

# 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)

Volume 16, No. 4, September, 2025

### Attention Company!

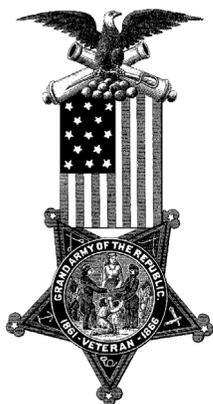
#### A Message from the Camp Commander

Brothers, I start this edition of the Stoneman Dispatch with great news! Brother Mike Emett was selected to receive a SUVCW national-level award for his outstanding efforts in locating and registering missing Civil War veteran graves throughout the United States. When I last spoke with Brother Emett, he had registered over 8,000 total Civil War veteran graves in his 15 year tenure as Camp 18's Graves Registration Officer, an outstanding job honoring the military service of our ancestors, "The Boys in Blue!" Thank you, Brother Emett!

We have a busy schedule for the remainder of this year! We will hold our annual officer elections and discuss the upcoming Wreaths Across America and Veteran Day ceremonies during our Camp meeting on 18 October. On 8 November, we will host our annual Veteran's Day ceremony at Evergreen Memorial Park in downtown Riverside. During our camp meeting on 6 December, we have the honor of hosting our Department Commander, Brother Owen Stiles, who will attend our meeting and present Brother Emett with his well-deserved SUVCW national award. Finally, on Saturday morning, 13 December, we will participate in the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony at Evergreen Memorial Park in downtown Riverside.

Once again, in conjunction with American Legion Post #216, we are jointly sponsoring toys which will be collected and donated to the City of Corona for their annual Christmas "Spark of Love"

*Continued on page 2, see MESSAGE...*



### Tentative Camp Calendar

**Saturday, October 18** – Camp meeting and Officer elections, 10:00 a.m. at the American Legion Post #216, Corona.

**Saturday, Nov. 8** – Camp 18's Veterans Day service at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside. Start time 9:00 a.m. **Participants please arrive at 8:00 am for "run through."**

**Saturday, Dec. 6** – Camp meeting/Holiday lunch and Spark of Love toy drive collection at American Legion Post #216, 10:00 a.m.

**Saturday, Dec. 13** – Camp's Wreath Across America Ceremony at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside, 9:00 am. Participants please arrive by 8:00 am.

### Trivia

Who was the last U.S. President to have served in the Civil War?

*...Answer on page 4...*

### Annual Membership Dues

Do not panic Brothers, we are not asking for any dues payments yet. Just letting you know that the annual dues season is almost upon us.

We will be mailing out dues notices in November and hopefully have everyone paid up by early January 2026.



---

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

---

**Message continued....**

campaign, providing the children of needy/homeless families toys for Christmas. If you would like to sponsor toys for needy/homeless children, please try to keep your monetary donation to \$25. Please bring all of your toys (unwrapped) to our camp meeting on 6 December, and Fire Station #1, Corona City Fire Department, will stop by and pick-up the toys during our meeting. If you want to sponsor toys but cannot attend the meeting, let me know, and I will come to your residence and pick-up the toys.

In closing, I want to personally thank all of you for all you do for our camp. We are a successful camp because of your voluntary service, active participation in our various camp activities, and outstanding dedication in honoring the military service of our ancestors, "The Boys in Blue." It is an honor to serve as your Camp Commander.

VR,

Brother John

### **Camp 18 Brother Dominic Amori achieves the rank of Eagle Scout**



*Above, left: Camp Commander John Morris helps with the presentation of the Eagle Scout award for Brother Dominic Amori (center) and the Scout Master on the right.*

Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Scouts BSA program of Scouting America. Since its inception in 1911, only four percent of Scouts have earned this rank after a lengthy review process.

Congratulations to Brother Dominic Amori on

achieving the BSA rank of Eagle Scout!

Brother Dominic's Court of Honor was held at the San Bernardino Elk's Lodge on 23 June, 2025.

Camp Commander John Morris, also an Eagle Scout, attended Brother Dominic's Court of Honor to help present the SUVCW Eagle Scout award.

After graduating high school earlier this year, Brother Dominic enlisted in the U.S. Army and reported to Fort Benning for tank training in July.

Just awesome!!!! Thank you, Brother Dominic!

