



**Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



**Meeting Minutes
Camp Election Meeting (Hybrid)
Saturday, November 4, 2023**

Willow Glen Funeral Home
1039 Lincoln Avenue, San Jose, California

Camp No. 4 Members Present (13):

In-Person: Frank C. Avila (PCC), Daniel R. Earl (PCC), Thomas T. Graham (PDC), Thomas B. Hammer, Rick T. LaRosa (PCC), Paul E. Lavrischeff (PCC), Linn W. Malaznik, Gregory L. Mast, Donald E. Menzies, John E. Stolp (PCC); *Virtual via Zoom:* Tad D. Campbell (PCinC), Dean A. Enderlin (PDC), Randall W. Hawkinson

Guests Present (1):

Sueling Cho (wife of Thomas B. Hammer)

Meeting called to order by CC Rick LaRosa at 10:09

The draft minutes for the meeting of September 9, 2023 were distributed by email prior to the meeting. It was moved (Graham) and seconded (Earl) that the minutes be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously. One minor typographical error was noted, which will be corrected before publication.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Secretary Tad Campbell reported that no correspondence had been received.

Camp Treasurer Linn W. Malaznik reported that as of September 30th the Camp treasury has a balance of \$6,845.29.

Camp Commander Rick LaRosa reported the following:

- The closing of today's meeting would be in memory of Past Camp Commander Robert J. "Bob" Kadlec.
- On September 16, 2023 CC LaRosa and Paul Lavrischeff participated in the headstone dedication ceremony for Pvt. Henry L. Barnett (1846-1909) at Santa Cruz Memorial Park in Santa Cruz, California. The event, sponsored by Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp No. 24, was spearheaded by Kenneth G. Felton, a dual member of Camp No. 4. The event was attended by about 30-35 people and included a number of local dignitaries.
- On October 15, 2023 CC LaRosa attended at Colton Hall in Monterey, California a reenactment of the signing of the California State Constitution. It was in this historic building where the original state constitution was drafted in 1849.

- On November 3, 2023 CC LaRosa attended the History Happy Hour at the Ainsley House in Campbell, California.
- CC LaRosa made some comments on the state of the Camp, especially the aging of the Camp's membership. Given changes in members' personal health and other life situations, the Camp should explore different ways in which future meetings could be held, such as some less formal meetings/gatherings. He also suggested that a Camp Commander could delegate coordination of certain events to a particular Brother or Brothers.
- CC LaRosa announced that he would not be seeking a fourth term as Camp Commander during today's elections.

No other officers nor committees had anything to report.

Unfinished Business:

- Camp Treasurer Linn Malaznik reported that at the last meeting he was authorized to place some of the Camp funds into a CD, but that he has been having difficulty meeting up with the person at the bank that handles that and so it has not yet been accomplished. The Camp's accounts were with Bank of the West, which has now been taken over by BMO (Bank of Montreal).

New Business:

- The initiation of Bro. Thomas B. Hammer was conducted, with his membership badge being pinned on him by his wife, Sueling Cho.
- It was moved (Earl) and seconded (Lavrischeff) that the Camp give a donation of \$100.00 to a charity in memory of Bro. Robert J. Kadlec (PCC). After some discussion, it was determined to give the donation to the Darwin J. Thomas Memorial Chapter 201, Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), of which Bro. Kadlec was an active and dedicated member.
- Bro. Tad Campbell introduced a motion that the Camp petition the Department of California and Pacific for the restoration of rank of Past Camp Commander (PCC) for the following Brothers: Robert L. Nelson, Christopher L. Tittle, Kevin R. Coyne, Garrett B. Hasslinger, and Randall W. Hawkinson. These Brothers lost their PCC honors when they transferred to this Camp from the now-defunct Lincoln Camp No. 10. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- CC LaRosa reminded the Camp of the upcoming Veterans Day Parade in downtown San Jose on Sat., November 11, 2023. The plan is for flags to be carried by Tad Campbell, Rick LaRosa, and Linn Malaznik, with Frank Avila acting as one of the armed color guards. Reenactor Jose Silva is planning to participate and hopes to bring five or more reenactors with him. The Camp is entry #12 and participants should gather at the staging area between 9-10 am.
- CC LaRosa reminded the Camp of the upcoming Remembrance Day Ceremony at Oak Hill Memorial Park in San Jose on Sat., November 18, 2023 at 10 am. Over 175 invitations have been sent to the media and dignitaries. Unfortunately, the Fort Point Garrison Brass Band will be unable to participate as originally planned.
- The nomination and elections of officers was conducted, with the following results:
 - Camp Commander – Donald E. Menzies
 - Senior Vice Commander – Rick T. LaRosa (PCC)
 - Junior Vice Commander – Daniel R. Earl (PCC)
 - Secretary – Tad D. Campbell (PCinC)
 - Treasurer – Linn W. Malaznik
 - Council – Daniel R. Earl (PCC), Frank C. Avila (PDC), and Thomas T. Graham (PDC).

- Delegates to Department Encampment: Randall W. Hawkinson, Linn W. Malaznik, and Thomas B. Hammer.
- Alternate Delegates to Department Encampment: All other members of the Camp in good standing.
- Delegates to the United Veterans Council (UVC) of Santa Clara County: These are appointed, not elected, positions and will be decided by the incoming Camp Commander.

Patriotic Instructor's Report:

Patriotic Instructor Dean Enderlin shared an image of the Battle of Perryville, Kentucky (October 8, 1862) and read excerpts of letters by Corporal Thomas Berry of Company G, 89th Illinois Infantry. The letters were contained in a book he recently acquired called "Thomas Berry's War" by C. W. Yocum. The book is of particular interest to Bro. Enderlin as his own ancestor, Erick Nelson, was in Company F.

Good of the Order:

- Bro. Paul Lavrischeff asked if there were any updates on the status of Brothers. No one had anything to report. A discussion of Camp and SVR dues followed, with no actions taken.
- Bro. Frank Avila reported that there is no definitive information about the 2024 Department Encampment. It will likely take place on the second or third weekend in March, either in Bakersfield, California or Laughlin, Nevada.
- Bro. Thomas Graham asked about the next National Encampment. Bro. Avila reported that the 2024 Encampment will take place in Lexington, Kentucky, with the 2025 Encampment to be held in Houston, Texas. Nothing definitive is known past that.
- CC LaRosa reminded the Camp that the memorial and committal services for Robert J. Kadlec (PCC) will take place at Oak Hill Memorial Park in San Jose on Mon., November 6, 2023 at 11:00 am. Brothers are encouraged to wear period attire and their membership badges with mourning ribbon affixed.

Meeting was duly closed at approximately 11:27 am.

Minutes submitted by Camp Secretary Tad D. Campbell, PCinC.