



Newsletter of *Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21*

The General

Department of
California & Pacific



Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War

Volume XX Number 5

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Sep 27, 2014

Anticipating The Annual Blue-Gray Turkey Shoot—November 1st by Dave Allyn

Brothers and friends, Camp Commander Deane Poole asked me to write up a brief article for this newsletter to talk up the fun and excitement of our annual fund-raising event known as “The Blue-Gray Turkey Shoot.” For any who do not know for the past few years we have participated with our Confederate Cousins of SCV Camp 302 in a competitive marksmanship, live-fire, black-powder, rifled-musket firing exercise. This is open to anyone who cares to participate, the usual safe-firing rules of the state, locality and shooting range naturally apply. Groups of three shooters will be provided a reproduction musket and five rounds of ammo. Experts will load each round for shooters who will fire from a shooting bench (or in the standing position) at a standard pistol range target at approximately 25 yards. After all shooters have completed their five rounds, shooting ceases and each shooter retrieves his or her own target for submission to the scorers table. Another group of three then tack up their targets for their round of firing and the process repeats until all persons have had their chance to shoot. The scorers total up the points and determine the best bullseye (closest to dead-center) for the awarding of titles: Best Bull-eye, Best Score, and Team Winner—Blue (we hope!) or Gray. After the competitive portion ends, we then allow for anyone who desires to do some exhibition or practice firing of the reproduction muskets or any oth-



er weapons they may have. We will be using **Range 2 at the South Bay Rod and Gun Club, located near Dulzura, at 1020 Marron Valley Rd.** For more info on the club, here is the webpage: <http://www.sbrgc.org/> South Bay provides their Range Safety Officers to oversee all aspects of our shoot. This is a very worthwhile enterprise for both camps and a fun time! If you’ve never fired a Civil War-era weapon but have always wondered what it’s like, this is a very affordable means to chalk it off your bucket list. Last year, I participated in the shoot at South Bay and thoroughly enjoyed shooting and observing others shoot. I scored better than the year before but not high enough to be in the running for the top prize—a gift certificate for a turkey from a grocery store in San Diego. If you are an experienced marksman, your Camp could sure use you as the Confederates seem to have a preponderance of good shots and

we’d really like to claim the honor of winning this year! The cost to shoot five rounds is only \$20 (US—no CSA paper-please!). We share in a potluck lunch so bring your own dish to pass, beverage, plates, cups, etc. Remember this is open to brothers, their friends, family and acquaintances as we hope to raise funds over and above our costs, which are primarily for the range and ammo. Come join us for a fun day ! *Directions see Pg. 3*

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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 and 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 need not be a reenactor to join. Annual dues are \$6.00. Interested SUVCW Brothers should contact the SVR Representative listed above.

More Photos From Last Years Blue-Gray Turkey Shoot



Our Speaker for Next Meeting, 4 OCT at Coco's Restaurant and Bakery

Past Camp and Department Commander Gene Armistead is a native of Alabama, a graduate of Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, served as a Marine Corps Supply Officer in the Vietnam War, and is retired from many years of management in the electronics components manufacturing industry. He has been an Escondido resident since 1971. Gene is descended from both Confederate and Union veterans of the Civil War and is or has been a member of many organizations oriented toward the Civil War. Most particularly it was he who organized our Camp about 20 years ago and for 3 years was its first commander. During the late 1990's he was also Commander of the SUVCW Department of California & Pacific. He has had published several articles on Civil War topics and last year, his first book, "Horses and Mules in the Civil War" has been very favorably reviewed including "highly recommended" by Library Journal and Civil War News. The net of 10 reader reviews on Amazon.com is 5 stars (out of 5). At the October 4th meeting our program by Gene will therefore review for us a topic with which he is perhaps an expert – the impact of equines during the Civil War. We hope many will come to hear Gene speak on a subject of significant interest and impact to the course of the War.

Directions to South Bay Rod and Gun Club, Dulzura, CA.

