

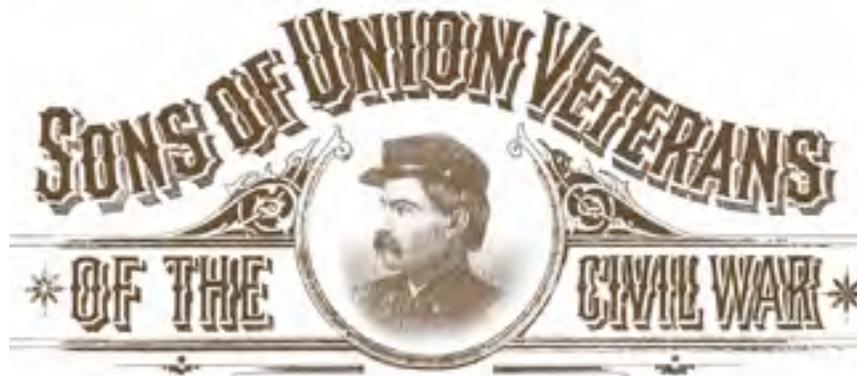
Two missions for you as 2017 nears

1. If you have not already renewed your membership, please do so today.

2. Please purchase an ad saluting your relative or some other worthy thing at the Patriotic Luncheon, which is Feb. 4. Get an organization that you know to buy an ad. This is our vital fund-raiser of the year. We sent a flyer last month.

C. K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SUJVCW



C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SERIES 2016 **CAMP ORDERS** DECEMBER 2016

TWO-TIME RECIPIENT OF THE MARSHALL HOPE NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR AWARD



PCinC Steve Michaels (center) returns to the Camp 1 commander's chair in November, sworn in with the other officers. At bottom, Chaplain Dean Collins leads our Memorial Day ceremony at Calvary Cemetery, which drew hundreds of onlookers, and some took photos.



## OUR SWORN DUTY IN 2016, 2017 ... AND ALWAYS

From the dedication of the historical marker at Forest Home Cemetery in Milwaukee to Memorial Day to parades and history fairs and multiple steps to honor and help vets, Camp 1 had a very proud year in 2016. We summarize the year in photos here and on page 3.

The first Camp meeting of the New Year will be Wednesday, Jan. 4, at the Machinists Union hall at 1650 S. 38th St., Milwaukee. Patriotic Instructor Bruce Nason will have the presentation.

# WRAPPING UP THE COUNT AT WOOD CEMETERY

By PCC Tom Mueller

Department GRO

Officials at Wood National Cemetery have accepted the main result of a 15-month SUVCW project that cataloged its Civil War graves: There are nearly 6,000, a figure that they said never had been calculated before.

The Sons database now has 5,975 for Wood; originally it had about 2,100 under nine different names for the cemetery, entered by various people.

Each step of the project used multiple methods, and Brother Virgil Matz was a great help with tough cases. A total of 227 names were cross-checked via several weeks of walkthroughs after all the database work, and 10 were not in our database. That is 4.4 percent. So a few more are still out there.

The Sons database is at <http://www.suvcwdb.org/> It has been attacked by hackers in recent months, so a visitor can search only for one name of a soldier at a time, compared with those who have registered earlier, who can search via multiple terms.

Another major finding of the project was that Pvt. Michael Carroll of the 9th Indiana Infantry, who died on Aug. 11, 1913, was buried with the name of Curran on his stone (section 19, grave 65).

Another Carroll and a Curran had died earlier in 1913 and they also are in section 19, so I thought the bad stone is the result of human error. The VA database does not have a Michael Curran who died Aug. 11, but it has a Michael Carroll buried in that

exact grave and with the same date of death. The name is Michael Carroll in the Soldiers Home records, which note an alias of Michael Carl.

But Srey Austin, assistant director of Wood and two other cemeteries in the National Cemetery Administration, told me that Carroll's "report of interment" form had the alias of Michael Curran written on it, so that Curran was OK for the tombstone. It also is Curran in the cemetery and gravesite maps, she added. And because the tombstone is more than 50 years old, it "is considered historic and deemed to be permanent."

Austin said others in the cemetery are buried under aliases that they used.

Many of us in the Sons frequently come across the fact that more than a few soldiers served in the war under aliases, for a wide variety of reasons, and even more with misspellings of their names in their state rosters, especially if they were ethnic (my relative was German and the Army misspelled both his first and last names).

What is not in dispute is that Carroll / Curran was in the 9th Indiana for 10 months and then the 4th U.S. Cavalry for the rest of the war. He fought at Shiloh, Corinth, Stones River, Chickamauga, many spots in the Atlanta Campaign and finally in the Battle of Nashville. He was from Valparaiso, Ind.

In another discovery, one tombstone at Wood says Unknown Soldier, while four others say merely Unknown. The Unknown Soldier is in section 4, grave

*Continued on page 4*



## REMEMBERING COL. PIER: VISIT BY CONFEDERATE REPS

*These monthly articles about our Camp namesake are written by PCinC Steve Michaels. This item first was published in the December 1996 Camp Orders.*

During the winter of 1864-'65, C.K. Pier's 38<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin was stationed before Petersburg, nine miles to the right and in the front line of works opposite the "crater." There would be no movement until the opening of the spring campaign.

