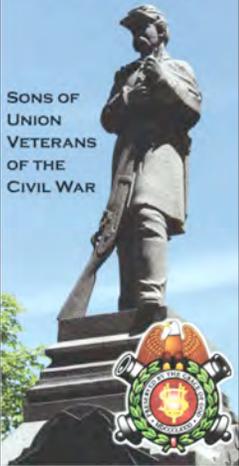


**HONOR THEIR
MEMORY**

SONS OF
UNION
VETERANS
OF THE
CIVIL WAR



For those who have not yet seen it, we include the Sons national recruiting brochure in this mailing. Admire it, absorb the passion and show it to friends and relatives.

C. K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SUJVCW

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

C. K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SERIES 2017 CAMP ORDERS OCTOBER 2017

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

RELATIVES GALORE AT OAK CREEK DEDICATION



Most of the time when we do tombstone dedications, it is impossible to find relatives to invite. But at the event for Pvt. William Kolbow on Oct. 7, that was not the case – about 18 kin, from multiple generations, attended, coming from locally and from Minnesota. Not long before the dedication, a photo of him was found deep within an old family album. It was framed and placed against his stone and surrounded by his descendants.

After each shot by the Honor Guard, the church bell of St. John's Lutheran tolled, making for quite a touching scene. Kolbow, who enlisted in the 28th Wisconsin Infantry at age 15, was killed in a train accident in Oak Creek in 1885, leaving a widow and eight children.



PDC Kent Peterson gives some history of the 28th Wisconsin. His relative served in Co. H for the exact same dates as Kolbow was in Co. K – Aug. 21, 1862, to Aug. 23, 1865. Kent's extensive website of www.28thwisconsin.com details its story.

Join us in electing officers for the new year, and take on one of our many functions – the next Camp meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 1, at the Machinists Union hall at 1650 S. 38th St., Milwaukee. Brother Jeff Lesar will have the patriotic presentation.

BE OUR FRIEND AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CKPIERBADGER

The Camp launched its Facebook page last spring, and the results flowed in for a time during the test period, but since have slowed down.

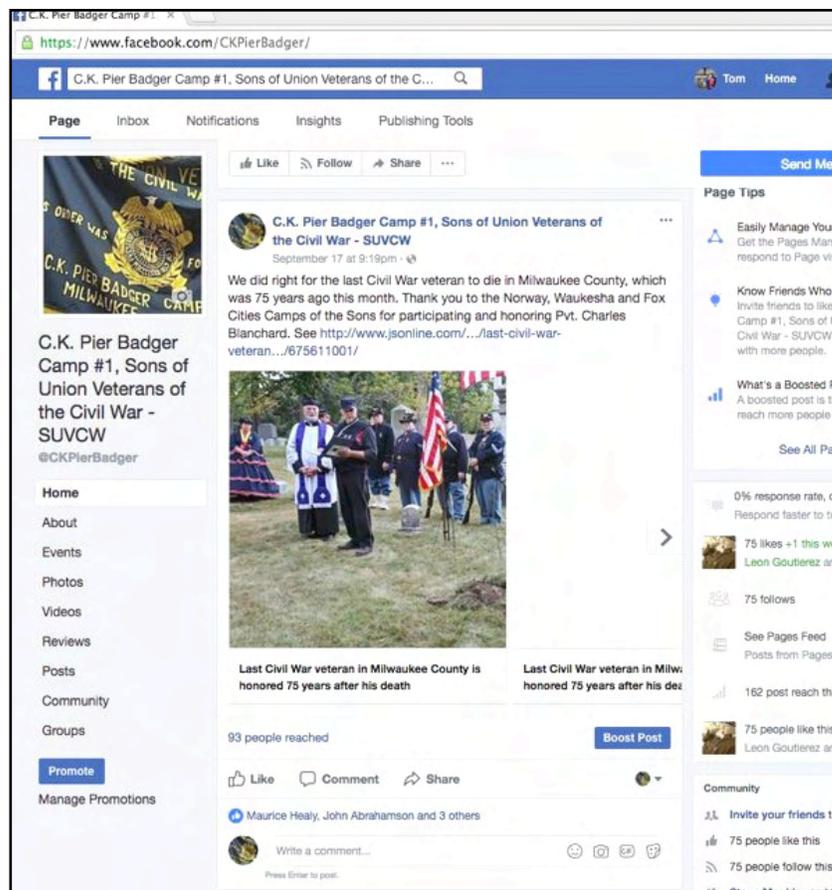
We had 75 Likes as of the deadline for this issue of the Camp Orders. We are seeking to befriend any local history group, patriotic group or individual that has a Facebook page or looks at Facebook items.

