



**Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



**Meeting Minutes
Installation Luncheon
Saturday, January 21, 2023**

Florentine Trattoria, 14510 Big Basin Way, Saratoga, California

Camp No. 4 Members Present (11):

Frank C. Avila (DC), Daniel R. Earl (PCC), Kenneth G. Felton, Thomas T. Graham (PDC), Robert J. Kadlec (PCC), Rick T. LaRosa (CC), Paul E. Lavrischeff (PCC), Linn W. Malaznik, Gregory L. Mast, Donald E. Menzies, John E. Stolp (PCC)

Guests Present (2):

Vernie Mast, Diane Wetzel

Meeting called to order by CC Rick LaRosa at 1:45 pm.

The draft minutes for the meeting of November 5, 2022 were distributed by email prior to the meeting. It was moved (Graham) and seconded (Lavrischeff) that the minutes be approved as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Routine reports and business were postponed until the next regular meeting.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

- Awards: Camp Commander Rick LaRosa presented the following awards:
 - Robert Kadlec – certificate of appreciation for all his continued support and assistance.
 - Paul Lavrischeff – certificate of appreciation for his continued devotion and assistance.
 - Dean Enderlin – certificate of appreciation for all his support and assistance.
 - Daniel Earl – General Philip H. Sheridan Exemplary Dedication Award.
- Installation of Officers: Department Commander Frank Avila duly installed the officers of the Camp for the next term.
- Membership Dues: It was moved (Earl) and seconded (Graham) that the Camp dues, for the remainder of 2023 and moving forward formally be increased by \$10, from \$35 to \$45 annually as required by the National Organization. Motion passed unanimously.

- 2023 Meeting Dates: It was moved (Earl) and seconded (Graham) that the Camp approve the meeting dates proposed by Commander LaRosa, as follows: February 11, April 15, June 17 (optional), September 9, and November 4. Motion passed unanimously.
- Dues Discussion: Robert Kadlec led a group discussion regarding the need for the dues increase and for what it pays. Frank Avila and Dan Earl indicated that they would look into the issue and get back with further information.

Good of the Order:

- A reminder was given regarding the Four Chaplains Interfaith Memorial Service at St. Frances Cabrini Church in San Jose on February 4 and participation and/or attendance was encouraged.
- Paul Lavrischeff announced that he would soon be sending out dues notices for the Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR), which remain at \$6.00 per year. Checks may be sent to Bro. Paul and he will get them to the proper individual.
- Frank Avila reminded Brothers that the Department Encampment will take place at the Four Points by Sheraton in Bakersfield, California on March 17-18, 2023.
- Frank Avila also related that he has heard that the long-standing annual Civil War reenactment at Roaring Camp in Felton, California over Memorial Day weekend will no longer take place.

Meeting was duly closed at 3:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by Camp Secretary Tad D. Campbell, PCinC from notes compiled by Donald Menzies.



**Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



**Meeting Minutes
Camp Meeting
Saturday, February 11, 2023**

Denny's Restaurant, 1015 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose, California

Camp No. 4 Members Present (8):

Frank C. Avila (DC), Daniel R. Earl (PCC), Thomas T. Graham (PDC), Robert J. Kadlec (PCC), Rick T. LaRosa (CC), Paul E. Lavrischeff (PCC), Donald E. Menzies, John E. Stolp (PCC)

Guests Present (0):

None.

Meeting called to order by CC Rick LaRosa at 10:55 am.

The draft minutes for the meeting of January 21, 2023 were distributed by email prior to the meeting. It was moved (Graham) and seconded (Stolp) that the minutes be approved as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Camp Secretary Tad Campbell was absent and had nothing to report.

Camp Treasurer Linn W. Malaznik was absent. On his behalf, Daniel Earl reported that as of January 31, 2023 the treasury had a balance of \$7,673.29.

