

Newsletter of *Sgt. William Pittenger Camp #21*

The General

*Department of
California & Pacific*



*Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War*

Vol XXIV Number 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Jan 27, 2018

Brothers and Friends,

My membership with the Sons of Union Veterans dates to about the year 2000 and I have averaged about 4 meetings, of a possible six, each year thereafter and cannot recall a time when a meeting was canceled. There were a couple of meetings that were rescheduled and set for a change in time or venue, but not cancelled as was our December/Annual Christmas meeting. I'm sure that most of you are aware that the December Camp meeting was cancelled just a day before that it was scheduled due the threat of the Lilac Fire. We remain grateful that this devastating wildfire was brought under control through the efforts of the California Dept. of Forestry and a number of both provisional and volunteer firefighters. Considering the origin of this fire and factors such as wind direction and speed, the devastation could have been significantly worse.

From my point of view and the instant status of the fire and a network of recommendations, the plug was pulled on the meeting. Concern for the safety of our individual members, traveling to Junior Vice Commander, Peter Huelsenbeck's home, was the number one issue. Thankfully his home was not in peril, but the highway connecting from the west

had been closed and, at that moment, there was concern as to a shift in wind that could have created a new burn path. It turns out that we did not need to cancel, but I decided on the side of caution and, in other similar circumstances, would conclude the same.

Regretfully, several persons had invested time and money to prepare for our Christmas meeting and I want to acknowledge Peter, Joyce, Kim and Jerry and others that had prepared to give us the best Camp 21 Christmas meeting ever! Thanks so much for all your work.

Thankfully, no one in our membership was hurt or displaced by this fire. Again, I attribute the work of the Cracker Jack outfit that is CAL FIRE* (formerly known as "CDF") in extinguishing the threat of this fire. The dedication and preparedness of these professionals is outstanding. Thank one when you see them.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and

Loyalty,

John C. Finch

*http://calfire.ca.gov/communications/downloads/fact_sheets/CALFIRE.pdf



2017 CAMP OFFICERS

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Jr. Vice Comdr.....Peter Huelsenbeck
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Chaplain Dave Allyn
Counselor Andrew Brooks
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Graves Registration John May
Color Bearer Brian Bingham
Guide.....open
Guard.....open
Historian.....Will Tisch PCC
Quartermaster 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.



2018 DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

January 14, 2018
Department Brothers and Sisters,

We are pleased to announce that the California and Pacific Departments of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans will hold their 132nd and 107th respective annual Department Encampments on Friday and Saturday, March 16th & 17th, 2018 at the Four Points by Sheraton, 5101 California Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93309. The hotel is conveniently located for both our Northern and Southern California members.

- The following amenities are included:
Free Hot, Full "All American Breakfast"
Hotel Shuttle from Meadows Field Airport (BFL) (please contact the 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

----- IMPORTANT -----

We have the following special discounted room rates for 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 Thursday, March 1, 2018 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=1705027913&key=2C607B54

To GUARANTEE a room, it is recommended that you reserve early!
We also have a very special reduced rate for our banquet meals and meeting rooms, a savings we are able to pass along to you!
Our meals selections are:

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

- Lunch choices are;
Cashew Chicken Salad Croissant – Breast of chicken blended with cashews, green onions and mayo; served with potato salad.
Smoked Turkey Breast Croissant – Thinly sliced turkey breast, Swiss cheese, lettuce & tomato; served with potato salad.
Cobb Salad – Diced chicken, diced tomatoes, gorgonzola, chopped bacon, baby mixed greens, balsamic or ranch dressing, rolls and butter.

DINNER - \$35.00 per person which includes salad, baked rolls, dessert and coffee, decaf and ice tea.
Your choices are:
Grilled Beef Tips – Rosemary Demi Glaze, Garlic Mashed Potatoes and vegetables.
Chicken Zinfandel – lightly breaded chicken breast with caramelized shallot cream sauce, garlic mashed potatoes and vegetables.
Wild Mushroom Pasta (vegetarian) – Forest mushrooms, pasta goat cheese and roasted shallot cream sauce.

We also have available a “Kid’s” dinner meal of Chicken Tenders and fries with soft drink for Jr Members attending for \$18.00.

