

Newsletter of Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21

The General

Department of
California & Pacific



Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War

Volume X Number 1

2003 "Most Outstanding Camp in the Nation"

January 19, 2004



Badges of our Order

Each month we will feature a different badge of our Order to familiarize our members with their look and meaning.

This month we are highlighting the badge of Past Camp Commander. This badge indicates that its wearer has successfully served at least one full term a Commander of a Camp.

The Past Camp Commander rank is necessary to become a Department Commander.

Once achieved the wearer is entitled to use the letters PCC after his name on

RING IN THE NEW!

Commander's Letter to Camp

To the Brothers of Camp 21;

At the start of another New Year, I begin by thanking for your vote of confidence in re-electing me as your Commander.

2003 saw us at the SUPERBOWL, and our numerous activities and memorials helped us to be nominated and receive the Abraham Lincoln Award, as the "Most Outstanding Camp in the Nation".

This is quite an accomplishment for a camp only 8 years old. We can certainly look back with great pride, at our many deeds well done, but we can also look to greater needs to serve in the future.

At the beginning of last year, I set a path of growth and development. In the area of development, we surpassed our goals. Our Eagle Scout Program leads the Department in size and scope. This is a program that can grow even bigger. I was honored to personally present 21 Eagle Scouts with a Commendation. Many brothers have participated in these events, but more are welcome to do so. Our Lincoln Award is proof of our dedication and service, and our

participation in numerous events.

Our only goal that was not reached was that of growth. Recruitment must be a top priority for 2004. If you love the "Sons", tell people. Sharing your love of history, patriotism, and the "Memory if the Boys in Blue" can be quite infectious. Set a personal goal of 1 recruit this year.

In anticipation of that growth, we will be moving to a new facility in Feb. MCAS Miramar has been set as our newest home for meetings. More on that in this issue.

Finally, all of this is possible, ONLY with YOUR participation. The camp is *you*. Your help is needed to make this the "Camp of the Year", every year.

Again, my thanks for your faith in me, and let's make 2004 even better.



Jerry Sayre, Commander, Camp 21

Camp Website - <http://home.earthlink.net/~suvchw/pittenger21.html>

CAMP OFFICERS

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Council/Guide Tom Stinson
Council/Chaplain .. Tom Helmantoler
Council Bob Lowe, PDC
Patriotic Instructor John Finch
CW Memorials Officer.. Larry Fillhard
Eagle Scout Coord Wayne Rogers
Graves Registration ... Bob Lowe, PDC
Color Bearer Colin McKim
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THE GENERAL is the official newsletter of the Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. It is published each odd-numbered month for Camp members. It is 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 should be sent to the Newsletter Editor listed above with the understanding that space limitations may require editing.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS should be mailed to Camp Secretary at the address listed above. 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, send your permission and email address to Bob Lowe at Cavalry21@cox.net.

SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE (SVR) is the uniformed contingent of

Newsletter Available Via Email

Beginning immediately, our Camp Newsletter, *The General*, will be available as an email attachment in PDF (portable document file) format. In this manner, you may save each edition to your computer, to a disk or print it out. This also will allow photographs and graphics to be received in color without the additional expense to the Camp of color printing or the poor duplication quality currently experienced in the regular mailing method. PDF files can be received and opened by anyone, once Adobe Acrobat Reader is downloaded to your computer. If you do not already have this software, it can be obtained, free of charge, at

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>. Additionally, for those who choose to receive their newsletter via email, you will save the duplication and mailing costs to the Camp. This savings will allow us to expand our current programs and give us the ability to consider new ventures. These continuing duplication and mailing charges are the biggest single expense to the Pittenger Camp. If you would like to receive *The General* in the above described manner or have questions concerning this article, please contact Newsletter Editor Bob Lowe at - Cavalry21@cox.net. or via phone at (619) 588 - 9148.

