

The BANNER



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

Volume 103

March 1999

Number 2

New:

- Magazine style
- Full color photos
- 75% more content
- 32 pages – including an 8 page “pull-out” section with:
 - 1999 National Encampment Info
 - Member Data Form
 - Funds Coupon
 - 1999 National Quartermaster’s List

118th National Encampment Badge



The 50th Anniversary of the last Nat'l Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic Aug. 19'22, Indianapolis, Ind.

Register inside this issue...



The Banner circa 1953. Left to right are 1953-55 CinC Ulysses S. Grant III (Dept. of Md.), 1952-53 ASUV Pres. Lila A. Macey (Dept. of N.Y.) and CinC Frederick K. Davis (Dept. of Ore. & Wash.)



We give you...the new Banner!

As your publisher, I am proud to introduce to all our first magazine format of The Banner. I hope that everyone enjoys it and will look forward to each issue.

I would also like to introduce to you our new editor, Ken Richmond, of Sequim, Washington. His hard work and dedication to our Order will benefit us all.

So that we can get the banner to you in a timely manner, please help us by following all deadlines.

We have plans for some reader participation and surveys so you, the member, can be a part of our exciting, new Banner.

Please feel free to send comments to me, Danny Wheeler, 501 Willow Ave., Ithaca, NY 14850.

*Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
SVCinC Danny Wheeler
Publisher, The Banner*

This issue of The Banner represents a milestone in its the 103 year history.

Within these pages you will find three very noticeable changes – a smaller magazine format, more pages, and some full color photos. These changes are not made without much thought and consideration for their benefits and impact.

This issue of The Banner is the product of the combined efforts of scores of your Brothers at every level.

I am honored and humbled to be a part of the Banner. I only hope you will find it a point of pride.

Cover Photos/Art

Do you have photographs, artwork, artifacts, books, programs, or other collectibles related to the 1949 National Encampment of the G.A.R.? If so, send them to The Banner.

Items will be returned as requested, and those of value will be shipped back insured.

The Banner is looking for a steady stream of other suitable photos or artwork for the cover. These should relate to the SUV, G.A.R., Union forces, or Union veterans. Submissions can be color or black and white. Each contribution used will be credited with a byline.

A New Banner for The BANNER?

We're not suggesting change simply for the sake of change, but, with the improvements

made in this issue, it may be a good time to think about a new banner – that is, the type "design" that appears at the top of the cover.

For over forty years, beginning in 1952, the Banner's banner remained virtually unchanged. Considerable revision came in 1993, 1995 and so on. Even with the new size, the banner of this issue is much as it was in 1997.

So we are not accused of going against the will of our Brothers, we're holding a friendly little design competition. If you have an idea for a new banner design, or if you especially like the design of The Banner from a specific era from the past, send it to the editor. You don't need to be an artist, but you do need to be able to convey your thoughts accurately. There are no other rules. Your design can be black, a single color or multiple colors.

What do you get if you "win"? A great deal of satisfaction, thanks and praise.

"Entries" will be reviewed by the editor, the publisher and the National Banner Printing Committee. A number of "finalists" will be selected and will appear in an upcoming issue. The membership worldwide will be invited to vote. The design with the most votes will grace the cover of The Banner from that time forward – long into the next millennium if all goes well.

*Ken B. Richmond
Editor, The Banner*

Cover Photo - Memorial Day 1892

This issue's cover photo was found on the eBay auction website. This long ago Brother's kepi is marked "44" above the letters "SV," separated by crossed muskets. Unfortunately, his shoulder straps are indistinguishable. A SoV membership badge adorns his coat, beside a Memorial Day ribbon. The front of the original

reads "Steward," followed by a "C" superimposed over an "A," then "Granite Falls, Minn." Handwritten on the back are "Memorial Day 1892" and what appears to be "Meiss, Meyra III."

What more can you tell us about this Brother, his rank or his camp?

GENERAL ORDERS

SERIES 1998-1999

National Headquarters
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

GENERAL ORDER NO. 3

1. It is with profound regret that I announce the death on 1 January 1999 of Past Commander in Chief Clark W. Mellor.

2. PCinC Mellor served with distinction as Commander in Chief in 1988 from the Massachusetts Department. After 79 years of service to the nation and this Order, PCinC Mellor was buried in Worcester, Mass., on 4 January 1999.

3. I charge all department commanders to drape department charters in his honor and to require that all camps do likewise for a period of 30 days from this date.

By Order of:
Andrew M. Johnson
Commander in Chief

Attested:
David Hann
National Secretary

GENERAL ORDER NO. 4

1. My headquarters is established at 1200 So. Monroe Street, Arlington, VA 22204, with telephone at (703) 892-4247 and e-mail at amjohnson@juno.com. Only official mail requiring the personal attention of the Commander in Chief (CinC) should be addressed there.

2. This issue of THE BANNER begins the new look approved by your Council of Administration in November 1998. We return to the popular magazine format and add a number of new features. I am indebted to our publisher, SVCinC Danny Wheeler, for overseeing this transformation and to Editor Ken Richmond for undertaking a difficult task. Many brothers will have suggestions. Please send them to Publisher Wheeler.

3. The Order provides your CinC with the opportunity and means to award two scholarships each year to deserving youth. Each scholarship is awarded for tuition and books to high school seniors and college students contingent upon their enrollment at an accredited four year college or university prior to December 31st of 1999. Application blanks are available from me at the address above. I have appointed a Scholarship Committee to assist me in evaluating the applications and choosing the winners. The application period closes on 31 March 1999. I expect and welcome a flood of letters, e-mails and phone calls requesting applications.

4. I have noted, and others have reminded me, that there is a large pool of qualified and enthusiastic brothers from which national officer and committee appointments should be made. We do not always know who they are, where they are, or for what tasks they are best qualified. The newly appointed National Aide for Personnel Selection, Frederic Cauldwell, will be charged with assembling a data bank of qualified and interested brothers who wish to work at the national level of the SUVCW. If you are one of those or know one who should be considered, complete and mail the Member Data Form found in this issue of THE BANNER to me. This will provide a pool of talent for selection this year and in future years. Please do it now.

5. Each department commander who has not already complied is asked to complete and send to the National Secretary his list of camps within his department including:

Name and number of the camp
Meeting place, date and time
Name, address, phone, and, if possible, e-mail of camp commander and camp secretary
Initiation fee if any and annual dues

6. I call attention to the outstanding work of the Massachusetts Department in the recent and unfortunate loss of Past Commander in Chief Clark W Mellor. The department commander and members of the department prepared and executed fitting tributes to the late CinC, setting a high standard for other departments to follow under similar trying circumstances.

By Order of:
Andrew M. Johnson
Commander-in-Chief

Attested:
David Hann
National Secretary

GENERAL ORDER NO. 5

1. Many camps are now collecting dues for the new year. Others will begin collection on another fiscal year date. Recruiting members is one of our most difficult and time consuming duties. It is essential that everyone in the camp and department structure exert himself to retain the members now on the rolls. I ask department commanders to urge camps to devote their best efforts to the retention process. I urge camp officers to diligently contact each member who gives any indication of non-renewal. I urge each Brother to prevail upon other Brothers to continue in the ranks. It used to be the practice of each good first sergeant to remind his men that "everything will be better next enlistment." I ask all Brothers to take on the role of the good first sergeant and keep our brothers in the ranks of the SUVCW.

2. I congratulate Brother Dean Speaks who serves as our Member at Large Coordinator for executing the transfer of National MAL members who are eligible for camp membership to their departments of residence. This reassignment is required by our Constitution and Regulation. Each department which has received a transfer list must find a camp for these Brothers. If the newly transferred Brothers cannot be placed in a camp near their residence, please assign them to your department camp at large. Any large transfer of members carries the risk of Brothers dropping through holes in the net. I recommend that department officers personally contact each transferred Brother to be certain that he has been made at home in his new camp.

3. Two new camps have been chartered in the Maryland Department. Congratulations to the 7th West Virginia Volunteers Camp 7 near Franklin, W.V., and the Overland Camp 98 at Charlottesville, Va. The Pennsylvania Department has added the Jerome Gennari Camp 90. I send the thanks of the Order to the Organizing Officers of these camps, respectively, Robert E Williams, John F. Kirk Jr. and Bud Atkinson. Our Order grows best and most rapidly by the formation of new camps.

4. The Council of Administration has approved expenses for an attorney to handle the case of Gettysburg Camp 112 versus Historic Gettysburg Adams County in the matter of the G.A.R. hall deed dispute. I have hired an attorney to represent the Order as voted by the Harrisburg

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The BANNER

The Banner is published quarterly by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, a congressionally chartered, non-profit corporation.

Commander-in-Chief Andrew M. Johnson
Publisher SVCinC Danny Wheeler
Editor Ken B. Richmond
Circulation Richard Williams

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Address Change or Correction

Mail all changes of address and mailing inquiries to: Richard A. Williams, National Membership List Coordinator, 1917 Teel Ave., Lansing, MI 48910-3117. or you may send the same info in an email to: rawsuvw@aol.com or complete the form at <http://suv.org/address.htm>

NAME _____

NEW ADDRESS _____

NEW CITY _____

NEW STATE _____ NEW ZIP-4 _____

OLD ZIP CODE _____

THIS CHANGE IS: PERMANENT TEMPORARY



MONUMENT RESTORATION CHILLICOTHE, OHIO

In 1866, the Soldiers' Monumental Association was organized in Ross County, Ohio, for the purpose of erecting a monument in memory of local soldiers and seamen who had lost their lives in the Civil War. The Chillicothe Cemetery Association donated a circular lot 30 feet in diameter for the erection of the monument.

By 1868, enough money had been raised to construct a limestone base which was dedicated on Memorial Day of that year. The next phase was not completed until 1875, when the marble pedestal was placed atop the base. Another nine years would pass before the balance of the money was raised to complete the monument.

The completed monument is 23 feet high. At its apex is a six feet bronze soldier looking out over the graves of the veterans buried in the cemetery. On the marble pedestal are six bronze friezes, 20 bronze stars, and an inscription

dedicating it to the deceased Civil War veterans of the county.

At the final dedication of the monument in 1884, Col. Gilmore, representing the GAR, said he hoped it would last as long as the pyramids of Egypt and that future generations would care for it. A trust was established by the county court for its maintenance. Civil War veterans served as trustees until 1928 at which time there were no longer any able to do so. From that time on, military service veterans have always been appointed as trustees.

Unfortunately, the monument had been allowed to deteriorate - almost beyond restoration.

In November 1997, PCinC David R. Medert was appointed trustee. He made a public plea for donations and raised \$31,000 for a complete renovation. More than half the money came from local veterans organizations, individual veterans, widows of veterans, concerned persons, local businesses, and service clubs. The remainder was provided by the county commissioners.

The township trustees who maintain the cemetery assisted PCinC Medert in every way possible to ensure the completion of this project.

The Sgt. Richard Enderlin Camp, organized by the Medert family, will assist in the care of the monument. It will be rededicated on Memorial Day 1999 to all Ross County veterans and those who have died in the military service of their country.

1st Annual Col. Jacob M. Campbell Civil War Symposium

Col. Jacob M. Campbell Camp 14 and Mary R. Campbell Auxiliary are holding a fundraising event to replace the Civil War Statue in the Johnstown Central Park. The statue had been damaged by two floods and was finally destroyed by vandals.

The event, the first annual Col. Jacob M. Campbell Civil War Symposium will take place Saturday, April 17. The symposium will be held at the University of Pittsburgh in the Johnstown Living & Learning Center, Johnstown, Pa.

Planned daytime events include lectures and discussions by historians, battlefield guides and authors, as well as an art exhibit and sale, a display of original Civil War artifacts, and Civil War demonstrations.

A dinner follows, with a keynote address by Congressman John P. Murtha, and includes a display of unit colors and period entertainment.

Tickets to the symposium and dinner combination are available with a suggested donation of \$30. Tickets to the symposium only are available with a \$5 suggested donation.

All proceeds benefit the replacement of the 54th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Statue in Johnstown's Central Park.

Call (814) 269-4939 or (814) 266-9208 for more information.

Michigan Honors "Real Son"

The Department of Michigan was proud to salute one of its own at the 1998 Jackson Civil War Muster - for several reasons. Jackson resident Thayne Chamberlain LaBanta marked his 94th birthday and observed his 70th anniversary as a member of the SUVCW, having joined the Austin Blair Camp 7, at Jackson on June 19, 1928. He has since served in many local and state level posts of the organization including department commander from 1946 to 1947. These accomplishments would be special enough by themselves but Brother LaBanta also happens to be a *True Son* of a Union veteran of the Civil War - one of so few who are still with us.

Thayne's father, Derick, enlisted at age 18 in Co. F, 76th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The 76th mustered into service August of 1862. The regiment saw most of its action in the many conflicts and maneuvers that happened adjacent to the Mississippi River. This continued on after the surrender of Vicksburg, where the regiment held the far left of the Federal siege lines, "close under the Rebel guns."

In February 1865 the 76th Illinois traveled along the Gulf Coast to Pensacola, Florida. There they joined forces with units that would be part of an expedition to capture the Confederate forts near Mobile, Alabama. On April 9, the 76th Illinois helped capture the entire Rebel garrison at Fort Blakely, their colors being the first over the enemy's works.

The regiment was disbanded at

Chicago August 4, 1865.

After the war, Thayne's father settled into life as a chemist in Chicago, but he lost nearly everything in the "great fire" of 1871. He collected what little survived and set out for New York City. There, he helped form the 12th Regiment of New York National Guard, serving as a lieutenant of Co. D in 1884, and as captain of Co. C in 1885. He rose to command the regiment as colonel in 1887. Derick answered the "call of matrimony" in 1896 and soon-after moved to Jackson, Michigan, where he became very active in the G.A.R. at both post and department levels.

Thayne was born in 1904 - Derick being 60 years old at the time. Before his father passed away at age 82, Thayne had driven him to several veterans' reunions and learned about the Civil War from the eyewitness accounts of the old soldiers themselves.

