



Newsletter of *Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21*

The General

Department of
California & Pacific



*Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War*

"Most Outstanding Camp in the Nation" ~ 2003

"Best Camp Newsletter in the Nation" ~ 2004

Volume XII Number 4

"Most Outstanding Brother in the Nation" ~ 2005

July 22, 2006

Camp Commanders Corner ~ by Will Tisch

Dear Brothers, For the last two months our Camp has participated in extraordinary service throughout San Diego County. We attended three Memorial Day services, one Veterans Memorial Service at the Veterans Memorial Museum in Balboa Park, one flagpole dedication at Mount Hope Cemetery and for two days manned a recruitment booth at the Vista Re-enactment. Also included are several presentations to Eagle Boy Scouts and two JROTC Award presentations on behalf of our camp. This has been an immense effort by the brothers and ladies of our camp. As you may have seen on



Sec. John May reading a presentation at the 3 July GAR Hill Flagpole Dedication ceremony to the VIP's, Guests, Ladies and Brothers

TV and in the newspapers, there was very excellent coverage for each of these major events. The need for media coverage serves dual purposes. It generates interest in our camp for recruitment and also and most importantly, augments the awareness of the sacrifices of the 'Boys in Blue' to the general public. Our brothers and ladies have worked very hard to conduct these events and this edition of The General

reflects those efforts mostly in pictures. I wish to thank the participants and helpers for making these events supremely successful. Your sacrifices have been immense. **THANK YOU!!!** - *On Behalf of our Grateful Camp.* Highlighting these events were inspirational readings by our brothers and the laying of flowers by our ladies at the Memorial Day ceremonies with words of God spoken at each ceremony by our beloved chaplain, Dean Poole. We also had glorious Color Guard participation by our Sons of Veterans Reserve led by Captain Jerry Sayre. *They are Fantastic!!!* The flagpole dedication at Mount

Hope Cemetery was very special. The ceremony at GAR Hill over the graves of honored Union soldiers and sailors. Rita Cartwright, who works with the San Diego Symphony, belted out the Battle Hymn of the Republic. She stood about three feet away from the microphone!!! I swear the souls of those laying there could hear her. "Veteran of the Year," John Smith, a retired US Army Vietnam combat medic with three

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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 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 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 reenactor to join. Annual dues are \$6.00. Interested Brothers should contact the SVR Representative listed above.

Patriotic Hall Inventory By Bob Lowe PDC

Bob Hope Patriotic Hall in Los Angeles has served as a meeting place and depository for veterans organizations since its construction in 1925. It is about to close its doors for a lengthy renovation. Since March 2006 and under the leadership of Camp 17's Commander, Glen Roosevelt, an inventory of GAR and Allied Orders related items has been taking place. It has been quite a task to separate the above articles from those of other veteran's organizations and house them in a single designated room. Most of the items have not seen the light of day for many decades. On July 14-15, 2006, Rosemary and I joined with others in work parties which unpacked, cleaned, sorted, inventoried and repacked the thousands of records, artifacts and items located in this historic building. We commend the dedication and diligence of Brother Roosevelt and others involved in this most important project. It was an honor and pleasure for us to be a small part of this effort.



At left, Bob Lowe (Camp 21) and Glen Roosevelt (Camp 17) at work in Patriotic Hall, Los Angeles. At right Rosemary Lowe inventorying records of the GAR and Allied Orders, July 14/15. More than 20 members from Camps 2, 17 & 21 helped in this work



Above L - Kim Sayre, Rosemary Lowe, Jan Shaffer, Eileen Tisch - at R - Dave Shaffer, Jerry Sayre, John May, Bob Lowe and Will Tisch. This crew worked hard to bring this granite marker from Dave Shaffer's land to it's place of honor in front of the new flagstaff over the graves of the 'Boys in Blue' buried in the GAR Hill section of San Diego's Mt. Hope Cemetery. The Camp thanks the Shaffers for donating the stone, their equipment and labor to mark this important project's completion ~ HUZAZH ! ~ HUZAZH ! ~ HUZAZH !



