

# Stoneman Dispatch

## Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Of the Inland Empire, Department of California and Pacific

Email: [camp18@suvpac.org](mailto:camp18@suvpac.org) Web: [www.suvpac.org/camp18.html](http://www.suvpac.org/camp18.html)

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*Freedom isn't Free. If you Enjoy your Freedom, Thank a Veteran!  
Veterans Day - November 11<sup>th</sup> – Thank You*

### Message from the Camp Commander

Greetings, Camp 18 Brothers! I hope this message finds you and yours healthy and in good spirits.

During the business portion of our October meeting, several Brothers contributed to Brother John Morris' request for a donation for his Memorial Day and Veterans' Day flags, and we all voted unanimously to supplement the remainder of the \$300 he needed from camp funds. A hearty fraternal thanks to all who participated with their own funds for this worthy cause.

Once again, we will be holding our December meeting at the Palm Springs Air Museum. The meeting will start at 11:00 and will be on Saturday, December 16th. As we have done in the past, Brothers' wives and families are encouraged to attend this meeting as it is when we elect new officers for the coming year. Even though we won't have a lot of business to discuss, the earlier time was chosen in case Brothers and their families wish to spend extra time visiting this fantastic museum. There will be a discounted Entrance Fee of \$10 and the meeting will be held again in the small room next to the Snack Bar (located at the North end of the hanger).

For those of you not at our last meeting, there will be a Veterans Day Parade in San Bernardino on Saturday, November 11th, starting at 11:00. About an hour later, it will terminate at La Plaza Park (located on Mt. Vernon between 7th Street and Victoria Ave.)

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**Still time to help,** Brother John Morris and crew will be placing flags for Veterans Day at Evergreen cemetery, 4414 14<sup>th</sup> St. Riverside 92501. Start time is 0800, Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>.

For more information you can email Brother Morris at: [john.morris.6@us.af.mil](mailto:john.morris.6@us.af.mil) or contact the Editor.

### Tentative Camp Calendar

**Saturday Dec. 16** – Camp meeting & Officer election, in the "Science room" at Palm Springs Air Museum - 745 N. Gene Autry Trail, Palm Springs 92262. (760) 778-6262.

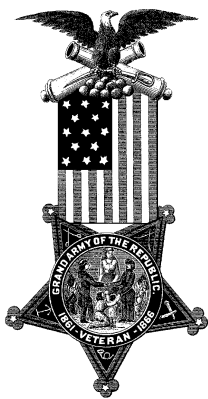
**Saturday, Feb. 10** – Camp Display at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Lincoln Shrine Open House – 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Saturday, Feb. 17** – Camp meeting, American Legion Hall, Corona.

### Did You Know?

**November 6, 1860** – Former Illinois congressman Abraham Lincoln of the Republican Party was elected President of the United States as he defeated John Breckinridge, John Bell and Stephen Douglas.

**November 6, 1861** – Confederate President Jefferson Davis was elected to a six year term of office.



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*Dedicated to Preserving the Memory  
of the Grand Army of the Republic  
And the soldiers who Fought to Save the Union 1861 - 1865*

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**MESSAGE, continued,...**

There will then be a Ceremony at the park, along with military vehicles, Veterans Group displays, and classic cars on the adjacent streets. Hope to see you there!

Soon, Brother Rudy will be sending out our annual SUVVCW dues forms for our camp and I will ask you all to respond asap when you get his letter. With the upcoming Holidays, it is easy to put it off and have it slip our minds, but you can help out by taking care of it as soon as you can. Much appreciated.

Looking back on the year, I wish to thank you all for whatever participation you were able to provide our camp in order to promote the memory, sacrifices, and valor of our boys in blue. I look forward to another successful Camp 18 New Year in 2018.

As always, you can contact me at [psychrn10@aol.com](mailto:psychrn10@aol.com) or by phone at: 909-862-7129. I would especially like to know about any Brothers or their family members who are ill or in distress.

Wishing you all a Joyous Holiday Season and Happy New Year . . .

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Steve Doyle  
Camp Commander

**More about the Lincoln Shrine Display**

Once again General Stoneman Camp 18 will display Civil War and Grand Army of the Republic items at the annual Lincoln Memorial Shrine Open House in Redlands.

*Below; The Camp Display at last year's Lincoln Shrine Open House. From the left are Brother Rudy Velasco, Brother Bill Daley and Camp Cmdr. Steve Doyle.*



The Open House is scheduled for Saturday, February 10, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. We will be arriving a bit earlier to begin setting up our display site.

The annual Lincoln Pilgrimage will also take place on the same morning and will terminate at the Shrine and Smiley Park where President Lincoln will join the event along with mounted Cavalry and uniformed Civil War soldiers and Boy Scout troops.

One of the highlights of the annual Open House, besides the wonderful museum items inside, is the artillery firing demonstration. There were more than 1000 visitors the Lincoln Shrine event last year. This could be something you would like to see.

The Lincoln Memorial Shrine is located at 125 W. Vine St, Redlands 92373. (909)798-7632.

**Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**

*The following comes to us from a friend of Camp Commander Steve Doyle. I thought it was interesting and you may enjoy it also.*

1) How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns and why?  
***21 steps, it alludes to the to the 21 gun salute, which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.***

2) How long does he hesitate after his about face to begin his return walk and why?  
***21 seconds for the same reason as answer number 1.***

3) Why are his gloves wet?  
***His gloves are moistened to prevent him from losing his grip on the rifle.***

4) Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all of the time and if not why not?  
***He carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an about face and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.***

5) How often are the guards changed?

***Continued on page 3, see TOMB,.....***

**TOMB continued,**

*Guards are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.*

6) What are the physical traits of the guard limited to?

For a person to apply for guard duty at the tomb he must be between 5' 10 inches and 6' 2 inches tall and his waist size cannot exceed 30 inches. Other requirements of the Guard; They must commit 2 years of their life to guard the tomb, live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform {fighting} or the tomb in any way. After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin.

The shoes are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt. There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform. Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniforms ready for guard duty. Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror.

The first six months of duty a guard cannot talk to anyone, nor watch TV. All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. A guard must memorize who they are and where they are interred.

Among the notables are: President Taft, Joe E. Lewis (the boxer) and Medal of Honor recipient Audie Murphy, the most decorated soldier of WWII and Hollywood actor.

In 2003 as Hurricane Isabelle was approaching Washington D.C. our U.S. Senate/House took 2 days off with anticipation of the storm. On the ABC evening news, it was reported that because of the dangers from the hurricane, the military members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given permission to suspend the assignment. They respectfully declined the offer. Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said that guarding the Tomb was not just an assignment; it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a serviceperson.

The tomb has been patrolled continuously, 24/7, since 1930.

### **Guest Speaker at Daughters of Union Vets Meeting**

On Wednesday, October 25, Camp Secretary Rudy Velasco was the guest speaker at the luncheon meeting for Amada Stokes Tent #87 of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The Tent meeting was held at the Continental Restaurant on Route 66 in Glendora.

The Tent meeting, which was conducted much like our Camp

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**General George Stoneman Jr.  
Camp 18 Officers**

Camp Commander,	Steve Doyle
Sr. Vice Cmdr,	Richard Burns
Jr. Vice Cmdr,	Michael Bullard
Sec/Treas,	Rudy Velasco III
Camp Council #1	Michael Emmett
Camp Council #2	Rudolph Velasco IV
Camp Council #3	John Morris

### **Appointed**

Camp Chaplain	Bill Daley
Camp Historian	Burt Hogue
Graves Registration	Michael Emmett
Newsletter Editor	Rudy Velasco III
Patriotic Instructor	Richard Burns
JROTC & Eagle	Richard Burns &
Scout Coordinators	Rudy Velasco III

*If* you have something of interest that you would like to add to this newsletter, something that our **Brothers** might enjoy like an article, a photo or a Civil War event, contact the Editor, Rudy Velasco for placement. [rev03@dc.rr.com](mailto:rev03@dc.rr.com)



**FRATERNITY**

**CHARITY**

**LOYALTY**



**MEETING continued from page 3,...**

meetings, opened in a formal fashion. The ladies initiated a new member during the first half of their meeting before breaking for a baked chicken breast lunch that was very enjoyable.



*Photo above; a few Civil War weapons and accouterments for display at the Tent meeting.*

After lunch, Camp Secretary Rudy, armed with some facts, some theory and a little opinion, talked about some military tactics used by Civil War Infantry, such as maneuvering regiments and companies in battle and the use of the bayonet as a practical and psychological weapon.

Some differences between smooth bore and rifled



*Above; Camp Secretary Rudy Velasco and Tent #87 President Cindy Allen at the conclusion of the lecture.*

muskets were discussed as well as ballistics and the differences of the Minnie and smooth round ball.

We had a very pleasant time at the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War meeting, all friendly ladies and we made new friends and Fraternal Sisters.

**From the Editor...**

A reminder for anyone going to the Camp Meeting at the Palm Springs Air museum, when entering to pay admission, tell the counter person that you are with the Sons of Union Veterans and that we get the discounted admission fee of \$10.00. They may need to be reminded. Ask for directions to "Science" meeting room.

Thank you very much to all that donated to our fund for the memorial flags used at Evergreen Cemetery for Veterans and Memorial days. We collected \$250.00 at our last meeting. Our Camp Brother Morris was looking for \$300 for the purchase of new flags to replace some of the broken and worn ones. Brother Morris and his compatriots install and recover over a 1000 flags for our veterans on each of these holidays at that cemetery.

Eight years ago when we formed General Stoneman Camp 18, we had a handful of Brothers looking to make a success of the Camp here in the Inland Empire. Most of these Brothers have served the Camp as officers of some sort during this period and are looking to "pass the torch" of growing our Camp to newer and or younger Brothers. The time commitment for being a camp officer is very small and on the job training is available. If you may be interested in serving your Camp and want to give it a try, contact your Editor

Have a great holiday season!



*From the left, Camp 18 Brothers Richard Lutz, Bill Daley & Steve Doyle at the Camp's Lincoln Shrine display in February 2017.*