW. After addresses by Dept. Cmdr. Frederic Cauldwell Jr., a member of the Sherman Camp, and Millville town historian Ms. Margaret Carroll, the traditional volley and Taps were rendered the Civil War veteran. The group then returned to the American Legion Hall in Millville, where a surprise birthday party, including a cake decorated with the Stars and Stripes, was held for Clifton. He had turned 98 on the preceding day. During the festivities, a special meeting of the camp was convened and Mr. Gaunt was initiated into membership by Cmdr. Roy Henry Jr. A hearty welcome was extended by camp members and the camp now had it's newest and oldest Brother.

Michigan

Michigan Camp Helps Conserve Civil War Battleflag

The membership of Michigan's George W. Anderson Camp 58 has raised and donated \$1,000 toward the conservation of the 23rd Michigan Volunteer Infantry "Regimental Banner." Camp 58 honors the name and number of the G.A.R. post that existed in DeWitt, Mich., from 1882 to 1909. The flag that Camp 58 is helping save has special significance, as Pvt. George W. Anderson marched with it until he was taken prisoner at Cumberland Gap, Tennessee, in December of 1863. Pvt. Anderson died of starvation at Andersonville Prison on June 27, 1864. He rests in grave No. 2546 of the National Cemetery there.

Camp 58 represents the SUVCW, primarily in Clinton County. Of all the regiments that Civil War soldiers from Clinton County served in, most were mustered into the 23rd Michigan Infantry. Hence, the strong attraction for Camp 58 to select this particular "Civil War flag" from nearly 160 surviving national and regimental flags of Michigan units.

In 1992, the State of Michigan launched a *Save The Flags* campaign to conserve its Civil War Battleflags that had deteriorated during years of display in glass cases on the walls of the state's capitol rotunda. Made of silk, these banners require special care, with professional treatment costing upwards of \$6,000 per flag. *Save The Flags* welcomes donations – regardless of the amount – but offers flags for "adoption" when \$1,000 is given in a lump-sum. The "adoption" entitles the contributor to specify which particular flag the money will go toward for professional textile conservation.

For more information on Michigan's *Save The Flags* campaign, or the flags that comprise the Michigan Capitol Battleflags Collection, contact Mrs. Kerry K. Chartkoff, *Save The Flags*, Michigan Capitol Committee, 124 W. Allegan, P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909-7536, (517) 373-5527, kchartk@lsb.state.mi.us

Cover Photo: Gathered with the 6-foot x 6 1/2 foot "regimental banner" of the 23rd Michigan Vol. Inf. are (l.-r.): John Gibney, member of the "Mich. Capitol Battle Flags Task Force;" Kerry Chartkoff, Director of Mich.'s *Save The Flags*; Dept. Cmdr. Kent Armstrong; Cmdr. Doug Armstrong, George W. Anderson Camp 58. Markings across the top of the flag suggest that veterans of the regiment displayed the flag for "full-view" before it was turned over to the state. Note how the flag's fringe was removed from the top edge and reapplied along the staff-sleeve.

The Department of Michigan proudly announces the formation of a new Camp. The official opening of **Carpenter-Welch Camp 180** occurred on June 27. Department Chaplain William McAfee is to be commended for his efforts as a "spark-plug" for making a long awaited camp in Washtenaw County a reality. The camp will give new life to the names of the G.A.R. posts that served Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor, plus the number that was assigned to the Ypsilanti Post. This brings the number of active chapters of the SUVCW in Michigan to 24 (in addition to the dept's camp-at-large).

Missouri

All of the camps within the department have been very busy this year and are growing.

On August 15, the members of **Richard J. Oglesby Camp 61** spent the day surveying the graves at the old Lorimier Cemetery in Cape Girardeau. Zac Caldwell, Camp Commander, worked to identify the faded wording on Union soldier's headstones. Many stones have been replaced, but many are still on order. The camp has placed Bronze plaques in honor of the old gentlemen and ladies as one of the graves is that of Civil War nurse Julia Gill of whom very little is known at this time. It is hoped that by spring all of the Civil War veterans in the cemetery will have the government markers on their graves.

On Oct 10, members of **Oglesby Camp 61** and members of **Sherman Camp**, from St. Louis, took part in a grave dedication ceremony at Puxico. The dedication was in honor of Francis M. Williams, a member of Co. K, 56th Ill. This service coincided with a family reunion of Mr. Williams' decendents. On the same date, members of the camp helped place a grave marker on the grave of Ennis Carter of the 4th Missouri State Militia (Cavalry), near Marble Hill. This ceremony took place at the same time as a reenactment in the area. As a result, the ceremony was attended by many Civil War reenactors. Oglesby Camp was notified of the soldiers grave by the Solomon Kitchen Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Members of **Phelps Camp 66**, of Springfield, have been active in the search for *real sons and daughters* of Civil War veterans and have had some succes in this search. On August 10, they hosted a ceremony honoring *Real Son* Mr. L.P. "Shorty" Robertson, a native of Ava. Shorty's father was Pvt. James Marion Robertson who served in the 24th Missouri Volunteer Inf. Also of note, Shorty was a friend of Missouri's last living Civil War veteran, Pvt. John Hutchinson of the 46th Missouri Inf. Mr.

Hutchinson was a resident of Ava during his final years. Dept. Cmdr. John Rutherford presented Mr. Robertson with a membership badge and a framed certificate, honoring him as a *real son*. At the close of the ceremony, all in attendance were asked to participate in a roll call of honor, whereby each person stated the name of their Civil War veteran and the unit in which they served.

Cmdr. Rutherford was invited to speak at the Pea Ridge National Battlefield Park near Pea Ridge, Arkansas, Sept. 5, on the 110th anniversary of the dedication of the Reunited Soldiers Monument.

Following is a segment of his speech.

"The American Civil War made us all winners and losers. As Americans, we lost 600,000 good citizens, but, economically, we were winners. For example, at the conclusion of the Civil War, we Americans nationwide earned the right to be paid for our labor. Also, as our ancestors trekked over Missouri and Arkansas while serving as soldiers, they could see firsthand our region's transportation weakness. As soon as the Civil War ended, they began building more railroads. It opened the interior of our country to goods which no one could even dream of having before the war. Sometimes manufactured goods arrived from places that were 500 miles or more away. The railroads improved our regions quality of life and allowed our ancestors to purchase wonderful new items like the Reunited Soldiers Monument. The Reunited Soldiers Monument, originally dedicated in September of 1889, is a great example of how we Americans can work together when we put our hearts into the task. We, the descendants of Civil War veterans, and our friends, must insure that these post-war memorials to peace are preserved for all future generations to appreciate. It is my hope that our ancestors' contribution to peace on the Pea Ridge Battlefield will spur that memory."

