

Newsletter of Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21

The General

*Department of
California & Pacific*



*Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War*

Volume VIII Number 6

November 18, 2002

Remembrance Day Ceremony in Fallbrook

We were blessed with wonderful weather in Fallbrook as our 4th Annual Veteran's/Remembrance Day Ceremony was presented on November 17th. A record eighteen Pittenger Camp members (pictured) attended/ participated and a good time was had by all. Meeting once again at the gravesite of our Camp namesake, William Pittenger, reverent homage was payed all American veterans, as symbolized by Sgt. Pittenger. Beside the SUV, organizations that were represented included the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Auxiliary to the SUVCW, Daughters of Union Veterans, San Diego Civil War Round Table and the United Daughters of the Confederacy. To thank everyone contributing to our annual project would take more space than available, but certain individuals should be recognized. Dave Allyn performed the task of Master of Ceremonies flawlessly. Our thanks to Mark Woolfington, who traveled from Tustin, to perform Chaplain duties. "Amazing Grace" never sounded better than Ernie Powell's rendition. (*cont. on page 5*)



Important Election Meeting

As you will see from reading the November meeting minutes, there was a wonderful turnout, which was most gratifying. Now our sights should be on our next meeting, December 14, 2002. This is the most important meeting of the year, as election of Camp Officers will take place. Those officers, elected and appointed, will determine the course of Pittenger Camp 21 for the year 2003. Your attendance and vote is urgently requested. Please mark you calendar and plan on attending. Also consider the many ways you can assist your Camp to further successes. Most assignments, appointments or elected offices take very little time and effort, but make a large impact. If you have questions, ask any officer or past officer. The Pittenger Camp needs your help!

NOTICE: It has been requested by the management of Charlie's Restaurant that, when attending meetings, we park in the Municipal Parking Lot located in the rear of the building. Please comply with this request.



CAMP OFFICERS

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 Camp Council Jim Churchyard
 Larry Fillbard
 Tom Helmantoler

Color Bearer Chuck Rothlauf
 Chaplain Ernie Powell
 Patriotic Instr. Mike Schooling
 Guard Tom Helmantoler
 Guide Mark Woolfington
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THE GENERAL is the official newsletter of the Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21, SUVCW. It is published each odd-numbered month for Camp members. It is also available by newsletter exchange to other SUVCW and Allied Order groups. Such groups are welcome to reprint articles from *The General* with attribution. Brief articles are invited and should be sent to the Newsletter Editor at the address provided above with the understanding that space limitation may require editing.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS should be immediately mailed to the Camp Secretary at the address above. Please include phone number and email address. Failure to notify the 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 Pittenger Camp Email Directory, please email Secretary Dave Allyn at the above address.

SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE (SVR) is the uniformed component of the SUVCW. You do not have to be a reenactor to join. Annual dues are \$5.00. Interested Brothers should contact the Camp Secretary or SVR representative shown above.

The San Diego Civil War Round Table meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the John D. Spreckles Masonic Lodge, 3858 Front Street, San Diego. For further information contact President Dave Tooley at (858) 672 - 2593.

Eagle Scout Certificate Program

It has been a pleasure serving as the Pittenger Camp Eagle Scout Coordinator for 2002. Our Camp's participation in this worthwhile SUVCW national program has expanded sizably these past 11 months. To date, the Pittenger Camp 21 has either presented or mailed over 110 certificates and letters of commendation to Boy Scouts achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Twenty-one of these have been presented in person. Last year with slightly over 200 certificates processed, the Department of California & Pacific led all Department's across the country, including those sent directly from National Headquarters.

Our Camp's 100% increase this year would not have been possible without the contribution of the Camp Brothers who attended BSA Courts of Honor throughout San Diego County to present these awards and inform the attendees of the SUVCW. The Pittenger Camp 21 and I appreciate and commend the efforts of Bros. Dave Allyn, Bob Lowe, Jim Churchyard, Will Tisch, Jerry Sayre, John Pollard Sr. and Ed Berger.

To improve our scheduling capabilities, we do need additional Brothers willing to perform as "presenters" at future Courts of Honor. I encourage all interested members to contact the Camp Eagle Scout Coordinator.

