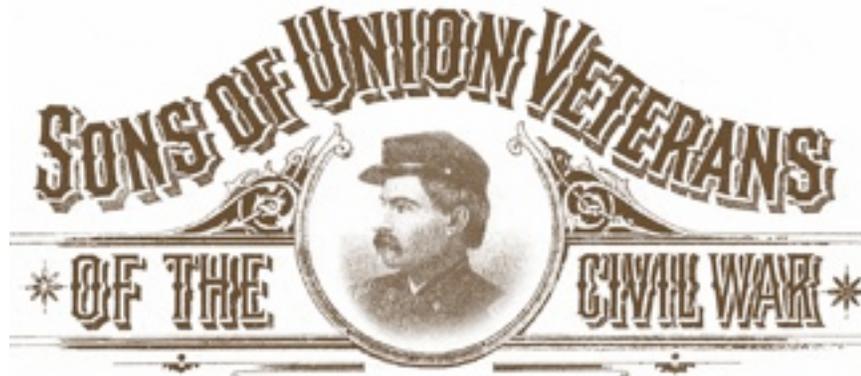


This invaluable census was put online by the Wisconsin Historical Society, and when collated with entries at Find a Grave for Wood National Cemetery in Milwaukee, has resulted in more than 1,200 new entries in the Sons graves database. Read about PCC Tom Mueller's project on page 3.



## C. K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

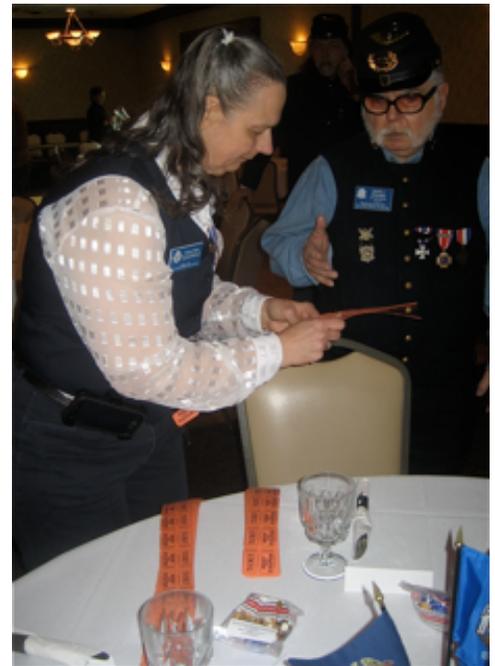
### SERIES 2016 **CAMP ORDERS** JANUARY 2016

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

There's still a little bit of time to RSVP for the Patriotic Luncheon. Consider it your duty to do so!!!

Luncheon deadline is Jan. 29. Call Auxiliary President Mary Ann Schallock, at (262) 781-9360. Come to visit with Department colleagues, other Camps, history groups, dine well and buy raffle tickets for books and many other prizes.

The last day for advertising is Jan. 23. Salute your relative or anything else by buying a spot in the Luncheon program. Get it to PDC Kent Peterson at [kapeterson0681@gmail.com](mailto:kapeterson0681@gmail.com)



Susan Fallon fulfills a large purchase of raffle tickets by PCC David Howard at last year's Patriotic Luncheon. The luncheon and raffle are our biggest fund-raisers of the year. This year's speaker will be Wayne Issleb, who portrays Gen. U.S. Grant.

#### **Patriotism, planning and a presentation at our next meeting**

The next Camp meeting will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3, at the Machinists Union hall at 1650 S. 38th St., Milwaukee. We will finalize plans and tasks for the Feb. 6 Patriotic Luncheon, and Brother Phil Olson will have the patriotic presentation.

## THE STORY BEHIND THE AMERICAN'S CREED

The American's Creed that we recite as part of the opening to our meetings was written by William Tyler Page in 1917. Page wrote it for a patriotic contest to create a national creed amid the excitement and fervor over America's entry into World War I.

Page's submission of "I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people ..." was declared the winner in May 1918.



William Tyler Page

Page, descendant of a signer of the Declaration of Independence (Carter Braxton), said his work was "the summary of the fundamental principles of the American political faith as set forth in its greatest documents, its worthiest traditions, and its greatest leaders."