On May 22 and 23, members of **McNeil Camp 62** and men from the 18th Mo. (U.S.) Civil War reenactors aided the DUV Dept. of Mo. in their department convention, held at the Athens Battlefield State Park and in St. Francisville, in the northeast corner of the state. This event was attended by members of the DUV from across the state and around the country. Past DUV Dept. President Patricia Mullenix hosted the event at the end of her term in office. McNeil Camp Secretary David Wilson and 18th Mo. member Kevin Fox served as the color guard during the department meeting held at the park. McNeil Camp members set up a Civil War camp at the park to add to the color of the event. All had a good time. During the event,

members of McNeil camp marched to the Athens Cemetery to honor the Civil War dead buried there. A rifle salute was fired by the camp color guard, followed by a cannon shot fired by the 1st Mo. (U.S.) Light Artillery, Co. H. Charles Metternick of that unit is also a McNeil camp member.

On May 23, a memorial service was held at the Wolfe Cemetery in St. Francisville, in the honor of Jabez Harrison, the chaplain for what was to become the 23rd Mo. Harrison was killed during the Battle of Athens while coming to the aid of a wounded citizen. McNeil Camp Chaplain and Dept. SVC Vern Stottlemire opened the ceremony with a prayer. Members of the McNeil camp color guard, aided by Sherman Camp member Charles Funk, presented the colors. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The color guard, commanded by 1st Sgt. Derrick Haley, fired a volley, followed by an artillery salute by the 1st Mo. L.A. DUV Dept. President Pat Mullenix made a welcome speech, and then, with the help of her granddaughter, placed a flag on the grave of Mr. Harrison. Mrs. Shirley Roberts, President of DUV Mo. Tent 20, also placed a wreath on the grave. A blanket flag ceremony followed, commanded by McNeil Camp Cmdr. Jim Crawford, and unfolded by McNeil Camp members David Wilson and Dennis Daniels. A roll call of honor was also preformed. This, in the end, brought more than one wet eye to the gathered crowd. All members there agreed that this was the sort of thing that they joined the *Sons* to do.

July 3 found members of McNeil Camp marching in the Hannibal Independence Day parade, along with members of Anderson Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. The crowd received us with cheers as the Stars and Stripes passed by. It was a good feeling to know that the spirit of patriotism is alive and well.

Westport Camp 65 again hosted Rice Tromontia Days with Civil War-type camps, as well as early Missouri arts and crafts exhibits. There was a group set up to show the fur trade period of Missouri's history. In the Civil War camp, military relics were on display, as well as demonstrations of Civil War life and drill. Hundreds of people passed through the camp during the day. Hopefully, we were able to revive a little of the past for them. The Rice Tromontia House was a staging area during the days of the Oregon Trail, as well as the staff headquarters during the Civil War. It is one of the few homes in the area to survive Orders #11, which left much of this part of the state in ruins after the war. This house is the meeting place for the Westport Camp. The camp has also been active in the preservation of the Austin G.A.R.

post, the last one still standing in Missouri. On Sept. 11, the community of Austin and the Westport Camp helped to recreate an event the old Civil War veterans of the area had done years ago – the *Austin Bean Eaters*. At this event were reenactors dressed in period clothing, as well as modern entertainment, plus all the beans that you could eat. The money raised from this event will be used to help restore the Austin G.A.R. building. The Dept. of Mo. and the Dept. of Kan. held a joint planning meeting for the 2001 National Encampment at the Bean Eaters. Every one there had a good time.

On November 13, members of McNeil and Westport Camps took part in a Medal of Honor stone dedication for recipient Pvt. John Opel, Co. G, 7th Indiana Inf., at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Sullivan County, Mo. Opel received this honor for his action during the Battle of the Wilderness where he captured the battle flag of the 50th Virginia. Westport Cmdr. John Martin read the story of Mr. Opel's action of that day. Mr. Sonny Wells, a member of the Medal of Honor Historical Society, in charge of the event, read the history of the Medal of Honor. McNeil Camp Cmdr. Jim Crawford read the battle honors of the 7th Indiana. Vern Stottlemire, Dept. SVC, was in charge of the colors. Harvey Oertwig, American Legion 2nd District Chaplain, offered opening and closing prayers. Members of the Westport and McNeil Camps fired a rifle salute at the close of the ceremony. Several of Mr. Opel's direct descendants were in attendance, as well as many Civil War reenactors in period dress. The unveiling of a replica memorial stone was held during the service. Delivery of the actual Medal of Honor stone is scheduled for sometime this spring.

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George Custer Camp 1
(Dept. of Illinois) and the
Chicago Light Artillery, Battery A,
are sponsoring the

1st Annual Cannon Ball

The event takes place at the George W. Benjamin American Legion Post Hall, Walters and Pfingsten Roads, in Northbrook, Ill., on Saturday, March 4. Admission is \$25 per person, and all proceeds will benefit monument restoration projects.

For more information, contact Br. Nick Kaup, 847-256-1942, or Bill Kummerow, 1-847-251-2589.

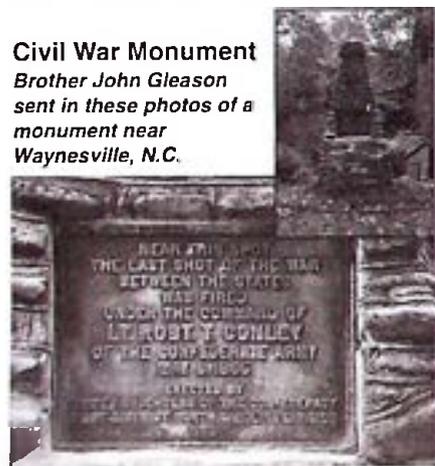
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New York

Camp 26 held its second annual Oliver Tilden Memorial Ceremony October 16 at Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, to honor the camp namesake Captain Oliver Tilden. The camp toured Governors Island and Battery Park in lower Manhattan October 20.

North Carolina AT LARGE

Civil War Monument
Brother John Gleason sent in these photos of a monument near Waynesville, N.C.



Ohio



l.-r.: Ronnie Cox, Ray Fannin, Robert E. Morris, Robert E. Grim, William Radabaugh, David Grim, and Marvin R. Seymore help dedicate grave marker.

