



Newsletter of *Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21*

The General

Department of
California & Pacific



*Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War*

Volume XXII Number 6

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Nov 26, 2016

Brothers and Friends,

In this, our Season of Holidays, I wish to extend to you my sentiments for a grateful Thanksgiving, a Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year. Celebrate. And, should you be persuaded to observe other Holidays during this time, I would encourage that, as well. There is an anniversary, little noted by the press or televised news journalists, but is important to us, as heirs of the Civil War Union Veterans. The 19th of November marks the date in which President Abraham Lincoln delivered his "Gettysburg Address." The year was 1863 and the event was the Dedication of the Soldier's National Cemetery at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Most of us have had a long and sometimes unpleasant exposure to this speech, such as memorizing it as an elementary school assignment. As we age, however, the elements

of this statement of human equality become so much more apparent. There may not be a finer statement of resolve to preserve our Union and to pursue the principles of our Nation's Founders. Great then and still great today. Join me in thanking PDC Jerry Sayre and wife, Kim, for their efforts to perpetuate Remembrance Day in Fallbrook. They took it upon themselves to prepare and deliver a presentation honoring Veterans and the Gettysburg Address. Certainly, they deserve a resounding **HUZZAH !** (See photos on Pg. 6) Hope to see you at the meeting.



...that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.
--Gettysburg Address

Your Camp Commander,
John C. Finch

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

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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.



The Travels of Brother John W. Gilman

Introduction: recently Bro. Gilman retired from the Navy and The Marshall's Service and has been travelling in Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore, from where he sent me the following photos and text messages. I found this information fascinating and decided to devote a large portion of this edition to presenting Bro. John's travels and comments; I hope you will enjoy something different !
From your Editor, Dave Allyn

Email Sept 29th From John Gilman to Dave Allyn:
Dave, Yes, I retired from the Marshals Service on August 31 - but like the Navy retirement, I chose not to have a retirement party of any kind. A few co-workers did (sort of) ambush me by giving me a set of Silver Eagles, one for 1996 and one for 2016, the years I entered and retired from the Marshals Service. That was more than enough. I just wanted to move on in life. However - in keeping with that California and Pacific theme of our Camp - I will be off to SE Asia shortly for a vacation. I'll be in Lombok, Indonesia, and if there are any suitable photos I'll be sure to send along.

Email Nov 23rd From John Gilman to Dave Allyn:
Dave, I'll actually be having a Thanksgiving dinner over here in Bangkok - the hotels in the tourist area usually do something around the Western, especially American, holidays. The Sheraton Grande is having a big Thanksgiving buffet and I decided to go there. When I was making the reservations, the girl was very apologetic that the turkey would not be from America this year, some kind of trade tiff that's still going on that's also affecting seafood imports but Thailand doesn't need much seafood from elsewhere ... Turns out, they imported a bunch of turkey from Australia in anticipation of the need for Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's - the Thais do know how to run a tourist operation! I have some pics that I'll send separately - Indonesia, Singapore, Macau. I haven't been down to the palace areas in Bangkok yet because they're still swamped - the outpouring of support for the late King is just incredible, the Thais clearly loved their King so very much. Those pics will come later. A very Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family! FCL/John

Email Nov 24th From John Gilman to Dave Allyn:
Dave, Ok, these have to come in a couple of waves due to limited Wi-Fi bandwidth ... Lombok is the island just east of Bali, far less developed than Bali, much less expensive, and a whole lot nicer in my humble opinion. Although Indonesia is mostly Muslim, the largest Muslim country in the world actually, Bali, Lombok, and a few other places are predominantly Hindu. Hinduism and Buddhism preceded Islam over there. The Sendang Gila waterfall was the first of two I saw that day, with the second Tiu Kelep waterfall more fun - the pool at the base was full of tourists, mostly Australian. Note that the SUVCW guy was the only one smart enough to bring goggles to a waterfall pool ... The tunnel was built by the Dutch during the colonial era, to bring fresh water from the waterfall down to the inhabited areas. You can walk thru it, just have to be a little careful of the footing here and there, take it slow. More to follow ... FCL/John



