



Newspaper of Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21

The General

*Department of
California & Pacific*



*Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War*

Vol 26 No. 3

Third Quarter 2025

Our Camp is 30 years old

At our last Camp Meeting, the Men of Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21, celebrated 30 years as a Camp in the SUVVCW!!



Top Row: L-R
Steve Unwin, Patriotic Instructor Larry Stolinski, Camp Historian Clay Hoffman, Darryl Stanley, Michael Clover, SVR 6th Military Commanding Major Wayne Eder.

Front Row: L-R
Dimas Lovato, Past Senior Vice Commander Doug Wright, Senior Vice Commander Fred Hall, Past Camp Commander John Keenan, Past Department Commander Jerry Sayre, Wayne Eder II, Jack Bruzas, Kevin Park, Chaplain Tom Helmantoler PCC, Secretary/Treasurer John May, Kirby Hitt with his dog Luna.

Camp Commander

Brothers,

This message is to provide you all with an update on my situation. I had earlier informed the Camp that my family was planning on moving to Thailand. Well, we have made the move and here's what's been going on to date.

My son, and SUVVCW Camp No. 21 member, Ben, has started his new school. So far, school is going well as he has made new friends quickly, is the best player on the volleyball team, and is one of only 2 kids to have passed the ROTC PT test. Boon (my wife) and I recently attended a Parents Day at the school and were generally impressed.

My wife is still tending to her grandmother and mother, both of whom have had some medical issues. Her grandmother was doing poorly last week at the senior center and so we had her transferred to Bangkok Christian Hospital. I am happy to announce she has improved tremendously. It appears that she was being over medicated at the senior center. She will be transferred back to the senior center but with a different medication regimen.

We are still house hunting. We have seen numerous houses but just haven't found the right one yet. Fortunately, we are renting a place from one of my wife's friend's former boss which is in a great location. The former boss has been very accommodating toward us as well. We will hopefully decide on a place within the next month.

All the above means I will not be able to physically attend

2025 CAMP OFFICERS

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fghall4sd@hotmail.com

Jr. Vice Commander..... Tim Sapanara
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THE GENERAL is the official newsletter of Sgt. Wm. Pittenger Camp 21, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. It's published each odd-numbered month for Camp members. It's also available by newsletter exchange to other SUVCW or Allied Orders groups. Such groups are welcome to reprint articles from The General with attribution. Brief articles are invited and most appreciated: send to Newsletter Editor listed above: space

CHANGE OF ADDRESS should be mailed to Camp Secretary at address above. Failure to notify Camp of change of address will result in missed issues of The General and The Banner.

CAMP EMAIL DIRECTORY. If you wish to be included in the Camp Email Directory, send your permission and email address to John A. May
2001 Lee Ct. Carlsbad, CA. 92008-2763
cbadjohnny@gmail.com

SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE(SVR) is the uniformed contingent of the SUVCW. Uniforms are encouraged but not required. You need not be a re-enactor to join. Annual dues are \$10.00. Interested SUVCW Brothers should contact the SVP Rep Fred Hall
fghall4sd@hotmail.com

meetings and events until after I return in late January of 2026 for my last semester teaching at Grossmont College prior to retiring. Between now and the new year, Fred Hall, Senior Vice Commander, will continue to convene Camp meetings in my absence.

Hopefully you will also recall that when I first assumed the duties of Commander, I made it known that I would do my best to serve the Camp and our Order relative to my schedule and life plans. It has been an honor to serve as your Camp Commander. More importantly, it has been an honor to get to know and work in our organization with a spectacular group of patriotic men—you are indeed the best and I appreciate everything that you do for the Camp. Please note that I will also continue to remain a member of the Camp and plan on attending meetings in the future when back in San Diego. In the meantime, let's keep the energy and momentum going moving forward doing great things within our community while honoring the memory of our ancestors, the Boys in Blue!

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Mark A. Goodman, CC
Sgt. William Pittenger Camp No. 21
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Department of California and the Pacific

Camp Meeting August 9, 2025

It was great to see Camp Commander Mark Goodman and his son Ben attend the Bennington Ceremony, as they will be leaving on Friday to Thailand and Commander Mark will not be returning until January 2026. Pittenger Camp 21 wishes you all a safe journey and a wonderful time!! Thank you Commander Mark for everything you have done leading Pittenger Camp 21 for the last year and a half.

