

Famed Milwaukee architect Erhard Brielmaier designed the Gothic Revival entrance to Calvary Cemetery, and the Camp will be putting a historical marker next to it. See Brielmaier's story on page 2.

C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP #1

SUVCW



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SERIES 2018 **CAMP ORDERS** MARCH 2018

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

HARD WORK, PRIDE ARE SPRINGING OUT ALL OVER

Greetings, Brothers and friends!

Camp 1 has made a great start in 2018.

Our Patriotic Luncheon again was the Milwaukee area's premier Abraham Lincoln birthday event. Lincoln's birthday, or "Union Defender's Day," has been a Sons tradition nationwide since 1890. Commander-in-Chief Mark Day and Auxiliary National President Ramona Greenwalt were highly impressed with the work of our Camp Brothers and Auxiliary Sisters, raising awareness with an informative speaker and an entertaining raffle and silent auction, which raised money for historic preservation and veterans relief.

National Chaplain Jerry Kowalski, in the personage of Maj. Gen. George Thomas, spoke on his relationship with the 16th president. And, of course, the food at Alioto's was superior and we were indeed fortunate to have so many loyal friends and supporters attending. We need to add to this group if we are to continue to grow for next year's event.



**FROM THE
COMMANDER –
PCINC STEVE
MICHAELS**

At the Wisconsin Department mid-winter meeting, just prior to the luncheon, several of our Brothers were recognized for their milestone years of service in 2017: PDC Fred Murphy (20 years), PDC Tom Brown and Ed Deutsch (15), PCCs Patrick Fallon and Dave Howard, Brothers Stephen Dornbos, Joseph Fallon and John Thielmann (10).

Thank you, Brothers, for your dedicated support!

SVC Billy Cole, PDC Brown and PCC Fallon represented our Camp at the 8th annual Civil War Expo at the Kenosha Civil War Museum on March 10. The Sons were well-represented, as Camps 4 and 15 also had booths there.

Just ahead, on Saturday, April 14, members of our Camp and Auxiliary will be attending the 62nd annual Lincoln Death Day Ceremony in Springfield, Ill., and then the ceremony in nearby Petersburg honoring GAR founder Dr. Benjamin Franklin Stephenson.

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Come and help us plan the events schedule on Wednesday, April 4, at the Machinists Union hall at 1650 S. 38th St., Milwaukee. PCC Tom Mueller will have the patriotic presentation.

BRIELMAIER'S LEGACY AT CALVARY, IN MILWAUKEE



This is the entrance part of Erhard Brielmaier's gate house at Calvary Cemetery. The gate house was completed in 1897. Photo from Find a Grave.

This is the second in a series of articles about things connected to the historical marker that the Camp will be placing at Calvary Cemetery.

The distinctive Gothic Revival entrance to Calvary Cemetery was the work of renowned architect Erhard Brielmaier, who died in 1917 at the age of 76 and is buried in Block 9, just north of the Romanesque Jesuit chapel that he also designed.

Brielmaier and his sons designed and built more than 1,000 Roman Catholic churches and hospitals throughout the United States and Canada, more than any other architects.

He was born in 1841, at Neufra near Rottweil, Wurttemberg, Germany. In 1850, his mother immigrated to America with Brielmaier

and his siblings to join their father, a carpenter, who had settled in the Cincinnati area.

Brielmaier worked with his father, planning and building both residential and commercial properties, along with some churches. Erhard came to Milwaukee in 1874 and in short order his designs earned him a national reputation.

Erhard and Theresia Haag were married on Nov. 27, 1860, and had 13 children. Five of the sons eventually worked in the firm with their father; in 1887 the name of the company was changed to E. Brielmaier and Sons. It had offices in Chicago and Milwaukee in the late 19th century and 20th century.

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REMEMBERING COL. PIER: SUPPLIERS AT STATE SOLDIERS HOME

These monthly articles about our Camp name-sake are written by PCinC Steve Michaels. This item first was published in the March 1998 Camp Orders.

Shortly after it opened in October 1887, the State Soldiers Home in Waupaca fell under criticism from local businessmen. Jealous complaints of favoritism about the purchasing of supplies were aimed at two members of the Home's executive committee: James H. Woodnorth, a member of the firm Woodnorth & Whipple, druggists, and R.N. Roberts, a banker, owner of a flour mill, and former owner of a grocery store.

