



# THE DISPATCH

FALL 2019

PUBLISHED BY SUVCW DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

Contents	
National Encampment	Page 2
Camp News	Page 3-6
The Long Road to/from Confederate Rest	Page 7
Patriotic Instructor	Page 8-11
Camps & Officers	Page 12

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

SUVCW

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Brothers,



I have just returned from the 138<sup>th</sup> annual SUVCW encampment in Independence (Cleveland), Ohio. The attendees from our Dept. were PCnC Steve Michaels and PCC Pat Fallon from Camp 1; DSVC Kirby Scott from Camp 8; PDC Brian McManus, PCC Bob Koenecke, CC Dave Daley and DC Jeff Graf from Camp 15. It was a very well run and well attended encampment. Thank you, Ohio Brothers!

It was a memorable encampment for the Department of Wisconsin. The most notable being Camp 15 being awarded the prestigious Commander in Chief's Abraham Lincoln award for best Camp in the nation. I was very proud and humbled to stand on the podium with my Camp 15 brothers and receive the accolades of the encampment. Thank you CnC Don Shaw.

PDC Brian McManus was awarded the Meritorious Service Award for his devotion to our Order, an award, we all agree, that was richly

deserved.

PCC Bob Koenecke discussed ways to help Camps get further along with the Last Veteran Project and received the appreciation of the encampment for his work.

Also notable was our sister, Denise Oman, finishing her term as President of the ASUVCW by conducting a successful encampment of the Auxiliary. Congratulations Denise!

Sister Susan Fallon, PI of the Auxiliary, and wife of brother Pat Fallon addressed the encampment about Wags 4 Warriors, an organization that trains and places support dogs with veterans suffering from PTSD and physical ailments. Her passionate speech spurred the Sons to raise over \$1,000 in a single pass of the hat. Way to go Susan!

One somber note out all of this. The passing of our much beloved and very capable National Treasurer David McReynolds. His abilities made it possible for National to gain 501 C3 status, and he was on the way to getting the Departments and Camps 501 C3 status also. His death has put that on hold for a bit while the new Treasurer collates the files and info. It was because of this situation that a resolution was passed creating an assistant Treasurer's position, so a second man can step in and carry on if something incapacitates the Treasurer.



(Cmdr Comments cont)

The point I'm trying to make from this, is the importance of having a second brother learning and doing the Sect./Treasurer's function WITH the Sect./Treasurer. This position is the heart of the Camp, and as we have seen in this Department, the incapacity of a Sect./Treasurer can cripple a Camp. So please have at least two of you doing the 990 and SUVCW form filing. If you have to split it up between 3 or 4 members, that's great, the more members who know the workings of the Camp, the better.

Again Brothers, thank you.

In Fraternity, charity, and Loyalty

Department Commander,

Jeffrey M. Graf

## 2019 National Encampment



Wisconsin delegates with the CinC presumptive (left to right: PCC Patrick Fallon, PDC Brian McManus, CC David Daley, PCC Bob Koenecke, PCinC Steve Michaels, SVCinC Ed Norris, DC Jeff Graf, DJVC Kirby Scott)



PDC Brian McManus accepting the Meritorious Service Award

## Last Soldiers Dedications



l to r: PDC Kim J. Heltemes, Sam Solberg, Jim Schumann, PDC Brian Peters, and Dept. SVC Kirby Scott. (Photo by Kathy Heltemes.)

The second Last Soldier dedication of August 3, 2019, set up by Sam Solberg and Old Abe Camp 8, was in Bayfield, WI in Woodland Cemetery for David A. Monroe. With the county Veteran Service Officer, members of the historical society, and public in the audience, the dedication took place with the help of the Bayfield VFW.



Standing at attention for the rifle salute are from l to r: PDC Brian Peters, Jim Schumann, PDC Kim J. Heltemes, Sam Solberg, and Dept SVC Kirby Scott (used with permission of the Iron County Miner, the local paper.)

The third Last Soldier dedication of August 3, 2019, was held in Saxon for Chester Huntsinger. Sam Solberg also set up this dedication with the Hurley VFW, Iron County Historical Society, and the public. Even the County Police attend out of curiosity. The event was well planned and had about 100 people in attendance. There were newspaper announcements and afterwards there were nice articles about the dedication. Many people thanked us for driving for 4 hours to do something for their Civil War veterans as no one could remember the last time anyone paid attention to those veterans



## Camp News Camp 1



John Thielmann of Camp 1 helped a young soldier at Civil War Day at the library in Cudahy.



