

Volume XII Number 5 "Best Camp Newsletter in the Nation"~2004 \& 2006 Sep 30, 2006

## Camp Commanders Corner ~ by Will Tisch

Elections and installation of officers was completed at the $125^{\text {th }}$ National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in Harrisburg, PA. Our new CinC, James Pahl, has extensive credentials in law enforcement and I hold Brother Pahl in high esteem, having confidence in his capability to perform well as our newest Commander. During the proceedings, a very special honor was bestowed on our Camp's newsletter, The General. The Marshall Hope award for Best Camp Newsletter was also presented to our Camp in 2004. This is reflective of the tremendous job our Camp Brothers have been doing supporting the SUVCW and the superb editing and coordination effort of our Newsletter Editor and JVC, Dave Allyn. Well Done Brother Allyn and Bravo Zulu!!! Keep those articles coming Brothers!!! Also commended at the National Encampment was Camp Council Member Brother Jerry Sayre for recruiting five new members this past term. This is especially important to our Camp to help augment our membership base. And Brother Jerry is also serving on the National Committee on Americanization and Education. Huzzah for Brother Sayre!!! Our hats are also off to Brother Bob Lowe for serving on the National Committee on Communications and Technol-


Cmdr. Will Tisch accepts the Marshall Hope Award from then CinC, Don Darby PCinC
ogy and the National Committee on Graves Registration. Bob has input 10's of 1000's of our Civil War Veterans into our database. There are even Civil War Veterans who are buried in England that are listed. Of Major note is that Phil Sheridan Camp 4 of the Department of California and Pacific won best Camp in the SUVCW - Congratulations to Commander Dan Earl and the Brothers of Camp 4. Major issues that were discussed and are in work are the transmission of electronic media, maintained by National, to a much larger Computer Server. This means an improved website for member's use and a more attractive layout to generate greater public interest. Online information will be more readily accessible to a greater degree and larger amounts of historical data will be available for young people to learn about the Civil War. Also reiterated at the National Encampment are the need to stay united and strong at the Camp level since the Camp is the basic unit of the SUVCW and the basis for all membership involvement. Senior Vice Commander Tom Helmantoler is to be commended on the fine job he did leading our last meeting and I look forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting. Huzzah for the Boys in Blue!!!! ~ Your Commander, Will.

| 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 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.

## REFLECTIONS ON THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT, 2006

First off - I need to say "Thank You!" to the entire Tisch and Cummings families, with heartfelt emotion from both my wife, Brenda, and myself. Our Odyssey began on August 4th and 5th with trips to New York City and Richmond, VA. And, of course, ending August 14th at Gettysburg and Harrisburg, PA. During this time, our Camp Commander, Will Tisch and one of the most amazing women I've ever met, Eileen Tisch, showed us a wonderful time together. Will definately knows how to drive in New York City! During our journey, we saw many things and places of historical significance: a short list is in order: "Ground Zero," The Statue of Liberty, The Empire State Building and Grant's Tomb in NYC; Fredericksburg National Military Park and the Soldier's Museum, in Fredericksburg, VA. Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond VA. and Gettysburg National Miltitary Park.
We arrived at the National Encampment in Harrisburg on August 9th. We checked into the Hilton Hotel where the encampment was held. The staff greeting us was very helpeful. Everyhing was in order and well-prepared. I found lots of friends from Camp 21. You guys are Awesome! Thanks go to Jerry \& Kim Sayre and Bob \& Rosemary Lowe.
The meetings were in large rooms: the

SUVCW in one and the Auxilliary to the SUVCW and Ladies of the GAR in another. Much pomp and circumstance was in order. Everybody looked grand in their uniforms. Polished brass and bright faces were everywhere. Glen Roosevelt of Camp 17, as always, was with the Flags at the opening ceremony. Dept. Commander Tad Campbell from Camp 4 was also present. Opening prayer was offered by National Chaplain, Jerry Kowalski; a man I had many conversations with during the event. Introduction included our hosts, SUVCW CinC, Don Darby, ASUVCW President, Cynthia Fox and LGAR President, Opal Nelson. Meetings covered the usual topics; old and new business, etc. It was interesting for a 'rookie' such as me. Everyone was cordial. The only time I heard raised, angry voices was at the discussion of desecration of some of the monuments at Gettysburg. Camp 21 was awarded 'Best Camp Newsletter': congratulations Dave Allyn ! Many events after the business meetings were held. My wife and I had a wonderful time. Allied Orders people were helpful and informed. The tour of Gettysburg (see article by Bob Lowe elsewhere in this issue) was very touching for many; so much ancestry involved. (Continued Pg. 7)


L to R, CC Will Tisch, Chaplain Dean Poole, Jerry Sayre PCC \& Bob Lowe PDC alongside a CSA Whitworth Breech-loader at The Peace Light Memorial, Oak Hill, Gettysburg NMP.

