

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 15, No.5, November, 2024

Attention Company! A Message from the Camp Commander

To my Brothers of Camp 18, hello!

Most of you know me pretty well, but maybe not my family, so I wanted to take a moment and introduce you to my life outside of Camp 18. I am an old Eagle Scout and a retired Colonel in the US Air Force and currently work at March ARB as a fulltime civilian employee. My wife, Josie, is a retired RN nurse and we have been married for over 35 years. We met and were married at Clark Air Base, Republic of the Philippines, in September 1989. We have two beautiful, wonderful daughters, Michelle and Sarah (most of you have met both our daughters). Our oldest daughter, Michelle is married and is a fulltime teacher and works with special needs students at Rancho Verde High School. Michelle's husband, Matt Cao, works at an adjacent school as a fulltime teacher. Our youngest daughter, Sarah, attained a doctorate degree in Occupational Therapy through USC and is a fulltime occupational therapist who works with special needs students at several schools in the Riverside school system. She is engaged to Jason Chao, and they will be married in May 2025.

I love serving as a member of Camp 18 and the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War and what our Camp and Organization do to honor and represent the military service of our forefathers.

It is an honor to be your new Camp

Commander and to serve with you as we continue their traditions.

Also, Josie and I wish all of you and your families, a safe, joyous and relaxing holiday season!

Very Respectfully,

John Morris

Tentative Camp Calendar

Friday, November 8 – Veterans Day Flag Detail at Evergreen Cemetery, 8:00 a.m.

Saturday, Nov. 9 – Camp Veterans Day Ceremony, Evergreen Cemetery, 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, Nov. 16 – Headstone cleaning detail,
----- **POSTPONED until further notice**-----

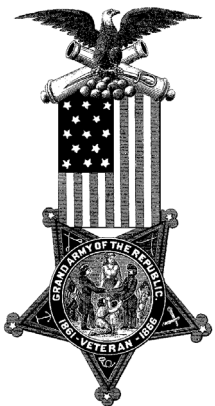
Saturday, Nov. 30 – Wreaths Across America event dry run/practice. 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7 – Camp Meeting, Holiday Lunch and Toys for Tots drive. 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, Dec. 14 – Camp Wreaths Across America Ceremony, Evergreen Cemetery. 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, Feb. 1, 2025 – Camp Display at the Lincoln Memorial Shrine Open House, Redlands. Information on page 2.

Saturday, Feb. 15 – Camp Meeting at the American Legion Hall, Corona. 10:00 a.m. start time.



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

Lincoln Memorial Shrine Open House

Camp 18 will be setting up a SUVCW/GAR display at the Lincoln Shrine Open House in Redlands on Saturday, February 1, 2025. A few of us will arrive about 8:00 a.m. to start setting up.

The Boy Scout program will begin at 10:30 a.m. and the Open House will officially start at 11:00.

Come visit with Abraham Lincoln, watch the artillery "Live Fire" demonstrations and take a stroll through the museum. Where else can you have so much fun?

Camp Election Meeting

Camp 18 held the Camp Officers elections at the October 19th meeting at the American Legion Hall in Corona.

The business portion of the meeting passed quickly, mostly discussing some details of the upcoming Camp events.

First, Congratulations and Thank You to our newest Past Camp Commander Matt Crowder for two years at the helm of Camp 18 and a Job Well Done.

Congratulations to Brother John Morris who was enthusiastically elected to Camp Commander.

We have some great personal elected to the other Camp Officer positions which can be seen on page 3 of this newsletter. We are in good hands.



Photo above; newly elected Camp Commander John Morris (left) presents Past Camp Commander Matt Crowder with an "Appreciation Plaque" and a PCC Badge at the end of the meeting.

At the Camp's December 7th meeting, the Holiday meeting, we will have Deli sandwiches delivered for lunch so we will need to have everybody who plans to attend, RSVP to the Camp secretary,

Rudy Velasco, so we can order enough for everybody. For all who will be attending, you are encouraged (but don't have to) to bring a side dish that you like, cookies, pie, potato salad, chips or soft drinks. You can coordinate with the secretary by email at; rev03@dc.rr.com

We had a really good time last year. After lunch, the local Fire Dept will stop by to pick up the Toys for Tots that we are bringing to the Holiday meeting.

Congratulations to Evergreen Cemetery

Our local Evergreen cemetery in Riverside, where many of our Civil War Veteran forefathers and GAR members are interred, has recently been added to the National Register of Historic Cemeteries. The cemetery opened in the late 1890's.

Both Boards of the cemetery will be celebrating the recent addition to the National Registry with a small gathering on Saturday, 16 November.

The Camp's proposed headstone cleaning event has been postponed as to not interfere with the cemetery's celebration.

Historic Year for the Emett Boys a report for Camp 18 Officer Mike Emett

This has been an incredible year for SUVCW Camp 18 members Mike and Mike Emett. Chief Master Sergeant Mike Emett (photo right) was present when Doctor Mike Emett (son) received his PHD in history from the University of South Carolina, Columbia early this year.



While in town for the festivities, Mike and Mike traveled to Fort Sumter where the younger (doctor) Mike works as a Volunteer Docent.

