



Col. Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth (1837 – 1861)

THE BUGLE

COL. ELMER ELLSWORTH CAMP NO. 23
DEPT. OF CALIFORNIA & PACIFIC
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA



Sons of Union
Veterans of the Civil
War

Volume 2 Issue 3 May 2011

Ellsworth Issue 2011

Remembering Colonel Elmer E. Ellsworth

Special Issue!

Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp 23, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, takes its name from the original Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Post that was based in Santa Rosa, CA. As their namesake and identifier, new GAR Posts often adopted the names of Civil War heroes. The Santa Rosa Post chose for their namesake the first Union martyr of the Civil War, Colonel Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth, thus becoming Ellsworth Post, No. 20, GAR.

Much is written about Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth, and we make no attempt in this special newsletter to cover all the details of his life. Rather, we devote this issue to glimpses into his military life and accomplishments, and especially to the fateful day of May 24, 1861, when he – with a small detachment of seven soldiers – entered the Marshall House in Alexandria, VA, intent on removing an enemy flag which flew from the roof. Upon cutting down the flag and descending the stairs to the ground floor, Ellsworth was mortally wounded when the innkeeper, James W. Jackson, fired a shotgun at close range at Ellsworth's breast. As news traveled about the incident, the public began to see for the first time the harsh realities of what would be America's bloodiest war. Ellsworth's name, already popular before his death, became a rallying cry, strengthened by the public's knowledge of the Colonel's closeness to the Lincoln family. Then as today, we "Remember Ellsworth!"

Camp 23 Honors Ellsworth with Wreath at Gravesite

Mechanicville, NY. – On Sunday, May 15, 2011, following the conclusion of the Encampment of the Dept. of New York, SUVCW, a special Sesquicentennial "Signature Event" was held at Mechanicville to honor Col. Elmer Ellsworth. As a tribute to our namesake, Camp 23 members donated a wreath to be placed at the grave during the event. Details were not yet available at press time, but with the help of New York Brother, Col. Ray LeMay III, a plan was in place to have a relative of Ellsworth place the wreath on our behalf. We'll provide more details in our next issue of *The Bugle*.



Col. Elmer Ellsworth's grave at Hudson View Cemetery, Mechanicville, New York. Courtesy Col. Raymond LeMay III, Dept. of New York, SUVCW (findagrave.com).


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An illustrated account of the death of Ellsworth from the *PRESS DEMOCRAT* NEWSPAPER (SANTA ROSA), THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1926
HIGH LIGHTS OF HISTORY by J. Carroll Mansfield (McClure Newspaper Syndicate)
Copy courtesy Ray Owen, Santa Rosa

Ellsworth's Zouaves.


5-11-26



ONE OF THE FIRST DISTINGUISHED OFFICERS TO FALL IN THE CIVIL WAR WAS THE POPULAR YOUNG COLONEL ELLSWORTH OF THE UNION ARMY.

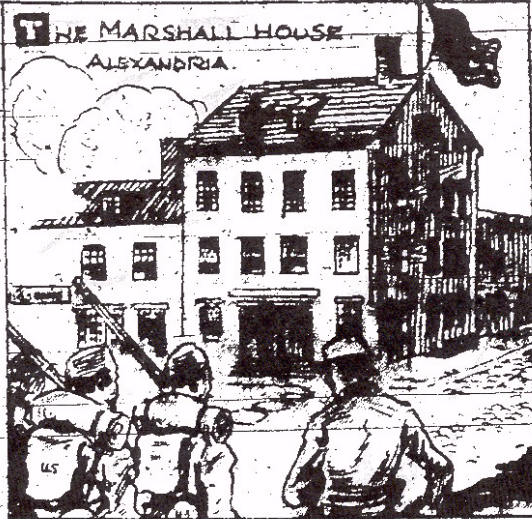
© 1926 MCCLURE NEWSPAPER SYNDICATE

IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE WAR ELLSWORTH SHOWED GREAT ENERGY IN RAISING ZOUAVE REGIMENTS, A PICTURESQUE BODY OF INFANTRY THAT TOOK ITS NAME AND COLORFUL UNIFORM FROM THE FAMOUS FRENCH TERRITORIAL ZOUAVES OF ALGERIA.




AFTER RAISING A REGIMENT IN CHICAGO, ELLSWORTH WENT TO NEW YORK WHERE IN APRIL, 1861, HE RECRUITED ONE FROM THE NEW YORK FIRE DEPARTMENT. THESE FIRE ZOUAVES UNDER ELLSWORTH WERE ORDERED TO WASHINGTON AND WERE PRESENT AT THE OCCUPATION OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA.