In Commander Mark's absence, Senior Vice Commander Fred Hall will be taking his place running the Camp Meetings, something he has already done at the June Camp Meeting. It is really nice how the Camp pulls together to help one another so things run smoothly. Pittenger Brotherhood at its Finest!!

The Program will be given by Camp Historian Clay Hoffman entitled: "The Misunderstood Life of General Fitz John Porter".

Member Birthdays July to Sept

Andrew Brooks	August-1
Michael Shooling	August-19
Steven Unwin	August-19
Bernard Greeson	September-7
Michael Clover	September-19
Tom Helmantoler	September-24
Jerry Sayre	September-26
John Keenan	October-2
Wayne Eder	October-18

New Member

Today your Camp welcomed new Brother Kirby Hitt into the Camp. Glad to have you as a Member of the SUVCW!!



Kirby Hitt, Jerry Sayre PDC, and Fred Hall SVC.

National Encampment

The National Encampment being held in Houston Texas has finished up on August 10th.

I would like to introduce to you your new Commander in Chief, Kevin Tucker of Massachusetts!!

Commander in Chief, Kevin Tucker of Massachusetts

A great choice to lead the SUVCW!!



Commander in Chief, Kevin Tucker of Massachusetts

Camp Calendar 2025

October 18, 1:00 pm

Camp Meeting

****Officer Elections****

First Christian Church, Fellowship Hall,
318 West Fig Street, Fallbrook, CA 92028

November 8, 9:00 am Run Through at 8 am

Joint Camp Veterans Day Event

Evergreen Memorial Park:

4414 14th St, Riverside, CA 92501

This is an Official Camp Event

November 15 - 1:00 pm

Remembrance Day

Fallbrook Historical Society, Pittenger House.

1730 Hill Avenue

Fallbrook, CA 92028

December 6, 1:00pm

Camp Meeting

****Officer Installations****

La Cucina Trattoria

1415 S. Mission Rd, Fallbrook, CA 92028

December 6, 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Fallbrook Christmas Parade

Brother SVR members, August Report

During the month of May, SVR members awarded JROTC medals. This was a pleasure to do, recognizing young cadets. We were well received. This program is managed by PCC John Keenan.

May 24th, we participated in our Memorial Day celebration, in Poway.

June 14th, we participated a 250th celebration at the Mormon Museum in San Diego

This was sponsored by DAR and Daughters of Union Veterans-CW.

July 19th, we participated in the USS Bennington Memorial Service in Point Loma.

Camp 21-member, Clay Hoffman was the guest speaker.

July 29th, Terry Moxley presented awards at a Boy Scout Court of Honor.

Finance, we currently have \$409.25 in our SVR bank account.

Thank you for being a member of the Sons of Veterans Reserve ...

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Fred Hall

Commander 5th California Volunteer Infantry, Company G

Our Members in Hawaii

The Sgt. William Pittenger Camp can boast of many things, including having members who live across the continental United States, and stretching all the way west to the Hawaiian Islands. Among the Brothers who call Hawaii home are two gentlemen with impressive Civil War ancestry.

Michael Ogan : A retired Major of the U.S. Air Force, Micheal's professional life was spent as an Electrical Engineer after receiving a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Hawaii and a Master of Science in Electro-Optics from the Air Force Institute of Technology.

Michael is a direct descendant of four Union Army Veterans, including Samuel Ogan (1844-1926), who enlisted at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas on December 12, 1861. A member of the 8th Kansas Infantry Volunteers, he took part in many engagements in Tennessee and Georgia, including the Battle of Chickamauga and the Battle of Missionary Ridge. On January 1, 1864, he re-enlisted as a veteran soldier and continued to serve "nobly", according to his service record, in the Georgia Campaign and the Siege of Atlanta. He mustered out of the Union Army on November 28, 1865.

The second Civil War ancestor of Michael Ogan is Stephen A. Ogan (1818-1894), who enlisted in August 1862 at Shawnee, Kansas. He served in the 11th Kansas Volunteers and later in the 11th Kansas Cavalry, seeing duty in the Commissary Department and as a Teamster. After being treated at Leavenworth Hospital, he was transferred in May 1864 to the 2nd Battalion of the Veteran Reserve Corp, before mustering out on September 13, 1865.

Michael Ogan's third Union ancestor is Daniel Hylas Fraser (1832-1916), a native of Canada who served in the 11th Kansas Volunteers and later in the 11th Kansas Cavalry. Promoted to the rank of Sergeant, he was a veteran of the Battles of Cane Hill, Prairie Grove, and Van Buren, among other engagements, before mustering out on September 21, 1865. Following the Civil War, he served on the plains of Kansas, fighting Indians, and later was a member of the Kansas State legislature and was Justice of the Peace in Meridian, Kansas.