Fraternally,
 John Finch, Pittenger Camp Eagle Scout Coordinator

PDC Bob Lowe Appointed

Department Commander Brad Schall has appointed Bro. Bob Lowe to the newly created position of Associate Department Graves Registration Officer. His duties are confined to the electronic input of grave registrations to the national database. It is requested that all new records be sent to Bob for input. Be assured that the submitting Camp and individual will receive proper credit.

This position was created to avoid duplicate entries and assure that each record reaches the national database in appropriate format. You may check the Department database, through Bob, for cemeteries or individuals previously recorded. All other inquiries or comments should be addressed to the Department Graves Registration Officer John Patchin at windlite@tco.net.

**New Camp Members**

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members of our Camp. We are delighted to have you among our ranks.

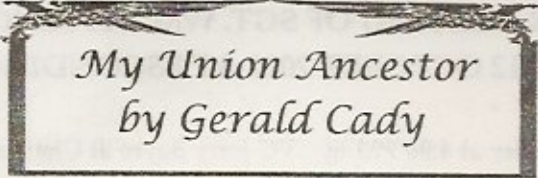
NO NEW MEMBERS THIS MONTH. TIME TO GET TO WORK, BROTHERS!

Camp Website

I have had to change my Internet Server, which has affected the viewing of our Camp website. A new website is being designed and will hopefully be online in the near future. I apologize for any inconvenience experienced. For those Brothers contacting me via email, my address has changed to Cavalry21@cox.net
 Fraternaly,
 Bob Lowe, PDC

2002 Camp Schedule

Nov. 9 - Cemetery Cleanup
 Fallbrook, CA.
 Nov. 17 - Remembrance Day
 Fallbrook, CA
 Nov. 24 - Mother Goose Parade
 El Cajon, CA.
 December 7-8 - Victorian Xmas
 @ Drum Barracks
 Wilmington, CA.
 December 14 - Camp Meeting
 Escondido, CA.
 (Important Election Meeting)



*My Union Ancestor
by Gerald Cady*

My great-grandfather, William Henry Harrison Geist (Guist) was born in 1841 in Venango County, Pennsylvania and was known to everyone as "Tip". At his time of enlistment, "Tip" was residing in Sterling, Iowa and employed as a carpenter. William enlisted as a Private in Company A of the 9th Iowa Infantry on 8 August 1861 in Dubuque, Iowa. Along with the 9th Iowa, "Tip" participated in the Battles of Pea Ridge, Chattanooga & Atlanta and was involved in the Vicksburg Campaign. While on reenlistment leave from Gen. Logan's 15th Army Corps in 1864, William married Leonore Davis. Due to health concerns (doctor's statement of "fever"), he did not return to his unit until 1 July 1864.

Discharged in July 1865, great-grandfather Geist returned to Sterling, Iowa and his wife, where he resumed his pre-war occupation of carpenter/contractor. William and Leonore had nine children; Mary, Phoebe, Sara, Jeanne (my grandmother), Frank, Ralph, Julia, Roscoe Logan, and Wilford. William Henry Harrison Geist died on 16 August 1921 in Sabula, Iowa and is buried in nearby Sterling. Although my great-grandfather survived the Civil War without a wound, I am certain his experiences had a lasting impact on the remainder of his life. I am extremely proud of his service to the Union and honor his memory by membership in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Editor's Note: we are again running low on information to create "My Union Ancestor" articles, with only two remaining to be published. If you have yet to submit a form and wish to, please contact the Camp Secretary or Newsletter Editor. There are many Camp Brothers with multiple Civil War ancestors. Consider an article on those not already published.

Civil War Book Honored

The Civil War Legacy in Santa Ana" book authored by Gordon Bricken (Sons of Confederate Veterans) was awarded the George Washington Honor Medal in the Public Communication category on November 9, 2002 at Santa Ana by Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Orange County Chapter. SUVCW brothers Glen Roosevelt and Paul Gillette (both from General Rosecrans Camp #2) and Charles Beal (Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21) were contributors to this book.

