

THE BUGLE



THE NEWSLETTER OF COLONEL ELMER ELLSWORTH CAMP NO. 23
Department of California & Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Santa Rosa, California

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Members of the Colonel Elmer Ellsworth Camp #23 in Windsor, CA for the Officer Installation Ceremony on January 17, 2015. Pictured Back Row, L to R: Dave Schleeter, PCC; Ron Cannon, PCC; Camp Commander Allen Davis; Jamin Gjerman; Mace Gjerman, PCC and Frank Avila, PCC (Camp 4). Front Row, L to R: Department Senior Vice Commander Tom Graham (Camp4), PCC; Commander in Chief Tad Campbell, (Camp 4); Department Junior Vice Commander Dean Enderlin, PCC and Roger Fernwood. Not pictured: Charles Christian, PCC.

COMMANDER'S CORNER



When I joined the Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp #23, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War ((SUVCW)) in March 2011, I had no idea that less than four years later I would be writing a column for the newsletter as the Camp Commander. I've never been a "ladder climber" and am truly humbled by the honor you all have placed on me by electing me to serve as the Camp Commander for 2015. You have my heartfelt commitment that I will do everything within my ability to lead this camp. I take the responsibility that you have placed upon me very seriously.

The work we do is important. It's not just about getting together for a ceremony here and there, marching in a couple of parades a year or dedicating a grave from time to time. Yes, all of those are important, but they're just the outward manifestations of what we do and who we are. The National Website states:

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War SUVCW is a fraternal organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of veteran heroes who fought and worked to save the Union in the American Civil War. Organized in 1881 and chartered by Congress in 1954, SUVCW is the legal heir and successor to the Grand Army of the Republic.

That is our mission. Everything we do and participate in must somehow reflect that purpose. To that end, I want to commit 2015 to the three R's: Review, Retain and Recruit.

We must Review our activities, goals, commitments and anything else that pertains to being a viable Camp. That includes taking a realistic look at what we do well, what we could do better and those things that we might want to change to take the best advantage of our Camp membership, geographical area and resources.

We must Retain our members. What can we do to rekindle the passion for honoring our ancestors that initially drew us to the SUVCW?

How do we involve our members who currently are not actively participating in our activities and events?

We must Recruit new members. As we have been made so acutely aware in recent months, time marches on and with it our members are getting older. Many are no longer able to participate as they once were. The task that lies before us is to figure out how to make ourselves relevant in a world that demands more and more of people's time and energy.

If we take time to honestly address these three areas, we will be able to develop a solid action plan that will guide us to a promising future.

A future that allows us to honor the past.

2015 ELECTED OFFICERS

Commander: Allen R. Davis
Senior Vice Commander: Dean A. Enderlin
Junior Vice Commander: Jamin Gjerman
Secretary-Treasurer: Roger A. Fernwood
Council Members: David C. Schleeter, Ronald D. Cannon,
Mace M. Gjerman

2015 APPOINTED OFFICERS

Chaplain: Ronald D. Cannon
Historian: Jamin M. Gjerman
Guard: Jamin M. Gjerman
Color Bearer: David C. Schleeter
Graves Registration Officers: Dean A. Enderlin, Ronald
D. Cannon
Memorials Officer: Dean A. Enderlin
Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator: Ronald D. Cannon
Newsletter Editor: Allen R. Davis
Signals Officer: Allen R. Davis

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.suvm.org/camp23.html

www.facebook.com/ColElmerEllsworthCamp23

Email: camp23@suvm.org

THE HANDS THAT TOUCHED THE BIBLE

By Camp Commander Allen R. Davis

The Bible was not much to look at. Some of the pages, tattered and torn peaked out haphazardly from the others. In fact, if anyone had taken the time to open it and leaf through the pages he'd more than like find himself holding a loose page in his hand. It had that musty smell that indicated that it had been around for quite some time. No one could really use this particular Bible for any worthwhile purpose. Yet, there it was, centered on the clothed draped altar ready for the Installation Ceremony that was about to take place.

Some brothers are able to pull out Bibles published in the 1800's to use at their Installation Ceremonies.

