



Camp Orders 2018-02
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Grand Army of the Republic
“Old Abe” Camp #8
Wisconsin Department



**Camp March 19th Meeting Will Be Held At Oshkosh Fire Station
#17, 1813 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh, WI**



Our March meeting, Monday, March 19th, is being held at Oshkosh Fire Station #17, 1813 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh, WI.

This fire station is located at the southern end of Riverside Cemetery in Oshkosh, WI. Parking will be in back of the fire station where the red arrow is.

- Meeting Directions -

Coming from the north or south take Hwy 41 to exit 120. After exiting head into the city of Oshkosh on Algoma Blvd. Drive on Algoma Blvd past the large cemetery on your right which will be Riverside Cemetery. At the end Riverside Cemetery you will see Fire Station #17 just before the intersection of Algoma Blvd & West Murdock Avenue.

From Waupaca & the west take Hwy 45 straight into Oshkosh. Hwy 45 becomes Algoma Blvd once you pass over Hwy 41. Stay on Algoma Blvd & go past the large cemetery on your right which will be Riverside Cemetery. At the end Riverside Cemetery you will see Fire Station #17 just before the

Commander's Comments

Camp Commander

Dennis R. Jacobs



Spring is just around the corner, and if you listen carefully, the songs of birds are starting to fill the air. As I look at our camp calendar, I see it will be another busy year for the camp.

We had great attendance for Bingo at the King Veteran's Home. Thank you to all the Brothers and Sisters who assisted in this fun afternoon. It was nice to hear the familiar sound of one veteran who always yells out "Biiinnngggooooo!" Even with the flu keeping many residence in their rooms, we still have a great crowd of bingo players.

Mid-Winter meeting on February 3rd was an informative time and continues to show the direction of the organization. It was also nice to see our Commander-in-Chief Mark R. Day. One goal from the meeting is the Last Soldier Project and the placing of the memorial markers at the graves within the counties of our area.

There are many events coming up this coming year for all our brothers to take part time. As always, I look forward to seeing you at those events and in the cemeteries.

Dennis R Jacobs, Camp Commander

King Open House and Car Show

King Veterans Home

May 20th, 2018

10:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Assistance needed to work the booth.
Please let Camp Commander Dennis
Jacobs know if you are able to be there.

denmergb@hotmail.com

Keep In Mind

135th

Wisconsin

Department

Encampment

June 2, 2018

King Veteran's Home

King Wisconsin

2018 Camp Calendar

March 19th, 7:00 PM

Camp 8 regular meeting

Location: Fire House #17 1813 Algoma Blvd Oshkosh WI

April 14th, 10:00AM

Lincoln Tomb Ceremony

Location: Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL

May 20th, 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM

King Veterans Home Open House and Car Show

Location: King Veterans Home, King WI.

May 21st, 7:00 PM

Camp 8 regular meeting

Location: Fire House #17 1813 Algoma Blvd Oshkosh WI

May 28th

Memorial Day

June 2nd

Wisconsin State Department Encampment

Location: King Veterans Home, King, WI.

June 2nd & 3rd

Pinecrest Historical Village Civil War Weekend

Location: Pinecrest Historical Village, Manitowoc, WI.

June 23rd & 24th

Heritage Hill Civil War Weekend

Location: Heritage Hill Living History Park, Green Bay, WI.

July 16th, 7:00 PM

Camp 8 regular meeting & picnic

Location to be announced

September 17th, 7:00 PM

Camp 8 regular meeting

Location: Fire House #17 1813 Algoma Blvd Oshkosh WI

September 29th & 30th

Wade House Civil War Weekend

Location: Wade House, Greenbush, WI.

November 12th

Camp 8 Annual Bean Dinner, Meeting and Camp Elections

Location: Fire House #17 1813 Algoma Blvd Oshkosh WI

Please send information on events that you are aware of to be included in this newsletter to:

dennergb@hotmail.com

Camp In Action

Bingo at King Veteran's Home on January 27, 2018



Camp Commander Dennis Jacobs (left) checking a winning Bingo card. Brother Brian Peters (right) verifying a winning card.