Chief Mike spent the entire day at the fort, usually a one-hour tour, but the NPS supervisor allowed him to stay until the final boat left along with his son.

During this interlude, Chief Mike was able to gather the names of all soldiers along with one civilian woman, a matron, who were present for the bombardment of April 1861. Later, after returning home, Chief Mike did biographical research on all of the individuals at the fort during April 1861, submitting a 64-page summary of what he found to the staff at Fort Sumter.

Continued on page 3, see Fort Sumter...

Fort Sumter continued,....

Much of the information was unknown at the time. He also registered 20 names to the SUVCW data base as a part of his duties as Camp 18 Graves registration Officer

Professor Mike received his PHD with his entire family as well as his parents in attendance. The following day, both Mikes were invited to a formal book signing ceremony near Beaufort, South Carolina. Doctor Edda L. Fields-Black, a professor at Andrew Mellon University in Pennsylvania cited both Mikes for their contributions to her research on Harriet Tubman and the Combahee River Raid. Her recent literary effort, **COMBEE**, masterly details the struggles of Harriet and all those slaves, along with Freedmen, who endeavored. Doctor Fields-Black had gleaned information from Mike's (the younger) Master's Thesis on Port Royal and asked for his resources. He referenced her to Chief Mike, owner of the Severance Family papers, who offered her access to the original documents. She spent a week in Billings, Montana, pouring over the diaries and letters, finding information that she needed to successfully make conclusions in her Tubman story.

Recently, Professor Mike has been hired to teach history at the University of Alabama, Huntsville. At this time, he was also asked to present at a history/philosophy conference at Austin Peay University in Clarksville, Tennessee. Both Mikes attended the conference, Professor Mike discussing a portion of his dissertation on Fort Sumter, "Silencing Unionists and the Archives: Charleston, SC and the Murder of Frederick Potter during the Civil War."

They both attended other presentations, one of which was titled, "The Ethics of War: Torpedoes in the American Civil War."

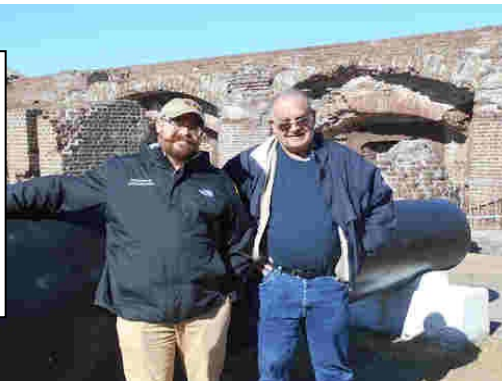
With the free time, the Emmett men visited Fort Donelson, Fort Defiance, the Battle of Stones River, the battle of Nashville and the Battle of Franklin. At all times, Chief Emmett hunted out cemeteries looking for out honored dead.

After Stones Mountain, he discovered an all-Negro cemetery with the remains of 20 African-American Soldiers. Other spots were visited as well, Fort Campbell and the Hermitage.

All in all, this has been a historic year for the Emmett boys!

Thank you, Brother Emmett, for this great Family report!

Camp 18 members, Emmett Boys at Fort Sumter, Doctor Mike Emmett left and Chief Master Sgt Mike on the right.



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

Camp Commander,	John Morris
Sr. Vice Cmdr,	Steve Matthews
Jr. Vice Cmdr,	Steve Doyle PDC
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	vacant
Camp Guard	Steve Doyle PCC
Graves Registration	Michael Emmett
Newsletter Editor	Rudy Velasco III
Patriotic Instructor	Steve Doyle PDC
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



Thinking of two Great Presidents

President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation to observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving in 1863. President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in November 1963.



Is it possible? Wild Comparisons

Abraham Lincoln was elected to Congress in 1846.
 John F. Kennedy was elected to Congress in 1946.
 Abraham Lincoln was elected President in 1860.
 John F. Kennedy was elected President in 1960.
 Both were particularly concerned with civil rights.
 Both wives lost a child while living in the White House.
 Both Presidents were shot on a Friday.
 Both Presidents were shot in the head.
 Lincoln's secretary was named Kennedy.
 Kennedy's secretary was named Lincoln.
 Both were assassinated by Southerners.
 Both were succeeded by Southerners named Johnson.
 Andrew Johnson who succeeded Lincoln was born in 1808.
 Lyndon Johnson who succeeded Kennedy was born in 1908.
 John Wikes Booth who assassinated Lincoln was born in 1839.
 Lee Harvey Oswald who assassinated Kennedy was born in 1939.
 Both assassins were known by three names.
 Both assassins' names are composed of fifteen letters.
 Lincoln was shot at a theater named "Ford".
 Kennedy was shot in a car called "Lincoln" made by "Ford".
 Booth and Oswald were assassinated before their trials.
 A week before Lincoln was shot, he was in Monroe, Maryland.
 A week before Kennedy was shot, he was with Marilyn Monroe.
 Lincoln was shot in a theater and the assassin ran to a warehouse.
 Kennedy was shot from a warehouse and the assassin ran to a theater.

