

# *THE* *BANNER*

*Volume 128, Number 4 • The Journal of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War • Summer, 2024*



*STAINED INTO HISTORY*

# ENCAMPMENTS AT LARGE



*Alabama*



*Iowa*



*California - Pacific*



*Kentucky*



*Chesapeake*



*Indiana*



*Michigan*



*Texas*

## THE BANNER

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### SUBMISSION SCHEDULE

Winter Deadline-December 15  
Spring Deadline-March 15  
Summer Deadline-May 31  
Autumn Deadline-August 31

# Inside The Banner



<b>Honoring Forgotten Veterans</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Obituary Eugene Mortorff, PCinC</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Voices of Patriotism</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>Ensign John Davis Camp No. 10 (At Large)</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Final Muster</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Life Members / Honor Roll / National Membership</b> .....	<b>12</b>
<b>CinC Hritsko's General Orders 2023-2024</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>Chaplain's Corner</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>New England Civil War Museum</b> .....	<b>17</b>
<b>RootsTech Conference</b> .....	<b>20</b>
<b>Department News</b> .....	<b>21</b>
<b>Our Heritage</b> .....	<b>27</b>

**KUDOS:** To those Brothers who observed Memorial Day and a big Thank You for all of the submissions to the Banner.

*On The Cover: The stained glass window from the New England Civil War Museum in Rockville, Connecticut. (Story on pg. 17)*



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## HONORING FORGOTTEN VETERANS

By Camp Commander Randy Fletcher  
Col. Edward D. Baker Camp No. 6 , Department of Columbia



Civil War veteran John Heimrich sat in storage at a Portland, Oregon funeral home for 111 years. When Heimrich, who had served with the 180th Ohio Infantry, died in 1913 at age 67, his body was cremated. But for unknown reasons, the ashes were never claimed by his family and eventually were placed in a non-public storage area and forgotten.

Carolyn Arntson, a Portland woman took an interest in the forgotten dead and began to build internet memorials for the now some 2,300 cremains. Along with two other women, Arntson formed Friends of Forgotten Veterans and then contacted the Baker Camp, to help research and document the service of veterans within the group of unclaimed dead.

The process led to 33 veterans and one dependant, with requests to the V.A. for interment at Willamette National Cemetery. This included four Civil War vets, eight from the Spanish-American War, seventeen from World War I, four World War II vets, and the infant son of a Navy WWII veteran. There was one woman among the veterans, an Army nurse who served in France during World War I.

The final hurdle for the team was gaining the release of the cremains. After a couple of terse emails and tense phone calls with the funeral home's attorney, Baker Camp won the release of the cremains provided they go to a national cemetery. The date of June 1, 2024 was chosen to coincide with the Department of the Columbia Encampment in Portland. A local military vehicle collectors club provided a restored WWII Army ambulance to transport the cremains the seven miles from the funeral home to the cemetery. Two Portland motorcycle police officers led the motorcade which included the ambulance, a restored WWII Jeep, and members of the Patriot Guard Riders veterans' motorcycle club. Color guards were provided by the Sons of Veterans Reserve, the Sons of the American Revolution, and the Portland Fire Bureau. The Portland Firefighters Pipe & Drum band was on hand to pipe in the cremains.

A crowd of over two hundred spectators watched as the boxes were unloaded. The SVR provided four uniformed men for the Civil War cremains, the other thirty boxes were carried by a mixed honor guard of U.S. Army, Navy, and Marine Corps personnel and reenactors representing soldiers and a nurse from WWI. After an invocation, Carolyn Arntson gave the eulogy. The names and service branch of those interred was read and floral tributes placed by the ladies of Mary Ann Lee Baker Auxiliary to the SUVCW while the pipers played Amazing Grace. After the benediction, thirty-four white doves were released, one for each of the deceased. Three musket volleys rang out and Taps sounded. Among the attendees at the ceremony were distinguished members of the state legislature, county commissioners, and the Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs.



- OBITUARY -

## EUGENE MORTORFF, PCINC 1954 – 2024



Commander-in-Chief Eugene G. Mortorff was born in 1954 near Gettysburg, PA. He joined the SUVCW in 1997 with the Department of the Chesapeake and was elected Commander-in-Chief at the 134th Annual National Encampment at Richmond, Virginia on August 22, 2015. Gene passed from this world May 25, 2024.

He has been a member of four Camps in two SUVCW Departments (Chesapeake and Pennsylvania). He co-organized one of the Camps and remains active with the three others. Garfield Camp #1 of Baltimore, Maryland is his primary SUVCW Camp, which he commanded. He was also Commander, Secretary-Treasurer (3 Years), Councilman, Patriotic Instructor, Webmaster and Newsletter Editor for the Department of the Chesapeake. Commander-in-Chief Mortorff is also a member of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, the military branch of the Sons of Union Veterans. He has been an active member of the Gettysburg Blues for ten years. He was also a member of two other units, and served as Commander of the 2nd Military District for two years.

Commander-in-Chief Mortorff honors nine ancestors who served under as Union Volunteers. Gene was also elected and served as National Secretary for three years and was appointed to the position of National Chief of Staff. He is a graduate of the SUVCW's Memorial University. Commander-in-Chief is a graduate of Columbia College (MO), University of San Francisco (CA), and Goucher College (MD). He has degrees in Psychology, Business and Education. He also attended the University of Maryland where he earned his Maryland State Teacher Certifications and Monmouth University (NJ) for postgraduate study in Business Management.



