

Newsletter of *Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21*

The General

Department of
California & Pacific



*Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War*

Vol XXIII Number 3

REMEMBER MEMORIAL DAY

May 20, 2017

Brothers and Friends;

Last year, at this time, as we prepared for our Annual Memorial Day ceremonies, I wrote of my experiences in the planning of these events. I described the efforts of several of our members to coordinate with other entities, such as the cemetery managers and other patriotic orders to develop a program to be presented to the public for Memorial Day. *No small task!*

The objective is to honor those that answered the call and joined a brotherhood to preserve our Union, some one hundred fifty years ago. In doing so, we help to perpetuate the memory of those veterans and to demonstrate to our succeeding generations the need to do so.

I urged all of you to attend and/or to participate as best you could. Although I had attended the ceremony at Mt. Hope Cemetery several times, I had not been to either the Fallbrook Cemetery or El Cajon Cemetery events. It was an eye opener! First, there

was a larger attendance than I had expected, but not overwhelming. Second, I was impressed by the interest and compliments a number of attendees expressed about our order and, lastly, I was proud of the way our membership processed the event in a smart and professional manner. More than anything else, it is our dedication to preserving our heritage that makes these ceremonies a success. And, more even than that, this is the event that defines us.

This year I am even more adamant in my recommendation that you attend one — or more — of these events over the Memorial Day weekend. With three locations, spread over three separate days, you have an opportune choice to pick from. Please take a

look at our calendar and decide which is more accessible for you and we hope to see you there.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

John C. Finch



Department Order No. 1

*DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 1
SERIES 2017-2018*

*DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA AND PACIFIC
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR*

Election, Appointed Officers & Department Headquarters

By the authority vested in me as Commander of the Department of California & Pacific, by the Department Bylaws, the National Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: Having been duly elected Department Commander by the Delegates of the 131st Annual Department Encampment in regular session at the Four Points by Sheraton in Bakersfield, California, on 18 March 2017, it is with sincere appreciation of the trust given to me by the Brothers of this Department, that I humbly assume command of the Department of California & Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

I hereby establish my residence in the Calistoga, County of Napa, State of California, as the Department Headquarters. Correspondence is welcome, and should be sent to my home address: 2950 Lake County Highway, Calistoga, CA 94515-9743, or to my e-mail address commander@suvpac.org.

Camp reports (Forms 22 & 27, IRS Form 990-N, etc.) and dues shall be forwarded to the Department Secretary-Treasurer at: 284 Hazel Street, Gridley, CA 95948. Phone (530) 846-3251.

Section 2: The following Brothers were duly elected and installed by Immediate Past Commander-in-Chief Eugene Mortorff as Department officers at the 131st Annual Department Encampment on March 18, 2017:

- Commander – Dean A. Enderlin, PCC
- Sr. Vice Commander – Rudy E. Velasco III, PCC
- Jr. Vice Commander – Frank C. Avila, PCC
- Secretary – Owen R. Stiles, PCC
- Treasurer – Owen R. Stiles, PCC
- Council 1 – Daniel R. Earl, PCC
- Council 2 – Stephen E. Doyle
- Council 3 – William E. Daley, Jr., PCC

Section 3: Department Brothers are appointed as follows:

- Patriotic Instructor – Glen L. Roosevelt, PDC
- Chaplain – Allen R. Davis, PCC
- Historian – David A. Davis, PCC
- GAR Records Officer – David A. Davis, PCC
- Counselor – Daniel R. Earl, PCC
- Guide – Rudy E. Velasco IV
- Color Bearer – David C. Schleeter, PCC
- Guard – Paul E. Lavrischeff
- Signals Officer / Webmaster – Tad D. Campbell, PCinC

2017 CAMP OFFICERS

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Jr. Vice Comdr.....Peter Huelsenbeck
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TreasurerJohn A. May
CouncilMike Schooling
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CouncilJohn Keenan
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CouncilDeane Poole
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ChaplainDave Allyn
CounselorAndrew Brooks
Patriotic InstructorJerry Sayre
CW Mem. OfficerDavid Shaffer
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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.LT Tom Helmantoler PCC
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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.