**HUZZAH, HUZZAH, HUZZAH!**

### **!!!-----Quick Notes-----!!!**

#### **Inland Empire Civil War Round Table**

On Sunday, 21 September at 2:00 P.M. Camp 18 Senior Vice Commander Brother Steve Matthews will be making a presentation of the content of his manuscript called "Sons of Both" at the Inland Empire Civil War Round Table meeting at the Smiley Library in Redlands next to the Lincoln Memorial Shrine at 125 W Vine St, Redlands, CA 92373.

Sounds interesting!

#### **Redlands Area Historical Society**

On Tuesday, 30 September the Redlands Area Historical Society will host the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Heritage Club Fair at the Redlands Contemporary Club, 173 S. Eureka St, Redlands. Displays are available between 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The fair will be a free community event and will showcase the many organizations that have made and continue to make Redlands such a special place.

#### **Camp 18 Officer Elections**

Our Camp will be holding Officers elections at the October 18<sup>th</sup> Camp meeting at the Legion Post #216 in Corona. **Nominations are open** for Camp Jr. Vice Commander. No need to be nervous about the position, "On The Job" Training available.

There are also a few appointed positions available. If you are interested in becoming a little more involved with your Camp, contact the Editor and we'll put you in contact with the right person who can help.

144<sup>th</sup> National Encampment



Kevin P. Tucker of the Department of Massachusetts, pictured here, left, was elected to Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War on 9 August 2025 at the 144<sup>th</sup> National Encampment held in Houston, Texas.

National SUVCW headquarters has now been established at Wakefield, Massachusetts.

Congratulations to C-in-C Tucker, we wish you all the very best!

Next year's 145<sup>th</sup> National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Allied Orders will be held in Gettysburg, PA, July 30-August 2, 2026. More information will be posted soon.



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



In the photo above are the Department Delegates to the National Encampment, front and center from the left (seated) are Dept. SVC Gary Hormel PCC, and Dept. CMDR Owen Stiles.

Back row standing from the left; Dean Enderlin PDC Camp 23, Bill Harrington Camp 2, Rick LaRosa PCC Camp 4, Linn Malaznik Camp 4, Tad Campbell PC-in-C Camp 4, Dan Earl PCC Camp 4, Frank Avila PDC Camp 4, Robert Mayer DJVC Camp 24, Scott McKee PCC Camp 17. Not shown is Ken Felton PCC Camp 24.

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 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 &<br>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](mailto:rev03@dc.rr.com)



-----Trivia Answer-----  
from page 1

William McKinley, president from 1897 – 1901, rose from private to major in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Ohio Infantry.



The Huntington Beach Civil War reenactment is one of the largest Civil War living history events West of the Mississippi featuring two battles daily. Held annually on Labor Day Weekend in Huntington Beach Central Park. This year's event was held on Saturday and Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>. This is a free event hosted by the Huntington Beach Historical Society.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War were represented with information booths and displays by Sgt. Pittenger Camp 21 San Diego, General Rosecrans Camp 2 Los Angeles, Generals Sedgwick-Granger Camp 17 Orange County and Sheridan Camp 4 San Jose.

Other Civil War related organizations were displayed at the reenactment such as Drum Barracks Civil War Museum, Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and Daughters of the Confederacy.



**SUVCW Brothers at the display, from the left are Jerry Sayre PDC & John May PCC Camp 21, Terry Shaw PCC Camp 17 and Tad Campbell PC-in-C Camp 4**

*With a heavy heart we relay the sad news of the passing of two Sons of Union Veteran Brothers.*

Past Commander-in-Chief Donald Braden “Brad” Schall recently passed away at the age of 85. Brother Schall was a member of Sheridan Camp 4 in San Jose and Pleasonton Camp 24 in the East Bay area.

Brother Schall was elected Commander of the Department of California & Pacific in 2002 & 2003 and Commander-in-Chief 2010.

Past Camp Commander Phillip Lee Caines, long time member of Rosecrans Camp 2, Los Angeles, passed away on 15 August 2025 at the age of 68.

Brother Caines was elected Camp Commander in 2005 – 2006 and held multiple camp positions in his years as a member. Brother Caines served as Department Secretary 2012 to 2014.