Members of Henry Casey Camp 92 conducted a ceremony dedicating a bronze grave marker to Cpl. Henry Casey. The camp is named in honor of Casey who was awarded the Medal of Honor for "Most distinguished gallantry at Vicksburg, Mississippi, April 22, 1863, in volunteering and serving as one of the crew of a transport that was under very heavy fire in passing the forts at that place," according to the certificate accompanying his Medal.

Camp members obtained the marker from

the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs and installed it at Casey's grave site in the Bloomingburg, Ohio, cemetery. The marker notes that Casey is a Medal of Honor recipient. The dedication ceremony was held May 9, marking the 80th anniversary of Casey's death.

Sgt. Richard Enderlin Camp 73 of Chillicothe has been very active. PCinC David R. Medert has completed overseeing the restoration of the Civil War monument at Grandview Cemetery in Chillicothe. Members of the camp have assisted in the lawn maintenance around the monument and the placing of 12 flag holders, one for each conflict, inside the newly erected fence.

PCinC Medert, Dept. SVC David V. Medert and Camp Cmdr. Donald Darby repainted the 32# sea coast gun located in the city park. For many years the cannon had been painted olive drab. It now sports a high gloss black finish.

Brother Jim Houston, Camp JVC, has also been busy in the Cincinnati area. Not only has he visited, photographed and documented 11 Civil War cannons, he is actively involved in resurrecting a SUVCW camp in that city.

Brother Warren Gentzel, Commander of the Groce Post satellite camp of Camp 73, has also been very active. Through his efforts, the city of Circleville is replacing headstones of veterans that were destroyed in the mid-1960's.

Brother Henry Shaw obtained copies of WPA records from Delaware County. These papers are instrumental in the location of veterans graves in that county.

Brother Harley Dankin, who resides in Tuscarawas County and a member of Camp 73, conducted an inspection of the Rodman cannons in front of that county's courthouse and found them "in good condition and well maintained."

These Brothers' participation in monuments and graves have accounted for approximately 3,600 veterans graves in four counties being recorded with the National SUVCW data base.

Camp Commander Darby stated "It gives me great pleasure to announce that our Brothers have been so active in their communities. A lot can be accomplished with a bucket of paint and a few willing hearts."

Oregon AT LARGE

Portland Brother Ken Mantel reports that the large statues of Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt, located in the heart of downtown Portland, are now illuminated at night.

Pennsylvania

Memorial Day 1999

Memorial Day found members of the John T. Crawford Camp 43 at the Evergreen Cemetery in Leechburg, gathered together for the rededication of the Parrott Cannon. The "Silent Sentinal," which has held its place of honor as a tribute to the more than two hundred veterans buried in the cemetery, was recently refurbished at a cost of over \$3,000. This gun was installed in 1912-1913 and saw service during the Civil War at Fort Foote defending Washington D.C. The gun has now been restored to its former glory and will continue to remain on duty guarding our area's fallen comrades.

Among our other activities, the camp participated in the Kittanning Firemen's Band 50th anniversary parade celebration. Our ladies auxiliary went Christmas caroling and visited numerous nursing homes throughout the area. This year, we plan to participate in the Bicentennial Celebration of Armstrong County.

In October, the camp chartered a bus in its first ever sponsored tour. A nearly full bus departed Kittanning at 6 a.m. After a brief stop for more passengers, we departed for Gettysburg. We were taken on a battlefield tour by the National Park Services best Battlefield Guide, Armstrong County native Chip Fennell. Many passengers commented on how Chip made the tour entertaining and fun, yet informative. One passenger remarked that he was never able to get into history until that tour. Chip's homespun humor and anecdotes kept us on the edge of our seats throughout the tour. Many of our tour guests requested us to keep them informed of any future trip plans.

Also in October, we participated in the Indiana University of Pennsylvania's homecoming parade. We enjoyed the high level of enthusiasm demonstrated by the spectators.

In August, we participated in the 28th annual Fort Armstrong Folk Festival in Kittanning. One of the state's premier arts and crafts festivals, set along the banks of the scenic Allegheny River in Kittanning's Riverfront Park, we were exposed to a crowd estimated at over 100,000 during the five day event.

The year 2000 will mark the 200th birthday of the founding of Armstrong County. We will be participating in the year long celebratory events. 2000 also marks the 10th anniversary of the rechartering of Camp 43.

Sgt. Jones Bradbury Camp 149, West Cester/Media, recently conducted elections and the installation of officers for the ensuing year 2000. Brother G. Reed Howard, Camp Chaplain performed the ceremony. Camp officers

are: Br. Richard Brooks, Cmdr.; Br. David Ward, SVC; Br. Steven Parsons, JVC; Br. Ted Ryan, Sec./Treas.; Br. William Clinton, Camp Council (three year term). Appointed officers are: Br. John O'Neal, Patriotic Instructor; Br. Clyde Tinklepaugh, Chaplain.

Afterwards, Cmdr. Brooks announced that the Camp had received an award for the second straight year, from the department for membership growth. Just four years ago, Bradbury Camp membership was down to five semi-active members. The Camp has since grown to the current membership of 42, with several pending. Cmdr. Brooks also presented Past Cmdr. and Past Sec./Treas. Andrew Lefko with a certificate of recognition for the exemplary work that Brother Lefko had done for the camp during this period of growth. After a brief recess, the camp watched the official video of the Gettysburg 135th anniversary reenactment.

Bradbury Camp also established a SVR unit in 1999 and participated in four graveside memorial services for Civil War veterans during the year.

Philadelphia—Following the example of our G.A.R. forbearers, Anna M. Ross Camp and Auxiliary spent the Memorial Day weekend holding services in memory of the veterans of all wars, with a special emphasis on the men and women of the Civil War era.

On May 30, a service was held at Lawnview Cemetery in Rockledge, dedicating a new plaque on the grave of our namesake, Anna Maria Ross, Civil War nurse, benefactress, and "Soldier's Friend." Her tireless efforts on behalf of sick and wounded soldiers contributed to her death on Dec. 23, 1863. This was on the very day that a soldiers' home, that she was instrumental in establishing, was dedicated.