## You no longer have to travel $\mathbf{2 , 0 0 0}$ miles for a top flight Civil War Conference!

The Sacramento Civil War Round Table presents the
$22^{\text {nd }}$ Annual West Coast Civil War Conference
Highlighting "The War on the Water"
Location: The Double Tree Inn, Sacramento, California,
When: November 10 through12, 2006
Featuring Nationally Renowned Speakers
Ed Bearrs, Chief Historian Emeritus of the National Park Service
We've all heard of him; now see him in person. Affectionately known as "History's Pied Piper," Bearrs is undisputedly the most recognized historian in America. Dynamic, candid and straightforward, Bearrs presentations are always rewarding and memorable.
Craig Symonds, Professor of History, United States Naval Academy
A nationally acclaimed historian, Symonds depth is illustrated to some degree by his published works. They include: Navalists and Antinavalists: The Naval Policy Debate in the United States, 1785-1827; Thomas Jefferson and America's first war against Terrorism; A Year on a Monitor and the Destruction of Fort Sumter; Confederate Admiral: The Life and Wars of Franklin Buchanan and Charleston Blockade. Other works include biogra-
phies on generals Patrick Cleburne and Joseph Johnston and two books on Gettysburg.
Dennis Ringle, Commander, USN, Ret.
Dennis Ringle is the author of the highly acclaimed work, Life in Mr. Lincoln's Navy. A graduate of Eastern State University, he as served as an instructor at the United States Naval Academy. Other works include, A History of Submarines.
Jim Stanbery, Professor of Political Science \& History, Los Angeles Harbor College
Former editor of the Journal of Civil War Regiments.
Kevin Foster, Maritime Historian and Underwater Archaeologist, Chief, National Maritime Heritage Program, National Park Service.
And
The 5 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ California Volunteer Infantry Regimental Band
Performing with period instruments

## This is an event to raise funds for Civil War Preservation

Finally! An East Coast quality Civil War conference is taking place on the West Coast.
It used to be that if you wanted to attend a first class Civil War conference you were looking at 5000 or more round trip air miles and seven hundred bucks for the conference itself. No more!
The $22^{\text {nd }}$ annual West Coast Civil War Conference is right here in Central California and boasts a line up of speakers that would impress the most jaded easterners.

What's more, the cost of the conference is less than a quarter of the price you'd pay back east and includes all seminars, Friday night dinner, Saturday Lunch \& Dinner Banquet, Sunday Brunch

Please find an application, (Pg. 5) and for more information, call: (916) 726-4432 or (916) 729-7644, or go on line to the Sacramento Civil War Round Table at: www.sacramentocwrt.com
Supported by the National Civil War Association

| Schedule of Coming Events/Activities * | * denotes Co. G, 5th Calif. Infantry, SVR participation | Contact for details |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| * "Tiller Days Parade," Tustin, CA. | 9:00 AM, Oct. 7, 2006 | Jerry Sayre, Will Tisch |
| Regular Camp meeting, SNCO Club, MCAS Miramar | ar 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 |
| Civil War Reenactment at Kearney Park, Fresno, CA. | A. October 28-29, 2006 | Will Tisch, Jerry Sayre |
| * Massing of Colors, Balboa Park, San Diego | 10:30 AM, Nov. 5, 2006 | Jerry Sayre, Will Tisch |
| * 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 |
| * "Mother Goose" Parade, EI Cajon, CA. | 12:00 Noon, Nov. 19, 2006 | Jerry Sayre, Will Tisch |
| * Christmas Parade, Fallbrook, CA. | 5:00 PM, Dec. 2, 2006 | Jerry Sayre, Will Tisch |
| Election Camp Meeting, SNCO Club, MCAS Miramar | ar 4:30 PM, Dec. 9, 2006 | Will Tisch, Tom Helmantoler |

