



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp 24
Minutes of the Meeting of March 11, 2023

Meeting called to order by Commander Gary Hormel at 11:01 at the home of member Brad Hatton. Brother Scott Elliott, our chaplain, led us in prayer at the start of the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call of those present were:

Commander Gary Hormel

Senior Vice-commander Glenn Martin

Junior Vice-commander Jeffrey Nibert

Secretary/Treasurer Steve Johnson

Council members Brad Hatton and Greg LaFramboise

Members Robert Mayer, Scott Elliott, and Ken Felton.

Our guests were Mr. and Mrs. Striker, friends of Brother Hatton. Both are retired professors and have ancestors who served in the Union Army.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The camp's current bank balance is \$1,165.80. Our account with Union Bank will soon be transferred to US Bank, which acquired Union Bank. Brother Steve will make sure this bank also will not charge us, a non profit organization, any monthly fees, an arrangement we had with Union Bank.

Brother Glenn read the induction ceremony for Brother John Ferris, who also happens to be a member of Camp 23 (Santa Rosa). His ancestor, Samuel Rosenberry, joined the 103rd Ohio Regiment at the age of 15 and saw action in North Carolina. Brother John recently finished his training to be a National Park volunteer and guide on Alcatraz, and has been helping with Living History Days there and at Fort Point. We were very glad to welcome him as a brother in our camp.

The brothers who attended the Living History Day at Fort Point on February 25th reported that it was very well organized, thanks to the enthusiastic support of the supervising ranger, Angel Garcia. Re-enactors of the 20th Maine, the Fort Point Brass Band, the Wandering Strings Band, and Mother Constance's cooking demos all drew in the crowds, though the number of visitors was down due to the very cold day. Brothers

Mayer, Felton, Hormel, Nibert, Ferris, Martin, Frank Avila (Camp 4), and Johnson all helped out that day. Our next Living History Day will be on Alcatraz on Saturday, April 15th. All brothers are invited to participate; more information on that event will be forthcoming.

Brother Ken Felton, our graves registration officer, has been working on getting a headstone for a soldier buried in Santa Cruz memorial Park. Henry Barnett was a member of the 113th Colored Troop Regiment, and served from 1864-1866. After the war he worked as a cook, and apparently never had a proper headstone. Brother Ken said that the request to the VA for a headstone has been sent in, and it should arrive in the next couple of months. Hopefully some of us from our camp and from our SVR unit can join Camp 4 in a headstone ceremony when the date is set. Brother Ken was given a Certificate of Commendation from the camp brothers for his tireless efforts to find the graves of Civil War soldiers and to make sure they are not forgotten.

We have agreed to be at the National Cemetery in the Presidio on Memorial Day on Monday, May 29th Day to greet visitors. More information will be sent at the beginning of May.

Brother Steve read a proposed draft letter of introduction any brother can send to his local school to offer a visit to any class studying the Civil War and give a talk about the causes of the war, life of a soldier, etc. Brother Gary would like to see every member adopt a local school and make an effort to visit a history class. Brother Glenn had an excellent idea of our camp sponsoring a scholarship (\$100?) at a school for the best essay on patriotism, which would be a foot in the door for also visiting history classes there. We will be discussing this idea further.

Brothers Ken, Robert, and Gary will be attending the Department Encampment in Bakersfield on March 17-18. Brother Gary will give a report on our camp's memberships and activities, and learn what other camps are doing across the Western U.S.

Brother Gary wanted to set dates for our future camp meetings, and it was agreed to have meetings on these dates: Saturday, June 10; Saturday, August 12; and Saturday, October 14. All meetings will start at 11 a.m. It was proposed to have the June meeting at the Presidio in San Francisco, where Brother Steve will give a 1-hour walking tour of the post's history, followed by brief meeting and a picnic lunch. The details will be worked out and sent out in an e-mail at the beginning of June - please reserve the date.

If anyone is available to pass out a Patriotic Award to a sea cadet at their inspection ceremony in Alameda on Saturday, March 18th, please call Brother Robert right away 925-384-6475

The meeting was followed by a luncheon provided by our host, Brother Brad Hatton. Tri-tip sandwiches, potato salad, and his famous baked beans, along with two homemade cakes, were the perfect ending to our meeting. Thanks for your great hospitality, Brother Brad.

Respectfully submitted, Brother Steve Johnson, Secretary, Camp 24

Addenda:

Brother Geg expressed an interest in Civil War Roundtable groups in the area. These are discussion groups who host speakers and a discussion follows. They usually happen at a restaurant and involve a meal. The active ones are:

Redwood City <https://www.peninsulacivilwarroundtable.org/>

Cupertino <https://www.sbcwrt.org/>

Sacramento <http://www.sacramentocwrt.com/>

The San Francisco Roundtable no longer meets in person but has interesting articles on its Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/SanFranciscoCivilWarRoundTable/> including this one about Grant's statue, written by a professor of history:

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/openforum/article/Toppling-of-the-Ulysses-Grant-statue-is-no-way-to-15364739.php?fbclid=IwAR2zNC-hb6F6FxxIkMmNYR5PQV0ps3p25vzKCshityNlgcQQVbman4m4AHY>

And to our Brother Ray in Hawaii, there is a Civil War Roundtable in Honolulu, though so far no meetings this year:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/hawaiicivilwarroundtable/about>

Photos of Ft Point LH Day can be seen here: <http://www.friendsofcivilwaralcatraz.org/lhd0223.htm> You'll see photos of the soldier clerk writing 19th century script, a signals officer, raising the garrison flag, the Ft. Point Brass Band, a fife and drummer team, Mother Constance cooking, and the 20th Maine at attention.