He used passages and phrases from the Declaration of Independence, the Preamble to the Constitution and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

See more about it at <http://www.usflag.org/american.creed.html>



### Warm visits with patients at vets hospital

Sisters and Brothers distributed the Auxiliary's blanket project at the Zablocki Medical Center after Wreaths Across America in December. Photos by Danielle and Steve Michaels.



## REMEMBERING COL. PIER: AFTER THE WAR CAME LEGAL WORK

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

After the Civil War, C.K. Pier began practicing law as a partner in a firm that he had founded. While there were not many deeds of violence in Fond du Lac, there was at least one in which Pier became involved as a defense attorney.

In about 1868, a body was found on a farm east of Fond du Lac, and a little later, one on another farm, but the perpetrator never was found. Then in 1870, a riverman's body was found in town and the crime was traced to a colored man named Fred Williams. He was tried in circuit court, found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment. C.K. Pier defended Williams.

The case went to the state Supreme Court, resulting in a discharge on the ground of insufficient evidence. Few doubted the guilt of Williams, however, and many charged the first two murders to him.

Pier's victory in successfully appealing Williams' case was an empty one. Soon after his release, Williams died from frozen feet and gangrene.

*From The Business History of Fond du Lac, by A.T. Glaze; Haber Printing Co., Fond du Lac, 1905*





**HUGE PROJECT AT WOOD  
MAY LEAD TO FINDING MY KIN**  
BY PCC TOM MUELLER



Since mid-September, more than 1,200 names have been added to the roughly 2,000 that already were in the Sons database for Wood National Cemetery. I had noticed while doing a Civil War project in my home of Oak Creek that some of our vets are buried at Wood but were not in the database. Further testing showed they had a lot of company.

Sections at Wood have as many as 600 vets in them, so a walkthrough of even one such area obviously is not feasible. Going through the nearly 41,000 Find a Grave entries one-by-one is impossible.

So I am using the 1905 and 1895 Wisconsin veterans censuses, which each list thousands of Civil War vets as living at what was listed as the National Home, which later became the Milwaukee Soldiers Home. These men are then collated with Find a Grave for Wood burials, then whether they already were in the Sons database, sometimes along with checking the VA burial database for Wood, and finally their state rosters when available.

There are so many names that this is what it must have been like to shoot passenger pigeons during their most populous era.

This research technique is comprehensive, but what it does NOT cover is scary: Those who came to the National Home after spring 1905, or lived there between the two censuses. That is A LOT. This project also does not find local or Wisconsin men buried at Wood if they never lived at the National Home. Nor does it cover men with plain names who have no units listed on their tombstones.

The quality of the Find a Grave entries varies greatly. Some have gravestone photos (great work by lots of people), but some are without any unit info even though the VA database has it. Some are great with facts from the Soldiers Home record, including age. A few such entries claim someone is buried at Wood but give no grave number, and they are not in VA database for Wood so they merely died at the home and evidently were buried elsewhere.

So how many Civil War vets are buried at Wood? I estimate 4,000 to 6,000. Perhaps a better approximation eventually could be determined by building a constructive relationship with cemetery officials to see what their records might show, and reminding them of the Sons database and how it can put everything in one location and add new details. As an example of how we can help, the cemetery website's info on its five Medal of Honor recipients is skimpy (and says the Navy's Michael McCormick earned the medal on May 19, 1865, when that actually is the day he died; the MOH action was in May 1864 on the Red River in Louisiana).

While this project involves huge numbers of vets, there was quite a spinoff involving one soldier.

Some of those at Wood were in the 9th Wisconsin and were captured at Newtonia, Mo., on Sept. 30, 1862. This caused me to take a closer look at my possible second Civil War relative, Pvt. Joseph Mueller of the Town of Honey Creek around Denzer, Wis., near Sauk City. He was in the 9th and was captured, too, along with more than two dozen in his Company D, which had a heavy concentration of soldiers from the Sauk City area. Several in Company D were KIA in this battle in the Ozarks, along with others elsewhere in the 9th.