THE MARSHALL HOUSE ALEXANDRIA.



ENTERING THAT CITY ON MAY 24, ELLSWORTH FOUND THE CONFEDERATE "STARS AND BARS" FLOATING DEFIANTLY OVER A HOTEL, THE MARSHALL HOUSE, AND DECIDED TO HAUL IT DOWN WITH HIS OWN HANDS.



ASCENDING TO THE ROOF HE SEIZED THE FLAG AND ON HIS WAY DOWN THE STAIRS WITH IT IN HIS HANDS EXCLAIMED TO HIS MEN: "BEHOLD MY TROPHY!"



THE PROPRIETOR OF THE HOTEL, WHO HAD WITNESSED THE DEED, SUDDENLY APPEARED, ARMED WITH A SHOTGUN, AND CRYING, "BEHOLD MINE!" KILLED THE YOUNG ZOUAVE LEADER. TOMORROW—LINCOLN ORDERS AN ADVANCE ON RICHMOND.



First News to Reach California . . .

At the time of Ellsworth's death, the transcontinental telegraph had not yet been completed to the West. The following news article was one of the first to arrive here, delivered by riders of the Pony Express.

SACRAMENTO DAILY UNION, THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1861.

THE DEATH OF COLONEL ELLSWORTH.

[BY PONY EXPRESS.]

[From the New York Tribune of May 25th.]

Grief in time of war is private. The tears that are shed are shed in secret over fathers and sons, over husbands and love's; but the country pauses only to write on the roll of fame the names of those of her children who are to be held in cherished remembrance by generations yet to come, who will have time to weep over and recount the deeds wherewith their liberty and their happiness were purchased. There were hearts that were broken, no doubt, at the skirmish at Lexington, though Massachusetts thanked God that the first martyr blood was sown, and wrote down, but without tears, the names she was to remember forever. When the life of a nation is purchased with the lives of her citizens, he who offers to pay a part of the price need only pray that when he dies his country may rejoice for a victory won.

It is about a month since a young man of soldierly bearing, of an unusually fine physique, of frank and attractive manners, and of great intelligence, called on us, on the day of his arrival from Washington, to state his wishes and purposes in relation to raising a regiment among the New York firemen. A fortnight later we saw him on his way to embark for Washington at the head of his men, and escorted by the most imposing procession this city has ever witnessed. This man was Colonel Ellsworth of the Firemen Zouaves. "I want," he said, "the New York firemen, for there are no more effective men in the country, and none with whom I can do so much. They are sleeping on a volcano at Washington," he added, "and I want men who can go into a fight now." The impression he made upon us was that of a fearless, gallant and energetic man, one of those possessed of the qualities that distinguish those who have them as soldiers, and of powers that especially fit them to be leaders among men. In him we think the country has lost a very valuable life.

Had that life been lost by the chances of war, though our estimate of the man would have been unchanged, we should, perhaps, not have felt called upon to single him out for praise among all who had fallen in the cause of their country. But the chances of war—of civilized war, at least—have not befallen him. The treason of the South is to be tempered by assassination, as well as riot; and Colonel Ellsworth is the first victim of the one, as privates Whitney, Ladd and Needham, of Massachusetts, were of the other. The South first taught us at Sumter that, even under the command of a Major General, they could fire upon a burning fortress displaying a flag of truce; at Baltimore, they showed us that by a mob of rioters they could isolate a few soldiers, when on a peaceful journey and suspecting no mischief, attack them in the rear and from the upper stories of buildings, visiting afterward upon the dead, indignities unparalleled except among the basest and most cruel of savage tribes; and Alexandria gives us the third lesson. A city is taken, the insurrectionists are dispersed, law is triumphant, and property and persons are safe under the restored order, when the devilish spirit that inspires the insurrection breaks out in some well-trained myrmidon, and unconscious, probably, that he was attacked, so secret and so sudden was the movement, the victim falls forward dead from frightful wounds. The war that was begotten of perjury, and treachery, and theft, is fitly nourished with the cowardice of secret murder, attempted poisoning, and public riot, where the rioters are a multitude, and the attacked a handful. These times are not to be forgotten; they are to be avenged, for public vengeance, like the public voice, is the voice of God.