A Military Veteran, he retired from the United States Coast. His 20 years of service included three years in Japan, five years on Coast Guard Cutters, Instructor duties and numerous detached duties such as the Valdez Oil Spill. He served as Military Training Officer at the Coast Guard's only Recruit Training Center, and at Coast Guard Headquarters, was a Training Manager for the Coast Guard's operations programs. He earned the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Coast Guard Humanitarian Service Medal, Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Expert Pistol and Rifle Medals and 19 other Military Medals and Ribbons.

His second career was as a Secondary Public School Teacher in Carroll and Anne Arundel Counties in the state of Maryland. He taught in four schools and after retiring in 2012, he continued to work in the schools when called for long and short term periods. Gene was also active with the Boy Scouts of America, volunteering many years of service. He has provided leadership and guidance at the Troop, District and National level. He has served many years as Scoutmaster, and District Training Manager.

Gene met in college, and was happily married for 40 years to, Linda Austin-Mortorff of Ocean City, New Jersey. She served for six (6) years in the Coast Guard Active Reserves. They lived in East Berlin, PA and have two sons, Christopher Lee of Wisconsin and George Robert of Pennsylvania. Commander-in-Chief Mortorff also belonged to the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania (Member, Board of Directors); Good Samaritan Masonic Lodge, Gettysburg, PA, Coast Guard Chef Petty Officer Association and New Birth of Freedom Council.

When Gene was not doing SUVCW duties, or working in the schools, he could be found driving a live steam engine or diesel trolley at City Island Railroad in Harrisburg, PA.



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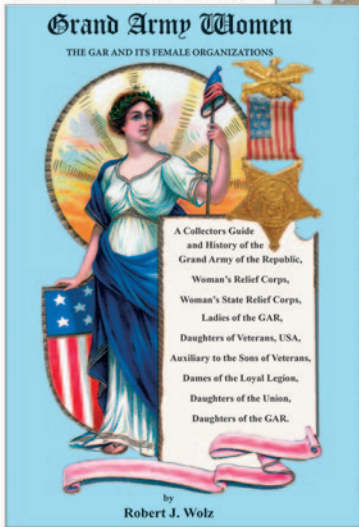
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Quartermaster - Doug Gilchrist

General Benjamin Pritchard Camp 20 - Dept. of Michigan  
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[dbgilx@gmail.com](mailto:dbgilx@gmail.com)

# VOICES OF PATRIOTISM

Tad D. Campbell - National Patriotic Instructor

In this summer season of Patriotism, let us contemplate the following short historical essays about Old Glory, penned by contemporaries of our Union ancestors:

## THE MEANING OF THE AMERICAN FLAG.

The American flag means, then, all that the fathers meant in the Revolutionary war; it means all that the Declaration of Independence meant; it means all that the Constitution of a people, organizing for justice, for liberty, and for happiness, meant.

The American flag carries American ideas, American history, and American feelings.

Beginning with the colonies and coming down to our time, in its sacred heraldry, in its glorious insignia, it has gathered and stored chiefly this supreme idea: *divine right of liberty in man*.

*Every color means liberty, every thread means liberty, every form of star and beam of light means liberty — liberty through law, and laws for liberty.* Accept it, then, in all its fullness of meaning. It is not a painted rag. It is a whole national history. It is the Constitution. It is the government. It is the emblem of the sovereignty of the people. It is the nation.

— Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887)

Our flag is the symbol of sovereignty, the emblem of the love of country. It ought to float wherever the spirit of this great country is at work; in its halls at Washington, in its city halls, in its public buildings — everywhere. Our youth ought to be taught that we have a government built up on sacrifices as that of no other nation is. We take these other nations into our own, but not before they have renounced all allegiance elsewhere. This is the land of freedom, of equal rights; and the guarantee of it is the flag which floats over our common city.

— Abram Stevens Hewitt (1822-1903)

The United States flag is amongst our most cherished emblems, for the reasons explained above, and more. The founders of our Order thought so too! How to show proper respect to the flag is one of the core instructions in our Ritual given into new members upon their initiation. Be sure to keep the flag on display at Camp and Department meetings, and fly it proudly during parades and other events!

LONG LIVE OLD GLORY!

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,  
National Patriotic Instructor  
Tad D. Campbell, PCinC  
[patrioticinstructor@suvvw.org](mailto:patrioticinstructor@suvvw.org)



## ENSIGN JOHN DAVIS CAMP NO. 10 (AT LARGE)

### LONDON, ENGLAND

On May 30 the Camp performed its annual Memorial Day ceremony of laying a wreath at Abraham Lincoln's monument in Parliament Square, London. The guest speaker was the Revd. Canon Dr. Stephen Evans, Rector of St. Marylebone Parish Church, London, who served as a Seaman Officer in the Royal Navy. The photograph was taken by two young ladies from Texas, who were in the Square at the time and were fascinated to learn that an event connected with the Civil War was taking place.

On May 18 the Camp manned a display at the Heritage Day event run by Nunhead Cemetery, one of London's largest and most historic cemeteries, where eight Union veterans are buried. We are working with the Friends of the Cemetery to secure US Veterans Administration Markers for the graves, most of which are unmarked, and to devise an educational project.

Though we were opposite a paddock of Nubian Goats for the children, that did not seem to distract people from us! We had a large display and gave away copies of early SUV postcards. The event was well-attended and we had a fairly continual stream of people visiting - so standing and talking almost continually for six hours was quite a test of our stamina and our voice boxes!