New Meeting Location at Miramar

by Will Tisch, SVC

I contacted Adam Saks at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar last August to look into the feasibility of having our Camp meetings at the Staff NCO Club. He was very interested, and welcomed our organization with open arms.

After meeting with him personally before the Holiday with Commander Sayre, we felt it would be an acceptable place for our future meetings with excellent accommodations and food prices. Adam handles all catering and clubs at Miramar and also has an ancestor who has served on the Union Side in the Civil War. He was Abraham Cohn and a Medal of Honor Recipient.

Adam is very interested in our camp and has made available all the facilities of the NCO Club for our use. This includes a large plasma TV. The luxury of meeting amongst our Marine Defenders also opens up new possibilities for our Camp. This includes a place for picnics and the invitation of all marines to attend our meetings with their

families.

We as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War have the unique opportunity to educate their children about the sacrifices made in the Civil War and in turn they can have the opportunity to join our ranks to help us excel with future engagements. After all we are the Sons and it is only fitting that the descendants of the Civil War veterans help teach our history to the Children of Modern War through interaction. I look forward to seeing you there and look forward to another great year for our Camp and Great Country.

The program for February Camp meeting will be presented by 1st Sgt. Ken Conover, USMC. He will be speaking to us on the topic of "Serving Our Nation In Times of War". I hope to see many of you at our inaugural meeting at Miramar.

SVR News

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 and is open to the public. For further information contact President Dave Tooley at (858) 672 - 2593.

Members of Company G, 5th California Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve are requested to submit their annual dues for 2004, if they haven't already done so. The 2004 dues rate has been increased \$1.00 this year to establish a District Operating Fund. This increase now bring the annual dues to \$6.00 per enlisted man and \$7.00

per officer. The District Operating Fund will allow the establishment of a 6th Military District Newsletter, plus help defray duplication and mailing costs. Dues should be sent to the Company "G" Adjutant at the following address. Lt. Glen Roosevelt, Adjutant, Co. G., 5th California Infantry, SVR, 1280 N. Piedmont Drive, Anaheim Hills, CA. 92807 -

Dept. Commander Installs 2004 Camp Officers

Department Commander Brad Schall and First Lady Patty made a visitation to the Pittenger Camp for its election meeting last December. After the elected and appointed officers were determined, Cmdr. Schall administered the oath of office to those surrounding the Bible and announced that our Camp was officially installed for the coming year. The 2004 Camp Officers names are located on page 2 in this newsletter.

It was indeed an honor to have Comdr. School travel from his home in Lincoln, California to participate in our annual election and installation meeting.

After the meeting, many of the attending Brothers, ASUVCW Sisters and guests stayed on for a evening meal and fellowship. It is hoped that this after-meeting dinner and socializing will continue and expand at our new meeting location. Beside serving the SUVCW, camaraderie is an important part of our Order.



Installation of 2004 Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21 Officers by Dept. Cmdr. Brad Schall

Pittenger Camp Scrapbook



This beautiful certificate was recently received along with thanks for our Camp's donation to the museum. Visitors to the museum with henceforth find our Camp's name "memorialized" in the courtyard of the museum where the locomotive "The General" is housed.



Co. G passes reviewing stand during Mother Goose Parade in El Cajon. Led by Capt. Allyn are (l to r) Bros. R. Velasco, J. Sayre, W. Tisch, T. Helmantler, C. Cowgill, A. Hodges, B. Lowe. Not pictured: Lt. Glen Roosevelt.

