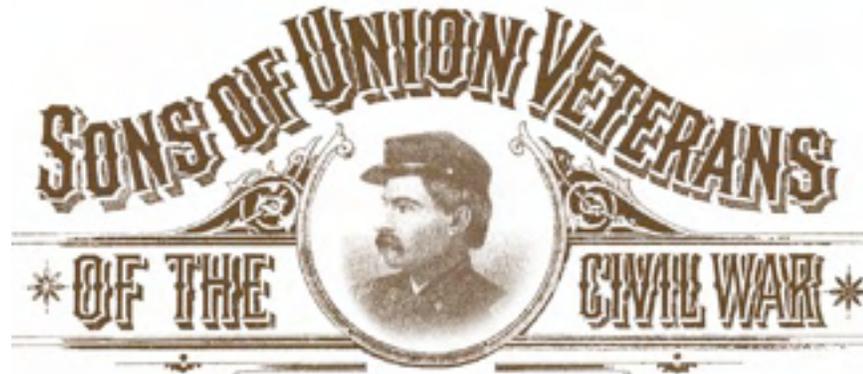




We always take every opportunity to honor the legacy of Lincoln, in this case with Chaplain Dean Collins and Lance V. Mack of Marion, Iowa, at West Allis Settlers Weekend last summer. We honor Abe again on Feb. 4 at the Patriotic Luncheon.

C. K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SUVCW



C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SERIES 2017 **CAMP ORDERS** JANUARY 2017

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

MANY STEPS TO CARRY OUT OUR MISSIONS

Greetings, Brothers and friends!

We put the wraps on 2016 with a flurry (excuse the pun) of activity:

- It was wonderful to welcome the Auxiliary national president, Sister Denise Oman of Auxiliary 4, back to the area during her reception at Alioto's on Dec. 3. More than 30 members and friends, and Brother Billy Cole's musical stylings, made this event extremely memorable during the holiday season.

- The quarterly planning meeting on Dec. 10 helped bring into focus our 2017 initiatives. These include a presence at the Milwaukee County Genealogical Society's Biennial Seminar, the planned Reclaiming Our Heritage day at the Soldiers Home, and honoring Milwaukee County's Last Soldier. Stay tuned for more details on these and other exciting, worthy opportunities to honor our Union ancestors.

- A week later, we were present at the Wreaths Across America ceremony at Wood National Ceremony and placed



**FROM THE
COMMANDER -
PCINC STEVE
MICHAELS**

some of the more than 3,000 wreaths on veterans' graves. After warming and refreshments at the Wadsworth Library, we were on to the Zablocki Medical Center's eighth floor to hand out blankets and goodies with the Auxiliary. The patients in the palliative care unit were most appreciative.

Our first major activity of the New Year is the Patriotic Luncheon at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 4, at Alioto's. Lincoln scholar Steven Rogstad

will compare and contrast the life paths of Abraham Lincoln and John Wilkes Booth. You will not want to miss this signature event, featuring great food, entertainment and fabulous raffle prizes! Why not bring a friend or family member?

I've always found it interesting that in the space of just two months, our Order celebrates the birth and death of Abraham Lincoln. The Patriotic Luncheon, co-sponsored with Auxiliary 4, and the Tomb Ceremony in Springfield, Ill., on April 15, focus our

Continued on page 2

The next Camp meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 1, at the Machinists Union hall at 1650 S. 38th St., Milwaukee. JVC Brian Craig will have the patriotic presentation.

THERE'S STILL TIME TO JOIN US FOR THE PATRIOTIC LUNCHEON



Steven Rogstad

Here's a final reminder that the Patriotic Luncheon is Feb. 4.

The luncheon offers great networking among history-oriented groups, a chance to get reacquainted with the Sons if you have not been at one of our events for some time – and a richly stocked raffle for only \$1 a ticket.

Jan. 21 (which is this Saturday) is the deadline to run an ad in the program honoring your ancestor or anything else you want to say. Contact Kent Peterson at kapeterson0681@gmail.com He can turn a few lines of text into your ad, if text is all you have. Ad costs are \$5, \$10 or \$15.

Jan. 28 is the last day to make an RSVP for the luncheon, which costs \$20. Contact Elizabeth Craig at elizabeth_craig01@yahoo.com

Better yet, take both of these steps NOW. Don't wait until the deadline. Uniforms are NOT required at any of our events – your membership badge will suffice.