Being on Facebook allows us to post photos immediately after events, tout events to our fans and the networks of individual friends of the page, report Wisconsin news, make it easy for the Department Facebook page to tell other Camps about us, show media stories about us, plus other media stories of interest, etc., etc.

CinC Mark Day is a regular fan of what we display, such as posting “Well done” after our recent tombstone dedication for Pvt. William Kolbow of Oak Creek.

The page is a Community page, so anyone may look at it even if not a member of Facebook.

Tell your friends about it!!! Suggest a group that we ought to be linking to!!!



REMEMBERING COL. PIER: ONE FORAY INTO POLITICS

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

In 1884, C.K. Pier was more active in Republican politics than during any other year in his life. Unfortunately, his efforts were less than successful.

Sentiment was that the Republican president and vice presidential candidates, James G. Blaine and Gen. “Black Jack” Logan, were sure to be elected. Both had worldwide reputations. Logan had been commander in chief of the GAR.

Pier felt so strongly about the two that he accepted the chairmanship of Fond du Lac’s Blaine & Logan Club. He was a popular speaker at numerous Republican rallies during the campaign.

By July, Pier decided to seek his own political fortune and the GOP nomination for state senator. He resigned as chairman of the Blaine & Logan Club, but remained on the organization’s central committee.

Alas, the colonel was one of eight Republican candidates and lost to one with more political experience and savvy. Although he would again take the stump for others, Pier would never again run for public office. Biographies make no mention of his failed attempt.

And what of Blaine and Logan? Near the close of their campaign, an old minister using obnoxious language on behalf of the two at a big New York meeting alienated Catholic voters, including the Irish population. Apologies were ineffectual. Blaine and Logan snatched defeat from the jaws of victory. Grover Cleveland and Thomas A. Hendricks won the popular vote, 48.9 percent to 48.3 percent, and the electoral vote, 219 to 182. Cleveland became the first Democratic president elected in 28 years, from five years before the Civil War.

In Fond du Lac, no presidential candidates had a more enthusiastic following. Blaine and Logan carried Wisconsin. But like the rest of the country, Civil War memories were fading.

From Milwaukee Sentinel, July 13 to Oct. 25, 1884



THE IRISH BRIGADE

COMPILED BY PDC TOM BROWN



There is a scene in the 2002 movie “Gangs of New York” in which Irish immigrants are herded like cattle down gangplanks off of boats from Ireland, duped into enlisting in the Union Army and shipped off to war.

The truth, however, was complicated. Sometimes enlistments resulted from coercion, but many Irish Americans were loyal Americans voluntarily fighting to preserve the Union.

In New York, Boston and across the North in 1861, there was no need to trick new Irish immigrants into the Union Army. According to the 1860 census, there were 1,611,304 people of Irish birth in the United States, and plenty were enlisting.

The Irish Brigade included the 63rd, 69th and 88th New York Infantry Regiments. The 63rd was organized on Staten Island; the 69th and 88th in the Bronx.

Ethnic units were a way for the federal government to help win Irish support for the Union cause. But support was not guaranteed. While most Irish immigrants lived in the North, they were sympathetic to the Confederate struggle for independence from an overbearing government, because it reminded them of their centuries-long fight to be free of the British. Many Irish and Irish Americans were not against slavery, favoring a system that kept blacks out of the paid labor market.

Union officials had to promise many things in addition to ethnic regiments – enlistment bonuses, extra rations, state subsidies for soldiers’ families and Catholic chaplains – in order to ensure that America’s largest immigrant population would be fighting with them, not against them.

In February 1862, an Army captain named Thomas Francis Meagher became brigadier general of the Irish Brigade. He was born in Ireland, was active in the “Young Ireland” movement and was exiled to the British penal colony of Tasmania, Australia. He escaped in 1853 and came to the United States. He became an activist on behalf of the Irish nationalist cause.

Meagher was ambitious; he knew that if he could raise an all-Irish infantry brigade, Union offi-

cial would make him the commander. He also hoped that the Irish Brigade in the U.S. would draw attention to the nationalist cause.

In the spring of 1862, Army officials added a non-Irish regiment, the 29th Massachusetts, to the brigade to beef up its numbers before the Peninsula Campaign in Virginia. The 29th was never fond of serving with three Fenian – a term meaning dedicated to establishing an independent Irish republic – regiments from New York. So soon after the battle of Antietam in September 1862, the 29th was replaced by the 28th Massachusetts, comprised of mostly Irish immigrants.

Soon after that, the city of Philadelphia offered a regiment to the brigade – the 116th Pennsylvania Infantry – bringing the total number of regiments to five.

Due to its toughness and bravery, the Irish Brigade led the charge in many major battles of Army of the Potomac. This meant that it suffered a disproportionate number of casualties.