Camp Commander Rick LaRosa reported the following:

- Rick contacted Laurie Amaro, editor of the Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society (SCCHGS) Newsletter, and she will give the Camp the lead article for the October 2023 issue on the GAR Plot and Remembrance Day event.
- Rick contacted the general manager at the Madronia Cemetery in Saratoga, California for assistance on setting up for our April 15th meeting and the Mary Brown presentation. He replied that this was not a problem, but that the staff office is closed on Saturday, so they would not be able to supply chairs and tables for our meeting that day.
- Rick related issues with the planning of Memorial Day from the planning committee at Oak Hill Memorial Park and the question of whether the Camp wishes to participate and having "a wait and see" attitude.
- The search is still on for future Camp meeting sites/rooms, etc.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

- New Member - Thomas B. Hammer: On behalf of the Membership Committee, Daniel Earl moved that Brothers approve Thomas Benton Hammer for membership in our Camp. The motion passed unanimously.
- Membership Dues and Fees: It was moved (Earl) and seconded (Lavrischeff) that, pursuant to § 3 of Art. VIII of the Camp Bylaws, late fees for annual Camp dues not paid by February 1, 2023, be waived by the Camp. The Motion passed unanimously.
- Camp Bylaws Proposals: On behalf of the Camp Bylaws Committee, Daniel Earl moved that the proposed amendments as presented be adopted as part of the Camp Bylaws. The motion passed unanimously. *[Note: The proposed amendments were distributed via email to the entire Camp on January 2, 2023 and again on February 8, 2023.]*

Good of the Order:

- Paul Lavrischeff related an anecdote about Abraham Lincoln.
- Frank Avila announced that there would be a living history event with re-enactors at Fort Point in San Francisco on February 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.
- Frank Avila reminded Brothers that the Department Encampment will take place at the Four Points by Sheraton in Bakersfield, California on March 17-18, 2023 and if going they should get their room reservation and register for the Encampment before February 18th to get the discounted prices. The forms are available on the Department website.
- In celebration of Lincoln's birthday, Daniel Earl presented the Brothers with "Lincoln Chocolate Chip Cookies" made by his wife, Debbie.
- Rick LaRosa talked about the Fort Point Garrison Band. They would like to give a concert to the Camp. There was discussion about possibly using them at the ceremony at the GAR plot on May 29, 2023. A question was asked to verify if they are a 501(c) charitable group.

Meeting was duly closed at 12:15 pm.

Minutes submitted by Camp Secretary Tad D. Campbell, PCinC from notes compiled by Donald Menzies, Daniel Earl, and Rick LaRosa.



**Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



**Meeting Minutes
Camp Meeting & Historical Program
Saturday, April 15, 2023**

Madronia Cemetery, 14766 Oak Street, Saratoga, California

Camp No. 4 Members Present (6):

Daniel R. Earl (PCC), Robert J. Kadlec (PCC), Rick T. LaRosa (PCC), Paul E. Lavrischeff (PCC), Gregory L. Mast, John E. Stolp (PCC)

Guests Present (1):

Bruce Mickelson (neighbor of CC LaRosa).

Meeting called to order by CC Rick LaRosa at approximately 10:00 am.

The draft minutes for the meeting of February 11, 2023 were distributed by email prior to the meeting. It was moved and seconded that the minutes be approve as presented. Motion passed.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Camp Secretary Tad Campbell was absent and had nothing to report.

Camp Treasurer Linn W. Malaznik was absent and had nothing to report.

Camp Commander Rick LaRosa gave a review of the Department Encampment that took place in Bakersfield, California on March 17-19, 2023.

No other officers nor committees had anything to report.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

- The membership was informed of the Civil War monument challenge presented at the Department Encampment by Department Patriotic Instructor Kyle Jones.
- Regarding Memorial Day activities, CC LaRosa presented his arguments as to why the Camp should not participate at Oak Hill Memorial Park in San José this year. After some discussion and feedback, it was decided that the Camp would participate in Memorial Day observances at a new location, preferably the GAR plot at Los Gatos Memorial Park in San Jose.

Good of the Order:

- Brother Gregory Mast was presented with his certificate of membership.

Meeting was duly closed at approximately 11:00 am.

Program:

Immediately after the conclusion of the business meeting, Camp Historian John Stolp, PCC delivered a history presentation near the headstone of Mary Brown. She was the second wife of John Brown who led the raid on Harper's Ferry before the Civil War. Brother Stolp gave an informative talk on Mary Brown's life and trials from the execution of her husband in 1859 to bringing her family out west to California. The Camp extends its appreciate to Brother Stolp for conducting the program.

Minutes submitted by Camp Secretary Tad D. Campbell, PCinC from notes compiled by Rick LaRosa.



**Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



**Meeting Minutes
Camp Meeting (Hybrid)
Saturday, September 9, 2023**

Oak Hill Memorial Park (Administration Building)
300 Curtner Avenue, San Jose, California

Camp No. 4 Members Present (13):

In-Person: Terry L. Briggs, Tad D. Campbell (PCinC), Daniel R. Earl (PCC), Thomas T. Graham (PDC), Rick T. LaRosa (PCC), Paul E. Lavrischeff (PCC), Linn W. Malaznik, Donald E. Menzies, John E. Stolp (PCC); *Virtual via Zoom:* Frank C. Avila (PDC), Dean A. Enderlin (PDC), Kenneth G. Felton, Robert "Nels" Nelson

Guests Present (0):

None.

Meeting called to order by CC Rick LaRosa at 10:10

The draft minutes for the meeting of April 15, 2023 were distributed by email prior to the meeting. It was moved (Graham) and seconded (Lavrischeff) that the minutes be approve as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Secretary Tad Campbell reported that email confirmation had been received of the Camp's entry into the San Jose Veterans' Day Parade on November 11, 2023.

Camp Treasurer Linn W. Malaznik reported that the Camp treasury has a balance of \$6,845.29.

Camp Commander Rick LaRosa thanked Bro. John Stolp for his excellent historical presentation at the last Camp meeting at Madronia Cemetery. He also thanked those that participated in the Independence Day Parade in Monterey on July 4th. CC LaRosa commented on the excellent turnout from the Camp at the National Encampment. Of the nine Delegates from the Department, six were from Camp No. 4 (*F. Avila, T. Campbell, D. Earl, D. Enderlin, R. LaRosa, & L. Malaznik*). Finally, CC LaRosa welcomed the 12 new Brothers who transferred from the recently defunct Lincoln Camp No. 10 in Santa Cruz/Monterey (*M. Arbuckle, R. Barratt, K. Coyne, P. Gomez, R. Groeling, G. Hasslinger, R. Hawkinson, H. Lyon, J. Lyon, R. Nelson, K. Quattlander, & C. Tittle*).

No other officers nor committees had anything to report.

Unfinished Business:

- CC LaRosa commented that at the National Encampment there was discussion about membership qualifications, specifically issues regarding gender identification, but that no decisions had been made yet.
- CC LaRosa advised that he had received an email from Department Commander Steve Doyle asking Camp No. 4 to vote to assume “jurisdiction” for those areas previously handled by Lincoln Camp No. 10. It was agreed by all that it was not appropriate at the Camp-level to claim responsibility for geographic areas and that such assignments should be decided by the Department.
- CC LaRosa reminded the Camp of the Civil War monuments challenge posed by Department Patriotic Instructor Kyle Jones during the Department Encampment.

New Business:

- Graves Registration Officer Ken Felton gave details about the upcoming headstone dedication ceremony at Santa Cruz Memorial Park in Santa Cruz, California for Pvt. Henry L. Barnett of Co. G, 113th United States Colored Troops (USCT), which will take place on Saturday, September 16, 2023. Pvt. Barnett has had an unmarked grave since his death in 1909.
- CC LaRosa gave thanks to Dan Earl and John Stolp for submission of an article regarding Remembrance Day at the GAR Plot at Oak Hill Memorial Park, which will be featured prominently in the October edition of the newsletter of the Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society (SCCHGS).
- CC LaRosa reminded Brothers of the upcoming officer elections, which will be held at the Camp meeting on November 4. He also announced that he will not be running for another term as Camp Commander.
- CC LaRosa reminded Brothers of the upcoming Veterans’ Day Parade in downtown San Jose, which will take place on November 11, in which the Camp will be participating.
- CC LaRosa reminded Brothers of the upcoming Remembrance Day Ceremony that the Camp will be conducting at the GAR Plot at Oak Hill Memorial Park on Saturday, November 18, 2023. The tentative time is 10:00 am. The cemetery will be distributing a flyer for the event and the Fort Point Garrison Brass Band is scheduled to perform.
- Treasurer Linn Malaznik will coordinate with the Camp Council about placing some of the Camp funds into short-term CDs, which are yielding about 5% interest.
- Bro. Thomas Graham inquired about the whereabouts of the funds and property belonging to the now-defunct Lincoln Camp No. 10. Bro. Tad Campbell reported that Camp No. 10 had donated their funds to an appropriate charity, but that the status of their Camp property is unknown.
- Bro. Linn Malaznik volunteered to assist with Eagle Scout Courts of Honor in the Monterey and Salinas area (previously covered by Lincoln Camp No. 10) and will coordinate with Bro. Randall Hawkinson.

