



*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*

*"Most Outstanding Brother in the Nation" ~ 2005*

**Volume XV Number 1**

*"Best Camp Newsletter in the Nation" ~ 2004 & 2006*

**Jan. 24, 2009**

## **Camp Commanders Corner ~ by Tom Helmantoler**

Brothers & Friends; First of all, thank you for re-electing me to be your Commander for 2009. I am indeed humbled & glad to fill this position. My thanks to all others filling officer positions. We still have some un-filled offices. Please contact me if you are willing to fill one of these. We have a busy and exciting year ahead of us, beginning this month, with our Lincoln's 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration. The ceremony, which as I write this, is still being planned, will be at the VMMC on February 12th at Noon. It will include the Young Marines, Co. G, 6<sup>th</sup> US Re-enactors, and the DUVCW, at least. We plan speeches & tributes, as well as musket-fire in memory of our 16<sup>th</sup> President, who, with the help of "The Boys in Blue," saved the Union. The rest of the three day celebration will have displays inside the VMMC. We need your help!! Any time you can spend over those three days will be greatly appreciated. Any items you might wish to display would be appreciated as well. We will be at the VMMC from 10-4, each day. It may be extended into Sunday, depending on the interest shown, & our stamina! We will also be selling specially struck coins being made to celebrate the weekend. My thanks to PCC Will Tisch who has been heading this project, as well as getting out publicity for this weekend. Our regular Febru-

ary meeting has been moved to the third Saturday due to the Lincoln Celebration, at 4 PM. It will be held at the Officer's Club at MCAS Miramar (see Pg. 8 for directions) & will include dinner for \$15 per person. (Note: see Pg. 7 for a \$5-Off coupon) Please reserve with SVC Jeff Malone so that he can inform the O-Club as to how many

dinners they need to prepare. Our program will be presented by Elaine Duckworth, a teacher at Mt. Empire High School. She did a tour of several Civil War battlefields this past summer, & was sponsored by Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. She will be showing us her power-point program from the tour. Elaine also has several Civil War ancestors. Lastly, the Dept. Encampment will be held on March 6-7 at Camp San Luis Obispo. Dept. SVC Charlie Mabie requests that Brothers planning to attend, and their guests, please get your paperwork in as soon as possible. (See Pg. 2 for more info) Please remember that Camp SLO is an active military base & to remember to do the paperwork for your car to get easily on base. You will need to get

your credentials from Secretary John May in order to vote at Encampment. We also need donations for the raffle as it is the main source of revenue for our Department. If you've never attended a Dept. Encampment, I highly

*(Continued on page 2)*



Beside Winnie & Wm. Pittenger's graves, 2008 Fallbrook Oddfellows Cemetery Remembrance Day Address by Camp Cmdr Tom Helmantoler

**2009 CAMP OFFICERS**

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 Council ..... Will Tisch, PCC  
 619-448-4818 tis346@cox.net  
 Council ..... Jerry Sayre, PCC  
 760-728-1444 cod26ia@roadrunner.com  
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 Color Bearer..... Silas Bass  
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 Quartermaster ..... open  
 Signals Officer ..... open  
 SVR Representative ..... Capt. Jerry Sayre  
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**THE GENERAL** is the official newsletter of Sgt. Wm. Pittenger Camp 21, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. It's published each odd-numbered month for Camp members. It's 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: send to Newsletter Editor listed above: space limitations may require editing.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS** should be mailed to Camp Secretary at address above. Failure to notify 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 & email address to Dave Allyn at: svrsuvcw@yahoo.com

**SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE (SVR)** is the uniformed contingent of the SUVCW. Uniforms are encouraged but not required. You do not have to be a reenactor to join. Annual dues are \$6.00. Interested Brothers should contact the SVR Representative listed above.

**123rd Annual Dept. Encampment, March 6-7**

The 123rd Annual Department Encampment will be held on March 6-7, 2009, at the NCO Club at Camp San Luis Obispo in San Luis Obispo, California. Our honored guest will be National SUVCW Commander-in-Chief David V. Medert of Ohio.

All Camp 21 Brothers are encouraged to attend to support the aims of our Order - Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty. Our Favorite Son, Dept. Cmdr Jerry Sayre will be presiding over the encampment. In order to vote, you must have Camp Delegate Credentials which may be obtained by contacting Secretary John May (see sidebar at left for John's contact info).

