



*Newsletter of Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21*

# *The General*

*Department of  
California & Pacific*



*Sons of Union Veterans  
of the Civil War*

Volume XIX Number 3

Sep 30, 2013

## **Report on "Huntington Beach Civil War Days XX" by Dave Allyn**

The annual Civil War Days reenactment at Huntington Beach has become one of the very best events of its kind in southern California. Each year those of us who are able to be present always come away feeling like the people responsible for this family outing have well invested their time and talents toward providing a safe, enjoyable, interesting and educational experience for the spectators, while assuring the participants a fun-filled two days of living history opportunities to practice their art—the art of bringing to life a period in American history that never gets enough attention in the school systems. If you have never been to this event let me describe for you what goes on. The event reenactors, living historians and sutlers arrived on Friday, before the public and spent their time setting up the encampments, Union and Confederate, as well as the "Sutler's Row," where the various vendors of period attire, uniforms and equipage (commonly known as "accoutrements") plus souvenirs of all kinds are offered for sale to all attendees and the general public. Along with them the food vendors set up cook stoves and everything necessary to feed any and all who enjoy hotdogs and hamburgers as well as the "fixin's." In addition to the living historians and reenactors, military and civilian, we of the Civil War Heritage Orders and groups also set up tent-flies and tables with our displays of photos, artifacts, replicas, reproductions, literature and anything else we think would be of interest to the spectators and guests in attendance. As in past years we were well represented by Camps 2, 17, 18 and our own Camp 21. Also there were ladies of the ASUVCW, the DUVCW, plus the SCV, UDC, and members of Drum Barracks. Leading

our contingent were Kim and Jerry Sayre, PDC who set up our tent fly as well as all of the displays of repro weapons, GAR and SUVCW badges, etc. This requires a tremendous amount of logistical planning to pack everything into their SUV in preparation for the event. After erecting all of the displays in both army's camps as well as the civilian camp area, the public begins arriving for the day's fun. There are many lectures (presentations, really) throughout the entire park on both Saturday and Sunday. At about 1:30 pm the first mock battle kicks off with a bang—literally ! For more than a half-hour the "boys in blue" slug it out with the "gray-backs" over a beautifully manicured lawn in full view of the close to 500 spectators who have gathered to witness their efforts. Smoke and noise accompanied by bugles and drums fill the air until one or the other side prevails and then it ends—with the playing of taps. Later, at 4:00 the last battle commences. It is typical that whichever side won in the early contest, takes the loser's role in the second. The roles are reversed on Sunday so that both sides share equally the triumph and the tragedy. When the battles end for the day things wind down and the participants take time to clean up for supper or head off to



their homes-away-from home. Many of the reenactors actually spend the nights in their camp tents or right out under the stars. The event is already set for next year—dates are August 30th and 31st, 2014. Their website can be accessed at <http://hbcivilwar.webs.com/>

*Photos on Pg 6*

**Camp Website - <http://www.suvcw.org/camp21.html>**

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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 SUCVW 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 and email address to Dave Allyn at: svrsuvcw@yahoo.com

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

**Report on JVC Tom Helmantoler's Presentation**

On August 10, 2013, JVC Tom Helmantoler, PCC traveled to Granada Hills to do his Civil War Uniform and Artifacts program to Cornelia Hancock Tent No. 10, DUVCW. He was invited to do this by DUVCW National President and Tent President, Carole Morton, who saw it previously at the Tent in Temecula. Tom had inquired with Carole as to whether she might want the presentation for her own Tent. Tom saw some old friends made at the National Encampment in Los Angeles in the summer of 2012, as well as making many new ones at Hancock Tent. The day also included an excellent pot-luck meal for all to which Tom contributed a Julian apple pie. No one ever seems to refuse such a contribution and Tom never has to worry about spilling any leftovers in his car!!

The program went quite well as Tom showed his three uniforms (cavalry enlisted, infantry enlisted, and infantry 2LT staff officer), plus his gr-gr grandfather's medal given him by the State of West Virginia in 1866, minie balls from an unidentified battle, as well as replica pistols of the style used by Gen. Grant, and that used by JW Booth to assassinate President Lincoln. The program lasted about 90 minutes, plus questions. Everyone seemed to enjoy it.

