



Stephen Crane wrote a little-known short story that was a sequel to "Red Badge of Courage," with Henry Fleming discussing the battle as an old man. See the Trivia column on page 4.

C. K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SUVCW



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SERIES 2015 **CAMP ORDERS** SEPTEMBER 2015

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

## OUR HISTORICAL MARKER HAS BEEN INSTALLED

What seemed like a lengthy project surprisingly took far less time, and now our historical marker at Forest Home Cemetery is standing tall and proud at the main entrance.

We in Camp 1 are standing taller and prouder than the marker itself, because of the noble and patriotic thing that what we have done to remind Milwaukee of the nearly 1,000 Civil War veterans buried there.

I can just about hear every passerby saying, "1,000? Wow, I never would have thought about that!!!"

That is more than in any cemetery in Wisconsin other than Wood National Cemetery, where of course there are row after row, section after section, of Civil War vets.

FROM THE COMMANDER  
— TOM MUELLER



The marker is unwrapped by Forest Home staff.

This marker was funded with two generous grants from the SUVCW (a memorials grant and one from the Charitable Foundation), money from the bequest of PCC Victor Share (who died in 2010) and donations from Auxiliaries 4 and 5.

We now are determining a date next spring or summer to formally dedicate the result of this grand effort.

The general idea of putting up a historical marker at Forest Home had been around ever since Brother Tom Ludka and Marge Berres of the Woman's Relief Corps began tallying the number of veterans after sweat equity in the form of walkthroughs of the cemetery by various Camp and Auxiliary members.

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## Funding votes will highlight next meeting

Funding decisions on markers, monuments and donations will be made in the next Camp meeting, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7, at the Machinists Union hall at 1650 S. 38th St., Milwaukee. PI Bruce Nason will have the patriotic presentation.



Brother John Thielmann enlisted two helpers as he and Brother Patrick Lynch spoke about the daily life of soldiers at the West Allis Settlers Weekend in August.

### Educating in West Allis

Many of us helped out, and got to visit with Abraham Lincoln (Lance V. Mack of Marion, Iowa) and Mary Todd Lincoln (Jessica Michna of Racine). Photo by Toni Howard; others by CC Tom Mueller



### Encamping in Richmond

CinC Eugene Mortorff of Pennsylvania takes the reins at the 134th National Encampment in Richmond, Va. The Wisconsin delegation helped say goodbye to CinC Tad Campbell before his term ended. From Camp 1 it included, from left, PCC Patrick Fallon, PCinC Steve Michaels, PDC Tom Brown and Junior Skylar Brown.



### Congrats to national officers from Auxiliary 4:

Denise Oman as vice president  
Danielle Michaels as historian and counselor



### REMEMBERING COL. PIER: MORE FROM 38TH ARRIVE AT PETERSBURG

*These monthly articles about our Camp namesake are written by PCinC Steve Michaels. This item first was published in the September 1995 Camp Orders.*

On Sept. 22, 1864, the last five companies of the 38<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry Regiment under Col. James Bintliff, having been recruited and organized, left Camp Randall. They were under orders to join the other companies of the 38th that already were in the trenches before Petersburg.

Col. C.K. Pier, who was commanding those first four companies of the regiment, gave this account:

“September 30<sup>th</sup>, at Poplar Grove Church, the rebels gave us more than ordinary courtesy ... when the five companies from Wisconsin joined the 38<sup>th</sup> Battalion there, they looked like a brigade and the way (the rebels) threw up breastworks was a sight to be seen,” nearly six feet high in some places.

Poplar Grove Church had been erected by the 50<sup>th</sup> New York Engineers a few miles below Petersburg.

The next day, Col. Bintliff assumed command of the entire regiment, which was now employed in picket and fatigue duty.

The siege of Petersburg continued.

*From Soldiers & Citizens Album of Biographical Record (Vol.2), copyrighted by Brown & Brown, Riverside Printing Co., Milwaukee 1890*





## THE FALL OF ATLANTA

BY PDC KENT PETERSON



*For his patriotic presentation at the Sept. 2 Camp meeting, PDC Kent Peterson gave a “today in history” review of the fall of Atlanta, which came 151 years ago that very day.*

There were three things that made the fall of Atlanta very significant.

- It represented a change in military strategy for the North.
- Atlanta was an essential industrial center for the South.
- The presidential election was only two months away, and Lincoln was not assured of winning a second term up to this point. He even was starting to make arrangements for a transfer of administration should he lose to George McClellan.

The North had seized the advantage from the South in 1863, but war’s end was still nowhere in sight. However, Lincoln had found a general who could fight and lead in Ulysses S. Grant, and Grant had chosen William T. Sherman to command the Union Army in the Deep South.

Under Grant and Sherman, the nature of the war began to change. Instead of continuing the Northern strategy of maneuvering around, engaging in battle and regrouping, Grant and Sherman decided to transform the conflict into a war of attrition. The new tactics were to keep fighting and flanking relentlessly, giving no rest to the enemy, in order to gradually wear down the smaller Southern army.

With this in mind, Sherman ordered his army to move out of Chattanooga in early May 1864 and took dead aim for Atlanta. Sherman’s army was now 100,000 strong versus Gen. Joseph Johnston’s 50,000 to 60,000 men.