In January, Col. Pier was granted a 10-day furlough. He had not been home since accepting his command. His duty kept him from attending his mother's funeral the previous August.

Upon his return from the trenches, the war's end looked close. Everyone was optimistic. Pier was division officer of the day and answered the signal on Jan. 29 when Confederate commissioners Vice President Alexander Stephens and Mr. Campbell sought entrance to the Union lines.

Pier later remembered: "In January, the first flag of truce we had seen for nearly a year was raised in front of my pickets. Three rebel commissioners crossed the lines to interview President Lincoln at City Point. We thought peace had come; the firing ceased and the boys shook hands, but the flag soon went down, the men jumped for their entrenchments and the firing went on as before."

*From Soldiers & Citizens Album, Brown & Brown, 1888; History of Fond du Lac County, Wis., Western Historical Company, 1880; and Milwaukee Sentinel, Jan. 10, 1865*



OUR F, C AND L SHINE IN THE  
2016 PHOTOS OF THE YEAR



National Auxiliary President Denise Oman is the second twin from Auxiliary 4 to wear the sash of leadership, 13 years after Danielle Michaels. Oman was honored at our Christmas party.



In South Milwaukee and three other cities, we marched, joined by Camp 15 and Bugler Bill Seaman, left. Brothers Jeff Lesar and John Thielmann get some shade before the July 30 South Milwaukee trek.



PCC Tom Mueller displays the proclamation that Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett issued for the dedication of our historical marker at Forest Home Cemetery, capping years of work by all.

Brother Brian Craig describes our work at West Allis Settlers Weekend.



Photos here and on page 1 by  
Danielle Michaels  
Tom Mueller  
Laura Mueller  
Kent Peterson



Residents of Collins in Manitowoc County attend the dedication of the grave of Sister Susan Fallon's ancestor, Pvt. Ludwig Marks of the 18th Wisconsin Infantry, on a very blustery May day.

## WOOD NATIONAL CEMETERY

*Continued from page 2*

150-A, in the corner closest to the westbound lanes of the freeway. Its design is far newer than the other stones. The vast majority of other graves in that area are from the Civil War, but one is a Spanish American War vet who died in 1940 and for some reason has a civilian stone.



This is the only grave that is marked this way in Wood National Cemetery. It is very close to the freeway, right behind the fence.

Three graves of Unknowns are located together in section 6 (graves 121, 122 and 152). These are infants born to Wood staff, according to the plat book kept by the National Cemetery Administration in Washington, D.C. Several other graves of civilian staff are in that area, plus Rachel Dial, a two-month-old who died in 1879.

An Unknown in section 26 (grave 213) is from 1933, according to the VA database (no years are given for the others). The plat book says he was killed in Oconomowoc, and Brother Tom Ludka says he fell off a train. Given the year, he was a hobo and too young have been a Civil War vet. How he qualified to be buried at Wood is not evident.

This project found that the last Civil War vet in the cemetery likely is Henry Vaughn, who died on Feb. 18, 1941, at the age of 94 or 95. He was a private in the 12th Wisconsin Infantry, Co. E, was from Sauk County and was wounded at Kennesaw, Ga., in 1864. He is in section 29, grave 315. Wood foreman William Janowski says he does not know of any later Civil War vet.

However, Vaughn was not the last Civil War vet to die in Milwaukee County – that was Charles L. Blanchard of the 40th Wisconsin Infantry, who died in 1942 at the age of 96 and is buried in Forest Home Cemetery.

The first burial at Wood was in 1871, according to the cemetery website and this research. This is Pvt. John K. Afton of the 1st Michigan Infantry, buried in section 5-II, grave 163B.

The cemetery first was known as the Soldiers Home Cemetery, but in 1937 the name was changed to honor Gen. George Wood, a longtime member of the Board of Managers of the Soldiers' Home. Evidently this was a national board; not just Milwaukee. Wood was born in 1867, died in 1945 and is buried in Dayton, Ohio, where he was a significant figure (Laura Rinaldi researched this one). He was adjutant general of Ohio before World War I, and was active in building and mobilizing the Ohio National Guard for the war. It became the 37th Infantry Regiment and he was a colonel in action in France. His obit is at [http://www.daytonhistorybooks.com/general\\_george\\_h\\_wood.html](http://www.daytonhistorybooks.com/general_george_h_wood.html). However, there is no photo.

### CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

Q: What was embalmed beef?

A: The Civil War was the first American conflict in which soldiers were issued canned rations. "Embalmed beef" was the Union soldier term for canned beef, according to <http://www.civilwarhome.com/terms.htm>

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

8 – Dave Curran  
19 – William Terry  
22 – Jeremy Brown  
31 – Emmett Jordan



Report any address or e-mail changes to newsletter editor PCC Tom Mueller [thewisconsin3800@gmail.com](mailto:thewisconsin3800@gmail.com)

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### CAMP CALENDAR

4 February: Mid-winter Department meeting and Patriotic Luncheon. Lincoln scholar Steven Rogstad of Racine will be the speaker. CinC Don Martin is scheduled to be a special guest.

11 March: Civil War Expo, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Civil War Museum, Kenosha.

Monthly meetings: Make it your New Year's resolution to join us at one of them; see what we do and hear the patriotic presentation. The first three are Jan. 4, Feb. 1 and March 1.