



Newsletter of Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21

The General

*Department of
California & Pacific*



*Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War*

Vol XXIII Number 1

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Jan 28, 2017



2017 Camp 21 Officers ; L-R; Council John Keenan, JVC Peter Huelsenbeck, SVC Tom Helmantoler, Sec/Treas John May, PDC Jerry Sayre (Installing Officer), Camp Commander John Finch

This being the first Camp meeting of the New Year, I feel compelled to review the past year, 2016, and examine gains and losses, a sort of "State of the Camp" review. It's a good idea to take stock now and then to determine if you are on the right track and that you are accomplishing those goals and milestones that you had set your sites on. My evaluation: We are doing pretty good. A year ago, in this very column, I expressed concern for the retention of members and the recruitment of new members. I am pleased that we had but a single member that did not renew and we gained four new members during the year. Our Treasury balance is secure with sufficient funds to sustain us for some time to come. We have worked to improve our meetings for both content and duration with some success. The formal portion of our meetings is shorter, we have had a couple of sessions with interesting presentations and, always, table-talk fellowship. The bonus for all this is that we are filling that table at Mimi's. With that participation comes the strength of our Order. I am thankful for the Camp Officers and Assistants whose

work and support has made this possible. My plea for this year remains the same: please, as we enter this new year, set aside that 2nd Saturday of each even-numbered month, join us and enjoy the camaraderie, dine with us and offer your opinions and comments. Neither myself nor our leadership can solve all the issues that now confront our order but I strongly believe in the power of the collective group; brainstorming, if you please, to produce viable solutions.

"The more, the merrier."

Looking forward to serving you through 2017,
Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

John C. Finch

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

131st DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT Mar 17-18 2017

January 10, 2017

Department Brothers and Sisters:

The California and Pacific Departments of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War are pleased to announce that their 131st and 106th respective annual Department Encampments will be held Friday and Saturday, March 17th and 18th, 2017 at the Four Points by Sheraton, 5101 California Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93309. The hotel is conveniently located for both our Northern and Southern California members and includes the following amenities:

- Free Hot, Full "All American Breakfast"
- Hotel Shuttle from Meadows Field Airport (BFL) (please contact hotel for shuttle hours)
- Convenient access from US-99 and I-5
- Free Guest Parking
- Free Wi-Fi in Guest Rooms
- 24-hour Business Center
- Outdoor Heated Pool / Whirlpool / 24-hour Fitness Center
- On Friday evening, there will be a traditional no host "campfire" gathering for socializing at the Bistro Lounge, located onsite at the hotel. Dinner will be on your own that evening as there are many restaurants conveniently located nearby.
- Saturday morning will begin with the joint SUVVCW / ASUVVCW Memorial Service, followed by the business meeting portion of the Encampment. Our lunch break will be held in the nearby banquet room as well as our Saturday night VIP Banquet with honored guests.

• * * * IMPORTANT * * *

• We have negotiated the following special discounted room rates for our members: King Bed = \$100.00 per night; Two Queens = \$100.00 per night (excluding taxes). To reserve a room at this rate, please contact the Four Points by Sheraton Bakersfield directly at (661) 862-7423 before Wednesday, March 1, 2017 and mention you are with the "Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War". Reservations can also be made using our customized reservations page at the following link:

- <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1610278748&key=4A3FB6>

We recommend reserving early to guarantee a room.

We have also successfully negotiated a very special reduced rate for our banquet meals and meeting rooms, a savings we are able to pass along to you! Our meal selections are:

Lunch - \$25.00 (included in the registration fee) with dessert, lemonade and coffee.

Choice of:

- Chicken Salad Croissant – Breast of chicken blended with cashews, green onions and mayo; served with pasta salad
- Smoked Turkey Breast Croissant – Thinly sliced roasted turkey breast, Swiss cheese,

2017 CAMP OFFICERS

Commander John Finch
619-426-4906 jan27@cox.net
Sr. Vice Comdr.....Tom Helmantoler PCC
858-566-0012.....thelmantoler@gmail.com
Jr. Vice Comdr.....Peter Huelsenbeck
760-728-3769 petenikki@hughes.net
Secretary John A. May
2001 Lee Ct.