It is pleasing to report that people of all ages were absolutely fascinated to learn that there were American Civil War veterans buried in the cemetery. It had, perhaps understandably, never occurred to them previously. They were intrigued that so many Englishmen went to fight for the Union, and that a number were buried in their local cemetery. It gave them a new perspective on what the cemetery has to offer and an insight into what our Camp is doing to raise awareness of the Civil War and of veterans buried in the UK, as well as about our SUV camp and its mission. There were of course varying levels of awareness of the War itself among Londoners, but no-one was entirely ignorant of it and all seemed to recognise what an important period of modern history it was. We are confident that it augurs well for our efforts to locate veterans graves in the UK and to promote knowledge of this pivotal period of history.

The Camp is also working with Leeds Local and Family History Library in Yorkshire to mount a display for their Armed Forces Day commemoration during June 2024. We have identified eight Union Veterans buried in Leeds and have provided them with a large amount of information on the veterans and our Camp, which has generated considerable enthusiasm at the University. A report will appear in the following Banner.







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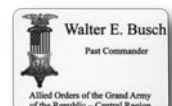
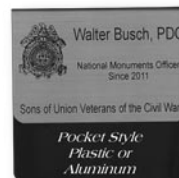
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# FINAL MUSTER

I have attended many funerals lately, and someday I'll be listed here, just like you. Not too soon, I hope and pray. When our names appear I hope the Brothers and Sisters of Our Orders recognize us as having done "something" to help in any way possible, and don't ignore us because they don't remember anything we have ever done.

DO SOMETHING. Just do it!

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

*Chaplain Jerry*

**Christopher S. Kennelley**

Sgt William Pittenger Camp 21 (California & Pacific)  
November 28, 2023

**Matthew J. Jordan**

Gen Nathaniel Lyon Camp 10 (New Jersey)  
2/15/2024

**Richard Ivan Haudenscheld**

Jacob Parrott Camp 33 (Ohio)  
3/21/2024

**Paul F. Cooney**

Col George J Willard Camp 154 (New York)  
1/22/2024

**Richard Perkins Duckoff**

WW Brown Camp 1 (New Hampshire)  
3/8/2024

**Bertrand O. DeForest, PCC**

Wooster Russell Camp 22 (Connecticut)  
12/5/2021

**Robert W. DeForest, PDC**

Wooster Russell Camp 22 (Connecticut)  
3/6/2024

**Bruce Emory Rhodes**

LA Tift Camp 15 (Massachusetts)  
3/19/2024

**Douglas K Fidler, PDC (Tennessee)**

Life Member 664  
Ensign John Davis Camp 10 (London)  
4/15/2024

**Tim Graham, PDC**

James A Garfield Camp 142 (Ohio)  
SVR – Ohio Naval Brigade  
4/25/2024

**Kurtis Federick Dumphy**

William B Keith Camp 12 (California & Pacific)  
1/20/2024

**Raymond C Nagel, PDC**

Gen William Lytle Camp 10 (Ohio)  
5/1/2024

**Mark Anthony Culbert**

LeValley Heusted Camp 255 (Michigan)  
3/2/2024

**Edward Charles Gibson, PDC**

Maj Gen Thomas H Ruger Camp 1 (North Carolina)  
Anna M Ross Camp 1 (Pennsylvania)  
4/3/2024

**Donald Lewin**

Centennial Camp 100 (Colorado/Wyoming)  
12/6/2020

**James Allan Litzenberg**

Jacob Parrott Camp 33 (Ohio)  
5/3/2024

**Michael Eugene Bierman**

Lt Cmdr Edward Lea USN Camp 2 (Texas)  
10/22/2023

**Samuel Martin Keith, CC**

Col Hans C Heg Camp 15 (Wisconsin)  
SVR – Iron Brigade Guard  
5/9/2024

**Charles A. Runnels**

Daniel Chaplin Camp 3 (Maine)  
2/4/2024

**Steven Lee Crain**

Sultana Camp 1 (Tennessee)  
2/3/2024

**Arthur Lee McLaughlin**

Calhoun Camp 2 (Kentucky)  
4/14/2024

**Robert Orbach**

Sgt Elijah P Marrs Camp 5 (Kentucky)  
8/24/2023

**Thomas I. Edwards, PCC**

Davis \* Camp (Pennsylvania)  
5/17/2024

**Timothy Patrick Purcell**

Camp Edgar M Ruhl Camp 23 (Pennsylvania)  
2/19/2024

**David Wenger Snyder**

Anna M Ross Camp 1 (Pennsylvania)  
10/29/2023

**Leon W. Houston**

George H Thomas Camp 19 (Pennsylvania)  
3/9/2024

**Dana R. Hales, PCC**

Frank Reed Camp 24 (Illinois)  
8/6/2023

**Robert P. Keough, PCC**

Col George J Willard Camp 154 (New York)  
4/11/2024

**Eugene G. Mortorff, PCinC**

James A. Garfield Camp 1 (Chesapeake)  
SVR – Gettysburg Blues  
SVR – Major, former Commander 2nd Military District  
5/26/2024