Dept. SVC, Charlie Mabie requests that all brothers attending submit their applications promptly so meals, etc, may be planned appropriately. A complete set of forms can be accessed online & downloaded to your printer at:

<http://www.suvcw.org/Resources/2009%20Encampment.pdf>

Included are maps to Camp SLO, a registration form for you & your spouse or guest, & the vehicle registration form required for access to this active military reservation.

If anyone would like to attend but is not able to access the online forms, please feel free to call one of the officers - listed at left - who will be glad to arrange to mail you a packet.

All convocations, meetings, & meals take place at the NCO Club except for the memorial wreath-laying ceremony at the Oddfellows Cemetery on Saturday afternoon. Everyone who attended last year's Encampment will tell you Camp SLO's NCO Club is a great place to meet - food & service are filling & satisfying & we have the place to ourselves. Besides, it is just plain grand to meet at a venue that serves the needs of our military men & women - makes one feel proud of our national traditions of Honor, Duty & Country ! Please clear your schedule & join your SUV Brothers to conduct the business of our Order.

Where to stay you ask ? Well, San Luis Obispo offers many motels to serve you with a wide variety of prices & amenities. Some of us budget-conscious members will use either Motel 6 South or North - right off the 101 Freeway at Los Osos Valley Rd. in the southern area of the city. For a unique experience, you might like to try the Madonna Inn, a little more north at the Madonna Rd. exit. A room there will set you back about \$200+ a night. In between those extremes there are many other options. For complete motel information, I suggest a google or yahoo search for "motels san luis obispo"

*Hope to see you there !!!*

**Camp Commanders Corner ~ by Tom Helmantoler**

(Continued from page 1)  
 recommend you do so. It's a lot of fun & one gets to meet other Brothers & Sisters from all over California, Nevada & even - perhaps - Hawaii. I look forward to a busy & active year. We'll be planning Memorial Day events soon - more on that - next time !

Commander Tom

## Reconstruction by Tom Helmantoler

As the Civil War limped to its conclusion on the back of General Grant's prolonged, and bloody, spring offensive of 1864-65 in Virginia, the prospects of what came to be known as Reconstruction came into focus. Just what were President Lincoln's plans for Reconstruction? The simple answer is that no one really knows. He had considered a number of different ideas over the years. One would have sent some of the slaves back to Africa, probably to Liberia, but while this had been seriously considered at the conclusion of the Revolutionary War, and still talked about later, it had been largely discarded by the 1860s. It was considered expensive, inhumane, and difficult to implement. Another, prior to the War, would have paid the slaveholders a sum of money for each of their slaves. It probably would have been cheaper, in the long run, than the cost of the War.



Pres. Lincoln enters Richmond, VA.

But it probably would have required an "all or none" viewpoint of the policy by the Government and all the slaveholders. And there was no assurance that such a policy would have ever been approved by a majority of them, let alone all. Such a program would have been costly to administer, and difficult to implement, too. President Lincoln had also vaguely referred to each adult male slave being given 40 acres of land and a mule to work the land to support himself and his family. This plan, too, had problems. Which 40 acres? Where? Who pays for it, if anyone? Does the former slave have to repay the Government? If yes, when? How much? In truth, Lincoln did not see the "Negro as his intellectual equal." He just did not think the Negro (as he called the slaves) should be a slave. He did see the