From wherever you are based make your way to the Rancho San Diego area and find CA 94, Campo Road East. Follow Campo Rd Southeast for 14.6 miles to the junction with Marron Valley Rd. Turn Right onto Marron Valley Rd and go 2.1 miles to the entrance of the South Bay Rod and Gun Club. Follow directions to Range 2, park just to the left of the Range proper.

Address for online mapping is **1020 Marron Valley Rd, Dulzura, CA. 91917.**

To go to a Google map of the roads in the immediate area, copy and paste the text below into your browser:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/1020+Marron+Valley+Rd,+Dulzura,+CA+91917/@32.60858,-116.761665,13z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x80d96a682db5fabd:0x788dfb44fd9c64d5?hl=en>

Looking ahead to December

At our December meeting we elect officers for the new year. All Brothers are eligible to run for and be elected to any/all offices, no nomination or second is needed. Serving as an officer in the local camp is one of the very best ways to learn what our Order is all about. By way of a reminder I would like to say that our Order exists to assure our nation never forgets *"The Boys in Blue, 1861-1865"* For us to carry out that obligation requires the entire Camp be involved to whatever extent possible. Aside from some limiting factors such as location or health that means that virtually all Brothers can contribute to the Camp in some way and many are doing the best they can. Retaining our member Brothers by renewing dues each year is the starting point but we hope there will be some who will feel the call to step up to a new level of participation by offering us their talents, skills and abilities to further our cause. If you need guidance on what each officer's responsibilities include, there is good information with complete job descriptions at the National SUVCW webpages found at http://www.sucw.org/?page_id=1054 including a downloadable PDF document. I recommend anyone seeking to serve in any of our officer positions take a few minutes to review the details of that office they now hold or in which they desire to serve. Proverbs 15:22 says, "Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many advisers bring success." (NLT) That's what we hope you will consider—being an "adviser"/Officer—as we approach the last months of 2014 and look ahead to the new year.

Thanks for giving this your consideration

Camp Calendar: Event, Location (* = SVR participation)	Time, Day, Month, Year	Contact Person(s)
Camp Meeting, Coco's Rest. 5955 Balboa Ave. San Diego Program: PDC Gene Armistead on Civil War Equines	11 OCT 2014 Sat @ 3:00 PM	CC Deane Poole
"Blue-Gray Turkey Shoot" S. Bay Rod & Gun Club Pistol Range 2, 1020 Marron Valley Rd., Dulzura, CA	1 NOV 2014 Sat @ 8 AM workers, 9 shooters—PM ?	CC Deane Poole
* Co. G, 5th Cal Vol Inf Color Guard at VMMC, San Diego	22 NOV 2014 Sat. Muster at 1130 Hrs	T. Helmantoler PCC/W. Tisch PCC
Camp Meeting, Coco's Rest. 5955 Balboa Ave. San Diego Election and installation of Officers for 2015, Annual Social	13 DEC 2014 Sat @ 3:00 PM	CC Deane Poole
Camp Meeting, Coco's Rest. 5955 Balboa Ave. San Diego	14 FEB 2015 Sat @ 3:00 PM	Camp Commander TBD in DEC

Minutes of Meeting held August 9, 2014

Present: Brothers Dave Allyn, John Finch, Tom Helmantoler, John May, Deane Poole, Jerry Sayre, Mike Schooling, Will Tisch, and guests Gay Allyn, Stevie Harbaugh and Eileen Tisch.

The meeting was called to order by Commander Deane Poole at 3:40pm 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 T. Helmantoler

I. Honored Attendees

None

II. Announcements

Gene Armistead will present the program at the October Meeting.

"Old Ft. MacArthur Days" was attended by the Sayres and is an exceptional event.

D. Allyn has old Civil War magazines if anyone would like them.

III. New Members

J. Sayre reported that one new was approved at the last meeting. He is Thomas Johnson, whose ancestor served in the 138th IN INF.

IV. Minutes of Last Meeting

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

V. Officers' Reports

Treas. J. May reported that the Camp has a total of \$2619.58 at present.

VI. Committee Reports

W. Tisch reported that there is still a little work to be done on the mortar.

VII. S.V.R. Report

No report was given.