**Daniel John Casbin**

Jones Bradbury Camp 149 (Pennsylvania)  
5/28/2024

**Dale Edward Willett**

Life Member 1120  
Gov Henry Crapo Camp 145 (Michigan)  
5/19/2024

**Norman Wiley**

Col Louis R Francine Camp 7 (New Jersey)  
3/15/2024

**Rev. Freddie Allan Fresse**

Gen Winfield Scott Camp 73 (New Jersey)  
1/4/2024

**Winfield Joseph Atno**

Gen George A Custer Camp 17 (New Jersey)  
9/24/2023

**Robert J. Miller**

Kennesaw Mountain Camp 3 (Georgia & South Carolina)  
3/23/2024

**Daniel John Cashin**

Jones Bradbury Camp 149 (Pennsylvania)  
5/29/2024

**Tracy Lucas, PCC**

Sgt Elijah P Marrs Camp 5 (Kentucky)  
5/23/2024

**Walter James Gable**

David G Caywood Camp 146 (New York)  
5/16/2024



GETTYSBURG, PA



# 68th Annual Remembrance Day Parade Saturday November 16, 2024 Gettysburg, PA

*Sponsored by the Sons of Veterans Reserve, the Military Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War A Parade briefing will be held on November 16th at 12:00 Noon at the Unity Park Monument on Lefever Street.  
All units are required to send one representative*

*Units form up at Noon on Lefever Street Parade will step off at 1:00 PM*

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*E-mail: [majorsvrprovost@gmail.com](mailto:majorsvrprovost@gmail.com) Cell: 609-816-2012*

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## LIFE MEMBERS

Since Spring Banner Vol 128, No 3

1179	Hutchinson, Dennis C	IA	1188	Bartlow, Rocky Leon	KS
1180	Koenigsberg, Robert John	PA	1189	Coffelt, Jerry Allen	KS
1181	Foy, Kenneth B	OH	1190	Cox, Shawn Alan	OH
1182	Siciliano, Stephen Nicholas	MI	1191	Kennedy, Jeffrey Darnell	OK
1183	Lybolt, James Andrew	CA	1192	Witt, Michael John	MO
1184	Bailey Jr, Robert Joseph	IL	1193	DuBrucq, David Michael	TN
1185	Rose, Charles Robert	OH	1194	Boals, Eric William	MI
1186	Hauck, William Andrew	WI	1195	McRoberts, Ronald Edward	WI
1187	Magoffin, Stephen Shelby	CA			

## HONOR ROLL OF FINANCIAL DONORS TO THE ORDER

Mark Day, PCinC	Alan L. Russ
Danny Wheeler, PCinC	Timothy McCoy
David Demmy	Michael A Paquette, PCinC

## NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Date:	5/31/2024	Dual Life Member	132
Active Membership Count -		Dual Member	131
Associate	433	Honorary	1
Combat Zone Service	5	<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>6,311</b>
Jr. Associate	2	William Pool, a WWII veteran, is our last known	
Junior	63	Real Son. He is a Life Member of the Dept of Illinois.	
Life Member	609	Respectfully submitted in fraternity, charity and loyalty,	
Member	4,920	David W. Demmy, St. - Executive Director	
Real Son	1	Susan W. Mitchell - Assistant Executive Director	
Dual Associate	14		

## GIFTS TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE

Brothers: As you consider your charitable giving, please keep in mind the good work of the Order. As National now has 501(c)(3) status, gifts to the National Organization are tax deductible. Your donations can be used in two areas. The first is our Monuments and Memorials fund, where National can give grants to Departments and Camps. Your donations would allow for more grants to be awarded. The second area would be our scholarship fund. Currently, we are limited to two scholarships of \$2,500. Your gifts can make additional scholarships available to our college bound brothers and sisters.



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**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
PETER J. HRITSKO, JR.**

12710 Darrow Rd.,  
Vermilion, Ohio 44089  
cinc@suvcw.org  
(SERIES 2023-2024)

(This notice provides a brief synopsis of the General Orders. Please consult the published General Orders for complete substantive information.)

**GENERAL ORDER #11**

Confirms Opinions 001-2024 and 002-2024 of the National Counselor, giving these opinions the force and effect of a General Order.

001-2024 A Camp Treasurer must open a separate account in the name of the Camp for Camp funds. There will be no co-mingling of SUVCW, SVR or personal monies in any account.

002-2024 - Life members are required to pay annual Department and Camp level dues. If a life member fails to pay Camp dues by March 1 of every year, he can be dropped from the Order. If the brother is dropped by the Camp, he cannot apply to any other Camp or Membership at Large unless he has received the concurrence of the Camp that dropped him. Repayment of dues can still be required prior to reinstatement in any Camp. If the Camp decides to suspend the brother rather than drop him from the Order, the suspension is Order-wide.

A brother cannot be a member-at-large to National Headquarters if he resides in a state served by a Department. If a life member is dropped from for non payment of Camp or Department dues, he forfeits his Life Membership and fees associated therewith.

**GENERAL ORDER #12**

Disbandment of Carpenter-Welch Camp 180, Michigan.

**GENERAL ORDER #13**

Revokes General order #35, Series 2019-2020 and replaces it with this: The National Organization, Departments, Camps, SVR Districts and units are permitted to undertake a limited amount of lobbying, as long as the lobbying is directly related to one of the six purposes stated in the Congressional charter (36 USC 2003, §200302). Lobbying shall remain nonpartisan. Prior permission of the Commander-in-Chief must be obtained prior to any efforts whatsoever. The Order details further procedures and conduct.

**GENERAL ORDER #14**

Revocation of charter of the Col Marshall Lefferts Camp 7, New York.

**GENERAL ORDER #15**

Memorial Day 2024.

**GENERAL ORDER #16**

Announces the passing of PCinC Gene Mortorff.

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

“All good things must come to an end.”

My tour of duty will end in August at the National Encampment, when a highly qualified pastor will take over my duties and I will revert back into “Emeritus” status. The SVR still has me as their National Chaplain for as long as they like.

Right now I am “Four Score and 7 months” old. My spiritual advisor suggested that I get out, before I am thrown out, but I have rejected this advice for years.