Honored Guests for the Saturday Night VIP Banquet will be Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War National President Ramona Greenwalt and SUVCW Commander-in-Chief Mark Day. What Great Company!

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

<http://www.suvcw.org/encampment.html>

Please return your completed “Encampment Registration / Banquet Meal Reservation” form by Thursday, February 15th, 2018 to receive the early bird discount.

FINAL DEADLINE to submit all forms is Thursday MARCH 1, 2018.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dept. Sr. Vice Commander Rudy Velasco.

Please remember to bring Civil War related items to donate for the Saturday night raffle/auction. This is our opportunity to raise much needed funds for both the Sons and the Auxiliary Departments. We are looking forward to seeing you soon!

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
 Rudy Velasco PCC
 Senior Vice Commander
 Dept. of California and Pacific
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 Email: rev03@dc.rr.com
 phone: (760)770-9237

Camp Calendar: Event, Location (* = SVR participation)	Time, Day, Month,Year	Contact Person(s)
Camp Meeting, Mimi’s Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	FEB 10, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC John Finch
132nd Department Encampment, Four Points by Sheraton, 5101 California Ave. Bakersfield, CA. 661-325-9700	MAR 16-17 Fri-Sat	CC John Finch
Camp Meeting, Mimi’s Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	APR 14, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC John Finch
Camp Meeting, Mimi’s Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	JUN 9, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC John Finch
Camp Meeting, Mimi’s Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	AUG 11, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC John Finch
Camp Meeting, Mimi’s Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	OCT 13, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC John Finch
Camp Meeting, Mimi’s Restaurant, 10788 Westview Pkwy. San Diego.	DEC 8, 2017 Sat @ 10:00 AM	CC John Finch

Minutes of Meeting Held October 14, 2017

Present: Brothers David Allyn, John Finch, Tom Helmantoler, Clay Hoffman, John Keenan, Dimas Lovato, Deane Poole, Jerry Sayre, Mike Schooling, and guests Gay Allyn, Brenda Poole, and Kim Sayre.

The meeting was called to order by Commander John Finch at 10:06am 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

Br. John Gilman is traveling around SE Asia.
Br. Dave Allyn would like someone to take over as Newsletter Editor.

III. New Members

Richard Finnegan is in the process of applying for membership.

IV. Minutes of Last Meeting

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

V. Officers' Reports

Treas. J. May forwarded a report that the Camp balance remains \$5511.65.

Eagle Scout Coordinator M. Schooling reported that we have one applicant for the SUVCW JROTC Award.

J. Sayre reported that the National Encampment went well.

JVC T. Helmantoler gave a presentation on the Spanish-American War at the Welcome Home to Oceanside event.

VI. Committee Reports

none

VII. S.V.R. Report

none

VIII. Upcoming Events

Next Camp Meeting is at P.

Huelsenbeck's home, Dec. 9. 12 noon.
Remembrance Day, Nov. 18 in Fallbrook.
J. Sayre will organize.

IX. Old Business

Discussion on how to use \$2500 donation.
Minter's Ranch project was suggested as well as the Civil War Trust. D. Lovato suggested putting it toward education.

X. New Business

1. Slate of officers for next year:

Commander: John Finch
SVC: Peter Huelsenbeck
JVC: John Keenan
Sec./Treas.: John May

A motion (Schooling/Allyn) to accept the slate of officers was passed.

2. Dimas Lovato membership still needs application and dues to be approved.

3. D. Allyn discussed the Stephenson Memorial in Illinois. A motion (Schooling/Allyn) for the Camp to supplement members' donations to make a total donation of \$500 was passed.

XI. Members' Minutes

none

XII. Program

none

The closing prayer was offered by D. Allyn and Cmdr. Finch adjourned the meeting.

At the conclusion of the meeting, while Camp Brothers and our ladies enjoyed their lunch, Tom Helmantoler presented a report/review of his ancestor's Civil War service; everyone enjoyed Tom's offering.

Respectfully submitted,

John May, Secretary



Welcome New Brother!

**Richard A. Finegan, Jr.
of Vista
whose ancestor served in
the
35th Kentucky Volunteer
Infantry**

(To be voted into Camp 21 at our
Feb. meeting)

HUZZAH !!!

