

Newstetter of Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21

The General

Department of
California & Pacific



Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War

Volume X Number 6

2003 "Most Outstanding Camp in the Nation"

November 16, 2004

2004 "Best Camp Newsletter in the Nation"



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 our ancestors, the Grand Army of the Republic Membership Badge.

Although not a badge of the SUVCW, many Brothers treasure the possession of an original GAR Badge.

These original badges are available through the eBay auction site. Do to the popularity of this item, prices begin around \$60 and, depending on condition, sometimes reach \$170

Important Election Meeting - December 11th

It is once again time to elect new officers who will direct the operation of your Camp during the upcoming year. Your input and involvement is essential for continued success and obtaining of our goals. First nominations were made at the October meeting. Nominations from the floor during the next meeting are encouraged. The Commander will ask each nominee if he will accept the position.

These officer elections and appointments will take place during our regularly scheduled Camp meeting on December 11th (see page 8 for details). Most appropriately, the meeting will be held at the San Diego Veterans Museum & Memorial Center in Balboa Park.

This year we will have the honor of the presence of Department Commander Linn Hoadley and First Lady Jean. At the request of CC Sayre, Cmdr. Hoadley will serve as Installing Officer for newly elected and appointed Camp Officers. At the conclusion of the meeting the Camp will be hosting Cmdr. Linn & Jean to dinner at Nicolosi's

Restaurant on 5153 Adobe Falls Road (off I-8 near Waring Road). All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Please consider assisting your Camp by becoming more involved. There are many opportunities available which take very little time and contribute so much to our success.

For your information, job descriptions of the various elected and appointed Camp Officers are listed.

Reminder

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

Saturday, Nov. 20, 2004
12 noon

Odd Fellows Cemetery
1300 Block Alturas Rd
Fallbrook, CA.

Elected Offices:

Commander: Presides over all meetings, appoints committees and selected officers, leader and CEO of the Camp.

Senior Vice Commander: Acts in the absence of the Cmdr, program director, and writes newsletter unless Commander appoints a newsletter editor.

Junior Vice Commander: Chief recruiter for the Camp, acts in the absence of Commander or Senior Vice Commander. (cont. on page 3)

119th Department Encampment Announced

Department Senior Vice Commander Tad Campbell, with the concurrence of Dept. Cmdr. Linn Hoadley, is pleased to announce that the 2005 Dept. of California & Pacific Encampment will be held March 11-12, 2005 at the Elks Lodge 222 in San Luis Obispo, CA. This early notification should allow plenty of time to make arrangements to attend. Beyond an enjoyable weekend, this is a perfect opportunity to represent our Camp as a Delegate and help direct the operation of our Department during the coming year. Dept. Delegates will be elected at the December meeting and thereafter by contacting the Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21 Commander.

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

Renovation in Progress

reprinted with permission from the *California Odd Fellow & Rebekah* magazine. (Oct. 2004)

FALLBROOK - The renovation of the Fallbrook Cemetery has begun and Grand Master Nathaniel Hoagland is asking for your help with this special project. The original plat of land was homesteaded and reserved for a burial ground sometime before 1881. It holds the remains of veterans of all wars, beginning with the Civil War and includes many early Fallbrook pioneers. In 1888, the Fallbrook I.O.O.F Lodge #339 held its first burial ceremony at the cemetery for P. G. Hindorff who was an early homesteader in the Rainbow area. In 1904, the Fallbrook Lodge purchased the cemetery. Over the years, another cemetery was established on the north side of town, and thus began the decline of the Fallbrook Cemetery. Over time, vandals have caused much damage to the property. Many of the grave markers are wooden and the painted epitaphs have long eroded away. Others are broken or are illegible and encrusted with lichen, making them difficult to read.

Recently, Mike Crain, owner of the Fallbrook business World Landscape, is working to make the cemetery more attractive. He has pledged \$10,000 towards this project and he and his crews have been hard at work. Grand Master Nathaniel Hoagland firmly believes in the preservation of this Odd Fellows property and has, therefore, made this one of his special projects for the year. We ask you to please encourage your Lodges to support this very worthwhile project.

