



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



**Meeting Minutes  
Camp Meeting  
Saturday, November 18, 2024**

GAR Plot, Oak Hill Memorial Park, San José, California

**Camp No. 4 Members Present (9):**

Frank C. Avila (PDC), Daniel R. Earl (PCC), Thomas B. Hammer, John G. Jensen, Rick T. LaRosa (PCC), Paul E. Lavrischeff (PCC), Gregory C. Lindley, Donald E. Menzies (CC), Wyatt E. Sutton

**Guests Present (1):**

Gary Hormel (Commander, Camp No. 24), Michael Sutton (father of Wyatt Sutton), Shelly Potvin (mother of Wyatt Sutton), Wynter Sutton (brother of Wyatt Sutton)

Meeting called to order by CC Donald Menzies at 10:22 am.

Bro. Frank Avila was appointed *Secretary Pro Tem* for the meeting.

The draft minutes for the September 14, 2024 meeting were distributed by email prior to the meeting. It was moved (Earl) and seconded (LaRosa) that the minutes be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**Officer and Committee Reports:**

According to the Camp Secretary, the Camp membership stands at 38 members, which allows for 4 delegates to the Department Encampment.

According to the Camp Treasurer, the Camp checking account has a balance of \$3,992.66. The Certificate of Deposit (CD) has a balance of approximately \$3,100.00. It was moved (Earl) and seconded (Lavrischeff) that the Treasurer leave the accounts in their current configuration. Motion passed.

Camp Commander Donald Menzies reminded everyone of three upcoming events:

- The Camp will have an informal social gathering on Saturday, December 7, 2024 at The Garret Station in Los Gatos, California from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.
- The annual Department Encampment will take place on March 7-8, 2025 at the Four Points by Sheraton in Bakersfield, California
- The Camp will have a joint installation meeting with Camp No. 24 on Saturday, January 18, 2025 at 10:00 am at the home of Brother Brad Hatton in Fremont, California.

Camp Commander Menzies called upon Brother Paul Lavrischeff who gave a report on the Camp's participation in the San José Veterans Day Parade on November 11, 2024. *The Mercury News* printed a photo of the Camp's entry.

Camp Senior Vice Commander Rick LaRosa had nothing to report.

Camp Junior Vice Commander Daniel Earl had nothing to report.

None of the Camp Committees had anything to report.

**Unfinished Business:**

- Brother Wyatt E. Sutton was initiated into the Camp.

**New Business:**

- The following Brothers were nominated and elected as officers of the Camp for 2025:
  - Commander Donald E. Menzies
  - Senior Vice Commander Rick T. LaRosa
  - Junior Vice Commander Daniel R. Earl
  - Secretary Tad D. Campbell
  - Treasurer Linn W. Malaznik
  - Councilman Daniel R. Earl
  - Councilman Thomas B. Hammer
  - Councilman Gregory C. Lindley
- Dept. Encampment Delegate Wyatt E. Sutton
- Dept. Encampment Delegate Thomas B. Hammer
- Dept. Encampment Delegate Gregory C. Lindley
- Dept. Encampment Delegate John G. Jensen
- It was moved and seconded that all remaining Brothers of the Camp in good standing be elected as Alternate Delegates to Dept. Encampment. Motion passed.
- Delegates from the Camp to the United Veterans Council (UVC) of Santa Clara County will be appointed by the Camp Commander at a later date.

**Patriotic Instructor's Report:**

There was no report from the Camp Patriotic Instructor.

**Good of the Order:**

- Bro. Gary Hormel:
  - Reported that Hurricane Helene, which recently battered Tennessee, was not known to have affected any SUVCW Brothers. However, Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp No. 24 made a monetary donation to a homeless veterans shelter that was damaged by the storm.
- Bro. John Jensen:
  - Mentioned a YouTube video that he thought might be of interest to the members.
- Bro. Paul Lavrischeff:

- Mentioned that Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) membership in the Dept. is down and reminded everyone that SVR dues of \$7.00 will be collected in March as they are due to National in April.
- Bro. Thomas Hammer:
  - Mentioned that the names of nine U.S. military installations formerly named for Confederate officers have been renamed.

Meeting was duly closed at approximately 11:23 am.

Minutes submitted by Camp Secretary Tad D. Campbell, PCinC and compiled from notes taken by Bro. Frank C. Avila, PDC.