By special arrangement with the promot-



ers and the host units of the Jackson, Michigan, Civil War Muster (facilitated by PCinC Keith G. Harrison), the following took place on the afternoon of Sunday, August 30, 1998. [Author's note: according to promoters, the annual event attracts 2,000 or more re-enactors, who stage battles before a spectator crowd that numbers over 15,000.]

After Sunday's afternoon battle, the crowd bore witness to a special tribute to Thayne C. LaBanta and the memory of his father.

Thayne was escorted to "center-stage" on the field by Camp 7 Cmdr. William Lowe and Dept. Cmdr. Kent Armstrong. Details about Thayne and his father were then shared over the public-address system by Civil War historian David Finney as two battalions of "tired but true" Union re-enactors marched up. To the applause of the crowd the unit formally saluted both LaBantas.

In addition to this honor, Thayne was presented with a special tribute from the office of Michigan Governor John Engler and a Certificate of Recognition from the Dept. of Mich., SUVCW. Both documents cite Thayne - in observance of his 70th year as a member of the Order - in gratitude for his faithful service in many offices and in recognition of him being a "True Son" of a Union veteran of the Civil War.

94 year old Thayne Chamberlain LaBanta before two battalions of Union re-enactors.

More Real Civil War Sons and Daughters

Here are the names of real sons and daughters not listed in volume 103, number 1 of The Banner.

Charlotte Ayers, NH., DUV member. Father: Charles Dunkel Hammer, 124th Ohio Vols.

Helen Beck, Ind., DUV member. Father: Alexander Hall, 16th Battery, Ind. Light Art'y.

Jennie Benbrook, Calif., DUV member. Father: Joseph Napoleon Bellmard, Kan. Cav.

John Brandon, Iowa, SUV member. Father: John Brandon, Co. A, 6th Wisc.

Emeline A. Convers, Ore., DUV member. Father: Martin Alexander Baker, Co. A, 11th Kan. Vol. Cav.

Olive Cook, Wash., DUV member. Father: James H. Ellison, Co. I, 47th Iowa Vols.

Hobert Duncan, Iowa, member of Grenville M. Dodge Camp 75, Dept. of Iowa. *This is a correction to the December 1998 Banner list.*

Fanny Formhals, Ill., DUV member. Father: W.T. Hawkins, Co. A, 34th Mounted Ohio Inf.

Grace Green, D.C., DUV member. Father: Thomas Marchion, Co. B, 9th Wisc. Vols.

Ruth J. Grubenhoff, Ohio, DUV member. Father: Daniel Diefenderfer, Co. E, 31st Ohio Vols., belonged to G.A.R. Post 192, Varempanis, Ohio.

Mary Pickering Heron, Ontario, Canada, DUV member. Father: Charles Dunkel Hammer, 124th Ohio Vols.

Ethyl Colon Heryford, Calif. Father: Justice Colon, Co. D, 186th N.Y.

Ira E. Hicks, Conn., MOLLUS member. Father: Ira E. Hicks, unit unknown.

Beall H. Hollabaugh, Calif., DUV member. Father: James R. Holstein, Co. G, 11th W.Va. Inf.

Frances J. Huffman, Tenn., a charter member of Mary Ann "Mother" Bickerdyke Tent 6, Tenn. Father: Milton Gadburry, Co. H, 8th Iowa Cav.

Ruth Kies, Ohio. Father: Salem H. Town, Co. C, 75th Ill.

Lillian V. Lamont, Ky., DUV member. Father: Theodore J. Habich, Co. F, 34th Ky. Inf.

Mrs. Douglas MacArthur, N.Y. Daughter-in-law of Medal of Honor recipient Arthur MacArthur, 24th Wisc. Vols.

Julius A. Muth, Ky., SUV member. Father: George E. Muth, Co. G, 41st N.Y.S.V.

Lula G. Nelson, Wash., DUV member. Father: Francis Marion Yeager, Ill. State Vols.

Doris Overson, Minn., DUV member. Father: LaFayette Lyman Wheelock, Co. I, 4th Wisc. Vols.

Alma M. Parker, Wash., DUV member. Father: Tilley Greelief Sanford, Co. E, 2nd Iowa Vols.

Josie Mosley Peters, Okla., DUV member. Father: John E. Mosley, Co. I, 3rd Wis. Cav.

John T. Randon, Iowa, member of Grenville M. Dodge Camp 75, Dept. of Iowa.

Rosella Sciesyinski, Iowa. Father: John Brandon, Co. A, 6th Wisc.

Florence Schaublin, Ohio, DUV member. Father: Samuel M. Fletcher, Co. D, 135th Pa. Vols.

Walter Caden Simpson, N.C., 105 years old Feb. 14, SCV member. Father: Curtis Simpson, Co. H, 55th N.C. Troops.

Rev. Howard Stimmel, Mass. Father: Howard Stimmel, Union Light Guard. This cavalry unit was Lincoln's bodyguard while in Washington, D.C.

Zelma Jane Strader, Kan., DUV member. Father: James Monroe Fulton, Co. F, 28th Ill. Vols.

Lois T. Wait, Colo. Father: Salem H. Town, Co. D, 75th Ill.

Julius C. Ward, N.Y. Father: Julius A. Ward, Co. G, 40th Wisc.

Waldmer Williams, Tenn., a charter member of Farragut Camp 6, Dept. of Tenn. Father: Alexander C. Williams, Bugler, Co. A, 1st Ala. Cav. (U.S.A.).

Real sons of Union veterans are entitled to free life membership in the SUVCW. Copies of their applications must be submitted to PCinC Richard Orr, 153 Connie Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15214. After processing, they will receive their life membership number and card. If a veteran, they are also entitled to a free War Service Medal after the application is filled out and proof of military service is provided.

Information on DUV members provided by Gail Butterfield, 97 High St., S. Paris, ME 04281, National President, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865, Inc.

"Growing" Membership

by JVCinC Alan Peterson

One of the responsibilities of the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief is MEMBERSHIP. Brothers, since I first joined this great organization, I promised to myself that I would make this a better organization and to make it grow. Since my election as your Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, I have been looking at ways to increase our membership. We have tried advertising in newspapers, magazines and now we are on the internet. In addition to the above, my conclusion is that we have to go to the root of the matter and meet people face to face. There is much we can do to increase our membership, but we need assistance of ALL brothers, not only the Jr Vice Commander in the camps and departments, but each of us combined.

A few suggestions to increase membership:

At one time or another, we set up tables, booths etc, at local fairs, festivals, church socials, holiday celebrations and whatever else we have across this great nation. Ask permission to be involved in these events. Be sure to

have sufficient number of applications and brochures on hand. Be sure to put them directly into the hands of those who inquire about the organization. Have a large sign showing who you are, that will get attention. Have items on the tables for "show and tell," i.e. swords, pictures, muskets, letters, wear uniforms or kepi if you have them. Another great place to set up an informational table is at the many reenactments that are held during the year. Have information available as to the projects your camp or department is involved with or what you would like to be involved with for your next project.

Camp Meetings:

Camp meetings should always have a program in place, something that would encourage your members and potential members to attend. Inquire about guest speakers from the local historical/heritage society, there are dozens of people and organizations who would love to be a speaker and would accommodate you. Advertise the dates of the meeting, location and

who the guest speaker will be and what the topic will be. Peek their interest. It is also suggested that Camp meetings are NOT to be held in private homes. It is suggested that your meetings be held in a hall of some kind, such as VFW, American Legion, Church, local library, Elks or any other patriotic or historical group in your community. Remember some people may not feel comfortable in going into someones home for a meeting. When having Camp meetings, encourage all your members to bring a friend to see what goes on. Without a program, your members will not want to attend just to sit around and chat. Your meetings need spark!

Publicity:

Advertise in local newspapers, let people know who we are and that we are alive and well. There are many local publications that you can advertise for no cost. Put the meeting notice in the paper. Take advantage of the free offers. Notify the press each time you have a project or guest speaker. They may not always attend, but if they only attend one time it is better than not attending at all.

Families:

Look around us. We all have brothers, fathers, uncles, cousins, nephews. If we are eligible, so are they. Urge them - encourage them to join with us and preserve the memory of the

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GENERAL ORDERS SERIES 1998-1999

National Headquarters Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Encampment. Since this matter may go to court, I ask all Brothers to maintain an attitude of quiet watchfulness until the matter is settled.

5. The case concerning a contemplated sale of a cannon from a G.A.R. monument in Griswold, IA is in court. All Brothers should feel free to contact the Iowa Department Commander with offers of assistance. While the threat is real and seemingly widespread, most communities and cemeteries by nature do the right thing. Most would not consider dismantling a Civil War monument in which they take community pride. I have instituted a program to award a Certificate of Merit to communities, posts, cemeteries, and persons who do the right thing in protecting and, where necessary, renovating monuments. The first of these certificates goes to PCinC David R. Medert for his leadership in the restoration of the Chillicothe Veterans Monument in that city. I urge all Brothers to advise me of others who have "done the right thing" sending me a brief description of the qualifying action, the complete name of the person or organization and the US Mail address to which it is to be sent. This is our way of saying thanks to good people who show pride in their heritage.

6. I have, at the request of the Rhode Island Department Commander, sent a letter of support to the Rhode Island Historical Society

supporting the department's rightful ownership of G.A.R. and SUV items taken from the Benefit Street Armory. The Rhode Island Department is working diligently to protect the heritage of the SUVCW and deserves the support of the Order.

7. The sale of G.A.R. grave markers has been a long standing matter of concern. I have appointed Brother George Powell as our agent to watch over electronic auctions and to advise persons offering veterans grave markers for sale that in many states they are dealing in stolen materials. Each department and camp should use the media contact information provided earlier by SVCinC Wheeler to publicize our opposition to the resale of G.A.R. grave markers. Brothers aware of proposed sale of grave markers should immediately contact George Powell.

8. The Council of Administration will meet on 13 March 99 beginning at 9 a.m. at Harrisburg, PA. All department commanders and all Past Commanders in Chief are encouraged to attend. Contact the National Secretary for the address of the facility.

By Order of:
Andrew M. Johnson
Commander-in-Chief

Attested:
David Hann
National Secretary

1999 CENTRAL REGION CONFERENCE

Kent Armstrong
Central Region Jr. Vice Commander

ATTENTION — Members/Associates and Auxiliaries of the Departments of Colorado & Wyoming, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, and Wisconsin. You are fraternally invited to attend the next *Central Region Conference*. The Department of Michigan is proud to again take a turn at hosting a "C.R.C." The 1999 date is set for Saturday, October 2, and Lansing, Michigan, is the location. More details regarding program content, time-table, site directions, lodging information, registration fee, and banquet tickets will be shared later. This is being announced now to allow discussion of the topic by the affected department memberships and auxiliaries at your upcoming spring meetings.

The primary reason for choosing Lansing is that this will allow attending delegates to have a first-hand look at the protective storage facility of over 150 surviving, original flags that saw action with Michigan's volunteer regiments between 1861 and 1865. Mrs. Kerry K. Chartkoff, director of the State of Michigan's Civil War Battle-Flag Conservation Program

("SAVE THE FLAGS"), is routinely approached by government officials (and other interested individuals) of other mid-western states, for advice to initiate a similar program in their state. In addition to letting us view some of the actual flags in storage, Mrs. Chartkoff will speak about the overall program and answer questions for the benefit of all attending.

Round trip transportation from the hotel will be provided for delegates to visit the Civil War flags and to tour Michigan's nearby Capitol Building (Cornerstone Ceremony held October 2, 1873), which has undergone a \$58.4 million renovation.

Conference topics, being developed by Bro. Stephen Michaels (Chairman of the *Central Region Conference - Steering & Training Committee*), will be presented in the afternoon, followed by a business meeting conducted by Central Region officers. Mr. David Finney, a noted Civil War historian on the Civil War Round Table circuit, will be the banquet speaker. We look forward to having you join us in Lansing on October 2nd.

Pennsylvania Allied Orders Annual Encampment

The Pennsylvania Dept. of the Allied Orders, including the Sons, Auxiliary to the Sons, Daughters of Union Veterans, and Ladies of the G.A.R., will hold its annual encampment at the Days Inn in Lancaster June 24-27.

All Brothers and Sisters are invited to attend - especially those who have never attended an encampment before.

Lancaster is the center of Amish country, close to Gettysburg, Harrisburg, and Antietam, and many other areas of historical and cultural interest.

Now is the time to attend your first encampment and to take advantage of a great \$60 a night room rate in order to take that special vacation.

For railroad lovers, Amtrak's Pennsylvania Station (Lancaster) is a scant few hundred yards from the hotel. Those arriving by train should call J.D. Jenkins, (717) 627-0809, to arrange free transportation.

Room reservations must be made directly with Days Inn not later than May 27, 1999 in order to receive the special \$60 per night rate.

The Allied Orders banquet will be Saturday evening, June 26, 1999. Advance reserva-

tions for the banquet are required and must be received no later than June 1, 1999.

You are asked to support the encampment by placing an ad in the department program book. These ads allow the department to put on a great encampment at minimal cost to its membership.

The 1999 Encampment Committee is: SUVCW - J.D. Jenkins, Chairman, 59 N. Broad Street, Lititz, PA 17543-1025, (717) 627-0809; Auxiliary to the SUVCW - Peggy Frantz, 1126 Hanover Road, York, PA 17404 -6218, (717) 225-5470; DUVCW - Margaret Frantz; Ladies of the G.A.R. - Elizabeth B. Koch.

Contact a member of the committee if you have any questions concerning the encampment.

*Don't forget to get your
department encampment
dates into The Banner.*

Department Honors Volunteers Buried at Gettysburg

by Kent Armstrong

In addition to taking part in the Remembrance Day Parade and ceremony at Gettysburg on November 21, 1998, the Department of Michigan secured a Special Use Permit from the National Park Service for the placement of a 8 x 12 inch Michigan state flag at each of the 175 graves in the Michigan section of the Gettysburg National Cemetery. Department Commander Kent Armstrong reports that the flags were generously donated by Mr. Richard Micka, Vice President of La-Z-Boy Chair Company. Comdr. Armstrong hopes that placement of the flags will become a tradition.

