

Newsletter of Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21

The General

*Department of
California & Pacific*



*Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War*

Vol XXIII Number 2

HAPPY EASTER

Mar 25, 2017

Another historic milestone has been reached. We have entered that period of time in which we commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Viet Nam War. As a veteran of that era, I find it difficult to consider that a half-century has now passed. My memories of that time remain vivid. What World War I was to my Grandfather, when I was a boy, is what Vietnam represents between myself and my grandchildren. Almost exactly one year ago, the 29th of March 2016, the Veterans Administration joined with the Department of Defense and a number of veteran's organizations, nationwide, to express gratitude for our Viet Nam Veterans.



To honor the 50th Anniversary of the Viet Nam War, a lapel pin has been minted and is available to any person serving on Active Duty in the United States Armed Services, 11/01/1955 – 5/15/1975. You need not have been in country nor in the combat zone. The pin is beautifully executed with a detailed American Bald Eagle's head with a portion of "old glory" in the background. Around the circumference is written, Viet Nam War Veteran. On the reverse side is written, "A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors You" and "USA Viet Nam War Commemoration."

See here: [http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/about/vietnam veteran lapel pin/](http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/about/vietnam%20veteran%20lapel%20pin/)

I received my pin, earlier this month, at a church service, in a ceremony sponsored by the American Legion. I wear this pin with pride. It occurred to me that many of you may also be eligible for this pin and we would like to make it available to you.



If you would like to receive this pin, please contact Dave Allyn or myself. Our contact information should be found on the following page of this edition. We will announce a date for a presentation of the pin, most likely our June or August Camp Meeting.

Also, as you review this edition of the General, please note the various activities scheduled for this reporting period. Hopefully, you will be able to join us for one or more of the Memorial Day Ceremonies or other events.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

John C. Finch

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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.



MY UNION ANCESTOR

By: John W. Gilman

Ancestor's Name: William Henry Gilman

Date of Birth: September 10, 1819 Place of Birth: Mount Vernon (Kennebec), Maine

Pre-War Occupation: Uncertain, most likely Wagoner, which was first Army assignment

Date and Place enlisted: October 14, 1862, Maine

Unit served in: 21st Regiment, Maine Volunteer Infantry

Information on where unit served, battles, wounds, promotions, etc.:

My ancestor William Henry Gilman served as a Wagoner in the 21st Maine Volunteer Infantry and later as an orderly, with the rank of Private, to Colonel Johnson, CO of his unit. The 21st Maine served at the Battles of Plains Store and Port Hudson in Louisiana, and suffered 172 deaths, 27 from battle wounds and 145 from disease.

Date and Place of discharge: August 25, 1863, Augusta, Maine

Information on Post-War life: Became City Marshal of Bath, Maine, in the 1880s, received a disability pension of \$8 monthly beginning in 1886.

Date and Place of Death: September 27, 1900, Phippsburg (Sagadahoc), Maine

MY UNION ANCESTOR

By: Jerry Sayre PDC

Ancestor's Name: George Washington Hurley

Date of Birth: 29 Jan 1840, Place of Birth: Lima, Allen Co., OH

Pre-War Occupation: Farmer

Date and Place enlisted: 11 Aug 1862 at Welton, Clinton Co., IA

Unit served in: Co "D" 26th IA Vol. Inf.

Information on where unit served, battles, wounds, promotions, etc.:

KY, AR, MS During the Vicksburg Campaign, Contracted Pneumonia during the Fall of Vicksburg, and was sent home on sick furlough on 9 Sep 1863

He reported back from furlough to Fort Leavenworth, KS Jan 1864

He spent the rest of the war as a cook in KS in the Invalid Corp. He was Honorably

Discharged with his regiment on 3 Apr 1865 as a Private, he received a pension for disability at ½ pay (\$6.00)

Date and Place of discharge: 3 Apr 1865

Information on Post-War life: George's health was never good after the War, Probably due to his Pneumonia and he died at 46 years old. Rebecca (Furrow) Hurley, his wife and mother to their 11 children died before him in 1882 (at 39) George married his sister-in-law, Mary Ann Furrow after Rebecca's death, so she would take care of the minor children after his death and assigned his pension to her. She left the two youngest children with relatives and took off with the pension.