Camp Commanders Corner (Cont) ~ by Will Tisch

Purple Hearts spoke to a captivated audience. Fine speakers also conducted reverence for the 'Boys in Blue' and this day was accented by the raising of the flag on the new flagpole by Alex Kapitanski, USMC, a decorated WWII Veteran who set up a beautiful flag display around GAR Hill for the event. He has participated in many, many events with his flags to honor our Nation's veterans and service personnel since WWII. The actual words of dedication were taken from a 1904 GAR dedication and slightly modified for use by the SUVCW. The event culminated with a musket salute by SVR Co. G, 5th California and Co. G, 6th US Infantry reenactors and the playing of



Vista reenactment, 7/8 July - Cmdr Will Tisch, Bro. Ernie Powell, Chaplain Deane Poole, PDC Bob Lowe, PCC Jerry Sayre at our info table. Will, Deane, Bob & Jerry are heading to PA for National Encampment

Amazing Grace by award winning bag-piper, Kirk Yslas, from Helix High School. A very special thanks is in order for Brother David Shaffer and his lovely wife, Jan, for not only supplying the monument rock and preparing it with the plaque for the flagpole, but also pulling it with his equipment into

the center of GAR Hill to the front of the new flagpole. YOU TALK ABOUT YANKEE INGENUITY!!! That rock weighs over 3,000 pounds!!! The whole Camp needs to go see it: it's fabulous!!! Our work continues and several of our very active brothers and wives, including myself, will not be at the August meeting while attending the SUVCW National Encampment in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The meeting will be left in the capable hands of Senior Vice Commander, Tom Helmantoler. Please go to the meeting and Brother Tom will relate first-hand experiences of the last two very enjoyable months of our work. I wish you all well and for

those that are unable to attend this month's meeting on **August 12th**, please know that we are working hard to remember the 'Boys in Blue' properly. On behalf of myself and fellow officers, thank you for supporting us as we continue the good work of the order. ~ Commander Will Tisch

Schedule of Coming Events/Activities	* denotes Co. G, 5th Calif. Infantry, SVR participation	Contact for details
Regular Camp meeting, SNCO Club, MCAS Miramar	4:30 PM, Aug. 12, 2006	Will Tisch, Tom Helmantoler
SUVCW National Encampment, Harrisburg, PA	August 11 - 13, 2006	Will Tisch, Tom Helmantoler
*Memorial Service, VMMC, Balboa Park, San Diego	11:30 August 26, 2006	Will Tisch, Tom Helmantoler
"Civil War Days," Huntington Beach, CA.	September 2 -3, 2006	Will Tisch, Tom Helmantoler
* "Tiller Days Parade," Tustin, CA.	9:00 AM, Oct. 7, 2006	Jerry Sayre, Will Tisch
Regular Camp meeting, SNCO Club, MCAS Miramar	4:30 PM, Oct. 14, 2006	Will Tisch, Tom Helmantoler
*Memorial Service, VMMC, Balboa Park, San Diego	11:30 October 28th, 2006	Will Tisch, Tom Helmantoler
* Veterans Day Parade, San Diego, CA.	11:00 AM, Nov. 11, 2006	Jerry Sayre, Will Tisch
Remembrance Day, IOOF Cemetery, Fallbrook, CA.	1:00 PM, Nov. 18, 2006	Will Tisch, Tom Helmantoler

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING, June 10, 2006

Present: Brothers Dave Allyn, Jack Bruzas, George Cavanagh, Bill Daley, John Finch, Tom Helmantoler, Bob Lowe, Jeff Malone, John May, Colin McKim, Deane Poole, Jerry Sayre, Mike Schooling, Dave Shaffer, Marc Stockwell-Moniz, Will Tisch, George Van Valkenburg and guests Gay Allyn, Julie Atzen, Brenda Boucher, Clari Cheng, Randy Crouch, Angie Daley, Pedro Garcia, Cindy Hodges, Rosemary Lowe, Linda McKim, Kim Sayre, Jan Shaffer, and Eileen Tisch. The meeting was called to order by Cmdr. Will Tisch at 4:40pm at the Staff NCO Club, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, San Diego, California. The opening prayer was offered by Chaplain D. Poole and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by J. May. Cmdr. W. Tisch introduced special guest, author Pedro Garcia. A motion (Lowe/Daley) to approve the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the newsletter was approved. JVC D. Allyn reported new member Marc Stockwell-Moniz, whose ancestor served in the 35th MA. Infantry. A motion (Allyn/May) to approve this member's application was passed unanimously. Membership pin was presented by recruiter J. Sayre. ROTC Award was presented by W. Tisch to AFJROTC Cadet Senior Lt. Col. Clari Cheng from Mira Mesa High School. She was present accompanied by USAF MSGT. Randy Crouch. An additional award was presented to Cadet Senior Airman Omar Lopez from Vista High School, who was not present. Chaplain D. Poole reported that SCV Cmdr. Steve Smith was married at USMCAS Miramar. Congratulations from the Camp. Sec. J. May read a letter from Gov. Schwarzenegger's office offering the services of San Diego District Director Cameron Durckel to attend the flagpole dedication in place of the Governor. Also reported was a note from MOH recipient John Finn, who declined an invitation to hoist the first flag at the dedication due to prior commitments. Mr. Finn also sent a contribution of \$100 to the flagpole fund. Carmen LaBelle, owner of Coast Originals, sent a letter accompanying her contribution of the ribbons used for the Mt. Hope Memorial Day event and a letter was received from the Southern Museum of Locomotive and Civil War History thanking the Camp for our recent donation. Treas. J. May reported that expenditures since the last meeting have been \$229.30 and income has been \$205.50. There is now a balance of \$3344.56, of which \$1994.50 is in our Flagpole Restoration Fund. W. Tisch reported on the Memorial Day Service at Mt. Hope Cemetery attended by a large group. J. Sayre reported on the service at the Pittenger gravesite that went well and was well-covered by the press. B. Lowe reported on an all-day presentation, by himself and Rosemary Lowe, at Greenfield Middle School in El Cajon that was very well received. B. Lowe also reported the Camp's participation at the El Cajon Elks' Memorial Day Service. T. Helmantoler reported on the Color Guard's appearance at the San

