



The Guidon

General Alfred Pleasonton – Camp 24
Chartered 30 August 1999

Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

February Issue

2012



Camp Meeting is Tuesday February 21, 2012 – Mountain Mike's Pizza – Castro Valley
Shopping Center Social at 6:30 pm -----Meeting at 7:00 pm

Camp Commander's Column—February 2012 – Jeffrey Vaillant

When Secretary Brad Schall, PCinC, sent a recent email recommending Won Cause, a book about the GAR it brought to mind several ideas. First, would I buy the paper and add it to my Civil War library? Next, would I download a copy to my Kindle. Finally, what books did I have in my personal Civil War library? I suspect each of us has a library in our homes to consult. So here is my partial list and I hope Brothers will add their titles.

One must have a book or several by James M. McPherson. Mine are:

Battle Cry of Freedom
For Cause & Comrades
Crossroads of Freedom
This Mighty Scourge
The Negro's Civil War

Then there are the Edwin C. Bearss books:

Receding Tide
The Vicksburg Campaign (3 volumes)
Fields of Honor

Bruce Catton's Grant Moves South and Grant Takes Command are on the shelf along with Shelby Foote's three volumes on the Civil War.

Then there are those books centered on my Civil War ancestor's experience which included Vicksburg. There are Terrence J. Winschel's two volumes Triumph & Defeat, Vicksburg's Long Shadow by Christopher Waldrep and Champion Hill by Timothy B. Smith, Nothing But Victory by Steven E. Woodworth.

Then there are the more specialized books like the History of the Seventy Third Indiana Volunteers (my wife's ancestor) and The Lightning Mule Brigade by Robert L. Willett.

Of course what started this partial inventory was the GAR. Glorious Contentment is on the shelf with William H. Ward's Records of Member of the Grand Army of the Republic, With A complete Account of the Twentieth National Encampment (1886) which you all recall was held in San Francisco.

Oh, yes, I downloaded Won Cause to my Kindle.

Next month I will do a brief review of The State of Jones by Sally Jenkins and John Stauffer.

Activities for 2012

Fort Point Living History Days	January 28, 2012
February meeting	February 21, 2012
March Department Encampment	March 9 & 10 – San Luis Obispo
March meeting	March 20, 2012
Alcatraz Living History Day	April 14, 2012 - Saturday
April meeting	April 17, 2012
May meeting	May 15, 2012
Gibson Ranch Living History	May 18, 19, 2012
Memorial Day	May 28, 2012
Memorial Day – Traditional	May 30, 2012
June meeting	June 19, 2012
July meeting	No meeting in July
Independence Day	July 4, 2012
August meeting	No meeting in August
National Encampment	August 9 – 11, 2012
September meeting	September 18, 2012
October meeting	October 16, 2012
November meeting	November 20, 2012

Newsletter information should be sent to Brad Schall – bradsuvcw@wavecable.com two weeks prior to our meeting. March newsletter information needs to be received by Friday March 3, 2012.

Department Encampment March 9 and 10, 2012 – San Luis Obispo, CA

Commander-in-Chief Don Palmer and First Lady Kim Palmer will be in attendance.

Come to the Encampment and make your voice heard. Department Encampments offers each of us the opportunity to meet other Brothers throughout the state of California and Nevada. Learn about their commitment to the Order and how they honor the Boys in Blue. Our Camp is only ten years old and already has had two Department Commanders, only Camp that is ten years old that has done this. Three Camps have two standing Department Commanders, Sheridan Camp 4, Pittenger Camp 21 and our Camp #24. Besides the business items at the Encampment it's a lot of fun.

Camp 24 January Meeting Agenda Minutes

Call to Order—Commander Jeff

Roll Call—Secretary Brad (excused absence due to Patti's broken leg!) Those present were Kenneth Felton (JVC), Bruce Hevelin (born September 11, 1953), Paul Hillar (Councilman), Charles Mabie (SVC and PDC), Sean McMenamin, and Jeff Vaillant (CC).

Pledge: All

Prayer—Chaplin Doug: In his absence the Prayer was offered by Commander Jeff.

Installation of Officers: PDC Charlie. The officers present were installed. Using 21st technology (aka G4 cell phone) the installation was read from the SUVCW website!