Carlsbad, CA. 92008-2763
760-994-5959 cbadjohnny@gmail.com
TreasurerJohn A. May
CouncilMike Schooling
858-530-2141 suvmike@yahoo.com
CouncilJohn Keenan
760-509-4611 keenanja@aol.com
CouncilDeane Poole
858-373-8812 dpoole001@att.net

ChaplainDave Allyn
CounselorAndrew Brooks
Patriotic InstructorJerry Sayre
CW Mem. OfficerDavid Shaffer
760-747-0853 djmules@sbcglobal.net
Eagle Scout Coord.....Deane Poole PCC

Graves RegistrationJohn May
Color BearerBrian Bingham
Guide.....open
Guard.....open
Historian.....Will Tisch PCC
Quartermaster open
Signals OfficerJerry Sayre, PDC
SVR Rep.ILT Tom Helmantoler PCC
858-566-0012 thelmantoler@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor..... Dave Allyn
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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 SUVVCW 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 SUVVCW. Uniforms are encouraged but not required. You need not be a reenactor to join. Annual dues are \$6.00. Interested SUVVCW Brothers should contact the SVR Representative listed above.



DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT 2017 Continued

lettuce and tomato; served with pasta salad.

- Cobb Salad – Diced chicken, diced tomatoes, gorgonzola, chopped bacon, eggs, avocado, baby mixed greens with balsamic or ranch dressing, rolls and butter

Dinner - \$35.00 per person, includes dessert, ice tea and coffee. Choice of:
Charbroiled Beef Tips – House dry rub with bordelaise sauce

Chicken Zinfandel – Lightly breaded chicken with caramelized shallot cream sauce

Wild Mushroom Pasta (vegetarian) – Forest mushrooms, pasta, goat cheese and roasted shallot cream sauce

All Encampment documents and forms are available at the Department Encampment web page:

www.suvpac.org/encampment.html

Please return your completed "Encampment Registration / Banquet Meal Reservation" form by Wednesday, **FEBRUARY 15, 2017** to receive the early bird discount.

FINAL DEADLINE to submit all forms is Wednesday, **MARCH 1, 2017.**

If you have any questions, please contact Dean Enderlin. (707) 942-4470 : enderlin@sonic.net

And lastly, please remember to bring Civil War related items to donate for the raffle / auction. This is our opportunity to raise much needed funds for both the Sons and Auxiliary Departments. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Editor's NOTE: Civil War related items only are being requested from members who would like to donate something for the Department Encampment raffle/auction being held March 17th & 18th in Bakersfield. If you would like to donate an item/items and are not able to attend the Department Encampment, please bring your donation to the next Pittenger Meeting on February 11th at Peter Huelsenbeck's home in Fallbrook.

Camp Calendar: Event, Location (* = SVR participation)	Time, Day, Month,Year	Contact Person(s)
Special Gun Collection Presentation Program: Lunch to follow: JVC Peter Huelsenbeck's home; 1014 South Ridge Drive, Fallbrook, CA 92028	FEB 11, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	JVC P. Huelsenbeck/CC John Finch
131st Dept. Encampment, Four Points by Sheraton, 5101 California Ave. Bakersfield, CA.	MAR 17-18, 2017	CC John Finch/PDC J. Sayre
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
Camp Meeting, Mimi's Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	OCT 14, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC John Finch
Camp Meeting, Mimi's Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	DEC 9, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC John Finch

Minutes of Meeting Held December 17, 2016

Present: Brothers, David Allyn, John Finch, Tom Helmantoler, Peter Huelsenbeck, John Keenan, John May, Monroe McBride, Jerry Sayre, Mike Schooling, Dave Shaffer, Will Tisch, and Guests, Gay Allyn, Kim Sayre, Jan Shaffer, and Eileen Tisch.