Diego Surf Dawgs' baseball games. D. Allyn reported on BSA Eagle Scout presentations and urged all members to take a more active role in helping to make these presentations. Contact Br. S. Berrey to volunteer. Upcoming events include the Flagpole Dedication at Mt. Hope on July 3 and the Vista re-enactment on July 8 and 9. J. Sayre asked for volunteers to form an honor guard at the Flagpole Dedication and W. Tisch asked for help in manning a recruitment table at the re-enactment. Old Business items included an up-date on the Flagpole Dedication from J. May. The ceremony will be held at 10am and the public and press are invited. Representatives from the Governor's Office, Congresswoman Susan Davis and the Veterans' Administration will be present. The keynote speaker will be Professor Stuart McConnell, author of the G.A.R. study, Glorious Contentment. All are urged to attend. Placement of the boulder with dedicatory plaque will be at 9am on June 24. Help is needed by as many members as possible, as the boulder weighs about 3000 lb. J. Sayre presented an up-date on the Odd Fellows' Cemetery. It looks like the Camp will not take an ownership position in the site due to concerns by the National SUVCW of potential liability issues. W. Tisch noted that the recent publicity given our Camp is the result of the efforts of Scott Langhoff from the United Veterans' Council. New Business included 1) the next Camp meeting which will take place on Aug. 12, 2) a copy of Muriel Baron's book, Now I Take My Pen in Hand, was presented to the Camp from D. Poole and Brenda Boucher, 3) B. Lowe noted that the next meeting of the San Diego Civil War Roundtable featuring a presentation by the Civil War Preservation Trust will take place on July 19 at 7pm at the Presbyterian church in Allied Gardens, 4) a motion (Lowe/Daley) to spend up to \$600 from the Flagpole Restoration fund for fees and honorariums was passed, and 5) J. Sayre expressed his interest in designing a Camp ad for the National Encampment program. 'Members' Minutes' allowed each present to bring to the Camp's attention anything of general interest. T. Helmantoler reported that the program at the next meeting will be by Br. A. Brooks and mentioned that he would like to see other members present programs at our regular meetings. D. Shaffer reported that the granite boulder at his property has been shaped and is ready to affix the dedicatory plaque to. G. Van Valkenburg noted that a recent trip to Philadelphia reminded him that the terrain over which the Union soldiers marched was difficult to traverse. M. Moniz mentioned his desire to acquire a uniform and asked for suggestions. B. Lowe reiterated the qualifications of our speaker at the Flagpole Dedication as an expert in the study of the Grand Army of the Republic. J. May reported the death of family member, ADM. Griff Stokes, and reminded us that the (Cont on Pg. 7)

MEMORIAL DAY ALBUM ~ 2006



MEMORIAL DAY



THE LOS ANGELES NATIONAL CEMETERY

MAY 29, 2006



As he does every year, Bro. Milt Irwin attended the ceremony at the LA National Cemetery representing Camp 21. Above L to R, The Program, Excellent Attendance and a Ten-Plane Fly-Over ~ Thanks for sharing your photos, Milt !