A continued breeze made the dark blue flags quite a site, attracting the attention of, and several compliments from, visitors to the cemetery. The Park Service also granted permis-



sion for the Michigan delegation to conduct a brief ceremony of respect in the cemetery.

Each year, the Department of Michigan also conducts a wreath-laying ceremony and salute at one of the monuments that honor Michigan's 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 16th, and 24th

Infantry Regiments, as well as Cos. C, I, and K of the 1st U.S. Sharpshooters, Co. B, 2nd U.S.S. (Berdan's Michigan Sharpshooters), the 1st, 5th, 6th and 7th Cavalry Regiments (Michigan Cavalry Brigade) and the 9th Battery ("I"), 1st Michigan Light Artillery.

The Irish Brigade and Saint Patrick's Day

by Douglass R. Knight

It may come as a surprise to most, but the reason why Americans celebrate the traditionally Irish holiday of Saint Patrick's Day is because the Irish Brigade – a group of Irish-American regiments that served together in the Union Army during the Civil War – popularized that holiday.

Organized in February 1862 by Brigadier General Thomas Francis Meagher, with the permission of President Abraham Lincoln, the Irish Brigade served in the Army of the Potomac in the Virginia theater of operations. To encourage fraternal relations between Irish Catholics and white Anglo-Saxon Protestants, General Meagher invited officers of other units of the Union Army to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day with the Irish Brigade. This practice was repeated throughout the war. After the war, when the discharged veterans returned to their respective homes across the north, the practice of celebrating Saint Patrick's Day spread. It has continued to this day – thanks largely to General Meagher and the Irish Brigade.

The Irish Brigade itself was composed of the 63rd, the "Fighting" 69th, and the 88th New York Vols., the 116th Pennsylvania Vols., and the 28th and 29th Massachusetts Vols. Two of the ten companies of the 28th Mass., Cos. G and H, were recruited from Lawrence and Haverhill, respectively. Additionally, two of the

88th N.Y.'s companies were recruited in the Boston area – one of which was commanded by Captain Myles Moylan of Amesbury.

During the course of the Civil War, 150,000 Irish-Americans served in the Union Army – a number which was surpassed only by African-Americans (180,000), and by German-Americans (225,000). Only a very small percentage of the Irish-Americans served together in the Irish Brigade, however. Most men preferred to enlist and serve with their friends and neighbors – regardless of their faith or national origin.

Today, the Sons of Union Veterans continues the tradition of the G.A.R., honoring not only these patriotic Irish-Americans, but all veterans of the Civil War who fought to preserve the Union.

Douglass Knight is Cmdr. of William Tabor Camp 162 (Methuen, Mass.), Dept. of N.H.

WWW.SUVCW.ORG AWARDED
Our national web site been awarded the "Cyber Pards Web Award," for outstanding web design in history related web sites. Kudos to National Web Master and PCnC Keith G. Harrison and to Assistant Web Master Nathan L. Orr.

Memorial Cannon In Peril

by Kent Armstrong

National Civil War Monuments Officer

We have all been watching the situation related to the Civil War Memorial Cannon in Griswold, Iowa. None of us like what has transpired, but I salute Department Commander Brad McGowan and our other Brothers of Iowa who are joining him in doing what they have had to do, to stop the sale of this cannon (from a G.A.R. Memorial). As important as this matter is, it is but the proverbial "tip of an iceberg." The "iceberg," being a growing threat to an important part of our country's historical and cultural heritage.

In the years since the G.A.R. established our nation's observance of Memorial (Decoration) Day, countless communities have traditionally held their annual Memorial Day ceremony near their Civil War Monument. Therefore, these memorials are tied to a community's CULTURAL Heritage, as well as their historical heritage.

Several of these memorials consist of one or more Civil War era cannon, mounted on various forms of a stone or concrete base. Between 1872 and 1916, the U.S. Government donated over 11,000 pieces of obsolete Civil War era ordnance and inert ammunition to local Posts of the G.A.R. and other civic and patriotic

continued on page 21

by Robert E. Grim
National Patriotic Instructor

OUR LINCOLN CENT: 90 YEARS OLD



February 12, 1999 marks the 190th anniversary of the birth of President Abraham Lincoln. Every American knows the name of President Lincoln, and he is probably the best known American outside our country. Not only is his name known by millions of people, but he is one of the most recognizable figures in the history of the World. Our lowly one cent piece has contributed much to the Lincoln recognition factor.

The Lincoln one cent piece (penny) was introduced to Americans in 1909 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth.

In 1909, when Victor David Brenner's image of Abraham Lincoln was selected to replace the Indian Head one cent piece, few could possibly have dreamed of the impact it would have. But the Lincoln penny has given us a constant daily reminder of Lincoln's greatness.

There was no sign of greatness in Abraham Lincoln when he was born in the wilderness near Hodgenville, Kentucky, 190 years ago. In November of 1860, when he was elected to the highest office in the United States, there was no evidence that he would be a giant among our presidents. He was what we call a minority president; having received less than fifty percent of the popular vote. He was constantly vilified by his critics while in office. Yet, his goal of preserving our Union of States has made it possible for us to enjoy a nation today that has no equal in the World.

Lincoln's greatness started to become apparent in 1865 following his tragic death at the hands of an assassin. Over the years, Americans have honored him in numerous ways. Cities, counties, streets, buildings and people have been named in his honor. He has been placed on Mount Rushmore. Everyone is moved by his presence when they enter the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. His image graces our five dollar currency note, but it's the lowly Lincoln penny that appears in the hands of millions of Americans every day to remind us of him.

Lincoln's image has remained on the penny for a longer period than any design placed on any coin in the history of our country. The one cent piece may someday disappear, but it's doubtful that Lincoln's image will ever be removed from it. Just as he secured a nation for us, his place in the nation is secure.

SOS! PRESERVATION AWARDS

by Kent Armstrong

Approximately \$1.4 million in matching grant funds are now available from the folks who administer the Save Outdoor Sculpture! (SOS!) Project, to go toward preservative treatment of outdoor sculptures. The money – a gift from Target Stores and the National Endowment for the Arts – is intended for "artistically and historically significant public outdoor sculpture, including those that are

part of a Civil War memorial or monument."

At least one award will be granted to a deserving sculpture in each state and the District of Columbia. "A panel of professionals from the fields of art, history, public art and conservation" will review applications. In addition to a sculpture being significant either artistically or historically, matching funds will be awarded, "based on the sculpture's: urgency of need for conservation; qualifications of participating conservation professional(s); plan for treatment and ongoing care; applicant's ability to accomplish the project; plans

for public awareness; and involvement of appropriate community groups."

Postmark Deadlines:

March 30 for Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas.

July 30 for Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Washington.

November 30 for Alaska, Idaho, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Hamp-

43rd Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

Thursday, April 15

All members of the Order are invited to participate in a memorial service marking the 134th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's death. The ceremony will be Thursday, April 15 at 11 a.m. at the Lincoln Tomb, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Ill. Ceremony headquarters will be the Lincoln Plaza Hotel and the site of the luncheon following rites at the Tomb. A shuttle bus will provide transportation between the Tomb and the hotel. Timothy Good, National Park Service, will be the principal speaker at the luncheon.

If your dept., camp or auxiliary wishes to take part, indicate so by letter that: (1) you will present a wreath; (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 with full details no later than Saturday, March 20 to: Robert M. Graham, Co-Chairman, Lincoln Tomb Ceremony Committee, 1320 N. Osborne Ave., 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 Saturday, 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 to The Lincoln Tomb, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, by 9 a.m., Thursday, April 15.

shire, New Mexico, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

The deadline for Arizona, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, and Rhode Island passed November 30, 1998.

Open applications will be accepted through July 4, 2000 if funds are available.

For more information and to request an application, telephone Mr. Lars Kokkonen toll free at (888) 767-7285 or write to him at Heritage Preservation, 1730 K Street NW, Suite 566, Washington, DC 20006.



CLARK W. MELLOR, PCinC

Clark W. Mellor, 79, Past Commander in Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, died quietly in his sleep sometime after midnight, January 1, 1999, following a long illness.

He leaves his wife of 55 years, Elizabeth E. (Blond in) Mellor. PCinC Mellor was born in Worcester, son of Edward H. and Alice M.B. (James) Mellor, and was an Army veteran of World War II, serving in Europe.

Brother Mellor was a truck driver many years, retiring in 1986.

He was a member of the SUVCW for more than 50 years, a 52-year member of St. Bernard's Church, and an adviser and council member of Explorer Post 52. He held several local, state and national offices including Commander-in-Chief of the SUVCW in 1988 and Camp Commander of Willie Groat Camp 25 of Worcester. He was also a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 530, in Brookfield and an honorary life member of the WRC of Worcester.



EUGENE E. RUSSELL, PCinC

Gene E. Russell, a lifelong Malden, Massachusetts, resident, passed away early Monday morning, November 9.

He served as Commander in Chief of the SUVCW in 1984-1985, several times as Commander of the Department of Mass., and was Past Commander of Camp 104.

A 43-year chairman of the Malden Republican Committee and the co-founder of the Literacy Society (LIT) of Malden High School, which is now the oldest organization of its kind in the United States. Brother Russell died at The Malden Hospital. He was 92 years old.

Born in Malden, where he lived all of his life, Bro. Russell was educated in Malden schools and was graduated from Malden High School, where he was editor of the Blue and Gold school yearbook and co-founder of the Literacy Society, with John Plummet, which is now the oldest high literary society in the United States. He attended Harvard University in Cambridge for three years, after which, he started his own interior decorating company, which he owned and operated for over 40 years, into the late 1970s.

He was an active member of the Centre United Methodist Church in Malden for over 62 years.

Bro. Russell also served as the Chairman of the Maiden Republican Committee for over 43 years and was a lifelong member of the National Republican Club.

Mr. Russell was the husband of Jennie B. (Oleson) Russell.

*A note from the son of a Son,
to Camp Commander Weinmann*

I'm sorry to tell you that my father, Francis Cook, a proud member of Oliver-Tilden Camp 26, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, passed away last night.

My father spent his last week in Lennox Hill Hospital, Manhattan, for reasons stemming from his long battle with Emphysema of the lungs before finally succumbing to the disease.

Frank was defiant to the very end. His will to live was strong to the last.

At the time of passing, he was surrounded by my mother, sisters, nieces, his siblings and myself.

I know my father was greatly honored to be a part of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and found it to be a source of inspiration and purpose during his time as a member.

Thank you.

*Sincerely,
Will Cook*

FINAL MUSTER

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

William K. Cavender — Millville, New Jersey, Dept. of N.J.

Frank Cook — Sergeant-at-Arms, Oliver Tilden Camp 26, Dept. of N.Y., Jan. 27.

Randy B. Lee — 78, Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21, Dept. of Calif. & Pacific.

James McMaster — Kittanning, Pa., Dept. of Pa.

Gerald Snyder — Joppa, Maryland, Dept. of Md.

Theo Taplin — Dec. 18, Hall Camp, Dept. of Vt.

Son of 60 Years Passes

It is with very great sorrow that the death last summer of Brother Randy B. Lee is reported. Brother Lee was born in 1920 in Harrisville, Rhode Island. While a teenager, he joined the SUVCW and SVR and in his later years related to Brothers of the SUVCW his recollections of marching in Memorial Day and 4th of July parades in Pawtucket, R.I., alongside veterans of the G.A.R. He moved to California in the early 1950s and became a member at large, until August 1995 when he became a charter member of Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21, Dept. of California & Pacific. Brother Lee delighted in attending camp meetings and was generous in both his support of the Camp and in his friendship to all. He truly was the noble son of a noble sire who had served the cause of the Union as an officer of the Rhode Island militia.

Brother Lee was a member of the SUVCW for some 60 years! He was a dear man and much beloved by the members of Camp 21.



PCinC Joe Rippey in 1963

Joseph S. Rippey celebrates 50 Years with the SUVCW

Congratulations to Brother Joe Rippey, of Abraham Lincoln Camp 6, Dept. of N.Y., who celebrates his 50th year with the SUVCW, having joined in 1948.

Joseph Rippey was born in Rochester, N.Y., and has served the SUVCW in many capacities over the years. In addition to his current position as Camp Secretary, he served as Department Commander from 1959-1960 and as National Commander-in-Chief from 1963-1965, making him one of the few Commanders-in-Chief to serve two terms.

Joe Rippey, a respected attorney, has the honor and

distinction of having argued nine cases before the United States Supreme Court. All nine cases resulted in rulings in his favor.

Brother Rippey served as a Lt. Commander in the U.S. Navy during WWII, and claims his right to SUVCW membership through his ancestors, John Smith of the 69th Penn. Vol. Inf. and Bernard Smith of the 54th N.Y. Vol. Inf.

May we all live up to Brother Rippey's example of dedication to the ideals of the SUVCW, and may he continue to serve the Order for another 50 years!

continued from page 6

"Growing" Membership

G.A.R. Let us not forget the females, who can join the Auxiliary.

Programs in the Community:

Look into the Adopt-a-Highway program, it advertising for us and helps keep the good name out there.

Become involved in the Eagle Scout Certificate program. We have beautiful certificates to present to Boy Scouts who attain the rank of Eagle Scout. Contact your local Boy Scout troop and/or your local Boy Scout headquarters to see how you can be involved in these presentations. You will be welcomed with open arms. Certificates can be obtained from the National Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator.

Buy a sign that indicates camp meetings are held in your town. (Department of Wisconsin has them available)

Other Methods:

Be sure to carry applications with you at all times in the event someone ask you about the organization, having an application in your possession will impress the person inquiring.

In Conclusion:

The name of the game is MEMBERSHIP, if we do not have members we cannot carry out what we are supposed to do. Lets not let our ancestors down, we owe it to them. I urge and encourage ALL brothers to make an all out effort in recruiting and retaining members for the "Good of the Order."

Send me your experiences, suggestions and ideas on how to reach new members. What has worked for your camp or department – and what has not?

I am available to any/all brothers who would like to discuss the issue of membership at greater length. Lets go into the next millennium with a big surge in members. The more members we have, the more we can accomplish.