Brother Kurt Kirk (right) paying out a prize for a winning card as Brother Kirby Scott (center) and Brother Kim Heltemes (left) looks on.



Brother Alan Petit serving cookies after Bingo.
Photographs by PCC Kirby Scott

Camp In Action

Echoes of the Past Trade Fair, Oshkosh, Wisconsin February 25th & 26th, 2018



Brother Kirby Scott and Brother Alan Petit working the booth on Saturday afternoon.



Brother Alan Petit attentively watching over the booth on Sunday Morning. Photographs by Brother Kirby Scott

Patriotic Instruction

By

Paul Johnson

I was asked to research the role of Prussians in the Civil War. It is difficult to trace them as a group in regiments since the term was not used in the 1860's but rather the immigrants were named as either "German" or "Austria / Hungarian". From the 1840's through the 1870's the area we now know as Germany was in the process of becoming the modern nation we know today. Ethnic regiments in the war were widely known in both northern and southern armies.

Specifically in Wisconsin the 9th, 26th, and 45th regiments were made up of mainly Germans; the 15th was known as the Norwegian regiment and the 17th was mainly comprised of Irish volunteers.

While trying to unify the various German states under its banner, Prussia was not a participant in the American Civil War. However, there were several members of the Prussian military that served as both officers and enlisted men in both armies, as were numerous men who previously immigrated to the United States. There also were official military observers sent to North America to observe the tactics of both armies, which were later studied by future military leaders of Prussia and unified Germany. It's a bit easier to track individuals from Prussia and show their contributions.

Major General Carl Schurz

Carl Schurz was a soldier, politician, and writer best remembered for his passionate support for liberal democracy. He helped elect President Lincoln, fought in the Civil War, served as a U.S. Senator, and denounced the Republican Party's shift toward conservatism in the late 19th century.



Schurz was born in Germany and educated at the University of Bonn. His activities during the unsuccessful 1848 revolution against the German aristocracy forced him to flee the country in 1849. He reached the United States in 1852, settling first in Philadelphia and later (1855) in Watertown, Wisconsin, where he quickly became active in the anti-slavery movement and other liberal causes. Schurz and his wife created a cultural storm in the prairie wilderness of Wisconsin, performed operas, holding concerts, and even forming a new movement started by Frederic Froebel in Germany, as they created a "kindergarten" in Watertown, Wisconsin.

Schurz ran unsuccessfully for lieutenant-governor in 1857 and 1859. He was an early supporter of Abraham Lincoln and in 1860 served as chairman of the Wisconsin delegation to the Republican National Convention.

He campaigned for Lincoln tirelessly throughout the East and Midwest. Lincoln appointed him ambassador to Spain. When the Civil War broke out, Schurz requested to come home and serve his country.

Civil War Service

Before returning to the U.S., his first act supporting the Union cause was to dissuade Spain from aiding the Confederacy. In May 1862 Schurz was commissioned a brigadier general. He fought at the Second Battle of Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and Chattanooga. In 1864 he accepted an appointment as chief of staff for Gen. Henry Slocum's Army of Georgia. He resigned from military service in May 1865.

Senator and Reformer

Schurz left Wisconsin after the Civil War to pursue political aspirations elsewhere. He worked in Detroit and St. Louis, where he edited a leading German-language newspaper. He was elected U.S. Senator from Missouri in 1868, serving from 1869-1875. He then served as Secretary of the Interior under President Rutherford B. Hayes until 1881.

Throughout these years Schurz refused to bend to partisan politics and remained true to his own principles of liberal democracy. His uncompromising beliefs were not always popular with the changing Republican Party, from which he was gradually marginalized.

His dictum, "My country, right or wrong; if right, to be kept right; and if wrong, to be set right," has been often quoted during controversial times. Schurz moved to New York in 1881 where he edited the New York Evening Post. During the 1890s he was a regular contributor to Harpers Weekly. Schurz died in New York on May 14, 1906.