... and PDC Tom Brown showed rifle mechanics there.



PCC Tom Mueller gave a tour of the five graves of Civil War Medal of Honor recipients at Wood National Cemetery in Milwaukee for a summer workshop of middle-schoolers.



PDC Tom Brown and a Boy Scout leader help clean out extensive weeds and brush at Oak Hill Cemetery in Wauwatosa in September. Three others from the Camp assisted.

Camp 1 organized a double tombstone dedication at Forest Home Cemetery in Milwaukee, assisted by Camps 15 and 4 and company F of the 29th U.S. Colored Troops.

The tombstones were funded by Camp 1 and Auxiliary 4 under Forest Home's Adopt a Soldier program, which offers a reduced cost of setting headstones via donations to the Forest Home Historic Preservation Association.

The stones are for Sgt. Horace Dangerfield, of the 13th U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery, Co. F, who died in 1893, and Cpl. Edward Allen, 43rd Wisconsin Infantry, Co. A, who died of disease in Tennessee in 1865.

The foundation program was set up in 2013, and the C.K. Pier Camp and Auxiliary have now funded a total of nine stones.

"The special honor that belongs to you is that your groups were the ones to sponsor the FIRST TWO in our Adopt a Soldier program," says Marge Berres of the Woman's Relief Corps, who along with Brother Tom Ludka was instrumental in setting up the program.

"In addition, the historical marker that you funded at the entrance of the cemetery has brought an awareness of the 1,000 Civil War veterans buried there to the general public."

The marker was erected in 2016.

At the beginning of Adopt a Soldier, about 200 Civil War vets buried at Forest Home had no stone, or an unreadable one. The program has been a great success, and the number now is only about a dozen.



1SGT Rickey Townsell  
Co F, 29th US Colored Troops giving the record and bio of Sgt. Horace Dangerfield,  
Co. F, 13th U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery. (photo by Steve Michaels)



## Camp 8



Riverside Cemetery in Oshkosh has a GAR Section that had 17 unmarked graves in that section. PDC Kim J Heltemes and current Camp Commander of Old Abe Camp 8 has done something people have been trying to do for 100 years - marking one of those 17 unknown graves. While doing the research for a book he discovered that Charles L. Porlier (Polier as it was pronounced) was laid to rest in that section but there was no record of the burial. His 3rd obituary stated where he was buried. Cemetery officials agreed and so did the VA. A new marker for the 21st Wisconsin

infantry soldier was ordered by Kim and it was later received by the cemetery. It was found out that the City of Oshkosh buried the soldiers in the GAR section as a gift for what they had done for the Union so Porlier's marker was also set by the city. It looks great.



Camp 15 members, PDC Brian McManus and Dave Daley, helped Old Abe Camp 8 with the ceremony.

A dedication 5 miles south of Adams/ Friendship Wis. was held on September 14 in the White Creek Cemetery for Hamilton Walrath, the Last Soldier of Adams County.



Shown from Camp 8 from left to right are; Dept. SVC Kirby Scott, Sam Solberg, PDC Kim J. Heltemes, Jim Schumann, and PDC Brian Peters. A descendant of Charles Van Vlack stands in the middle front.

Old Abe Camp #8 held a Last Soldier Marker dedication for Charles Van Vlack in Ashland, WI (Ashland County) on August 3, 2019. The dedication was held in the St. Agnes Cemetery. This was done through the efforts of member Sam Solberg. Sam organized the dedication with the Historical Society, the American Legion, VFW, and the camp. He not only did it for this dedication but he organized 2 other Last Soldier dedications in Bayfield and Iron Counties for that day. It was a huge success with a lot of public in attendance and news outlets. Several people expressed that they could not ever remember anything done before this for the Civil War soldiers of the area. Sam worked with the above for each county. Thank you Sam.



The photograph was taken at the grave of James D. Gibson. Shown l to r are: PDC Brian MaManus, PDC Kim J. Heltemes, PDC Brian Peters, Sam Solberg, Paul Johnson, Dave Daley, Dept. Chaplain Bill Parker, and PCC Dennis Jacob. Photo by Kathy Heltemes.

