

# Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

COL. HANS C. HEG CAMP #15

WIND LAKE, WIS.

JANUARY 2022

Winner of the Abraham Lincoln Commander-in-Chief Award - Best Camp in the Country

## Camp #15's New Officers Sworn in Dec. 2nd



Photo John Gillless

**Camp #15's new officers sworn in at Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting by Wisconsin Commander John Decker**

Camp #15's new officers for 2022 - the same line-up as last year's - were sworn in by Wisconsin Department Commander John Decker at the camp's December meeting. Commander Decker drove in from his home south of Madison, Wis., to install the camp's new officers at a shortened meeting Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Norway Town Hall in Wind Lake, Wis.

Following the installation, camp members adjourned to the home of Brother Jerry Coveney and his wife Lisa in Muskego, Wis., for the camp's annual Christmas party. The slate of new officers did not change from the camp's 2021 officers and is headed by Camp #15 commander Gerry Drought. Brother Sam Keith was installed as Senior Vice Com- (continued next page)

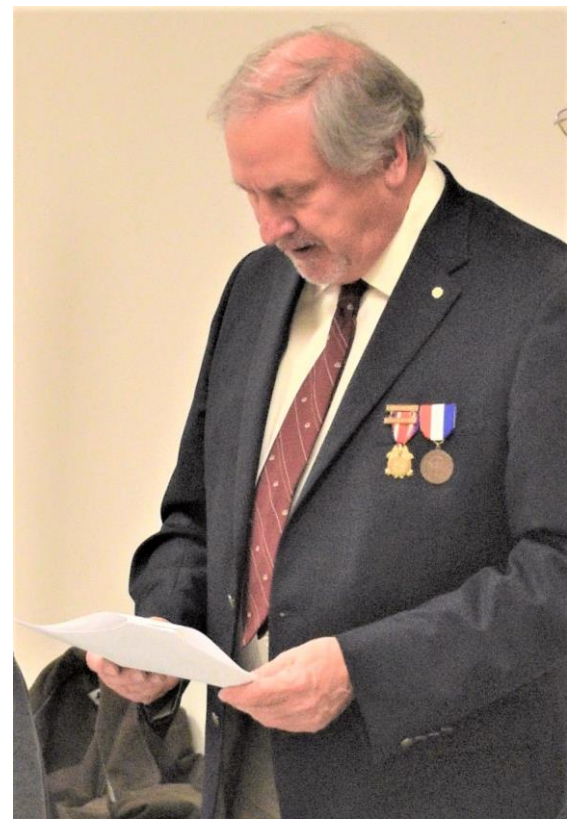
mander and Brother Jerry Coveney, who also serves as the camp's chaplain, was installed again as Junior Vice Commander.

Brother Brian McManus, who has held the dual positions of Camp Secretary-Treasurer since he helped found the camp in 2015, was once again sworn in as the camp's secretary-treasurer.

Installed to the three Camp Council positions again were Jeff Graf, Council #2, Bob Koenecke, Council #3, and Dave Daley, Council #1.

Commander Drought also made his appointments as commander: Jerry Coveney as Chaplain, Bob Koenecke as Memorials Officer, John Gilless as Guide, Dave Daley as Patriotic Instructor, and Brian McManus as Graves Registration Officer, Historian and Eagle Scout Coordinator.

With the slate of new officers assembled before him, hands on the Bible or on each *(continued next page)*



**Wisconsin Department Commander  
John Decker**

### **Wisconsin Department Commander John**

**Decker (far right), swearing in Camp #15's officers for the new year 2022. (Left), Gerry Drought, Commander; Dave Daley, Council #1 and Patriotic Instructor; Jeff Graf, Council #3; Jerry Coveney, Junior Vice Commander and Chaplain; Bob Koenecke, Council #3 and Memorials Officer; and Sam Keith, Senior Vice Commander**





others' shoulders, Department Commander Decker had each officer reaffirm their oath of office: "In the presence of Almighty God and this company here assembled, do solemnly and sincerely promise and declare that I will, to the very best of my ability, in word and deed, and without fear or favor faithfully, honestly, and with strict impartiality, carry out, as an Officer of the Camp, the principles and objectives of the Order."