A member of the Orange County Chapter of Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge presented the book just after its publication in April for an award nomination. Award selections are determined in accordance with established procedures by a distinguished, independent National Awards jury of state supreme court justices, officers from national patriotic, service and civic clubs, veterans and educational organizations. The Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge purpose is to present a continuing positive approach to responsible citizenship, patriotism and the perpetuation of the American Way of Life.

The George Washington Award is considered Freedoms Foundation highest honor. Further information about this organization and their awards can be found at: <http://www.ffvf.org>.

There is consideration of a 2nd printing of "The Civil War Legacy in Santa Ana" book by the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society who published the book. They are planning to put a hardback binder cover on the book. The book can be ordered at: <http://SantaAnaHistory.com>.

Submitted by Bro. Charles Beal

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF SGT. WM. PITTENGER CAMP 21, SUVVCW
HELD SATURDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2002 AT ESCONDIDO, CALIFORNIA

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 PM by SVC Jerry Sayre at Charlie's Family Restaurant, 210 N. Ivy St., Escondido, CA., with 20 Brothers attending (Dave Allyn, Gene Armistead, Jerry Cady, Kirk Clapp, John Costa, Larry Fillhard, Frank Hollingshead, Bob Lowe, Colin McKim, John Pollard, Ernie Powell, Richard Raver, Wayne Rogers, Chuck Rothlauf, Jerry Sayre, Tim Stinson, Tom Stinson, Will Tisch, Mark Woolfington, Mathew Vlasak) and 5 guests (Eileen Jackson, Eileen Tisch, Linda McKim, James McKim, Marianne Raver). Camp Chaplain, Ernie Powell, delivered the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance

A motion (Pollard/Rothlauf) to approve the minutes of the August meeting as published in the September newsletter passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report: Gene Armistead reported our current balance is \$1,617.84. All income in the form of dues, applications and a small donation: major expenses were per capita dues to Dep't. and National (\$426.25) and the Sept. newsletter.

Bob Lowe delivered a short report on the National Encampment at Springfield, IL. Our Dept. made a fine showing with 11 member delegates in attendance.

Dave Allyn made a short report on the SVR unit's participation in the Tustin Tiller Days Parade and photos were passed around from that event. 11 members made the 1.5-mile march with our Camp Flag as well as the Camp 2 Flag, National and State Flags. Next big event will be Nov 24 in the Mother Goose Parade in El Cajon.

Larry Fillhard reported on preparations for the Nov 17 Remembrance/Veterans Day event, at the Fallbrook Odd Fellows Cemetery at 1 PM. All members are encouraged to attend this annual Camp event which honors all veterans and especially our camp's namesake, William Pittenger. The cleanup of the cemetery will take place Nov 9 at 9 AM -- all members who can help are welcome: bring rakes and trash bags, please.

JVC Woolfington read the report of new members: Jerry Freeland of La Jolla has applied for Associate Membership and Max Purkizer of San Diego whose ancestor served in the 24th IN Infantry. A motion (Allyn/Fillhard) that they be formally elected to Associate and regular membership and considered initiated as of the dates their applications were received passed unanimously.

SVC Jerry Sayre suggests that a Camp Quartermaster be formally appointed by the next Camp Commander to track the whereabouts of camp property - maintaining a log of who has which items.

Bob Lowe reported that anyone who needs a Camp Nametag should notify him - a sign up sheet was circulated for this purpose. Bob has pre-stamped postcards for the Nov 17 event in Fallbrook suitable for mailing/handing to people who might be interested in attending. Bob read a list of the organizations to which he has mailed these postcards.

Tim Stinson gave us a 5-minute talk on his Union ancestor, Andrew Jackson Stinson's service. This is a requirement of Tim's preparations for becoming an Eagle Scout in the BSA. Bro. Armistead suggested and the camp directed the Secretary to send a letter acknowledging and thanking Tim for his presentation.