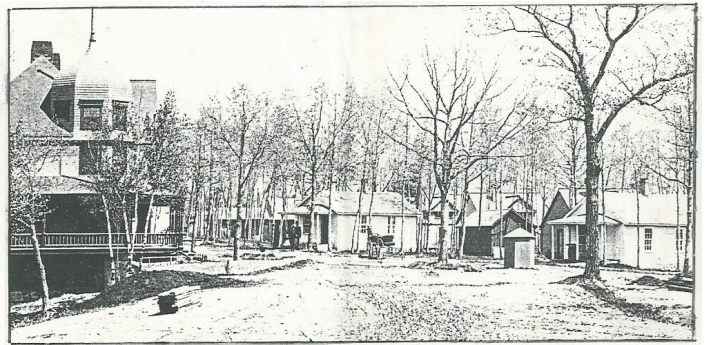
In April 1889, the Milwaukee Sentinel investigated and found that aside from drugs bought at Woodnorth & Whipple and flour bought at R.N. Roberts' mill, the patronage was scattered among many businesses. Rumors about the ill treatment of the Home's residents also were unfounded.

A Sentinel reporter asked Col. C.K. Pier what he thought about the criticisms. He replied:

"I have heard the complaints mentioned several times in circles and read the report of the Sentinel's investigation this morning with much interest and care. There doesn't seem to be any serious cause for complaint with the management ... I know Mr. Roberts and Mr. Woodnorth well and I do not think they would permit any injustice to be done the institution in any way ... They take a deep interest in its welfare and are not the men to try to make money out of it. They do not need to ... That institution is the pet of the Grand Army of Wisconsin, and incompetent or dishonest men will not be put in charge of it ..."

Interestingly, Woodnorth later served as the Home's commandant from 1903 to 1910.

From Milwaukee Sentinel, April 8 and 9, 1889; Veterans Affairs in Wisconsin: King Centennial Issue, 1987



The Home's Commandant Quarters and cottages c1890



WHAT OUGHT TO BE THE NEXT STATUE IN MILWAUKEE

BY LEE MATZ



Chaplain Dean Collins presented this piece to the Camp meeting on March 7. It is © Lee Matz and Milwaukee Independent and is at <http://www.milwaukeeindependent.com/articles/a-statue-honoring-milwaukee-colored-civil-war-soldiers-should-be-erected-in-bronzeville/> Matz often has photographed our events.

As Bronzeville watches America's Black Holocaust Museum nearing completion this year in the Griot Building on North Avenue, an expensive but missing tribute should be included in the neighborhood to celebrate men of color from Milwaukee who fought to free their people, which was the original civil rights struggle known as the Civil War.

In the aftermath of the recent Confederate monument debate that divided the nation over issues of racism, lawmakers from South Carolina proposed a statue honoring black Confederate soldiers. But there are no historical facts that they ever existed. The claim is a perpetuation of the "Lost Cause Myth" that has been used to whitewash the history of slavery.

It was not until March 1865, after a contentious debate that took place across the states in rebellion against the Union, that the Confederate Congress passed legislation authorizing the enlistment of slaves who were first freed by their masters. Even those who finally came to support the legislation as the only alternative to defeat would have agreed with Howell Cobb, president of the Congress, that "if slaves will make good soldiers our whole theory of slavery is wrong."

Other than a small number that briefly trained in Richmond, Va., no black men served openly and there is no evidence that the Richmond recruits saw the battlefield in the final weeks of the war. Almost every Civil War historian today repudiates the idea of thousands of blacks fighting for the South.

The City of Milwaukee has honored its Civil War veterans since the Victorious Charge sculpture was cast in bronze in 1898. The statue by artist John S. Conway is located in the Court of Honor on West Wisconsin Avenue.

James Cameron, the late founder of America's Black Holocaust Museum and the only known survivor of a lynching, was inspired to create a museum that documented the hundreds of years of suffering by African-Americans after he visited the Jewish Holocaust Memorial in Israel.

Cameron's focus was on the entire history of blacks in America, which included the ugly years of legal and extra-legal violence, Jim Crow segregation,

lynchings and race riots carried out by whites around the country, brutality against civil rights marchers, as well as the stubborn defense of segregated communities, police abuse that continues unabated, and ongoing discrimination in every sphere of life for blacks in America.

The current March on Milwaukee 50th anniversary program for the 200 Nights of Freedom contains many news photographs that correspond to what Cameron documented. There are also painted murals around Milwaukee that depict Father James Groppi and the NAACP Youth Council during the 1960s, but nothing that honors the original struggle for emancipation from the 1860s. In literal terms, the civil rights era was a Cold War in the fight against racism that the Civil War left unsettled.

Milwaukee is one of the few cities to send colored troops into battle against the Confederacy, but there are no images that capture their heroism.