*(Continued on page 5)*

Camp Calendar: Event, Location (* = SVR participation)	Time, Month, Day, Year	Contact Persons
* Lincoln Shrine "Pilgrimage," downtown Redlands	9:30 AM, 7Feb. <i>steps off at 10:00</i>	Jerry Sayre, Tisch
* Lincoln's 200th Birthday Celebration, VMMC, Balboa Pk, SD Displays will follow the ceremony	12:00 PM, 12 Feb. <i>muster by 11:30</i>	Tom Helmantoler, Jeff Malone
* Lincoln's 200th Birthday Displays, VMMC, Balboa Pk, SD	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, 12-14 Feb	Will Tisch, Tom Helmantoler
Regular Meeting, Camp 21, MCAS Officer's Club	4:00 PM, 21 Feb.	Tom Helmantoler, Jeff Malone
* Massing of Colors, Forest Lawn Cemetery, Burbank	3:00 PM, 22 Feb.	Jerry Sayre, Will Tisch
* Monthly Memorial Service, VMMC, Balboa Pk, SD	11:30 AM, 28 Feb <i>muster at 11:00</i>	Jerry Sayre, Will Tisch
Dept. Encampment, Camp San Luis Obispo, SLO	6-7 March	Jerry Sayre, Tom Helmantoler
Regular Meeting, Camp 21, MCAS Officer's Club	4:00 PM, 18 April	Tom Helmantoler, Jeff Malone
* Monthly Memorial Service, VMMC, Balboa Pk, SD	11:30 AM, 25 April <i>muster at 11:00</i>	Jerry Sayre, Will Tisch
* Armed Forces Day Parade, Torrance	1:30 PM, 16 May muster at 1:00 PM	Jerry Sayre, Will Tisch
* Memorial Day, Oddfellows cemetery, Fallbrook	11:00 AM, 23 May	Tom Helmantoler, Jerry Sayre
* Memorial Day, El Cajon cemetery, El Cajon	5:00 PM, 24 May with Elk's Lodge 1812	Tom Helmantoler, Jerry Sayre
* Memorial Day, Mt Hope Cemetery, SD	1:30 PM, 25 May	Tom Helmantoler, Jerry Sayre

## **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING December 13, 2008**

**Present:** Brothers Dave Allyn, Gerald Cady, George Cavanaugh, John Finch, Tom Helmantoler, Bill Howell, Jeff Malone, John May, Deane Poole, Jerry Sayre, David Shaffer, Mike Schooling, Will Tisch, & guests Gay Allyn, Julie Atzen, Brenda Boucher, Rosemary Lowe, Kim Sayre, Mary Schooling, Jan Shaffer, & Eileen Tisch. The meeting was called to order by Commander Tom Helmantoler at 4:10pm at the home of Br. Deane Poole & Brenda Boucher, 4466 Mt. Herbert Dr., San Diego, California. The opening prayer was offered D. Poole & the Pledge of Allegiance was led by J. Finch.

### **I. Honored Attendees**

Dept. Cmdr. and Mrs. Jerry Sayre were in attendance as was Cmdr. Ira Lack, Fr. A.J. Ryan Camp 302, SCV.

### **II. Presentations**

Cmdr. T. Helmantoler presented Certificates of Appreciation to, 1) D. Poole and Brenda Boucher for hosting the meeting and the annual potluck dinner, 2) Rosemary Lowe, Eileen Tisch, Brenda Boucher and Julie Atzen for all of their hard work on behalf of the Camp, and 3) Camp Officers J. Finch (Patriotic Instructor), M. McBride (JVC), W. Tisch (Quartermaster/Historian/Camp Council), B. Bingham (Guide), D. Allyn (Newsletter Editor), J. May (Sec./Treas.), J. Churchyard (Camp Council), J. Sayre (Camp Council), D. Poole (Chaplain), J. Howell (Eagle Scout Coordinator), J. Malone (SVC), J. Bruzas (Guard), G. Armistead (Memorials Officer), and B. Lowe (Graves Registration Officer) presented to Rosemary Lowe.

### **III. Officers' Reports**

- 1) T. Helmantoler reported for JVC M. McBride that there are no new members.
- 2) Treasurer J. May reported that since the last report, the Camp has spent \$291.28 and has income of \$33.00. The current balance is \$3120.28 with \$1325.45 of that in the Flagpole Restoration Fund and \$40.00 in the Minter's Ranch Memorial Fund.
- 3) Secretary J. May reported correspondence from several organizations soliciting donations. A motion (Sayre/Tisch) was passed to renew our membership in the Civil War Preservation Trust with a donation of \$250.