The cost of installing a new foundation and plaque was shared by the camp, auxiliary, and the 28th Pa. SVR, all of whom participated in the ceremonies. Aux. Patriotic Instructor Jeannette Ullrich planned and directed the service, which included remarks by William Bennett, Camp Cmdr., and Margaret Atkinson, PNP, and Aux. Sec./Treas. In addition to a color guard and honor guard from the 28th Pa., colors were provided by a local Boy Scout troop. A poignant ending was rendered by a bagpiper. Junior Aux. members Catherine Iannitto and Sarah Indan scattering rose petals on the grave.

May 31 found many of the same groups gathered at Mount Moriah Cemetery, Philadelphia, for commemorative services at the plot of Courtland Sanders G.A.R. Post 21. Also remembered in this service were Robert Lewis and William Ritchie, members of the camp who

had died during the past year. Mount Moriah is an extremely large and old cemetery with many areas suffering severe neglect. Members of Ross Camp discovered this G.A.R. plot and were instrumental in cleaning up the site.

Next on the day's agenda was the annual service held at the Lincoln plaque at Independence Hall. This ceremony was begun by Post 2, G.A.R., well over 100 years ago. It has been continued by members of the Philadelphia SUVCW. A large contingent of the Ross Camp, 28th Pa., and Ross Auxiliary, some in period dress, participated. Master of Ceremonies was PCC Anthony Waskie. The fine music of the 28th Pennsylvania Regimental Brass Band attracted many visitors touring Independence National Park to the services. General Logan's Orders, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, and an oration by a Sergeant-Major of the U. S. Army rounded out the program.

Last stop for the day was the Civil War monument in Cedar Hill Cemetery. The monument, containing the names of many Union veterans from the surrounding Frankford area, is also encircled by graves of Union soldiers. Services were led by Charles Young, then Dept. SVC, now newly elected Department Commander. Again the custom of strewing the graves with rose petals was followed by the honor guard from the 28th Pa. giving the final salute.

Refreshments and fellowship followed at the G.A.R. Civil War Museum.

Tennessee

Missionary Ridge Camp 63, and the SVR's 26th Wis., Co. G, in conjunction with Chaplain Camp 599, SCV, and the 37th Ga., Co. I, held a memorial service and dedicated new replacement markers for Pvt. William Harris, 10th Indiana Cav., and Elias F. Dilbeck, Co. I, 52nd Ga. Vol. Inf., at Gordon Cemetery, LaFayette, Ga. A parade from the church to the cemetery, with the colors of the Confederacy, carried by 37th Ga., and the American flag, presented by the 26th Wis., was followed by a riderless horse to the cemetery. Each group held their ceremony for their respective veteran. An 18 gun salute was followed by the placement of wreaths and the presentation of flags to the descendants of the veterans. The poem *Blue and Gray* was delivered by 2nd Lt. Frank Harned. *Taps* was played with the retirement of the flags and benediction. Over 50 were in attendance for the ceremony.

Vermont

On October 10, the Dept. of Vt., and the Civil War Hemlocks (a Vermont group not related to the SUVCW), assisted by representatives of the New England Regional Assn., dedicated a new granite monument to four Vt. Congressional Medal of Honor recipients buried in Green Mount Cemetery in Montpelier. The department and the NERA were honored to have in attendance newly-elected Commander-in-Chief Danny Wheeler.

Those remembered were: 1st Lt. John W. Clark, Regt. Q.M., 6th Vt. Inf.; Capt. Dayton P. Clarke, Co. F, 2nd Vt. Inf.; Sgt. Robert J. Coffey, Co. K, 4th Vt. Inf.; Col. Stephen Thomas, F.&S., 8th Vt. Inf.

The approximately 50 SUVCW members present at this ceremony made this the biggest such event in New England in many years. Representative participants included: National Commander-in-Chief Danny Wheeler; NERA, Regional Cmdr. Frank Tucker, Sec. Ed Parks, and Treas. Joseph Plante; Dept. of Vt., DC Thomas McKenna, PDC Floyd Blodgett; Dept. of Mass., SVC Robert Knight, Dept. Sec. Bill Ryerson; Dept. of Conn., SVC Roger Olsen; State of Vt., Maj. Gen. William Cody, Adjutant General, and a National Guard band. Other participants included the Civil War Hemlocks, Color Guard units of the Montpelier area VFW and American Legion Posts.

Brother Floyd Blodgett, PDC, will be presented the *Full Duty Award* at a banquet sponsored by the Vermont Civil War Council in Montpelier, Vt., on Saturday, April 15.

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Brother Lee Thomasson and DUV Sister Sharon Reynvaan beside Hoquiam, Washington, monument. See story, page 26

DEPARTMENT NEWS

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The award gets its name from the response given President Lincoln by the governor of Vt. When Lincoln issued the call for 300,000 volunteers, the state's governor replied, "*Vermont will do her full duty.*" The award is given annually to an individual or organization that has made a special contribution to the preservation of the state's Civil War heritage. The Civil War Council is made up of various Vt. organizations, including the SUVCW, ASUVCW, and Civil War roundtables and reenactors.

Brother Blodgett joined the SUVCW thirty years ago. Combined, he as served as dept. cmdr. a total of 14 years. His recruiting efforts have resulted in two new camps being formed in the dept., as well as several dozen new members. Five years ago, only five members were available to attend the department's annual encampment. Today, dept. membership exceeds 100 Brothers, largely due to the work of Brother Blodgett.

Money raised by the banquet, and a raffle there, is used to preserve Civil War battlefields.

Since a fellow Brother is the recipient of the Full Duty Award this year, the Dept. of Vt. invites members of the SUVCW to attend the award banquet. Tickets are \$25 each, and can be obtained from Dr. David Cross, 289 Upper Old Town Trail, Charlotte, VT 05455, 802-425-5188, Crosskeys@aol.com.

Washington AT LARGE

Working with the Telephone Pioneers of America, Member-at-Large **Lee Thomasson** contacted the Polson Museum in Hoquiam, Wash., resulting in the preservation of the city's Civil War monument.

The monument was originally placed in the City Park in 1926. A plaque on its face reads "Placed by Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Tent No. 127." Over the years, the

Thanks!

Wa-bu-no Camp 53, Dept. of Mich., wishes to thank **Chris Czopek** of **Colegrove-Woodruff Camp 22**, Dept. of Mich., **Jim Gordon** of **Lincoln-Cushing Camp 2**, Dept. of Md., and **Stephen L. Sayko** of the **General Thomas Ruger Camp 1**, Dept. of N.C. for their response to our request for help in identifying the unit of **Henry Bailey Quance**.

It is through such cooperation between camps and departments that enables us to perpetuate the memory of those men who helped save the Union.

monument had been vandalized, and had also suffered the effects of the elements.

