

Stoneman Dispatch

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Of the Inland Empire, Department of California and Pacific

Email: camp18@suvpac.org Web: www.suvpac.org/camp18.html

Volume 14, No.5, November, 2023

May you and the Family have a

Happy Thanksgiving

and a Merry, Merry Christmas

Tentative Camp Calendar

possible annual calendar on page 5



Around the Camp



Next Saturday, 11 November, Camp 18 will be performing the Camp's 2nd Annual Veterans Day Service at Evergreen Historical Memorial Cemetery in Riverside. The program begins at 9:00 a.m. Participants are asked to arrive no later than 8:00 a.m. for a quick run-through before any spectators show up.

There was a fair turn out for last year's Service with some Cemetery personal, family members and friends plus some of the general public attending.

There will be some metal folding chairs available but you might want to bring a folding chair with you, just in case, to make sure you have a something to sit on.

Next Saturday's Service will resemble last year's performance and last about 30 minutes.

Camp 18 Brother participants will make a couple of speeches, recite a couple of poems, add a few prayers, make a wreath presentation to the GAR monument, fire a musket salute and generally thank all U.S. Veterans, past and present for their service.

*More Around the Camp
on page 2,.....*

Friday, Nov. 10 -Veterans Day Flag Detail. Evergreen Historical Cemetery, Riverside. 8:00 a.m. start time, all Brothers invited to participate.

Saturday, Nov. 11 – Camp Veterans Day Service at Evergreen Historical Cemetery. Ceremony begins at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to attend.

Saturday, Dec. 2 – Wreaths Across America Ceremony walk through/practice at Evergreen Cemetery. Start time 9:00 a.m.

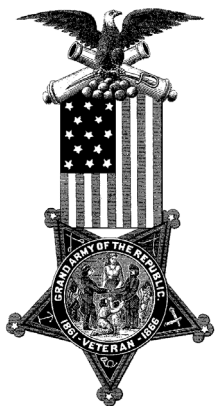
Saturday, Dec. 9 – Camp Officer Election & Holiday meeting. 10:00 a.m. at the American Legion Post #216, Corona.

Saturday, Dec 16 – Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Evergreen starting at 9:00 a.m. Participants please arrive by 8:00 a.m. for a quick practice.

Saturday, February 3 – Camp display at the Lincoln Shrine Open House in Redlands. Memorial Shrine open between 11:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Saturday, Feb. 17 – Camp meeting – 10:00 a.m. American Legion Post 216, Corona.

March – SUVCW Department of California & Pacific Encampment. Plans still being made. More info to follow as they develop.



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



Around the Camp, *continued*,...

Next Friday, 10 November, the Camp's Veterans Day flag detail will meet at Evergreen Cemetery to plant flags on the Veterans graves. If you are available and would like to help place the flags, you are invited to arrive at the cemetery at 8:00 a.m. to help Brother Sr. Vice Commander John Morris accomplish the task.

The weather forecast for the Veterans Day weekend shows a high of 70 so a comfortable time should be had by all.

Toys for Tots,... Camp 18 is collecting children's toys to take to the nearest Toys for Tots campaign office or homeless shelter. If you would like to participate, please purchase toys for small children and bring the toy donations, unwrapped, to the December 9th Camp meeting. Keep toy cost at \$25.00 or below.

A New Camp Project is taking shape. Plans to clean the headstones at the G. A. R. circle inside Evergreen cemetery are coming together.

In 2021, a few Camp Brothers volunteered to help a local Eagle Scout clean these same headstones as his Eagle Scout project. Some of the cleaning supplies are left over and stored at the cemetery and available for us to use.

The projected time table for this Camp project is scheduled for sometime between March and May 2024. Stand by for more details.

Camp Officer Elections are scheduled for our December 9th meeting which will also be a Holiday celebration, of sorts.

This is another first attempt for our Camp, bringing a holiday theme to the meeting. We'll start with some sweet treats and soft drinks. Let's see how it goes,.... Are you ready for a party? Let's get the Officers elected first.