The final Union Army ancestor of Michael Ogan is Thomas West (1827-1870), who enlisted on August 15, 1862 and served in the 36th Iowa Infantry. A veteran of many engagements, he was taken prisoner by the Confederates in April 1864 at Marks' Mills, Arkansas, and held at Camp Ford in Tyler, Texas, before returning to his regiment. He mustered out of the 36th Iowa Infantry on August 24, 1865.

Ben Herman: A great-great-great grandfather of Ben

is John Simpson Walton (1841-1924), who was born in London, England. At age 19, he left England for the promise of a new life in America, and after six weeks of travel by sea and land, he reached Louisville, Kentucky. On September 23, 1861, he enlisted for three years in the 15th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry at Shelbyville, Kentucky.

Serving with the Army of the Ohio --- later renamed the Army of the Cumberland --- John Simpson Walton saw action across the western theatre in engagements including the Battles of Perryville, Stones River, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Resaca, Pine Mountain and Kennesaw Mountain. On May 17, 1862, he was wounded during a skirmish in Winchester, Tennessee, and spent two months recovering in a Union hospital.

After re-joining the 15th Kentucky Cavalry, he was bitten by a scorpion, while fighting in the trenches, and was left blind and unable to continue on. He was sent to a hospital in Louisville, Kentucky, and then on to Camp Joe Holt in Indiana, where he was honorably mustered out on January 14, 1965. In total, he completed three years and four months of service.

Following his time in the Civil War, John Simpson Walton married Sarah Elizabeth Harrison --- a second cousin of President William Henry Harrison --- and the couple had thirteen children. Today, their descendants live in the Midwest, Kansas, Colorado, California, and Oregon, and surely many other places, including Hawaii. A faithful Methodist all his wife, John Simpson Walton died at age 83 and rests today at Coatesville Cemetery in Coatesville, Indiana, next to his wife Sarah.

(By Clay Hoffman)

Tommy Anderson Podcast

For those of you who were asking where you could watch Pittenger Camp 21's Brother Tommy Anderson's Hollywood Elite Podcast, here is the link.

Enjoy!!



HOLLYWOOD ELITE PODCAST
WITH
TOMMY ANDERSON & SHERRY SEVERS
951-314-3235

TOMMY ANDERSON
www.imdb.com/name/nm9403059/

Author - Screenwriter - Actor - Producer
tom@hollywoodelitepodcast.com



<https://www.youtube.com/@HollywoodElitePodcast>

Massing of the Colors

In years past when the Camp had a Color Guard with the SVR, we participated in this event in Balboa Park and it was very nice.

Wanted to let you know that it is coming up next month on Saturday, October 11th if you would like to attend.

It is a very nice event.



Remembrance Day

We are preparing to put together the program for Remembrance Day of the Gettysburg Address. Each year has always been better than the one before.

No official Program has been put together yet, but it looks like we already have some Camp Brothers stepping up to speak.

We will need someone to recite the "Gettysburg Address" etc. Last year, Pittenger Camp 21's "Youngest Brother", Jack Bruzas at 95, did the Honors.

This year, perhaps one of our Younger Brothers in the Camp might volunteer to read the Gettysburg Address... I can think of a few Young Men who would do a fine job... Just saying.

Clay Hoffman has offered to speak on Union General Francis Barlow and Confederate General John Gordon and the events surrounding them at Gettysburg.

I understand that we may have Brother Tommy Anderson in attendance and willing to speak.

As with all of these Programs, please keep your speeches brief and to the point since we will hopefully have a number of Brothers speaking.

We are just in the very beginning stages of setting this up, but please let me know if you would like to say a few words too.

There is a reason that Pittenger Camp 21 is the "Best Camp In The Nation", it's because of you Men who step up and get the job done!!

Let me know how you would like to participate in this Remembrance Day Ceremony. The Program is yours, and has yet to be written. Bring your ideas...

Thank You!!

Kim :)

Join the
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
in Honoring
Lincoln at Gettysburg



Saturday, Nov. 15th, 2025
1:00 pm

At the
Fallbrook Historical Society
Pittenger House
1730 South Hill Avenue
Fallbrook, CA 92028

The Sgt. Wm. Pittenger Camp 21
SUVCW

Huntington Beach Re-Enactmen

Wow!! What a great showing of Pittenger Camp 21 Brothers yesterday at the Huntington Beach Civil War Re-Enactment!!