The poor wretch by whose murderous hand Colonel Ellsworth fell, probably was not aware whose life he had taken. He saw only a soldier of the United States who had pulled down the visible sign of riot and insurrection, and, obedient to the savage instinct which governs him as well as his masters, he shot him down when sure there was no time for defense and no possibility for escape. The kindly rains of heaven have washed out the blood of the Massachusetts men from the streets of Baltimore, though no Massachusetts man who bears a musket in this war can ever forget those crimson stains. Do our New York firemen need a visible evidence of the manner of the death of him who mustered and trained them, and led them out for this war? We are sure they do not need it, and yet we beg them to cherish sacredly the traitors' flag that is filled with his blood, and let the South learn to tremble and grow pale at the sight of its crimson folds when they go to battle with the war cry of "Remember Ellsworth!"

[From the New York World, May 25th.]

Colonel Ellsworth is dead. The telegraph never bore a sadder message than that which yesterday morning told us of his assassination. He fell in the very moment of triumph, holding in his hand the first rebel banner captured during the campaign. It seems only a day since he led his brilliant, dashing regiment through our streets, on its way to the wars, with music and banners and flying flags, and the applause of all. Now the same flags which greeted his departure swing mournfully at half-mast in token of his final departure from among men. The blow could nowhere have fallen upon one toward whom the popular heart beat more tenderly and admiringly. He was very young, and heroism in youth is always dazzling and captivating. But although so young he was more than a man in action. His regiment seemed to have sprung ready equipped out of the earth at the stamp of his foot. He was here one day with no resources except his own energy and adroitness, the next saw him on the march at the head of one of the most stalwart and imposing bodies of men which has yet left the city.

He was a hero in the fairest and most captivating sense of the word. He was handsome as Murat and brave as Ney. He possessed to a degree that winning power over men by which through all history great captains and leaders have been distinguished. He was a commander by the imperial right of birth. Quick, alert, executive; intuitive in his perception of the qualities of men; rigorous in discipline, yet submitting himself to the rigors which he imposed; self-possessed, commanding in appearance, although slight in stature, as the first Napoleon, he united the qualities which, had he lived, would have made him, if not a military leader of the highest rank, a warrior fit to take his place beside either of those immortal captains who, under the First Consul, led the armies of France through a thousand leagues of victory and conquest.

If he had fallen in battle at the head of his regiment, we should have mourned him as a hero dead too early, fallen prone on the threshold of his promise, and should have accorded to him, with sad enthusiasm, the full measure of that fame which he might have won. But he fell not the less nobly, and the wreath of heroism with which we encircle his brow outlines against the halo of martyrdom. There is more of rage than of sorrow in the intense emotion which his death has awakened. The first will kindle along the North that electric fire which blazed so vividly when the news of Sumter came; the latter will die into an enduring undertone of grief, which will pass from us to our descendants, so that generations hence children shall look with moist eyes upon the book wherein the story of the young captain is written. The day last gone has added a knightly name to our list of heroes—one which will not be blurred so long as the record of our war of liberty survives.

Below: "Death of Ellsworth," c. 1862, steel engraving after a painting by Alonzo Chappel, courtesy Library of Congress.



Ellsworth and Jackson

by Allen Davis, May 19, 2011

*Two men, two flags
Two heroes, two martyrs
Each flag flown high
Each heart loyal
To a cause*

*Red, white, blue
Adorned by stars
My country's banner
Honored, defended
Sacred*

*A soldier, an innkeeper
A northerner, a southerner
Ellsworth and Jackson
They met just once
The day they died*

*Hero and villain
Reviled and revered
Each living to honor
Each dying to defend
His flag*



"Death of Ellsworth," Currier & Ives c. 1861. Courtesy the Library of Congress.

Washington, D.C., May 25, 1861

To the Father and Mother of Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth:

My Dear Sir and Madam,

In the untimely loss of your noble son, our affliction here is scarcely less than your own. So much of promised usefulness to one's country, and of bright hopes for one's self and friends, have never been so suddenly dashed, as in his fall. In size, in years, and in youthful appearance a boy only, his power to command men was surpassingly great. This power, combined with a fine intellect, and indomitable energy, and a taste altogether military, constituted in him, as seemed to me, the best natural talent, in that department I ever knew. And yet he was singularly modest and deferential in social intercourse. My acquaintance with him began less than two years ago; yet through the latter half of the intervening period, it was as intimate as the disparity of our ages, and my engrossing engagements, would permit. To me, he appeared to have no indulgences or pastimes, and I never heard him utter a profane, or an intemperate word. What was conclusive of his good heart, he never forgot his parents. The honors he labored for so laudably, and, in the sad end, so gallantly gave his life, he meant for them, no less than for himself.

