



There still is time to send in your RSVP for the Feb. 7 Patriotic Luncheon, but do it double-quick-time. See page 2 and the flyer from the previous newsletter.

C. K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SUVCW



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SERIES 2015 CAMP ORDERS JANUARY 2015

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

PLANNING FOR A PERMANENT SALUTE AT FOREST HOME

I am bringing you the happy news that Camp 1 and Forest Home Cemetery are exploring the idea of a permanent memorial to honor our Brothers: Erecting a historical marker or sign honoring the fact that about 1,000 Civil War veterans are buried there.

Although the Milwaukee cemetery always knew there were roughly a few hundred burials, the higher number became known through a giant project by Camp GRO Tom Ludka and Marge Berres of the Woman's Relief Corps, who since 2011 have conducted research via multiple avenues and worked closely with the cemetery.

Thus, when it was suggested at a recent Camp meeting that it might be great to put up a marker, the cemetery was contacted and executive director Jan Van Rens gave an emphatic YES to the idea. She has suggested erecting it in Section 31, where Ludka says 71 vets are buried – dozens of them from the Milwaukee Soldiers Home. The

**FROM THE
COMMANDER
– TOM
MUELLER**



ceremony that we helped MOLLUS conduct for Lt. Florian Ries a couple years ago was not far from Section 31.

We will be fleshing out the details this spring and figuring out the funding methods, and likely would apply for a Department grant, too. This would be our first such marker since the Rufus King plaque, which was dedicated in 2011 after many years of work. Such markers still will be around long after we have passed on, as reminders of what Union soldiers did long, long before.

Ludka and Berres assembled a massive spreadsheet of the Forest Home graves and data a few years ago, and I was one of their helpers by putting 250 of the names into the SUVCW national graves registration database. Brother Tom Myers also did 250. Both of us got a lot of fascinating history in doing this detailed work.

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2 PLACES TO STAND TALL FOR THE SONS

Our next meeting is at 7 p.m. Feb. 4 at PDC Tom Brown's Machinists Union hall at 1650 S. 38th St., Milwaukee (Patriotic Instructor Bruce Nason will have the presentation). Then comes the Patriotic Luncheon on Feb. 7 at Alioto's Restaurant 3041 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa.

Our patriotic presentations covered a broad front in 2014

Magazines traditionally provide an annual index of their top articles, so the Camp Orders hereby lists your patriotic presentations of 2014. Our page 3 continued its tradition of a wide variety of topics to deepen everyone's knowledge of the Civil War.

January: More about the rifle musket: reality and myth.

February: 1861 flag regulations.

March: Creation of the Ambulance Corps.

April: The fateful spring of 1864.

May: The meanings of folding of the flag at a funeral.

June: The war of the Union and Confederate post offices.

July: Various tidbits found in our own readings, such as how a son of Union Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman and a nephew or great-nephew of Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens are buried next to each other in a Jesuit cemetery in Louisiana.

August: In-depth reporting of the VA tombstone issue.

September: The 84th (Lincoln) Division, and his wrestling, too.

October: Copperheads.

November: 150th anniversary of the Battle of Franklin, Tenn.

December: Camels join the Army.



Raffle highlights Patriotic Luncheon

The raffle again will be bountiful at the Patriotic Luncheon on Feb. 7. Sisters Denise Oman (left) and Kathy Anderson last year prepped the tables, which ranged from books to booze to products galore. All for \$1 per entry.

There still is time for you to RSVP for the luncheon – the deadline is Jan. 30 – or donate to the raffle. But do either one pronto. Contact Cmdr. Tom Mueller or call Mary Ann Schallock at (262) 781-9360 for details. You received a flyer last month.

Remember that it is at a new site this year: Alioto's Restaurant on North Mayfair Road. Lincoln presenter Nic Bur will be the keynote speaker.



REMEMBERING COL. PIER: LONG WINTER AT THE CRATER

These monthly articles about our Camp namesake are written by PCinC Steve Michaels. This first was published in the January 2005 Camp Orders.