With permission from all parties involved, the monument was moved to the museum grounds, restored and repaired. At the rededication ceremony were many members of the Grays Harbor Genealogical Society. The DUVCW and the DAR were represented by Sister Sharon Reynvaan. Brother Thomasson represented the SUVCW and Sons of the American Revolution. See photo, page 25.

Hoquiam was home to Washington Post 52, Dept. of Wash. and Alaska, G.A.R.

As his part in the National Graves Registration project, Br. Thomasson has listed all Civil War veterans with headstones at the Sunset Memorial Cemetery in Hoquiam, and has washed and cleaned headstones there.

The 50 member **Gov. Isaac Stevens Camp 1**, headquartered in Olympia, elected the following at their December meeting: Cmdr. – Rod Fleck, Forks; SVC – Darrel Holt, Olympia; JVC – Ken Richmond, Sequim; Sec. – Jeff Henningfield, Olympia; Treas. – Tony Lucero, Lynnwood.

At the same meeting, Brother Harley Crain was presented with a plaque in appreciation for over five years of faithful dedicated service as the camp's "charter" Secretary and Treasurer.

Wisconsin

A chartering ceremony for a new camp of the **Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War** in Wisconsin's Fox Cities was held September 25 in Oshkosh.

Thirty members and guests of **Old Abe Camp 8**, from as far away as Stevens Point and Potter, attended the event. Presenting the charter on behalf of the National organization was Dept. of Wis. Cmdr. Stephen Michaels, assisted by Dept. SVC Frederick Murphy and Dept. Sec. Ronald Aronis. Camp Cmdr. Randy K. Novak of Oshkosh accepted the charter on behalf of the membership.

Prior to the presentation, special recognition was given Br. Richard Beggs of Clintonville for his work in assessing the area's Civil War memorials. The new camp has been instrumental in refurbishing and maintaining Oshkosh's Camp Bragg Memorial.

The chartering marks the Order's successful return to the Fox Cities after an absence of over 70 years. The first camp in Oshkosh, also named Old Abe Camp, was chartered in 1885. Milton Cushing Phillips, a prominent attorney,

whose father had died during the Civil War while serving in the 8th Wis. Inf., organized that camp. Within seven years, it grew to be the largest in the state.

Wisconsin's SUVCW and Auxiliary recently displayed Civil War artifacts and local historic photos, and information about the Civil War, at the 2nd Annual "Days of Glories Past" Civil War Weekend in Waukesha's Cutler Park. The city of Waukesha is about 20 miles west of Milwaukee.

In Wisconsin, the first camp was organized in Waukesha as **Sidney Bean Camp 1** in 1883. The camp was named for a young mathematics professor at Carroll College, who became Lieutenant Colonel of the 4th Wis. Inf. and was killed at the Battle of Port Hudson.

The Order's efforts at the recent Civil War event were successful in rekindling local interest and in helping re-establish the Order's presence in Waukesha. **MG John Gibbon Camp 4** recently reorganized and began meeting at Carroll College. Plans are now underway to organize an Auxiliary there also.

Dept. members and other Civil War enthusiasts recently gathered in Northeast Wisconsin to rededicate the grave of a Wisconsin pioneer and Union Soldier.

At age 20, Emanuel Mortimer, with his wife, Jemima, and their first daughter immigrated from England to Wisconsin in 1844. They eventually settled in Chilton. Mortimer was a farmer and father of seven children when the Civil War broke out. He enlisted in Co. B, 44th Wis. Inf., in September 1864, and fought in the Battle of Nashville. He returned to Wisconsin and to his family after the war and died shortly thereafter at the age of 53.

Old Abe Camp 8's Paul Stache, along with members of **Lt. Alonzo Cushing Camp 5**, organized this year's memorial ceremony at Portland Cemetery in Calumet County. Each year, in October, a ceremony is held to commemorate the service and sacrifice of a Union soldier buried there. This year, descendants of Pvt. Mortimer attended the event.

After remarks by Dept. Cmdr. Steve Michaels, uniformed members from **Henry Harnden Camp 2** and **Camp 5** fired three volleys. Members of **C.K. Pier Badger Auxiliary 4** and Gen. Edward S. Bragg Auxiliary 6 placed flowers on Mortimer's grave.

Milwaukee's **C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1** and Auxiliary 4 recently completed a yearlong fund raising effort to support the restoration of a Civil War cannon in an area cemetery.

Racine's Governor Harvey G.A.R. Post 17

DEPT. NEWS

had originally placed the captured Confederate 12-pound smoothbore in a location overlooking the graves of Union soldiers in the city's Mound Cemetery. Over time, the carriage and limber rotted away. For a while, the cannon tube was supported by concrete stanchions, but those too gave way. The tube, unable to be reconditioned as a weapon in reenactments, was placed in storage.

Now, as a result of the fund raising efforts of the Sons, the Auxiliary and others, an aluminum carriage, like the ones used in military parks, will support the tube. In expressing gratitude to our organizations, Cemetery Supervisor Steven Bedard said, "...Through you and others like you, the cannon will soon be restored to its former place of glory, overlooking our Civil War veterans..."

The community is raising additional funds to replace the limber. Rededication ceremonies for the cannon and limber are tentatively planned for Memorial Day weekend, 2000.

ERRATUM

CORRECTIONS TO THE BANNER NOVEMBER 1999, VOL. 104, NO. 1

Page 20, Depts. & States – The Department of Southwest includes only the states of Texas and Oklahoma.

Page 20, Our Commanders-in-Chief Thru the Years – Contrary to information provided to the Banner, PCs-in-C Simpson (1983-84), Partington (1987-88) and Moore (1993-94) are alive and well.

Page 22, Council Takes...Action, Springfield, Illinois, Event – Lincoln's Death Day is April 15. The founder of the G.A.R. was B.F. Stephenson, not Stevenson.

ROSTER

ADDITIONS/CHANGES/CORRECTIONS

Standing Committees, National Committee on History, Roger Olsen – correct spelling of Brother Roger's last name is Olsen.

Special Committees, National Legal Staff – added since National Encampment – Hon. Henry Shaw, 27 Griswold St., Delaware OH 43015-1716, cpctshaw@midohio.net.

Dept. at Large Coordinator Michael G. Friedel – Brother Michael's correct phone number is (515) 255-1856.