On May 22, 1863, the War Department established a Bureau of Colored Troops to handle the recruitment and service of the newly organized black regiments – commanded by white officers.

The 29th Infantry Regiment, U.S. Colored Troops, was formed in Quincy, Ill., on April 24, 1864. Seventy-four free black men from Milwaukee County were recruited in Co. F.

Co. F was the Wisconsin contingent of volunteers of the 29th, and the men served with distinction and valor on behalf of Wisconsin. They saw action in the Battle of the Crater, and the Petersburg, Bermuda Hundred, Richmond, Appomattox and Rio Grande campaigns.

A statue of the men from Company F should stand at some corner of Bronzeville, just as one does for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on 3rd Street. In fact, North Avenue should consider developing a Court of Honor along the street, like the West Wisconsin Avenue location.

The collection of such monuments would represent the brightest lights of hope at the end of a very long road of darkness for African-Americans, and serve as a foundational reference for all the struggles that follow.

Free men of color from Milwaukee gave up not only their freedom but their lives to join the cause of liberation for their enslaved families in the South. This bravery, courage and sacrifice should be included in the symbols that honor Milwaukee's contribution and efforts over the decades in the fight for equality.

COMMANDER –
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We're just two months from another of our annual signature events: Memorial Day at Calvary Cemetery. We made a promise at the time of our initiation: to keep sacred the day set aside by the Grand Army of the Republic as Decoration Day. Over the last 23 years, Chaplain Dean Collins has developed a fantastic program. I'll see you there!

Also on the horizon: the Department Encampment on June 2 at the former Grand Army Home in King, Wis., and the Calvary Cemetery plaque dedication on July 1; the manufacturer says it will arrive in May. More on these later. 'Til then ...

Fraternally,
Steve

Architect Brielmaier – continued from page 2

Brielmaier's gate house, the oldest building at Calvary, was completed in 1897. It has a four-story tower and a triumphal arch on the east side of the building. The gate house was built 40 years after the cemetery was consecrated by Milwaukee Archbishop John Martin Henni.

The Calvary chapel was built in 1899. An arched portico with limestone columns and a rose window set the entrance, while three hemispherical apses flank the other three sides. It is crowned by an octagonal tower with a peaked roof and clerestory windows.

In the Milwaukee area, there are about 30 buildings designed by the Brielmaiers and designated as historical buildings.

One of the most notable is the 1901 Basilica of St. Josaphat, based on St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. The church has the same

cross-shaped floor plan and huge central dome that distinguish St. Peter's. It used the materials from the dismantled Post Office and Custom House in Chicago.

Other local Brielmaier designs include St. Stanislaus, St. Elizabeth, Saints Peter and Paul School, Notre Dame Convent, Mount Sinai Hospital, St. Anthony's Hospital, St. Casimir's, St. Benedict the Moor, St. George Melkite, the Gothic chapel of St. Francis of Assisi, the encasement for the organ of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran, the altar and pulpit of St. Francis Church and the interior of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, on Ninth and Mitchell.

This story was compiled from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erhard_Brielmaier, http://www.cemeteries.org/Catholic-Cemeteries/PDF1/CalvarySelfGuidedTour_Final.pdf and <http://www.friendsofcalvarycemetery.org/>

**CIVIL WAR
TRIVIA**

Q: What was the Mississippi Marine Brigade?

A: This was a Union Army unit that was part of the United States Ram Fleet. These soldiers acted as marines aboard Army rams patrolling the Mississippi River. The unit operated under the direction of the Navy and consisted of artillery, cavalry, infantry and a fleet of boats for transportation. It was commanded by Brig. Gen. Alfred W. Ellett. More at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mississippi_Marine_Brigade and <https://www.nps.gov/vick/learn/history/culture/united-states-mississippi-marine-brigade.htm>

**APRIL
BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 – Dennis Slater
- 9 – Mikko Lagunero
- 13 – Dave Howard



Report address or e-mail changes to PCC Tom Mueller at thewisconsin3800@gmail.com
Your Banner is not forwarded by the Postal Service, so you need to report a new address to us.

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<https://www.facebook.com/CKPierBadger>
<http://www.suvchw-wi.org>

CAMP CALENDAR

14 April: Lincoln Tomb ceremony in Springfield, Ill.

28 May: Memorial Day at Calvary Cemetery, where we have been holding observances since 1927.

1 July: Dedication of historical marker at Calvary Cemetery, 2 p.m.

15 July: The Camp will do a presentation on various topics at the Oak Creek Historical Society, at East Forest Hill Avenue and South 15th Avenue in Oak Creek, near Forest Hill Memorial Park.