Some are able to pull out Bibles owned by their Civil War ancestor. I don't

own a Bible published in the 1800's. I don't own a Bible that one of my Civil War Veteran ancestors used. I joined the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War under my Great-Great-Great Grandfather, Wesley Fletcher Swift. He joined the 3rd Iowa Cavalry when he was not quite 16 years of age and living in Missouri. Following the War, and the death of his first wife, he traveled to Texas where he met Lucretia Ann Gabriel. They ended up getting married and he stayed in Texas where he became an ordained minister. He and Lucretia left Texas for Indian Territory in what would later become the state of Oklahoma. I have a picture of the church building he erected in 1914. Well, actually, I have a picture

of the stone church that replaced the actual first church he erected after it was destroyed by fire. But, I don't have his Bible. I sure wish I did.

All I have is that old useless, tattered Bible that I chose to use during the ceremony where I became the Commander of the Colonel Elmer Ellsworth Camp #23, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War on January 17, 2015.

So, why did I choose that particular Bible for the ceremony? It belonged to my Great Grandmother, Vera (Swift) Sullivan. We called her Nana and she was the granddaughter of Wesley Fletcher Swift. You see, to me, Nana is my only true link to Wesley Swift. As I considered what Bible to use for the ceremony I kept coming back to Nana's Bible. I loved Nana. She lived until October 1984 when I was a sophomore in college. When I hold her Bible I hold something that she used to hold, and that connection means something to me.

But, I realized that the connection goes much deeper.

You see, the hands that touched that Bible for so many years also touched Wesley Fletcher Swift. When I touch that Bible, I touch him.

Most folks would look at that old Bible and say it isn't worth much. I look at that old Bible and I realize that it has untold worth because it is my only physical connection to my past.



The hands of the Officers of Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp #23 touch Vera (Swift) Sullivan's Bible during the Installation Ceremony on January 17, 2015. The hand second from the right (white shirt sleeve) is CC Allen R. Davis, Great Grandson of Vera (Swift) Sullivan and GGG Grandson of Wesley Fletcher Swift, 3rd Iowa Cavalry. Photo by Elaine Christian.

INSTALLATION CEREMONY

Saturday, January 17, 2015 arrived with cloudy skies overhead and the threat of continued rain, but that did not dampen the spirits of the members of Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp 23 and Ivy Stier's Auxiliary



Dave Schleeter, PCC and CC Mace Gjerman prior to the Installation Ceremony
new officers.

Brother Dave Schleeter, PCC secured the meeting place at the Windsor Senior Center and Auxiliary President, Tanya Gjerman and the Sisters of the Auxiliary set about planning the



DSVC Tom Graham, CinC Tad Campbell, DJVC Dean Enderlin

event, down to the last detail. The Camp and Auxiliary were excited and honored to receive as guests for the ceremony Commander-in-Chief Tad Campbell, National Auxiliary President Rachelle Campbell along with their lovely daughter, Emelia, Department Senior Vice-Commander, Tom Graham, Department

Auxiliary President Beverly Graham and Department Patriotic Instructor, Frank Avila.

Camp Commander, Mace Gjerman and Auxiliary President Tanya Gjerman welcomed the gathered crowd and began the ceremonial



AP Tanya Gjerman, NP Rachelle Campbell, DP Beverly Graham

rituals involved in the installation. Commander Gjerman presented certificates to the members of the camp and President Gjerman shared a project that she put together commemorating the work of the Auxiliary over the past year.

Department Junior Vice Commander, Dean Enderlin, presided over the installation of the camp officers, his first such opportunity to do so. Department Auxiliary President Beverly Graham presided over the installation of the Auxiliary officers.



Ivy Stiers Auxiliary 23 Officers, Cali Debevos, Elaine Christian, Ann Schleeter, PP, Tiana Gjerman, Catherine Cannon, Amelie Brown, Tanya Gjerman and Rebekah Thomas taking the Oath from DP Beverly Graham

Following the Oath of Office, National President Campbell pinned the Commander's Badge on newly installed Camp Commander, Allen Davis. Auxiliary President Tanya Gjerman pinned the Past Camp Commander's badge on out-going Camp Commander, Mace Gjerman.