The only Muellers buried in Honey Creek today are my relatives. Virgil Matz says Joe apparently wound up in Minnesota, and his burial site is not known. He was born in roughly 1843 and was living at Prairie du Sac (next to Sauk City) in the 1860 census, Matz adds. My Mueller g-g-grandfather was born in 1845, so Joe easily could have been his older brother, cousin, etc. My line did not come to the USA until 1870. That part of my ancestry always was a dead-end because my Grandpa, born in 1888, was the youngest in his family and did not know much about his Dad's kin.

Google showed that a book was written about Newtonia, but it is not in the Milwaukee library system. So I located author Larry Wood of Joplin, Mo., who gladly sold me one.

The title is "The Two Civil War Battles of Newtonia," and this telling passage is on page 72: "All told, according to one Confederate estimate, the pursuit left about 50 Union infantrymen dead ... Another 80 Federals were taken prisoner. Most of the captives were soldiers who threw down their arms while they were surrounded at the edge of the timber, while most of the dead were those at the same location who ... either went down fighting or were shot while dashing for freedom."

Page 76 has this report from a Newtonia resident: "She saw some of the Wisconsin infantrymen being marched as prisoners past her house. She imagined they were some of the same German troops that had charged through her yard earlier in the day."

## REVIEWING THE 2015 PATRIOTIC PRESENTATIONS

Our patriotic presentations in 2015 covered deep topics that could not have been predicted in the crystal ball of any predictor of the future.

We Brothers have many forms of interest and expertise, and showed it once again in the presentations at meetings and on page 3 of the Camp Orders.

We look back at 2015:

**January:** Definitions of slavery.

**February:** A relative who fought at Bald Hill at Atlanta in July 1864.

**March:** Those who were in the room at Lee's surrender to Grant at Appomattox.

**April:** 2 ordinary soldiers in April 1865 – one who earned the Medal of Honor and is buried at Wood National Cemetery, and one buried at Calvary Cemetery who was in the ceremony in which Con-

federates stacked their arms a few days after Lee surrendered. He had enlisted on April 21, 1861 – and thus was in every day of the war except the first nine.

**May:** Near-misses, and luck when wounded.

**June:** Systematic fraud by bounty brokers.

**July:** About tuberculosis in the war and old laws.

**August:** 2 Wisconsin MOH recipients from Portage County who are buried in Washington state.

**September:** The fall of Atlanta.

**October:** First-person story from a soldier relative who died in 1929 at age 97.

**November:** Soldiers from Fennimore, Wis.

**December:** Unwrapping a few obscure facts from the war.



Our first CC

In the far northwest corner of Calvary Cemetery are the distinctive



family stone and grave of George A. Shaughnessy, who in December 1901 was elected the first commander of C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1. Then-CC Tom Mueller located the grave last summer. Shaughnessy was commander for one year and died in 1911 at the age of 57.

### CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

**Q:** The U.S. Colored Troops contained what kinds of units?

**A:** There were 138 Colored regiments of infantry, six regiments of cavalry, 14 of heavy artillery and 10 batteries of light artillery, including an independent one. In all, about 186,000 African-Americans were in these units, according to [https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/United\\_States\\_Colored\\_Troops\\_in\\_the\\_Civil\\_War](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/United_States_Colored_Troops_in_the_Civil_War) Under the draft, each state had to supply a quota, but it was allowed to pay people to serve in place of others, according to the Wisconsin Historical Society. Company F of the 29th Infantry, U.S. Colored Troops, was made up mainly of black Illinois soldiers who agreed to take the place of Wisconsin residents, and was credited to the Badger state, according to <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints/search.asp?id=995>

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Kent Peterson
- 6 – Jeff Lesar
- 15 – Joe Fallon

**Congratulations, Brothers!!!**



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

Camp Commander  
Patrick Fallon

Website <http://www.suvcw-wi.org>

### CAMP CALENDAR

6 February: Patriotic Luncheon and mid-winter Department meeting. Donate your extra books and other gift-type products to the fund-raising raffle.

12 March: Civil War expo at Kenosha Civil War Museum, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

12 June (Sunday): Dedication of our historical marker at Forest Home Cemetery, Milwaukee, 1:30 p.m.