Present: Brothers; Dave Allyn, Gene Armistead, Andrew Brooks, Tom Helmantoler, Harry Jackson, John May, Mike Schooling, Dave Shaffer, and guests; Gay Allyn, Darlene Armistead, Sue Fox, Cindy Hodges, and Jan Shaffer. The meeting was called to order by Senior Vice Commander Tom Helmantoler at $4: 35 \mathrm{pm}$ at the Staff N.C.O. Club, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, San Diego, California. The opening prayer was offered by D. Shaffer and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by A. Brooks. SVC Helmantoler introduced our speaker, Br. Andrew Brooks, and brought news from the National Encampment in Harrisburg, PA. Sheridan Camp 4 received the Abraham Lincoln Award as the best Camp in the Nation, and our Camp newsletter, The General, published by Br. Dave Allyn, received the Marshall Hope Award as the best newsletter in the Nation. Additionally, Br. Jerry Sayre received national recognition for recruiting five new members last year. A motion (Allyn/Schooling) to approve the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the newsletter was passed. JVC D. Allyn reported three new members, Harry Jackson, James Blasy, and John Weber. A motion (Allyn/May) to approve these members' applications was passed unanimously. Sec. J. May reported correspondence as follows: 1) letter from Greenfield Middle School History teacher, Cathie Kinnard donating $\$ 100$ to the Camp on behalf of the efforts of Bob and Rosemary Lowe; 2) copy of a letter from the same teacher thanking Bob and Rosemary for their Civil War-era presentation; 3) note from VFW District 1 Cmdr Doug Carrington sending regrets for the flagpole dedication ceremony; and 4) message from PDC Al Peterson regarding petition to return Memorial Day to May 30. Treas. J. May reported that expenditures since the last meeting have been $\$ 795.94$ and income has been $\$ 350.50$. There is now a balance of $\$ 2899.12$, of which $\$ 1325.45$ remains in our Flagpole Restoration Fund. T. Helmantoler reported on the Vista re-enactment in which a booth was manned and at least two new members recruited. Also mentioned was the abundance of publicity that has come our way recently is the result of Cmdr. W. Tisch and his contact with the San Diego United Veterans' Council. D. Allyn reported on the Camp's participation at the VMMC Memorial Service. A Camp color guard presented the colors and attending were new Brother, M. Moniz and Br. N. Dorn who came down from San Luis Obispo. J. May reported on the flagpole dedication ceremony at Mt. Hope Cemetery on July 3. The dedication was wellattended and well-covered by the press. Speakers included a representative from the Governor's office, the Veteran of the Year, and Professor Stuart Mc-

Connell. Decorated WWII Vet, Alex Kapitanski hoisted the first flag and music was provided by the Civil War Preservation Band, vocalist Rita Cartwright, and piper Kirk Yslas. Special thanks go to B. Lowe for initiating the project, D. Shaffer for supplying, shaping, transporting and placing the granite boulder, and deceased Br. Al Hodges for his help in the initial planning and fund raising efforts. D. Allyn reported that at least two more BSA Eagle Scout presentations have been made since our last meeting and reminded us of the need for members to take a more active role in helping to make these presentations. Contact Br. S. Berrey to volunteer. Upcoming events include, 1) Memorial Service at VMMC, Balboa Park on Aug. 26, 2) Huntington Beach re-enactment on Sept. 2 and 3, and 3) Tustin Tillers Day parade on Oct. 7. Old Business included a discussion on what to do with the remaining $10^{\text {th }}$ Anniversary medals given to the Camp by PCC J. Sayre. Suggestions include giving them to new members and using them as presentation items to speakers and other persons who have assisted the Camp. New Business included 1) the next Camp meeting which will take place on Oct. 14, 2) J. May mentioned the Civil War Preservation Trust and how that organization is deserving of our support, 3) D. Shaffer mentioned that Camp Wright in Warner Springs is needing a memorial of some type to recognize its role in the Union effort during the Civil War. A break ensued in which raffle tickets were sold. The raffle raised $\$ 30$ for the Camp treasury and winners of the raffle included A. Brooks, D. Shaffer, J. May, H. Jackson, and Sue Fox. Members' Minutes allowed each present to bring to the Camp's attention anything of general interest. Guest, Sue Fox, brought a Civil War-era carbine that has been passed down in her family and seeks information about the weapon. J. May mentioned that he met Gov. Schwarzenegger recently and T. Helmantoler mentioned his experience with the added security at airports due to the recent terrorist threat. The program on the role of the California State Military Reserve was presented by our Brother, Capt. Andrew Brooks, CSMR. T. Helmantoler presented Capt. Brooks with a Certificate of Appreciation for the valuable information and interesting program. The closing prayer was offered by D. Shaffer and SVC Helmantoler adjourned the meeting at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted, John May, Secretary
"The War on the Water"
Nov. 10, 11, 12, 2006
2006 SCWRT Conference ApplicationEnter Applicant Name(s) and Organization to appear on badge(s):
1.) Name:
$\qquad$ Organization: $\qquad$
2.) Name: $\qquad$ Organization: $\qquad$
Address: $\qquad$ City: $\qquad$ State: $\qquad$ Zip: $\qquad$
Day Ph: $\qquad$
$\qquad$ Other Ph: $\qquad$
$\qquad$ E-mail: $\qquad$
Conference Registration Fees (per person/including meals):
\$160 until October 2, 2006 Postmark \$175 after October 2, 2006 Postmark
Meals desired for person(s) accompanying registrant but not registered for the conference:
(These meals to be paid at the conference)

Do you have any dietary needs or need special assistance?