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Bob was unable to attend.

Actions for the Treasurer include issuing a \$400 check to the National office in support of the National Encampment to be held in Los Angeles. This action was taken by the Camp in 2010 awaiting the mechanism for deposit by the National SUVCW.

Further the Camp at this meeting M/S/C to obtain an ad in the Department Encampment booklet so the Treasurer is authorized to send a \$25.00 check to the Department SVC. PDC Charlie has the information for this action.

Membership Report: JVC Ken reported on reading an account of Ezecial Porter whose descendants could live in the SF Bay Area. The most recent death (1964) Ken found left some 37 great grandchildren! Good idea by Ken to find new potential Camp members! Ken will consult with Secretary Brad on the current Camp membership and the Camp webpage listing to update. PDC Charlie gave Ken the National Recruitment Guide.

Discussion Items

1. Fort Point Event—Brother Charlie explained in some detail the activities to occur on 28 January 2012. Brother Ken hopes to attend.
2. National Encampment Contribution—Brother Charlie. See Treasurer. Also the Brothers were encouraged to make their own contributions.
3. Living History Day on Alcatraz—April 14th is confirmed. Details to follow.
4. Tad Campbell Endorsement of National JVC was voted upon and Camp Order #2 has been prepared.
5. Department Encampment Delegates. The Camp has three automatic delegates being the CC, PDC and PCinC. It was M/S/C that three additional Brothers are eligible as Delegates.
6. SUVCW Pens for Brothers were given to those in attendance.
7. Other Items for the Good of the Camp. We learned of the death of Brother Bruce's 89 year old father in Dayton, Ohio over the holidays. Bruce will be heading to Dayton later this month.

Brother Charlie was able to visit with Linda Owens and obtained some materials for use by the Camp for the Department Encampment. He reported Linda is doing well all things considered. She is moving slowly on the deposition of PCC Lynn's materials and she will be attending the Reno gun show in April.

Closing Prayer: Given by Commander Jeff in the absence of Chaplin Doug

California Military Museum – Museum Day, 2012

Co. B, 8th California and General George Wright Camp #22 participated in free Museum Day on Saturday February 25th. Sgt. Dan Sebby, curator of the California Military Museum estimated that over 5,000 people visited the museum.

Brothers Brad Schall, Don Wilt, Steve Bogart, Owen Stiles, Jon Henry, Steven Neuburger, Jim Monteton manned three information tables in front of the museum. Several groups of Scouts came by and were very interested in Eagle Scouts certificates.

Camp #22 Commander Jon Henry spoke with a regional director of PTA's in Sacramento and they were very excited about our participation in school programs.

We had a constant traffic from 10:00am in the morning till closing time at 4:00 pm.

Our tables were about 15 feet from a Huey helicopter display and it was packed all day. Young people loved getting into the chopper and have their picture taken.

Trivia Questions for February – Answers at the Camp meeting

- (1) In 1860 the minimum height to attend West Point was?
- (2) John S. Mosby was a lawyer in California after the war. Who did he work for?
- (3) Henry S. Washburn wrote the poem "The Vacant Chair." Who wrote the music?
- (4) Teethdullers, worn castles were nicknames for what?
- (5) Who wrote Uncle Tom's Cabin?

Brother David Demmy, Sr from the Great Department of Pennsylvania sent this to me recently and I wanted to share it with all. You can download the “The Music of the American Civil War (1861-1865). Enjoy the music.