However, “Nothing Happens in God’s World by Mistake.” I listen and HE talks to me. HIS will be done.

If you agree with me - just say AMEN.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,  
*Chaplain Jerry*

# ***COME JOIN US!***



## ***The Original Civil War Ball***

**November 16, 2024 at the Eisenhower Hotel, Gettysburg  
8pm to Midnight**

**Music by the Philadelphia Brigade Band**

**Dances led by the Victorian Dance Ensemble**

**Fabulous door prizes and Ladies Cake Walk prizes**

**Period dress strongly encouraged, but not required**

**Photo Booth**

**Cash Bar**

**\$20/person in advance, \$25/person at the door**

Send stamped, self-addressed envelope and check payable to "SVR Ball" to:

Col. Steve Michaels, SVR

6623 S. North Cape Road

Franklin, WI 53132-1227

cell: (414) 712-4655

lt.col.sm@gmail.com



Proceeds donated to Gettysburg National Military Park Monument Preservation

# Member and Associate Certificates

Measures 11 x 14 inches

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EACH**



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[www.suvvw-qm-store.square.site](http://www.suvvw-qm-store.square.site)



## NEW ENGLAND CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

Catch up on New England Civil War Museum's official podcast! Each month, Sons Matt Vallier and Dan Hayden are joined by Collections and Conservation Director Cara Kaminski and Archives Manager Wayne BuckmIr to talk through another facet of the museum's mission - To connect the people of today with the experiences, memories, and humanity of the people of the Civil War era. Whether we're hosting a guest historian, author, or researcher (or even just ranting amongst ourselves), we're always looking for a new angle in telling the story of the Citizen Soldier.

The New England Civil War Museum and Research Center was originally started by local Civil War veterans in 1896. It was not until March 1994 that it was formally established as a museum and opened to the public. It is located within the Memorial Building, inside a former [HYPERLINK "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand\\_Army\\_of\\_the\\_Republic"](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Army_of_the_Republic) "Grand Army of the Republic" Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Hall in [HYPERLINK "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rockville,\\_Connecticut"](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rockville,_Connecticut) "Rockville, Connecticut" Rockville, Connecticut. Thomas F. Burpee Post #71 of the Grand Army of the Republic held their meetings in the Grand Hall from 1890 until 1929. Alden Skinner Camp #45 of the [HYPERLINK "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sons\\_of\\_Union\\_Veterans\\_of\\_the\\_Civil\\_War"](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sons_of_Union_Veterans_of_the_Civil_War) "Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War" Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, their direct heir, have held their monthly meetings in the hall since 1890, making it the oldest, continuously used GAR Hall in the entire country.

In season one, we explore the combat experience of the average soldier through their accounts of Gettysburg, Antietam, and Cold Harbor. What did they see? What did they feel? What was life like in camp and on the march? What can we tell about their experiences through the regimental camp newspapers written by soldiers and on display at the museum? What's the science behind Civil War photography, and the Victorian fascination with death rituals?

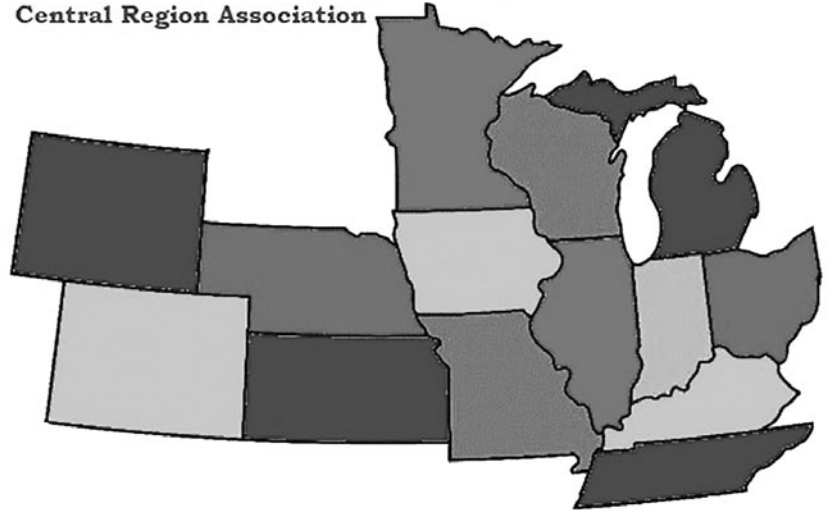
In season two, we join the Navy to explore life on the rivers and seas and to discover what really happened to the H. L. Hunley. How is the war remembered? We discuss "Living History", reenacting, Civil War monuments, and the preservation of Connecticut's historic regimental flag collection in the first half of this on-going journey from the halls of the New England Civil War Museum.

You can find History in the Haversack on YouTube, Spotify, Apple Podcasts, or whenever you get your podcasts. Not a podcast guy? No sweat - You can access recordings on the museum's YouTube channel. Grab your haversack and we'll see you there!





Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic  
Central Region Association



**CENTRAL REGION ASSOCIATION -  
ALLIED ORDERS OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC  
84TH MEETING - JASPER, IN  
OCTOBER 4 & 5, 2024  
AGENDA**

**Friday, 4 October, 2024**

- 6:00 - 8:00 PM Dinner at The Schnitzelbank, next to hotel
- 8:00 PM Joshua Claybourn "Lincoln's Wilderness Years" at Hampton Inn meeting room

**Saturday, 5 October, 2024**

- 8:30 AM Meet to Carpool - Hotel Lobby
- 9:15 AM - 1:00 PM Lincoln's Boyhood National Memorial, 3027 E South St, Lincoln City, IN 475521 (time includes each group eating lunch in the Santa Claus, Ferdinand or Jasper area at a location of their own choosing).
- 1:00 PM "Forum Revolutionary vs Civil War: Why are The Organizations Growing while Others Suffer" at hotel
- 2:30 PM Central Region Association Meeting
- After Meeting Pause until 5:30 then Dinner at:  
Snaps, 1115 Main St,  
Jasper, IN 47546-2833 812-848-7627

**more info: <https://www.alliedorderscra.org/>**

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**#404 Civil War  
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Grave Marker**

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epoxied to head stone  
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402	GAR Grave Marker	\$25.00		
404	Civil War Veteran Grave Marker	\$25.00		
Shipping for 1 - \$6.00 2 or more - \$12.00		<b>Sub Total</b>		
		<b>Shipping</b>		
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## ROOTSTECH CONFERENCE

When RootsTech, the world's largest family history conference, offered the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War a free exhibitor's booth in the Salt Palace Convention Center, the Department of Colorado and Wyoming jumped at the opportunity. The conference took place from Thursday, February 29 through Saturday, March 2 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Staffed by brothers from Captain Lot Smith Camp No. 1, traffic at the SUVCW booth was tremendous. On each of the three days, hundreds of conference participants stopped by the booth and engaged in substantive conversations with the volunteers. The brothers put in 94½ man-hours over the whole conference with three to four brothers on duty at any given time to answer questions and dispense information. Several reported being foot sore and dry mouthed by the end of each day.

Almost 60 persons gave their contact information on a sign-up sheet, requesting follow-up contact from the Departments in their home states or the Camp nearest their hometowns. These names were subsequently communicated to the appropriate departments for follow up. The booth organizers have already heard back from the Departments of the Columbia and Wisconsin about follow-up contacts made.

During the three days of RootsTech, in-person daily conference attendance ranged from 5,000 to 10,000 genealogists, hungry for information about their ancestors. In addition, up to 3,000,000 persons will access the RootsTech web site over the next 10 or so months

In addition to the booth, there is potential for a link on RootsTech's web site to bring virtual participants to an SUVCW recruiting site and a recruiting video.



## ALABAMA



On May 7th, Admiral David G. Farragut Camp No. 5 issued the 2024 SUVCW ROTC Awards for the top JROTC Cadets from 13 Mobile County Schools. For the first time, all five military branches were represented among award recipients. In attendance were family and program Cadre supporting the Cadets during the ceremony. Special thanks to Lt. Col. Robert Barrow of the STEM Leadership Academy, for hosting the event at JROTC headquarters for Mobile County Schools, Alabama.

## CALIFORNIA / PACIFIC



On Saturday, May 25th, Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21 held their Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Fallbrook Oddfellows Pioneer Cemetery in Fallbrook.



Several brothers of the Northern Nevada's William P. Carlin, Camp 25 participated in the Nevada Historical Society's 120th Birthday Celebration. The brothers brought a nice collection of antique muskets, rifles,

revolvers and other armaments, along with literature about the SUVCW, GAR, and Nevada during the war to share with the public. They educated the public on how the newly discovered Comstock Load provided much needed silver and gold to the US Treasury for the war effort, and how the new states of Nevada and West Virginia were key to getting President Lincoln's 13th and 14th amendments ratified, after his death.

## COLORADO / WYOMING



Saturday, 18 May 2024, at Orchard Mesa Cemetery in Grand Junction, CO, Legion of the West Camp 7 in conjunction with the Grand Valley Combined Honor Guard, dedicated a new headstone for three previously unknown Union Army veterans, Edwin Locke Isham, Thomas Christie, and J. W. Schroeder, all of whom were members of John A. Logan G.A.R. Post 35. Camp 7 also placed a marker recognizing the last Union veteran buried in Mesa County, Colorado, Pvt. Moses Preston Whitnah, Co. A, 54th Illinois Infantry, who was a member of Phil Sheridan G.A.R. Post 18 & John A. Logan G.A.R. Post 21.

## ILLINOIS



This past March, Hampshire Elementary (Hampshire, Illinois) school teacher Michelle Bannerman invited Brother Tom Oestreicher, PDC and Dennis Maher, CC of the E.F.Dutton Camp #49 of Sycamore, Illinois to give a Civil War Presentation to their 2nd grade students. School District 300 has added the teaching of the Civil War to

2nd graders. The subject was camp life in the Civil War. Brother Tom brought in several of his artifacts to share with the class. The class was very attentive and asked several great questions. Another generation gaining.



Old Glory Camp 6165, Chicago, in concert with the local VFW and Legion posts created a promotional banner which was displayed at the entrance of the Union Ridge Cemetery.

## INDIANA



Members of the John B. Anderson Camp #223 participated in the 'Talking Tombstone' program. This is an annual fundraising event for the Bartholomew County Historical Society (BCHS). The Camp and the BCHS have partnered, working together to share history. At 'Talking Tombstones' two soldiers came back to life to share their stories. Depicted were Private Adam Doyle of Company G Indiana 22nd Volunteer Infantry and Lt. James Phineas Siddall, Assistant Surgeon for the 22nd Indiana. They spoke to wandering groups as they toured the Columbus City Cemetery (May 9th, 2024).



Members of Orlando A. Somers Camp #1 and members of Trail Life USA Troop IN-2717 of Sheridan met at the Thraikill Cemetery's GAR monument to honor U.S. Military who sacrificed all on this Memorial Day. They also promoted the very first Veteran's memorial in Grant County Indiana installed by the Edwin Lennox, Post #408 of the GAR in 1910.