AUXILIARY NEWS

California & Pacific

Auxiliary Presence at Girl Scout Gold Awards



The Girl Scout San Diego-Imperial Council held its annual Gold Awards presentation June 6 at the Museum of Contemporary Arts' Sherwood Theater and Terrace, in La Jolla. **Sgt. William Pittenger Auxiliary 71** was proud to be included in the ceremony.

Auxiliary President Rosemary Lowe, Sec./Treas. Julie Atzen and Bylaws Chair Linda Pollard presented each of the 36 recipients with a letter from then National President Betty Baker, as well as a certificate of appreciation.

The Gold Award is the highest award that can be earned by a Girl Scout. It was a singular honor for the new Auxiliary to be asked to attend and serve as role models for these remarkable young women.

Delaware

Mary Currey Torbert Auxiliary Initiated in Dover

Mary Currey Torbert Auxiliary 1862 was established November 6 with the initiation of 14 women in a large ceremony in Dover. The Initiation was presided over by Auxiliary National President Mary Jo Long and Maryland Department Auxiliary Officers.

The Auxiliary is named for the wife of Major General Alfred Torbert of Milford. Torbert was instrumental in organizing the state of New Jersey's troops, and led the New Jersey Brigade in the Peninsula Campaign. He commanded Sheridan's Cavalry in 1864 in The Valley. After the war, he was Consul to Paris and died while saving the life of a little boy as their ship sank off the coast of Florida.

The ceremony began with the Torbert Guards, SVR, trouping and posting the Torbert Camp's colors in the large hall. The flag is an original 48-star to which Past Camp Cmdr. Marvin Schelhouse has added dozens of satin streamers. Each streamer is annotated in gold paint with a regiment represented by the ancestors of members of the Camp and Auxiliary.

Schelhouse will be adding streamers to represent the various campaigns in which those ancestors fought. The Guards are a reactivation of the original Torbert Guards, a post-war company of the Delaware Militia. Now, they are the Torbert Camp's ceremonial unit.

The *Star Spangled Banner* was then played by Auxiliary members Krystin Contant, the daughter of George and Katrinka Contant, Bethany Hansen, the daughter of Auxiliary member Debra Hansen, and Tina Martin. An opening prayer was offered by Torbert Camp Chaplain Roger Keister. Guests and dignitaries were greeted by Camp Cmdr. Charles Burris. Marvin Schelhouse, a nationally-recognized expert on Torbert, spoke about the life of Mary Torbert.

National Auxiliary President Mary Jo Long then initiated the new Auxiliary members, pinning the Auxiliary membership badge on each one. The audience of about 50 was treated to a rendition of a poem by Rudyard Kipling in the song recessional, sung by Roger Keister. A closing prayer was offered by Maryland Department Chaplain Audrey Soukup.

Set in as President was Katrinka M. Contant of Dover, wife of General Alfred T. A. Torbert Camp JVC George Contant. Lorene Kandler of Bridgeville was set in as Vice-President. Assisting Long was Maryland Department Auxiliary President Helen Geppi and Secretary Janice Harding.

A very meaningful feature of the ceremony was the use of an original G.A.R./Sons of Veterans oak altar, belonging to George Contant. The Contants rescued the altar from the back corner of an antique shop in New York. According to the previous owner, the altar originally belonged to an unknown G.A.R. post south of Buffalo, N.Y. The Torbert Camp uses it on special occasions. Katrinka Contant recently sewed a silk altar cloth for use with the altar.

Afterward, guests were treated to a cake inscribed to the Auxiliary, which was donated by a local bakery, and much food. Two eight-foot tables filled with G.A.R. veteran medals, ribbons, memorials, and photos belonging to George Contant were on display. Another table with veteran, Sons and Auxiliary items belonging to other Camp and Auxiliary members was also set up. Auxiliary Vice President Lorene Kandler displayed photos of her veteran grandfather and her grandfather in his Sons of Veterans uniform. Her grandmother's Auxiliary badges, including her Past President's badge, were displayed in a mahogany case. Auxiliary member Debra Hansen displayed a picture of her grandmother wearing an Auxiliary Past President's badge.

Continued on Page 28

National

As National Press Correspondent, I respectfully request that my Auxiliary Sisters send me articles and pictures for National President Sister Mary Jo Long's book. Some Sisters have been so diligent, and I truly appreciate their efforts. Each state has its own dedications and remembrances. Please share these with me so that Sister Mary Jo will have a book at least half as special as she is. My home address is 100 Grove Ave., Cheltenham, PA 19012; e-mail ianfr@aol.com. If e-mailing me, subject the Auxiliary or Sons. My husband may think you are a virus if you don't. The following states have sent me articles for our National President's scrapbook: Pa., Maine, Mass., N.H., Del., N.Y., Md., R.I., and Tenn. Sisters, I would like at least one page per state. And of course, Sister Frances Murray keeps me informed of Auxiliary happenings, and health! I know things are happening in your states.

Sisters, we have an actual Civil War veteran's widow, Mrs. Gertrude Janeway, who needs our help. She lives in a little cabin in Tennessee. Our National Patriotic Instructor and her husband are in touch with the family and have set up a fund to help her make ends meet. (If she needs water, someone takes a bucket and brings it into the house!). During this time of year, when our thoughts are drawn to those less fortunate than ourselves, you might want to consider sending something for this lady who stands for what our organization believes in. Donations: John E. Anderson, PDC, and Sarah C. Anderson, NPI, 353 Freddie Davis Road, Selmer, TN 38375-5461. Thank you for whatever love, prayers and monetary help you are able to give.

During this Blessed Season, please let us not forget the true reason for the season. Our Savior's birth. May He bless and keep each of you during this new year. May the new year find you in good health and spirits. If you only make one resolution this year, may it be to send information to your National Press Correspondent!

God Speed,
Anne L. Iannitto
PDP, NPC

Continued from Page 27

The new Auxiliary's initiation received intense media attention. A WBOC-TV crew and reporter were present for nearly the entire affair. The news report that evening ran almost an hour. The daily *Delaware State News* ran a front-page photo and story and the *Dover Post* ran a large feature story the following week.

Several Dept. of Md. and Dept. of Pa. Sons officials also attended, including Maryland's SVC Ken Chew and PDC Jim Friedline, and Pennsylvania PDC Joseph Long.

The Auxiliary, sponsored by the Torbert Camp, will work closely with the camp in their efforts to remember and teach about Union veterans and the Civil War in general.