Editorial Note: Thanks to Camp Bro. Ed Strobbridge of San Luis Obispo for bringing the above article to our attention. The Odd Fellows Community Cemetery has a special place in the hearts of Camp 21 members, as it is the final resting place of our Camp namesake Sgt. William Pittenger and his wife Winnie. We have often lamented over the condition of this historical cemetery and wished, with our limited resources, that we could improve its condition. For the past five years, our Camp has held its Annual Remembrance Day Ceremony at the gravesite of Sgt. Pittenger and in the week prior have cleaned a portion of the cemetery, sometimes with the assistance of local Boy Scout Troop 737. In October 2000 and with the assistance of Daniels Cablevision, our Camp had the cemetery flagpole repaired and restrung. This may be a perfect time and opportunity to contact Mr. Crain to determine what assistance we might provide. The subject should be a topic of discussion at our next meeting. Input from Brothers unable to attend, is most welcome.

Dues Notices Accompany This Newsletter

A few years back, the SUVCW changed its membership year to correspond with the calendar year. Each Camp must submit an annual report along with the department and national portion of dues by the end of March. In order to accomplish this, the Camp will need to receive the annual dues of each member by 1 March 2005. Each member is receiving a "1st Notice" of dues with this newsletter. (A reminder and "Final Notice" will be mailed in with the Jan. newsletter if dues remain unpaid by its publishing date.)

Brothers who have been a member of the SUVCW for over a year, or who joined during 2004 using the national organization's on-line application form and paid proportional annual dues, are being billed for a full year's dues (\$33.00). Brothers who joined during 2004 and paid a full year's dues are being billed for only that portion of 2005 falling after a full year's membership (\$2.75 times the number of months). Brothers who became a Life Member after 2002 are being billed only the Camp portion of annual dues (\$12.00). Those who became a Life Member before that time are not being billed. Please check for the "X" on your Dues Notice for the amount you need to pay to renew your membership.

We sincerely hope each and every member of the Camp will promptly renew their membership in the acknowledged "Most Outstanding Camp in the Nation" (2003) with the nation's "Best Camp Newsletter" (2004). The Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21 of the SUVCW appreciates your membership in our Camp. Please help us continue to grow and to serve you and all our valued members. *Gene Armistead PDC, Secretary/Treasurer*

CAMP OFFICERS

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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 the SUVCW. You do not have to be a re-enactor to join. Annual dues are \$6.00. In-

SVR News

First, I would like to congratulate our guys and ladies who marched in Tustin's "Tiller Days" parade, Oct. 2. We won FIRST Prize for Fraternal orders marching groups! This marks the first time we have been awarded any prize and it proves we are improving as a unit. We have several events coming up and we would like to invite all members of Co. G to join us. The events are listed below this article, so please check your schedules and come out to swell our ranks. With your help, we can win more awards and have a lot of fun in the process. I would like to make clear that any member of the unit and the Camp is welcome and encouraged to join us in these parades. If you do not have a uniform, you are most welcome to join us (in suitable attire, such as dark blue sport coat and tie) marching just behind the uniformed rank. I have seen this done when I was in Ohio's Camp 66, believe me, it looks fine!

We are coming to the close of our third year and I think the time has come for some changes in leadership. I would like to step down as Company Commander and return to the ranks. My commission has been renewed and I will retain command of the 6th Military District with the rank of Major. 1st Sgt. Jerry Sayre has indicated a desire and willingness to assume the position as Company CO with the rank of Captain and I support his decision. At the same time, our Co. Adjutant, 2nd Lt. Glen Roosevelt, wishes to relinquish his position to concentrate efforts on the new Marine Guard Company now forming. Corporal Will Tisch has said he would like to step up to the rank (2nd Lt.) and become our new Adjutant. Will can do a fine job in this capacity and I support this change. In addition, Sgt. Rudy Velasco would like to devote his attention to the Marine Guards so he is willing to revert to a Private in Co. G. This means we will have some NCO positions needing to be filled. It will be the duty of the new Company Commander and Adjutant to fill the open billets. If you have the desire and feel ready to step up to Corporal or Sergeant, you should let us know. If you have questions about what is involved, feel free to ask.