Brother Schlenker's Progress

On February 19, The Banner office received this welcomed letter from Brother Richard Schlenker, PCinC, Rockville, Md.

Dear Friends,

The concerns and prayers you offered during my recent illness are greatly appreciated. The many cards you sent – sacred, secular and humorous – were uplifting.

On Monday, November 30, I suffered a very severe heart attack and was stabilized at Montgomery General Hospital.

On Friday, I was transferred to Washington Adventist Hospital Heart Care Center where an angiogram revealed a major artery blockage.

On Monday, December 7, renowned heart surgeon Fayaz Shawl performed two antiplasty probes and placed a stent in my left anterior descending artery. On Monday, December 14, he did two more angioplastys.

Now, after six weeks, I am most happy to be at home. I am able to be about and can take care of myself quite well. My children are quite attentive and have been an inspiration to me.

I anticipate a good recovery under the watchful eyes of visiting nurse, doctor and family. I guess I had better be on my best behavior.

Richard

Graves Registration

*Leo F. Kennedy
National Graves Registration Officer*

The article in the last Banner about the Graves Registration Project seems to have been well received. Many camps and individuals have written for information on the project and to get copies of the Grave Registration Form. Requests have come equally from e-mail and through the Postal Service. We have tried to answer the letters and get the forms out as fast as possible. As many individuals have written as have camps. Some camps are now working on the replacement of grave stones, implementing the Grave Registration Project and recording data.

Two camps alone have recorded over 500 records. William Jenkins Camp 129 (Dept. of Mass.) and Col. Augustus Van Horne Ellis Camp 124 (Dept. of N.Y.) have recorded the final resting places of the Union men buried in their areas. Add several thousand through the work of Gettysburg Camp 112 (Dept. of Pa.) and Graves Registration Committee member Charles Sharrock and we can see how important that everyone is to the project.

Many departments are very active in the project, allowing us to get to where we are right now. As more members become active, camps and departments are reporting that they will be sending in more records soon and we look forward to getting them.

I ask that all current department Graves Registration Officers contact me and provide their name, address, phone number, department, and e-mail address – even if we have been in touch in the past.

The National Graves Registration Form is available to download from our website at <http://suvvcw.org/graves/graves.htm>

GRAVES REGISTERED AS OF JAN. 25 36,092

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1999 National Encampment

Thursday, August 19 through Sunday, August 22, 1999 • Indianapolis, Indiana

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War 118th Encampment
Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veteran of the Civil War 113th Encampment
Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic 112th Encampment

Adams Mark Hotel

2544 Executive Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46241

(317) 248-2481

Fax: (317) 381-6170

HOTEL REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JULY 22, 1999

The room rate is \$83.00 plus tax per night

This is the same hotel we had in 1991

Just across Interstate 465 from the Indianapolis Airport

WE ARE ALL INTERESTED IN HISTORY

WE ARE ALL INTERESTED IN THE HISTORY OF THE
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

BECOME PART OF HISTORY

ATTEND THIS SPECIAL ONE-TIME EVENT

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

It was August 1949 when the G.A.R. held its last National Encampment in Indianapolis. The hotel they were at is gone, but the site of their last campfire has been fully restored to its original splendor. Just three blocks from the Soldiers and Sailors Monument downtown, it was, and still is, called the "Indiana Roof Ballroom."

On Thursday, August 19, 1999 we will have a parade and banquet in memory of, and to the honor of, the Grand Army of the Republic. The banquet will be at the same ballroom.

We guarantee you will not be disappointed in the parade, the ballroom or the entertainment.

All members of all the Allied Orders are invited to attend and participate in the parade and the ban-

quet. Preregistration is required for the parade and for the banquet. Banquet facility limited to the first 1200 registered. There is a \$5 per person registration fee for the parade for which the participants will receive a special commemorative medal. There is a banquet charge of \$30 per person. All parade and banquet registrations must be in by July 22, 1999.

Note: This banquet is separate from the Saturday Encampment banquet.

E-mail inquires to: capted@crown.net

Send registration to:

1999 Encampment Committee

P.O. Box 65

Valparaiso, IN 46385

Indianapolis Area Map Hotel Location



Adams Mark Hotel
2544 Executive Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46241
(317) 248-2481
Fax: (317) 381-6170

**HOTEL
REGISTRATION
DEADLINE IS
JULY 22, 1999**

1999 Encampment Preregistration Form

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE _____
DEPARTMENT _____
CAMP NAME _____ NUMBER _____

CURRENT OR HIGHEST PAST OFFICE:

(check only one)

- Past Commander-in-Chief
- Department Commander
- Past Department Commander
- Delegate Alternate

Complete this form and send it with check or money order (no cash) for \$7.00 made out to National Organization, SUVCW and send it to:

1999 Encampment Committee
P.O. Box 65
Valparaiso, IN 46384-0065

Official National Encampment Program Book

Show your support of the 1999 National Encampment by purchasing an ad in the official encampment program book.

Express pride in your Civil War ancestor, your department or camp. Congratulate the Commander in Chief and the National Presidents or send greetings to the Allied Orders of this National Encampment.

Full page ad is \$30; half page, \$20; quarter page, \$10; and eighth page, \$7.

Make check or money order payable to:
D.D. Porter Camp 116, SUVCW

Send ads for the program book to:
1999 Encampment Committee
P.O. Box 65
Valparaiso, IN 46384-0065

National Organization Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Member Data Form

DATE _____

NAME _____
FIRST INITIAL LAST

CAMP NAME AND NUMBER DEPARTMENT

CAMP-AT-LARGE NAME AND NUMBER STATE

LINEAL _____ ASSOCIATE _____ LIFE MEMBER _____
Y OR N

MEMBER-AT-LARGE _____
NATIONAL DEPARTMENT

RETIRED _____ OCCUPATION _____
Y OR N

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN HOLDING OFFICES AT THE DEPARTMENT LEVEL? _____
Y OR N

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN HOLDING OFFICES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL? _____
Y OR N

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN WORKING ON COMMITTEES AT THE DEPARTMENT OR NATIONAL LEVEL? _____ IF YES, STATE YOUR CHOICE _____
Y OR N (COMMITTEES LISTED ON REVERSE SIDE)

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BLOCKS IF YOU HAVE A WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF ANY OF THE LISTED FIELDS.

COMPUTERS _____ JOURNALISM _____ GENEALOGY _____ BANKING _____

SECRETARIAL _____ ACCOUNTING _____ BOOKKEEPING _____ AUDITING _____

LEGAL TRAINING _____ RESEARCH _____ PUBLIC RELATIONS _____

DATA PROCESSING _____ OTHER FIELDS _____

COMMENTS: _____

INSTRUCTIONS

The object of this form is to ascertain what talent we have in our membership and to what extent individuals within the Order wish to participate.

We are always in search of persons to fill offices, committees and appointed positions within the Order at both the Department and National level.

It need only to be made out by persons desiring to serve in a listed capacity.

It should be made out in three copies: One copy to remain with the camp, one copy to remain at Department level with the Department Secretary, and one copy to be retained by the National Secretary.

The National copy can be forwarded along with the Department copy and the Department Secretary can forward it on to National.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES

These committees are listed under each individual Department's Bylaws.

NATIONAL STANDING COMMITTEES

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Constitution and Regulations | 7. Remembrance Day |
| 2. Legislation | 8. Fraternal Relations |
| 3. Military Affairs | 9. Encampment Site |
| 4. Membership | 10. History |
| 5. Americanization and Education | 11. Graves Registration |
| 6. Lincoln Tomb Observance | |

The Program and Policy Committee is chaired by the Senior Vice Commander in Chief.

The Membership Committee is chaired by the Junior Vice Commander in Chief and the members consist of all Department Junior Vice Commanders.

All standing committees shall consist of five members with the exception of the Membership Committee and the Encampment Site Committee. The Encampment Site Committee shall consist of three members.

Special Committees can be created by the National Encampment and the number and nature of these committees will be governed by their action.

Funds Help Cover Costs

Your contributions to these various funds help financially support the missions of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Clip and mail this form.

My contribution is submitted for the fund(s) checked below: In the amount of:

HONOR ROLL – Donations to the permanent fund in memory of a Union Veteran or departed Brother. \$ _____
 Unit: _____ Name: _____

G.A.R. MEMORIAL FUND \$ _____
 Our 501c(3) charitable activities fund. Donations are tax deductible

NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR'S FUND \$ _____
 Money raised by the National Patriotic Instructor for the G.A.R. Memorial Fund

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S FUND \$ _____
 Money donated for the promotion of the Order, i.e. membership advertising

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS FUND \$ _____
 Fund established for the operation of a permanent national headquarters.

PERMANENT FUND \$ _____
 Restricted fund where only the interest may be used for operation of the Order

GENERAL FUND – General operating fund \$ _____

Submitted By: _____
 NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Mail To:
 Hon. James Pahl
 National Treasurer
 445 W. Maple St.
 Mason, MI 48854-1519

Available from the National Quartermaster



No. 352 Membership Badge



No. 353 Associate Badge
 Solid Blue Ribbon



No. 361 War Medal
 Requires application. Shown with additional Vietnam Action Service Bar, WWII, Korean and Persian Gulf bars also available.

PULL OUT THIS SECTION AND CUT ALONG HERE

PULL-OUT SECTION

1999 G.A.R. COMMEMORATION BANQUET

INDIANA ROOF BALLROOM
140 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, Ind.
Thursday, August 19, 1999

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/ZIP code: _____
Phone number and/or e-mail address: _____
Organization represented: _____

There is a \$30 (thirty dollar) per person banquet fee for this unforgettable, once-in-a-lifetime experience. _____
Number of persons X \$30 = total enclosed

Make checks payable to: D.D. Porter Camp 116, SUVCW
Return this form to: 1999 Parade Committee, P.O. Box 65, Valparaiso, IN 46384-0065

1999 G.A.R. COMMEMORATION PARADE APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION

Thursday, August 19, 1999 • Indianapolis, Indiana

Name of organization: _____
Name of contact person: _____
Address: _____
City/State/ZIP code: _____
Phone number and or e-mail address: _____
Type of organization (purpose): _____

Description of display for parade (flags, walking, marching unit, vehicles, etc.). Note: Motor vehicles may not be allowed in the parade if they do not have a purpose consistent with the purpose of the parade.

Number of participants _____ X \$5 fee = total enclosed: _____

There is a \$5 per person registration fee for the parade. Each person who pre-registers and participates in the parade will receive a special commemorative medal and ribbon.

Make checks payable to: D.D. Porter Camp 116, SUVCW

I am a member of above organization and represent the organization for the purpose of this parade application. I attest that the above information is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of contact person: _____

Return this form to: 1999 Parade Committee, P.O. Box 65, Valparaiso, IN 46384-0065



GUIDON

SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE

From the Commanding Officer

SVR Brigadier General David V. Medert, Commanding

It is hard to believe that yet another year has gone by. It seems like time goes more quickly with each year. During this past year, the SVR welcomed units from Tennessee, Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky, and California. We are looking forward to new units from Michigan, Florida and Oregon during the upcoming year. This growth is a direct result of our members actively promoting the SVR and encouraging SUVCW members to form units. Thank you for all your efforts.

At the National Encampment in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania last August, the Commandery-In-Chief approved the new SVR medal and Article X of the SVR SOP. The medal is strictly for members of the SVR and may be worn in civilian clothes as well as on the uniform. The medal may be purchased from the SUVCW Quartermaster for \$10.

Article X of the SVR SOP has been rewritten to reflect this medal and other changes regarding awards and decorations. This Article addresses requirements for the Meritorious Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Letters of Recognition and Commanding Officer Unit Citation. If your unit does not have the updated SOP, please contact your District Adjutant General for a copy.

Also while at the National Encampment, the General Staff approved spending \$800.00 for the purchase of Military District Flags for the respective Military Districts. We felt the

Military Districts should have their own colors, much like the various SUVCW Departments, while attending SVR and SUVCW events. The flags measure 4' by 5', are white with red border and have the SVR logo in the upper left hand corner in red. The center has the Roman numeral denoting the respective Military District with "Military District" scrolled above and below the number. The flags were finished for Remembrance Day and several of them marched in the Remembrance Day parade. The final purchase came to \$410.03. Hopefully we will see all the District Flags in the upcoming parade for the 1999 National Encampment in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Speaking of the National Encampment, I hope everyone has made arrangements to attend the 1999 National Encampment. This encampment will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the last GAR encampment. A special medal has been struck for the encampment and also for participants in the parade. The parade is Thursday evening, 19 August 1999, at 5:30 p.m. and will proceed through downtown Indianapolis. The SVR is helping put the parade on and would like to solicit everyone's help. If you know of SVR units and reenactment units, whether they are north or south, invite them to attend. Registration for the parade is \$5.00 per person which covers the cost of the medal. Registration forms will be mailed to your unit Headquarters along with more information. If you

are interested in helping with the parade, please let me know.

I want to congratulate the Gettysburg Blues for receiving the first Commanding Officer, SVR Unit Citation. The "Blues" have been very active in promoting the SUVCW and the SVR during the past year. They have lead many units and parades as the Color Guard Unit and were also the Provost Unit for the 1998 National Encampment. They are an excellent unit and well deserving of this award.

Private Ken Richmond, SVR, has taken on the task of Banner Publisher. Brother Glenn Knight had to step down as publisher for personal requirements. Brother Glenn did a fine job as publisher and I wish to thank him for all the help he has provided the SVR.

Ken has been a member of the SVR for two years now and is trying to form a unit in the far west for us. He is very much attuned to SUVCW and SVR events and will serve both Orders professionally as publisher. Welcome aboard, Ken.

Speaking of articles, everyone is reminded to forward articles to your District Headquarters for submission. The District Headquarters will forward their articles to Captain Glen Zook, Public Information Officer, SVR, for compilation and then forwarding to Ken. If you have pictures to submit, please forward them as well. All articles must be submitted by the National PIO to the Banner Publisher. Direct forwarding of articles to Ken will result in the article not being published.