After letters were sent to county historical societies from the Last Soldier Committee, Wood County Historical Society decided to purchase the Last Soldier marker for James D. Gibson, the last Civil War soldier for Wood County. Old Abe Camp #8 member Bill Parker is also a member of the Wood County Historical Society (WCHS) so he decided to head up the dedication. Bill spent his free time organizing the VFW, the Police Department, the SUVCW, and cleaning the headstone for the dedication.

On September 14, 2019, the marker was dedicated in Forest Hill Cemetery in Wisconsin Rapids. The local VFW handled the rifle squad and sounding Taps while Camp 8 handled the ceremony. Brian Peters took care of the Memorial Officer, Sam Solberg was the chaplain, Department Chaplain and PCC Bill Parker was the Honor Guard, and Kim J. Heltemes was the Commander. Other members of Camp 8 attending were Paul Johnson, the historian of Camp 8 and PCC Dennis Jacob was a flag bearer. PDC Brian McManus and Dave Daley, of Camp #15, came up to help with the Adams County and the Wood County dedications.

After the dedication, we were invited to relax with food and drink at the Wood County Historical Society building. The food and drink hit the spot and the time was well spent getting to know about the WCHS and local history. Thank you to Bill Parker for setting this dedication up for us, and thank you to the WCHS.



(Camp 8 cont)



Bill Parker (behind Wheel in Hardee hat) teams up with McAlister's Battery and the annual Wade House Civil War re-enactment



Camp 8's setup at the Wade House

## Camp 15

**(ed note) Myapologies that Camp 15's report was omitted from the versions posted through my error, here is the corrected edition**

Camp #15, the newest camp in the SUVCW's Department of Wisconsin, was named the best camp in the country at the National Encampment in August. National Commander-in-Chief Donald Shaw presented Camp #15 with the Abraham Lincoln Commander-in-Chief Award, citing the camp's long campaign to clean up Luther Parker Cemetery in Muskego as a major reason for making this prestigious award. Also cited was the camp's Last Soldier Marker project to honor the last Union soldier in every one of Wisconsin's 72 counties and the work of Brother Brian McManus in addressing the thorny Confederate monument removal issue in Madison, Wis.

Brother McManus, an expert on all things SUVCW, points out that the Abraham Lincoln Commander-in-Chief's Award is given at the sole discretion of the Commander-in-Chief to the camp the Commander judges to be the most outstanding camp during his term. Camp #15 was picked over the other 250-plus SUVCW camps across the country.

"Our equivalent of winning the Super Bowl," Brother McManus noted. "Out of the several hundred camps, we are the BEST!" Brother McManus and Brothers Jeff Graf and Bob Koenecke emphasize that the award is a tribute to every member of Camp #15. "Quite an accomplishment, and could not have been done without the hard work and support of all the Brothers in the Camp," Brother McManus noted. "To all of you I say 'Well done.'"

Amen to that, Brothers. We're doing the work of the Sons - and getting the job done, as Brother Bob Koenecke would say.



SUVCW-Natl Encampment 2019 - Camp 15 Commander Dave Daley accepting CinC Award from Don Shaw - from Steve Michaels

The camp dedicated markers in Iowa, Lafayette and Green counties on Aug. 31st with ceremonies that began in the morning and ended in early afternoon. The last dedication was at 2 p.m. at a cemetery outside Browntown in Green County where members of the Green County Historical Society and local American Legion and VFW posts helped honor James M. Divan, the last Civil War soldier buried in that county.

"It was a huge success," said Jonathon Rupp, an official with the Green County Historical Society said as he thanked members of Camp #15 for honoring the county's last Civil War veteran.

Camp #15 also helped Camp #8 dedicate markers in Wood and Adams counties in central Wisconsin on Sept. 14th, part of a campaign to install markers for every last Civil War soldier buried in each of Wisconsin's 72 counties.

"We're a third of the way done in honoring these last soldiers of the Civil War," said Brian McManus, past commander of the SUVCW's Wisconsin Department. "With the help of all the camps across Wisconsin, we can get this done."

Brother McManus was one of two members of Camp #15, based in Wind Lake, Wis., who traveled to Adams and Wood counties on Sept. 14th to help Camp #8 dedicate Last Soldier Markers in those counties. Camp #8, based in the Fox Cities region, dedicated three Last Soldier Markers in Bayfield, Ashland and Iron counties in far northern Wisconsin on Aug. 3rd.



