



The Guideon

General Alfred Pleasonton – Camp 24
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

October Issue

2011



Camp Meeting is Tuesday October 18, 2011 – Mountain Mike Pizza – Castro Valley
Shopping Center Social at 6:30 pm -----Meeting at 7:00 pm
Brad Schall will speak on: My year as Commander-in-Chief – What a ride

Activities for 2011-2012

October meeting	October 18, 2011
November meeting	November 15, 2011
Elections of Officers	
December	
January meeting	January 17, 2012
Installation of Officers	
Fort Point Living History Day	January 28 and 29
February meeting	February 21, 2012
March Department Encampment	March 9 & 10 – San Luis Obispo
March meeting	March 20, 2011
Alcatraz Living History Day	Saturday April 14, 2011
April meeting	April 17, 2012
May meeting	May 15, 2011
Gibson Ranch Living History	May 18, 19, 20
Memorial Day	May 28, 2011
Memorial Day – Traditional	May 30, 2012

Newsletter information should be sent to Brad Schall – bradsuvcw@wavecable.com two weeks prior to our meeting. November newsletter information needs to be received by November 1, 2011.

Book Review by Brad Schall

History of the Grand Army of the Republic by Robert Burns Beath, originally published in 1899. This is a reproduction of the 1899 book by General Books, New York. I would like to say it is an easy read but it is not; however, it's a very interesting read and if you have a passion for the Order then it is a good read.

I think the introduction says it best.

“I have been asked to write a few prefatory words to the History of the Grand Army of the Republic. That society whose watch-words are Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty. Fraternity so wide-spread as to embrace all who honored themselves by enlisting in the Union Army; a charity so broad as to have included within its benefactions suffers of every class, and of all sections of our country; a Loyalty that maintains ‘true allegiance to the United States of America based upon a paramount respect for, and fidelity to, its constitution and its laws, “that discountenances” what ever tends to weaken loyalty, incites to insurrection, treason or rebellion,’ and encourages ‘the spread of universal liberty, equal rights and justice to all men,’ and

which constantly inculcates the spirit of goodwill and friendship for all law abiding citizens of our common country, needs no commendation to the readers of this book.”

Comrade Beath ends the preface by saying:

“In closing this work, I cannot better express my appreciation of this grand fraternity of ours, than by repeating the words used in my address as Commander-in-Chief : ‘We are enjoying, in a land we helped to save, a companionship made sacred by common sufferings and sacrifices. No other organization on earth can lay claim to such glorious and precious memories. Let us keep this brotherhood together on the highest plane of citizenship and prove to the people, North and South, that the Grand Army of the Republic is worthy of their confidence, that it is doing a work demanded by the strongest claims of humanity, and that its objects are in accord with the purest principles of patriotism.’”

Grand Army Blue Book 1895

PREAMBLE

We, the soldiers and sailors, and honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps of the United States. Who have consented to this Union, having aided in maintaining the honor, integrity, and supremacy of the National Government during the late rebellion, do unite to establish a permanent association for the objects hereinafter set forth; and through our National Encampment do ordain and establish the following Rules and Regulation for the government of this association.

Page 13, 1895 GAR Blue Book

Chapter 1, Article 2

“The objects to be accomplished by this organization are as follows:

Fraternity

To preserve and strengthen those kind and fraternal feelings which bind together the soldiers, sailors, and marines who united to suppress the late rebellion, and to perpetuate the memory and history of the dead.

Charity

To assist such former comrades in arms as need help and protection, and to extend needful aid to the widows and orphans of those who have fallen.

Loyalty

To maintain true allegiance to the United States of America, based upon a paramount respect for, and fidelity to, its Constitution and laws, to discountenance whatever tends to weaken loyalty. Incites to insurrection, treason, or rebellion, or in any manner impairs the efficiency and permanency of our free institution; and to encourage the spread of universal liberty, equal rights, and justice to all men.”

Alcatraz SUVCW Signature Event October 1, 2011

Jeffrey Vaillant, Kenneth Felton and Brad Schall

Sons of Union Veterans Camps 22 and 24, Friends of Civil War Alcatraz and the National Park Service held a SUVCW Signature event Living History Day on October 1, 2011. Camp members Kenneth Felton, Jeffrey Vaillant and Brad Schall participated.

Company B, 8th California SVR units acted as Provost for the event. 58 SUVCW, FOCWA members, members of the ACWA and NCWA and the 5th California band celebrated the 150th anniversary of the 3rd US Artillery at Fortress Actress in San Francisco.



Senior Vice Commander Jeffrey Vaillant making coffee for the Brothers on Alcatraz Island.