Capt. Dave Allyn, Commander
Co. G, 5th Calif. Infantry, SVR

Election Meeting *from page 1*

Secretary: Keeps minutes of the meeting, files annual report, keeps membership records of the camp and maintains current membership list.

Treasurer: Keeps track of financial records, maintains current financial position and distributes camp funds.

Camp Council positions (three total). Acts as a board of directors for the Commander, appoints vacant elected officer positions, and approves camp financial records.

Positions appointed by the Commander:

Chaplain: Conducts devotional services, conducts prayers at meetings, custodian of camp Bible, Altar Cloth and sends get-well cards to members.

Color Bearer: Presents the Pledge of Allegiance, keeper of Camp flags.

Patriotic Instructor: Records patriotic activities of camp, informs camp of patriotic activities and events. Reports activities to Dept. Patriotic Instructor.

Graves Registration Officer: Directs and complies Camp grave registration activities. Reports findings to Dept. Graves Registration Officer.

Civil War Memorials Officer: Gathers and records information regarding CW monuments and memorials within Camp geographical area. Reports findings to Dept. Civil War Memorials Officer.

Eagle Scout Coordinator: Schedules presentations, mails certificates & letters to presenters or Eagle Scouts. Reports to Dept. Eagle Scout Coordinator.

Guide: Introduces new members to Camp, assists the camp Commander with meetings

Guard: Secures the meeting area.

Historian: Collects and preserves all camp historical and biographical material, maintains camp scrapbook.

Counselor: Legal advisor to Camp Commander.

Quartermaster: Houses, maintains and distributes Camp property used for recruiting tables, parades, etc.

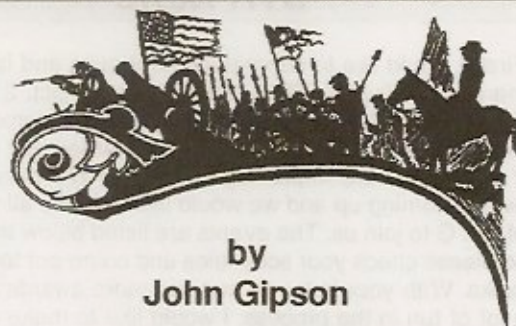
If you are interested in any position or would like further details, please do not hesitate to contact Camp Commander Jerry Sayre.

Schedule of Coming Events/Activities

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

Contact for details

*Veterans Day Parade, CAC, Harbor Dr, 11:00 AM	November 11, 2004	Dave Allyn, Will Tisch, Bob Lowe
*Remembrance Day Ceremony, Pittenger Gravesite, Fallbrook	November 20, 2004	John May, Jerry Sayre
*Mother Goose Parade - El Cajon, CA.	November 21, 2004	Dave Allyn, Will Tisch
*Fallbrook Christmas Parade, assemble time 4:00 PM	December 4, 2004	Jerry Sayre
Victorian Days - Drum Barracks, Wilmington, CA	December 5, 2004	Jerry Sayre, Bob Lowe
Pittenger Camp Meeting (Elections) - Ramada Inn - 4 PM	December 11, 2004	Any Camp Officer



MY UNION ANCESTOR

by John Gipson

NEW MEMBERS

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

John Gipson of National City, whose ancestor, Henry Gipson, served the Union cause in both the 11th and 142nd Pennsylvania Infantry. See adjacent article.

John Shearer of San Diego, whose ancestor served the cause of the Union in the 54th Pennsylvania Infantry.

We have applications, recruiting newsletters, brochures and several other recruiting tools available to assist you in gaining new members for our Order. These items can be obtained through Cmdr. Jerry Sayre, JVC Ernie Powell, PDC Bob Lowe or any elected Camp Officer. You can help us grow in 2005.

We continue to look for "My Union Ancestor" articles. Why not write and submit one for future publication in the newsletter.

