



Newsletter of Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21

The General

*Department of
California & Pacific*



*Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War*

Volume XXII Number 4

ENJOY SUMMER

July 23, 2016

As you read through this edition of your GENERAL please take a couple of minutes and look at the listing of Camp Officers found at the left hand column on page two. There you will find the current slate of officers, their respective titles, phone numbers and e mail addresses.

There is purpose in publishing this contact information: First, it provides for an hierarchy of management, showing how the leadership is divided and how the various tasks and labors, unique to our Order, are distributed; Secondly, it provides for accountability, so that the routine activities of our Order are accomplished with expediency and clarity. And lastly, it provides a means for you to contact your Officers should you have questions, comments, suggestions or disagreements. I invite you to use this access and you may start with that person heading this listing. That would be me! Now, as you scan the list, observe that there are a number of vacancies. Some of these positions have minimal activity and require little effort, but they add to the overall effect of a meeting, enhancing the military bearing and appearance.

Perhaps you might consider trying your hand at being a Guide, a Guard or a Counselor. Can't commit just now. Then consider this alternative. Ask that we might mentor you. Would you be interested in what the Chaplain does? Ask the Chaplain to talk to you about his duties and responsibilities. The Treasurer, the Newsletter editor. Your

interest could be helpful to these officers. A recent vacancy has been announced that we would like to fill as soon as is possible and that is for Eagle Scout Coordinator. I held this assignment a few years ago and enjoyed my contact with these amazing young men and their hard

earned achievements. Often times, we are invited to attend these functions and, at other times, we simply submit a letter of commendation. As an attendee you will participate in the ceremony, with a reading of the commendation. You will meet with other guests, often local dignitaries, and you will be a part of an event that is uplifting, fun and allows for a sense of fulfillment. You would not regret accepting this assignment and, another perk is that, most of your work can be accomplished at home and on your schedule. Thus far this calendar year, we have had but a single request, but just a few years ago we managed one hundred thirty eight. Do hope that you will consider accepting this volunteer assignment. Wishing you safety and health for the remainder of our Summer and beyond.



Commander John Finch during Taps. El Cajon Cemetery, Memorial Day Ceremony

Yours in F, C & L,
John C. Finch

**P.S. NOTE CHANGE IN MEETING
START TIME, 10:00 AM**

2016 CAMP OFFICERS

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Chaplain Dave Allyn
Counselor Andrew Brooks
Patriotic Instructor Jerry Sayre
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Graves Registration John May
Color Bearer Brian Bingham
Guide.....open
Guard.....open
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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 and most appreciated: 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.



Memorial Day Service El Cajon Cemetery

Jerry Sayre PDC, Tom Helmantoler PCC, Deane Poole PCC, Flag folding ceremony.



Hellen Masso laying flowers and Brenda Boucher reading the flower tribute.



Camp 21 has participated with the El Cajon Elks Lodge 1812 honoring a Veteran interred in this cemetery for a number of years.

All photos this page courtesy of Kim

Jerry Sayre PDC during Memorial Day ceremony at El Cajon Cemetery.

Jerry Sayre PDC presenting American National Flag to family.



News and Camp Calendar

Hello Pittenger Brothers,

News from today's Pittenger Meeting: (11 June)

A discussion was held on changing the start of the Camp's meeting time for a couple of reasons...

- 1) An earlier time of day.
(This way no one would have to drive home from the meeting when it gets dark during certain times of the year)

- 2) More convenient for Brothers and their guests to attend.
(Greater participation. A late morning meeting followed by lunch rather than the mid- afternoon meeting and dinner as it has been for some time)

A vote was taken and passed that meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m. followed by lunch. Arrangements have been made with Mimi's Cafe for the change.

Commander John Finch and Newsletter Editor Dave Allyn will keep you posted.

This e-mail is primarily being sent out to you so you can update your calendars.

Next meetings will be:
 Saturday, August 13th at 10:00 a.m.
 Saturday, October 8th at 10:00 a.m.
 Saturday, December 10th (Time to be announced)

Kim :) *Email from Kim Sayre to Camp 21*

Hi Kim (Sayre)

I thought this years Memorial Service was below standard, I have been going here since the fifties with few exceptions. I have been to The Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station, (The Submariners Memorial) on two occasions, excellent and also Green Hills Cemetery for the Viet Nam Wall. Hope all of your celebrations were fulfilling.
Milt Irwin