Lincoln Proclaims Thanksgiving Day

Washington D.C. October 3, 1863.
 By the President of the United States of America.
 A Proclamation.

The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and

even soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.

In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and provoke their aggressions, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict; while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union.

Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship; the ax has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people. I do, therefore, invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a Day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the

Continued on page 5, see Thanksgiving,....

Thanksgiving continued,

heavens. And I recommend to them that, while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

By the President, Abraham Lincoln,
William H. Seward, Secretary of State

Happy Thanksgiving Everybody!**Wreaths Across America**

We all know that Camp 18 is participating in a Wreaths Across America Service at Evergreen Cemetery again this year. There are 1065 veterans buried at Evergreen and 805 wreaths have been pledged for these veterans. 260 more are needed for ALL of the veterans interred there to be adorned with a wreath. If you are interested in participating and making sure that all interred will receive a wreath this year, we have attached a wreaths order form on page 6. Easiest way to purchase wreaths for donation is on line at; www.wreathscrossamerica.org/ca0369

The "ca0369" in the web address above will connect your order directly to the Evergreen Cemetery donation site. The Camp has purchased/donated wreaths at this web address as well as this Editor. It is safe and directed to where it is exactly intended to be delivered. If you choose to use the attached order form and send a check, please make sure that you put it in the mail before November 15th to make sure that wreaths company can process the check and still have the delivery out in time.

Camp Annual Calendar
general idea/dates may change**November**

Friday 8th – Veterans Day Flag Detail, Evergreen.

Sat. 9th – Veterans Day Service, 9:00 am Evergreen Cemetery.

Sat. 30th – Wreaths Across America practice, 9:00 am. Evergreen Cemetery.

December

Sat. 7th – Camp meeting, Holiday Lunch & Toys for Tots collection. 10:00 am, Corona Legion Hall.

Sat. 14th – Wreaths Across America Ceremony, Evergreen Cemetery, 9:00 am.

2025 Calendar**January****February**

Saturday 1st – Lincoln Shrine Display, Redlands.

Saturday 15th – Camp Meeting. 10:00 am, Corona.

March

Fri. & Sat. – Department Encampment. TBA.

Saturday – Medal of Honor Day

April

Sunday – 158th Anniversary of Lee's Surrender at Appomattox Court House.

Saturday 19th – Camp Meeting.

May

Memorial Day weekend Flag Detail and Service at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside. More information to follow.

June

Saturday 21st – Camp Meeting

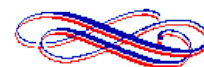
July**August**

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

Saturday 16th – possible Camp meeting.

September**October**

Saturday 18 – Camp Meeting.





WREATHS *across* AMERICA



2024 Wreath Sponsorship Order Form

Sponsored wreaths are placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries, as well as at local and community cemeteries each December for National Wreaths Across America Day.

Your donation will ensure the placement of a veteran's wreath for one or more veterans laid to rest at the participating location of your choice.

All sponsored veteran wreaths are shipped directly to the location selected by the sponsor on this form. Wreaths are not shipped to individual wreath sponsors.

Please make checks payable to:

Wreaths Across America
PO Box 249
Columbia Falls, ME 04623

Call 877-385-9504 with any questions.
Thank you for your sponsorship and joining us in our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach!

SPONSORSHIP TYPE	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Individual = 1 Wreath	\$17.00		
Family = 4 Wreaths	\$68.00		
Small Business = 10 Wreaths	\$170.00		
Corporate = 100 Wreaths	\$1,700.00		

For quicker processing and the convenience of paying with a credit card, debit card, Google Pay, or PayPal, veteran wreaths may be sponsored online by scanning the QR Code above or by visiting: www.wreathscrossamerica.org/CA0369

You should be the only one to enter your credit card information at checkout on the Wreaths Across America website. For your security, do not share this information with anyone else who offers to place an order for you. To verify the validity of the QR Code, always check that wreathscrossamerica.org is part of the web address when sponsoring wreaths online.

If you prefer to pay with a check, please complete this form and mail it along with your check to Wreaths Across America at the address listed in the box above.

To split your donation between multiple groups and/or locations, please list the IDs and dollar amounts for each.

CHECK #		CHECK DATE		SPONSOR NAME FOR DISPLAY <i>If different than name on check.</i>	
GROUP ID(s)	CA0369			EMAIL ADDRESS	
LOCATION ID(s)	CAEGMP			PHONE #	
DOLLAR AMOUNTS(s)				MAILING ADDRESS	

SPECIAL REQUESTS

IN MEMORY OF REQUEST	The "In Memory Of" Name will be listed on the Wreaths Across America online Remember Wall, along with your personal message.
NAME FOR MEMORY WALL POST	
SPONSOR EMAIL ADDRESS	
MESSAGE (optional)	

Please note in memory/honor of requests do not place a wreath on a specific loved one's grave.

IN HONOR OF REQUEST	An email will be sent to your chosen recipient from Wreaths Across America letting them know of your donation of sponsored veteran wreaths in their honor.
RECIPIENT NAME	
RECIPIENT EMAIL ADDRESS	
MESSAGE (optional)	