Date and Place of Death: 4 Aug 1886 at Longbranch, Richardson Co., NE



Rt: GW Hurley

Lt: Grave Marker



Photos from February Meeting by Kim Sayre



Lt. JVC Peter Huelsenbeck displayed some of his and his son's collection of vintage firearms. Above; PDC Jerry Sayre with Kelsey Stokes and Kelly Carlson; Kelsey is Peter's granddaughter and Kelly crafted the head table decorations. Rt; Dave and Gay Allyn enjoyed the "banquet" that Peter generously provided for our refreshment



Camp Calendar: Event, Location (* = SVR participation)	Time, Day, Month, Year	Contact Person(s)
Camp Meeting, Mimi's Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	APR 8, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC John Finch
*Memorial Day Ceremony, Pioneer Odd Fellows Cemetery, Fallbrook, CA	MAY 27, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	Jerry Sayre/CC John Finch
*Memorial Day Ceremony, SVR Color Guard, El Cajon Cemetery with Elks Lodge 1812 Officiating	MAY 28, 2017 Sun @ 1:00 PM	T. Helmantoler/CC John Finch
*Memorial Day Ceremony, Mt. Hope Cemetery, 3751 Market St., San Diego	MAY 29, 2017 Mon @ 1:30	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, Radisson Hotel, 111 N. Grand Avenue, Lansing, Michigan	AUG 10-13, 2017	CC John Finch
Annual Black Powder Musket Shoot, South Bay Rod and Gun Club, Dulzura CA. Cost = \$20 per shooter	OCT 7, 2017 Noon until Dark	Chaplain Dave Allyn
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 Feb 11, 2017

Present: Brothers David Allyn, John Finch, Tom Helmantoler, Peter Huelsenbeck, John Keenan, John May, Monroe McBride, Jerry Sayre, and Mike Schooling, and guests Gay Allyn, Phil Arnold, Tad Campbell, Kim Sayre, Andy Schwarz, Joanie Schwarz, and Jim Stephens.

The meeting was called to order by Commander John Finch at 10:15am at the home of Peter Huelsenbeck, Fallbrook, California. The opening prayer was offered by D. Allyn and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by J. Sayre.

I. Honored Attendees

Tad Campbell, PC-in-C; CMDR Jim Stephens Fr. A.J. Ryan Camp 302, SCV; and Fallbrook attorney and Sgt. Wm. Pittenger advocate Phil Arnold were all in attendance.

II. Announcements

Eagle Scout Coordinator is still needed.
Mother of T. Helmantoler is in failing health.
T. Helmantoler is recovering from illness and will not be as available to assist with Camp activities as in the past.
P. Huelsenbeck thanked for hosting our meeting and opening up his collection of antique firearms to us.

III. New Members

none

IV. Minutes of Last Meeting

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

V. Officers' Reports

Sec. J. May reported no new correspondence. Treas. J. May reported Camp balance of \$3505.16, of which \$1013 is in the Minter's Ranch fund.
Chaplain D. Allyn reported that Br. John Gillman is in Thailand.
SVC T. Helmantoler would like ideas for future programs.

VI. Committee Reports

None

VII. S.V.R. Report

T. Helmantoler reported that dues are currently being collected. We were not active last year, but hope to be more so this year.

VIII. Upcoming Events

Dept. Encampment, March 17-18, Bakersfield.
Next Camp Meeting, April 8, 10:00am at Mimi's Restaurant.
Memorial Day activities are coming up and it is time to start our planning.

IX. Old Business

None

X. New Business

1. M. Schooling has ROTC Awards and will present them at SDSU. They are now available for free from the National Quartermaster.
2. Memorial Day dates are as follows:
Sat., May 27 in Fallbrook
Sun., May 28 in El Cajon
Mon., May 29 at Mt. Hope Cemetery

XI. Members' Minutes

J. Keenan shared his display of Civil War buttons collected from the battlefield at Stone Mountain.
T. Helmantoler has discovered a CW ancestor who served in the 43rd IL Infantry.
PC-inC Tad Campbell reported that the IRS will rule on the non-profit status of the SUVCW soon.
CMDR Jim Stephens, Camp 302, SCV rendered greeting from the Fr. A.J. Ryan Camp and mentioned that the Turkey Shoot will be held Oct. 7, 2017.
J. Sayre shared his research at the Fallbrook Historical Society of the "Ross Veterans' Club" from an 1894 Memorial Day program.
Fallbrook attorney Phil Arnold thanked the Camp for inviting him to the meeting and mentioned that he became acquainted with J. Sayre through their common interest in Sgt. Wm. Pittenger. He also showed a ceremonial sword in his possession that once belonged to Pittenger.
M. Schooling shared that he has become a member of the Society of the War of 1812.
J. Finch has a Bruce Catton book for anyone who would like it.

XII. Program

P. Huelsenbeck presented a program on the development of firearms around the Civil War era and shared his extensive collection with the Camp.

The closing prayer was offered by D. Allyn and Cmdr. Finch adjourned the meeting at 11:02am.

Respectfully submitted,

John May, Secretary

Photos from The February Meeting by Kim Sayre



Everyone present at Feb Meeting Peter Huelsenbeck home



Head-table Place-setting



Camp 21 Brothers



PCinC Tad Campbell



Guests, Camp 302, Sons of Confederate Veterans



Head Table decorations

Pittenger Camp Scrapbook

John Keenan and Jerry Sayre at Vista Reenactment



Jerry Sayre at Vista



Jerry greets visitors at Vista



Feb Meeting Luncheon



Special Guest, Attorney Phil Arnold with Wm. Pittenger's presentation sword, a rare treat to see!