VIII. Upcoming Events

Huntington Beach reenactment Aug. 30-31.

Next Camp Meeting, Sat., Oct. 11, 3pm at Coco's.

Blue-Gray Picnic, Aug. 23

Turkey Shoot, Nov. 1

IX. Old Business

D. Allyn reported that the historical poster we donated was received by the Camp in Michigan and is now on display at the G.A.R. Museum in Eaton Rapids.

X. New Business

1) A motion (Helmantoler/Sayre) was passed to spend no more than \$200 for the Turkey Shoot.

2) W. Tisch brought up the idea of marching in the Mother Goose Parade and/or the Veterans Day Parade, perhaps in conjunction with other heritage groups. A motion (Schooling/Sayre) to spend \$30 for entrance fees was passed.

3) J. May mentioned the retirement of Lincoln Presenter Bill Peck. It is reported that he will be honored at the Huntington Beach event.

4) The Opportunity Drawing (known as a "raffle" in the past) will be re-instituted at the next meeting.

XI. Members' Minutes

No Members' Minutes.

XII. Program

None;

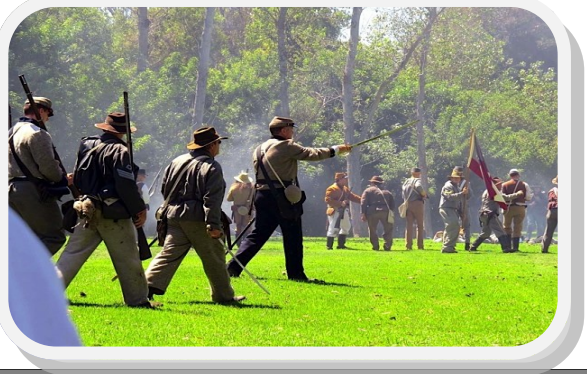
(Ed. Note; after closing meeting, Jerry Sayre presented a power-point program on the history of the Henry Repeating rifle.)

The closing prayer was offered by Chaplain D. Allyn and Cmdr. Poole adjourned the meeting at 4:25pm.