Massachusetts

On September 19, we had a dedication of the engraved bronze plaque presented in June at the 100th Anniversary to Commander Tim Woodward of **Camp 50**, in Rockland, by the Dept. of Mass. Auxiliary. This was in recognition of the status of the G.A.R. hall being placed on the National Register of Historic Buildings through the efforts of Jessica Snow of Auxiliary 128 and Eileen May Richardson of Auxiliary 50. This beautiful building, with exquisite stained glass windows and lovely woodwork enhancing the beautiful paintings and two cannons guarding the entrance, is the home of the SUVCW, heir to the G.A.R. A program on the history of this last wooden G.A.R. building in use was read by Jessica.

Dept. President Cynthia Brown was the person responsible for procuring the plaque and unveiled it. It will now be mounted in a prominent place. A very lovely collation followed the ceremony and the guests, many of whom were in period dress, and enjoyed the fellowship.

In other news, a beautiful certificate of appreciation was awarded to the Dept. of Mass. in grateful recognition of noteworthy services rendered to the Order by Betty J. Baker, standing National President at the August Indianapolis Encampment, PDC Ellsworth Brown, DP Cynthia Brown, and DVP Eleanor Becotte.

This was a historical event filled week as we met Real Son Thayne LaBanta. We attended a banquet held at the beautiful Indiana Roof Ballroom, where the last G.A.R. meeting was held in 1949. This followed a wreath laying at the enormous Soldiers and Sailor's Monument, lectures about the state's regimental flags, and a guided tour of the War Museum. We were presented beautiful commemorative medals, ribbons, mugs, and other treasures to remember this grand time.



Dept. of Pennsylvania Auxiliary Sisters honoring the National President at the National Encampment in Indianapolis last year.

Pennsylvania

Anna M. Ross Auxiliary 1, Philadelphia, has been busy this year spreading the news about the Auxiliary and the Sons.

September 18 was the testimonial dinner for Dept. Cmdr. Chuck Young. Brother and Sister Janice and Tom Schowler had a lovely reception at their home prior to Cmdr. Young's dinner. During the dinner, we all were able to honor Brother Ed Maeckel's 75th year as a Son, and Sister Evelyn Maeckel's 85th year in the Auxiliary! We are so blessed to have these members who can share so much of our organization's history. Our National heads and their respective 'honeys' were also in attendance.

Four Auxiliary Sisters, Betty Adams, Catherine Hartman, Junior Member Kathryn Iannitto, and myself attended the Simpson House Celebration of "Old Main's" 100th birthday September 25. Simpson House is the oldest United Methodist home in the country. It was founded in 1865. After the Civil War, the ladies of the Christian Commission could not just end their work here in Philadelphia because the war had ended. In fact, the need was even greater for the returning soldiers and their families, whose lives had entirely changed. On September 25, we showed artifacts, explained our period-attire, told stories, and listened to some wonderful ones, as well. Junior Member Sister



Members of John T. Crawford Camp 43 and Sarah A. Crawford Aux. at the rededication services.

Kathryn Iannitto explained her old period attire that two of her dolls had on. She also explained why the chair in the main upstairs hall was so oddly shaped, for hoops of course! One lady so loved the "bosom buddy" and "mitts" we had on display that she now has some patterns and is working on them, and I have a new pen pal!

Many of the Auxiliary Sisters were able to attend the testimonial luncheon in Carlisle October 2 to honor our new state President, Sister Vivian Rocky. The weather was lovely, and Brother Al Kems entertained us with his witticism (we all survived the jokes). National President Sister Mary Jo Long and her husband, Joe, were also in attendance.

October 30 was Sister Mary Jo Long's testimonial luncheon in Scranton. It was another lovely "Spring" day in October! Many of **Auxiliary 1** and **Camp 1** were able to attend. Our Past National Presidents, Sister Betty Baker (with her two guardian angels) and our own Sister Margaret Atkinson – both of these Sisters had just come out of the hospital that week. Are they a band of dedicated workers or what! I had the honor and privilege to be the chaplain for this gracious affair. Since it was Halloween weekend, I wanted to share a card that my sister Margaret sent me with those present. On the inside, it said how special it was to be my sister. That is how I feel about the Auxiliary, and especially Mary Jo. On the cover there were two little girls having a 'tea party.' The one said to the other, "I'm gonna wear an angel costume and go as you." The other little girl says, "And I'll dress as a beautiful princess and go as you." (O.K., so it sounds gushy to you guys, but I had to do something. Brother Al was prompting Sister Faye Carlisle with the jokes!) We closed with the Pennsylvania Closing. (I was so honored to be asked to do this for Sister Mary Jo. Apparently more excited than I knew. I had two different sets of black heels on!)

Remembrance Day was November 20. There was steady drizzle for most of the day and for the ceremonies, with warm temperatures. Our National officers performed their duties with grace and dignity, and President Lincoln was eloquent and moving as always. With the contrast in temperatures, there was a fog about all Saturday evening. My daughter and her little friend kept asking us if we thought they would see an apparition! That evening was the National Civil War Ball. It was quite lovely to see all the ladies and gentlemen dressed for the evening's festivities. Many Auxiliary Sisters were in attendance – even some of our Junior Members in full evening period attire. To those of us who hail from Pennsylvania, Gettysburg is truly our Mecca.

Central

Central Region Conference Highlights

The 1999 Central Region Conference was hosted by the Dept. of Mich. on October 2. Brothers and Auxiliary members from Ill., Ind., Mo., Wis., and Mich. toured the Michigan Civil War flag storage facility in the morning. Afternoon conference sessions were presented by Central Region's Conference Planning and Training Committee Chairman Steve Michaels, Wis. Dept. Cmdr.

Central Region Cmdr. Danielle Michaels officiated over the conference business meeting. The following officers were elected for the coming year: Cmdr. Ronald Aronis, Wis.; SVC Kent Armstrong, Mich.; JVC Russell Kirchner, Ind.; Sec.-Treas. Jack Grothe, Mo. Installations were performed by PCinC Keith Harrison.

The Conference Banquet featured a program delivered by Mr. David D. Finney. Mr. Finney has served as Historian for the National Park Service at the Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania National Military Park and the Petersburg National Battlefield. He now teaches Civil War history and is a well known speaker to the Civil War roundtables in the Midwest.