I am delighted that so many of you were able to take the time and make the drive to not only enjoy the day, but to support your Camp. In total, Pittenger Camp 21 had 7 Brothers attend.

Always so nice to visit with our friends from other Camps.

Doing it for the "Boys in Blue" and you too!!



Jerry Sayre PDC, John May Secretary/Treasure, Terry Shaw PCC Camp 17, Tad Campbell PCinC. Love those shirts!!



Doug Wright PSVC, holding a toy soldier made and hand painted by our friend Don Jolly.



Brother Dimas Lovato with President Lincoln.

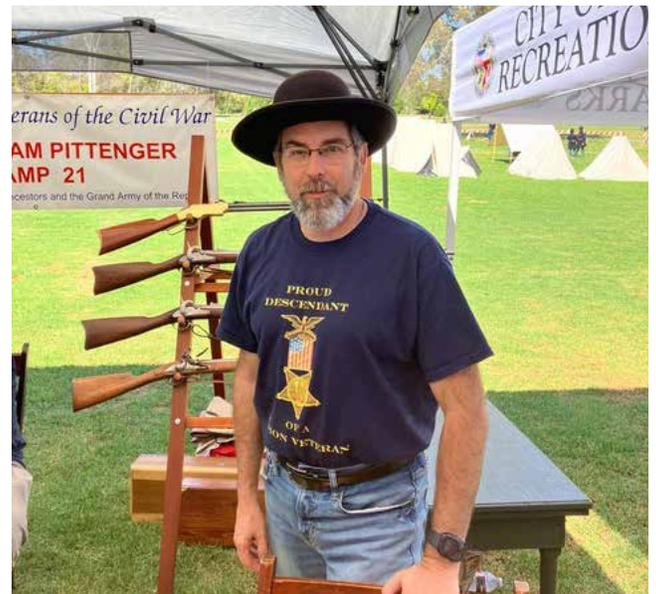


Dean Smith PCC, Camp 2, Melinie Caines Department President of the Auxillary, Jerry Sayre PDC, Tina Campbell, and Brother Kirby Hitt.

Please note that there is a sign we placed in our Booth that says Camp Phil Caines, in memory of and to honor our dear friend and Brother who just went home to be with the Lord.



Patriotic Instructor Larry Stolinski, Brother Trevor Stolinski, Tracy Stolinski. (Photo provided by the Stolinski Family.)



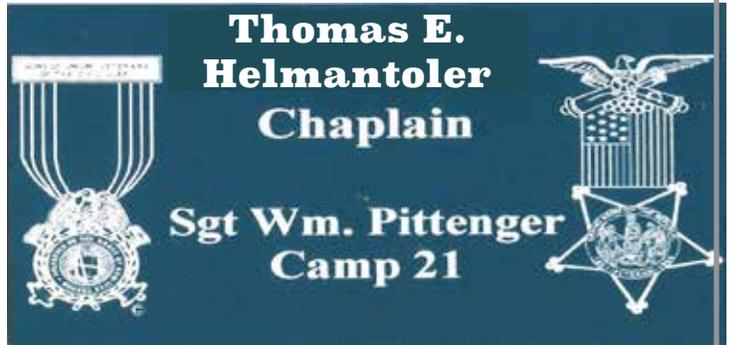
Past National Commander in Chief Tad D. Campbell

**NEXT MEETING: October 11, at 9:30am
VFW Hall 7785 Othello Avenue, San Diego 92111**

Membership Badge

If you have not yet ordered your SUVCW Membership Badge, now is a good time to do so if you are able.

This Membership Badge along with your Camp Name Tag, are encouraged for All to wear at every Camp Meeting and all Camp Events.



Name Tag

If you would like to order a Pittenger Camp 21 Name Badge, please email Jerry Sayre PDC at: cod26ia@icloud.com with the following information:

- 1) Your Name as you would like it engraved.
 - 2) Camp Office title added if you are holding an Office Position and would like that on your Name Badge. (This could change from year to year).
 - 3) Specify if you prefer a Pin Clasp or Magnet on the back.
- Once this information is received, you will get a return e-mail with information on where to mail your check for \$15.00.
Checks should be made out to Jerry Sayre.

Preserving the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic & "The Boys in Blue" 1861-1865

The General



Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21
Ron Sheehan, Newsletter Editor
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San Diego, CA 92103