Department Order No. 1 (Cont)

- Graves Registration Officer – Kenneth G. Felton, PCC
- Civil War Memorials Officer – Dean A. Enderlin, PCC
- GAR Highway Officer – Thomas P. Chumley, PCC
- Assistant to GAR Highway Officer – Andrew C. Brown
- Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator – Timothy P. Reese, PDC
- Camp Organizer – Owen R. Stiles, PCC
- California Column* Newsletter Editor – Dean A. Enderlin, PCC
- Musician – Garrett Hasslinger, PCC
- Aides to the Department Commander: Robert J. Kadlec, PCC; Jerry R. Sayre, PDC; D. Brad Schall, PCinC

The forgoing Department Order is proclaimed this 22nd day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-first, in Calistoga, County of Napa, State of California, by Dean A. Enderlin, Commander of the Department of California & Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

By Order of: /s/
 Dean A. Enderlin, PCC
 Department Commander
 Dept. of California & Pacific
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 ATTEST:
 By: /s/ Owen R. Stiles, PCC
 Department Secretary-Treasurer

Camp Calendar: Event, Location (* = SVR participation)	Time, Day, Month,Year	Contact Person(s)
*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 @ 1:00 PM	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 April 8, 2017

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

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

New member Clay Hoffman was present as well as John Gilman, who attended his first meeting.

II. Announcements

Grandson of P. Huelsenbeck has received a grant from the National Science Foundation to enter a PhD program at U. C. Berkeley.

III. New Members

A motion (May/Helmantoler) to accept the membership application of Clay Hoffman, from San Diego, whose ancestor served in the 27th IN Infantry, was approved. He was presented with the SUVCW lapel pin by CMDR Finch.

IV. Minutes of Last Meeting

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

V. Officers' Reports

Sec. J. May reported no correspondence since the last meeting. Treas. J. May reported Camp balance of \$4109.91, of which \$1013 is in the Minter's Ranch fund.

Newsletter Editor D. Allyn expressed thanks to J. Gilman for submitting material.

SVC T. Helmantoler stated that the program for next meeting will feature J. Keenan talking about the Irish Brigade.

ROTC Coordinator M. Schooling reported that we have an award to present at SDSU on April 22 and a presenter is needed.

VI. Committee Reports

J. Sayre attended the Dept. Encampment in Bakersfield. New Dept. CMDR is Dean Enderlin.

J. Finch reported for D. Shaffer that the Minter's Ranch project has been tabled for the time being.

VII. S.V.R. Report

T. Helmantoler reported that there are now 13 members and that there is \$608 in the treasury.

VIII. Upcoming Events

Memorial Day, Saturday, May 27,
Fallbrook at 10am.

Memorial Day, Sunday, May 28, El Cajon
at 1pm.

Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, Mt.
Hope Cemetery at 1pm.

Next Camp Meeting, Saturday, June 10 at
10am.

IX. Old Business

A motion (Allyn/Helmantoler) to present the winner of the Memorial Day Essay Contest with a \$50 prize was approved.

X. New Business

1. G.O. #19 was discussed involving inappropriate use of SUVCW emblems in conjunction with private correspondence.
2. The Federal Government will bestow a certificate and pin to any service member on active duty during the Vietnam era. Please let J. Finch know if you or any of your friends or family are eligible.

XI. Members' Minutes

D. Poole reported that he has been in contact with members of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Assoc.

T. Helmantoler is reading two new Lincoln books.

J. Sayre has discovered another CW ancestor.

XII. Program

Members took turns telling lies about their Civil War ancestors.

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

Respectfully submitted,

John May, Secretary

A Civil War Tale from Southeast Asia by John W. Gilman

The United States has a long history with Asia in general and with Southeast Asia in particular. The first U.S. trade mission went to China in 1784, under the Congress of the Confederation, but was unable to meet any Chinese officials. An American merchant ship captain, one Captain Hale, was more successful with his first visit in 1818 to Siam, the name for Thailand until 1939. Captain Hale later returned with a cargo of muskets and was welcomed by the Siamese as he also chose to return with Spanish silver dollars, which were legal tender in the U.S. until 1857 and quite possibly the world's first international currency. Trade grew rapidly between Siam and the U.S., and formal relations were established on March 20, 1833, with a Treaty of Amity and Commerce that was subsequently proclaimed official on June 24, 1837. The agreement could not become official for over four years because of the great distances involved, with communications and transportation in the early nineteenth century subject to the whim of the wind for sailing ships and then the overland journey across continental America. With the treaty approved, trade continued to grow. With so many Americans in a distant, foreign land coping with learning a very difficult language and growing accustomed to a different culture, naturally there were misunderstandings and this included the legal realm as well as trade. So as to facilitate continued trade and to demonstrate sincere friendship towards the U.S., King Mongkut (Rama IV of the Chakri Dynasty, reigned April 3, 1851-October 1, 1868) extended extraterritorial rights to Americans in 1856 so they would not be subject to some of the Siamese legal system with which they were not familiar. In return, the U.S. presented gifts to King Mongkut. Not to be outdone, the King then offered to send elephants to the U.S., a very significant gift from a Siamese King. Unfortunately, the inaccurate Rodgers and Hammerstein Play, *The King and I*, alludes to King Mongkut planning to send war elephants to President Lincoln to assist in the Civil War. This tale has worked its way into urban legend, sometimes with the additional tale that the Siamese didn't understand the system of railroads in the U.S., also offering the war elephants as a means of transportation. Equally as unfortunate, this tale is still repeated on occasion by people from the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok ...