In the hope that it may be no intrusion upon the sacredness of your sorrow, I have ventured to address you this tribute to the memory of my young friend and your brave and early fallen son.. May God give you the consolation which is beyond all earthly power.

Sincerely your friend in a common affliction,

A. Lincoln

Commander's Corner

Greetings Brothers, Sisters of the Auxiliary, and Friends,

It is an honor to present our first "Special Issue" of *The Bugle*, published to honor our Camp's namesake, Col. Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth. As we observe the Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War over the next four years, we will pause to reflect on many events. War is a terrible thing, and many of the events that we will commemorate will be somber ones. Such is the case as we remember Ellsworth, whose life was cut short at the age of 24 during that fateful day at the Marshall House in Alexandria, Virginia, May 24th, 1861.



Ellsworth became the first Union martyr of the Civil War, and his name a rallying cry throughout the North. In April of 1881, when our forefathers in the GAR established a Post here in Santa Rosa, the name of Ellsworth was still dear to them – so much so – that they named their GAR Post in his honor. Following in their footsteps, the Allied Orders soon established themselves in Santa Rosa. First came Ellsworth Circle, No. 6, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR) in 1886. Next, came Ellsworth Corps, No. 101, Woman's Relief Corps (WRC) in 1903, then Ellsworth Camp, No. 19, Sons of Veterans (SV) in 1912. Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp, No. 23, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW), established in 1996, carries on the traditions of our long gone Ellsworth predecessors in Santa Rosa. Our Camp is one of only two currently in existence to bear the Ellsworth name (the other being in Texas).

Thanks goes to our special contributors, **Allen Davis**, **Lou Olker**, and **Dave Schleeter** for their part in bringing this issue together. The newsletter is always better when we draw upon the collective knowledge of the Camp and Auxiliary!

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

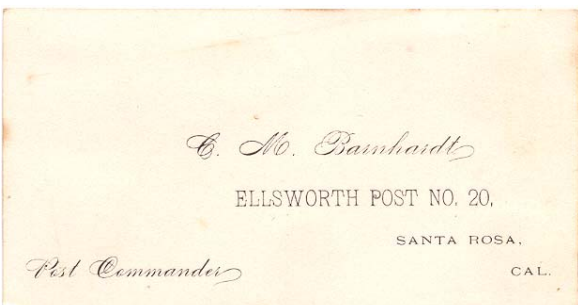
Dean A. Enderlin
Camp Commander

Remembering our Past: Ellsworth Post, #20

by Dean Enderlin

Ellsworth Post, No. 20, GAR, organized in Santa Rosa in early 1881. The very first meeting was held on Tuesday, March 29, in the office of Dr. Absalom B. Stuart at 519 Fourth Street in Santa Rosa. There, three provisional officers were elected to finalize the formation of the Post, namely, Capt. Daniel W. Ballou, Capt. William O. Howe, and Dr. Absalom B. Stuart. On April 9, 1881, the Post was mustered in. The ceremony took place at Klute's Hall on Fourth Street in Santa Rosa, presided over by a group of GAR men from San Francisco's George H. Thomas Post, No. 2.

The first Commander of Ellsworth Post was Wyman Murphy, a veteran of the 21st Wisconsin Infantry. Other early Post Commanders were John Miller, Martin V. Vanderhoof, Christian M. Barnhardt, Joel D. Barnett, and Rufus A. Temple.



Calling card of Ellsworth Post Commander Christian M. Barnhardt (178th OH Inf.). D. Enderlin collection.



Ribbon image courtesy B. Voliva.

For many years, the Post headquarters was located in the northeast corner of the basement of the Sonoma County Courthouse in central Santa Rosa. There, the Post held its regular meetings and reportedly maintained a small "museum" of relics.

(Continued on page 6)

Remembering our Past (cont'd)

(Continued from page 5)

Ellsworth Post came to an end in 1942 with the passing of its last member, Almaron W. Conant. It was reported at the time that all items from the Post would be surrendered to the State of California (as required by a 1911 CA law). Unfortunately, their whereabouts are no longer known.

From the *Sonoma Democrat*, 2 April 1881

Post G.A.R.