Hindu Temple Offering



Hindu Temple on Oceanfront

The Travels of Brother John W. Gilman (Con't)



Above Left: Lombok, Bali Hilltop Beach Scene
 Above Right: Sendang Gila Waterfall
 Left: Tiu Kelep Waterfall, John with goggles

Camp Calendar: Event, Location (* = SVR participation)	Time, Day, Month,Year	Contact Person(s)
* 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, Mimi's Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego. Spouses/Visitors Welcome!	DEC 17, 2016 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC John Finch
Camp Meeting, Mimi's Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	FEB 11, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC (John Finch)
131st Dept. Encampment, Four Points by Sheraton, 5101 California Ave. Bakersfield, CA.	MAR 17-18, 2017	CC (John Finch)
Camp Meeting, Mimi's Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	APR 8, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC (John Finch)
Camp Meeting, Mimi's Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	JUN 10, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC (John Finch)
Camp Meeting, Mimi's Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	AUG 12, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC (John Finch)
National SUVCW Encampment (Details to follow)	AUG, 2017	CC (John Finch)

Minutes of Meeting Held October 8, 2016

Present: Brothers David Allyn, John Finch, Tom Helmantoler, Peter Huelsenbeck, John May, Deane Poole, Jerry Sayre, Mike Schooling, and guests John Keenan and Kim Sayre.

The meeting was called to order by Commander John Finch at 10:00am 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

Br. John Keenan from The Irish Brigade Camp #4, Dept. of The Chesapeake, was present.

II. Announcements

Nikki Huelsenbeck is ill.

Br. John Gilman in Hawaii, has retired from his second career with the U.S. Marshalls.

III. New Members

A motion (May/Huelsenbeck) to accept the membership applications of Collin McDonald, from Oceanside, whose ancestor served in the 7th MN Infantry, Gordon Peck, from Brawley, whose ancestor served in the 1st KY Volunteer Infantry, and John Keenan, as a Dual Member from Oceanside and whose ancestor served in the 88th NY Infantry, was approved.

IV. Minutes of Last Meeting

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

V. Officers' Reports

Sec. J. May reported correspondence from new Br. Gordon Peck, who sends regrets for being unable to attend today's meeting, and from Dept. JVC Rudy Velasco, who sent copies of the new Recruiting/Information pamphlet with directions on how to obtain more. Treas. J. May reported Camp balance of \$2679.84, of which \$1013 is in the Minter's Ranch fund.

Newsletter Editor D. Allyn would like members to submit information, articles, photos, etc. for publication. He also would like the Camp to revive the practice of having new members give information on their Union ancestor for possible publication.

VI. Committee Reports

none

VII. S.V.R. Report

T. Helmantoler reported that the SVR will determine if participation in the Fallbrook Christmas Parade and/or future VMMC ceremonies is warranted.

VIII. Upcoming Events

Annual Musket Shoot, Nov. 5, 8am-1pm at the South Bay Rod and Gun Club.

Remembrance Day ceremony, Sat., Nov. 19, 10:30am at the Odd Fellows Cemetery in Fallbrook.

Fallbrook Christmas Parade, Sat., Dec. 3 in Fallbrook.

Camp Meeting/Christmas Party, Sat., Dec. 17, 2:00pm at the home of Peter and Nikki Huelsenbeck. (*Ed. Note: location changed*)

IX. Old Business

Camp presence on Craig's List has been established, thanks to the Allyn's daughter.

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

X. New Business

1. A motion (Helmantoler/Sayre) for the Camp to purchase 100 copies of the new Recruiting/Information pamphlet was approved.

XI. Members' Minutes

D. Poole mentioned his upcoming participation in the Musket Shoot.

T. Helmantoler has turned 70 years of age.

D. Allyn suggested that the Camp have a Facebook page. It was agreed that we should and he will see to it.

J. Sayre told of receiving from an acquaintance the pieces of a replica 1851 Navy Colt revolver.

J. Keenan recommended the book, Immortal Irishman, by T. Egan.

Kim Sayre suggested that we individually contact Brothers whom we have not seen at a meeting in a while and invite them to attend.

