



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp 24
Minutes of the Meeting of August 8, 2026

Meeting called to order at 11 a.m. at the home of member Brad Hatton.

Roll call of officers and members present was taken:

Commander: Gary Hormel

Secretary/Treasurer pro-tem: Steve Johnson

Council member: Brad Hatton

Members: Ken Felton, Dale Smith

New Members: Logan Cornog, Kenneth Cole, Richard Bise

Guests: Ravel Smith, Felix

A quorum was attained.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

The minutes of the last meeting was read and approved.

The treasurer pro-tem reported that our US Bank account has a balance of \$1,719

Our new members introduced themselves.

Brother Logan Cornog is currently serving in the U.S. Coast Guard here in the Bay Area. He lives in Concord and is stationed in Alameda. His ancestor was James Downey, who served in the 88th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, 1861-1862, and was killed in the Battle of Antietam.

Brother Kenneth Cole lives in Walnut Creek and is a former Marine who served in Vietnam. He worked in the social services department of the county, helping the homeless to get shelter and find work. His ancestor was Eleven Cole, who was 20 years old when he enlisted with the 13th Missouri Infantry in 1861. He was injured at the Battle of Shiloh and was discharged in 1862.

Brother Richard Bise lives in Eureka and was in the U.S. Army and the California National Guard for a total of 20 years. He now works as an investigator for a county district attorney's office. His ancestor was Woodford Houchin, who enlisted in the 11th Kentucky Infantry in 1861. He achieved the rank of captain before he was mustered out in 1864.

These brothers then took the oath to become official members of Camp 24, and were warmly welcomed into the camp.

Brother Ray Galas has been upgraded from associate to full membership when through research he found that through his mother's lineage he had an ancestor who served in the 2nd Florida Cavalry. John Albury joined in 1861 and helped to protect Fort Taylor from being seized by the Confederates. Brother Ray is currently serving as a teacher for the Association for Diplomacy and Military Studies and lives in Honolulu. He will receive his new membership badge in the mail. Welcome again, Brother Ray!

Brother Gary reported that the recent national encampment was held in Gettysburg. Members attending were brothers Glenn Martin and Robert Mayer. Camp 18 in Riverside, California, was

awarded best newsletter, and you can see why by going to this link:

<https://suvpac.org/camp18news/> After the encampment several CA department officers took a tour of the battlefield given by certified guide John Fitzpatrick, who now lives in Pennsylvania but was a founding member of the Friends of Civil War Alcatraz and is still an active supporter. <http://www.friendsofcivilwaralcatraz.org/>

Brother Steve reported on the following:

1. Memorial Day at the Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland was attended by brothers Steve Johnson and Ken Felton. Brother Steve was invited to give a talk, and he gave a brief review of California's role in the Civil War and about the Union troops who are buried at that cemetery. He also described the SUVCW and what our organization does to keep the memory of our ancestors alive.
2. The Living History Day on Alcatraz in July was well received by visitors to the island; they stopped at the display tables and watched the troops as they marched to fife and drum. Over 30 reenactors attended, including 4 members of the SUVCW.
3. The Living History Day at Fort Point on August 1st had many of the same participants, with a special guest – General U.S. Grant, who gave talks to the troops and to the public. He is Jaxson Brashier, who tours the state giving talks to schools and at events as the general. The 20th Maine reenactors were there to raise the flag, give cannon drills, display weapons, and tell visitors about the life of a soldier. Most of them spent the night in the barracks at the fort, taking turns doing sentry duty.

There was a discussion about lowering the camp dues by \$10, but the consensus was to leave it at \$30 at least for now.

Brother Brad graciously offered to store the weapons, donated to the Camp by the late Brad Schall, at his house in his gun safe. These included muskets and a shotgun.

Brother Ken said there are two headstones where a ceremony can take place. One is at St. Mary's Cemetery in Oakland for James Montegue, USN, and the other for John Quinn, 2nd Connecticut Artillery, at the Redwood City Union Cemetery. Once the headstones are placed we will assign a time for the graveside ceremony for our members to attend.

The meeting was adjourned after a prayer. The next meeting will be in October – exact date to be determined.

We then had a lunch wonderfully prepared by Brother Brad Hatton.

Respectfully submitted,
Brother Steve Johnson
Secretary, Camp 24