Schedule of Coming Events/Activities

* denotes Co. G, 5th Calif. Infantry, SVR participation

Contact for details

Pittenger Camp Meeting - Escondido, CA.	February 14, 2004	Any Camp Officer
*Massing of the Colors, Forest Lawn Cemetery, Glendale, CA	February 22, 2004	Jerry Sayre, Bob Lowe
Reenactment, Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, Vista, CA	March 13-14, 2004	Jerry Sayre, Bob Lowe
Department Encampment, San Luis Obispo, CA.	March 19-20, 2004	Jerry Sayre, Bob Lowe
Pittenger Camp Meeting - Escondido, CA	April 10, 2004	Any Camp Officer
*Memorial Day Ceremony, Mt. Hope Cemetery, San Diego	May 30, 2004	Mike Schooling, Bob Lowe
Pittenger Camp Meeting - Escondido, CA	June 12, 2004	Any Camp Officer
Reenactment, Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, Vista, CA	July 10-11, 2004	Jerry Sayre, Bob Lowe
Allied Orders National Encampment, Cedar Rapids, IA.	August 11-15, 2004	Jerry Sayre, Bob Lowe
Pittenger Camp Meeting - Escondido, CA	August 14, 2004	Any Camp Officer

2004 Department Encampment

3 January 2004

To Camp Commanders, Secretaries

From: Linn Hoadley, Department Sr. Vice Commander

Dear Brothers:

It is with great pleasure that Commander Schall and I invite all Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War members to attend the 118th Annual Encampment of the Department of California & Pacific on Friday & Saturday, March 19-20, 2004. We will hold the meeting at the Elk's Lodge 322 in San Luis Obispo, CA.

Friday, March 19th beginning at 3PM, we will have our Campfire at the Elks Lodge. There will be plenty of time to meet new friends and fellowship with old ones. Besides provided snacks, there will be a cash bar & no-host dinner. The "optional" dinner cost will be between \$8 and \$10 each.

Our guest of honor will be Commander-in-Chief Kent L. Armstrong and his wife Judy. Under Brad Schall's leadership, our Department has several members holding National Officer positions and members of National Committees. Hopefully in the coming year we can place more members on National's Working Committees.

We can get into the Lodge at 7:30 on Saturday morning to set up the room and start registration. Again, tables will be available in the meeting room for Sons' memorabilia or for each Camp to display some of their artifacts. Each interested Camp must reserve a table prior to the meeting. Saturday morning coffee and donuts will be provided. On Saturday evening there will be a no-host dinner for our Commander-in-Chief and First Lady.

The meeting starts at 0900 hours on Saturday and will run until we break for lunch. We have a program this year, which includes, election of officers, installation of officers, election of delegates to the 2004 National Encampment, committee reports, Department Officers reports, individual Camp reports, Memorial Ceremony after lunch, and a raffle.

The registration fee is \$25.00 for the meeting; a delicious buffet lunch is provided with your registration fee. Guests may attend the luncheon for \$13.00. Please return the registration form on page 5 with your registration fee as soon as possible to enable time for nametag preparation. It is also a good idea to make motel/hotel reservations at your earliest convenience, as our encampment usually coincides with Spring Break and room space is sometimes at a premium.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,
Linn P. Hoadley, Sr. Vice Cmdr, Dept. of California & Pacific

Editor's Note: *There is a history of great representation by the Pittenger Camp. Let's keep the tradition alive. The Encampment Delegates decide the direction and operation of the Department for the next year. Your input and voice need to be heard. The least expensive lodging is normally at Motel 6, which has two locations in SLO. Their toll-free number is 1-800-466-8356. Many of us stay at the SLO South location number 1373. For those of you that can get away early, there is a nice Street Fair in downtown SLO on Thursday evening. The dress for the Encampment meeting on Saturday is business attire or uniform. If you are able to attend or have questions, please contact Cmdr. Sayre or Secretary Gene Armistead, so Delegate Credentials can be prepared for you.*



NEW 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 applications for membership have been received during this reporting period.

With all the progress made in 2003, it was an eight year low in membership applications. As personal contact is the major recruiting tool, this result falls squarely on the shoulders of the Camp members themselves.

Let's turn this negative trend around in 2004. Talk to your relatives, friends, or even people you meet in passing. You will be surprised how many have Civil War veteran ancestors.