Last Soldier dedication, - Adams County. Kim Heltemes, Brian McManus, Bill Parker and Dave Daley, White Creek Cemetery.jpg



## Camp 15 (cont)

Three more markers for the last Civil War soldiers buried in cemeteries in southwest Wisconsin were dedicated by Camp #15 at the end of August, bringing to 23 the number of Last Soldier Markers dedicated in counties across Wisconsin.

The camp dedicated markers in Iowa, Lafayette and Green counties on Aug. 31st with ceremonies that began in the morning and ended in early afternoon. The last dedication was at 2 p.m. at a cemetery outside Browntown in Green County where members of the Green County Historical Society and local American Legion and VFW posts helped honor James M. Divan, the last Civil War soldier buried in that county.

"It was a huge success," said Jonathon Rupp, an official with the Green County Historical Society said as he thanked members of Camp #15 for honoring the county's last Civil War veteran.

Camp #15 also helped Camp #8 dedicate markers in Wood and Adams counties in central Wisconsin on Sept. 14th, part of a campaign to install markers for every last Civil War soldier buried in each of Wisconsin's 72 counties.

We're a third of the way done in honoring these last soldiers of the Civil War," said Brian McManus, past commander of the SUVCW's Wisconsin Department. "With the help of all the camps across Wisconsin, we can get this done."

Brother McManus was one of two members of Camp #15, based in Wind Lake, Wis., who traveled to Adams and Wood counties on Sept. 14th to help Camp #8 dedicate Last Soldier Markers in those counties. Camp #8, based in the Fox Cities region, dedicated three Last Soldier Markers in Bayfield, Ashland and Iron counties in far northern Wisconsin on Aug. 3rd.



## Camp 56



*Members of the First Minnesota Volunteers "rest on arms" during the Last Soldier dedication ceremony for Cpl. Alonzo Kibbe. Members of Colvill Camp 56 are, from right, Senior Vice Commander Andrew Willenbring, Councilor Randall Nelson, Commander Douglas Urbanski, Secretary/Treasurer Mark Campbell (color bearer), and Signals Officer Mark Dittman (first reenactor soldier on right). Also pictured are First Minnesota reenactors Patrick Chase and John Phillips, and a color bearer from American Legion Post 80.*

On August 10, 2019 members of Colvill Camp 56 participated in a Last Soldier dedication ceremony in New Richmond, Wisconsin, in St. Croix County. Civil War veteran Alonzo Rouse Kibbe served in the 12<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Light Artillery Battery. Corporal Kibbe died October 22, 1943 at age 99. At the time of his death he was the last living Civil War veteran in St. Croix County. Also participating in the ceremony were members of the First Minnesota Volunteers reenactors, and members of American Legion Post 80 of New Richmond. Camp Commander Doug Urbanski led the planning on behalf of the Colvill Camp, in cooperation with the St. Croix County Historical Society. Corporal Kibbe served from 1862 until May 1865. He was wounded at the siege of Savannah in December 1864. After the war he was a longtime resident of New Richmond and was a highly regarded woodworker.

## The long road to / from Confederate Rest

1,400 prisoners from Island No. 10 battle were sent to Madison, but there were so many deaths that they were moved to Chicago five weeks later.

By Tom Mueller, Camp 1 PCC



*This plaque, installed in 1982, was removed from Madison's Forest Hill Cemetery in 2017 amid national debate over Confederate statues and monuments. It called the 139 prisoners who died in Madison "valiant" and "unsung heroes" but also gave factual information about the battle for Island No. 10 and how the prisoners were ill. A 1906 monument listing their names and saying "erected by United Daughters of Confederacy" was removed last January. The cemetery says there is now is no signage at all at the site.*

The road to Confederate Rest in Madison started at the battle, siege and surrender of Island No. 10 in the Mississippi River at New Madrid, Mo., and about 1,400 of the prisoners were sent to Madison in late April 1862.

But so many of the prisoners died that only five weeks later, the vast majorities were moved to Chicago.

A total of 139 are buried at Confederate Rest in Forest Hill Cemetery in Madison, a couple miles from where they were held at Camp Randall. Many were in the 1st Alabama Infantry; the consolidated 1st Alabama, Tennessee and Mississippi; and the 40th and 55th Tennessee Infantry.

Some Confederates were ill even before the battle began on Feb. 28, and more died at the island from disease, the cold and rainy weather, hunger and battle injuries. The toll kept climbing during the siege, which started in mid-March after the rebels evacuated New Madrid. The surrender was April 8, and prisoners were moved to Madison via boat and then railroad boxcars.