The meeting was called to order by Commander John Finch at 10:15am 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

Charlie Kuhn, PC-in-C has died.
Mother of T. Helmantoler is in failing health
Mother-in-law of D. Poole has died.
Eagle Scout Coordinator still needed to present for the Camp.

III. New Members

A motion (Sayer/Helmantoler) to accept the membership application of Zachary Evans, from Cardiff, whose ancestor served in the 1st WI Infantry, was approved. Additionally, a motion (Helmantoler/Sayre) to approve the membership applications of Ronald and Stephen Crowe, contingent upon reception of their applications and membership dues, was approved.

IV. Minutes of Last Meeting

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

V. Officers' Reports

Sec. J. May reported correspondence from Dept. JVC Rudy Velasco, who forwarded Membership Application of Zachary Evans. Treas. J. May reported Camp balance of \$3056.11, 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 will also distribute to members an outline for articles on "My Union Ancestor".

SVC T. Helmantoler expressed thanks to Kim Sayre for scheduling our meeting venue. He would also like ideas for future programs.

JVC P. Huelsenbeck suggested a program featuring his firearm collection. A motion (Sayre/Allyn) was passed to conduct our February meeting at the home of P. Huelsenbeck.

Chaplain D. Allyn requested information on members, friends, or family to whom he should send a card from the Camp. He also reminded the Camp that the Christmas season is a remembrance of the coming of Jesus Christ.

VI. Committee Reports

D. Shaffer reported that the Minter Ranch Project needs approval by the State of California before we can start to raise more money. The Vista Irrigation District has approved the project and the site for the plaque.

W. Tisch reported that the mortar at Mt. Hope Cemetery is completed and in place, but he

will check to see if there is rain damage that we need to repair.

VII. S.V.R. Report

None

VIII. Upcoming Events

Camp meeting, Feb. 11 at the home of P. Huelsenbeck, time TBA.

Dept. Encampment, March 17-18, Bakersfield.

IX. Old Business

New Recruiting/Information pamphlets have arrived and are available. Please see CMDR Finch.

X. New Business

1. Anyone wishing to attend the Dept. Encampment should see J. May for credentials, if needed. A motion (Sayre/Allyn) was approved designating any Camp members attending as delegates.
2. Memorial Day planning will begin shortly. We are in charge this year.
3. Elections held for 2017:
CMDR John Finch
SVC Tom Helmantoler
JVC Peter Huelsenbeck
Council Member John Keenan
Council Member Mike Schooling
Council Member Deane Poole
Secretary John May
Treasurer John May

A motion (Sayre/Allyn) was approved electing this slate of officers by acclamation. Officers were installed by Jerry Sarye, PDC.

XI. Members' Minutes

- P. Huelsenbeck thanked members and wives for support following the death of Nikki Huelsenbeck.
- T. Helmantoler thanked Camp for re-election.
- J. Keenan wished all a very Merry Christmas.
- M. McBride related that son Spencer has published his first book, Pulpit and Nation.
- J. May shared news of impending grandson, the latest generation of the May family in America going back to 1639.
- J. Finch thanked Camp for support during his first year as commander and feels that the Camp is making a resurgence in membership and activities.

XII. Program

none

The closing prayer was offered by D. Allyn and Cmdr. Finch adjourned the meeting at 11:45am.

Respectfully submitted,

John May, Secretary

CHRISTMAS AT THE PITTENGER HOUSE PHOTOS by Kim Sayre



Pittenger Camp Scrapbook



Following our December meeting and installation of 2017 Officers at Mimi's, we enjoyed a meal sharing Brother's and Sister's fellowship in the relaxed atmosphere of the private room the restaurant provides free-of-charge. This was our largest turnout of the year—great to see so many there !

CHRISTMAS AT THE PITTENGER HOUSE (Cont) Photos by Kim Sayre





Welcome New Brothers!