### **IV. Committee Reports**

- 1) T. Helmantoler reported for G. Armistead that there has been no new developments to the Minter's Ranch memorial project.
- 2) J. Malone reported for the Last Soldier Project that we are still waiting delivery of Pvt. Shelley's headstone. He will contact Mt. Hope Cemetery Manager David Lugo to see if it has arrived. J. Sayre will contact Cmdr. Don Hotchkiss from Las Vegas to see how his camp expedites delivery from the Veterans Administration.
- 3) Lincoln Bicentennial activities will include the Camp-

sponsored speech contest. T. Helmantoler reported for M. McBride that the contest will take place Feb. 12 at 7PM at the campus of the San Diego County Office of Education in the Linda Vista area of San Diego. An award of \$250 is needed and donations will be solicited. A fitting memento to distribute to all participants is also being planned. J. Malone, T. Helmantoler and J. May have volunteered to help officiate. Other activities will be organized by the VMMC and the United Veterans Council. Camp members are encouraged to attend a planning meeting following the VMMC service on Dec. 27. There will be no parade. J. May mentioned that the La Jolla Symphony has agreed to add Copland's Lincoln Portrait to their concert of Feb. 7/8.

### **V. Upcoming Events**

- 1) VMMC Service 12/27; muster at 11:00 am.
- 2) Department Encampment 3/6 to 3/8 in San Luis Obispo

### **VI. Old Business**

- 1) T. Helmantoler reported that successful activities since last meeting included a) Veterans Day Parade in San Diego, b) Mother Goose Parade in El Cajon, c) Fallbrook Christmas Parade, d) Remembrance Day in Fallbrook, e) Veterans Day service in National City organized by the DUVCW, and f) Veterans Day service in Oceanside.
- 2) D. Allyn gave an update on the poster that was donated to the Camp.
- 3) Discussion of a suitable memorial for deceased Br. Bob Lowe, PDC, was tabled until next meeting.

### **VII. Raffle**

The raffle raised \$60 for the Camp treasury. Winners included T. Helmantoler, J. Cady, W. Tisch, J. Sayre, J. May (to Ira Lack), M. Schooling, and D. Allyn.

### **VIII. Election of Officers**

A motion (Poole/Sayre) was passed declaring all unopposed candidates to be elected by acclamation.

The following slate of Camp officers for 2009 was elected:

- Cmdr. T. Helmantoler (nominated by D. Poole)
- SVC J. Malone (nominated by D. Allyn)
- JVC M. McBride (nominated by D. Poole)
- Sec./Treas. J. May (nominated by M. Schooling)
- Camp Council J. Sayre (nominated by J. May), W. Tisch (nominated by D. Poole), and D. Allyn (nominated by J. May)

Newly elected Officers were installed by Dept. Cmdr. J. Sayre. The following delegates to the Dept.

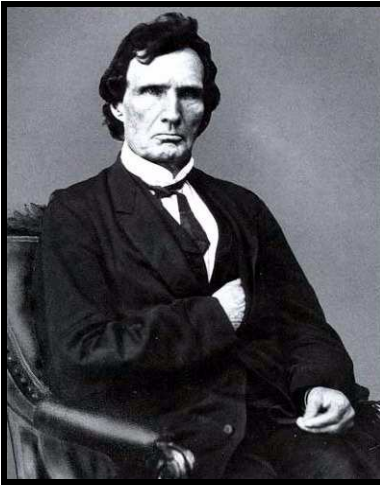
Encampment were appointed by motion (Poole/Allyn): D. Poole, N. Dorn, D. Allyn, W. Tisch,

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## Reconstruction by Tom Helmantoler Cont.

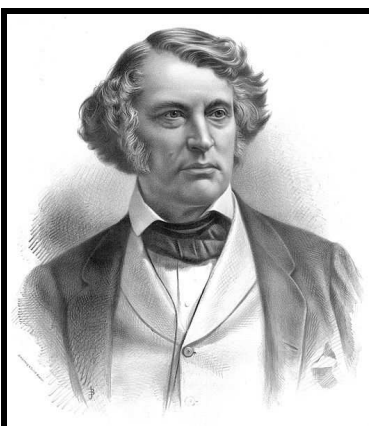
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Negro as equal to any white man in terms of his right to work and benefit himself from his own labor. In sum total, given all the problems President Lincoln had in prosecuting the country's worst war ever (as a person with virtually no



US Rep. Thaddeus Stevens

experience with the military), he probably hadn't given nearly enough thought to what he would do for the long run with the slaves, other than to issue the Emancipation Proclamation. He also had to deal with a hostile Congress, led by the Radical Republicans, led by men like Congressman