Wearing your SUVCW membership badge or Camp nametag, on many occasions, will cause the conversation to lead to our Order and its mission.



118th Annual Encampment
 Department of California & Pacific
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 Friday & Saturday, March 19th & 20th, 2004
 Elks Lodge #322
 222 Elks Lane
 San Luis Obispo, 93401



Registration Form

Please Mail To.....SUVCW Department of California & Pacific Encampment
 C/O Dept. Secretary, Dan Earl
 P.O. Box 664, Gilroy, CA 95021-0664

Please make checks payable to....S.U.V.C.W.

Brother Name _____ Camp # _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Guest Name _____ Affiliation _____

\$25.00 for Each Brother and \$13.00 for Luncheon Guest. Total Enclosed _____

Plan to attend Friday Night No-Host Dinner (# attending) _____

Plan to attend Dinner with the CinC (# attending) _____

Minutes of Camp Meeting- December 13, 2003

The regular meeting of the Camp was called to order by Comdr. J. Sayre at 4:10 PM at Charlie's Family Restaurant in Escondido, CA. There were 16 Brothers (G. Armistead, J. Churchyard, L. Fillhard, J. Finch, T. Helmantoler, B. Lowe, J. May, M. McBride, C. McKim, J. Pollard, E. Powell, W. Rogers, J. Sayre, D. Shaffer, T. Stinson, W. Tisch), 1 visiting Brother Dept. Comdr. Brad Schall of Camp 24), and 9 guests (Ralph Henderson, Rosemary Lowe, Alberta Parker, Linda Pollard, Kathryn Powell, Kim Sayre, Patti Schall, Janice Shaffer, Eileen Tisch) present for a total of 26. Comdr. Sayre recognized and welcomed Sept. Comdr. Schall to the meeting.

The Opening Prayer was offered by Chaplain E. Powell. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by JVC Tisch. A motion (Helmantoler/Lowe) to approve minutes of the October meeting as published in the November newsletter was approved unanimously.

Secretary G. Armistead reported membership at 91 and that as of 12 Dec., 38% of Brothers have already renewed for 2004. Treasurer G. Armistead reported expenses since the last meeting of \$181.89 to reimburse the Sept. & Nov. newsletters, \$65 to the Kennesaw Museum Foundation, \$85.71 for the Nov. survey of membership and \$18.00 to the National Quartermaster for forms. He reported that income was solely in the form of dues with some attached donations and a balance of \$1960.22. He advised that receipts for tax deduction purposes would be mailed with the January newsletter.

A Patriotic Instructor Report reviewing patriotic activities of the Camp over 2003 was given by J. Finch. PDC Lowe reported on the Military Tribute to Bob Hope, saying that the Dept. accomplished 48 donations totaling \$1065.00. He presented the Camp and other donors present with a plaque of recognition provided by Brother George Van Valkenburg. JVC W. Tisch reported membership inquiries from 3 people. Comdr. Sayre reported that 16 had responded to the membership survey - few were interested in ritual.

OLD BUSINESS. Secretary Armistead reported that the ByLaws Amendments passed at the October meeting had been approved by the Dept. Comdr. and that updated copies of the ByLaws would be distributed to principal officers of the Camp following election of officers for 2004.

NEW BUSINESS. Secretary Armistead reported correspondence from PDC Al Peterson of Camp 12 in Las Vegas requesting the Camp help further the SUVCW goal of restoring Memorial Day to May 30th by circulating petitions for such a change. Petitions were circulated during the meeting for signature and blank petitions given to members to seek additional signatures. Petitions are to be returned to the Camp Secretary, who will forward them to PDC Peterson for further appropriate action.

Secretary Armistead reported correspondence from ASUVCW National Vice President Michelle Langley seeking, on behalf of the AUVCW Dept. of New York, donations for the purpose of a Monument to Union veterans at Waterloo, NY - which is claimed to be the site for the origin of Memorial Day. Motion (Armistead/Powell) to appropriate \$25.00 for this purpose passed unanimously.