During the fall of 1864, Col. C.K. Pier's 38th Wisconsin Infantry was attached to the 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 9th Army Corps.

The successful Confederate defense at Burgess Mill, near Petersburg, combined with the Federal failure at Richmond, added up to another failure for a Union offensive. This last major battle of the siege of Petersburg in 1864 was a turning point in the strategy employed by the Union. From this point forward, Gen. U.S. Grant would use a single-pronged approach, aimed at taking the last supply lines of Petersburg.

Pier later said, "When Grant sent us in November for the South Side Railroad, we had not gone far before we decided we did not want it so much as we thought we did, and some of the boys are there yet."

The 38th was posted, at first, on the extreme left of the line occupied by the 1st Division. On Nov. 29, accompanying the march of the 9th Corps, the 38th proceeded nine miles to the extreme right of the line before Petersburg. The unit was occupying a position in the front line of works opposite the Crater. The men remained in rifle pits, engaged in picket and fatigue duty and in drilling, under a heavy fire from the enemy.

They remained there during the winter, until the opening of the spring campaign.

From Military History of Wisconsin by E.B. Quiner, Clarke & Co., Publishers, Chicago 1866; Soldiers & Citizens Album, Brown & Brown 1888; and Wisconsin in the War of Rebellion by Wm. DeVoss Love, Church & Goodman, Publishers, Chicago 1866.



EXPLORING OTHER SLAVERY

BY PCC DAVID HOWARD



The reasons for the Civil War often are said to be freeing the black slaves and States' Rights. All under the 10th Amendment – “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.”

The truth is that freeing the slaves was not the objective of the war. The objective originally was for each state to continue to have the right to pretty much do what it wanted. The federal government had started to ban the importation of slaves and had sent ships to intercept slave-carrying ships before they left African waters. Another line of ships was sent to the Caribbean to do the same. But a lot of states still wanted to import more slaves. So some of these states attacked Fort Sumter in April 1861, all under the banner of States' Rights.

The plight of slaves is well-documented, but let's go over some of this. I will quote a 2008 article by John Martin, “The Irish Slave Trade – The Forgotten ‘White’ Slaves,” and a book, “White Cargo,” by Don Jordan and Michael Walsh. The article is at <http://www.globalresearch.ca/the-irish-slave-trade-the-forgotten-white-slaves/31076> The website is for the Centre for Research on Globalization, which calls itself an independent research and media organization and is based in Montreal.

The book says that beginning in the 1600s: “They came as slaves; vast human cargo transported on tall British ships bound for the Americas. They were shipped by the hundreds of thousands and included men, women and even the youngest of children. Whenever they rebelled or even disobeyed an order, they were punished in the harshest ways. Slave owners would hang their human property by their hands and set their hands or feet on fire as one form of punishment. They were burned alive and had their heads placed on pikes in the marketplace as a warning to other captives.”

The Irish slave trade began when King James I (1603 to 1625) sold 30,000 Irish prisoners as slaves to the New World. His Proclamation of 1625 required that Irish political prisoners be sent overseas and sold to English settlers in the West Indies.

King Charles I (1629 to 1645) led a continued effort to enslave the Irish. Britain's famed Oliver Cromwell (in power from 1649 to 1658) furthered this practice of dehumanizing one's neighbor after he crushed the Irish Clans and those loyal to Charles II. His son Richard, along with King James II and VII (that is the same man; the II is his number in England and Ireland, and the VII is his number in Scotland; he ruled from 1685 to 1688) continued enslaving the Irish.

From 1641 to 1652, more than 500,000 Irish were killed by the English and another 300,000 were sold as slaves. Ireland's population fell from about 1.5 million to 600,000 in a single decade. The British did not allow Irish dads to take their wives and children with them across the Atlantic.

During the 1650s, more than 100,000 Irish children between the ages of 10 and 14 were taken from their parents and sold as slaves in the West Indies, Virginia and New England.

The article states: “Many people today will avoid calling these people what they truly were: Slaves. They'll come up with terms like ‘indentured servants.’”