I am looking forward to a great year in 1999.

SVR GENERAL ORDERS

GENERAL ORDER 1998-11

Nov. 8, 1998

1. Effective 7 November 1998 Corporal Donald E. Darby is commissioned CAPTAIN, SVR.
2. Effective 7 November 1998 Captain Donald E. Darby is appointed Adjutant 3rd Military District SVR.
3. This appointment will expire on 28 July 2000 unless the same shall otherwise be lawfully determined void and annulled.

David V. Medert
Brigadier General, SVR
Commanding

Robert E. Grim
Lt. Colonel, SVR
Adjutant General

GENERAL ORDER 1998-12

Nov. 14, 1998

1. Effective 15 October 1998 Second Lieutenant John A. Price II is commissioned a First Lieutenant, SVR, having been re-elected Commander of the Gettysburg Blues in the Second Military District.

2. This commission will expire on 14 October 2001 unless the same shall otherwise be lawfully determined void and annulled.

David V. Medert
Brigadier General, SVR
Commanding

Robert E. Grim
Lt. Colonel, SVR
Adjutant General

GENERAL ORDER 1998-13

Nov. 14, 1998

1. Effective 15 October 1998 Corporal Charles E. Khun Jr. is commissioned a Second Lieutenant, SVR.
2. This commission will expire on 14 October 2001 unless the same shall otherwise be lawfully determined void and annulled.

David V. Medert
Brigadier General, SVR
Commanding

Robert E. Grim
Lt. Colonel, SVR
Adjutant General

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From the Adjutant General

SVR Lt. Colonel Robert E. Grim, Adjutant General

As your new SVR Adjutant General I would like to remind all unit commanders and adjutants that the following SVR reports should be filed by February 15, 1999 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, 1999.

Please note these reports should not be sent to the name and address on the form, but to Lt. Colonel Robert E. Grim, SVR Adjutant General, 5367 State Rt. 72 S., Sabina, Ohio 45169-9425.

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

Our regulations allow the issuance of certain awards and decorations. Among them are the Meritorious Service Medal and an SVR Unit Citation. The following awards were presented by Brig. General David V. Medert during the annual SVR breakfast at Gettysburg November 21, 1998.

Meritorious Service Medal — Awarded to those SVR members who demonstrate outstanding meritorious service specifically on behalf of the SVR. It may also be awarded to those members who recruit a minimum of ten (10) new members into the SVR in a calendar year.

Three Meritorious Service Medals were awarded by Brig. General David V. Medert.

Colonel Ernst Von Frankenberg of the Fourth Military District received the Meritorious Service Medal, and the citation with his medal reads, "For exceptionally meritorious

service and sustained outstanding performance of duty while a member of the Sons of Veterans Reserve since 1962. From 1958 to 1966, while serving as an Associate Member of the Wisconsin Civil War Centennial Commission, you devoted many extra hours in order to ensure the memory of our ancestors was not forgotten. As Commander, 4th Military District SVR, 1963-1996, you formed 5 SVR units, equipping one with your own personal artillery pieces. Through your leadership, members of your command are given the opportunity to promote and excel in their endeavors which clearly displays the genuine concern you have in maintaining Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. Your outstanding professionalism, superb leadership, attention to detail and personal pride make you a most noteworthy representative of the Sons of Veterans Reserve."

Captain John A. Price in the Second Military District received the Meritorious Service Medal and his citation reads, "For exceptionally meritorious service and sustained outstanding performance of duty while serving as Provost Marshal for the 117th National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania August 6-9, 1998. Your professional demeanor and tireless effort added a strong level of dignity to all the affairs of the National Encampment. Your willingness to aid the Commander in Chief, SUVCW and the Commanding Officer, SVR clearly demonstrates your devotion to our Order and to the principles by which we were founded. Your efforts are most commended."

Captain Joseph Puciarelli of the Second Military District received the Meritorious Service Medal. His citation reads, "For exceptional meritorious service in establishing Company 1, 83rd New York Volunteers through recruiting new members and transferring members from other units, for a total of 30 members. Your

continued willingness to devote extra hours on behalf of the Sons of Veterans Reserve 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. Your outstanding professionalism, superb leadership, and personal pride make you a most noteworthy representative of the Sons of Veterans Reserve. You may be justly proud of your contributions."

Commanding Officer's Unit Citation — Awarded to those units for exceptionally meritorious service in promoting the goals and objectives of the SVR and SUVCW which clearly sets the unit above and apart from similar units. The SVR Unit Citation is a ribbon which is worn over the right breast of the wearer. Subsequent awards to the same unit will be awarded a Bronze Star for Placement on the ribbon.

This award was presented to the Gettysburg Blues in the Second Military District. The citation reads, "For consistently cultivating the principles of the Sons of Veterans Reserve and promoting patriotism through their efforts. When called upon, the Gettysburg Blues has always risen to the request to serve the needs of the SVR and the SUVCW. They have been in the forefront of many of the past year's activities such as national Color Guard for the 117th National Encampment, Lincoln Day ceremony in Washington D.C., Memorial Day ceremony in Arlington Cemetery, the SVR Breakfast and awards ceremony in Gettysburg and Harrisburg to name but a few. Their professional demeanor and strong commitment to the principles by which our Order was founded clearly distinguishes the Gettysburg Blues as a loyal representative of the Sons of Veterans Reserve. You may be justly proud of this award."

Membership Badge — The new SVR Membership Badge is available for \$10.00 plus \$3.00 for mailing and handling from PCinC Elmer F. Atkinson, Col. SVR, National Quartermaster, 1016 Gorman St., Philadelphia, PA 16116-3719.

News from the Field

First Military District

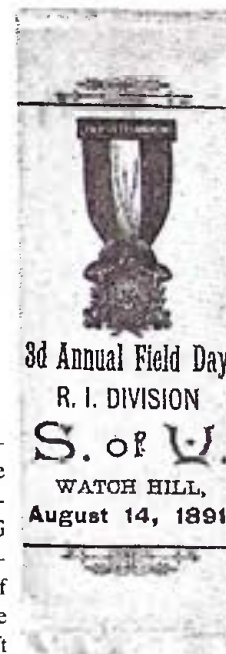
In June just prior to school closing, Co. I 6th Massachusetts Infantry and the 1st District staff were asked to give a presentation to a seventh grade class at the Nathan Bishop School in Providence, R.I. We were able to muster up four SVR members and set up a small encampment on the lawn. The class consisted of 25 children who sat down on the grass and were told stories about the Civil War. We answered questions about the conflict and that period of time. They were then given demonstrations of our equipment and allowed to participate in military drill. All of these boys and girls were from various South and Central American countries, the Azores, the Cape Verde Islands and Liberia. The unique thing about this class is that prior to entering the seventh grade not a one could speak any English. Yet they had learned enough in that school year to fully understand us with a little help from their teacher. Participating were Major Wheeler and SGM Lufkin from the First Military District staff, Privates Roy Henry and Benjamin Emerick from Company I.

September 12th marked the re-dedication for the Civil War monument in Uxbridge, Mass. A.A. Sherman Camp 18 had worked for several years raising money to repair damage to the monument. With help from the Massachusetts Department they succeeded in the restoration prior to the 100th anniversary of the original dedication on September 14, 1898. Private Benjamin Emerick (Co. I, 6th Mass.), Camp 18 commander, hosted the event while Corporal Frederick Cauldwell Jr. (Co. I and Dept. of Mass. Cmdr.), gave the history of the monument to the large audience. Lt. Peter Rotando, commander of Co. I, gave the benediction. Wreaths were laid by Pvt. Roy Henry, Pvt. Robert Knight, Major Norman Wheeler and Mass. Auxiliary President Cynthia Brown. Also participating were Sgt. Maj. Richard Lufkin, Sgt. Alan Peterson (JVCinC), and Privates Robert Burbank, Leslie Covey, Wendall Presbrey Jr., James Gass, Thomas Penland, and Tim Woodward.

Third Military District

The Third Military District is pleased to announce that Howard T. Frost has been appointed as Commander of the District with the rank of Major and Donald E. Darby was raised to the position of District Adjutant with the rank

SVR HISTORY



The Sons of Veterans Reserve of today has its roots in the very beginning of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. In 1881, at least three different factions of Sons existed, but a common thread running through all was the belief that a military trained citizenry was the best defence for our country. During 1884 & 1885 consolidation of the various factions took place merging into the Sons of Veterans of the United States of America. Robert Beath, Past Commander in Chief of the GAR, writing the History of the Grand Army of the Republic in 1888 says most camps consisted of 50 to 60 men commanded by an elected captain, first lieutenant and second lieutenant. The captain then appointed a staff of various sergeants and a Corporal of the Guard. Camps were organized in strict company formations with each officer discharging his duties in the same manner and form he would were he regularly enlisted. The uniform consisted of a 4 or 5 button blue sack coat with dark blue pants matching the US Army regulations of the 1880-90s. The buttons were either "SV" or full coat of arms of the Filii Veteranoreum. Brass belt buckles matched the buttons. The War Department supplied surplus 45-70 Springfield or Krag rifles.

The Division (now known as a Department) was commanded by a colonel and corresponded with a regiment. Divisions might well number 5000 to 8000 members. Most members were fully uniformed and many armed. Regular Field Days were held (similar to National Guard summer camp today. Photo of 1891 Field Day Ribbon attached). Competitions amongst the camps/companies were strong. Ratings were given after inspection with regard to uniforming, tentage and marksmanship.

On our tenth anniversary (1891), the glamor of military parades was slightly tarnished. A separate organization known as the Sons of Veterans Guards (the SVG) was formed. Those who wanted the discipline of the military joined and in many Divisions resulted in increased membership. Unfortunately, some officers saw their own importance as greater than

their sponsoring Order. A separate Commandant commanded the SVG and our Commander in Chief commanded the Sons. The SVG left our Order in 1893-94 and fell into disfavor. A future article will examine this long forgotten group within the Sons.

The Sons of Veterans maintained military training but within the Order. The Spanish Army War did see numerous members enlist in the War. Six Indiana companies (Camps) were federalized, but this was a very short war and many members never had the chance to be called to service. These returning veterans formed their own Order, the United Spanish American War Veterans. Their local chapters were, of course, called Camps.

In 1903 the Sons again organized a military presence known as the Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR). The Commander in Chief's Chief of Staff was appointed the Commanding Officer. General Edwin Amies of Pennsylvania held this position for a number of years. Over 6000 men enlisted in the SVR prior to World War I. Quoting the Adjutant General's report in 1914, "There are good Camps without Reserve Companies, but most of them would be better Camps if they had Companies. The Reserve is not the universal panacea for the ills of our Order, but it is, more than any other feature, a potent instrument for the upbuilding of the Camp. It attracts the younger element of eligibles. It enables you to render the last honors to Veterans properly. It keeps the Order before the eyes of the public. Therefore, it justifies, in the highest degree, the only really valid reason we can offer for our existence... 'To keep alive the memory of the services and sacrifices of our fathers.'" Eighty five years later we can still proudly make this same claim.

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SVR GENERAL ORDERS

GENERAL ORDER 1998-14

Dec. 30, 1998

- Effective 10 November 1998 Second Lieutenant Ralph Prince is commissioned a Captain, SVR, having been elected Commander Company C, 28th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry in the Second Military District.
- This commission will expire on 9 November 2001 unless the same shall otherwise be lawfully determined void and annulled.

David V. Medert
Brigadier General, SVR
Commanding

Robert E. Grim
Lt. Colonel, SVR
Adjutant General

GENERAL ORDER 1998-15

Dec. 30, 1998

- Effective 10 November 1998 Corporal Michael Belgie Sr. is commissioned a First Lieutenant, SVR, Company C, 28th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry in the Second Military District.
- This commission will expire on 9 November 2001 unless the same shall otherwise be lawfully determined void and annulled.

David V. Medert
Brigadier General, SVR
Commanding

Robert E. Grim
Lt. Colonel, SVR
Adjutant General



Lone Star Camp 1 (Dallas/Forth Worth) and the Daughters of Union Veterans Tent 1 dedicated an additional 10 markers recently placed on the graves of Union veterans in Greenwood Cemetery in Dallas. The 1st Lone Star Infantry (Union), the Sons of Veterans Reserve unit for the State of Texas, assisted in the ceremonies.

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News from the Field

of Captain. This was due to the promotion of Robert E. Grim to Lieutenant Colonel as Adjutant General of the SVR.

In November, in observance of the 135th anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, a group of about 25 educators from the Miami Trace Local School District in Fayette County went on a tour of the Ohio Capitol which has been restored to the Civil War era. Unlike most tourist, they were greeted by both the Governor of Ohio and the President of the United States-- that is, the Civil War Governor of Ohio William Dennison and Civil War President Abraham Lincoln.

The Miami Trace Education Association arranged the state house visit with the assistance of State Representative Dennis Stapleton. President Lincoln stopped at the newly opened Ohio State House as he journeyed to Washington D.C. in 1861 to be inaugurated as the 16th President of the United States. He was introduced by Ohio Governor William Dennison and gave a brief speech to a joint session of the Ohio General Assembly in the House of Representatives chamber. While waiting to give the speech he visited with Governor Dennison in the Governor's office at the state house.

President Lincoln (portrayed by Fred Priebe a school teacher from Belleville, Michigan) gave his 1861 speech again in the House of Representatives with Miami Trace educators as his audience.

President Lincoln again visited with Governor Dennison (portrayed by Robert W. Davis a retired Columbus police officer from Canal Winchester, Ohio). This time the visit took place in the office of Governor George Voinoich with the educators watching. The Governor's office is not on the itinerary of the normal tourist to the state house.

Governor Dennison, a co-founder of the Ohio Republican Party, became a good friend of President Lincoln and was at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania on Nov. 19, 1863 when Lincoln

gave his now famous Gettysburg Address, even though Gov. Dennison was no longer in office having been defeated in his bid for re-election.

The funeral train returning President Lincoln's body to Springfield, Illinois, in 1865 stopped in Columbus and his body lay in state in the rotunda of the capitol. An estimated fifty thousand people viewed his open casket.