John Finch with Kathleen Winchester DUVCW





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. Unless you ask you'll likely not discover who may be descended from a Union Soldier, Sailor, Marine or Revenue Cutter Veteran of the American Civil War. There are millions out there !

Civil War Terms

Caisson: (pronounced kay-suhn) – A two-wheeled cart that carried two ammunition chests, tools, and a spare wheel for artillery pieces. The caisson could be attached to a limber, which would allow both to be pulled by a team of horses.

Canister: A projectile, shot from a cannon, filled with about 35 iron balls the size of marbles that scattered like the pellets of a shotgun.

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 Month in The Civil War

1861 Mar 4; Abraham Lincoln becomes 16th President of the United States
 Mar 15; Lincoln meets with Cabinet to decide whether to provision Fort Sumter
1862 Mar 7; Battle of Pea Ridge (Elkhorn Tavern), Arkansas
 Mar 8; CSS Virginia engages and destroys USS Cumberland and USS Congress
 Mar 9; USS Monitor and CSS Virginia battle at Hampton Roads, VA
 Mar 11; Lincoln relieves McClellan as General-in-Chief of the Federal Armies
 Mar 23; Battle of First Kernstown, Virginia
 Mar 26; Engagement at Apache Canyon, New Mexico Territory
 Mar 28; Battle at Glorieta Pass, New Mexico Territory
1863 Mar 3; Abraham Lincoln signs first Conscription Act
 Mar 14; Confederate batteries at Port Hudson fire, sinking USS Mississippi
 Mar 26; West Virginia votes for gradual emancipation in the state
1864 Mar 1; Federal cavalry raid on Richmond, Virginia
 Mar 9; U.S. Grant promoted to Lieutenant General
 Mar 21; Nevada and Colorado territories admitted into the Union
 Mar 22; Fighting at Bald Spring Canon on Eel River, California
1865 Mar 4; Abraham Lincoln inaugurated for second term as President
 Mar 13; Jefferson Davis signs law authorizing blacks to serve in Confederate Army
 Mar 19; Battle of Bentonville, North Carolina
 Mar 25; Battle at Fort Stedman, VA. Siege of Spanish Fort, Alabama begins
 Mar 27; Lincoln meets with Generals Grant and Sherman at City Point, Virginia
 Mar 29; Appomattox Campaign begins
 Mar 30; Cavalry skirmish at Montevallo, Alabama during Wilson's Raid
 Mar 31; Battle of White Oak Road, VA. Engagement, Dinwiddie Court House, VA.

2017 Black Powder Musket Shoot

Ladies and Gentlemen - Greetings to our Civil War Community. I wanted to inform everyone that the firm date for our annual musket shoot, hosted by Camp 302, is scheduled for Saturday, October 7th from 12:00 noon till dark. Please mark your calendars. There will be more information coming as we move through the year. We will also plan for a get-together down the road for preload and last minute planning. The costs, as usual, will be \$20.00 per shooter with the winner having the highest score receiving a cash award.

We encourage those who wish to, to bring drinks and snacks to munch on during the competition. I'll arrange for Joanne and David, our Range Masters, to be on site to give us their valuable assistance and expertise during the event. I know it's only February, but give me an idea if you would like to attend. It is always fun to shoot and socialize and we are not pushed for time.

Commander Jim Stephens
 Fr. AJ Ryan Camp 302
 Sons of Confederate Veterans

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.

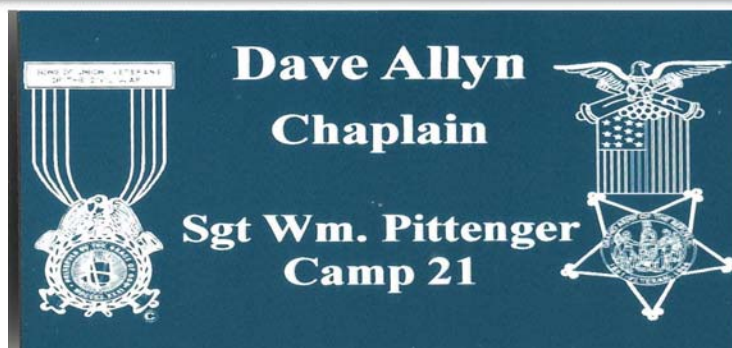
NEXT MEETING: Sat April 8, 2017 10:00 At Mimi's Rest.

SAT Apr 8, 2017 10:00AM

LOCATION

Mimi's Rest
10788 Westview Pkwy
San Diego, CA

Camp Badges Available



Our Program

Please plan to give a short description of your CW ancestors' service. If you have several, you might wish to limit it to one/two you most closely identify with for your membership in our Order.

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.

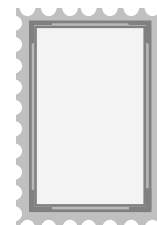
Make checks payable to Fallbrook Awards.

The General

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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