Secretary Armistead reported correspondence from former Camp member Mark Woolfington that he is now safely relocated in Illinois and hopes to see some of us when visiting So. Calif. in January. PDC Lowe advised that he has a program that will permit offering the Camp newsletter on the Internet and would like to make it available via email to members who would like to receive it in that manner. A motion (Lowe/Helmantole) to that effect passed unanimously.

Comdr. Sayre presented Certificates of Appreciation to those who had served the Camp as officers during 2004.

Comdr. Sayre introduced Dept. Comdr. Brad Schall. Comdr. Schall expressed his pleasure in visiting the Camp and his congratulations to and pride in our Camp for winning the SUVCW's Lincoln Award as the nation's best Camp. He said the Dept. now has almost 500 members and 11 Camps. He has visited 9 of the 11 Camps. The Dept. is soon receiving money (tens of thousands) in grants to restore the Civil War Memorial in Carson City, Nevada.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2004 was conducted by Comdr. Sayre. There were no contested nominations for any office. All nominees having accepted their nominations, were elected by acclamation. For **COMMANDER**, Jerry Sayre was nominated by Will Tisch and elected unanimously, For **SR. VICE COMMANDER**, Will Tisch was nominated by Bob Lowe and elected unanimously. For **JR. VICE COMMANDER**, Ernie Powell was nominated by Jerry Sayre and elected unanimously. For the 3 **MEMBERS OF CAMP COUNCIL**, Bob Lowe was nominated by Gene Armistead, Tom Stinson was nominated by John Pollard, Tom Helmantoler was nominated by Gene Armistead - all were elected unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL OFFICERS FOR 2004 was made by newly re-elected Comdr. Sayre: as **CHAPLAIN** - Tom Helmantoler, as **NEWSLETTER EDITOR** - Bob Lowe, as **PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR** - John Finch, as **GUARD** - Tom Helmantoler, as **GUIDE** - Tom Stinson, as **COLOR BEARER** - Colin McKim, as **EAGLE SCOUT COORDINATOR** - Wayne Rogers, as **GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER** - Bob Lowe, and as **CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS OFFICER** - Larry Fillhard,

(continued on page 7)

December Meeting Minutes

(continued from page 6)

The Matter of DELEGATES TO THE DEPT. ENCAMPMENT in March was then considered. A motion (Armistead/Powell) that those Brothers desiring and able to attend be considered and deemed elected Delegates passed unanimously. At the time of the meeting, the following indicated they hoped to attend the Dept. Encampment; J. Churchyard, L. Fillhard, J. Pollard, E. Powell, W. Rogers, J. Sayre and W. Tisch. B. Lowe also indicated he planned on attending, but as Past Dept. Cmdr. does not count against the Camp's Delegate allotment.

The RAFFLE was conducted by W. Tisch and B. Lowe and raised \$59.00 for the Camp. Winners and their prizes were: (1) E. Powell - set of rubber stamps of Union generals, (2) John May - copy of Boater's CIVIL WAR DICTIONARY, (3) Kim Sayre - Kunstler Civil War Calendar, (4) Eileen Tisch - Copy of Catton's TERRIBLE SWIFT SWORD, (5) T. Helmantoler - Time/Life book THE WAR BEGINS, (6) J. Pollard - March 1999 issue of CIVIL WAR TIMES and a Gettysburg poster, (7) John Finch - copy of Catton's THIS HALLOWED GROUND and (8) Bob Lowe - booklet 20th CENTURY KENNESAW.