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.

Henry Gipson was born in Pennsylvania in 1837. On Jun 5, 1861 he married Sarah Melville, from Ligonier, PA. They made their home in Derry, PA supported by his work as a saddler.

On August 10, 1862 Henry, by then a father, left his wife and his young son Daniel to join many of his Westmoreland County neighbors and enlisted in Captain John G. Edwards' Company B of the 142nd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry at the rank of Corporal.

Companies came from throughout Central and Western Pennsylvania to form the 142nd in Harrisburg September 1, 1862. After a stop in Frederick, MD the 142nd moved on to Fredericksburg, Virginia where Henry's participation with the regiment ended on December 13 with a gun shot wound to his left knee, which fractured his knee cap.

The injured Henry Gipson was removed to St. Elizabeth Hospital in Washington, DC and after spending over half of his enlistment under medical care, he was discharged from the Army at Turner's Lane Hospital in Philadelphia on the fifth of May 1863, with a certificate of disability.

After returning to his wife & son in Derry (then called "Derry Station"), Henry applied for and received an invalid pension on the grounds that his bad knee made it difficult to work as a shoemaker.

1863 saw the arrival of Henry and Sarah's second son, Robert. In July of that same year the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was invaded by an opposing army, which is most likely what inspired Henry to attempt to reenlist.

While the injury to his knee made it hard to be a shoemaker, it was apparently not an impediment to marching, so five days after his son Daniel's second birthday, Henry was enrolled and mustered into Co.K of the 11th Pennsylvania Volunteers as a private, even though he had been a corporal during his entire time with the 142nd.

Henry's tour of duty with the 11th lasted much longer than his previous service. Battles included The Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor and the Siege of Petersburg. Both the 11th and the 142nd Pennsylvania were present at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865. He was finally mustered out in Washington, DC a month after the Grand Review.

Once again returning home to Derry Station, Henry's pension was reinstated and he went back to having difficulty working as a shoemaker. Henry and Sarah continued expanding their family, including the addition of my own great-grandfather, David Milton Gipson, who was born in 1875.

Although his wound caused a great deal of pain, Henry got work as a brakeman with the Pennsylvania Railroad. Because of the pain, he was always careful to land on his right leg when getting off the train. On September 21, 1881, just one month after the birth of his son Edgar, Henry stepped off the train onto his left leg.

The train had separated, and several cars were being put onto a siding at Ben's Creek, Pennsylvania. The cars were still moving slowly when Henry stepped off. His left leg did not hold his weight and he fell, his bad leg going under the wheel. Within an hour he was dead.

Henry's widow, Sarah, later applied for a widow's pension. The pension board ultimately turned down her request, ruling that Henry's death was a simple railroad accident.

Pittenger Camp Scrapbook



Presenting Greetings from the SUVCW, PDC Bob Lowe is pictured with the Navy's SW Region Cmdr. RAdm. Jose Betancourt and actress Connie Stevens at the 60th Anniversary Memorial Service of the Battle of Leyte Gulf held at Fort Rosecrans National Ceme-



At October's meeting, speaker and new member Tim Tisch (center) presents auto-graphed baseballs to (l to r) Bros. John Gipson, Dad Will Tisch and Cmdr. Jerry Sayre.



Period photographic technique was used to take this picture of some Union (SUV) & Confederate attendees at the 2004 "Civil War Revisited" event in Fresno, CA in Sept.