Following their tour the educators enjoyed a "tea" with President Lincoln and Governor Dennison in one of the reception rooms. Mary Lincoln (portrayed by Bonnie Priebe) and Governor Dennison's wife (portrayed by Anita Davis) also participated in the tour.

Members of Company C, 20th Ohio Volunteer Infantry provided a military escort for President Lincoln and Governor Dennison. They also entered a float in the annual Christmas holiday parade in Washington Court House, Ohio. The float depicted a Civil War military camp site complete with tent and cannon.

Fourth Military District

The Sons of Veterans Reserve's 4th Military District was well represented at the 8th Annual Civil War Weekend at Wisconsin's Wade House Historic Site near Greenbush. On September 26 and 27, nearly half the district's personnel participated in a re-enactment of Wisconsin's famed Iron Brigade's courageous stand against Lee's Army along McPherson's Woods during the Battle of Gettysburg.

Members of Cushing's Battery and Battery B provided artillery support during each day's battle. Members of the Headquarters Company found service in various artillery, cavalry and infantry units as well as manning a recruiting and fund-raising booth at the event's information tent.

The 4th Military District encompasses the states of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin.

With almost 2,000 partici-

pants, the Wade House Civil War Weekend is the largest re-enactment in the state and one of the largest in the Midwest. The event takes place on 280 wooded acres in eastern Wisconsin.

Fifth Military District

On Saturday, November 7, members of the 1st Lone Star Infantry (Union) participated as Edward Lea Camp 2 hosted a rededication of the Winfield Scott Hancock Post 2, Grand Army of the Republic, cemetery plot at Lakeview Cemetery, Galveston, Texas.

On Sunday, October 25, 1998, Lone Star Camp 1 (Dallas/Forth Worth) and the Daughters of Union Veterans Tent 1 dedicated an additional 10 markers recently placed on the graves of Union veterans in Greenwood Cemetery in Dallas. The 1st Lone Star Infantry (Union), the SVR unit for the State of Texas, also assisted in the ceremonies.

On Sunday, 17 January, Lone Star Infantry (Union) participated in an observance of Texas Confederate Heroes Day, sponsored by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, at Heath Cemetery in Heath, Texas.

1st Lone Star Infantry (Union), Texas, 5th Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve



DEPARTMENT NEWS

Florida

Veterans Day, Nov. 11, in West Palm Beach was a huge success. It was the first Veterans Day parade there in 50 years and it is hoped it will continue well into the future. In all, 16 people participated under the Sons of Union Veterans banner. Not all were Brothers. Friends and veterans were also invited to march in the ranks of the SUVCW. A flag bedecked parade vehicle, driven by Donna Smith, towed an equally impressive 16 foot float. Leading the marchers were Dept. Cmdr. Leland Smith and PDC Ron Bair.

A color guard followed, consisting of Wesly Smith in WWII uniform, friend Wayne Miller in navy uniform and carrying the national flag, Brother Brice Scalley with camp flag, and friend Ivan Cruz, in Civil War uniform. Also marching were member Richard Tilford, friend Kathy Clark in Civil War era civilian clothing, re-enactor Michael Ciausen, and two men that wanted to march with us. A suitable Civil War uniform was found for one, while the other was outfitted in Gulf War camouflage uniform.

On the float were member Bill Shukis dressed as a minister. Civil War attire complimented Shukis' wife, Joanne, as well as MaryAnn DeLaurier and nine year old Nikki Lynn Miller. The float featured a cemetery setting with crosses, flags, and flowers, and banners saying "Remembering All Veterans."

Cmdr. Smith stated, "This is the biggest public event . . . we have taken part in as a camp since becoming organized in 1996." He ex-

presses his thanks to all who participated in this event, and to those who have participated in other events throughout the year.

Illinois

Gen. George A. Custer Camp 1, Chicago, recently conducted its election and installation of officers for 1998-99. Brother Dennis Kelly, Department Commander, performed the ceremony and initiated the camp's two newest members. The program was well attended and the evening was very enjoyable.

Afterward, Commander Kelly spelled out the general goals and program of the camp for the coming year. Meeting nights, activities, and projects were selected and committees formed.

Currently, the camp's membership stands at fifty-one. Camp 1 is the department's oldest camp. They were reactivated nine years ago and have since been very active in monument restoration projects, Memorial Day ceremonials, educational presentations and veterans home support programs.

The camp received the honored Abraham Lincoln Commander in Chief Outstanding Camp Award for 1993-1994.

West Palm Beach, Fla. - Sons of the Dept. of Fla. participate in the first Veterans Day parade there in 50 years. World War II and Gulf War uniforms compliment those of Civil War "Federal," as well as 1860s civilian dress.



Dept. of Ill. Commander Dennis Kelly (left) congratulates newly installed Camp Commander Nick Kaup, George A. Custer Camp 1, Chicago, Ill., at their installation dinner and program January 11.

Michigan

The Department of Michigan is currently raising funds to help with the reburial of Civil War Veteran Daniel C. Caulkins, Artificer, Co. D, 50th New York Engineers. The Oscoda County cemetery where Caulkins is presently buried was abandoned in the 1920's and all of the bodies, with the exception of Daniel, were moved to a new cemetery. No next of kin could be found to sign for permission to move the remains at the time. A member of the local American Legion Post stumbled upon his forgotten headstone in the over grown field while out hunting a year or so ago. He reported it to his Post and members have kept the burial site cleared and fenced since the rediscovery.

The Legion Post members decided to have Caulkins' remains moved to a nearby active cemetery, and are raising funds for Caulkins' reburial. A local funeral home will provide the necessary services consisting of exhuming the remains, providing a casket and vault, transporting the remains and opening and closing the new grave site at cost. The reburial will total about \$1500 and the Department of Michigan has committed itself to help cover a portion of the costs. The DUVCW is also working with the Legion on this noble effort. The newly reformed 30th Michigan SVR will perform Honor Guard duties at the ceremony, which is scheduled to take place May 29th.

Many of our Camps are currently active in the Graves Registration program. At this time, Department Graves Registration Officer John Obermeyer reports



Dept. of Kan. - Pawnee Camp 15 members (left to right) Richard Graves, George Elmore and Leonard Aufdemberg take part in a Veterans Day ceremony honoring the only Spanish-American War casualty of Larned, Kan.

that 6000+ names have been entered in the data base, coming from several Camps. There are many other names that will be entered as soon as they are verified. Camps that have been especially active in the program are Gen. John A. Logan Camp 1, Austin Blair Camp 7, Alexander French Camp 28, Wa-Bu-No Camp 53, George W. Anderson Camp 58, Gov. Crapo Camp 145, Maj. Henry F. Wallace Camp 160 and Sgt. John S. Cosbey Camp 427. Several other Camps are also active in the program, but have not yet sent their information into Brother Obermeyer.

With the close of 1998, the Department's membership was nearing the 500 mark. Our goal is 600+ members enrolled by the turn of the century. We ended the year with 25 Camps and are looking at adding to this number in 1999. It is highly probable that Michigan will have three new Camps, each with several new members, by 2000. New member wise, aside from personal recruitment of friends and relatives by current members, the most lucrative method of bringing in new members seems to come from our internet web pages. Applicants are sending in completed forms printed from the web site, along with their check for the application fee without any other contact with the Camps or the Department. Our National, Department and Camp web pages are really working for us!

Missouri

At this time there are six camps within the state of Missouri. They are Sherman Camp 65 and Grant Camp 68 (both in the St. Louis area),

Westport Camp 64 (Kansas City), Oglesby Camp 61 (southeast Missouri), Phelps Camp 66 (Springfield), and McNeil Camp 62 (northeast Missouri).

On Veterans Day a memorial was dedicated to the veterans of the Merchant Marine and Navy Armed Guard at the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. Kevin Gallen, a Sherman Camp member, designed and made the memorial. Attending the ceremony was Jack Grothe, a Merchant Marine veteran and Sherman camp member. Jack wore his Civil War uniform at the request of USS Sam Parker Chapter of the American Merchant Marine & Navy Armed Guard Association. He officially represented the SUVCW, Sherman Camp 65, and the SVR at the dedication.

Kevin Gallen accomplished a second success in November when a monument was dedicated at the site of Camp Jackson. Brother Gallen, who serves as a volunteer on the Missouri Civil War Monuments Board, waged a five year fight to have this memorial put in place. He deserves many huzzars for his dedication to preserving the memory of those who fought to save the Union.

The members of Phelps Camp 66 concluded a fundraising campaign to purchase a Stars and Stripes pattern flag and a flag pole for the Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park, Arkansas. Sons of Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy contributed funds for a first national Confederate flag and similar pole. The simultaneous fundraising campaigns promoted goodwill among the organizations and made available a new public display at Prairie Grove Battlefield.

Dept. JVC John Rutherford made the following speech at the flag dedication:

"...Our mission is to honor the heritage of the Grand Army of the Republic.

"Approximately 2,000,000 Union Volunteers sacrificed a part of their lifetimes in an attempt to ensure that our country became "One Nation Indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for All." The legacy leaves in our hands a common duty to uphold those principles and to commemorate their sacrifices.

"Today The Descendants of all Civil War veterans, and their friends, are demonstrating what good we can do when our community needs our assistance. It is my great pleasure to see our material support transformed into a unique and lasting landmark at Prairie Grove Battlefield. It is my hope that our contribution will spur interest in the American Civil War and spur Patriotism."

At the closing of the ceremony, Phelps Camp 66 members Jeff Patrick and Joey Furtak, in unison with two members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, unfurled the flags and si-

multaneously raised the Stars and Bars and the Stars and Stripes to full staff.

On September 26, members of U.S. Grant Camp 68 gathered to clean and paint two 24-pd. howitzers that rest at the corner of Gravios Road and Grant Road. The cannons were purchased by the Bush Family years ago and are a part of the Grant's Farm site, the modern day location of Hardactable, the log home built by U.S. Grant before the Civil War. The cannons are located in a stone wall that faces another Grant site, White Haven.

Members of Grant Camp 68 have also been busy with a toy drive in their part of the annual Toys-for-Tot's. Other programs include gathering clothing for veterans in the local soldiers' home and collecting food for the homeless.

On May 9, Westport Camp 64 rededicated the grave site of Civil War veteran Pvt. Edwin Joshua Thompson, 112th N.Y. Inf. Thompson fought in 19 major battles, including the Siege of Suffolk, Fort Fisher, Fort Anderson, and Cold Harbor, where he was wounded, and in the trenches of Petersburg, where he was again wounded. Mr. Thompson's grave was unmarked and lost for years to the family. Due to the efforts of Maine Dept. Cmdr. Steven Leicht and Mrs. Pat Everette, great grand daughter of the veteran, the grave was found and a new government marker was placed. A short speech was made by SUV member Bud Marks, a volley was fired, and a short prayer was said. Members of the color guard were taken out to dinner after the event by Commander Oliver G. Everette, USN (retired), and Mrs. Everette, who had flown in from Concord, Calif. for the ceremony.

On Oct. 15, the Westport Camp took part in a ceremony to honor three Medal of Honor winners in the Highland Park Cemetery, Kansas City, Kan. The three veterans are Pvt. William P. Hagarty (Co. D, 23rd N.Y. Inf.), Capt. William H. Ward (Co. B, 47th Ohio Inf.), and Capt. Maximillian R.W. VanGrebe (Co. F, 4th Mo. Cav.).

Westport Camp members also undertake regular visits to the Veterans Affairs Medical Center and make visits to the John Knox Village Retirement Home.

John H. McNeil Camp 62 discovered that the city of Kirksville, Missouri, was in the process of selling a Civil War cannon placed in Memorial Park as a memorial to Corporal Dix Post 22, G.A.R. The men of McNeil camp went to work looking through records, getting in touch with local veterans groups and writing letters to anyone able to help save the cannon. When informed, the members of the MacDougel-Lowe Post, American Legion, were very upset that the city was selling some-

thing belonging to the Legion and at the thought of war memorials being sold for profit. When the Corporal Dix Post was disbanded, its property was given to the Legion. Today, the cannon is in storage waiting a new private park and a new carriage. Furthermore, all war memorials may be moved from the city's park. The cannon is under the able protection of the MacDougel-Lowe Post.

In December, members of McNeil Camp 62 helped with the annual open house at the Athens Battlefield State Park.

New Hampshire



Dept. of N.H. - Camp 162 Cmdr. Douglass Knight shown donating books to the Kelley Library, Salem.

Since 1993, William Tabor Camp 162 has donated nearly 40 books relating to the Civil War to the Kelley Library in Salem. Most recently, six books were presented to the library by Camp Commander Douglass R. Knight. Among those is a 1963 edition of *Gettysburg*, published during the centennial of that battle.

New York

Auxiliary 72 of D.G. Caywood Camp 146 did their usual fine job hosting a reception for New York Department Commander William J.M. Rave of the SUVCW and New York Department President Rose LoVette of the Auxiliary on October 25, 1998 at the Lodi Firehouse.

In addition to the two New York Department heads, the gathering was honored by the presence of many National and New York Department officials: National SUVCW Senior Vice Commander in Chief Danny Wheeler, National Auxiliary President Betty Baker, President Prentiss of the Daughters of Union Veterans, President Grant of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, President Lorraine Orton of the Women's Relief Corps, NY Dept Junior Vice Commander Don Dennison, NY Dept Secretary Jerry Orton, PDC, and two Past Commanders in Chief of the SUVCW, Don Roberts

and Joe Rippey. Camp 146 was represented by Commander Sortore, Jack Hilyer, PCC, Bill Parker and Dave Neiss, Jr. President Virginia Twist of Auxiliary 72, along with several other members of the auxiliary, was in attendance.

Commander Rave spoke on the successful re-vitalization of S.F. Smith Camp 193 in Halsey Valley and thanked SVCinC Wheeler and others for their role in bringing the camp back to life.

Commander Rave also enthusiastically announced the formation of a new camp in Goshen in Orange County. The new camp is to be called Colonel Augustus van Home Ellis Camp 124.