PROGRAM. JVC Tisch introduced Linda Pollard, who spoke on the topic: "Robert E. Lee - A Union Man?". It was an interesting and thought-provoking program, in which she quoted from letters by Lee to members of his family and from several historical works. The revealed implication was that perhaps Lee had "sabotaged" the Confederacy by his tactics and needless risk-taking. At the conclusion of her program, Linda was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for her program.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR 2004 was then conducted by Dept. Cmdr. Brad Schall. The Closing Prayer was offered by new Chaplain Tom Helmantoler. The meeting was adjourned by Commander Sayre at 5:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Gene Armistead PDC, Secretary.

2003 In Review

by Gene Armistead PDC

2003 was yet another busy and very productive year for our Camp. The major "event" was undoubtedly receiving the SUVCW Commander-in-Chief's Lincoln Award as the Order's Most Outstanding Camp at the National Encampment at Ft. Mitchell, KY, in August. Receipt of this award by our Camp is all the more significant in that it came at the conclusion of only the 8th year of the Camp's existence. The award exemplifies the dedication and participation of our membership, to which must be attributed our Camp's continued success.

Although total membership in the Camp declined by 14 (from 105 to 91), the greatest portion of this loss was by reason of transfers for the purpose of organizing a new Camp of the SUVCW in Orange County. If our Camp is to lose membership, then this is certainly the right way to do so. Over the 6 regular Camp meetings during the year, attendance averaged just over 13 Brothers and, with guests, 23 total. It is worth noting that, other than 6 at the August 1995 organizational meeting, our Camp has never had less than a dozen at any regular meeting.

During the year, we made financial donations to the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History, the Military Tribute to Bob Hope, the Alma Grigsby Real Daughter Fund, the ASUVCW National Patriotic Fund, the Veteran's Memorial Center (in Balboa Park, San Diego), the General Grant Birthday Commemoration (in New York City), and the ASUVCW Dept. of New York fund for a memorial at Waterloo, NY. Brothers presented living history programs in Tustin and several public schools in the San Diego area. 93 new Eagle Scouts were presented with SUVCW's Certificate of Recognition - among them were our own Brothers, Brian Hughes and Tim Stinson.

The Camp participated in Memorial Day Observances at 7 cemeteries located in 4 different California counties and in the State of Hawaii. We held Remembrance Day ceremonies in Fallbrook's Odd Fellows Cemetery. Brothers took part in the "Massing of the Colors" in Los Angeles in February. Uniformed membs provided color guards and marched in several events. The most notable was, of course, the Super Bowl in San Diego, back in January. Other appearances as color guards for 2 San Diego Padres games, the chartering of a new SVR Unit in Las Vegas, Armed Forces Day Parade in San Diego, Tiller Days Parade in Tustin, the Mother Goose Parade in El Cajon, and the Veterans Day Parade in San Diego. For the latter event 2 Brothers served on the organizational committee. Informational booths were manned at Fresno's "Civil War Revisited" event, Huntington Beach's "Civil War Days", and a reenactment at Vista's Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum. Members also participated in three "Support our Troops" rallies during April.

Our Camp's presence was felt even in the Deep South. Bros. S.E. Armistead represented us at the dedication of an Alabama Historic Marker memorializing a Civil War cavalry skirmish. Bro. Mark Radeleff presented our donation and spoke at the Grand Re-opening of the Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History. Along with Billy Ogan's activities in Honolulu, HI, our Camp's activities were more than "coast to coast"! With Brothers like each and every one of you - we look forward to 2004 as another successful year for the Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21. THANK YOU ALL !!

NEXT CAMP MEETING

February 14, 2004 - 4 PM

New Meeting Location

Staff NCO Club

Anderson@Bauer

MCAS Miramar

San Diego, CA.

www.mccsmiramar.com

DIRECTIONS

From I-15 take Miramar Road west to Main Gate (Mitchner Way). Proceed on Mitchner Way to Bauer. Right on Bauer to Anderson.

Be prepared to show Driver's License, Car Registration and Proof of Insurance to Sentry at Gate.



The General

The General



Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21
Bob Lowe, Newsletter Editor
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