GENERAL ORDERS

Of the
Commander-in-Chief

SPECIAL GENERAL ORDER NO. 2
SERIES 2014-2015

Passing of Real Son David Ordean Chase

By the authority vested in me as Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the National Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: It is with a heavy heart that I report the death of Real Son David Ordean Chase of Duncan, British Columbia on January 2, 2015 at the age of 104 years.

Section 2: Brother Chase was a member of Gov. Isaacs Stevens Camp-at-Large No. 1 in the State of Washington. His father, Albert Stillman Chase, served as Private in Company H, 6th Minnesota Infantry.

Section 3: During his working career Brother Chase owned a welding and machine shop, a neon sign company, and spent time working for an oil-drilling firm. He was a native of Minnesota, and moved from Inglewood, California to British Columbia in 1962.

Section 4: Brother Chase was predeceased by his wife Louise, who died in 1997. They did not have any children. Funeral services have not yet been announced.

Section 5: The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War extends its sincere condolences to Brother Chase's family and friends, and to the members of his Camp.

Section 6: All Charters are to be draped in black for a period of thirty (30) days.

Section 7: All Brothers are respectfully directed to attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badge for a period of thirty (30) days.

The foregoing General Order is proclaimed this 7th day of January in the year of our Lord two

thousand fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-ninth, in the City of Gilroy, County of Santa Clara, State of California.

Tad D. Campbell, PDC
Commander-in-Chief

ATTEST:
Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary

GENERAL ORDER NO. 14
SERIES 2014-2015
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL
WAR

Ruling on Prior Indebtedness for Former Member Rejoining the SUVCW



Commander-in-Chief Tad
Campbell

By the authority vested in me as Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the National Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: Due to conflicts of interest, and with the concurrence of the National Counselor, the Commander-in-Chief recused himself from the following issue and tasked Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Eugene G. Mortorff, PDC with providing a ruling.

Section 2: The Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief's examination and ruling follows:

As requested, I have reviewed the considerable documentation concerning this situation. As I understand it, past Brother X was dropped by Camp A for non-payment of dues in 2000. The bulk of the documentation questions whether past Brother X should be required to pay unpaid dues, and fees, before he can be allowed to rejoin the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) in another camp.

This issue came up because past Camp Brother X was applying for membership in Camp B. As part of the required investigation process, Camp B contacted Camp A to determine if there were any unresolved obligations. Camp A reported that they had paid past Brother X's

2000 dues anticipating Brother X would want to remain a member, and subsequently pay his dues.

In Camp A's communication with Camp B, they indicated that Brother X owed Camp A one year's dues. In addition to the unpaid dues, Camp A's bylaws stipulated a \$5 per month penalty for each month the dues had not yet been paid. The total for past dues, reinstatement fee and overdue penalties were determined to be \$107.50. Camp A agreed to forgo all but the unpaid annual dues (\$35).

If this amount were fair and justified, I would rule that past Brother X must pay that amount, thus granting him to be eligible for reinstatement in the SUVCW. However, Camp A's claim of indebtedness to them for unpaid past dues is in error, he is not indebted to them.

A member's relationship with the SUVCW can be likened to that of a contract. A member pays consideration to the organization (i.e. dues and fees, and has a justifiable expectation to enjoy that which the organization provides as outlined in our Regulations. In a contractual situation the relationship is bilateral, and requires such consideration by both parties. However, in this situation, the contract was executed in a unilateral way. Past Camp Member X did not indicate to Camp A that he intended to remain with the camp, nor did he ask them to pay his dues.

Our Regulations state a Brother "whose dues are not paid by March 1 may be dropped for nonpayment of dues by a vote of the Camp". In this case, the Camp did not so drop the member. Instead, the Camp paid the dues for the member without his permission. On the other hand, the Camp may pay the member's dues for him, BUT they do so understanding that if the member does not return to the Camp, they might not be reimbursed for their kind act.

It is my decision that Brother X is NOT indebted to Camp A for reimbursement of dues paid on his behalf or any fines related to that nonpayment of dues. Past Brother X should be allowed to join Camp B.