Brad Schall, Camp Secretary gave walking tours of Fortress Alcatraz during the day.



Brother Kenneth Felton acted as a Provost Guard for the day. All three Brothers had a great time.

FOCWA purchased Signature event badges and gave them to all that participated.

National Park Service was very pleased with our efforts and asked us to continue the events in 2012.

Mark your calendars for March and October 2012 for another Living History Day at Alcatraz. Members from Pleasonton, Wright and Sheridan Camps participated.

Camp Wright recruited a new member that participated as an reenactor.

Friends of Civil War Alcatraz website:
Friendsofcivilwaralcatraz.org

Friends of Civil War Alcatraz has a Facebook page.

General Alfred Pleasonton Camp #24 website: www.suvcw.org/camp24.html

Colusa California celebrated Civil War Days on September 24th and 25th.

Brothers from Pleasonton, Wright and Patchin Camps joined in the activities. John L. Morton has joined Patchin Camp as a result of our activities

Brothers Don Wilt, Steve Neuburger and Brad Schall are shown in this picture. Former member of Camp #24 John Patchin was also at the event.



Seven Camps gathered in Monterey to celebrate Fort Mervine SUVCW Signature event sponsored by Lincoln Camp 10 on October 7, 8 and 9, 2011. Brad Schall attended on Saturday and Charlie Mabie attended Sunday activities.

Department Senior Vice Commander Tim Reese did an outstanding job of organizing this event. He had good print and some media coverage.

This is one of the best SUVCW events that I have attended in the Department. The Auxiliary did an outstanding job and had some great displays. They provided food, displays, artifacts for and participated in all the activities. They also made the group photo look a lot better.

Museums would die to get all the GAR memorabilia that was on display for the visitors that attended. Saturday evening 25 attended a dinner at Rappa's on the Monterey wharf. Great fun for all.



Left is the Fort Mervine Camp

Right is one of the SUVCW Auxiliary display tables





San Francisco 1903 National Encampment Badges



Department Commander Glen Roosevelt signing up Union Recruits

Group photo from Saturday Fort Mervine event



A reminder about 2012 dues. We are now accepting dues and donations for 2012. Our Camp dues are \$28.00 per year and we accept donations for Camp, Department and National projects. Please send check made out to SUVCW to Treasurer Bob Ebert, 2873 Ptarmigan Drive #3, Walnut Creek, CA 94595.

Honoring Civil War Units of our Ancestors:

1st United States Sharpshooters, 5th United States Infantry, 16th United States Infantry, 1st Corp Army of the Potomac, II Corp Army of the Potomac

District of Columbia: 2nd District of Columbia Infantry

Illinois: 11th Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, 31st Illinois, 34 Illinois Infantry, 35 Illinois Volunteer Infantry, 65th Illinois, 80th Illinois Infantry, 87th Illinois Infantry, 119th Illinois, 142nd Illinois, 131 Illinois, 136 Illinois Infantry, 98 Illinois Mounted Infantry, 1st Illinois Volunteer Light Artillery Colvin Battery

Indiana: 51st Indiana, 65th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, 130th Indiana Volunteers, 6th Indiana

Iowa: 3rd Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, 10th Iowa, 44th Iowa

Kansas: Co. B 3rd Kansas, 8th Kansas Infantry, 15th Kansas

Kentucky: 55th Kentucky Mounted Infantry

Maine: 13th Maine Artillery

Michigan: 1st Michigan Engineers and Mechanics, 12th Michigan, 22th Michigan Infantry

Minnesota: 1st Minnesota Heavy Artillery

Mississippi: 1st Mississippi Marine Brigade

Missouri: 21st Missouri

New Hampshire: 7th New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry

Ohio: 8th Ohio, 80th Ohio, 100th Ohio, 172nd Ohio

Pennsylvania: 11th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, 13th Pennsylvania, 18th Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, 63rd Pennsylvania, 67 Pennsylvania, 79th Pennsylvania, 100th Pennsylvania Volunteers, Co. B 215th Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Provisional Cavalry

New York: 69th New York Volunteers, 154th New York Volunteers, 134th New York Volunteers, 7th New York Heavy Artillery.

Tennessee: 4th East Tennessee Volunteer Cavalry

West Virginia: 11th West Virginia Infantry

Wisconsin: 3rd Wisconsin Light Artillery, 30th Wisconsin Infantry

Navy: USS Pontoosin, Wabash and Connecticut.

History of Civil First US Sharpshooters War Unit:

We will try a cover the history of one of our ancestor's units in each newsletter. Write you ancestor's unit history and send it to the newsletter editor.