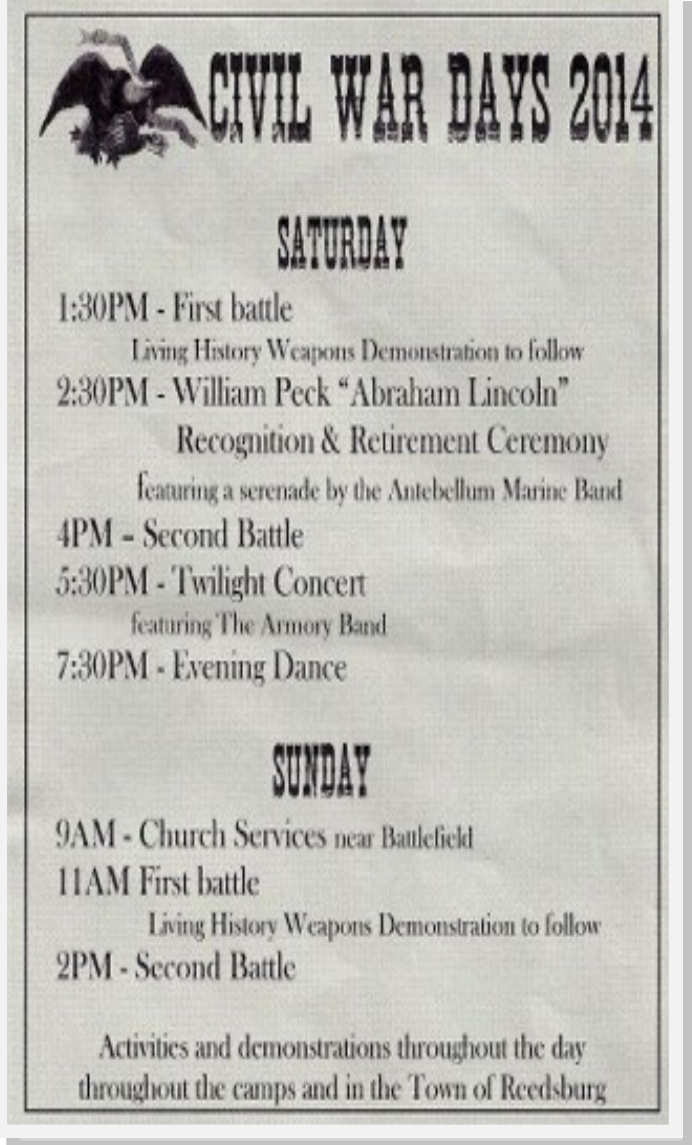
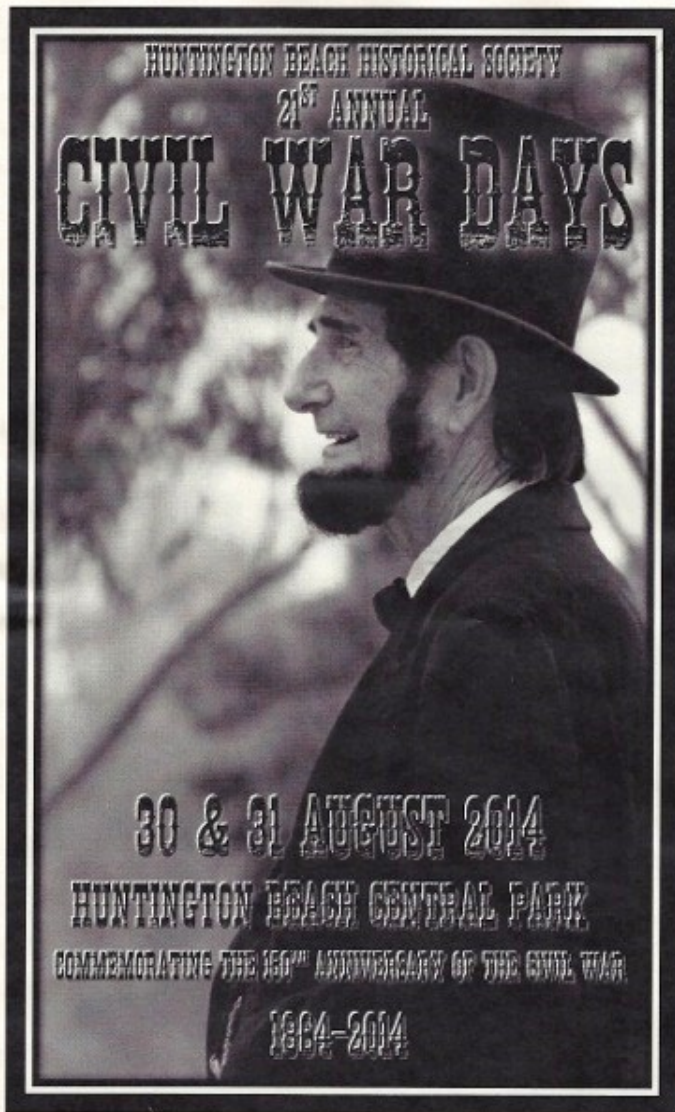
Respectfully submitted,

John May, Secretary

Photos from Huntington Beach Civil War Days Event courtesy of Kim Sayre and Floyd Farrar



PITTENGER CAMP SCRAPBOOK



Camp 21 Brother and Abraham Lincoln Presenter, Bill Peck officially retired from portraying our 16th President at the October 30th Huntington Beach Civil War Days event. On hand to witness this occasion were PDC Jerry Sayre and wife, Kim. From the event program reproduced above we see the hosts gave Brother Bill a fine tribute. Mr. Peck has portrayed Pres. Lincoln for many years in our area and at events of all kinds around southern California to the delight of old and young alike. Health considerations led Bill to this decision so we of The William Pittenger Camp 21, SUVCW wish to add our congratulations on a long and storied career as our very own President Lincoln and to wish him easy days ahead with fair winds and following seas.



Welcome New Brother!

HUZZAH !!!