Section 3: In accordance with the examination and ruling of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, it is hereby determined that dues paid by a Camp on behalf of a Brother, in anticipation of that Brother later paying such dues, along with any associated fines, and which Brother is subsequently dropped for failure to pay, cannot be considered as prior indebtedness for the purposes of rejoining the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The foregoing General Order is proclaimed this 15th day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-ninth, in the City of Gilroy, County of Santa Clara, State of California.

Tad D. Campbell, PDC
Commander-in-Chief

ATTEST:
Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary

**SPECIAL GENERAL ORDER NO. 3
SERIES 2014-2015**

Passing of Real Son Luke Perkins Martin, Jr.

By the authority vested in me as Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the National Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: It is with a heavy heart that I report the death of Real Son Luke Perkins Martin, Jr. of New Bern, North Carolina on January 25, 2015 at the age of 97 years.

Section 2: Brother Martin was a member of North Carolina Union Volunteers Camp No. 5, Department of North Carolina. His father, Luke Perkins Martin, Sr., was born into slavery and served as Private in Company G, 35th United States Colored Infantry (formerly the 1st North Carolina Colored Infantry). Private Martin saw action at the battles of Olustee, Florida and Honey Hill, South Carolina.

Section 3: Brother Martin was a retired brick mason and contractor, and had been employed as a Funeral Attendant for Oscar's Mortuary in New Bern since 1960, with his last service in



August of 2014. He was also the oldest life member and Trustee of St. John M. B. Church in New Bern.

Section 4: Brother Martin is survived by two sons, Robert E. Martin, Sr. and William P. Martin, Sr. both of New Bern; two daughters, Elsie M. Staten of New Bern and Fannie Martin Williams of the home; 13 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren and 13 great-great-grandchildren. Section 5: His funeral will be held on Thursday, January 29, 2015 at noon at St. John M.B. Church, 1130 Walt Bellamy Drive, New Bern, North Carolina, with burial to follow at Greenwood Cemetery.

Section 5: The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War extends its sincere condolences to Brother Martin's family and friends, and to the members of his Camp.

Section 6: All Charters are to be draped in black for a period of thirty (30) days.

Section 7: All Brothers are respectfully directed to attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badge for a period of thirty (30) days. The foregoing General Order is proclaimed this 27th day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-ninth, in the City of Gilroy, County of Santa Clara, State of California. /

Tad D. Campbell, PDC
Commander-in-Chief

ATTEST:
Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary

**SPECIAL GENERAL ORDER NO. 4
SERIES 2014-2015**

Passing of Real Son Hilbert J. Gramelspacher

By the authority vested in me as Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the National Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: It is with a heavy heart that I report the death of Real Son Hilbert Joseph

Gramelspacher of Poplar Bluff, Missouri on February 1, 2015 at the age of 95 years.

Section 2: Brother Gramelspacher was a member of U.S. Grant Camp No. 68, Department of Missouri. His father, Joseph Gramelspacher, served as a Private in Company E, 143rd Indiana Infantry.

Section 3: Brother Gramelspacher worked in a Civilian Conservation Corps camp for two years and served seven years and four months in the U.S. Coast Guard during and after World War II. He was a radioman on the ice cutter USS Comanche on the Greenland Patrol and on the destroyer escort USS Falgout on trips to North Africa. During his working career he was a Westinghouse appliance repairman and service manager in California where he worked in the homes of several celebrities, including Lucille Ball, Joan Crawford, Jerry Lewis and Cybill Shepherd.

Section 4: Brother Gramelspacher's remains will be cremated and there are no funeral services planned. His ashes will eventually be interred next to his first wife Melba in Pontotoc, Mississippi.

Section 5: The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War extends its sincere condolences to Brother Gramelspacher's family and friends, and to the members of his Camp.

Section 6: All Charters are to be draped in black for a period of thirty (30) days.

Section 7: All Brothers are respectfully directed to attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badge for a period of thirty (30) days.

The foregoing General Order is proclaimed this 3rd day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-ninth, in the City of Gilroy, County of Santa Clara, State of California.