Pursuant to a call, the soldiers and sailors of this township gathered together in an adjourned meeting held last Tuesday evening at the office of Dr. Stuart on Fourth street, for the purpose of organizing a Grand Army Post. It was well attended and about twenty veterans of the late war were present. As temporary officers, the following gentlemen were elected: Captain Daniel W. Ballou, Chairman; Captain W. O. Howe, Secretary; Dr. A. B. Stuart, Vice-President. The subject of issue was canvassed and a resolution to apply for a charter was passed. The Post will be established within a week or ten days – due notice of which will be given. It is to be hoped that a full number may be enrolled, as such organizations cannot but tend to the mutual benefit of all.

From the *Sonoma Democrat*, 16 April 1881

G.A.R. Organization.

On last Saturday evening a Post of the Grand Army of the Republic was organized at Klute Hall on Fourth Street. A number of business men were up from San Francisco and besides paying our little city a visit of pleasure they were able to assist in establishing the first camp fire of the Post. The society is called "Ellsworth Post, No. 20, Department of California." An election of officers resulted as follows: Post Commander, Wyman Murphy; Senior V.C., John Miller; Junior V.C., W. O. Howe; Q.M., S. W. Metcalf; Adjutant, M. Vanderhoof; Surgeon, Dr. M. M. Shearer; Chaplain, S. Wells; Officer of the Day, J. W. Boswell; Officer of the Guard, George Pfluying. The next meeting of the Post will be held at Klute's Hall this evening. They adjourned to the Grand Hotel after the transaction of business, and about thirty-six comrades had an elegant banquet prepared by Mr. Montgomery. Speeches were made by Messrs. J. C. Sargent, General Downer, Captain W. H. Penfield, Major Tharp and others. At a late hour all retired with the best wishes for the success of "Ellsworth Post, No. 20."



A photo of G.A.R. members (presumably Ellsworth Post) assembled in Santa Rosa, c. 1925. *Sonoma County Library collection.*

(Continued on page 7)

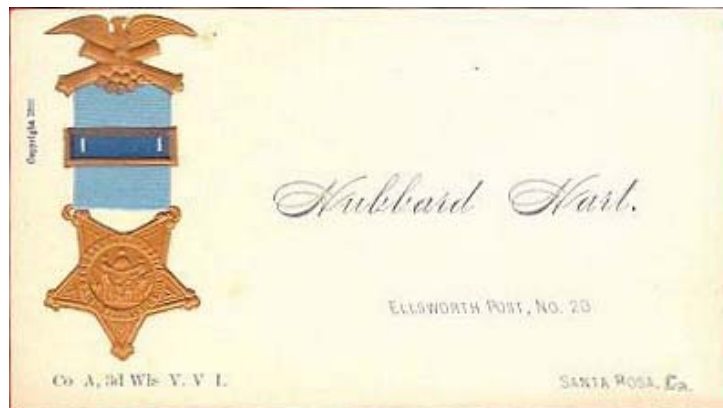


Remembering our Past (cont'd)

(Continued from page 6)



Left: Plaque on the south side of the 1915 GAR Memorial at Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery. Included organizations are Ellsworth Post No. 20, GAR, and its three local Allied Orders: Ellsworth Corps No. 101, WRC; Ellsworth Circle No. 6, LGAR; and Ellsworth Camp No. 19, SV (SUVCW)



Calling card of Hubbard Hart (1842 – 1916), a past officer of Ellsworth Post

From the *Sonoma Democrat*, 25 June 1887:
A Valuable Memento

One of the most valuable mementos of the late war in possession of Ellsworth Post, G.A.R., of this city is a strip of red bunting, a portion of the memorable flag which cost Col. E. E. Ellsworth his life in raising it to the flag staff on the Marshall House in Alexandria. The strip is about two inches long by an inch and a half wide and has been woven onto the body of a handsome silk flag, made by Miss Jennie Boughton and presented to the Post by Dr. A. B. Stuart. A handsome frame was made for it Thursday and it now hangs on the wall of the Post headquarters, a touching souvenir of the rash but noble young officer after whom the Post is named. The relic was sent to Dr. Stuart for the purpose which it has been used by Mrs. Murdock, a resident of Massachusetts and mother of A. G. Murdock, superintendent of the gas works in this city. It was presented to Mrs. Murdock by her brother who cut it from the flag soon after Colonel Ellsworth was shot.

Almaron Wallace Conant
 (1846 – 1942)

Last Member of Ellsworth Post, No. 20

Editor's Note: The following is an obituary published in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, 11 Feb. 1942. Almaron W. Conant died at the Veterans Home in Yountville, CA, on 10 February 1942. He is buried in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery at Santa Rosa.