By June 27, the armies had reached Kennesaw Mountain, about 25 miles outside Atlanta. The Confederates occupied the high ground and Johnston set up formidable defensive positions. Instead of fighting and flanking, this time Sherman ordered his army to attack the center of the Rebel line and go for a knockout blow.

This proved to be a mistake, and the Union army was repulsed with heavy losses. The Southern victory at Kennesaw could have set the stage for Johnston to mount an effective defense of Atlanta. But inexplicably, Johnston was relieved of command by President Jefferson Davis.

The man chosen to defend Atlanta was John Bell Hood of Texas. Hood was aggressive and had no patience for defensive warfare, which was somewhat of a necessity when one’s army is half the size of the opponent’s.

Here was a classic case of wrong man, wrong place and wrong time. Hood decided to take the offensive and over the month of July, he ordered his depleted army to attack the Union army at Peachtree Creek, Ezra Church and Decatur, sustaining thousands of irreplaceable casualties. By August, the Confederate army was in shambles.

Sherman tightened the noose and began the siege of Atlanta. He sent part of his army south to Jonesboro to cut the last remaining railroad supply line from Macon. Hood made one last desperate stand at Jonesboro before ordering what was left of his battered army to withdraw from Atlanta on Sept. 1, and Atlanta’s mayor surrendered the city the next day.

As Confederate troops started marching out of the city at 5 p.m. on Sept. 1, remaining cannon were spiked and cavalry troops burned the 80 freight cars that had not gotten out before the rail line was cut.

Sherman made Atlanta his headquarters, but when he left to head for Savannah on Nov. 15, he ordered the burning of Atlanta as famously depicted in “Gone With the Wind.”

Thus began Sherman’s “March to the Sea.” As his army slashed its way across Georgia virtually unopposed, Sherman targeted all buildings, factories or supplies that had anything to do with the Confederate government or its armies.

Until Atlanta fell, the Northern public had become war-weary, morale was low and Lincoln’s re-election in November was in serious doubt. When he received the word about Atlanta, Lincoln ordered a day of national rejoicing on Sept. 5, 1864. This news was the singular galvanizing event that propelled Lincoln to an election victory.

Lincoln was re-elected with 55 percent of the vote, carrying 22 of the 25 states voting and crushing McClellan in the Electoral College by a margin of 212-21.

**From the Commander**  
**– continued from page 1**

But it did not get going in earnest until January, when the issue was raised at a Camp meeting and the Camp Council quickly earmarked money for it.

I then sounded out Cemetery Executive Director Jan Van Rens about whether we could put up a marker, and she immediately said yes. You were told about this in the January issue of the Camp Orders. PCinC Steve Michaels and I stood with her in the snow on the very cold afternoon of Feb. 27 to examine potential sites. We were ready to order it in June after getting various written permissions and going through several drafts of the text.

Michaels knew the national SUVCW had money available, and I repeatedly polished and

sharpened the wording on the grant applications.

The result now stands on West Forest Home Avenue between South 27th Street and West Lincoln Avenue.



PCC Victor Share

So this project's gestation took only about eight months, and Milwaukeeans 40, 60, 80 and 100 years from now still will be absorbing the message of this marker as a result of our work.

I say, Prosit, Milwaukee!!! Prosit, Camp 1!!! We know the national Sons are proud of us, because they said so, and we know that Share, Camp commander in 2005, would be proud, too!!!

We also are helping the first renovation work in 20 years on the epic Victorious Charge statue near the downtown Milwaukee Public Library. This was created in 1898, only three years before our C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 was established.

Donors of more than \$500 will have their names inscribed on a plaque at the site of the monument and two other statues. The Camp is on the brink of achieving that level.

Donors of \$1,000 will have their names in bigger letters, and \$2,500 will make a name even larger. We would love to be at that top level. You will be asked in the membership dues notices in November to help this.

There are ZERO history groups at the top three levels, as seen at <http://www.westown.org/courtofhonor/donors/> Let's march to the top, Brothers!!!

**CIVIL WAR  
TRIVIA**

**Q:** Stephen Crane's 1895 masterpiece novel "The Red Badge of Courage" was based upon what battle?

**A:** The book did not say, although a year later Crane again wrote about Henry Fleming, the main character, this time in a magazine article, "The Veteran." In the short story, Fleming as an old man is reminiscing about fears in battle. "Why, in my first battle I thought the sky was falling down. I thought the world was coming to an end. You bet I was scared .... That was at Chancellorsville," Fleming says. See what happens to him next at <http://cw.routledge.com/textbooks/9780415537070/data/section5/crane-the-veteran.pdf> "Red Badge" is about the fictional 304th New York Infantry, but scholars say this was based on the 124th New York, which was at Chancellorsville in the 11th Corps, which broke and ran when attacked by Stonewall Jackson's forces. Crane was born in 1871 and died of tuberculosis in 1901 at the age of only 28.

**OCTOBER BIRTHDAY**

1 – Carl Liebert

**Congratulations,  
Brother Carl!!!**



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

9 October: Presentation on "John Brown: The Spark That Ignited the Civil War," by Dennis Frye. Noon at Civil War Museum, Kenosha. Free.

7 November: Veterans Day parade, 11 a.m. in downtown Milwaukee.

12 December: Wreaths Across America, 11 a.m., Wood National Cemetery. See <http://www.wreathsaacrossamerica.org/>

Feb. 6, 2016: Save the date: Patriotic Luncheon and mid-winter Department meeting. Send us the name of a history-oriented person who ought to be invited to this event.