Organized September 1861 to December 1864 when they were combined with the second US Sharpshooters

The 1st U.S. Sharpshooters was raised as follows:

Companies "A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K"

Companies "A", "D" and "H" were organized at New York City, New York in September 1861.

Company "B" was organized at Albany, New York in September 1861.

Company "C" in Michigan on August 21, 1861.

Company "E" in New Hampshire on September 9, 1861.

Company "F" in Vermont on September 13, 1861.

Company "G" in Wisconsin on September 19, 1861.

Company "I" in Michigan on March 4, 1862.

Company "K" in Michigan on March 30, 1862.

The 1st and 2nd U.S. Sharpshooters were consolidated on December 31, 1864.

Equipped with Sharps Rifles

Engagements

First Battle of Bull Run, Peninsular Campaign

Second Battle of Bull Run, Battle of Antietam

Battle of Fredericksburg, Battle of Chancellorsville

Battle of Gettysburg, Battle of the Wilderness

Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, Battle of Cold Harbor

Siege of Petersburg

Total strength and casualties

Ten of the regiment's officers and 143 enlisted men were killed in action or mortally wounded and one officer and 128 enlisted men died of disease, for a total of 282 casualties.

Commander: Colonel Hiram Berdan

Minutes from September 20th Meeting.

General Alfred Pleasonton, Camp #24 meeting minutes

Mountain Mike Pizza – Castro Valley, CA – September 20, 2011

Attending: Schall, Vaillant, Hillar, Ebert, Felton, Mabie and Hevelin.

Meeting was called to order by Charlie Mabie.

Discussion on Camp Commander Lynn Owens illness.

Jeffrey Vaillant gave out Battle of Vicksburg quarters. He gives these to people that attend his genealogy talks.

Brad Schall gave out Commander-in-Chief Appreciation coin to members of the Camp for their support over the past years.

Charlie Mabie discussed a Christmas dinner at his house during December. We will decide a date at our next meeting.

Charlie Mabie discussed the National Encampment in Reston and the upcoming 2012 in Los Angeles. Camp confirmed donation to 2012 Encampment Fund.

Discussion of two upcoming Signature events:

Brad Schall on Alcatraz Island on October 1st. Company B will be Provost and Camp members will be Headquarters Company.

Charlie Mabie talked on Fort Mervine event in Monterey- October 7, 8 and 9th.

Charlie Mabie talked about November elections and the need to start recruiting officers for next year. Jeffrey Vaillant will accept the Camp Commander spot if not elected to School Board, Ken Felton will accept Junior Vice Commander, Charlie Mabie, SVC and Eagle Scout coordinator, Robert Ebert, Treasurer, Brad Schall, Secretary, Memorial Officer, newsletter and Historian.

We discussed setting a recruiting goal of three to five new members next year.

SVC Vaillant suggested that we set up recruiting tables at Senior Fares in our area for recruiting.

Attend the Sacramento Living History day on 15 October.

We voted to Honorably Discharge Brothers Dennis Evanosky, Richard and Stephen Coffin.
Charlie Mabie talked on Civil War swords and arms.

Next meeting on is Tuesday October 18th at Mountain Mike's Pizza.

Brad Schall will talk on his year as Commander-in-Chief.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Brad Schall
Secretary

Officers and Members of General Alfred Pleasonton Camp #24

Commander: Lynn Owens

Senior Vice Commander: Jeffrey Vaillant

Junior Vice Commander: Kenneth Felton

Secretary: Brad Schall: bradsuvcw@wavecable.com – (916) 408-4482

Treasurer: Bob Ebert:

Council: Paul Hillar, Mark Wilson, Chuck Gardali

Chaplain: Lynn Owens

Patriotic Instructor:

Color Bearer: Charlie Mabie

Guide:

Guard: Ben Mabie

Grave Registration: Ken Felton

Memorials Officer: Brad Schall

Eagle Scout: Charlie Mabie

Brothers in good standing:

Bruce Hevelin, Paul Hiller, Mark Mabie, Braden Schall, Christopher Schall, William Schall, Edward Sebree

Other SUVCW Camps in Northern California

Sheridan Camp #4, San Jose, meets bi-monthly on the 3rd Saturday of odd numbered months

Grant Camp #9, Modesto, meets 3rd Tuesday of odd numbered months

Lincoln Camp #10, Santa Cruz

Matheson Camp #16, Cazadero

Logan Camp #20, Los Gatos

Wright Camp #22, Sacramento, meets first Wednesday of the Month, January through June, except December

Ellsworth Camp #23, Santa Rosa,

Carlin Camp, Reno, meets in Reno in even numbered months

Patchin Camp, Los Molinos

National Website: www.suvcw.org

All history is revisionist history because we know what followed.

David McCullough