## IOWA



Several members of General Grenville M Dodge Camp 75 joined with General Grant reenactor and took part in an Earth Day (4-22-2024) tree planting at Hoyt Sherman ( Brother of William T. Sherman) Place in Des Moines, Iowa. The trees were grown from cuttings collected from trees that were planted in early spring of 1865 at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL.



Members of Rob't Mitchell Camp No. 206, participated in the May 13 and 14 Honor Flights from Dubuque to Washington, D.C., for local veterans. Camp members acted as honor guard welcoming over 150 veterans and their travel companions back home at the Dubuque Regional Airport over the two days.

## KANSAS



Brothers of Franklin Camp #5 recently presented two SUVCW Medals to deserving JROTC Cadets in recognition of their high degree of patriotism, demonstration of leadership, and academic achievement. Awards were presented to Cadet Aden Manzaking of Shawnee Mission North High School on April 27, and Cadet Gabriel Vital of Leavenworth High School on May 10.



At the GAR section of the Topeka Cemetery the Memorial Day ceremony began with a performance by the Old Abe Camp #16 drum and fife corps.

## MICHIGAN



The brothers of General Israel B. Richardson Camp 2 served as master of ceremonies and event organizers at the City of Birmingham's Oakland County Civil War monument. The Camp was joined by several members of the N-SSA, who did the flag raising ceremony and the firing of a salute.

At the conclusion of the service the camp moved to historic Oak Hill Cemetery in Pontiac and the grave site of namesake General Richardson. The memorial service was highlighted by the stirring biography of the general and the placing of appropriate floral tributes per SUVCW ritual.

## MISSOURI

On Saturday, April 27, 2024, members of Phelps Camp 66 dedicated a "Last Union Veteran" marker at the grave of James Monroe Carlock. Carlock, a member of Company I, 15th Missouri Cavalry, participated in a number of battles as the 15th pursued Confederate General Sterling Price during his 1864 raid through Missouri and Kansas. The Camp was joined by the

Mary Whitney Phelps Tent No. 22, DUVCW.



Francis J. Wilhelmi Camp No. 17 presented at the Edgar Murray School in St. Clair, MO May 3. Called Serendipity Day, different presenters instruct the students on different subjects.



## NEBRASKA



On May 15, 2024, members of Harrison Camp #53-2 and Nebraska Rangers SVR members did Last Union Veteran of the County dedications for Jefferson W. Meyers, Co. K 33rd Iowa Infantry from Merrick County and Leander T. Herron Co. C 83rd Pennsylvania Infantry from Howard County.



# DEPARTMENT NEWS

On February 12, 2024 members of the Nebraska Rangers SVR and First Nebraska Volunteer Infantry attended the Nebraska State Legislative session to post the colors at the State Capitol in Lincoln Nebraska. Annually, members of the Nebraska Rangers SVR post guard duty at the statue of Lincoln on the west side of the State Capitol building.

## NEW JERSEY



Brothers of the Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon Camp #10 did some headstone cleaning of two forgotten African American Veterans, Howard Hall and John Dean, of the 45th and 22nd USCT respectfully, located in a cemetery full of veterans of the USCT, Ambury Hill Cemetery. Brothers were joined by brothers of Colonel Louis R Francine Camp #7.

## NEW YORK



Oliver Tilden Camp #26, hosted the last ceremony of the week for the National Park Service to Commemorate 202nd Anniversary of the birth of President and General Ulysses S. Grant. The ceremony was held at the General Grant National Memorial on West 122nd St. and Riverside Drive in Manhattan, NY on Sunday, April 28, 2024 at 11:00 AM. Thanks to the National Park Service (Manhattan Sites) for helping make the event a successful one.



The Abraham Lincoln Camp #6 placed and dedicated a William G.Pomeroy Foundation historic marker at the G. A. R. Hall in Hall, NY that was procured by Abraham Lincoln Camp # 6, Rochester, NY.

## NORTH CAROLINA



Members of the Major General Judson Kilpatrick Camp No. 7 participated in the Memorial Day ceremony at Raleigh National Cemetery, hosted for the 93rd year by the American Legion. Members presented a wreath in one of the Civil War Union soldier sections of the cemetery.

## OHIO



At a recent Court of Honor at Troop 516 in Centerville, Ohio, new Eagle Scout Rowan Spaulding was presented the SUVCW Eagle Scout Certificate by National Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator (and Rowan's grandfather), Michael Spaulding, PDC. For Rowan's Eagle Project, he researched and constructed an informational sign in historic Old Greencastle Cemetery in Dayton, Ohio. There are about 200 Civil War veterans buried in the cemetery and another 100 veterans of other wars.





In May 2024, members of Gen. William T. Sherman Camp #93 led several Memorial Day remembrance ceremonies in the Dayton, Ohio area. The first ceremony was held in the section of Old Greencastle Cemetery, Dayton's oldest public cemetery, obtained by the original Hiram Strong Post 79 of the GAR. State Representative Phil Plummer was the guest speaker and members of Scout Troop 516 in Centerville, Ohio, participated as well by conducting the flag raising. Members of the Sr. Anthony O'Connell Auxiliary (SAOA) were also present to conduct the wreath and bouquet ceremonies. The Camp then relocated to Woodland Cemetery in Dayton, where a wreath was laid at the grave site of Chaplain William Earnshaw and again at the monument marking the extensive GAR section at Woodland.