Camp Business Meetings in August? In the 13 years of General George Stoneman Camp 18's existence, there has not been a Camp meeting in August. In the early years members would take vacations at different times of the month and our National SUVCW Encampment takes place, usually in the first half of the month's weekends, leaving few to attend the Camp meeting. So, an August meeting has never been

scheduled, leaving a four-month gap between meetings and our Civil War minded socializing.

Lately, Brothers have been asking to get together again and start regular August meetings?

What are your thoughts? Bring your ideas to the December meeting or email the Editor.

Last but not least for the "Around the Camp" notes is, Membership Dues season is here. Dues notices will be mailed out shortly. If you want, you can bring your dues payment to the December 9th meeting and save yourself a stamp.

Dues are \$50.00 for a single adult, one year membership.

Lincoln Shrine Open House

The Lincoln Shrine Open House is scheduled for Saturday, February 3rd, 2024 in Smiley Park at the Lincoln Memorial Shrine, 125 W. Vine St. Redlands. As in the past, the Boy Scout program will begin at 10:30 a.m. and the Open House will start at 11:00 a.m. and run through 3:00 p.m.

This Editor plans on arriving about 8:00 a.m. to set up the Camp display. All are invited to attend the display and /or visit the Open House. There will be plenty of Civil War related booths or displays to observe in the open front yard of Smiley Park.

One display you may not want to miss is the cannon loading and firing presentation by the 1st Pennsylvania Light Artillery reenactors.

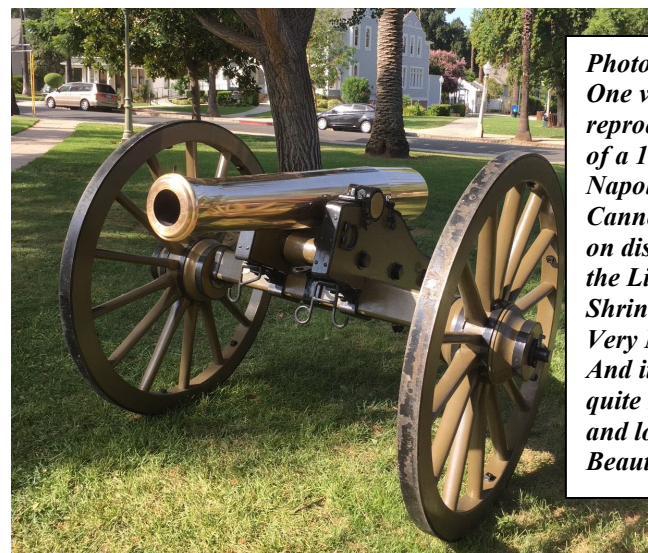


Photo at right, One very nice reproduction of a 12 pound Napoleon Cannon that is on display at the Lincoln Shrine. Very Nice! And it fires quite nicely, and loud! Beautiful!

Continued on page 3, see Shrine,...

Shrine, continued,...

Their cannon firing demonstrations are with their own cannon and not the brass 12 pounder on display at the Shrine.

These cannon firing demonstrations will be LOUD, guaranteed to set off some car alarms. The 1st Pennsylvania artillery usually fires their cannon three times in the afternoon of the Open House.

Also, if you are interested, the 92nd annual Watchorn Lincoln Dinner, it will take place on Monday, February 12th at the University of Redlands. The 2024 Lincoln Dinner Speaker will be Professor Christopher Oakley from the University of North Carolina at Asheville.

The Lincoln Dinner is a great event that includes a formal dinner and a keynote address from a noted Lincoln and/or Civil War Scholar. More details will be available in January. If you are interested or have any questions, contact the Shrine at (909) 798-7632 or email; www.lincolnshrine.org



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

Defending Democracy
an event brought to us by
Brother Camp JVC Steve Matthews

Brother Matthews brought to the Camp his ideas of a Defending Democracy event that he had already been involved with, back east in Massachusetts. He had already been putting his heart and soul into this event and a few others of similar instruction, to re-discover and maybe right some wrongs of Democracy in the States that may have gone crazy. Please read on,...

