



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
General Alfred Pleasonton Camp 24

NEWSLETTER for JUNE 2018

Editor: Steve Johnson Camp Commander: Ken Felton

Welcome To Our Newest Member, Shane Bridger

Shane attended our last camp meeting and has sent in his application for membership, which was approved by unanimous vote by the members present. He is now our youngest member, being 30 years old, and lives in Pinole. His great-great-great grandfather was Andrew Bridger, who was mustered into Co. E of the 11th Iowa Volunteer Infantry in March of 1864. Andrew was a native of West Virginia, and after the war many of his descendants lived in Missouri. He was discharged from the army in May of 1865 due to disability.

Tour of the NPS Archives, Presidio of San Francisco

Thanks to the efforts of our Senior Vice-commander John Gee, our camp will be given a tour of the NPS archives on Friday, June 22, at 10 a.m. The archivist, Amanda Willford, will show us many items related to the Civil War history of Fort Alcatraz and Fort Point, as well as the military history of the Presidio. She will show us how we can do research there, and what photographs we can have access to for doing public programs. Afterward, if any members are interested, we can do a quick tour of the excellent exhibit of Presidio history at the Officer's Club museum (said to be the oldest building in San Francisco).

Civil War Days on Angel Island, June 16 - 17

The American Civil War Association will hold two mock battles per day on Angel Island on June 16 & 17. They will set up their tents at Camp Reynolds and interact with the public all day. If interested in attending contact me right away.

Members Attend Memorial Day in San Francisco

Several members of our camp attended the Memorial Day activities at the Presidio of San Francisco on May 28th. SUVCW members from other camps, such as Frank Avila, were there as well. Camp 24 members Ken Felton, John Gee,

Gary Hormel, Brad Schall, and Brad Hatton were there in uniform, and marched in the parade from the main post to the National Cemetery. After the ceremonies, they positioned themselves in the cemetery to talk to visitors about notable Civil War soldiers buried there. Visitors are often unaware of the many soldiers — and one woman Union spy — that are interred at the SF cemetery, and are always fascinated to hear their stories.

FOCWA Newsletter Full of Information

Several of our camp members volunteer at Alcatraz and Fort Point to tell the story of their role in the Civil War in the West. For those of you who cannot volunteer there, I would still recommend reading the monthly newsletter of the Friends of Civil War, which I edit. It has many interesting articles about the war in the West, such as: “Los Angeles in Civil War Days” (Jan. 2016), “Resources on California & the Civil War” (Feb. 2017), “Alcatraz and Mare Island” (May 2016), “Army Ranks on Alcatraz” (Mar. 2017), “Regimental Bands” (Oct. 2017), “San Francisco Civil War Street Names” (Feb.-April 2018). These can be found on the FOCWA website, under “Newsletter”

<http://www.friendsofcivilwaralcatraz.org/newsletter.htm>

Next Camp Meeting July 18 at 7 pm, Albany City Library
(You will be notified if there is a change in the date)