## PENNSYLVANIA



An Award of Excellence was presented to Ken Long by the Seven Shays Camp #7 for his research & work on ordering & tombstones for veterans of all wars that need recognition.



The Private Silas Gore Camp #141 conducted a Memorial Day ceremony at a GAR monument located in Bradford County, Pa. The monument had "fallen from history" and set unrecognized for decades until recently discovered by one of the Camp's newer members.

## RHODE ISLAND



Major General Thomas West Sherman Camp No. 1 holds its monthly meetings at the Newport Elks Lodge, Newport, RI, which stands on the site of the temporary US Naval Academy 1861-1865. At the Camp's April meeting, the Exalted Ruler of the lodge presented to the Camp two portraits of the Superintendents of the Naval Academy during the Civil War, Captain (later Commodore) George Smith Blake (1857-1865) and Admiral David Dixon Porter (1865). Camp 1 plans to commemorate these Naval scions alongside the Elks in the future.

## TENNESSEE

The Missionary Ridge Camp #63 placed a military marker on the previously unmarked grave of George Washington Frank, a soldier in Company I of the 9th Tennessee Cavalry USA, at Hall Cemetery in Roane County, TN.



The Department of Tennessee held its 29th annual Encampment March 12, 2024, at Fort Negley in Nashville. Fort Negley was a fortification built by Union troops after the capture of Nashville, Tennessee during the American Civil War, located approximately 2 miles south of the city center. It was the largest inland fort built in the United States during the war.

# DEPARTMENT NEWS



The James A. Garfield Camp 62 were invited by the Lincoln, Vermont Community School for their Decoration Day Memorial observance at the Maple Cemetery, held for over 20 years. Brothers discussed the history and significance of Decoration Day and also distributed pamphlets to the students, prepared by the Camp for the occasion.

## WISCONSIN

The Henry Harnden Camp #2 recently inducted a new member, a 12 year old volleyball player named Felix Clemens. Felix is one of those kids who looks under rocks, with a quick intellect and maturity, is full of life and curiosity, always bright-eyed and bushy-tailed. He has become the Camp's Drummer Boy. Felix is also working towards a "Junior Historian" role with the Dane County Historical Society. The Camp's aim is to work with the Historical Society to develop an array of K-12 oriented historical and educational assets.

## TEXAS



The Brig. Gen Joseph Bailey Camp #5 presented Cadet Pfc Megan S. Franchino the SUVCW ROTC Award at Northwestern State University of Louisiana April 25th.



L. G. Armstrong Camp #49, the Boscobel GAR Hall Preservationists, and the Women's Relief Corp. are working on the next phase of restoring the last GAR Hall in Wisconsin. It will consist of additional plastering of the upstairs meeting room and the stairwell leading up to the room. The work will also include installation of more period-looking light fixtures and wiring. At this time, we need to raise approximately \$3,037 to pay for these projects.



Brothers of the General James J Byrne Camp 1 on Memorial Day at the GAR monument in Oakwood Cemetery, Fort Worth.

L. G. Armstrong Camp #49 in conjunction with Boscobel's 4th of July parade will hold our Annual Brat Feed fund raiser and membership drive at 11 am. Tours of the GAR Hall will be available all day.

## VERMONT



# OUR HERITAGE

BY GARY GIBSON, PDC - NATIONAL HISTORIAN

## National Association of Naval Veterans

As many readers may know, at the end of the war, the G.A.R. was not the only game in town when it came to veterans' organizations. Three of the largest competitors were *The Boys in Blue*, *the Union Veterans' Union* and *the Union Veterans' Legion*.

The Boys in Blue didn't survive very long. The Union Veterans' Union and Union Veterans' Legion however, did continue for many years, and experienced cross-over membership with, but never attained the number of members as, the Grand Army of the Republic. One organization that did not compete with the G.A.R. was an organization for only those who served in the U.S. Navy.

Organized on January 13, 1887, the National Association of Naval Veterans (NANV) was comprised of several locally-based groups of former sailors residing in different parts of the United States.

Its objects mirrored the G.A.R. with "...to perpetuate the glorious name and deeds of our Navy; strengthening the ties of fraternal fellowship and sympathy; to extend relief to worthy members...and to maintain the honor of the American flag."

The head of the national organization was referred to as the Commodore, and members called each other "Shipmate". Nationally, the membership peaked at just over 9,000 sailors and marines.

The NANV was a completely separate organization from the G.A.R., but held their annual reunions in conjunction with the Grand Army's National Encampments. The former sailors even held their own parades during Encampment week. In 1895, at Louisville, KY, about 10,000 sailors and marines marched through the city on Naval Veteran's Day.

Most of the local associations had created and wore their own distinctive membership badge, and many of these incorporated a fouled anchor in the design. The NANV membership badge consisted of a Union shield with the words *Don't Give Up the Ship*, backed by crossed anchors, and surmounted by an eagle holding a scroll. The scroll contained the words *National Association U.S. Naval Veterans*. Originally, a red, white and blue striped ribbon hung behind the emblem, but was soon replaced with a light blue ribbon with silver stars, the "Union Jack".

By 1894, 34 individual associations existed from New England to Chicago. These groups had names such as Admiral Farragut Association, The Kearsarge Association, Michigan Naval Veterans, Admiral Dahlgren Association, The Monitor and The Essex Naval Associations.

There were within the G.A.R. three posts whose members were all sailors and marines – Naval Post No. 400 of Philadelphia, PA; Farragut Post No. 516 of New York City; and Stevens Naval Post No. 104 of Hoboken, NJ.





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