Above - Odd-Fellows Cemetery, Fallbrook. The services were covered by the Union-Tribune and local Television crews with interviews of a number of the participants - the best media coverage Camp 21 has ever had !



L & R - El Cajon Cemetery. Eileen Tisch, Gay Allyn & Rosemary Lowe at Elk's Lodge 1812 ceremony. R - the Color Guard of D. Allyn, J. Sayre, W. Tisch & B. Lowe Present Arms. Bottom - scenes from Mt. Hope Cemetery services.



PITTENGER CAMP SCRAPBOOK



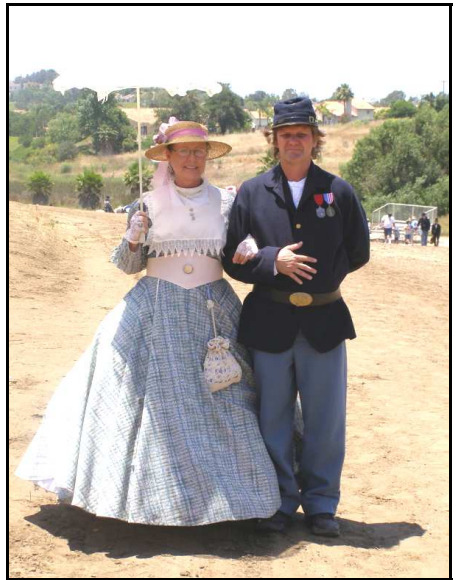
Above L, PCC Jerry Sayre 'joined up' (enlisted and passed the medical exam) At Center he marches off with his 'Pards' to 'See the elephant' at Vista. Right - Great 'Game-face' Jerry ! the Rebs musta run ahowlin' for safety when you came at 'em ! We hope to persuade Jerry to share his battlefield memoirs with us in a future edition.



At left, First Lady Eileen Tisch and Brenda Boucher relax in the shade at the Vista reenactment, 8/9 July. Several new members were recruited ! Huzzah !

At right, Brenda strolls around the battlefield with husband and Camp 21 Chaplain, Deane Poole.

Photos by Kim Sayre



Bros Nate Dorn (L) and Marc Moniz (R) with 5th Cal. Co. G Color Guard, J. Sayre, W. Tisch, D. Allyn & B. Lowe at Memorial Service, VMMC San Diego, 24 June. Nate came down from SLO on the train to join his brothers - Nate & Marc hope to get uniforms soon !



The 20 May Armed Forces Day Parade, Torrance, CA. A combined SUVCW Color Guard of Bill & Ben La Conte (6th Wisc. reenactors) on the flanks, Jerry Sayre, Glen Roosevelt, Gerry Scheib and Larry Bach, with Mrs. Joli Scheib out front, steps off in the dependable wind that always makes this a challenging event ! ~ HUZAZH !!!

The Flagpole Dedication at GAR Hill ~ by Jerry Sayre PCC



Welcome New Brothers !

- L. John Weber of San Diego whose ancestor served in the 72nd Indiana Infantry
- Harry K. Jackson, Jr. of San Marcos whose ancestor served in the 140th New York Infantry
- James H. Blasy of La Mesa who joins as an Associate

TENTH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE CAMP MEDALS
available from Sec. John May
Ten Bucks - US \$\$\$



The San Diego Civil War Roundtable meets the Third Wednesday of each month, 7 PM at Pallisades Presbyterian Church 6301 Birchwood St., San Diego and is open to the public. For further information, contact President Dave Tooley at 858/672-2593 on the Web at sdcwrt.org

On July 3rd 2006, 15 members of the Sgt. Wm. Pittenger Camp 21, 5 ladies from the ASUVCW, 1 DUV from Nancy Hanks Lincoln Tent 5, and 2 members of the Sedgwick-Granger Camp 17 gathered at GAR Hill, Mt Hope Cemetery in San Diego to dedicate a new Flagpole and Monument to the Grand Army of the Republic. A culmination of an 18-month project, the flagpole was to replace an older one damaged and removed in 2005. Funds were raised by Camp 21, including those from National Special Projects Fund, to purchase and have set, the 30' flagpole. The Monument was made from local granite and plaques and was placed by 5 members of Camp 21. The event was attended by members of the local Civil War Community, several local veterans' organizations, and a representative from Governor Schwarzenegger's office. Music was provided by American Civil War Brass Band, Soloist Rita Cartwright, Piper Kirk Yslas, and Co G, 6th US Reenactors fife and drum unit, Jim and Colin McKim. Company G, 5th CA, SVR and members of Co G, 6th US Reenactors, provided a color guard and musket squad. The first flag was raised amid cheers and singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" by Alex Kapitanski, locally known as "The Flag Man." Jul 4th 2006, was the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the G.A.R. Monument at Mt Hope Cemetery, placed by the WRC in 1956.