Santa Rosa Feb. 11th, 1942: – Tomorrow afternoon Santa Rosa will pay tribute to the memory of its last Civil War Veteran, age 94 years, Comrade A. W. Conant.

His death closed the final record of Ellsworth Post of Santa Rosa and its Standard and Flags will now be transferred to the collection of similar insignia in the custody of the State of California at Sacramento.

For years Comrade Conant was a Commander as well as the membership, of Ellsworth Post. For years he has been the sole representative of G.A.R. at Decoration day commemorations.

Comrade A. W. Conant was born in the state of New York, enlisted in the Army in 1863 at Rolla, Mo. He was a Private in the Illinois Volunteer Cavalry; for a period of twenty-five months he saw action throughout the Mississippi area and in the State of Texas.

He is survived by four sons and a daughter. The Woman's Relief Corps, G.A.R., and Theodore Roosevelt Post of the American Legion will officiate at the funeral, which falls on the birthday of President Abraham Lincoln (Feb. 12th, 1942).



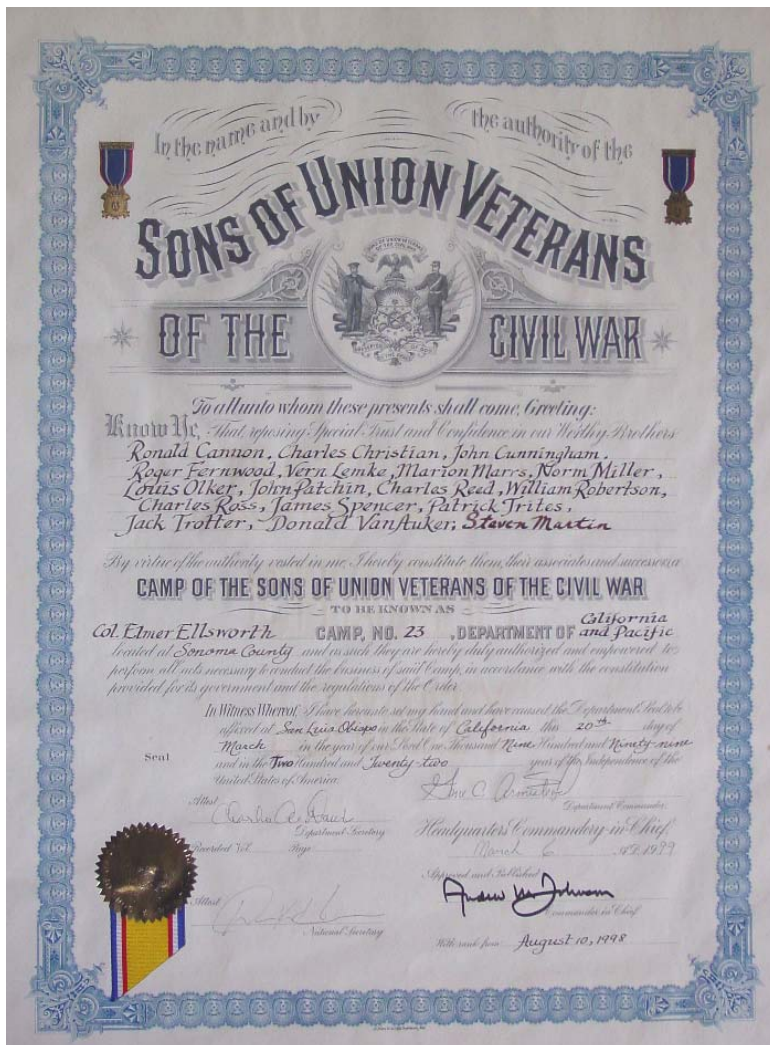
Three rooms in the basement of the "new" Sonoma County Courthouse (completed in 1910) served as headquarters for Ellsworth Post, No. 20, and its Allied Orders for many years. The building was demolished in the mid-1960's. An extension of Mendocino Avenue and Old Courthouse Square now occupy the site.

Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp 23 Origins

(Special to *The Bugle*) by Lou Olker

Before the formation of The Col. Ellsworth Camp 23 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, several of its founding / charter members were members of another local organization named the North Bay Civil War Association. Originally formed by Steve Martin and Norm Miller its membership consisted of anyone interested in the Civil War history. At a meeting at Norm Miller's home with Charles Christian and Steve Martin and others Don VanAuker raised the question of starting a North Bay Civil War Round Table as well as the creation of a SUVCW Camp as there appeared to be enough descendants in the area to apply for a Charter from the national organization.