Other than the 140 mile one-way drive to the San Fernando Valley and back, and the five traffic jams encountered (four on the return trip), the day was quite pleasurable.

JVC Helmantoler has done the presentation many times, for genealogical groups, school classrooms, church groups, and patriotic organizations. If you know of a group that might like to see it, mention it to the group or to Tom.

*See photos below*



## Items of Interest From Our SCV Cousins

### Black Powder Load-out

From Steve and Deanne of Camp 302 ...

Greetings Gents!

As a reminder, the 2013 Annual Turkey Shoot black powder rolling party will commence at the Vista Confederate Consulate on **Saturday 19 Oct 2013 from 12pm-2pm.**

Please bring a potluck style snack to share and whatever you'd like to drink. We will provide an abundance of our infamous "Tater Dish", chicken wings, sweet tea, regular tea, and bottled water.

283 Portia Ave, Vista, CA 92084  
From 12:00 pm-2:00 pm

**Questions?** Feel free to give us a call: **(619)977-3185**

### 5TH ANNUAL TURKEY SHOOT

It won't be long until you'll get another chance to win a good ole Thanksgiving turkey. This year we'll be having the competition at the South Bay Rod & Gun Club Shooting Range on Saturday, November 2, 2013. We plan to gather at 9:00 AM with the action to start soon after. Bring \$20 to put in the kitty for your shooting supplies and also bring a little something to eat and share with others around about lunch time. Also, it would be a good idea to bring a chair to sit on when you're not on the firing line. We'll be putting out more details as the time draws near, but we'll start right now by putting a map down below on how to get to the range.

HOPE TO SEE Y'ALL THERE!

South Bay Rod & Gun Club, 1020 Marron Valley Rd., San Diego, CA 91917. <http://www.sbrgc.org/>

To see maps, enter this address into your web browser: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~caajrscv/page17.html>

Camp Calendar: Event, Location (* = SVR participation)	Time, Day, Month, Year	Contact Persons
Camp Meeting, Coco's Rest. 5955 Balboa Ave. San Diego	Sat. 3:00 PM 12 OCT 2013	CC Deane Poole
Black Powder Load-out, Prep for Turkey Shoot, Steve's Smith home	Sat. 19 OCT 2013	Steve Smith SCV/Deane Poole
"Turkey Shoot," South Bay Rod & Gun Club, 1020 Marron Valley Rd., San Diego	9:00 AM Sat. 2 NOV 2013	Deane Poole/Will Tisch
Camp Meeting, Coco's Rest. 5955 Balboa Ave. San Diego	Sat. 3:00 PM 14 DEC 2013	CC Deane Poole
* "XXI Huntington Beach Civil War Days," Central Park, HB, CA reenactment - recruiting opportunity	30-31 AUG 2014	Jerry Sayre

**Minutes of Meeting held 17 AUG, 2013**

Present: Brothers Dave Allyn, John Howell, John May, Tony Moffitt, Deane Poole, Jerry Sayre, David Shaffer, Will Tisch, and guests Brenda Boucher, Kim Sayre, Jan Shaffer, and Eileen Tisch.

The meeting was called to order by Commander Deane Poole at 3:10pm at Coco's Restaurant, Balboa Avenue, San Diego, California. The opening prayer was offered by D. Allyn and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by J. Sayre.

I. Honored Attendees  
None

II. Announcements

National Encampment went well and Tad Campbell is the new SVC. The new CinC is Ken Freshley from Ohio. The Dept. of Calif. and Pacific was awarded the "Best Website" and Rachele Campbell received the Dr. Mary Walker Award.

III. New Members

J. Sayre reported that one new member from Fallbrook will be joining soon.

IV. Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were approved (Allyn/Sayre).

V. Officers' Reports

Treas. J. May reported that since the last report, the Camp has spent \$283.26 and has had no income. There is a total of \$2853.91 at present, of which \$520 is in the Minter's Ranch Fund.

VI. Committee Reports

W. Tisch reported that the restoration of the carriage for the mortar is complete and a projected date of completion for the project is Nov. 19. Eagle Scout Coordinator John Howell announced his retirement from the position. He is completing certifi-

icates ready for volunteers to present. A new volunteer is needed for this important position that awards about 20 certificates each year at Eagle Scout Courts of Honor.