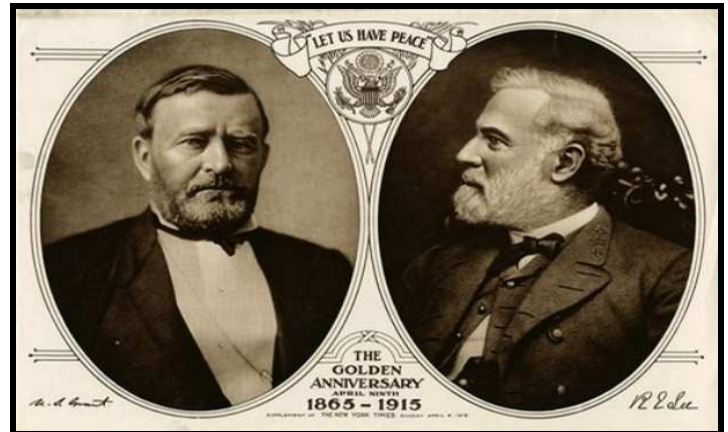


Senator Charles Sumner

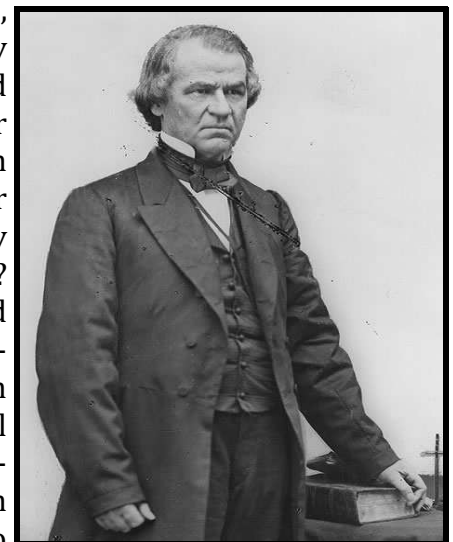
Thaddeus Stevens & Senator Charles Sumner. The President and the Radicals had very different ideas on how to deal with the conquered South. President Lincoln wanted a more conciliatory policy toward the South as evidenced in his Second Inaugural Address. His words, "with malice toward none and charity for all," seem to support the tone of what his Reconstruction policy would have been. His inclusion of a pro-Union Democrat, Andrew Johnson, a Southerner from Tennessee, on the ticket for Vice President in 1864, seems in line with this. Johnson seemed to mostly agree with Lincoln. Lincoln would have allowed for an easy re-entry into the Union because he believed secession was both illegal and unconstitutional. The Radicals, by contrast, seemed to have revenge on their agenda.

They wanted to treat the South as conquered territory, which it was, and the Southern people as foreign POWs, which they were not. Grant recognized this, as did Lee, at Appomattox. Grant told his men to, "shake hands with them. They are your countrymen again." Lee simply told his men to go home and be good citizens of the US. Ultimately, of course, the Radicals' policy won out. Would Lincoln's plans for Reconstruction have worked better for the country than the Radicals? He surely would have had a contentious time with the Radical Congress, but probably less so than did Johnson due to Lincoln's personality and Congress' respect for Lincoln. But we will never know. Booth's bullet assured that.

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Vice Pres. Andrew Johnson

**Editor's Note: this is the 5th in our on-going series of Lincoln Bicentennial articles. Our desire is to run similar articles on our beloved 16th President from now through the celebration of his 200th birthday. Contributors to this effort are asked to submit articles now - all are welcome - we need your help !**

# PITTENGER CAMP SCRAPBOOK



Above L to R, scenes from 2008 Veteran's Day Parade, San Diego



Above Camp 21 Brothers, Ladies & Young Marines; Below, our Sisters

Eagle Young Marines Color Guard, Remembrance Day Fallbrook

Above, Fallbrook Remembrance Day, CC Tom & Keynote Speaker, Cmdr. Ron Ritter, Chaplain USN.



Above Center, at Right & Below Right; 3 photos of Camp Brothers & Sisters at El Cajon's "Mother Goose" Parade.