Member's Minutes followed: Ernie Powell is going back east and will be visiting his g-g-grandfather's grave. Colin McKim is reading the book on Co. G, 6th US Infantry, the unit in which his ancestor served. Larry Fillhard has found photos of identified Civil War soldiers and asked what he should do with them - it was suggested that he contact the local state/county historical societies. SVC Sayre said he was not prepared for the National Encampment's level of debate and learned the importance of as many members attending as possible to ensure changes can be made to improve our order. Bob Lowe reminded us of the existence of our order's Auxiliary; open to wives, mothers, sisters of our members; associate members are also accepted. There is a membership badge available; Eileen Jackson had hers on for display. Interested members may contact Bob or Rosemary for further details on how to join the ASUVCW. At one time, our camp had an organized auxiliary, but it disbanded due to a lack of interest. (Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

MEETING MINUTES

Hopefully, one day in future we could reactivate our Auxiliary. Bob asked us to bring relatives and friends to the Nov 17 event in Fallbrook, it being the only event entirely sponsored by the Pittenger Camp 21. Bob reminded us of the Camp 21 scrapbooks, which were on display. He asked for members who attend any events with their badge/nametag to send him photos and text for addition. Wayne Rogers told of his ancestors' service - one of which said the prayer at Appomattox Courthouse. Dick Raver says he and his wife Marianne have joined the reenactment group, 116th PA Infantry, they are looking forward to going to the 140th Gettysburg reenactment in 2003. Jerry Cady's G-Grandfather Geist was from the same area of MO as Tim/Tom Stinson's ancestor; began/ended service as a Private in the 9th IA, and marched 7000 miles during the war.

SVC Sayre reminded us that the next meeting in Dec will include camp elections. All members are invited to run for any office and it is entirely appropriate to nominate oneself. We need as many members as possible to be here to vote. Bob Lowe mentioned that none of the elected positions is that difficult - most can be done from one's home.

Our program, The Battles for Fort Fisher, was presented by Will Tisch.

Camp Chaplain, Ernie Powell delivered the closing prayer. SVC Sayre closed the meeting at 6:10

Respectfully submitted, Dave Allyn, Camp Secretary

(continued from page 1)

Remembrance Day

Huzzah to Co. G (*lower right*) for presenting the colors and looking great. Special thanks to our keynote speaker Phil Arnold (*upper right*) of Fallbrook, who addressed the attendees with a fine Remembrance Day speech. We cannot forget the contribution of those interpid souls who cleaned the cemetery on November 9th. Trying to avoid the rain, the cleanup consisted of Camp Bros. Dave Allyn, Wayne Rogers, Larry Fillhard, Ernie Powell and Bob Lowe. Also assisting and "keeping us in line" was Eileen Jackson of the Auxiliary. Our hats are off the Rosemary Lowe of the Auxiliary for organizing and leading the "Floral Tribute" during the ceremony. Finally, the Camp wishes to thank Laary Filhard for chairing the Remembrance Day Committee and, with the help of Dale Rakestraw, placed American Flags on each veteran's grave in the Odd Fellows Community Cemetery prior to the ceremony. Those members unable to attend and wishing to obtain a souvenir ribbon of the event may purchase one for fifty cents at the December Camp meeting or by contacting Larry Fillhard.



Phil Arnold



Co. G, 5th CVI. SVR

Day Of Enlistment

I was young, but not unobserving, and did not believe, from the first, in a sixty day's war; nor did I consider ten dollars a month, and the promised glory, large pay for the services of an able-bodied man. Enlistment scenes are usually pictured as entirely heroic, but truth compels me to acknowledge that my feelings were mixed. At this moment I cannot repress a smile of amusement and pity for that young recruit - myself. "Cold chills" ran up and down my back as I got out of bed after a sleepless night, and shaved, preparatory to other desperate deeds of valor. I was twenty years of age, and when anything unusual was to be done, light fighting or courting, I shaved. With a nervous tremor convulsing my whole system, and my heart thumping like muffled drum-beats, I stood before the door of the recruiting office, and before turning the knob to enter, read and re-read the advertisement for recruits posted thereon, until I knew all the particulars. The promised chances for "travel and promotion" seemed good, and I thought I might have made a mistake in considering war so serious, after all. "Chances for travel!" I must confess now, after four years of soldiering, that the "chances for travel" were no myth. But "promotion" was a little uncertain and slow. (*Recollections of a Private, 1890 by Warren Lee Goss*)