XII. Program

T. Helmantoler led a discussion of the reported number of casualties in the Civil War.

The closing prayer was offered by D. Allyn and Cmdr. Finch adjourned the meeting at 11:15am.

Respectfully submitted,

John May, Secretary

The Travels of Brother John W. Gilman (Cont)



Left: Tiu Kelep Waterfall

Right: Tunnel from Tiu Kelep Waterfall



Email Nov 24th From John Gilman to Dave Allyn: Dave, And then from Indonesia, on to Singapore! I was there for 3 years with the Navy, came to love the place so very much, greatly miss it. Met up with some friends from the RSN (Republic of Singapore Navy) and had a night out at "Wicked" at the Marina Bay Sands hotel. Prior to the show, had some terrific Colorado lambchops at Osteria, one of my favorite restaurants in the city. One more set to follow for now. FCL/John



Email Nov 24th From John Gilman to Dave Allyn: Dave, And then on to Macau for the Grand Prix recently. I hadn't been for a few years and it was a little different ... lots more security, barriers set up preventing people from getting too close to the streets - must have been a problem one of the last few years I wasn't there. The new U.S. style casinos in Cotai are amazing - bigger than Vegas casinos, and easily outpacing Vegas revenues as well. "Cotai" is a made-up word for the landfill between the two islands of Coloane and Taipa - "Co" plus "tai" for Cotai. The gambling became so popular with Chinese tourists after Macau returned to Chinese sovereignty in 1999 that they had to start doing landfill to meet demand. The two pics are self-explanatory with the captions, the new Parisian at night and in the lobby. The Chinese brothers do know how to make a buck ... No pictures allowed inside the casinos, unlike in Vegas now, but maybe a Chaplain doesn't need those anyway. Ok - so we really are the Department of California and the Pacific! Maybe now even Department of California and Asia-Pacific, to use one of the currently popular terms for the region. Again, I'll get the Bangkok pics once the crowds get a little lighter. I may have one or two other side trips, so I'll keep you posted. FCL/John



Pittenger Camp Scrapbook



At Left; SVC Tom Helmantoler offers reflections on Lincoln's Gettysburg Address as PDC Jerry Sayre, Chaplain Dave Allyn and JVC Peter Huelsenbeck (foreground) listen during the Camp's Remembrance Day ceremony at the Odd Fellows/ Pioneer Cemetery in Fallbrook. Few in number but enthusiastic, none-the-less the group assembled to pay honor to the memory of the day, November 19, 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln dedicated the Soldier's Cemetery in Gettysburg and uttered the most remembered speech on American soil.

At Right; PDC Jerry Sayre places flowers on the grave markers of our Camp's namesake, William and his wife, Winnie Pittenger in an historic SUCVW ceremony; carried out countless times at cemeteries across this land for more than 150 years.



At Left; PDC Jerry Sayre, SVC Tom Helmantoler, Chaplain Dave Allyn and JVC Peter Huelsenbeck stand behind William and Winnie Pittenger's grave stones following our Camp's ceremony marking Remembrance Day, 2016, held on the actual date of the First Remembrance Day in Gettysburg, PA.



Welcome New Brothers!

- 1) John Keenan of Oceanside whose ancestor served in the 88th NY Inf.
- 2) Gordon H. Peck of Brawley whose ancestor served in the 1st KY Vol. Inf.
- 3) Colin A. McDonald of Oceanside whose ancestor served in the 7th MN Inf,

HUZZAH !!!

Civil War Slang

A number 1: topnotch, the best. From Lloyd's of London's ship classification of the 1800's.

all creation: All nature, all wrath: everything or everybody

Billy Yank: designation for any Federal Soldier, especially one, whose name is not known. It was a common name given to privates.