Author Steven Rogstad of Racine, will speak about Lincoln and John Wilkes Booth and their "Collision on the Quest for Distinction."

He describes himself as "student / collector / instructor of Abraham Lincoln."

He has given lectures and seminars galore, and taught courses on Lincoln-related topics at the University of Wisconsin – Parkside (1981 to 1993), Carroll College (1999 to 2002) and the Civil War Museum in Kenosha (2009 to present).

He also has written introductions to books such as Frank L. Klement's "The Gettysburg Soldiers' Cemetery & Lincoln's Address" (1993), plus wrote the introduction and edited Klement's "Lincoln's Critics: The Copperheads of the North" (1999) and co-edited "The Many Faces of Lincoln: Selected Articles From the Lincoln Herald" (1997).

FROM THE COMMANDER

Continued from page 1

attention on the life and accomplishments of the Great Emancipator.

Each year, it seems, we condense a remarkable life of 56 years into just 60 days. And then it's on to other holidays, other themes. We each need to be mindful that the qualities long-admired in our 16th president – courage, compassion, wisdom and others – are those we should strive to emulate the entire year.

See you soon.

In F, C, & L,

Steve



REMEMBERING COL. PIER: FAREWELL AS POST COMMANDER

These monthly articles about our Camp namesake are written by PCinC Steve Michaels. This item first was published in the January 1997 Camp Orders.

In early 1888, Colwert K. Pier completed a year of service as commander of the Edwin A. Brown GAR Post #130 in Fond du Lac. He was one of 50 charter members who had organized the post four years earlier. And he was only the post's second commander, succeeding the legendary Gen. Edward S. Bragg.

At the post meeting on Feb. 7, Pier was taken entirely by surprise when members presented him with a beautiful badge. His year of service had won the hearts of the members, who had tender memories of field days and their work together in affairs of the post.

The colonel replied briefly, but most feelingly.

In a few months, Pier and his family would move to Milwaukee. There he joined the E.B. Wolcott Post and served as executive secretary for the 1889 National GAR Encampment in the city.

C.K. Pier loved the Grand Army and delighted in doing what pleased his comrades and what was of service to them.

From The Milwaukee Sentinel, Feb. 10, 1888; The Milwaukee Telegraph, April 20, 1895; and History of Business in Fond du Lac, by A.T. Glaze, Haber Printing Co., Fond du Lac, 1905



VISITING BALD HILL
 BY PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR
 BRUCE NASON



Patriotic Instructor Bruce Nason recently went to Atlanta and visited the site where his relative, Pvt. Daniel P. Nason of the 12th Wisconsin Infantry, Co. F, was wounded in July 1864. The fighting was on Bald Hill, later renamed Leggett's Hill. Now it is merely a wooded spot at a bridge over Interstate 20, a freeway in Atlanta. Nason first wrote about Bald Hill in the February 2015 Camp Orders, and covers some new ground in this story.

Abraham Lincoln was in the middle of a heated re-election campaign during the summer of 1864, facing the Democratic challenger, Gen. George McClellan. Soldiers who favored the challenger were disparaged and shunned as “copperheads,” men who thought the war was a catastrophic standoff that could be resolved only through a negotiated compromise.

The city of Atlanta fell on Sept. 2, 1864, six weeks after the battle on Bald Hill, and was burned to the ground. Sherman's March to the Sea began, and it became clear that the war was indeed winnable. Lincoln won the election in a landslide.

However, if the battle for Bald Hill had gone differently, Atlanta could easily have been a hopeless stalemate on election day and Lincoln might not have won a second term.

On July 20, 1864, Confederate cavalry under Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler encountered, and opened fire, on Maj. Gen. Francis Blair's 17th Army Corps in a contest to halt the advance of the Union forces toward Atlanta. Wheeler withdrew his forces west to a treeless high ground known as Bald Hill and his troops dug in. Two regiments, the 12th and 16th Wisconsin, attacked the outer perimeter, gaining a

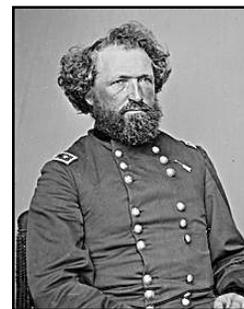
foothold in the series of trenches that had been dug by rebel defenders on the eastern

outskirts of Atlanta. The Wisconsin soldiers were part of the 3rd Division, led by Brig. Gen. Mortimer Leggett.