"To the full and complete performance of all the forgoing on my honor as a man, I hereby pledge myself, and I pray God to keep me true and steadfast in this my sacred obligation as an Officer of this Camp." Amen to that, Brothers.



Chaplain Jerry Coveney saying opening prayer

## Welcome to the New Year, Brothers

The brothers in Camp #15 greet the new year ready to continue the work of the Sons of Union Veterans - honoring the graves, monuments and memory of the Union soldiers who fought a great Civil War 150 years ago to preserve the liberties we enjoy today.

We accomplished much last year and will do more this year. Happy New Year, Brothers.

## The Ladies in Camp #15 Throw a Christmas Party – And a Really Good Time was Had By All



The ladies of the camp say welcome to the Camp #15 Christmas party at Jerry and Lisa Coveney's home in Muskego. Clare Graf, Carolyn Wilson, Marge Koenecke, Lisa Coveney.



The brothers in Camp #15 and their ladies partied hard Dec. 2nd at the camp's annual Christmas party, this year hosted by Jerry and Lisa Coveney.

As those rural weekly newspapers like to put it a hundred years ago, a good time was had by all.

Barb Kallan and Ruth Gillless solving the problems of the world – they're on #7 now.





Jerry Coveney: I guess you need teeth for this kind of food.



(Left) Bob Koenecke: This is the most comfortable chair here. Must be Jerry's - but tonight, this chair is mine. Merry Christmas everyone - Happy New Year!



Michelle: Now, Marge - this is how you stand at attention. You get your shoulders back, suck your tummy in, arms down straight, head back, chin up...you got all that now?

John Gillless: Yeah, but you should see the other guy!



Clare Graf: Such a lovely party - thank you, Lisa. Thank you, Jerry - and Merry Christmas, Camp #15 brothers!



Sam Keith: He said what?







Tom Greil: Somebody said I might find a party here.



Rich Kallan: OK - who took my beer and left me this bottle of water? I know the difference, you know - I made my living as a beer taster at Miller.



(Above) Lisa Coveney: Hmm - a little more paprika next time, I think.



Ruthie: OK, Ann, Barb - we got one last problem to solve - men! This is gonna take a lotta time...

(Right) Gerry Drought: This is *not* my fourth time through the food line - it's only my *third* time! Get it right, Mr. Snotty Editor!



Jeff Graf: Boy, Lisa and Jerry sure got some nice family pictures here...



# Wreaths Across America – Honoring America’s Veterans on Dec. 18th



Senior Vice Commander Sam Keith at the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery outside of Union Grove, Wis.

Camp #15 helped celebrate the national Wreaths Across America ceremonies on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, placing wreaths on the graves of veterans buried at the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Union Grove, Wis. Camp brothers also placed wreaths on the graves of three Civil War soldiers buried at Luther Parker Cemetery in Muskego, Wis.



Lorenzo D. Finch, Co. I,  
13<sup>th</sup> Wis. Infantry



Corporal Edwin Foster, Co.  
I, 13<sup>th</sup> Wis. Infantry

(Above) Brother Bob Koenecke at the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery. Brother Bob also placed wreaths at the graves of three Civil War soldiers buried at the White Oak cemetery next to our Lafayette Church in Walworth County. The graves of the three: Lorenzo Finch (top left), Edwin Foster (left) and Dwight Stevens (bottom right).



Brother Rich Kallan, laying a wreath at the grave of Col. Hans C. Heg at Norway Lutheran Cemetery in Wind Lake, Wis. Our camp's namesake, Col. Heg was killed leading his troops at the battle of Chickamauga in 1863.



First Sergeant Dwight Stevens,  
20<sup>th</sup> Wis. Infantry