Zachary C. Evans
of Cardiff whose
ancestor served in the
1st WI Inf.

HUZZAH !!!

This Week in The Civil War

- 1860 Jan 26, Union Maj. Robert Anderson evacuates Ft. Moultrie for Ft. Sumter in Charleston Harbor.
- 1861 Jan 24, Georgia state troops take over the U.S. Arsenal at Augusta.
Jan 26, Louisiana secedes from the Union.
- 1862 Jan 22, Bombardment of Fort Henry, Tennessee by USS Lexington.
Jan 30, USS Monitor launched at Greenpoint, Long Island, New York.
- 1863 Jan 22, Union General Ambrose Burnside's "mud march" ends in failure.
Jan 25, U.S. Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker takes command of the Union Army of the Potomac.
Jan 31, Confederate ironclads temporarily break the blockade in Charleston Harbor.
- 1864 Jan 27, Engagement of Fair Gardens (Kelly's Ford), Tennessee.
Jan 28, Operations around New Bern, North Carolina.
Jan 29, Cavalry skirmish at Medley, West Virginia.
- 1865 Jan 23, Joseph E. Johnston opposes Sherman's march through the Carolinas.
Jan 31, U.S. House passes 13th Amendment abolishing slavery.

The Passing of Past Commander-in-Chief Charles Kuhn

Editor's NOTE: I am sharing this news item from the SUVCW National website. Some Camp 21 Brothers knew Charlie; some may not have heard of his passing.

Recently, we were very sad to share the news of the passing of Past Commander-in-Chief Charles Kuhn. In response to the many requests for information about services for this dedicated Brother of the Order, we will provide the details here as well as on the National Organization's Facebook Page. The services for Charlie Kuhn will be held on Friday December 23, 2016 at St. James Lutheran Church, 109 York St. in Gettysburg. A viewing will be held from 9:00 AM through 11:00 AM followed by a Masonic Service, than a SUVCW Service. Burial will be at Evergreen Cemetery in Gettysburg. You can read the full obituary in The Gettysburg Times. Contributions can be made to Hospice of Central Pennsylvania, Boys Scouts of America, or Upper Bermudian Lutheran Church.

Civil War Terms

Abatis: (pronounced ab-uh-tee, ab-uh-tis, uh-bat-ee, or uh-bat-is) A line of trees, chopped down and placed with their branches facing the enemy, used to strengthen fortifications.

Barbette: Raised platform or mound allowing an artillery piece to be fired over a fortification's walls without exposing the gun crew to enemy fire.

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.

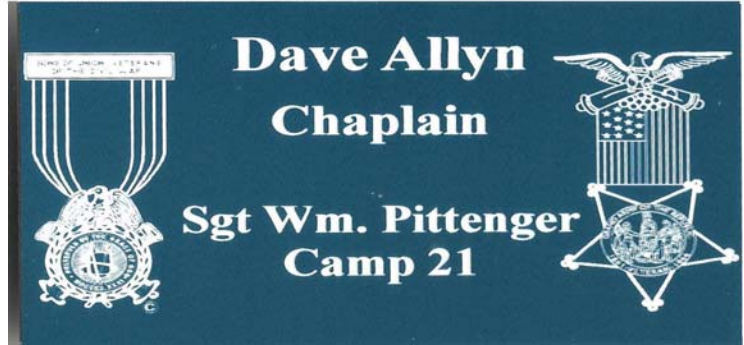
NEXT MEETING: Sat Feb 11, 2017 NOTE LOCATION CHANGE

SAT Feb 11, 2017 10:00AM

Camp Badges Available

LOCATION

JVC Peter Huelsenbeck's home. 1014 South Ridge Drive, Fallbrook, CA 92028.



Our Program

**Special
Gun
Collection Presentation
Program
Lunch to follow**

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.

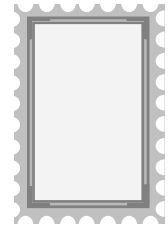
Make checks payable to Fallbrook Awards.

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