In a special ceremony at the reception Commander Rave and SVCinC Wheeler awarded PCinC Joe Rippey his 50-Year Membership badge (see photo on page 11). Brother Rippey is a member of Lincoln Camp 6 in Rochester and was featured in an article in the last edition of *The Volunteer*.

Pennsylvania

Lt. Ezra S. Griffin Camp 8, Scranton, reports the election and installation of the following officers: Camp Commander: William G. Lindberg; Sr. Vice Cmdr.: Phillip C. Jones; Jr. Vice Cmdr.: Ronald L. Albert; Secretary: Robert C. Shaffer; Treasurer: Joseph Long, Jr.; Patriotic Instructor: Charles R. Jones; Chaplain: Mark D. Meyers; G.A.R. Historian: Joseph Long, Jr.; Camp Council: Russell W. Jones, Russell P. Jones, Robert W. Yeager.

Southwest

Includes Texas and Oklahoma, plus (unofficially) Arkansas, Louisiana, and New Mexico.

The Department of the Southwest presently has a total of five camps active. Two of these camps are located in Oklahoma (Oklahoma City and Tulsa areas) and three are in Texas (Austin, Houston, and the Dallas/Fort Worth areas). The largest camp, Lone Star Camp 1, based in the Dallas/Forth Worth metropolitan area, has almost one-hundred members from all over the state, making it one of the larger camps in the entire Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War organization.

The camps in Texas have been active during the Fall months participating in various activities concerning the Civil War.

In November, the Edward Lea Camp 2, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (Houston area), hosted a rededication of the Winfield Scott Hancock Post 2, Grand Army of the Republic public cemetery plot at Lakeview Cemetery, Galveston, Texas.

In October, Lone Star Camp 1 (Dallas/Forth Worth) and the Daughters of Union Vet-

erans Tent 1, dedicated an additional 10 markers recently placed on the graves of Union veterans in Greenwood Cemetery in Dallas. The 1st Lone Star Infantry (Union), the Sons of Veterans Reserve unit for the State of Texas, also assisted in the ceremonies.

In January, Lone Star Camp 1 participated in an observance of Texas Confederate Heroes Day, sponsored by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, at Heath Cemetery in Heath, Texas.

Considering the location of the Department of the Southwest, there is a definite Confederate presence to contend with! Fortunately, we have been able to forge a working relationship with both the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy, as well as the Daughters of Union Veterans organizations. This works to everyone's advantage, with public exposure given to the Union, as well as the Confederacy. In addition, many of our members have a dual heritage, with ancestors who fought on both sides during the war.

During the Civil War, the Camp Ford prisoner-of-war camp, located near Tyler, Texas, was "home" to many thousands of Union soldiers captured in various battles. If such a thing existed as a "good" prisoner-of-war camp, Camp Ford was it. Various factors contributed to this fact, including several "good" springs that arose on the property. Encouraged by their Confederate captors, Union engineering officers oversaw the construction of sanitary facilities that were instrumental in helping keep the deaths from disease to a minimum. Also, the food supplies were more abundant than at the more eastern prisoner-of-war camps, as were materials for building shelters and other protection from the elements. In addition, the animosity levels that were present in the eastern theater were not as prevalent in the Texas area. Thus, there were few, if any, atrocities committed by the guards against the Union troops incarcerated at Camp Ford.

The Smith County (Texas) Historical Society has been actively restoring the site of Camp Ford as a tribute to those who were incarcerated there during the Civil War. Most of the property of the original site has been acquired and an archaeological survey has been made by Texas A & M University (A & M has stated that this is the "premier" archaeological site within the State of Texas at this time). The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War has been contacted for assistance with the project. One of the things which is planned is for a flag to fly at the entrance from each state that had Union prisoners at the site. To date, the SUVCW in Missouri has donated a flag, and camps within the Department of the Southwest will

contribute Texas and Oklahoma flags. At this point it is unsure about flags from Arkansas and Louisiana. The flag furnished by Missouri is a 3 X 5 foot all-weather. This will be the size contributed from the other states as well.

The following is a list of the states that had prisoners-of-war at Camp Ford and the number of total men incarcerated:

Arkansas - 24, Connecticut - 25, Colorado - 3, Illinois - 491, Indiana - 677, Indian Territory - 3, Iowa - 850, Kansas - 315, Kentucky - 248, Louisiana - 54, Massachusetts - 78, Maine - 107, Maryland - 43, Michigan - 8, Minnesota - 1, Missouri - 167, Nebraska - 1, New Hampshire - 53, New York - 578, Ohio - 185, Pennsylvania - 17, Rhode Island - 62, Texas - 2, Wisconsin - 86.

There were also 112 regular U.S. troops and 298 Naval sailors imprisoned, in addition to 142 civilians and 17 men whose state and/or name is unknown.

Anyone who is interested in either donating a flag to the Camp Ford project, or who is interested in the camp may contact the Senior Vice Commander as follows: Glen E. Zook, Senior Vice Commander, 410 Lawndale Drive, Richardson, Texas 75080, (972) 231-3987 (evenings).

The Department of the Southwest is looking forward to an active Spring and additional functions in the Summer of 1999.

Vermont

The Vermont Department welcomes new members Donald Griffin, Richard Guyette, and Donald Wickman into membership of Ripley Camp 4 and Charles Sjolander into H.E.K. Hall Camp.

The William Scott Camp 302 will be holding a raffle in May. The prizes this year, are a musket and large book, "Photographic History of the Civil War from Fort Sumter to Gettysburg" also the book "The Paintings of Mort Kunstler, Gettysburg." You can contact Camp Commander Dan Whitcher or any camp member for tickets.

Also the William Scott Camp will be in charge of designing the Civil War Veterans Monument, for veterans buried in Montpelier Cemetery.

The Ripley Camp 4 Commander Jim Proctor reports that the camp is looking into the purchase of a camp flag. Also grave markers, flags, and emblems.

The Ripley Camp will be setting up a display in the Diamond Run Mall in the near future. Also the Camp is planning a work trip this spring to the Gettysburg battlefield. For information contact Brother Mike Roberts at 1-802-775-2103.

The H.E.K. Hall Camp 28 is in charge of setting up this year's Vermont Department Annual Meeting. Commander Floyd Blodgett has set the date of May 15 at the Barre American Legion.

Members of the Hall and Scott Camps set up a display of Sons material that was very well received at a concert of Civil War music. Performing were the St. Johnsbury Band and North Country Chorus at the North Congregational Church in St. Johnsbury. This event was sponsored by the Fairbanks Museum.

The H.E.K. Camp still continues to support its scholarship program.

The Hall Camp was very saddened to learn of the death of Brother Theo Taplin on December 18, 1998. Theo was the father of Alice Doyle, Auxiliary Secretary, father-in-law of Hall Camp Secretary/Treasurer Merlin Doyle, and grandfather of Teresa Doyle, Auxiliary Treasurer. Brother Theo was always there when we needed him. He will be sorely missed.

The Scott, Ripley, and Hall Camps will be participating with other Civil War organizations of Vermont, in a Full Duty awards banquet to honor the Civil War Hemlocks Saturday, April 17, at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Montpelier, Vermont.

Our best wishes go out to Brother Charles Parker of Ripley Camp 4, who is quite ill and recuperating at his home.

Wisconsin

Following nearly two years of organizational efforts, the William Colvill III Camp 56, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, was formally chartered at Fort Snelling in Minneapolis on September 12. The camp is the first in the state for our Order since the Minnesota Department disbanded in 1975. The camp has been assigned to the Wisconsin Department.

Elected Commander of the new camp was Michael Wilkinson of Hopkins. David Ladd of Brooklyn Park was elected Senior Vice Commander and Lloyd Stevens of Minneapolis, Junior Vice Commander.

Assisting Wisconsin Department Commander Steve Michaels during the chartering ceremony were Illinois Dept. Commander Dennis Kelly, Wis. Dept. Sec. Ronald Aronis and Wis. Dept. Aux. President Danielle Michaels.

During the event, a special plaque was presented to Camp Organizer Ross Dunlop in grateful appreciation for his efforts and a framed photo of the 1st Minnesota Infantry monument at Gettysburg was presented to the camp. Brother Wilkinson accepted both on behalf of the members.

The camp takes its name from William Colvill III, the first man from Red Wing, Min-

nesota, to enlist in the 1st Minnesota Infantry. He soon moved up to command the regiment. At Gettysburg, Colvill led the 1st Minnesota in a suicide charge that turned back the Confederates and gave time for reinforcements to arrive. Colvill, crippled for life, later assumed command of the 1st Minnesota Heavy Artillery, the same unit that Pvt. Albert Woolson, the last living Union soldier, served in. The Camp's number, 56, represents the year that Woolson died.

Prior to the chartering ceremony, members gathered for a presentation on Civil War tactics by University of Minnesota Professor John Irnholte, author of a book on the 1st Minnesota Volunteers.

Northeastern Wisconsin Sons met recently in Oshkosh to organize a new camp. Wisconsin Dept. JVC and Camp Organizer Randy Novak presided over the meeting which included members from as far away as Cascade and Stevens Point. Also present was Dept. Sec. Ronald Aronis.

The members elected temporary officers and chose to call themselves Old Abe Camp 8 in honor of the famous mascot of the 8th Wisconsin Infantry. The first camp chartered in Oshkosh in 1885 had also been called the Old Abe Camp.

Officers elected were: Commander-Randy K. Novak, Oshkosh; SVC-Paul A. Stache, Potter; JVC-Robert L. Hatch, Oshkosh; Sec./Treas.-Gordon Moran, Omro; Delegate-James D. Waid, Scandinavia.

The new camp has already adopted the Camp Bragg Memorial in Oshkosh, will work with the Winnebago County Patriotic Council in planning ceremonies for Memorial Day and other occasions, and will man informational booths at community and Civil War events.

The camp will begin by meeting quarterly. At its January 25th meeting, camp goals will be discussed, a calendar will be set and staff appointments will be made.

Wisconsin Sons and other Civil War enthusiasts recently gathered in northeast Wisconsin to dedicate placement of a new government monument for Pvt. Isaac W. Acker, Co. E., 21st Wisconsin Infantry.

Acker, who had been born in Galion, Ohio, migrated to Calumet County, Wisconsin. There he enlisted in the 21st Wisconsin on August 11, 1862. A little more than two months later, the regiment met the rebel army at Perryville. During one of the most remarkable losses of the war, Acker was wounded in the head and chest. After five months in regimental hospitals, Pvt. Acker was discharged the day after his 26th birthday, March 4, 1863.

Paul Stache, Department Council Member and Old Abe Camp 8 SVC, organized the Memorial Ceremony at Portland Cemetery in

Calumet County, where Pvt. Acker is buried next to his wife, Amanda Scott Acker. The Acker family never marked his wife's grave, so a new headstone was placed and dedicated for her also.

After remarks by Wisconsin Department Commander Steve Michaels and Rev. Ronald Johnson, uniformed members from Alonzo Cushing Camp 4 fired three volleys. Members of C.K. Pier Badger Auxiliary 4 and Fond du Lac Auxiliary 6 led some of the spectators in placing red carnations at the new markers.

Regional News

New England Regional Association

The New England Regional Association of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, which includes the departments of Maine, N.H., Vt., Mass., Conn., and R.I., held their annual election and installation of officers at the New Hampshire Veterans Association Hall (formerly the G.A.R. Hall) at Weirs Beach, in Laconia, New Hampshire in July 1998.

Those elected and installed where: Regional Commander: Gregg Mierka (Rhode Island); Vice Commander: Frederic Cauldwell (Massachusetts); Secretary: Edward Parks (Massachusetts); Treasurer: Joseph Plante (Massachusetts); Publicity Director: Douglass Knight (Massachusetts); Chaplain: Rev. Robert Carroon (Connecticut); Executive Committee: Robert Bromley (Rhode Island), Rev. Robert Carroon (Connecticut), Merlin Doyle (Vermont), William Ryerson (Massachusetts), Richard Woodbury (New Hampshire).

The NERA was organized in 1935.

Auxiliary News

The National Auxiliary is pleased to announce that two new Auxiliaries were instituted in November, one in February, and another scheduled for April.

Abraham Lincoln Auxiliary 20 of Westfield, Mass., officially became part of the Order in November at ceremonies led by Mass. Dept. President Cynthia Brown. Also in November, the Mary Caroline Crocker Couch 2 Auxiliary was instituted by National President Betty Baker, assisted by President Brown. This Auxiliary was sponsored by Gen. D. N. Couch Camp 26, Taunton, Mass.

Sgt. William Pittenger Auxiliary 21, sponsored by Pittenger Camp 21 of Escondido, Calif., was instituted on February 13. Participating in the ceremony were PNP Betty Woerner, Dept. President of Calif./Pacific, and Gene

Armistead, Department Commander.

The Pittenger Auxiliary plans to participate in Memorial Day services at the Mt. Hope Cemetery in San Diego and to greet new citizens at the El Cajon Friendship Festival.

Plans had been made for the Nash Hodges Auxiliary, sponsored by Nash Hodges Camp 43 of Blissfield, Michigan, to be instituted in February, however, major snowfalls in the area forced a cancellation. It is rescheduled for April. National President Baker is planning to install this new auxiliary. Nancy Findley of Tecumseh will take over the helm as Auxiliary President.

Another camp in Michigan, Henry E. Wallace Camp 160 of Corunna, has requested information in seeking recruits. Anyone in California, Massachusetts or Michigan interested in further information about these auxiliaries can contact National Recruiter Margaret Atkinson, 1016 Gorman St., Philadelphia, PA 19116-3719, e-mail MarAuxSuv@aol.com.

National President Baker, while visiting Florida, will be contacting members of the Sons there to discuss the formation of auxiliaries. Several area camps have expressed interest in the last year. The Auxiliary invites any camp without an auxiliary to consider recruiting among your wives, daughters, relatives and friends. Although the Auxiliary is a separately chartered and functioning organization, in cooperation with a camp, we can help to promote family participation in joint projects. It only takes five eligible members to start (either lineal or collateral descendants, wives or mothers of members of the Sons in good standing who are descendants, or adopted daughters of members of the Sons.) In areas where there are not sufficient prospects to begin an auxiliary, these eligible ladies can join membership-at-large until such time as there is a local auxiliary.