At Antietam, about 60 percent of the soldiers in the 63rd and 69th New York regiments, almost 600 men, were killed in battle.

A few months later at the battle of Fredericksburg, Va., 545 of the brigade’s 1,200 men were killed or wounded. “Irish blood and bones cover that terrible field today,” wrote a soldier. “We were slaughtered like sheep.”

Then at Gettysburg, about 320 of the Irish Brigade’s remaining 530 soldiers were killed.

The Irish Brigade participated in 30 battles, including Petersburg and Appomattox Court House. Only the 1st Vermont Brigade and the Iron Brigade – which we all know had three Wisconsin regiments – suffered more combat dead than the Irish Brigade. This is according to William F. Fox’s book “Regimental Losses in the American Civil War.”

It was known for its famous war cry “Faugh a Bullaugh,” which is an Anglicization of the Irish phrase “Fa’g an beslach,” meaning “Clear the Way.”

After the war, Thomas Francis Meagher became acting governor of Montana Territory. He drowned in the Missouri River in 1867.



This is the flag for one of the Irish Brigade regiments. From the Gettysburg Museum of History at <https://www.gettysburgmuseumofhistory.com/>

1886 CAMP WAS NAMED FOR SOLDIER WHO DIED OF DISEASE

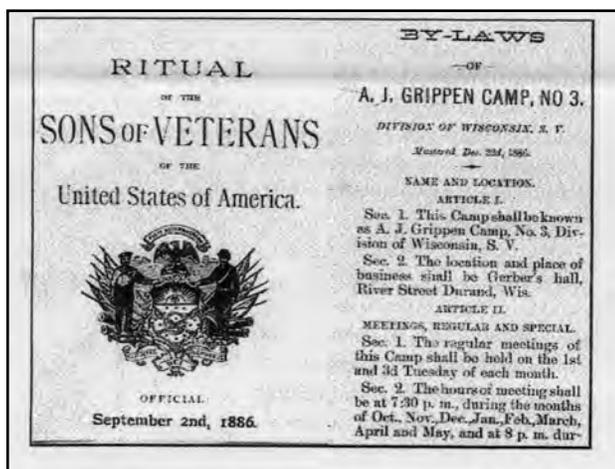
In the August issue of the Camp Orders, PCC Tom Mueller reported on his research that showed the 25th Wisconsin Infantry had the state's worst overall death toll in the Civil War.

The great-great grandfather of Camp 1's Glen Grippe was in the 25th, and Brother Glen reports that the Sons Camp in the soldier's home of Durand in Pepin County was named for him. Pvt. Adoniram Judson Grippe died of disease in 1864 in Nashville, Tenn., and is buried there.

Glen provided this shot of the Camp bylaws from 1886, showing the Camp met twice a month. The Sons first were organized nationally in 1881.

Durand is the county seat of Pepin County and its population today is about 2,000.

PCinC Steve Michaels also has some material from the Grippe Camp among his many memora-



bilia about the GAR and the Sons. He notes that the two pieces here have A.J.'s name reversed to J.A, so he evidently was called Judson instead of Adoniram. The Camp bylaws got it right, though.

Grippe's 25th Wisconsin lost 460 men in the war, including 409 from disease.

CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

Q: What were tinclads?

A: Once the Union Army gained control of the upper rivers of the Mississippi Valley in early 1862, slow and heavy ironclads could not easily patrol the waters. So, steamboats were altered and pressed into duty. The wooden structure was reinforced with boilerplate iron ranging up to an inch in thickness. These tinclads had a lighter weight, shallow draft and reached farther up the rivers than the deeper draft, armor-clad gunboats. This is from the 2010 book "Tinclads in the Civil War" by Myron J. Smith. Medal of Honor recipient Michael McCormick, who has a memorial stone at Wood National Cemetery in Milwaukee, served on a tinclad, the USS Signal.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Tom Mueller
- 2 – Billy Cole
- 12 – Skylar Brown
- 13 – Steve Dornbos
- 17 – M. Hans Liebert



CAMP CALENDAR

4 November: Veterans Day Parade, downtown Milwaukee, 11 a.m.

2 December: Christmas luncheon; noon to 2 p.m. at Alioto's, 3041 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa. Cost is \$20; details from Kent Peterson at kapeterson@wi.rr.com

16 December: Wreaths Across America, 11 a.m., at Wood National Cemetery. Auxiliary 4 will distribute materials to patients at the Zablocki VA Medical Center shortly afterwards and would appreciate assistance.

3 February: 48th annual Patriotic Luncheon. At Alioto's. National Chaplain Jerome Kowalski will portray Gen. George H. Thomas, the "Rock of Chickamauga," relating his relationship with Lincoln.

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