Patriotic Instructor’s Report:

Patriotic Instructor Dean Enderlin shared two images from newspaper accounts of a “preparedness” parade held in San Francisco in July 1916 and associated funeral. The parade, lead by members of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and Military Order of the Loyal Legion (MOLLUS), was marred by a pipe bomb explosion attributed to anarchists. 44 people were wounded and 6 were killed, including two members of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). The parade was cancelled, but took place the following weekend, with members of the SUVCW carrying an enormous U.S. Flag.

Good of the Order:

- CC Rick LaRosa reminded the Camp of the available Camp awards and requested the names of nominees be forwarded to him.
- Bro. Frank Avila mentioned several school events in which he has participated and announced that Quimby Oak Middle School in San Jose provided the Camp with an honorarium of \$90.00.
- Bro. Frank Avila announced that there will be living history event at Alcatraz Island on October 21, 2023 for those interested in attending.
- Bro. Paul Lavrischeff reminded everyone that Patriot Day is coming up on Monday, September 11, 2023 and encouraged attendance at the annual memorial ceremony at the 9/11 Monument at Oak Hill Memorial Park.
- Camp Historian John Stolp remarked that today is California Admission Day and that it is the 173rd anniversary of California's admission into the Union on September 9, 1850.

Meeting was duly closed at approximately 11:15 am.

Minutes submitted by Camp Secretary Tad D. Campbell, PCinC.



**Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



**Meeting Minutes
Camp Election Meeting (Hybrid)
Saturday, November 4, 2023**

Willow Glen Funeral Home
1039 Lincoln Avenue, San Jose, California

Camp No. 4 Members Present (13):

In-Person: Frank C. Avila (PCC), Daniel R. Earl (PCC), Thomas T. Graham (PDC), Thomas B. Hammer, Rick T. LaRosa (PCC), Paul E. Lavrischeff (PCC), Linn W. Malaznik, Gregory L. Mast, Donald E. Menzies, John E. Stolp (PCC); *Virtual via Zoom:* Tad D. Campbell (PCinC), Dean A. Enderlin (PDC), Randall W. Hawkinson

Guests Present (1):

Sueling Cho (wife of Thomas B. Hammer)

Meeting called to order by CC Rick LaRosa at 10:09

The draft minutes for the meeting of September 9, 2023 were distributed by email prior to the meeting. It was moved (Graham) and seconded (Earl) that the minutes be approve as presented. Motion passed unanimously. One minor typographical error was noted, which will be corrected before publication.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Secretary Tad Campbell reported that no correspondence had been received.

Camp Treasurer Linn W. Malaznik reported that as of September 30th the Camp treasury has a balance of \$6,845.29.

Camp Commander Rick LaRosa reported the following:

- The closing of today's meeting would be in memory of Past Camp Commander Robert J. "Bob" Kadlec.
- On September 16, 2023 CC LaRosa and Paul Lavrischeff participated in the headstone dedication ceremony for Pvt. Henry L. Barnett (1846-1909) at Santa Cruz Memorial Park in Santa Cruz, California. The event, sponsored by Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp No. 24, was spearheaded by Kenneth G. Felton, a dual member of Camp No. 4. The event was attended by about 30-35 people and included a number of local dignitaries.
- On October 15, 2023 CC LaRosa attended at Colton Hall in Monterey, California a reenactment of the signing of the California State Constitution. It was in this historic building where the original state constitution was drafted in 1849.

- On November 3, 2023 CC LaRosa attended the History Happy Hour at the Ainsley House in Campbell, California.
- CC LaRosa made some comments on the state of the Camp, especially the aging of the Camp's membership. Given changes in members' personal health and other life situations, the Camp should explore different ways in which future meetings could be held, such as some less formal meetings/gatherings. He also suggested that a Camp Commander could delegate coordination of certain events to a particular Brother or Brothers.
- CC LaRosa announced that he would not be seeking a fourth term as Camp Commander during today's elections.