The next task was recruitment. Steve Martin suggested naming the Camp after Col. Wesley Brainard of the 50th New York Volunteer Engineers; Brainard having been a great bridge builder for the Union Army during the Civil War. That designation was adopted temporarily until it was discovered that the local (Santa Rosa) GAR Post was named after Elmer Ellsworth, former student in Lincoln's law office and popular Colonel of a Zouave regiment who was killed after pulling down a Confederate flag that was flying above the Marshall House in Alexandria, VA in May of 1861. By unanimous vote the new camp was designated as the Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp and eventually became Camp 23 of the SUVCW.



This writer does not recall a formal Charter presentation and swearing-in ceremony; suffice it to say, however, the Camp received its Charter at a gathering at a home across the street from the Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery; and after a Camp meeting with photos of the Charter and members, a tour of Civil War veterans' graves was led by Commander Charles Christian.

Since its inception, Camp 23, along with its Auxiliary, has remained very active placing Veterans Administration bronze markers and granite upright headstones for Civil War veterans with unmarked graves. With the addition of its Rifle Honor Guard it has participated in the re-dedication of the G.A.R. plot; the 2010 Veterans Day Ceremonies in Calistoga and Santa Rosa; the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War Ceremony in April 2011 in Santa Rosa and marched in Veterans and Memorial Day parades. Camp 23 and its Auxiliary are dedicated to preserving the memory of those Men and Boys In Blue, and women, whose sacrifice preserved the union of states that is now THE United States of America.

Charter Members:

(as their names appear on the Charter):

Ronald Cannon, Charles Christian, John Cunningham, Roger Fernwood, Vern Lemke, Marion Marrs, Norm Miller, Louis Olker, John Patchin, Charles Reed, William Robertson, Charles Ross, James Spencer, Patrick Trites, Jack Trotter, Donald VanAuker, and Steven Martin.

Past Camp Commanders:

Steve Martin (1996, provisional), Norm Miller (provisional), Charles L. Christian (1999, 2000), James L. Spencer (2001), Steven Martin (2002), Ronald D. Cannon (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006), David C. Schleeter (2007, 2008), Dean A. Enderlin (2009, 2010, to present).

In Search of Ellsworth (Special to *The Bugle*)

by Dave C. Schleeter, PCC

Even before I joined Camp 23 I was interested in Col. Ellsworth, so on my various trips East, I sought out the sites of the major events of his service. Naturally this list was headed by the site of the Marshall House in Alexandria, VA, scene of his impulsive and heroic act of pulling down the obnoxious Confederate flag that could be seen from the White House.

Alexandria has many historic sites, including Robert E. Lee's boyhood home, now a private residence. But not even the tourist office knew where the Marshall house had been and I had to make many inquiries before I found someone who even knew what I was talking about. Finally directed to the right place, I was gratified to find the site was still occupied as an inn (a Holiday Inn Express) and I began to search for a historical plaque, and there was one, but not what I expected. It was a memorial dedicated to the memory of the heroic proprietor of the Marshall House who had been foully murdered by Federal troops while defending his property. I guess that's what one should expect of Civil War memorials in southern territory.

Another site I ran across quite by accident, while driving up the west bank of the Hudson River in New York, passing through Mechanicville, I wasn't even realizing where I was until I saw a small sign with an arrow, reading "Ellsworth gravesite." I practically left rubber on the road, screeching to a halt and making a quick (but safe) U-turn and up the hill to the local cemetery, where Ellsworth's very elaborate monument did not disappoint.

The last discovery was also accidental and unexpected, when I was visiting Fort Ward, one of the few remaining forts of the powerful ring that protected Washington during the War. There in the site museum was an exhibit which included Ellsworth's kepi, a piece

Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site

4301 West Braddock Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22304
703.746.4848

Museum Hours

Tuesday – Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm
Sunday, Noon - 5 pm
Monday, Closed

Website:

<http://alexandriava.gov/historic/fortward/default.aspx>



Above: Photos from Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site (Alexandria, VA). Top: Star from Confederate flag torn down by Ellsworth, stained with his blood. Middle: The "O" from the Marshall House. Bottom: Commercial objects commemorating Ellsworth's death. *Photos courtesy Dave Schleeter.*

(Continued on page 11)



Coming Events . . .

CAMP & AUXILIARY EVENT CALENDAR

REGULAR CAMP/AUX. MEETING

Remembering Col. Elmer Ellsworth

Tuesday, May 24, 2011

(see details below right)

NORTH BAY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Meeting, Wednesday, May 25, 2011

BSA TROOP 49 FLAG RAISING AT UKIAH

Saturday, May 28, 2011, 8:00 a.m.