Colonel Peter Joseph Osterhaus Commander, 1st Division

Osterhaus was born in Koblenz, Prussia in 1823 and was educated at a Berlin military academy. Like his friend Sigel, he left Germany after participating in the 1848-49 revolutions. He settled in Illinois where he established himself as a merchant and postmaster. He was also active in politics, where he became a supporter of the Republican Party and became acquainted with Abraham Lincoln.



In 1860, he and his family move to Saint Louis where he established himself as a merchant and bookkeeper. He became active in the German-American community and helped train pro-Union "Homeguard" companies. When war broke out, he was promoted to Major and led a battalion of infantry at Wilson's Creek. At the battle, he distinguished himself as a brave and able commander. For his actions, he was promoted to Colonel and given command of the German-American 12th Missouri Infantry. When Curtis organized the Army of the Southwest along ethnic lines, Osterhaus was given command of the largely-German 1st Division.

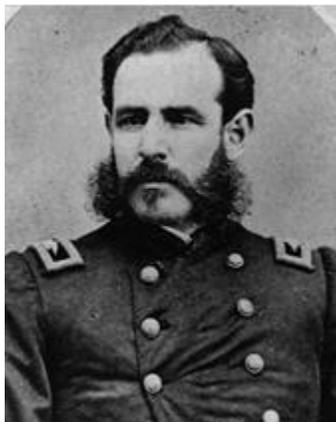
After Pea Ridge, he was promoted to Brigadier General and was transferred, along with many of his German troops, to General Grant's Army of the Mississippi.

He was instrumental in the capture of Fort Hindman at the Battle of Arkansas Post and skillfully led his division throughout the Vicksburg campaign (where he was wounded) and in the operations to break the siege of Chattanooga. In 1864, he was promoted to Major General and given command of the XV Corps, which he led throughout the rest of the war.

When the war ended, Osterhaus was appointed as the U.S. Consul at Lyon, France. He served in this capacity for the next 13 years. In 1880, he returned to Germany, and established himself in business in Mannheim and was later appointed U.S. Consul in Mannheim. He remained in Germany after his retirement in 1900. He was the last surviving Major General to have served in the Union Army during the Civil War. He died in 1916.

Brig. Gen. Alexander Schimmelfennig (b. 1824, d. 1865).

Schimmelfennig was born in the Prussian province of Posen. He enlisted in the Kingdom's army at the age of seventeen and served with the infantry in the East and West, where he came under the influence of radical political thoughts like Democracy and Communism. His first action was during the Schleswig-Holstein War of March 1848 in which he fought with distinction. But as the armistice in September left the Germans in the region under Danish rule, he resigned from the army.



As Schimmelfennig supported the idea of German unification he endorsed the Revolution of 1848/1849. When Prussian troops ended the revolution, he fought against his former comrades (Friedrich Engels served under him) but lost and was wounded twice. August Willich saved him and they stayed with the revolutionary army till its retreat to Switzerland. There, Schimmelfennig met Carl Schurz and went with him and Willich to London. Tried in absentia and sentenced to death he could not return to Germany, so he emigrated to the United States in 1854, where he became a civilian engineer in the army.

When the Civil War broke out he tried to raise an all-German cavalry regiment with Schurz. When this failed he tried to raise an infantry regiment, but fell ill with small pox. The regiment was raised nonetheless by friends of his and would be called the 74th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Schimmelfennig led it as colonel at the Battles of Cross Keys and Freeman's Ford. He was promoted to Brig. Gen. in November 1862 and rose to brigade command leading one at Second Bull Run. Schimmelfennig's worst moment came at Chancellorsville. His scouts had spotted enemy troops but corps commander Gen. Oliver Howard ordered the reconnaissance to be stopped. Thus Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's attack crushed the XI corps with Schimmelfennig's brigade.