A total of about 4,500 Confederates surrendered at the island, which was strategic because it was at a tight double turn in the river and was held by the Confederates from the early days of the war.

Beyond the 1,400 prisoners shipped to Madison, others were sent to Camp Douglas in Chicago, Camp Butler at Springfield, Ill., and to Columbus, Ohio. This is according to "Island No.10: Struggle for the Mississippi Valley," a 1996 book by Larry J. Daniel and Lynn N. Bock. Rebel officers were sent to Boston and Sandusky, Ohio.

The Wisconsin Historical Society has a variety of information about the prisoners at:

<https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS3408>

They arrived in Madison on April 20 and 24. The first to die were Privates William Ham, Charles Reeves and E.C. Sissorly on April 20; there were 19 more by the end of the month.

"Shortly after their arrival, serious problems developed at Camp Randall. An inspection on May 1 revealed an inexperienced and poorly armed guard unit (elements of the newly organized 19<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin infantry). Even worse, the camp hospital appeared unable to handle the sick Confederate patients," the Wisconsin Veterans Museum says at the site.

"Due to the results of the inspection, the prisoners were transferred to Camp Douglas, Chicago, on the last day of May."

Russ Horton of the Veterans Museum was asked for further information, and provided an article from a 2000 edition of its Bugle magazine that says: "The camp hospital appeared unable to handle the additional 200 sick Confederate patients. The overwhelmed hospital staff could not reverse the effects of illness or injury combined with the long, difficult journey north. The result was a high death rate in the first two weeks."

The Wisconsin spring did not help, either. The Wisconsin State Journal reported April 23 that about 25 were in the hospital and that others "were gathered pretty closely around the fires, the cold raw wind of our backward spring striking through their thin jean clothes with a chilling effect ..."

The State Journal ran a running total of deaths and names and reported on May 29 merely: "Dispatches directed the removal of all prisoners here who are able to travel, to Chicago."

Seventeen prisoners remained in Madison, it said, and most died in June and the last on July 3 – Pvt. J.J. Farmer of the consolidated 1st Alabama, Tennessee and Mississippi.

The arrival in Madison the previous month drew much bigger coverage. An April 21 story said the prisoners engaged in friendly banter with the throngs before the 19<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin marched them to Camp Randall. See the newspaper story included with this newsletter.

Island No. 10 controlled shipping on the Mississippi and became more vital after the Union seized Forts Henry (on the Tennessee River) and Donelson (Cumberland River).

"The siege of Island No. 10 was every bit as large and in several respects more significant Port Hudson (La.) campaign that occurred more than a year later," the book by Daniel and Bock says. Port Hudson was surrendered a week after Vicksburg – each after battles and Union sieges – and put the entire Mississippi under Union control. Island No. 10 had quickly led to the Confederate abandonment of Fort Pillow and the fall of Memphis, essentially clearing the river from St. Louis to Vicksburg.

The Island No. 10 battle saw Union forces dig a canal across the neck of land east of New Madrid to bypass the island. That gave the Union a way to cross the river and attack the Confederate troops on the Tennessee side. The battle also featured repeated clashes between Gen. John Pope, ground commander, and Flag Officer Andrew Hull Foote, in charge of gunboats.

Besides the book, good information about the battle is at

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle\\_of\\_Island\\_Number\\_Ten](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Island_Number_Ten) and <http://www.americancivilwar101.com/battles/620407-island-no10.html>



Confederate Pvt. D.M. Scott died on May 30, 1862.



## Another story from Confederate Rest

The 1862 battle that sent Confederate prisoners to Madison - 139 died and are buried at Confederate Rest - included Old Abe and the 8th Wisconsin Infantry, Col. Hans Heg and the 15th Infantry, plus three Badger light artillery units.

This is according to "Island No.10: Struggle for the Mississippi Valley," a 1996 book by Larry J. Daniel and Lynn N. Bock.

The order of battle in the book lists the Wisconsin units. Heg's 15th Wisconsin was part of what was named the flotilla brigade, consisting of five regiments based on Navy ships.

The surrender was made at 3:25 a.m. April 8.

"Shortly after 6 a.m., seven companies of Col. Heg's regiment took possession of the island, the colonel being the first to raise the stars and stripes," the book says.

"Their (rebel) camp was scattered over five miles in length, tents standing, and most of their trunks and baggage were scattered all over," Heg wrote.

About 4,500 surrendered but a few hundred fled.