Bros. Allyn, Sayre, Hodges & Lowe as Color Guard during "Massing of the Colors" on 6 October at Balboa Park's Organ Pavilion



Serving as Honor Guard for the monthly Veterans Memorial Service in San Diego are Sgts. Allyn and Sayre, Cpl. Lowe, Pvt. Hodges and Cpl. Tisch. Service was held at the Veteran's Museum & Memorial



Mustering before the San Diego Veteran's Day Parade on 11 November are ASUVCW Sisters Rosemary Lowe, Helen Masso and Eileen Tisch carrying the Company Banner. Less beautiful in the rear are Bros. Dave

October Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Camp was called to order at 5:10 PM on Saturday 9 October 2004 at the El Cajon home of Brother Al Hodges by Cmdr. Jerry Sayre. There were 17 Brothers (Dave Allyn, Gene Armistead, Jerry Cady, George Cavanaugh, Bill Daley, John Finch, John Gipson, Tom Helmantoler, Al Hodges, Bill Howell, Bob Lowe, John May, Colin McKim, Jerry Sayre, Mike Schooling, Tim Tisch, Will Tisch) and 11 guests (Gay Allyn, Darlene Armistead, Angie Daley, Cindy Hodges, Laura Howell, Rosemary Lowe, Jim McKim, Linda McKim, Ed Moser, Kim Sayre, Eileen Tisch) for a total of 28 in attendance.

The opening prayer was offered by Chaplain Tom Helmantoler. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bro. Al Hodges. SCV Will Tisch presented the applications for membership of Frank Christensen, Zachary Christensen, John Gipson and Tim Tisch. A motion (Helmantoler/W.Tisch) that all 4 be elected to membership effective as of the date their applications were received was passed unanimously. Two of the new Brothers were in attendance and were presented with Membership Pins.

A motion (Armistead/Lowe) to approve the minutes of the August meeting as published in the September newsletter passed unanimously. Sec/Treas Gene Armistead reported a balance of \$1,612.36, of which \$198.00 is in the Camp 10th Anniversary Fund. PDC Lowe reported receipt of a thank you note and \$50.00 from the Social Security Office in Kearney Mesa for the Camp providing a color guard for the opening of their new office. Bob also reported receipt of a thank you note from the SCV for a \$20.00 donation (by Bob & Rosemary Lowe) in the name of the Camp.

REPORTS: SVC Tisch reported a successful 3-Camp Picnic on 5 September in Huntington Beach's Central Park with 4 Brothers and their wives in attendance. Camp 2 Brother E.O.C. Ord IV attended in uniform of his ancestor. Cmdr. Sayre displayed the Marshall Hope Award the Camp received at the August National Encampment for "Best Camp Newsletter". Al Hodges reported that 3 Camp Brothers (Hodges, Lowe, Sayre) and their wives worked an SUV CW display at the Fresno Reenactment, which is the largest west of the Mississippi River and had over 2700 Civil War reenactors. Dave Allyn reported five from our Camp (Allyn, Bingham, Hodges, Lowe, Sayre) and two from Camp 2 marched in the Tustin Tiller Days Parade on 2 October. SVR District Commander Dave Allyn reported on the SVR: December will conclude the 3rd year of the local unit. Jerry Sayre will be the new unit Captain/Commander and Will Tisch will be the new Lt./Adjutant.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Will Tisch advised about (1) Memorial Service at the Veterans Museum & Memorial Center in Balboa Park at 11:30 AM on 23 October, (2) Massing of the Colors at Balboa Park's Organ Pavillion at 10:30 AM on 6 November, (3) Veterans Day Parade on Harbor Drive in San Diego on 11 November, and (4) El Cajon's Mother Goose Parade on 21 November. Cmdr. Sayre advised about (5) the Marching Through History event in Chino's Prado Park on 23-24 October, (6) the Fallbrook Christmas Parade at 5:00 PM on 4 December, (7) Victorian Days at Drum Barracks on 5 December, and (8) that the 2005 Department Encampment will be held in San Luis Obispo on 11-12 March 2005. John May reported planning for Remembrance Day to be observed in Fallbrook at the Odd Fellows Cemetery at noon on 20 November. The speaker will be Medal of Honor recipient John Baca. A bugler is needed. Kim Sayre will contact the Fallbrook Village News and the North County Times for publicity coverage.

NEW BUSINESS: (1) A motion (Lowe/Helmantoler) that the Camp expend \$25.93 for purchase of material of a sturdy nature in a flag motif to make covercloths for our recruiting tables passed unanimously. (2) Bob Lowe and Will Tisch volunteered to assist potential applicants in researching for a Civil War ancestor. (3) Bob Lowe reported that Camp 24 presents regular Civil War programs at the Castro Valley Library for Senior Citizens. He will investigate possibility of our Camp doing the same. Those interested in participating should contact him.