Tad D. Campbell, PDC
Commander-in-Chief

ATTEST:
Alan L. Russ, PDC National Secretary

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Ron Cannon, PCC Chaplain



As February is recognized as Black History Month, I thought it might be appropriate to reflect on a quote from the nineteenth century's most prominent and remarkable African-American, Frederick Douglass. Born into slavery in 1818, Douglass rose to be one of the most prominent voices of the abolition movement. From 1847 to 1851 he published a newspaper, *The North Star*, whose motto was: "Right is of no sex, truth is of no color, God is the Father of us all, and we are all brethren."

At a time when race, politics and religious belief continue to polarize our national discourse, I think we would do well to ponder these unifying words. We are indeed all brethren and our commonalities far outweigh our differences. As sons of Union men, let us further the work of Fraternity with others, Charity to all, and Loyalty to the cause of truth. God bless you all.

SCHLEETER'S FIRST GRANDSON

Ridley David Matthews, newest great--great-great-grandson of Henry Schleeter, of the 200th Pennsylvania



Volunteer Infantry, Army of the Potomac, and first grandson of Dave and Ann Schleeter, was born Friday,

February 13th at 12:04 am, weighing 8lbs 14oz, and measuring 21 inches. Ridley's proud parents are Auxiliary Sister Amy and Tim Matthews.



CAMP GENERAL ORDER NO. 1 SERIES 2015

Change of Command

By the authority vested in me as Commander of the Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp No. 23, by the Camp Bylaws, Department of California and Pacific Bylaws, the National Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: At Petaluma, California on November 11, 2014 the members of Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp No. 23 elected me to the office of Camp Commander, the highest officer one can attain at the Camp level. Having been duly installed as Camp Commander at Windsor, California on January 17, 2015, I am humbled by the trust you have placed in me to lead the Camp for the upcoming year. I commit to you that I will make every effort to prove myself worthy of your confidence.

Section 2: The Headquarters of the Camp Commander is hereby transferred to 260 American Canyon Road, Spc. 66, American Canyon, California 94503. All correspondence for the Camp Commander may be posted to that address. Electronic communication may be sent to allenrdavis@yahoo.com. The Camp Commander may be reached by phone at (707) 980-5547.

The foregoing Camp Order is proclaimed this twentieth day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-ninth, in the City of American Canyon, County of Napa, State of California by Allen R. Davis, Commander of the Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp No. 23, Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Allen R. Davis
Camp Commander

ATTEST:
Roger Fernwood
Secretary-Treasurer

ANNUAL LINCOLN DINNER A SUCCESS!

Although sickness hit our ranks and kept a few folks from attending the Annual Lincoln Birthday Dinner on February 7, 2015, the evening went off without a hitch. The



Sisters of Ivy Stiers Auxiliary 23

26 attendees enjoyed a dinner of Washoe Chicken, salad, rolls, potatoes and vegetable and shared rousing conversation, a few laughs and an all around good time.

Everything went well until Commander Davis began his opening remarks and made reference



Brothers of Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp 23

to 2015 being the sesquicentennial of President Lincoln's death. A loud "Ahem!" came from across the room in the general direction of Brother Dave Schleeter, PCC and in that moment Commander Davis realized the awkwardness of the situation. How could he invoke memories of the death of President

Lincoln when Honest Abe was sitting right there just 10 feet away?

Thanks to some pretty quick thinking on his feet, Commander Davis acknowledged the gaffe and made up some story about a premonition and advised President Lincoln to not go to the theater any time soon.

Several provided stories about President Lincoln



Members of Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery

following the meal. Auxiliary President Tanya Gjerman read a touching letter that President Lincoln wrote to his son's teacher. Rebekah Thomas shared a story about the Lincoln's china pattern and passed around a sample of the china for all to see.

President Lincoln rose to address those assembled and regaled the audience with a moving speech about hallowed ground and a nation of the people, by the people and for the people. He said we would not long remember his words, but I don't think he was correct in that assessment of his speech.



President Lincoln, portrayed by Roger Vincent, addresses the crowd

CAMP 23 BYLAWS ADOPTED AND SIGNED

On President's Day, Monday, February 16, 2015, Camp Commander Allen Davis and Camp Secretary Roger Fernwood signed the newly adopted Bylaws of Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp No. 23. Although the process of adopting the Bylaws took place on that date, the lion's share of the work happened much earlier.