No other officers nor committees had anything to report.

Unfinished Business:

- Camp Treasurer Linn Malaznik reported that at the last meeting he was authorized to place some of the Camp funds into a CD, but that he has been having difficulty meeting up with the person at the bank that handles that and so it has not yet been accomplished. The Camp's accounts were with Bank of the West, which has now been taken over by BMO (Bank of Montreal).

New Business:

- The initiation of Bro. Thomas B. Hammer was conducted, with his membership badge being pinned on him by his wife, Sueling Cho.
- It was moved (Earl) and seconded (Lavrischeff) that the Camp give a donation of \$100.00 to a charity in memory of Bro. Robert J. Kadlec (PCC). After some discussion, it was determined to give the donation to the Darwin J. Thomas Memorial Chapter 201, Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), of which Bro. Kadlec was an active and dedicated member.
- Bro. Tad Campbell introduced a motion that the Camp petition the Department of California and Pacific for the restoration of rank of Past Camp Commander (PCC) for the following Brothers: Robert L. Nelson, Christopher L. Tittle, Kevin R. Coyne, Garrett B. Hasslinger, and Randall W. Hawkinson. These Brothers lost their PCC honors when they transferred to this Camp from the now-defunct Lincoln Camp No. 10. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- CC LaRosa reminded the Camp of the upcoming Veterans Day Parade in downtown San Jose on Sat., November 11, 2023. The plan is for flags to be carried by Tad Campbell, Rick LaRosa, and Linn Malaznik, with Frank Avila acting as one of the armed color guards. Reenactor Jose Silva is planning to participate and hopes to bring five or more reenactors with him. The Camp is entry #12 and participants should gather at the staging area between 9-10 am.
- CC LaRosa reminded the Camp of the upcoming Remembrance Day Ceremony at Oak Hill Memorial Park in San Jose on Sat., November 18, 2023 at 10 am. Over 175 invitations have been sent to the media and dignitaries. Unfortunately, the Fort Point Garrison Brass Band will be unable to participate as originally planned.
- The nomination and elections of officers was conducted, with the following results:
 - Camp Commander – Donald E. Menzies
 - Senior Vice Commander – Rick T. LaRosa (PCC)
 - Junior Vice Commander – Daniel R. Earl (PCC)
 - Secretary – Tad D. Campbell (PCinC)
 - Treasurer – Linn W. Malaznik
 - Council – Daniel R. Earl (PCC), Frank C. Avila (PDC), and Thomas T. Graham (PDC).

- Delegates to Department Encampment: Randall W. Hawkinson, Linn W. Malaznik, and Thomas B. Hammer.
- Alternate Delegates to Department Encampment: All other members of the Camp in good standing.
- Delegates to the United Veterans Council (UVC) of Santa Clara County: These are appointed, not elected, positions and will be decided by the incoming Camp Commander.

Patriotic Instructor's Report:

Patriotic Instructor Dean Enderlin shared an image of the Battle of Perryville, Kentucky (October 8, 1862) and read excerpts of letters by Corporal Thomas Berry of Company G, 89th Illinois Infantry. The letters were contained in a book he recently acquired called "Thomas Berry's War" by C. W. Yocum. The book is of particular interest to Bro. Enderlin as his own ancestor, Erick Nelson, was in Company F.

Good of the Order:

- Bro. Paul Lavrischeff asked if there were any updates on the status of Brothers. No one had anything to report. A discussion of Camp and SVR dues followed, with no actions taken.
- Bro. Frank Avila reported that there is no definitive information about the 2024 Department Encampment. It will likely take place on the second or third weekend in March, either in Bakersfield, California or Laughlin, Nevada.
- Bro. Thomas Graham asked about the next National Encampment. Bro. Avila reported that the 2024 Encampment will take place in Lexington, Kentucky, with the 2025 Encampment to be held in Houston, Texas. Nothing definitive is known past that.
- CC LaRosa reminded the Camp that the memorial and committal services for Robert J. Kadlec (PCC) will take place at Oak Hill Memorial Park in San Jose on Mon., November 6, 2023 at 11:00 am. Brothers are encouraged to wear period attire and their membership badges with mourning ribbon affixed.

Meeting was duly closed at approximately 11:27 am.

Minutes submitted by Camp Secretary Tad D. Campbell, PCinC.