<p style="text-align: center;">The Vacant Chair Download Midi File Use courtesy of The Music of the American Civil War (1861-1865)</p>	
Information	Lyrics
<p>The words are by Henry Washburn. The melody was written in 1862 by George F. Root (1820-1895).</p> <p>George Root's other tunes included Tramp! Tramp! Tramp!, <i>The Battle Cry of Freedom</i> and <i>Just Before the Battle Mother</i>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lyrics</p> <p>We shall meet, but we shall miss him There will be one vacant chair We shall linger to caress him While we breathe our evening prayer; When a year ago we gathered Joy was in his mild blue eye, But a golden chord is severed And our hopes in ruin lie.</p> <p><i>Chorus</i> <i>We shall meet, but we shall miss him</i> <i>There will be one vacant chair</i> <i>We shall linger to caress him</i> <i>While we breathe our evening prayer</i></p>	<p>At our fireside, sad and lonely, Often will the bosom swell, At remembrance of the story How our noble Willie sell; How he strove to bear our banner Through the thickest of the fight, And uphold our country's honor In the strength of manhood's night.</p> <p><i>Chorus</i> <i>We shall meet, but we shall miss him</i> <i>There will be one vacant chair</i> <i>We shall linger to caress him</i> <i>While we breathe our evening prayer</i></p> <p>True, they tell us wreaths of glory Ever more will deck his brow, But this soothes the anguish only Sweeping o'er our heartstrings now. Sleep today, Oh early fallen, In thy green and narrow bed, Dirges from the pine and cypress, Mingle with the tears we shed.</p> <p><i>Chorus</i> <i>We shall meet, but we shall miss him</i> <i>There will be one vacant chair</i> <i>We shall linger to caress him</i> <i>While we breathe our evening prayer</i></p>

Come join your other Brothers in the Department of California and Pacific and celebrate the Centennial of the last National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic in California. The Encampment in being held at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott. Joining the Sons with be the LGAR, DUVCW and the ASUVCW Four of the five Allied Orders will be meeting at the same time and place.

131 National SUVCW Encampment
 August 9-12, 2012, Los Angeles, California

Camp Order's – Camp Commander Jeffrey Vaillant

Sons of Union Veteran of the Civil War

Office of the Camp Commander
Jeffrey L. Vaillant, Commander

Camp Order #1
Series 2012
17 January 2012

1. I am grateful for the honor bestowed upon me by being elected to the office of Camp Commander. I am conscious of the fact that there have only been five Commanders prior and that each has had a distinguished term.
2. The Headquarters for the Camp Commander will be located at 7 Washington Street, Novato, CA 94947 and all correspondence may be mailed to this address. Correspondence may be made by e-mail at jeffreyvaillant@hotmail.com or via phone at (415) 897-7808.

The following elected officers of the Camp are:

Senior Vice-Commander: Charles W. Mabie, PDC (kcmabie@comcast.net)

Junior Vice-Commander: Kenneth Felton (kfelton97@yahoo.com)

Secretary: D. Brad Schall, PCinC (dschall@starstream.net)

Treasurer: Robert Ebert (rdowninge@netzero.com)

Councilman: Paul C. Hillar (hillars4xlube@sbcglobal.net)

Councilman: Bruce Hevelin (bruce911@sonic.net)

Councilman: Mark Wilson ()

The following appointed officers of the Camp are:

Chaplain: Douglas James (jako.james@gmail.com)

Historian: Vacant

Patriotic Instructor: Vacant

Counselor: D. Brad Schall, PCinC (dschall@starstream.net)

Guide: Vacant

Color Bearer: Charles W. Mabie, PDC (kcmabie@comcast.net)

Graves Registration: Kenneth Felton (kfelton97@yahoo.com)

Guard: Ben Mabie

Civil War Memorials: D. Brad Schall, PCinC (dschall@starstream.net)

Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator: Charles W. Mabie, PDC (kcmabie@comcast.net)

Newsletter Editor: D. Brad Schall, PCinC (dschall@starstream.net)

Signals Officer: D. Brad Schall, PCinC (dschall@starstream.net)

3. All correspondence regarding the finances of the Camp shall be sent to the Camp Treasurer, Robert Ebert at rdowninge@netzero.com.
4. The illness or death of a Brother or Sister or in their families shall be reported to the Camp Chaplain, Douglas James at jako.james@gmail.com.
5. New membership applications and membership inquiries shall be directed to Junior Vice-Commander: Kenneth Felton (kfelton97@yahoo.com).
6. Correspondence, changes in addresses/phone numbers/email and related materials shall be reported to Secretary: D. Brad Schall, PCinC (dschall@starstream.net).
7. Inquiries for Grave Registration shall be sent to Graves Registration: Kenneth Felton (kfelton97@yahoo.com).

The Camp generally meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month, at Mt. Mike's Pizza, Castro Village Shopping Center, 20261 Patio Drive, Castro Valley, California (behind Safeway). A fellowship time is held immediately preceding the Camp meeting, from 6:30-7:00 p.m.