At Gettysburg the first brigade of Schurz' 3rd division of the XI corps was crushed on the first day by Gen. Richard S. Ewell's first corps covering the retreat of the rest of the division. When Schimmelfennig tried to rally his men in the overcrowded streets of Gettysburg he came close to be captured. Dressed in casual military dress, his rank not apparent, he could escape the Rebels and hide in the kitchen garden of the Garlach

family. He rejoined his brigade on July 4 1863 after the Confederate retreat from Gettysburg. Detached to the West the same fall the XI corps and Schimmelfennig fought well in the battles for Chattanooga. During Gen. William T. Sherman's "March to the Sea" Schimmelfennig accepted the surrender of Charleston, South Carolina, where the whole war had started with the bombardment of Fort Sumter. However the General got ill in the swamps and marshes of South Carolina and died from tuberculosis in September 1865. He was buried in Reading, Pennsylvania.

On the rebel side, several Prussians also served among whom was;

Johann August Heinrich Heros von Borcke (1835 – 1895),

Johann Heros von Borcke was known as the "giant in gray" was over six feet four in height and well over two hundred pounds, with curly blond hair and laughing eyes. Born to an aristocratic German family, his childhood was spent in Berlin and Halle before receiving a superb Prussian military education. Von Borcke was commissioned an ensign in 1853 and admitted to the Cuirassier Regiment of Guards as a cadet.



In 1860, he was posted as second lieutenant to the Second Brandenburg Regiment of Dragoons, but saw little action. After his release from the Prussian Army, he embarked upon the adventure of his life: he sailed for Bermuda intent on joining the Confederate Army.

Speaking almost no English, he had managed to secure letters of introduction to Confederate authorities, and he slipped into South Carolina's Charleston Harbor on a blockade runner on May 24, 1862. He next traveled to Richmond; here he met with Confederate Secretary of War George Randolph who presented him with a letter of introduction to Major General J.E.B. Stuart. A deep friendship developed between the two men immediately and von Borcke was made a captain in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States and soon promoted to the rank of major. Von Bourcke could be entertaining and told wonderful stories with his thick accent, but he could also be a bit vain and difficult to get along with at times, especially for his servants. His horses were as big as his extra-long sword, a huge blade forged in Solingen of Damascus steel. He rode with Stuart, who affectionately called him "Von", during the Northern Virginia Campaign and the Maryland Campaign, acquiring a reputation for bravery, and he served with Stuart at the Battle of Middleburg on June 19, 1863, where he suffered a severe wound.

The examining doctor thought the wound, which pierced the lung, mortal, but von Borcke woke up the next morning determined to live. He did, although he was incapacitated for the rest of the year.

He resumed his duties in the spring of 1864, and was present at the Battle of Yellow Tavern in which J.E.B. Stuart was killed, and he sat by Stuart's side at his deathbed. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in December of that year, and was voted the official thanks of the Confederate Congress and sent on a diplomatic mission to England by President Jefferson Davis.

When the Confederacy collapsed in 1865, von Borcke returned to his native Prussia and resumed his military career. He fought in the 1866 Austro-Prussian War, receiving the coveted Order of the Red Eagle for his gallantry, but his old wounds

always plagued him, and he retired from the Prussian Army as Captain in 1867, settling in Neumarkt, East Prussia. While in London, he had written articles for the pro-Confederate 'Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine' and he published them in book form as "Memoirs of the Confederate War for Independence" in 1877.

RENEWAL - NOTICE

Dues Are Payable as of Jan. 1st.