D. Poole reported that the Minter's Ranch Project needs corporate sponsorship. A total of \$3800 is needed.

VII. S.V.R. Report  
No report was given.

VIII. Upcoming Events

Huntington Beach reenactment Aug. 31-Sept. 1.

IX. Old Business  
none

X. New Business

T. Moffitt reported that the Turkey Shoot will be on Nov. 2 and he anticipates a good showing by the Camp.

D. Allyn was presented with a G.A.R. walking stick by the Camp in appreciation for taking on the task of publishing The General.

XI. Members' Minutes  
No Members' Minutes.

XII. Program  
None

The closing prayer was offered by Chaplain D. Allyn and Cmdr. Poole adjourned the meeting at 4:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John May, Secretary

## 76 furloughed at Gettysburg National Military Park

Date: Wed, 2 Oct 2013 10:11:51 -0400  
From: Anthony Waskie <awaski01@TEMPLE.EDU>  
Subject: 76 furloughed at Gettysburg National Military Park

Thanks to Blair Thron

76 furloughed at Gettysburg National Military Park

The Gettysburg National Military Park, Eisenhower National Historic Site, David Wills House and the Soldiers' National Cemetery are closed, as are park roads that do not serve as throughways.

By ADAM MICHAEL and MARK WALTERS  
The Evening Sun

Posted: 10/01/2013 03:49:55 PM EDT

A National Park Service ranger stops a vehicle driving along a closed road within Gettysburg National Military Park and issues a warning to its driver on Tuesday. Park roads are closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic because of the government's shutdown. (THE EVENING SUN -- JEFF LAUTENBERGER) Just before noon on Tuesday, one of the recently furloughed Gettysburg National Military Park rangers made his way past vehicles with license plates from dozens of states on the way back to his car. It's hard to say when he, and another 75 full-time park service employees who were sent home Tuesday afternoon, will have another opportunity to serve the Gettysburg battlefield faithfully. They were among the nearly 1 million federal workers temporarily thrown out of work after the U.S. government partially shut down for the first time in 17 years late Monday night. Of the 86 full-time employees, 76 were furloughed, Gettysburg Battlefield Spokesperson Katie Lawhon said. Eight law enforcement rangers and two maintenance workers considered essential personnel will be permitted on the grounds to preserve and protect park resources. Lawhon worked until 10 a.m. this morning to make sure workers were able to put a plan in motion that would allow tourists some satisfaction, however slight. "It's a difficult situation for our visitors and a difficult situation for our community," Lawhon said, before accepting her furlough and exiting the Gettysburg National Park Museum and Visitor's Center. The Gettysburg National Military Park, Eisenhower National Historic Site, David Wills House and the Soldiers' National Cemetery are closed, as are park roads that do not serve as throughways.

[http://www.eveningsun.com/local/ci\\_24214444/76-furloughed-at-gettysburg-national-military-park](http://www.eveningsun.com/local/ci_24214444/76-furloughed-at-gettysburg-national-military-park)

Editor's comment: the above emailed article came to me courtesy of a Civil War information web source, The Civil War Philadelphia automatic digest system, <LISTSERV@LISTSERV.TEMPLE.EDU>  
It is expected that in addition to Gettysburg National Park, all other Civil War National Parks are experiencing similar furloughs of employees as a result of the government shutdown.



PITTENGER CAMP SCRAPBOOK







No New Members have been reported since our last edition. Please do all you can to assure the continuance of our Order by talking it up to relatives and friends.

We have a "Recruiting Newsletter" version of *The General* available to aid you in recruitment. Contact any officer for a copy - or several copies.

### Civil War Slang

**Acknowledge the Corn** - to admit the truth, to confess a lie, or acknowledge an obvious personal shortcoming

**Bad Egg** - bad person, good for nothing

**Cashier** - to dismiss from the army dishonorably

**Dog Robber** - soldier detailed from the ranks to act as cook

**Embalmed Beef** - canned meat

**Pumpkin Rinds** - gold lieutenant's bars

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)

## THIS DATE IN CIVIL WAR HISTORY

**Monday Sept. 30 1861**

### MOROSE MCCLELLAN MAKES MONTHLY MESS

As the month of September came to a close there was little action on any of the fronts of the War. Fremont was too busy fighting with his ostensible ally Francis Blair Jr. in St. Louis to put any Federals in the field against the strong incursion of Sterling Price out of Arkansas. Price was not entirely thrilled either, since he had anticipated large numbers of Missourians to rally to his side, and they weren't. In Virginia McClellan likewise seemed to be sitting on his hands. Even the embarrassment of being castigated by the entire Lincoln cabinet a couple of days ago did not seem to motivate him to battle. Training was his major concern these days.