*Nor shall their story be forgot*



The following submitted by Camp Commander Morris

**In honor of my Great-Great-Great Grandfather Abraham Morris, The Underground Railroad Operator for Wilkesville, Ohio during the Civil War**

In July 1863, General John Hunt Morgan led a confederate cavalry raid into Ohio. On the 17<sup>th</sup> of July 1863, General Morgan and his confederate troops entered Wilkesville, Ohio, and arrested my Great-Great-Great Grandfather, Abraham Morris, who along with my Great-Great-Great Grandmother, Nancy, served as the Underground Railroad operator for Wilkesville, helping slaves from Kentucky escape to freedom in the north. Great Grandpa Abraham had been betrayed by a local southern sympathizer.

General Morgan ordered my Great Grandfather to be hanged. The confederate troops led Grandpa Abraham to a tree nearby a horse corral, but first ordered him to feed the horses before they hanged him. Some kind of disturbance happened nearby, so Grandpa Abraham picked up a bag of horse feed, put it on his shoulder to hide his face, walked by the confederate sentry guarding the corral, jumped on a horse and rode away to safety.

Later that evening, Grandpa Abraham and Dr.

*Continued on page 5, see Railroad,...*

**Railroad continued,...**

William Cline, a fellow abolitionist who owned the home where General Morgan was spending the night, got with General Morgan's personal valet, a slave, and promised to help him escape to freedom. They also asked the valet to steal back the money which Morgan's troops stole from the local villagers when the confederates first occupied Wilkesville. The valet entered Morgan's room while he was asleep and stole not only the money confiscated from the Wilkesville villagers but also Morgan's own money. Grandpa Abraham helped the valet escape to an Underground Railroad station in Carpenter, Ohio.

On the morning of 18 July 1863, Morgan and his troops departed from Wilkesville and a few days later, under pursuit by Union forces, fought a battle at Buffington Island while trying to escape from Ohio. General Morgan was captured and imprisoned along with many of his men already in the Ohio Penitentiary.

Grandpa Abraham lived a long life and died on 5 March 1877, at the age of 75. Three of Abraham and Nancy's sons (William Morgan Morris, Francis Morris and Winfield Scott Morris) served in the Civil War.

My Great-Great Grandfather William Morgan Morris served with the 194<sup>th</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment and survived the war. Great-Great Uncle Francis Morris served as a 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant with the 33d Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment and was killed in action at the Battle of Perrysville, Kentucky, on 8 October 1862. Great-Great Uncle Winfield Scott Morris served with the 36<sup>th</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment and was killed in action at the Battle of Cabletown, Virginia, on 19 July 1864. Their son-in-law, David Moore, served with the 116<sup>th</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment, was captured by the confederates, and died while in captivity on or about 15 August 1864 in the Southern prison camp known as "Bloody Andersonville."



### End of the Season JROTC/Eagle Scout Update

Camp 18 issued 4 JROTC awards this past Spring;

Fontana High School - Marine Corps JROTC,  
Murrieta Valley High School - Marine Corps JROTC,  
Hemet High School - Air Force JROTC,  
West Valley High School - Navy JROTC.

One Eagle Scout Certificate was issued to San Bernardino Scout Troop 247

### Camp Annual Calendar

general idea/dates may change

#### 2025 Calendar

##### January

##### February

**Saturday 1st** - Lincoln Shrine Display, Redlands.  
**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>** - Camp Meeting. 10:00 am, Corona.

##### March

**7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Friday & Saturday** - 139<sup>th</sup> Department Encampment, Bakersfield Calif.

**Saturday, 22nd** - Headstone cleaning at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside

**Tuesday 25th** - Medal of Honor Day

##### April

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

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>** - Camp Meeting.

##### May

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

##### June

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>** - Camp Meeting

##### July

##### August

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War National Encampment.

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>** - Camp meeting.

##### September

##### October

**Saturday 18** - Camp Meeting.

##### November

**Saturday 8** - Veterans Day Service, Evergreen Cemetery

##### December

**Saturday 6** - Camp meeting, elections, Christmas toy drive.

**Saturday 13** - Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Evergreen Cemetery





*General George Stoneman Jr. Camp 18  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
Newsletter  
69586 Borrego Rd.  
Cathedral City, CA. 92234*