Our Camp 18 contributed to a Defending Democracy Event held in Lynn, MA on October 4th.

Our ad in the program for this event stated that we recognize the freedom and democracy that was given to us by the sacrifices and service of our Union soldiers. We contributed to the Defending Democracy event in recognition that freedom and democracy must be honored and preserved. Let freedom ring from coast to coast.

This event commemorated the 160th anniversary of three important historic events:

- (1)The Battle of Gettysburg,
- (2)President Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address
- (3)The Emancipation Proclamation.

The event was attended by about 300 people. They were treated to historic reenactments by a President Lincoln and Frederic Douglass reenactors. They both gave inspirational performances.

Massachusetts Secretary of Education Patrick Tutwiler spoke of the need to teach the truth about history.

Camp Commander,	Matt Crowder
Sr. Vice Cmdr,	John Morris
Jr. Vice Cmdr,	Steve Matthews
Sec/Treas,	Rudy Velasco III
Camp Council #1	Michael Emmett
Camp Council #2	Rudolph Velasco IV
Camp Council #3	Benny White

Appointed

Camp Chaplain	Bill Daley PCC
Camp Historian	Burt Hogue
Camp Guide	Bodie Crowder
Camp Guard	Steve Doyle PCC
Graves Registration	Michael Emmett
Newsletter Editor	Rudy Velasco III
Patriotic Instructor	Steve Doyle PCC
Eagle Scout &	
JROTC Coordinator	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

Continued on page 4, see Democracy,...



Democracy continued,

“We need to celebrate this history and the freedoms won in these three historic events” he said.

We were welcomed by the Mayor of Lynn, MA, and other speakers who addressed present day issues like voter rights, and the freedom to read.

Steve Matthews, our Junior Vice Commander was one of 3 individuals who organized this event. Steve is originally from Lynn MA.

This event was organized by The GAR museum and the Lynn Museum/Lynn Arts. It was sponsored by the local newspaper there, the Daily Item. Among others who endorsed this event were the ECCO (60 faith based organizations) and the Lynn Teachers Union. Steve’s family was well represented there with about 30 family members.

Earlier that day, a commemoration was held at the Pine Grove Cemetery, at the Civil War circle where over 700 of our brave Union soldiers are buried. The Local SUVCW jointly organized this event along with Steve Matthews and 6 members of the historic MA 54th, so called “Colored Troops” also participated.

Also that day, the City of Lynn conducted a tour of some of the 140 plus Abolitionist graves also at Pine Grove Cemetery. It was a full day of honoring our ancestors who fought to keep our country free.

Thank you, Brother JVC Steve Matthews

Eagle Scout Report

Happy to announce that the Camp had an Eagle Scout Certificate request this season. Thank you, Brother Department Eagle Scout Coordinator Hawk, for forwarding the request.

In September, the Camp mailed an Eagle Scout Commendation Certificate to Eagle Scout Matthew DeWitt, for a presentation at the October 28 Eagle Court of Honor. Matthew’s Eagle Scout project was coordinating the rebuilding of the middle grade quad at Temecula Middle School.

“Damn the torpedoes, Full speed ahead!” was a statement made famous by Union Admiral David G. Farragut in Mobile Bay, August 1864.

Early assemblyman was an advocate of Riverside County

newspaper article sent to us from Camp 18
Brother Burt Hogue

Andrew S. Milice earned his place in the history of Riverside County as an early assemblyman, representing the Riverside area. He served in the 1899 and 1901 sessions.

Milice was born in Indiana in 1938. He was always referred to as “Captain Milice” because of his service in the Union Army during the Civil War. Milice was severely wounded by a shot in the shoulder at the battle of Chickamauga. In the field hospital he contracted hepatitis and typhoid fever and was sent home to die. Miraculously, he did not, although his shoulder was never the same.