**Thomas Johnson,
whose ancestor served
in the 138th IN INF.**

Civil War Slang

“Bread Basket” - stomach

“Bust Head”/“Pop Skull” - cheap whiskey

“Chief Cook & Bottle Washer” - person in charge, or someone who can do anything

“Essence of Coffee” - early instant coffee, found in paste form

“Go Boil Your Shirt”- take a hike, get lost, bug off

“Hanker” - a strong wish or want

“Opine” - be of the opinion

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

This Day In The Civil War

Friday Sept. 27 1861

MILITARY MISTAKES MENTIONED; MCCLELLAN MORTIFIED

A rather rancorous meeting of Abraham Lincoln’s cabinet was held today. As was frequently the case, after the usual business was taken care of, the topic of the gathering turned to the latest activities in the War. As was frequently the case as well, there really wasn’t all that much to talk about, so that’s what they talked about--the notable lack of aggressive moves on the part of the Army of the Potomac and its commander, Gen. George McClellan. There was a widespread feeling that the war should have been long over with by now, and demands were loud to know why it was not. The questions had to be more than a little embarrassing for the guest of honor at the meeting: Gen. George McClellan.

Saturday Sept. 27 1862

BUTLER BACKS BLACKS, BRAVELY

Although it is widely believed that the first regiment of what would become known as the United States Colored Troops was the famed 54th Massachusetts (from the movie “Glory”), in fact the first regiment of free blacks was mustered in New Orleans, Louisiana on this date. Gen. Benjamin Butler, who had a rather direct way of dealing with things sometimes, had been the first to force the issue of what to do with black refugees and escaped slaves in the early days of the War. Then, he had persuaded Secretary of War Stanton to designate these displaced blacks as “contraband of war”, to prevent them from being returned to their owners. Now, he enlisted men in the Union Army as the First Regiment, Louisiana Native Guards. The men called themselves the “Chasseurs d’Afrique”, the African Hunters.

Sunday Sept. 27 1863

SHELBY’S SKIRMISHERS SMASH STATION

There existed in the Confederate military a class of operators for whom no good descriptive term exists. They were classified as cavalymen, but they did not perform the usual functions of cavalry in the military sense of the day--scouting ahead of, and screening the movements of, an army of infantry. These men were usually referred to as “raiders”, and their role was to move quickly to harass, cut lines of communication, pick off stragglers from Union marches, and gather supplies. One of these raiders, Jo Shelby, worked in the Trans-Mississippi so is even less known than some like Moseby and Forrest. Today Shelby attacked Moffat’s Station in Franklin County, Arkansas.

Tuesday Sept. 27 1864

MASSIVE MISSOURI MILITARY MOVEMENTS

There was fighting in quite a few places in Missouri today. Sterling Price’s invasion out of Arkansas, one of a number of attempts to “reclaim” the state for the Confederacy, was rolling along quite nicely. Today he launched an all-out assault on Fort Davidson, at Pilot Knob, Mo. Twelve hundred Federal troops withstood the charge during the day; after nightfall their commander, Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing Jr. decided the position was untenable and evacuated secretly. Further west, the “raider” William Anderson led an attack on Centralia, Mo. He looted, burned, and shot 24 unarmed Union soldiers. Anderson was known as “Bloody Bill”, and two of the 30 men in his band were the James Brothers, so it was perhaps not surprising that strict attention to military rules was not observed.

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, the Trust has preserved more than 38,500 acres of battlefield land in 20 states. Learn more at www.civilwar.org, the home of the Civil War sesquicentennial.

OUR NEXT MEETING: Saturday Oct 11, 2014, 3:00 pm

OCT 11, 2014 3:00 PM

LOCATION

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

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.

Our Program

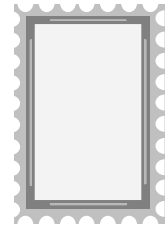
The October program, "Civil War Equines" will be presented by PDC Gene Armistead, author of the well-regarded 2013 book, *Horses & Mules in the Civil War*. He will have a few copies of his book available with him.

The General

The General



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