Please send \$40.00 to the

Camp Treasurer:

Kurtis Kirk W 2154 Cottonville Court Berlin, WI 54923

OLD ABE CAMP #8 MEETING MINUTES, JAN. 18, 2018

1. Opening Meeting -7:30 P.M. Jimmy's White House Inn, Butte des Morte, Wi.
2. Roll call of officers: (5 members present)
 - CC-present
 - SVC-present
 - JVC-excused
 - Sec -excused
 - Trea-present
3. Treasurer's Report
 - CD \$1032.91. Other CD \$4421.10. Checking \$2,284.35
 - Secretaries Report
 - Published in newsletter – no additions.
4. Sick or distressed brothers.
 - A. Petit
5. Guests: 3 spouses as dinner guests
6. New Members: none
7. Old Business.
 - a. 2018 State Encampment. Need hosting guide and meal plan.
 - b. Flag disposal. Need location and date holding over until next meeting.
 - c. Waupaca Cty Indexing. Continue working on when grounds are clear.
 - d. Grave dedication. Louis Pues. Need to pick a date in spring.
 - e. Last Soldier Project. Start in our area, let other camps know progress
 - f. U.S. Flag arrived. Need flag staff for mounting
8. New Business.
 - a. ROTC Awards. Kim Heltemes presenting at Oshkosh, Brian Peters presenting at Stevens Point.
 - b. Grave dedication for William Stuelke. Combine with Louis Pues on same date if possible.
 - c. Fund raising. K. Kirk checking on raffle possibility, or selling some of the camps extra items.
9. Past events.
 - a. Gettysburg. precautions taken due to threat, Kim Heltemes participated.
 - b. Wreaths Across American. 9 members and 4 spouses laid wreaths at King Vet Cmty.
10. New events.
 - a. January bingo game at King. Jan. 27, 2018 at King Vets. Home.
 - b. Mid winter department meeting. Feb. 3, 2018 at Aliotos, Wauwatosa
 - c. Echoes of the past trade show. Feb. 24&25, 2018, Oshkosh
11. Any other bill and/or communications to address? NONE
12. Any other new or old business?
 - a. Return old camp flag to the Novaks. Brian Peters and Kim Heltemes ask to come along
 - b. Need to focus on recruiting to keep camp active
 - c. Possible change to meeting date and time to increase camp attendance.
13. Patriotic instruction. See items in newsletter
14. Anybody do anything for the good of the order?
 - a. Kim Heltemes, Jim Wade, Vince Barker presented Waupaca GAR & Sons charters to Wis. Military Museum.
 - b. Kim Heltemes marched in the Gettysburg paraded
15. Meeting closing. 8:38 pm

Camp Officers for 2018

Commander

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Sr. Vice Commander

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Treasurer

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Graves Registration

PCC Vince Barker - W6109 Colonial Drive Appleton, WI 54914
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Camp 8 Newsletter
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OSHKOSH and the OLD ABE Camp

In 1885 the Old Abe Camp, located in Oshkosh, was the largest SUV camp in Wisconsin. Old Abe was the famous mascot of the 8th Wisconsin Infantry, popularly known as the Eagle Brigade, a unit heavily involved in the campaigns of the western armies. Old Abe the battle eagle became a real war hero - used for recruiting during the war's later years, attending veterans reunions for years after, and finally becoming a National icon for Wisconsin.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT US

Contact the officers on page 9 of this newsletter. Visit the Department of Wisconsin website, and Camp 8 Webpages, at www.suvcw-wi.org. Also, visit the national SUVCW website at www.suvcw.org. Camp 8 also has a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/Old-Abe-Camp-8-Sons-of-Union-Veterans-of-the-Civil-War-SUVCW/192313178329. Membership is open to male descendants of a Union Civil War soldier. Application is made through National, Department, or local channels to become a member of a Camp. Some documentation about your ancestor is required – assistance is available through the Camp.

Membership is also available for males who cannot prove lineage to a Civil War soldier.

The initial dues for a new member are pro-rated through the year, and an initiation fee does apply.

Contact the Jr. Vice officer below for information.

Join Old Abe Camp 8! Membership

\$40.00/yr. Annual Dues*

For New Membership, Contact:

Jr. Vice Ron Arndt

N10998 Town Hall Rd, Marion, WI 54901

(715) 754-4842 roliarndt@frontiernet.net



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**Old Abe Camp 8 Sons of Union
Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW)**