Received via email from Bro. Milt Irwin to Kin Sayre

Camp Calendar: Event, Location (* = SVR participation)	Time, Day, Month,Year	Contact Person(s)
SUVCW National Encampment, President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield, IL.	AUG 11-14, 2016	CC John Finch/Sec. John May
Camp Meeting, Mimi's Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	AUG 13, 2016 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC John Finch
* Veterans Service, SVR Color Guard, San Diego Veterans Memorial Museum, 2115 Park Blvd	AUG 27, 2016 Sat @ 1130	1st LT Tom Helmantoler
* Huntington Beach Civil War Days reenactment,	SEP 3-4, 2016 Sat 8—4; Sun 9-4	PDC Jerry Sayre/CC John Finch
Camp Meeting, Mimi's Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	OCT 8, 2016 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC John Finch
* Veterans Service, SVR Color Guard, San Diego Veterans Memorial Museum, 2115 Park Blvd	NOV 26, 2016 Sat @ 1130	1st LT Tom Helmantoler
Camp Meeting and Annual Christmas Party, location TBD	DEC ??, 2016 Time TBD	CC John Finch

Minutes of Meeting Held 11 June, 2016

Present: Brothers David Allyn, John Finch, Tom Helmantoler, John May, Jerry Sayre, Mike Schooling, and guests Gay Allyn, Sandy Helmantoler and Kim Sayre.

The meeting was called to order by Commander John Finch at 3:10pm at Mimi's Restaurant, 10787 Westview Pkwy., 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

Cmdr. Finch thanked all who planned and attended Memorial Day events.

Cmdr. Finch re-capped events at Fallbrook, El Cajon, and Mt. Hope.

III. New Members

A motion (May/Helmantoler) to accept the membership application of Lawrence Saul, from Carlsbad, whose ancestor served in the 68th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, was approved. Two new applications are pending and an additional former member has applied to be re-instated. J. Sayre will follow up.

IV. Minutes of Last Meeting

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

V. Officers' Reports

Sec. J. May reported correspondence from Br. J. Gilman in Hawaii, who visited the USS Utah Memorial in Pearl Harbor on Memorial Day. Treas. J. May reported Camp balance of \$3285.59, of which \$1013 is in the Minter's Ranch fund.

T. Helmantoler reported his attendance at three JROTC events where SUVCW medals and certificates were presented.

Newsletter Editor D. Allyn expressed thanks to Kim Sayre for providing the photos used. He also would like written submissions of Memorial Day events for publication.

VI. Committee Reports

none

VII. S.V.R. Report

T. Helmantoler reported that the SVR provided three color guards for Memorial Day events. Additionally, the SVR newsletter will soon be out.

VIII. Upcoming Events

Next Camp meeting, Aug. 13 at 10am.

Eagle Scout Court of Honor, Aug. 20, 11am.

A presenter is needed. Please see J. Finch. National Encampment is in August.

IX. Old Business

Camp presence on Craig's List not yet established.

Eagle Scout Coordinator still needed. Please see J. Finch.

X. New Business

1. A motion (Sayre/Schooling) to attempt to change the meeting time to 10am was approved.
2. A program is needed for the next meeting. Please see T. Helmantoler.
3. A motion (May/Sayre) to expend \$25.25 to purchase a SUVCW War Medal for Br. J. Gilman was approved.
4. An honorarium of \$25 for Rita Cartwright was approved.
5. A motion to award a \$100 scholarship to Zachery Allyn of Hastings, MI, was approved.

XI. Members' Minutes

none

XII. Program

T. Helmantoler told the story of Sara Emma Edmonds, a woman who served the Union cause in the Civil War and was later admitted to the G.A.R.

The closing prayer was offered by D. Allyn and Cmdr. Finch adjourned the meeting at 4:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John May, Secretary

Camp 21 Brother John W. Gilman's Memorial Day Report

Dave,

Thank you for the Memorial Day note. I was out here in Hawaii for the day, decided to have a combination Memorial Day Remembrance/Retirement Ceremony of sorts, as I retire from the Navy on June 1. I went to the USS Utah Memorial and was the only person there at first. USS Utah sank during the attack on Pearl Harbor, and there are still 54 Sailors entombed aboard, including Medal of Honor Recipient, Chief Watertender Peter Tomich. I arrived shortly before 3:00 PM, and by the time 3:00 PM rolled around, about a dozen or so people arrived. At 3:00 PM, I placed a simple lei at the Memorial, and then read Chief Tomich's Medal of Honor citation. Following that, I read SGT Pittenger's Medal of Honor citation, explaining to the small group about our SUVCW camp. I then saluted and said goodbye to the guys aboard Utah, as I plan on moving off island in a few months. I've heard of the USS Utah Memorial occasionally called, "the forgotten memorial" - but not this Memorial Day. Today, we remembered those 54 Sailors. Next, I went to the USS Oklahoma Memorial, where a family of a young Sailor, his wife and 4 small children walked with me as I placed leis on the stakes honoring Seaman First Class James Ward and Ensign Frank Flaherty, then reading their Medal of Honor citations and saluting each. Ensign Flaherty, Chief Tomich and Seaman Ward all gave their lives for the lives of their shipmates, staying at their posts until all their shipmates had evacuated the turrets and spaces they were manning, ensuring that others lived when they did not. For many reasons I chose not to have a formal retirement ceremony. One of the traditions at a Navy retirement ceremony is to honor the retiree by reading something called, "This Shipmate Stood the Watch." But today I chose to honor Ensign Flaherty, Chief Tomich and Seaman Ward instead, three shipmates who truly did stand the watch. Two photos at the USS Utah Memorial are attached.