Dept. SVC Jerry Sayre PCC addresses the assembly while Chaplain Deane Poole and Cmdr. Will Tisch listen. In the foreground are San Diego's Vet of the Year, John Smith (R) and SDCWRT Pres. Dave Tooley (L). Jerry also participated in the Color Guard and the musket salute that day - busy and happy to be so!

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING, June 10, 2006 (Cont)

(from pg. 4) living WWII vets are a treasure that we should all acknowledge whenever possible. After a short break, a raffle was held which raised \$54 for the Camp. Winners included D. Shaffer, Eileen Tisch, B. Lowe, J. Bruzas, D. Poole, J. Sayre, and Cindy Hodges. The program on the Siege of Port Hudson was presented by SDCWRT member Pedro Garcia. He gave a well-documented account of the operation and had copies of his book for sale as well. T. Helmantoler presented Mr. Garcia a Certificate of Appreciation for his excellent program. Closing prayer was offered by D. Poole and Cmdr. W. Tisch adjourned the meeting at 6:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

John May, Secretary

OUR NEXT CAMP MEETING (Note Time)

August 12, 2006 4:30 PM

Meeting Location

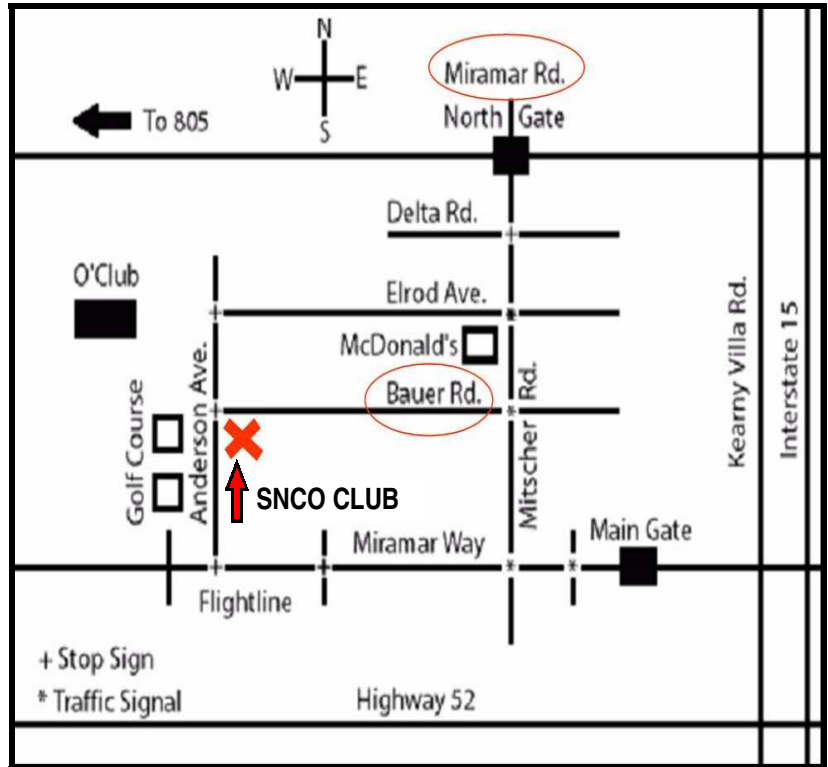
**Staff NCO Club
MCAS Miramar**

DIRECTIONS

From the 15 Freeway, enter the **Main Gate** (end of Miramar Way) or the **North Gate** (off Miramar Road). From the 805 Freeway, enter the **North Gate**. Have ID & Proof of Insurance ready - tell the Sentry you are attending the SUVCW meeting at the Staff NCO Club. Refer to Map at Right →

Our Speaker

Our own Camp 21 Brother, Andrew Brooks, will tell us about the California State Military Reserve of which he is a member

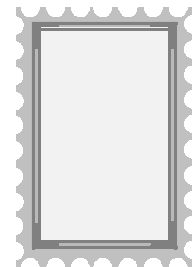


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