African slaves were very expensive during the late 1600s (50 sterling), while Irish slaves came cheap (no more than 5 sterling). If a planter whipped or branded or beat an Irish slave to death, it never was a crime. A death was a monetary setback, but far cheaper than killing a more expensive African.

In time, the English thought of a better way to use women (in many cases, girls as young as 12) to increase their market share: The settlers began to breed Irish women and girls with African men to produce slaves with a distinct complexion. These new “mulatto” slaves brought a higher price than Irish livestock and, likewise, enabled the settlers to save money rather than purchase new African slaves.

This practice of interbreeding Irish females with African men went on for several decades and was so widespread that, in 1681, legislation was passed forbidding it, the article and book say.

England continued to ship tens of thousands of Irish slaves for more than a century. Records state that after the 1798 Irish Rebellion, thousands of Irish slaves were sold to both America and Australia.

“So if anyone, black or white, believes that slavery was only an African experience, then they've got it completely wrong,” the article by Martin concludes. “Irish slavery is a subject worth remembering, not erasing from our memories.”

This all should give you a different slant on the Irish Riots in New York when the black slaves were freed during the Civil War.

A few more names of vets have been added in recent months when other folks and myself came across a name in other Sons work. Ludka says: "This is a work in progress!"

Here are his latest stats:

934 confirmed burials

15 not buried (ashes scattered) or removed

10 memorialized not buried

That makes a total of 959 total verified, (65 of the verified died in service or during the war, of which 21 were either KIA or died of wounds and 44 died of disease.)

70 unverified burials who are possible veterans and still being checked out.

Thus a possible total of 1,029 Civil War veterans.

Ludka says they served from 26 states / territories and include many regiments from Wisconsin and other states, Regular Army, U.S. Colored Troops, Militia, Navy and Marine Corps.

One of those vets at Forest Home is of particular interest to me: Future Wisconsin Gov. George W. Peck and my ancestor both were replacement soldiers in Company L of the 4th Wisconsin Cavalry starting in the spring of 1864.

Camp 1 and Auxiliary 4 each have funded one tombstone at Forest Home per year for quite some time; the Camp has one underway right now – Pvt. John Nerz of the Company D of the 1st Wisconsin Infantry (three months). He was from Milwaukee and died in 1887. His government stone is unreadable – in fact, a visitor would have no idea this even is a soldier's stone.

Tombstones are free from the VA, as long as its complex (and changing) rules are met, but installation costs \$175, and that is with a volume discount from Forest Home because of all our work there. The cemetery has many more cases of other vets with no stones or with severely eroded and unreadable ones.

They deserve stones, and the vets overall deserve a large marker saluting their history. We in Camp 1 are on the march on their behalf.

CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

Q: What was a Blakely rifle?

A: This was a rifled muzzle-loading cannon design by Capt. Theophilus Alexander Blakely of Britain, and was best known for being used by the Confederates. They ranged from 2.5-inch (6-pounder) to 12.75-inch (450-pounder shells or 650-pound solid shot) bores. "The Widow Blakely" was used at Vicksburg, Miss., and was a 7.50-inch gun. On May 22, 1863, one of its shells exploded in the tube while it was firing at a Union gunboat. The blast took part of the end of the muzzle off, leaving the rest of the tube intact. The ragged ends were cut smooth and the rifle was used as a mortar during the rest of the siege, according to www.civilwarartillery.com/vicksburg/widowblakely.htm

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 – Roger Merkel
1 – Kent Peterson
6 – Jeff Lesar
15 – Joe Fallon

**Congratulations,
Brothers!!!**



**Report any address or e-mail changes to
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CAMP CALENDAR

7 February: Midwinter meeting of the Department, 9 a.m., followed by the Patriotic Luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Both at a new site, Alioto's at 3041 N. Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa.

21 March: Civil War Expo, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Civil War Museum, Kenosha.

29 March (Sunday): Member Orientation, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Delavan for the sake of the new Camps being planned in Janesville and Wind Lake. All are welcome.

25 May: Memorial Day is very early again this year. All of us should be part of our event at Calvary Cemetery, Milwaukee.