At 7 a.m. on July 21, the 1st Iowa Battery opened fire on the Confederates. The rain of canister and solid shot was devastating from such close range. A Confederate general described the action: “About 7 o'clock, the enemy opened a battery on my left, about 800 yards distant, which swept my line from left to right, committing dreadful havoc in the ranks. I have never before witnessed such accurate and destructive cannonading. In a few minutes 40 men were killed and over 100 wounded by this battery alone.”

An order to attack reached Gen. Leggett about 8 a.m. The 1st Brigade in Leggett's 3rd Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Manning Force, was in front of Bald Hill. The 12th and the 16th Wisconsin Regiments were in the front line. The brigade also consisted of four Illinois regiments.

As the brigade emerged from the woods, it met a murderous fire from infantry defending the hill, and from two batteries from Arkansas and Mississippi that opened fire from their flank. But the



A historical marker at the top of the exit ramp from Interstate 20 in Atlanta tells the story of the Bald Hill battle and troops of Gen. Mortimer D. Leggett. Current photos by Bruce Nason.

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BALD HILL

Continued from page 3

Confederate cavalry on the hill eventually fled and the Union brigade was able to reach the top of Bald Hill and gain the Confederate breastworks.

Bald Hill was the decisive battle in what became the Siege of Atlanta and finally the city's surrender.

Bald Hill was renamed Leggett's Hill as a direct result of the battle. His orders from Gen. Sherman on July 21 were to take Bald Hill and to hold it. He did. The battle the next day involved the unsuccessful efforts of the Confederate army to dislodge him from that strategic location. Nearly 12,000 men were killed, wounded or taken prisoner in the battle.

Today, a bridge crosses Interstate 20 at Moreland Avenue, and the view from the overpass is essentially the same view that the men of the 12th and 16th Wisconsin had from Bald Hill. A marker from the Georgia Historical Commission is the only thing that notes this significant Civil War site.

Our 2016 patriotic presentations

Once again, a year's worth of patriotic presentations at the Camp meetings and in the Camp Orders made for intensive study of highly diverse aspects of the Civil War.

Our presentations, by a range of Brothers, were:

January: The huge project cataloging graves at Wood National Cemetery and how it unveiled a possible relative for PCC Tom Mueller (still under investigation).

February: Wide variations of Confederate uniforms.

March: The power of music in the war.

April: The flag of our country speaks: The poem "My Name is Old Glory."

May: The complexities behind any statement about the war's goal of abolishing slavery.

June: The "laws of nature" stated as the South's true reason for secession, rather than states' rights.

July: Union prison camp at Elmira, N.Y., where nearly 3,000 Confederates died; 25 percent of the inmates.

August: Stories of the Camp's relatives of record.

September: Civil War vets buried near where we hold our Memorial Day commemoration at Calvary Cemetery.

October: Author Stephen Crane.

November: Exploring reasons the Union fought.

December: Wrapping up the count of the nearly 6,000 Civil War vets at Wood National Cemetery.

CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

Q: How did the 22nd Wisconsin Infantry experience the very lows and highs of the war?

A: Nearly 200 of its members were captured by Gen. Braxton Bragg's cavalry under Gen. Earl Van Dorn at Thompson's Station, Tenn., on March 4 and 5, 1863. Then at Brentwood, Tenn., on March 25, the entire regiment was surrounded and surrendered to forces of Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, being exchanged a few weeks later. But it also had big roles in battles in Georgia, the March to the Sea and the Carolinas campaign, was at the surrender of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's army and marched in the Grand Review in Washington, D.C. See <http://www.civilwararchive.com/Unregst/unwin12.htm#22ndinf>

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

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



Report any address or e-mail changes to newsletter editor PCC Tom Mueller
thewisconsin3800@gmail.com

Camp Commander – PCinC Steve Michaels
(414) 712-4655
SVC Billy Cole (414) 545-7323
Website <http://www.suvcw-wi.org>

CAMP CALENDAR

4 February: Mid-winter Department meeting and Patriotic Luncheon.

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

15 April: Lincoln Tomb event in Springfield, Ill., and B.F. Stephenson ceremony in nearby Petersburg, Ill.

22 April: Milwaukee County Genealogical Society workshop. We will spread the word about our Camp at this event.