Below L; VMMC Mem. Service, 20 Dec. a National Flag was presented to Rosemary Lowe by a member of the Marine Corps League in honor of Brother Bob Lowe's service to the US Army

Above: SVR Honor Guard fires musket salute at VMMC in honor of Bro. Bob Lowe & those who served & have passed on in 2008. Shown firing is Jerry Sayre, waiting are Will Tisch & Tom Helmantoler



## Minutes of December Meeting Continued

(Continued from page 4)

T. Helmantoler, J. May, M. Schooling, and J. Malone.

### IX. New Business

After discussion of possible meeting places, it was decided to hold the Feb. meeting at the Officers Club, MCAS Miramar. A motion (Schooling/Poole) was passed to use Camp funds as a deposit for the facility and to offset the cost by contributing \$5.00 per attendee toward the cost of dinner.

A motion (Poole/Helmantoler) was passed to present a Certificate of Appreciation to Steve and Deanne Smith for their hospitality in hosting the last several meetings.

The closing prayer was offered by D. Poole and Cmdr. Helmantoler adjourned the meeting at 6:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
John May, Secretary



*A limited number of **Commemorative Coins**, (see images at right) struck by **SUVCW Camp 21 & the San Diego Veterans Museum & Memorial Center** in honor of our 16th President, **Abraham Lincoln**, are now available. You will want to pass on these attractive mementoes to your children. Available from Treasurer **John May** for \$10 each, including shipping & handling. Order extras for friends & relatives.*

### "DECADERS"

**Monroe McBride 02-99**

**David C. Runnells 03-99**

**Congratulations on attaining 10 years of membership in the SUVCW**  
**Thank you Brothers for your continued commitment to the objectives of our Order !**

The San Diego Civil War Roundtable meets the Third Wednesday of each month, 7 PM at Palisades Presbyterian Church 6301 Birchwood St., San Diego & is open to the public. For further information, contact Pres. Dave Tooley 858-672-2593 or on the Web at [www.sdcwrt.org](http://www.sdcwrt.org)



**\$5**

**Good for \$5.00 off cost of dinner at MCAS Miramar Officer's Club**

**Camp 21  
SUVCW**

**Present coupon to Treasurer John May upon arrival at meeting, receive \$5 credit towards your meal & your guest's meal. Do not give to the O Club cashier. No cash value.**

**Camp 21  
SUVCW**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**\$5**

**OUR NEXT MEETING: Sat. Feb. 21 2009 *NOTE Location & Date !***

**February 21 2009 4:00 PM**

***LOCATION***  
**Officer's Club**  
**Bldg. 4472**  
**Anderson Ave.**  
**MCAS Miramar**

***Our Program***

Mt. Empire High School Teacher, Elaine Duckworth, who was sponsored by Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, will present a powerpoint program of her Summer visit to several Civil War battlefields. Elaine had Ancestors who served in The War.

**DIRECTIONS TO MEETING LOCATION:**

If you do not have a DOD ID and/or a DOD sticker on your car, please allow 10 extra minutes and follow the new procedures to enter MCAS Miramar.

Exit **MIRAMAR WAY** off Hwy 15 and enter MCAS Miramar through the Main/East gate. Tell the sentry you need a "**day pass**" - be sure driver has his ID, vehicle registration, and proof of insurance. When they ask what your business is on the base, simply tell the sentry that you have a meeting of Pittenegr Camp 21, SUVCW at the Officer's Club. Once on the base, drive West on Miramar Way and turn **RIGHT** at the 2nd stop light, onto Mitscher. Turn **LEFT** at Elrod Ave. (1st light, at McDonalds corner) drive to end of Elrod. Turn Right on Anderson Ave. The O Club will be on your left before the next intersection.

If you have DOD ID and/or DOD sticker on your car, please continue to use the North gate off Miramar Road, turn **RIGHT** at Elrod, go to end, **RIGHT** on Anderson, O Club is on Left before next intersection.

The General

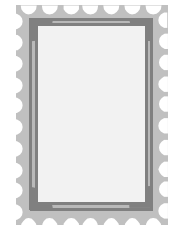
The General



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*"In God We Trust"*

*"One Nation Under God"*



*Preserving the memory of the G. A. R. & "The Boys in Blue"*

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