Details: Ron Cannon (rdcann@hotmail.com)

MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 30, 2011

9:30 a.m. – Calistoga Pioneer Cemetery

11:00 a.m. – Calistoga Veteran’s Memorial

Picnic following events

FLAG DAY

Tuesday, June 14, 2011 (no event planned)

NORTH BAY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Meeting, Wednesday, June 15, 2011

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Monday, July 4, 2011, 11:00 a.m.

Silverado Parade, Calistoga

“CIVIL WAR DAYS”

July 16 – 17, 2011

Duncans Mills, Sonoma County

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

Aug. 11 – 14, 2011

Reston, Virginia

COL. ELLSWORTH, THE MARTYR



“Cherish the consolation that I was engaged in the performance of a sacred duty.”

Remember Ellsworth!

To honor our Camp’s namesake, we will be holding a special

ELLSWORTH SESQUICENTENNIAL DINNER
(AND REGULAR CAMP 23 / AUXILIARY 23 MEETING)

TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2011

DINNER 6:00 P.M.

MEETING 7:15 P.M.

Union Hotel Restaurant, 1007 W. College Ave. #D
Santa Rosa, CA
www.unionhotel.com

The Bugle is the official newsletter of Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp #23, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (based out of Santa Rosa, Sonoma County, CA). It is published four to six times per year. Contributed articles and calendar items are welcome, and should be sent to

Newsletter Editor:
Dean Enderlin (enderlin@sonic.net)
2950 Lake County Hwy.
Calistoga, CA 94515

CAMP OFFICERS

Commander..... Dean Enderlin
Senior Vice-Commander..... Mace Gjerman
Junior Vice-Commander..... Lou Olker
Secretary-Treasurer..... Roger Fernwood
Council..... Charles Christian, PCC
Council..... Ronald Cannon, PCC
Council..... David Schleeter, PCC

Chaplain..... Charles Christian, PCC
Historian..... Jamin Gjerman
Guide..... Jamin Gjerman
Color Bearer..... David Schleeter, PCC
Guard..... Grant Noah
Civil War Memorials Officer.... Dean Enderlin
Eagle Scout Certif. Coord... Ron Cannon, PCC
Graves Registration Officers.....
Dean Enderlin (Southern Service Area)
Ron Cannon, PCC (Northern Service Area)

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President..... Cindy Eddy
Vice-President..... Elaine Christian
Secretary..... Elaine Christian
Treasurer..... Mary Lou Christian
Patriotic Instructor..... Ann Schleeter, PAP
Chaplain..... Katherine Cannon
Trustee..... Rachele Campbell, PDP
Trustee..... Tanya Gjerman
Trustee..... Ann Schleeter, PAP
Guide..... Cali Debevoise
Counselor..... Dean Enderlin
Signals Officer..... Tad Campbell, PDC

WE'RE ON THE WEB!:
www.suvpac.org/camp23.html

Email: camp23@suvpac.org

In Search of Ellsworth (cont'd)

(Continued from page 9)

of the flag, stained with his blood, and the "O" from the Marshall House sign, as well as other relics. Well worth a visit.

Other Ellsworth relics can be found at the NY Military Museum at Saratoga Springs.

New York State Military Museum & Veterans Research Center

Hours

Tuesday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday: Noon. to 4 p.m.
Closed on all New York State Holidays.

Research Center hours are:
Tuesday – Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Old Armory Building
61 Lake Avenue
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Website:
<http://dmna.state.ny.us/historic/mil-hist.htm>



Above: Ellsworth's kepi on display at Fort Ward, Alexandria, VA. Photo courtesy Dave Schleeter.



About the SUVCW

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a patriotic and educational organization, similar to the Grand Army of the Republic. It was founded on November 12, 1881 and incorporated by Act of Congress August 20, 1954. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is the legal heir to and representative of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Colonel Elmer Ellsworth Camp No. 23 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) was named after the original Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Post in Santa Rosa, which in turn was named for Col. Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth (1837-1861). The current Camp was organized in 1996, and was originally a provisional Camp under the name "Col. Wesley Brainard Camp." Brother Steve Martin was the Commander during this provisional period. Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp 23 was chartered on 20 March 1999.

The Camp serves Marin, Mendocino, and Sonoma counties, east of US 101, and Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, & Napa counties (See map at right).