However, in 1856 when the extraterritorial rights were granted by King Mongkut and the exchange of gifts began, James Buchanan was President. The Civil War didn't start for another five years. True, the King offered elephants to the U.S., but for breeding, not as instruments of war. But again, with the time for messages to be delivered, President Lincoln was in office at the time the offer was received and the Civil War was well underway. The President politely declined the King's offer, as he was a bit confused as to what the Union would do with elephants unless they were to be part of the war effort. Nevertheless, an offer of a gift of elephants from a Siamese King demonstrated the genuine friendship that developed between Siam and the U.S., which continues to this day. A group known as the Seri Thai fought on the Allied side during World War II when Thailand was occupied by the Japanese and the authoritarian government under Field Marshal Phibun cooperated with Japan. Thai troops also fought alongside U.S. troops in Korea and Vietnam,

and served recently in Iraq as well, with Thailand a longtime U.S. friend and treaty ally. There is a Seri Thai Park and Museum in Bangkok, dedicated to the Free Thai of World War II. When I visited the park and museum recently, the museum was closed for renovations but I managed to talk the girls there into letting me look around for just five minutes as long as I didn't take any pictures inside. Pictures were permitted outside.



Seri Thai Museum (Note Free Thai patch, far left, the museum is on the second floor)



Seri Thai Park sign close-up (The only English in the park ...)



Entrance to Seri Thai Park

Pittenger Camp Scrapbook



Camp 21 April meeting: L-R: Deane Poole PCC, SVC Tom Helmantoler PCC, JVC Pete Huelsenbeck, John Gilman, John Keenan, Camp Commander John Finch, Sec/Treas. John May, Jerry Sayre PDC, Clay Hoffman, Chaplain Dave Allyn

New Members

John W. Gilman



Clay T. Hoffman



Below: SUVCW Past Commander in Chief Tad Campbell, ASUVCW Past National President Rachelle Campbell and daughter, Emelia at The Pittenger House on their recent visit to Fallbrook





Welcome New Brother!

**Clay T. Hoffman
of San Diego,
whose ancestor
served in the
27th IN INF**

HUZZAH !!!

Civil War Terms

Enfilade: (pronounced *en-fuh-leyd*) To fire along the length of an enemy's battle line.

Fascine: (pronounced *fah-seen*) A tightly bound bundle of straight sticks used to reinforce earthworks, trenches or lunettes. Fascines could also be used to make revetments, field magazines, fill material and blinds.

Indian Territory: The area that is now Oklahoma (except for the panhandle.)

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

Viet Nam War Service Pin



Front



Back

If you would like to receive this pin, please contact Dave Allyn 619.561.8581 or John Finch 619.426.4906 as soon as possible. We will announce a date for a presentation of the pin, likely our August or October Camp Meeting.

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."

Remember: you DO NOT have to have served in-country nor have been awarded a Viet Nam Service Medal to be considered a "Viet Nam War Veteran" All active duty veterans—as outlined above—qualify.

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 June 10, 2017 10:00 At Mimi's Rest.

SAT June 10, 2017 10:00AM

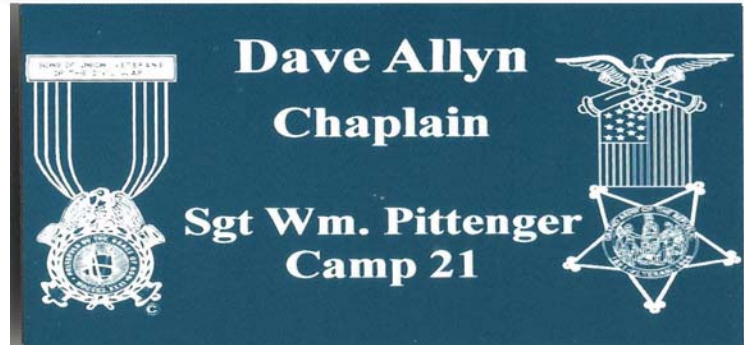
LOCATION

Mimi's Rest
10788 Westview Pkwy
San Diego, CA

Our Program

Brother John Keenan will speak about the celebrated "Irish Brigade" in which John's ancestor served. This promises to be an outstanding presentation - a "Not to be missed event!"

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.

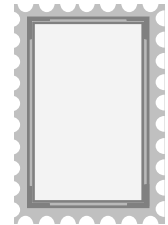
Make checks payable to Fallbrook Awards.

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