FCL/John

Received via email



Pittenger Camp Scrapbook

Right: nice photo montage from Fallbrook's Village News, submitted by Kim Sayre



Below: combined SVR & SCV Honor/Color Guard at Mt. Hope Cemetery, San Diego, Submitted by Jim Stephens, SCV Camp 302

Memorial Day ceremony held at Odd Fellows Cemetery



[above] Steve Smith, division commander of Son's of Confederate Veterans, is the guest speaker at the Memorial Day Ceremony hosted by The Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War at Odd Fellows Cemetery on May 28.

[above] Taking part in the Memorial Day ceremony at Odd Fellows Cemetery are, from left, past department commander Jerry Sayre, camp commander John Finch, Tom Helmantoler PCC and Dean Poole PCC.

Peter Huelsteinbeck JVC presents bio of Union Veteran Lieutenant Ulrich Briggs of the 33rd Wisconsin.

Brenda Baucher wears Civil War period attire for the ceremony.

Courtesy photos





Jerry Sayre PDC speaking on Memorial Day 2016, at the Fallbrook Masonic Cemetery



Welcome New Brother!

**Lawrence H. Saul, COL
U.S.A. (Ret) of
Carlsbad whose
ancestor served in the
68th OH Infantry**

HUZZAH !!!

From Our 'Cousins In Gray'

I want to thank everyone who participated in Monday's Memorial Day Celebration, May 30th at Mt. Hope Cemetery. It was fantastic. Without our friends and associates in the Civil War community, we could not have carried out this annual ceremony. Thanks to Gary Henson for directing the Color Guard. The Musket firing was a fitting tribute. To Rita Cartwright for singing the National Anthem and Camp 302's Chaplain Ernie Powell for delivering the Invocation and Benediction. Commander John Finch of Sgt William Pittenger Camp 21, presented General John A. Logan's Order #11. To the ladies of Stonewall Jackson Chapter 476 and, the ladies of Nancy Hanks Tent #5, thank you for the flowers and the dedication to our respective ancestors. The food and snacks at the Stonewall Jackson Monument was great as usual. Curtis, please pass on to Dave Tooley our appreciation to the Civil War Round Table for his participation and leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Also, kudos to Steve Cross, our Keynote speaker for his presentation. I must give special thanks to Mr. Francisco Castruita, Area Manager, and his wonderful staff at Mt. Hope Cemetery for the wonderful job they did in setting up the equipment and preparing the site for our ceremony honoring Sgt Smith Ellis Winn, CSA. They set up the chairs, tent and speakers platform early and cheerfully provided further assistance as we needed it.

Respectfully,
Jim Stephens, Commander
Father A.J. Ryan Camp 302
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Received via email

Civil War Slang

Beat the Dutch - if that don't beat all

Bivouac - to camp without formal shelter or in temporary circumstances

Cashier - to dismiss from the army dishonorably

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

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

Quartermaster Hunter - shot or shell that goes long over the lines and into the rear.

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

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.

NEXT MEETING: Sat 13 August, 2016 NOTE Time Change 10:00AM

SAT 13 AUG, 2016 10:00AM

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING LOCATION:

LOCATION

**Mimi's Café Restaurant
10788 WESTVIEW PKWY.
SAN DIEGO, CA 92126**

From the North: take I-15 South to Mira Mesa Blvd, turn right, take first left, Mimi's is visible from Mira Mesa Blvd.

From the South: take I-15 North to Mira Mesa Blvd, turn left go under freeway, Mimi's is visible from Mira Mesa Blvd.

From anywhere in San Diego County: take whatever road will get you to the Mira Mesa Blvd exits off I-15, then follow above directions.

Restaurant phone number: 858-566-6667

**For personalized directions go to
<http://mimiscafe.com>**

Our Program

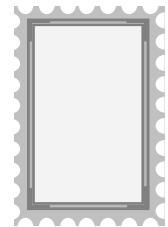
**Camp Commander, John Finch
will review a book he read,
"Civil War Recipes," compiled
by Camille LaCala. Come, join
us for a meal and a book report !**

The General

The General



Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21
Dave Allyn, Newsletter Editor
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Preserving the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic & "The Boys in Blue," 1861 - 1865