## Instructions:

Please print this page, fill out, and return this form with your check for registration fee only.
Make checks payable to: Sacramento CWRT
and mail to: George W. Foxworth, 9463 Salishan Ct., Sacramento, CA 95826-5233
For room reservations -- call the Doubletree directly at (800) 222-8733 or $\log$ onto www.doubletree.com
(We have 80 rooms reserved at the special rate of $\$ 102$ plus tax per night single/double occupancy.
\$10 per extra person)



Jeffrey Finical of Chula Vista whose ancestor served in the 81st Ohio Infantry

Recruiting should be every member's aim. If the SUVCW is going to grow, we need new men to carry on the Order's goals and objectives. We have recruiting newsletters available to give to anyone who inquires - contact John May or Dave Allyn. Think of this: if each of us set a goal to recruit just one new member per year, we could double the size of the Camp. Don't you know someone who has an interest?

## For Sale

Cindy Hodges is selling Al Hodges uniform and leather accouterments. 3-4 shirts, sky-blue wool trousers, dark-blue sack coat, vest, and a slouch hat plus the usual leather items; waist belt, ammunition box and strap, cap pouch, etc. Everything in excellent condition. Contact Cindy by phone, after 5:00 pm, at 619-579-4981

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

## Bus Tour of Gettysburg ~ by Bob Lowe PDC

One of the optional activities offered during the $125^{\text {th }}$ National Encampment in Harrisburg was a bus tour of Gettysburg on Thursday, Aug 10 2006. Two busloads of Brothers, Sisters and guests left the Hilton Hotel, each with a tour guide provided by the Dept of PA. Eric Schmincke, PA Dept. Commander lead one tour bus, while John McNulty was in charge of the bus we were on. Brother McNulty, a history professor at Penn State, was most informed and no stranger to this type of activity as he leads bus tours of Gettysburg with his students several times a year. On the drive from Harrisburg, John provided a brief history of events leading up the July 1-3 battle between the Army of the Potomac and Army of Northern Virginia. Once in Gettysburg, John provided an interesting running commentary and little-known facts between the five scheduled stops. The chosen stops were The Peace Light Monument near the first day's action, the North Carolina Monument on Confederate Avenue, Little Round Top and the "High Water Mark" near "The Angle." Ample time was given at each stop for photo opportunities and commentary was presented which clarified action and history of each location. The tour culminated at the Monument to the GAR and Albert Woolson in Ziegler's Grove on North Hancock Avenue, where we met other Allied Orders members from Harrisburg who had not taken the tour, members of various SVR units, public dignitaries and representatives of the National Military Park at Gettysburg. The occasion was the re-dedication of the monument described above which was originally dedicated fifty years ago in 1956. Appropriate comments were made and wreaths placed by CinC Don Darby, National Presidents of the various Allied Orders and a representative of Gettysburg NMP. A check was presented to the NMPG from the SUVCW to further monument restoration. During the return to our hotel, rounds of Civil War trivia were played with winners receiving copies of two books authored by a well-respected and recently deceased Brother of the Department of PA. All agreed that the afternoon was educational, enjoyable and whetted our appetite for future visits to the hallowed ground of Gettysburg.


Bob Lowe and Will Tisch atop Little Round Top: ‘The Devil's Den’ is in the right background and the 16th Michigan Mounment is in the left background.

(Cont. from Pg. 2) At the final night, the Allied Orders held a banquet at the Harrisburg Museum, which included a free admission enjoyed by all. Thank you to all involved; it was a grand event which I hope to have the honor of attending in the future. God Bless The Allied Orders and the SUVCW !
~ Camp Chaplain, Dean Poole

## OUR NEXT CAMP MEETING (Note Time)

## October 14, 2006 4:30 PM

## MAP

## Meeting Location

## Brenda and Dean Poole's Home

4466 Mt. Herbert Ave. San Diego
Ph. 858-278-9094

DIRECTIONS
From the 805, go West on Balboa, North on Genesee, Left on Mt. Herbert Ave. to 4466 Parking on street

This is where there should be a Map to Dean and Brenda's house But I couldn't figure out how to save the Maps I found at Google, Yahoo and Mapquest, or how to copy and paste them here so ... instead, I am asking you to use the directions at left ... OR go online and bring up a Map of their house for yourself !

Your humble Editor

## Our Speaker

A 'Round Table-type' discussion of what we know about the Civil War. Bring your knowledge, your trivia, your things

- but mostly - bring yourself !


## The General



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