**Tuesday Sept. 30 1862**

### GUNFIRE GETS GLASGOW GOING

As in the previous year, the month of September came to an end in relative peace, at least in the major theaters of operations. The peacefulness was elusive in a few areas however: skirmishing occurred in Glasgow, Russellville and the vicinity of Louisville in Kentucky; at New-tonia, Missouri; Goodlettsville, Tennessee, and Glenville in western (not yet West) Virginia. There departed a Federal amphibious operation from Hilton Head, South Carolina, for an expedition on Saint John's Bluff, Fla.

**Wednesday Sept. 30 1863**

### BLUSTERING, BUMBLING BRAGG BLUFFS BADLY

The Battle of Chickamauga was long over with, and the Confederates had won, on points at least, since the Federal army was driven in disorder from the field into the sheltering streets of nearby Chattanooga. They were still there, though, and the conquering hero Braxton Bragg was still sitting outside of town. His accomplishment of today was to detach most of his cavalry, under Gen. Joseph Wheeler, and send it on an expedition to cut Federal communications lines. Bragg had no idea that two corps of the Union Army of the Potomac were only two days away. He knew they were coming but not how fast.

**Friday Sept. 30 1864**

### PEEBLES PROBING PARTIALLY PROTRACTED

The Battle of Peebles Farm, as it came to be known, continued where it left off yesterday on the south end of the Petersburg lines. Warren's Fifth Corps did well at first and headed for Poplar Spring Church with the Ninth Corps close behind. Progress stalled when they encountered A. P. Hill's men, and the Federals entrenched at the charmingly named Squirrel Level Road. At the other end of the line the Federals had taken Fort Harrison yesterday and turned it into a Union establishment. Robert E. Lee ordered a desperate attempt to retake the fort, but it could not be done. The Southerners withdrew to new lines, closer to Richmond.

**The Civil War Trust** is the largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization in the United States. Its mission is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds. To date, it has preserved more than 34,000 acres of battlefield land in 20 states, including nearly 18,400 in Virginia. Learn more at [www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org), the home of the Civil War sesquicentennial.

**OUR NEXT MEETING: Saturday October 12, 2013, 3:00 pm**

**October 12, 2013 3:00 PM**

***LOCATION***

**Coco's Bakery Restaurant  
5955 Balboa Ave  
San Diego  
(858) 279-5363**

**Our Program**

**TBD**

**DIRECTIONS TO MEETING LOCATION:**

Fr N. Cnty I-5: take I-5 S to I-805 S, exit Balboa Ave. Go W less than 1 mile, Coco's is on your left.

Fr N. Cnty I-15: take I-15 S to CA 163 S, exit Mercury St./ Balboa Ave. Turn L on Mercury, then R on Balboa. Go W 1.6 mi, Coco's is on your left.

Fr S. Cnty I-805: take I-805 N to Balboa Ave. exit, turn L (W) go less than 1 mile, Coco's is on your left.

Fr S. Cnty I-5: take I-5 N to CA 163 N to I-805 N to Balboa Ave. exit, turn L (W) go less than 1 mile, Coco's is on your left.

Fr E. Cnty I-8: take I-8 W to I-805 N to Balboa Ave. exit, turn L (W) go less than 1 mile, Coco's is on your left.

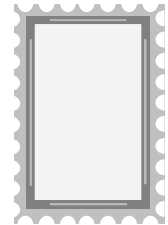
Fr E. Cnty CA 52: take CA 52 W to I-805 S, exit Mercury St./ Balboa Ave. Turn L on Mercury, then turn R on Balboa. Go W 1.6 mi, Coco's is on your left.

The General

**The General**



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*Preserving the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic & "The Boys in Blue," 1861 - 1865*