OFFICERS FOR 2005: Cmdr. Sayre announced that election of Camp Officers for 2005 will be conducted at the December meeting of the Camp. Nominations made at this meeting were: Jerry Sayre for Commander by John May, Will Tisch for Sr. Vice Cmdr. by Al Hodges, John May for Secretary/Treasurer by Bob Lowe, Ernie Powell for Jr. Vice Cmdr. by Will Tisch, Gene Armistead for Camp Council by Bob Lowe, Bob Lowe for Camp Council by Gene Armistead, George Cavanaugh for Camp Council by Gene Armistead. All nominations were accepted. Additional nominations will be in order at the December meeting. Additional offices will be filled by appointment at the December meeting by whomever is elected Commander.

MEMBERS' MINUTE: Jerry Sayre has located pictures of a Civil War ancestor and his gravesite. Tom Helmantoler received a Civil War buckle and pistol as a birthday gift by his brother-in-law. Bob Lowe has located the 1873 text of the ritual for the GAR "Burial of the Dead". John May visited a New Hampshire SUV CW Camp and Gettysburg last August, where he found out that California had the most attendees of any state at the Gettysburg 50th Anniversary event. Mike Schooling said the local SCV Camp will dedicate a Confederate Cross of Honor at the Julian gravesite of Drew Bailey. Bill Howell said his Civil War ancestor was co-owner of the Stonewall Mine with Drew Bailey. *continued on page 7*
Colin McKim visited his Civil War ancestor's gravesite at the Los Angeles National Cemetery (Sawtelle). His mother and

October Meeting Minutes

continued from page 6

Auxiliary Sister Linda McKim has antique sewing machines.

PROGRAM: New member Tim Tisch, who was a pitcher for the St. Paul Saints of the Northern League (an independent professional baseball team) this past year presented the program - "Baseball Then and Now". He told how the Civil War influenced the spread of baseball in the United States, about early baseball terminology (fans were called "cranks"), and cited a Civil War letter referencing baseball. Attendees were both much entertained and enlightened by his responses to questions about life in baseball's minor leagues.

RAFFLE: SVC Will Tisch conducted the book raffle which raised \$65.00 for the Camp. 1st winner Al Hodges chose a copy of Herman Hathaway's Shades of Blue and Gray. 2nd winner Jerry Cady chose a copy of the Time-Life book Rebel's Resurgent. 3rd winner Dave Allyn chose The Approaching Fury by Stephen Oates. 4th winner Bob Lowe chose a copy of Harry Hansen's The Civil War. 5th winner Bill Daley received an abridged copy of U. S. Grants' Personal Memoirs.

The closing prayer was offered by Chaplain Helmantoler and then Cmdr. Sayre adjourned the meeting at 6:06 PM. After the meeting, Tim Tisch presented autographed baseballs to those who attended the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Gene Armistead PDC, Secretary

Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation - 1863

"The year that is drawing towards 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 soften even 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 to provoke their aggression, 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 theatre of military conflict; while that theatre 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 plough, the shuttle, or the ship; the axe had 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 battle-field; 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 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 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. - *Abraham Lincoln*

NEXT CAMP MEETING

December 11, 2004 - 4 PM

Meeting Location

**Veteran's Museum & Memorial Ctr.
2115 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA.**

DIRECTIONS

The Veteran's Museum & Memorial Center is located near the corner of Park Blvd. and President's Way in Balboa Park. This is just south of the entrance to the San Diego Zoo. Arrive early if you would like to tour the museum.

During the renovation process of the Staff NCO Club at Miramar MCAS, the Camp strives to find meeting locations that will be convenient to most members.



DECEMBER PROGRAM

SHOW & TELL. Bring a Civil War connected item and tell the attendees where it came from and/or why it is of interest or important to you.

The General

The General



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