Camp Seeks Help To Restore "The Union"

It's been several decades since "The Union" stood guard over the graves of Union soldiers in Racine, Wisconsin's Mound Cemetery. "The Union" is a captured Confederate cannon that was purchased by local businessman Henry S. Durand in 1872 and later given to the city. The cannon's carriage rotted away many years ago. The tube, unable to be reconditioned as a weapon in re-enactments, was placed in storage.

Mound Cemetery has recently started a campaign to replace the gun's carriage with one similar to those found in National Military Parks and return the piece to its grounds. Milwaukee's C.K. Pier Badger Camp 4 and Auxiliary, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and the Wisconsin Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans are working to raise funds to replace the carriage.

Interestingly, of the fourteen Union soldiers buried in the cemetery's soldiers' plot, only one was known to have seen action. One died in a Racine railroad accident; one was accidentally shot in camp. Ten died from disease, most during the winter months spent in tents at Racine's Camp Utley. One is an unknown soldier.

If you would like to contribute to "The Union's" restoration, send your donation to: Mound Cemetery Cannon Fund, 1147 West Boulevard, Racine, Wisconsin 53405.



Officers elect at the organizational meeting of Sgt. Wm. Pittenger Auxiliary 21 in Escondido, Calif. Left to right: Linda Pollard (Bylaws Chairlady), MaryAnne Wallace (Secretary/Treasurer), Rosemary Lowe (President), Alberta Jane Parker (Vice President) and Linda Allyn (Patriotic Instructor).

Proceedings: The 20 Year Old Albatross!

If you have attended a National Encampment and have not received a copy of the Proceedings for that year, your help is needed to resolve a two-decade old problem.

Proceedings? A word foreign to many newer members, is the subject of a major effort by the Order to catch up with its past. We are required, by federal law, to report annually to Congress on the activities of the Order in the preceding year. Almost from the beginning we followed the lead of the Grand Army of the Republic and printed a record of our National Encampments to go to Congress and to form a history of the organization. Every member who registers for the National Encampment and pays the fee, is entitled to a copy of the Proceedings of that encampment.

During the last 20 years, the publication of Proceedings have been the exception, and, even in those instances, we have no record of the Proceedings having been sent to encampment participants.

A team, headed by PCinC Keith Harrison, is hard at work transcribing, editing and publishing the Proceedings which have not been printed. That project, it is hoped, will be completed prior to the National Encampment in Indianapolis and a lot of the distribution will take place at that time.

In the mean time PCinC Bud Atkinson, National Quartermaster, has announced that copies of some of the Encampments are available from him. Commander in Chief Andy Johnson has ordered that those copies not be sold for a period of 60 days following the publication of this edition of The Banner.

During that time, members who have attended Encampments in those years and have not received their copy of the Proceedings can request a free copy. In most cases, the proceedings contain a list of attendees and names will be checked prior to mailing. The years currently available are: 1965, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1982, 1983, 1986, 1988, and 1994.

After 60 days the National Quartermaster will be selling the remaining Proceedings for \$5 each plus postage.

Recent encampments not on the above list have not had Proceedings published. It is hoped that they will be done in time for the 1999 Encampment in Indianapolis and that many of them will be handed out there. After the encampment the remainder of the attendees, who will not be in Indianapolis, will receive their copy by mail.

"This is an albatross that we have carried around our organizational neck for nearly two

decades," proclaimed CinC Johnson, "and with a lot of help from some outstanding brothers we will be able to remove the curse and get back to work."

Remembrance Day Gettysburg Donation

Remembrance Day Committee Chairman and PCinC Elmer F. Atkinson announced that \$5,000 was donated to the Gettysburg National Park on Remembrance Day, Nov. 20, to be used for preservation. The funds came from the proceeds of the National Civil War Ball held the previous year at the Eisenhower Conference Center on Remembrance Day.

The proceeds from this year's ball, in the amount of \$4,400, have been sent to the National G.A.R. Fund to be presented at next year's ceremonies. Approximately 625 persons in period dress danced the night away - a wonderful sight to behold. Chairman Atkinson's committee is composed of members of the Sons, Auxiliary, and Ladies of the G.A.R.

continued from page 8

Memorial Cannon In Peril

groups for the purpose of display as a veterans' war memorial. They were formally dedicated by surviving veterans, to serve as "silent-sentinels," in tribute to the memory of all who served and sacrificed during the American Civil War.

It's estimated that only 5,467 of these cannon survived the "scrap-metal drives" of World Wars I and II. Of these, many continue to disappear across the country - being stolen from their mounting blocks or sold to "collectors." Over the past few months, we've learned of cannon being sold from "privatized cemeteries" in Illinois, Michigan, and New Jersey, with several reports of communities in Iowa, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Washington state being approached to sell their memorial cannon, too. You have to wonder how much of this has happened - that we don't know about...

In October of last year, we launched a "Cannon Inquiry Project," to contact the person(s) responsible for the property on which a Memorial Cannon is publicly displayed (excluding National Military Parks and property

owned or controlled by the US Department of Defense or Veterans' Affairs). Working with records of "known obsolete ordnance," Department teams have approached property owners in an effort to secure the protection and preservation of the cannon by appealing to "community pride and patriotism."

Many departments have reported positive results, especially New Jersey. As the effort continues, representatives of more local governments and other civic leaders will come to realize that the historical value of these cannon far outweighs any dollar amount that a "collector" might offer them. These Memorial Cannon are an "American Treasure" that should remain in the "public trust," regarded as the property of ALL, in the communities where they stand.

Our satisfaction from the positive responses of many communities does not diminish our interest in having protective legislation enacted. If just one community or private property owner doesn't care, that then, is "one too many."

I regard a veterans' memorial as a sacred testimonial to those who have served our coun-

try in its times of war - erected to affirm our appreciation of their devotion to duty and willingness to risk harm, and even sacrifice their lives so that our way-of-life and the freedoms we enjoy, may be maintained.

If we do not protect and preserve the "Memorial Cannon" that remain, few or none at all will survive for the education - and appreciation of future generations.

Printing Schedule

ISSUE	HIGHLIGHTS
VOL. 103 • NO. 3 Spring/May Edition deadline April 15 mailed by May 6	Lincoln's Birthday Armed Forces Day Memorial Day prep
VOL. 103 • NO. 4 Summer/Aug. Edition deadline June 30 mailed by July 21	Memorial Day Independence Day 118th National Encampment prep

Stats . . .

Circulation this issue: 6,298
Source: National Membership List Coordinator

G.A.R. History

Commanders-in-Chief Born 150 Years Ago

by PCinC Richard Orr

Listed here are the names of past Commanders-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic in which the 150th anniversary of their birth recently passed or is due in the near future.

Theodore A. Penland - born January 23, 1849 in Goshen, Ind. He was the 82nd and final elected Commander-in-Chief of the G.A.R. At age 16, he enlisted in Co. A, 152 Indiana Volunteers, and served until August 2, 1865. He died September 13, 1949 in Vancouver, Wash.

George H. Jones - the 77th man to be Commander-in-Chief. He was born in Oxford, Maine, on February 2, 1849. He was a musician in the 31st Maine Vols. He lived most of his life in Oxford. Ill health made it necessary for him to reside at the Togus Veterans Home where he died on August 19, 1946.

George A. Gay - 75th Commander-in-Chief. He was born in Pepperill, Mass., November 8, 1848. He enlisted on January 27, 1864 and served on the Ohio, Harvest Moon and the Princeton. He was discharged from the Princeton on February 14, 1865. He then enlisted for four years in the 110th U.S. Infantry. He was a charter member and the last member of G.A.R. Post 195 in Pepperill. He was elected Commander-in-Chief in 1941 and died December 15, 1944.

John E. Andrew - one of the few Commanders-in-Chief to die in office. Elected in 1939, he died June 30, 1940 at age 91. He was born in Westboro, Ohio, on June 6, 1848. He enlisted February 22, 1864, in Company C, 79th Ohio Vols. He belonged the G.A.R. in Quincy, Ill. He was sheriff of Platt County, Ill., for one term and mayor of Monticello for three terms. He was commandant of the State Soldiers Home in Quincy for eight years.

Overton H. Mennett - at age 14, enlisted in Co. E, 146th Ind. Vols. and served until August 1, 1865. He was born near Vevay, Ind., March 8, 1850. He graduated from Ohio Medical College in 1874 and practiced medicine until retirement in 1910. He then moved to Los Angeles. He had a beautiful voice and sang "Taps" at the funerals of comrades. He attended the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg and there sang "Tenting On the Old Camp Ground" accompanied by the U.S. Marine Corps Band. He was elected Commander-in-Chief in 1937, and died at his home in Los Angeles January 25, 1941.

C.H. William Ruhe - the 69th man to serve as Commander-in-Chief was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., December 24, 1849. He enlisted on February 2, 1865, in Co. L, 4th Pa. Cav. He was elected Commander-in-Chief in 1936. He was an engineer and a musician, played for many years with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and was president of the National Federation of Musicians for two years. He served many years as superintendent of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall in Pittsburgh - the last member of the G.A.R. to so serve. (His son served as superintendent during WWII. After the war, WWI and WWII veterans took over the position.) He died May 20, 1941 at age 91.

Foreign Born Commanders-in-Chief

by Jerome L. Orton

Louis Wagner - ninth Commander-in-Chief of the G.A.R. He was elected at the 14th National Encampment in Dayton, Ohio that was held June 8 and 9, 1880. Membership was 60,634. He was born in Giessen, Germany on August 4, 1838. He came to this county at the age of 11. He served with Company D 78th Pennsylvania Vols. as a 1st lieutenant and by the end of the war was a brevetted brigadier general. He was a charter member of G.A.R. Post No. 6 in Germantown, Pa. He only missed 2 national encampments from 1868 to 1913. He died at his Germantown home on January 15, 1914.

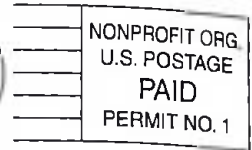
Samuel S. Burdett - 14th Commander-in-Chief at the 19th National Encampment held in Portland, Maine, June 24-25, 1885. Membership was 294,787. He was born in England on February 21, 1836 and came to this county 1848. He belonged to the 1st Iowa Cavalry and became a captain. He was Department Commander of the Department of the Potomac in 1881-82. He served in Congress in 1868, 1872 and in 1876 went to South America but returned 2 years later. He died on September 24, 1915 on a visit to England.

Thomas G. Lawler - born in Liverpool, England, on April 7, 1844, and came to this county in 1845. Rockford, Ill. became his home. He enlisted in Co. E, 19th Ill. Inf. In 1868, he became Commander of Nevius Post, G.A.R., Rockford, a post he held until he died February 4, 1908. He was postmaster for more than 20 years until his death on February 4, 1908. He was colonel of the 3rd Ill Regiment of the National Guard from 1886-1892. At the 28th National Encampment held in Pittsburgh, Pa. September 12-13, 1894, he became the 23rd Commander-in-Chief. Membership was 369,083.

Leo Rassieur - the 30th Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic was born on April 19, 1844 in Wadern, Prussia. At the age of 7 he moved to St. Louis, Mo. He served 3 months in the Reserve Corps and in the 30th Missouri Vols. obtaining the rank of major. After the war, he was admitted to the bar in 1867 and was probate judge of St. Louis County for 4 years. He was Commander of Post No. 1, Dept. of Missouri. Department Commander in 1890 and at the 34th National Encampment held in Chicago, Ill on August 29-30, 1900 was elected Commander-in-Chief. Membership was 276,612.

Source: *The Final Journal of the Grand Army of the Republic, 1957, compiled by Cora Gillis, National Secretary, G.A.R., and past National President of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War.*

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SUV & GAR MOUSE PADS



SUVCW PAD – “Eagle & Cannon” emblem, with name of the organization, centered on your choice of blue, red, or gold pad.

G.A.R. PAD – G.A.R. Membership Badge in color, centered on a red, white, and blue striped pad.

\$10.00 PLUS \$2.50 EA. FOR S&H

Make check or money-order payable to: *Department of Michigan - SUVCW*. Mail order and payment to: *Cmdr. Kent Armstrong, P.O. Box 618, DeWitt, MI 48820-0618*.

Please specify G.A.R. or SUVCW pad and background color

3/99



SUV Hat Badge
 \$25 plus \$3 shipping



Coat-of-Arms Pocket Patch
 \$30 plus \$5 for plastic holder



Insignia Pocket Patch
 \$20 plus \$5 for plastic holder

The Department of Michigan still has a limited quantity of pocket patches, both coat-of-arms and insignia, and SUV hat badges. We also have, for an additional \$5.00, a plastic holder for each pocket patch. No shipping cost for the pocket patches. Kevi not included with hat badge.

Please specify the item and quantity you wish to purchase, make your check out to the Department of Michigan SUVCW, and mail to David T. Wallace, 2120 E. Schumacher St., Burton, MI 48529-2436.

3/99

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

Camp & Dept. Flags & Banners

Polo Shirts

Jackets

Station Banners

Coffee Mugs

Address Labels

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.

3/99

Camp & Dept. Quartermasters

If you have nationally approved SUV or Grand Army related merchandise available, be sure to send your ad into The Banner.

Ad space is free but limited. Ads will continue to run until you advise otherwise or until newer ad submissions exceed available space. Ads should not exceed 1/12th page.

Personal Ads

Personal Ads may be permitted on a space available basis for personal and research purposes only. Only non-commercial ads can be accepted. Acceptance is at the discretion of the Editor.

Book Wanted: Cushman, Frederick E. *The History of the 58th Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers*, Washington, DC: Gibson Brothers, Printers, 1865. Contact Douglass Knight, 603-898-4286.

Book Wanted: Wilson, John. *Seven Months in a Rebel Prison*. (John Wilson served in Co. A of the 58th Mass.) [n.p., n.d.]. Contact Douglass Knight, 603-898-4286.