SVR NEWS

Tustin Tiller Days Parade

We started the morning of Saturday, 5 Oct 2002, by showing up at First Advent Christian Church of Tustin at 8:30 am. After gathering our senses, equipment, and a little coffee, we proceeded to "Fall In" as we were to be first in line at the "Tustin Tiller Days Parade" helping to celebrate Tustin's 75th anniversary. At 10:00 (or at least close, you know how these things go) 11 members of Company G, 5th CA Vol. Inf. started off on the 1.5 mile journey to great cheers and salutes.

Capt. Dave Allyn, and 2 ranks of Infantry, escorted by 2 motorcycle units from Tustin Police, led the way followed by a Squad of "Buffalo Soldier" Cavalry, several local High School Bands, Boy and Girl Scout Troops, ROTC, and several Veterans Groups and various civic organizations, marching, riding floats and antique cars.

Soldiers of Company G were: Pvt. Rudy Velasco, Sgt. Mike Quigley (National Colors), Pvt. Mark Woolfington (CA State Colors), Cpl. Jon Gottshall (Camp 2 Colors), Pvt. Will Tisch (Camp 21 Colors), Pvt. Colin McKim, 1st Sgt. Glen Roosevelt, Cpl. Ken Walker, Pvt. Michael Hicks, and Sgt. Jerry Sayre. *(photo on page 7)*

A splendid time was had by all (even if you get a little beat marching in wool uniforms), and we look forward to our next event. Rumor has it that Company G will be seen at the "Mother Goose Parade" in November. Huzzah for Company "G"

Submitted by Sgt. Jerry Sayre, Co. G, 5th CA Vol. Inf. SVR / SUVCW

Company G Presents Colors at Charger/New York Jets Game

On November 3, 2002, the Co. G Color Guard presented the colors at Qualcomm Stadium before the San Diego Chargers football game against the New York Jets. The Honor Guard consisted of 1st Sgt. Dave Allyn, Sgt. Jerry Sayre, Pvt. Larry Fillhard and Pvt. Will Tisch. Assisting Co. G were Eileen Jackson, Kim Sayre, Kiyoko Fillhard and Eileen Tisch. Unfortunately, their presence didn't help the home team, as the Chargers were defeated for only the second time this season. "Three cheers and a tiger" to Brother Will Tisch, whose efforts with the Padre Baseball Club and the Chargers Football Team have resulted in widespread exposure of the SUVCW and the Pittenger Camp 21 on two occasions.

SVR 6th Military District Commander Named

Brig. Gen. David Medert, Commander of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, has recently appointed our very own Brother Dave Allyn to command the Sixth Military District, which encompasses several states. Dave will hold the rank of Captain and will soon be appointing officers for his staff. Until his appointment, Bro. Allyn served as 6th Military District Chief of Staff and is currently Commander of Co. G, 5th California Infantry, SVR. Beyond his SVR duties, Dave is Pittenger Camp 21 Secretary. All members of our Camp and the Department of California & Pacific are pleased with this appointment and wish Dave every success and assure him that he can count on their continued support.

Attention Company "G" Members

SVR membership dues are coming up for renewal by Dec. 31st. Send your \$5.00 renewal to Capt. Dave Allyn, 13460 Hwy. 8 Business, #102, Lakeside, CA. 92040. Interested Camp members wishing to join the SVR may contact Capt. Allyn at Allynde2@aol.com or (619) 596 - 0813.