Brother Dean Enderlin, PCC realized in 2011 that our camp needed a set of Bylaws and he set about putting things in order. He reviewed the Bylaws then in existence for Camp 4 in San Jose and realized that the Brothers of Camp 4 had done a great job in putting together a document for the Camp that reflected at the local level what the Constitution and Regulations require of the entire Organization. There were changes that needed to be made in order to make the Bylaws fit the specific culture and membership of Camp 23. Brother Enderlin appointed a Bylaws Committee which met as part of a couple of Camp Meetings at the Union Hotel in Santa Rosa. A lot of work was done to update the Bylaws and to make them "ours", but the year ended without our having adopted the Bylaws.

As sometimes happens in life, we got busy doing other things and the Bylaws slipped to the back of our thoughts, not completely forgotten, just hidden from view.

On February 13, 2015 Commander-in-Chief Tad Campbell issued General Order 15 requiring all Camps and Departments to submit a set of Bylaws to the National Treasurer in conjunction with our Order's attempt to become a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax exempt organization. The Bylaws had to be sent to Department

Secretary Owen Stiles to be compiled for transfer to the National Treasurer, Robert Orr by March 1, 2015.

At Camp Commander Davis' request, Brother Enderlin dusted off the work he and the Committee had done in 2011, completed the edits and included new language regarding Junior Members and Junior Associate Members and sent them to Commander Davis via e-mail in Draft version. Commander Davis forwarded the Draft Bylaws to the Camp Members and asked each member to review them, offer any suggestions for changes and to reply back with a "yes" or "no" response.

By Sunday evening, February 15, 2015 the membership had responded and the Camp was just one vote shy of the number needed to adopt the Bylaws. Commander Davis requested that Brother Enderlin prepare the Final Version so that it would be ready for signature when the last needed vote was received. On Monday, February 16, 2015 the last "yes" vote needed for a 2/3 majority of the Camp to adopt the Bylaws came in.

Commander Davis printed the signature page and drove to Secretary

Fernwood's home in Petaluma to sign the historical document. The signature page was scanned and sent back to Brother Enderlin so that he could create a set of the Bylaws with the signatures attached and Commander Davis forwarded that document to Department Secretary Stiles in the afternoon.

Thank you, Brother Enderlin for your leadership and guidance on this project and for the exceptional response by our Camp members to complete and adopt the Bylaws.

For trivia purposes, the first vote came from Charles Christian, PCC and the final vote cast for the adoption of the Camp 23 Bylaws came from Brother Ron Cannon, PCC. It is of great significance to realize that these two men were charter members of Camp 23.



Commander Allen Davis and Secretary Roger Fernwood sign the Camp 23 Bylaws

MEMBERS IN PERPETUITY

The members of Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp 23 recently had the opportunity to honor two of our members by granting them the status of "Members in Perpetuity".

Charles Christian, PCC and Don VanAuker are charter members of our Camp and have served the Camp, the Brotherhood and the memory of the Boys in Blue with distinction for many years. Each of them has come to a point in their lives where they are not able to be as active as they once were or as they would like to be.

In November 2014 under the direction and leadership of Brother Mace Gjerman, PCC the Camp voted to grant the "Member in Perpetuity" status to Brother Christian at a meeting of the Camp and Auxiliary at the Schleeter home in Windsor.



Charter Member Charles Christian



On January 17, 2015 during the Installation meeting the Camp conferred upon Brother VanAuker the Camp unanimously voted to grant "Member in Perpetuity" status to Brother VanAuker.

By granting this status to these two men, the Camp has taken the responsibility

to pay their membership dues for the remainder of their lives. We take this measure to show our gratitude and appreciation to these two Cherished Charter Members of Camp 23.

ABOUT THE SUVCW

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) 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 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, Sonoma, Del Norte,



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: Allen Davis (allenrdavis@yahoo.com) 260 American Canyon Rd., Spc. 66, American Canyon, CA 94503.

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