On October 3, conference attendees visited the nearby G.A.R. hall in Sunfield, Mich. October marked the 100th anniversary of the hall, which has been in continual use by the G.A.R. and its Allied Orders since the hall opened. Michigan DC Kent Armstrong marked the occasion by presenting a certificate of recognition to the **Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17**, SUVCW, and **Helen M. Edwins Tent 30**, DUVCW, for their combined efforts to save the hall and its many G.A.R. artifacts for the education and appreciation of future generations. See cover for a photograph of this historic hall.

The 2000 Central Region Conference will be hosted by the Dept. of Ind. Further details will be shared by Central Region JVC Russell Kirchner.

N.E.R.A.

New England Regional Association (Depts. of Maine, N.H., Vt., Mass., Conn., and R.I.) held their annual election and installation of officers July 17, 1999, in Laconia, N.H. Officers elected include: Commander Frank J. Tucker, Vice Commander Richard Reed, Secretary Maj. Edward W. Parks, and Treasurer Joseph A. Plant.

The 66th Annual Meeting will take place July 15 at N.H. Veterans Association Hall (a former G.A.R. hall), Laconia, N.H.

Auxiliary Regional

The regional meeting of the ASUVCW was conducted October 10 at Barre, Vt., by President Elizabeth Ferrin of the Aux. Dept. of Maine. People from five New England states were present, as well as guest Mrs. Betsy Wheeler, wife of SUVCW Commander-in-Chief Danny Wheeler.

Business was conducted in the morning and was concluded in the early afternoon. The Commander spoke on unity with the two groups.

Buildings were decked out in bunting to honor Admiral Dewey for whom the weekend celebrations and parades were conducted.

All met at the Green Mount Cemetery for the dedication of a beautiful carved stone to honor four Medal of Honor recipients buried in the cemetery. The 40th Army Band played a selection of hymns and patriotic songs. Master of Ceremonies Thomas McKenna introduced guest speakers, including CinC Wheeler.

Members of the Hemlocks fired a volley. A certificate of appreciation was presented to Allan Mattson, carver of the stone. The stone was onated by Chuck Peterson of Granite and Quartzite of Barre after Val Currier discovered no monument to their heroism. Members of various civic and patriotic organizations formed the color guard.

The well attended ceremony was followed by a guided tour of the cemetery to visit the four grave sites of the honored men.

Allied National Encampments

The Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War will have its National Convention in Springfield, Illinois, August 9-14, 2000. Roena Bayes has been elected National President.

The National Headquarters can be contacted at 503 So. Walnut, Springfield, IL 62704, 217-544-0616. The Illinois Department will be in charge of the convention, which will be held at the Ramada Inn South. Jane Grizzell is the chairwoman.

The **Woman's Relief Corps**, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, has re-elected Mary Phelps as its National President. The Woman's Relief Corps will also hold its National Convention at the Ramada Inn South, in Springfield, Illinois. The dates are August 5-9, 2000.

The National Headquarters are located at 629 South Seventh, Springfield, IL 62703, 217-522-4373.

Camp & Department Quartermaster

Advertise your Camp's or Department's Civil War, G.A.R. or Nationally-approved SUVCW merchandise in The Banner. Moneys generated to be used for camp or department purposes.

Ad space is free but limited. Ads continue to run until you advise otherwise or until new ad submissions exceed available space. Ads should not exceed 2 5/16" x 2 5/16".

Anyone who manufactures, sells or distributes the likenesses of the badges, emblems or the name of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War must have the specific approval of the Council of Administration or be in violation of copyright laws.

New Hampshire's Gen'l Simon G. Griffin Auxiliary #11-SUVCW, is offering the traditional star-style bronze G.A.R. cemetery markers for \$30 a piece plus shipping & handling. Brass rods to place in ground are included. There are no minimum purchases. Orders will be shipped upon payment. For continental U.S. shipping of 1 or 2 markers outside N.H., include \$6 (ex. 2 markers to Mich. = \$66 - \$60 for the markers + \$6 for shipping). For 1 or 2 markers shipped to N.H. address, add \$5. Mark checks payable to: **Aux. #11-SUVCW**, and send to: Bonnie J. Tolman, Aux. #11-SUVCW Sec'y, 322 Old Homestead Hwy., Swanzey, N.H., 03446. Need more than 2? Tell us how many. Proceeds used to establish a "Plantings and Memorials Fund" to aid Auxiliary #11's local marker and Memorial Day planting programs. Please include the name and outfit of the veteran being honored. This auxiliary is tracking this information

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This fine full-color postcard is available from James A. Garfield Camp 1, Dept. of Maryland.

This beautiful card is a reproduction of an original 1910 Memorial Day postcard.



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Ulysses S. Grant Camp No. 68, Dept. of Mo., has the following items with the Sons insignia available to the members.

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For information and a current price list please contact: Bob Petrovic, Dept. Sec./Treas., 4729 Mehl Ave., St. Louis, MO 63129, (314) 892-2158, fax (314) 892-8779, e-mail RPETRO7776@aol.com.

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ALLIED ORDERS BANQUET MUGS

We still have some mugs left from the 1999 Allied Orders Banquet at the National Encampment.

They are \$2 each plus \$2 shipping for 1 cup.

Call or e-mail for shipping costs for 3 or more. (219) 462-7163, fax: (219) 531-4826 or e-mail: capted@crow.net.

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The 1999 ENCAMPMENT Delegates Badge can be purchased by anyone who attended the 1999 National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, The Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and The Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic at a cost of \$11.00 each.



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The Department of Michigan has a limited quantity of coat-of-arms and insignia pocket patches. Each has gold and silver thread outlining most of the art work. There are no shipping costs for the pocket patches. Kepi not included with the hat badge.

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CANNON CREW: This is the uncropped photo from the back cover. All 15 of the men in uniform are wearing SoV membership badges. Three are wearing campaign hats of the late 1800s, while the remainder wear kepis of the same period. No unit designation can be discerned. The gun carriage does not appear to be of the Civil War era. Perhaps a knowledgeable Brother can tell us the make and model of the cannon. The building or buildings in the left background are somewhat imposing - perhaps a state capital or courthouse.



More about these photos on the back cover!



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Images from the Past



As is too often the case, little is known about this issue's history and heritage photos. They come from an antique dealer who knows nothing of their past. Handwritten captions "Sons of Veterans/Wm. Good standing near cannon" and "Sons of Veterans/Wm. Good on horse" on the back of

each corresponding photo. On close inspection, none of the men near the cannon resemble any of those on horseback. Also, the photos do not appear to have been taken at the same event. The original images measure 3³/₄x4³/₄".

Continued on Page 31

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

WHERE PATRIOTISM LIVES