Civil War Terms

Havelock: (pronounced *hav-loc*)
A white cloth cover that went
over a soldier's kepi, and had a
long back that covered a sol-
dier's neck and shoulders.

Housewife: Small sewing kit
soldiers used to repair their gar-
ments.

Haversack: Small canvas bag,
about one foot square, used to
carry a soldier's food. these bags
were painted with black tar to
make them waterproof .

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

January 1861 - Six additional southern states secede from the Union.

January 19, 1862- Battle of Mill Springs, Kentucky. The Union victory weakened the Confederate hold on the state.

December 31-January 3, 1863- [Battle of Stones River, Tennessee](#). Fought between the Union Army of the Cumberland under General William Rosecrans and the Confederate Army of Tennessee under General Braxton Bragg, the costly Union victory frees middle Tennessee from Confederate control and boosts northern morale.

January 1, 1863- The Emancipation Proclamation goes into effect. Applauded by many abolitionists including [Frederick Douglass](#), there are others who feel it does not go far enough to totally abolish slavery.

(Ed. Note: nothing reported for January 1864 at the webpage used)

January 15, 1865- Assault and capture of Fort Fisher, North Carolina. Union occupation of this fort at the mouth of the Cape Fear River closes access to Wilmington, the last southern seaport on the east coast that was open to blockade runners and commercial shipping.

(Found on the web; at <https://www.nps.gov/gett/learn/historyculture/civil-war-timeline.htm>)

Glass Plate Photos of Civil War from John Keenan

Glass plate photos of civil war some 288 pics the last are all the generals.....

Please read the instructions before viewing...These pictures are very profound. It is fortunate that these photos have survived. Most probably a million wet plate photos were made during the civil war on glass plate.

Popular during the war, they lost their appeal afterwards and so many were sold for the glass. Many used in green houses. Over the years the sun caused the images to disappear.

These are pretty amazing considering they were taken up to 150 years ago: A compendium of photos from era of the War Between the States.
Run the cursor over the photograph and the picture caption will pop up.

Click photo to enlarge and to read the rest of the caption.

There are << and >> at the bottom left if each photo. You can select >> to go forward to the next photo or use the up/down arrow keys. To open click link or copy/paste:

<http://www.mikelynaugh.com/VirtualCivilWar/New/Originals2/index.html>

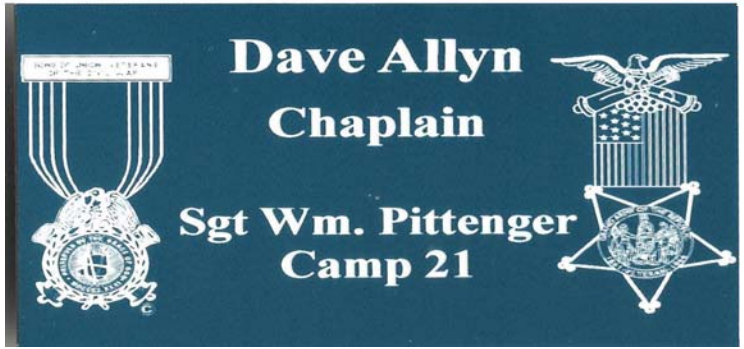
The Civil War Trust is the largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization in the United States. Its mission is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds. To date, the Trust has preserved more than 46,000 acres of battlefield land in 23 states. Learn more at www.civilwar.org, the home of the Civil War sesquicentennial.

NEXT MEETING: Sat Feb 10 2018 10:00 AM

SAT DEC 10, 2018 10:00AM

Camp Badges Available

LOCATION
Mimi's Rest
10788 Westview Pkwy
San Diego, CA



Our Program

**Election/Installation
of Officers for 2018**

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.

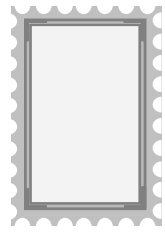
Make checks payable to **Fallbrook Awards**.

The General

The General



Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21
Dave Allyn, Newsletter Editor
13460 Hwy. 8 Bus., Spc. #61
Lakeside, CA. 92040 - 5201



Preserving the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic & "The Boys in Blue," 1861 - 1865