In 1881 Captain Milice and family left Indiana for California and settled in the Los Angeles area. In 1891 he bought a 10-acre orange grove in Riverside. In 1896 the family permanently moved to Riverside and by 1898 the Captain was in the banking and insurance business. In 1899 he was nominated for state assembly on the Republican ticket. He won and served in the 1899 session, representing the 33rd district. During that session, Milice worked on prison reform and introduced a bill to get Riverside County State buildings inside the county’s borders.

Milice was very active in the Grand Army of the Republic chapter in Riverside. In 1916 he was the Grand Marshal for the Riverside Memorial Day observances in honor of his Civil War service.

Milice died in September 1919, two days after the 56th anniversary of his wounding in the Battle of Chickamauga. He was buried in Evergreen Cemetery. His wife Emma died in 1921 and she was buried next to her husband.

The Riverside Daily Press called him one of Riverside’s “honored pioneer citizens” and said he had “literally hundreds of friends.”

Thank you, Brother Burt, for this interesting news article about Riverside History.



The Rush to Arms A Surge of Patriotism

On April 15, 1861, English journalist William H. Russell was passing through Goldsboro, N.C., when word arrived that the Union garrison in Fort Sumter at Charleston Harbor, S.C., had surrendered. An impromptu celebration engulfed the town, reported Russell, with flushed faces, wild eyes, screaming mouths hurraing for “Jeff Davis” and “the Southern Confederacy,” so that the yells overpowered the discordant bands which were busy with “Dixie’s Land.”

The roar of cannon at Charleston was the signal for men throughout the country to flock to recruiting stations and sign up either to fight for Southern independence or to put down the rebellion. Mass rallies, complete with patriotic speeches and music were held to issue appeals to loyal citizens to rush to arms. A Detroit newspaper reported: “The Star-Spangled Banner rages most furiously. The old inspiring national anthem is played by the bands, whistled by the juveniles, sung in the theater. The banner itself floats proudly and beautifully in every direction.” Men and boys, carried away by the exuberance left their homes and families in huge numbers. A Southerner reported that his company of recruits was “young, ardent and full of enthusiasm” while marching off to war “with as little thought of the coming trouble, as if on the way to some festive entertainment.”

In the North, President Abraham Lincoln had issued a call for 75,000 volunteers to put down the rebellion. In a very short time, every Northern state had exceeded its quota of regiments. Indiana Gov. Oliver P. Morton boasted that his state alone could immediately provide 300,000 men. In the South, Gov. John J. Pettus wrote to Confederate President Jefferson Davis that “All Mississippi is in a fever to get to the field, and hail an order to march as the greatest favor you can confer upon them.” So many men volunteered that both governments, unable to arm and equip all of the volunteers, had to send many regiments back home. When the surge of patriotism died away, those men would be much harder to get into the ranks.

Fascinating Fact: The Confederacy announced a policy that the government would arm and equip only regiments that had signed up for three years. Twelve-month units would have to supply their own equipment.

Written by Stephen T. Foster, Atlas Editions 1996

2023 Camp Annual Calendar general idea/dates may change

November

Friday 10th – Veterans Day Flag Detail at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside.

Saturday 11th – Camp Veterans Day Ceremony at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside.

December

Saturday 2nd - Wreaths Ceremony dry-run practice.

Saturday 9th – Camp Meeting.

Saturday 16th – National Wreaths Across America Day Ceremony at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside.

2024

January

February

Saturday 3rd - Lincoln Shrine Display.

Saturday 17th - Camp Meeting

March

Department Encampment,

Saturday 25th – Medal of Honor Day

April

Sunday 9th – 159th Anniversary of Lee’s Surrender at Appomattox Court House.

Saturday 20th – Camp Meeting.

May

Friday, May 24(?)- Memorial Day weekend Flag Detail at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside. Date TBA.

May 25 - 27 – Camp Memorial Day Ceremony. Date and location to be announced.

June

Saturday 15th – Camp Meeting

July

August

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War National Encampment. Date and location to be announced.

September

October

Saturday 19th – Camp Meeting



*General George Stoneman Jr. Camp 18
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
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