Ordered this 17th day of January 2012
Jeffrey L. Vaillant, Camp Commander
Attested to Camp Secretary: D. Brad Schall, PCinC (dschall@starstream.net)

Office of the Camp Commander
Jeffrey L. Vaillant, Commander

Camp Order #2
Series 2012
17 January 2012

General Alfred Pleasonton Camp #24, Department of California and Pacific voted unanimously to endorse the Candidacy of Tad Campbell for the position of National Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. We ask that this endorsement be read to all Brothers attending the 126th Department Encampment on 9 and 10 March, 2012.

Section One: Brother Campbell has regularly attended and supported our Camps activities and growth since its conception in 1989. His support and fellowship has had a lasting relationship.

Section Two: Brother Campbell has prepared himself for the position of National Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief by being elected and appointed to a variety of offices at Camp, Department and National levels.

Section Three: Brother Campbell has shown a great understanding and support for the GAR and the Allied Orders.

Section Four: Brother Campbell's background outside his activities in the SUVCW imminently qualifies him as a progressive leader.

Section Five: Our Camp is honored to call him Brother and friend.

Proclaimed this 17th day of January, 2012

Jeffrey Vaillant, Commander, General Alfred Pleasonton Camp #24, Department of California and Pacific

Attested by, Brad Schall, PCinC, Secretary, General Alfred Pleasonton Camp #24, Department of California and Pacific

Friends of Civil War Alcatraz extend an invitation for our Camp and Co. B to participate in their Living History Days on Saturday April 14th and Saturday September 29th. Company B will again be the Headquarters Company for the event. If you wish to participate please let Commander Vaillant or Brad Schall know. They will give you the details.

We are starting the process of writing our Camp's History. Commander Vaillant will be appointing a History Committee to write our History. If you would like to be on the committee just let the Commander know. I could not find the first meeting agenda but I did find the second muster agenda. Enjoy.



Photo 1 – Charlie Mabie
 Photo 2 - Group photo
 Photo 3 – David Saylor – Recruiter
 Top column 2
 Charles (Corky Reed) Uniform
 Tad Campbell Brad Schall



Camp #24 – Sesquicentennial Signature event – Ft. Point, San Francisco 28 January, 2012

Camp #24, we had a successful event.

General Alfred Pleasonton Camp #24 Sesquicentennial Signature event was a huge success. Charlie Mabie, PDC and Joe Marti coordinated the event. Five Camps, 2 SVR companies and 1 Auxiliary participated in the actives at Ft. Point. Twenty three members of the Allied Orders showed up for a successful event at Ft. Point, San Francisco.

Mike Musante, ACWA and 20th Maine reenactor said "It was a great event! We had a record public turnout....2562! We had about 75 reenactors including the great SUVCW turnout. Thanks for coming out! I pushed as many public as possible to the guard room to try and get the kids to participate in your passbook program. I think it worked our well! You had a ton of public around your tables at all times!"

The recruiting certificate impression program that was put on by Joe Marti, David Saylor and Frank Avila was very successful. Our SUVCW Brothers did an outstanding job.

We have been invited back by the NPS, 20th Maine and the ACWA for the next event at Ft. Point.

Charlie Mabie, Brad Schall and Ken Felton represented Camp #24.

Email from Camp #4 Commander Joe Marti to Mike Musante, ACWA

Dear Mike,

Thanks for all your hard work and support leading up and during the event. I think all of us came away thinking it was the biggest and best Ft. Point event to date, public-wise. Also, I have to think it might have been the most interactive. We 'enlisted' easily over 100 recruits who got their enlistment papers and then off to Frank Avila for his top-notch medical exam and another form to keep. I heard he even turned away a potential recruit who said he had suffered typhoid! One reason there may have been more public was that a cruise ship full o' Germans came on buses by the droves. That probably accounts for some of them.

Anyway, it was a great time had by all, and I'm almost completely without a voice today because of all the interaction. I think we might want to continue this in the future. Those kids really seemed to be electrified by the participation.

Cheers, Joe Marti

1999

We are starting to write our Camp's history and each newsletter will contain some information from the past. We applied to the Department Commander Gene Armistead for permission to form a Camp. We received our Charter from Department Commander Bob Lowe. Commander-in-Chief Danny Wheeler signed our Charter on 1 February 2000.