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

On This Day

November 25, 1863

Battle of Missionary Ridge, Chattanooga

Three Union armies attacked the Army of Tennessee atop Missionary Ridge, east of downtown Chattanooga. Patrick Cleburne stopped William Tecumseh Sherman from the north, although outnumbered 10 to 1. Joe Hooker was seriously delayed by burnt bridges and failed to hit the southern end of Bragg's line near Rossville, Georgia. Thomas' Army of the Cumberland struck the center, breaking Bragg's line and forcing a retreat. Sheridan, ordered to pursue, was stopped dead in his tracks by William Hardee's rear guard action.

November 26, 1863

Battle of Ringgold Gap

Patrick Cleburne's [CS] rear guard action against Joseph Hooker [US] following the defeat at Missionary Ridge gives Braxton Bragg time to establish a line in Dalton, Georgia.

George Meade crosses the Rapidan River in Virginia attempting to turn Lee's right flank, starting the Mine Run Campaign.

From "Our Cousins in Gray" : News of SCV Camp 302

Ladies and Gentlemen - Camp 302 and guests participated in 2016's Annual Musket Shoot on Saturday, November 5th. While we had a smaller turn-out than expected, everyone had a great time with a lot of good shooting. During the shoot, we had the usual minor problems of jammed muskets and misfires but all that was overcome, thanks to the valuable assistance of our fine Range Masters, David Boyle and Joanne Frazier. They, along with the South Bay Rod & Gun Club administration want to welcome us back in 2017. On behalf of Camp 302, I want to encourage as many folks as possible to join us next year. The competition was tight among our top shooters. Travis Smith took 1st place with Steve Smith coming in with a close 2nd. Newcomer, Brandon Goble, making the 3rd spot. Besides our top three, Myself, Jim Millsap, Michael Millsap, Daniel Magnuson, Alan Gobel, John Flood and Ira Lack were present. The Hammer mechanism on my musket failed early on but I should have it back in action next year. Jim Millsap, and Steve Smith shared their reproduction pistols for a little after competition shooting, and Ira brought his .308 rifle with scope for those who wanted to try a little modern day shooting. Once again, thanks to all those who came to the event. Travis received \$25.00 for winning and David and Joanne a gift certificate for their fantastic advice and help I know some more of you could have made it if unforeseen events had not got in the way. Let's plan for next year.
Commander Jim Stephens

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 December 17, 2016 NOTE Time Change 10:00AM

SAT 17 DEC, 2016 10:00AM

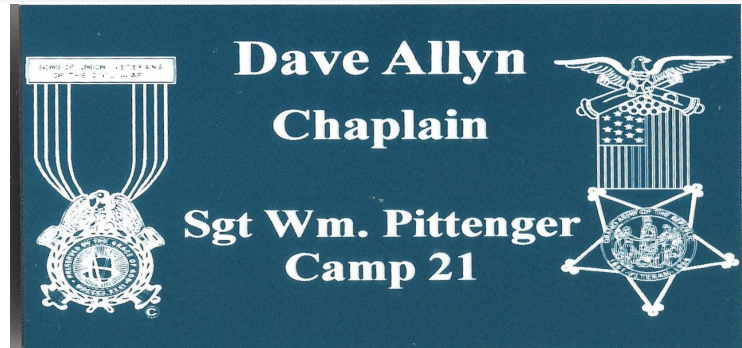
LOCATION

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

Our Program

**Annual Elections of
Officers and Christmas
Celebration –
please join us and
bring your spouse,
family and friends.**

Camp Badges Available



If you would like to order a Pittenger Camp 21 Name Badge, please mail a check for \$10.00 to Jerry Sayre along with the following information:

Your Name as you would like it engraved and Camp Office title if you like. (This could change year to year).

Specify if you prefer a Pin Clasp or Magnet on the back.

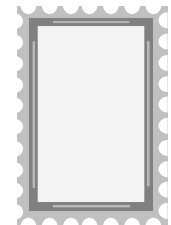
Make checks payable to **Fallbrook Awards**.

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