CAPT. DAVE ALLYN

PITTENGER CAMP SCRAPBOOK



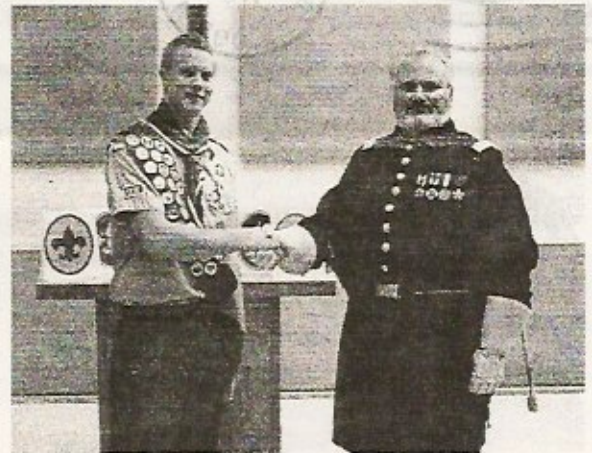
Honor guard consisting of Dave Allyn, Jerry Sayre, Will Tisch and Larry Fillhard present colors at the San Diego/ New York Jets football game on November 3, 2002. This was a great opportunity to make the public aware of our Camp and Order.



Color Bearers Will Tisch and Larry Fillhard (hidden) receive instructions while Dave Allyn and Jerry Sayre (hidden) guard the colors before the Chargers/New York Jets game at Qualcomm Stadium on Nov. 3rd.



Dale Rakestraw sitting at Pittenger Camp informational table is surrounded by Larry Fillhard, Eileen Tisch, Kim Sayre, Will Tisch, Ernie Powell and Jerry Sayre at Civil War Days in Huntington Beach.



Captain Dave Allyn congratulates newly elected Eagle Scout David Peters after his receiving his SUVCW Commendation Certificate at Court of Honor.



Co. G, 5th Calif. Infantry, SVR led by Capt. Dave Allyn proudly marches in Tustin's "Tiller Days" parade. Eleven members of Co. G from Rosecrans Camp 2 and Pittenger Camp 21 were present on this occasion.



Bob Lowe, Dave Allyn and Eileen Jackson with new Eagle Scout Kehnin Dyer at Court of Honor in Lakeside, CA. Kehnin is a remarkable young man at only 14 years of age. Not pictured, but present is Rosemary Lowe.

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

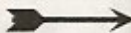


Remember to wear your membership badge when attending events.

NEXT CAMP MEETING

December 14, 2002 - 4 PM

**CHARLIE'S FAMILY RESTAURANT
210 NORTH IVY STREET
ESCONDIDO, CALIFORNIA**

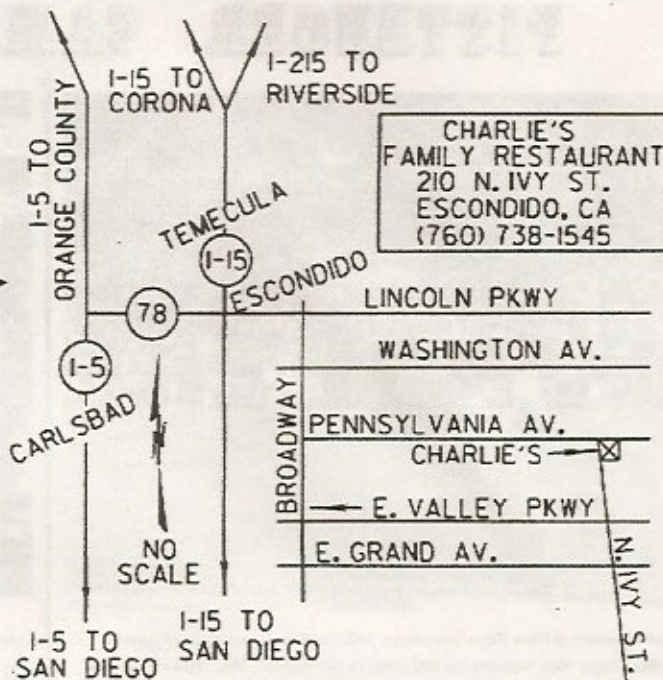
A map to our meeting location is provided 

**DECEMBER PROGRAM by
GENE ARMISTEAD, PDC**

"PRACTICAL JOKES IN THE CIVIL WAR"

NOTICE

It has been requested by the management of Charlie's Restaurant that, when attending meetings, we use the Municipal Parking Lot behind the restaurant. Please comply.



*Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21
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