Charter members were: Russell N. Bearrows, Richard Campbell, Robert Ebert, David Ernest, Eugene Fortine, Robert Hill, Zoyd Luce, Robert C. Maerdian, Vincent Potts, Nate Piles, Charles J. Reed, Braden Schall, Christopher Schall, Donald Brad Schall, Edward Sebree, Alan Streit, Peter L. Stupey.

We met at the Castro Valley Library. Most of the Charter members transferred from Sheridan Camp 4.

Below is our 2nd meeting agenda.

General Alfred A. Pleasonton Camp 24 – Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Second Muster – Monday October 4th, 1999 6:00 PM – Castro Valley Library
20055 Redwood Road, Castro Valley, CA 94546 – (510) 670-6280

AGENDA

Muster Chat

Sharing of Memorabilia:

Introductions:

Questionnaire:

Meeting:

Call to order

Prayer

Flag

Commitment

Approval of minutes

Commander report:

New Members

General Pleasonton

Remembrance Day

November Meeting

Election

The Floor is yours

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Chaplin Nate Piles

Color Bearer: Robert Hill

Patriotic Instructor: Robert Maerdian

Brad Schall

Jr. Vice Commander – Charles Reed

The Gamble – From Captain to General

War Units of General Alfred Pleasonton's Brothers Ancestors:

1st United States Sharpshooters, 16th United States Infantry,

Illinois: 11th Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, 31st Illinois, 34 Illinois Infantry, 35 Illinois Volunteer Infantry, 65th

Illinois, 36th Illinois, 80thth Illinois Infantry, 87th Illinois Infantry, 119th Illinois, 131 Illinois, 136 Illinois

Infantry, 1st Illinois Volunteer Light Artillery Colvin Battery

Indiana: 51st Indiana,

Iowa: 3rd Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, 10th Iowa

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

Maine: 13th Maine Artillery

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

Minnesota: 1st Minnesota Heavy Artillery

Ohio: 100th Ohio, 172nd Ohio

Pennsylvania: 11th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, 13th Pennsylvania, 18th Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry,

67 Pennsylvania, 71st Pennsylvania/1st California Infantry, 79th Pennsylvania, 100th Pennsylvania

Volunteers, Co. B 215th Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Provisional Cavalry

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

West Virginia: 11th West Virginia Infantry

I was going through business cards that I have collected over the past few years and found a interesting one. Somewhere I obtained one from Brother Everitt Bowles from the Department of South Carolina and Georgia. If you like Civil War memorabilia and GAR badges go to Civilwarbadges.com. You will enjoy.

General Alfred Pleasonton Camp 24 Officers for 2012

Camp Commander: Jeffrey Vaillant

Senior Vice Commander: Charles Mabie, PDC

Junior Vice Commander: Ken Felton

Secretary: Brad Schall, PCinC

Treasurer: Bob Ebert

Council: Paul Hiller, Bruce Hevelin, vacant

Chaplin: Douglas James

Counselor: Brad Schall, PCinC

Color Bearer: Charles Mabie

Guard: Ben Mabie

Graves Registration: Ken Felton

Memorials Officer: Brad Schall, PCinC

Eagle Scout: Charles Mabie

Newsletter Editor: Brad Schall, PCinC

Signals Officer: vacant

Patriotic Instructor: vacant

Historian: vacant

General Alfred Pleasonton Camp #24 meets on the third Tuesday of the month at – Mountain Mike's Pizza –
Castro Valley Shopping Center Social at 6:30 pm -----Meeting at 7:00 pm

Meetings are open to members and guests. Please come and join us in honoring the Boys in Blue

Camp #24 services the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa and shares the county of San Francisco with
Camp #4

General Alfred Pleasonton Camp #24 Camp Commanders

1999-2001 Brad Schall

2002-September Charles J. Reed

2002-2003 Charles Gardali

2004-2008 Charles Mabie

2009-2011 Lynn R. Owens

2012 Jeffrey Vaillant

Website Information

National Website: www.suvcw.org

National Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/suvcw>

Department Website: www.suvmac.org

Camp 24 website: www.suvmac.org/camp24.html