David McLean of the 8th Wisconsin described the Confederates in the book: "Nearly all were lean, lank, bony. Some of them tall, some of them poor fellows who had but one meal since Sunday (two days ago). I saw a good many boys not over 12 or 13. It was the miserable-looking set of men I ever saw collected together, physically and mentally."

There is no McLean in the Wisconsin roster, but there is a Pvt. David McLain, in Co. C, from Gilmanton in Buffalo County. He also was listed as McLain in the three Wisconsin veterans censuses that are online; each time living at Menomonie.

The book has his passage about Old Abe: "At New Madrid (Mo.), an Illinois soldier remarked that close to the 8th's regimental flag was a man carrying a shield, 'and above the shield there was a bunch of arrows and perched upon these arrows was a live eagle. It seemed as well as anything you ever saw. It attracted the attention of thousands as the regiment passed through the grounds.'"



## Camp 1 face shows up in music series by Ken Burns



Ken Burns used a portrait of a Civil War soldier with a guitar during his immense PBS series "Country Music" - and it was the ancestor of Camp PCC Billy Cole.

PCC Tom Mueller was watching the opening night of the eight-part series and noticed the soldier photo - and something seemed vaguely familiar. It was on-air for maybe five seconds. The episode ran two hours and had hundreds of photos, film clips and recordings.

Mueller rewound the show to the 26-minute mark for a closer examination. The photo was familiar, all right - Cole had used it in his patriotic presentation about Cpl. William D. Cole in April 2017, and it ran in the Camp Orders later that month.

Mueller and family compared many aspects of the newsletter photo and the one on TV, such as how many fingers and buttons were showing, the collar, posture, rank, etc. Not to mention the soldier's striking resemblance to Cole, especially across the forehead and eyes.

So Mueller notified Cole as to the incredible likelihood. Cole, a lifelong musician, said he had seen part of that episode but otherwise was entertaining his brother, who had flown to Milwaukee to visit.

The next day, the brothers watched the repeat, and quickly confirmed their tie to the photo. It was a great boost for Cole, who the week before had stepped down as Camp commander because of health issues.

The photo was used by Burns as a transition from discussion of banjos to guitars, with no specific reference to the image or even to the Civil War - most of Episode 1 dealt with the 1920s and 1930s. Mueller, who spent more than three decades as a newspaper editor and journalism teacher, says it looks to be a case of Burns having a nice photo, putting it on the bench for future use and then calling it into action now.

When a person Google's "photo Civil War soldier with guitar," the Cole photo shows up as the first one at <https://www.bing.com/images>, so Burns' staff could have gotten it that way.

Cpl. Cole was in the 7th Missouri Infantry. For some time, he was a sergeant like in the photo, but reverted to corporal. He died in 1944 at age 100 and is buried in Missouri.



# 1st Wisconsin Cav. helped nab Jefferson Davis

By Tom Mueller

Camp 1 PCC



*The Jefferson Davis Memorial Historic Site in Georgia marks the spot where the Confederate president was captured by the 1st Wisconsin Cavalry and the 4th Michigan Cavalry.*

Perhaps the most noteworthy achievement of the 1st Wisconsin Cavalry was the capture of Confederate President Jefferson Davis on May 10, 1865, near Irwinville, Ga. The 4th Michigan Cavalry was part of the capture, too, and accounts disagree about which unit actually made the arrest or whether they did it virtually simultaneously.

The site of the arrest now has a monument and museum. A Georgia historical marker there mentions only "Union cavalry" and calls Davis "the revered leader of the Lost Cause."

The action was by a detachment of 150 men from the 1st Cav led by Lt. Col. Henry

Harnden, whose name is on Camp 2 of the SUVCW in Madison. The 4th Michigan had a similar detachment.

Here is an edited version of a story from <https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS3521>, which also has two newspaper articles from the 1920s recounting the capture:

When the Confederate capital of Richmond, Va., fell on April 2, 1865, its government fled toward Texas.

Cpl. Benjamin N. Castle, who was in Co. C of the 1st Wisconsin, recalls setting out from Macon, Ga., on May 8.

"In the morning we fed our horses and were drawn up into line," Castle said. "Then Colonel Harnden made known the purpose of our march. ... 'We are going after Jefferson Davis. We expect to get into a fight. If there is a fight it will be to the death, because Davis must not be allowed to escape. If there is a man here who doesn't care to go on, he can go back to Macon now.' Not a man left the regiment."

Harden said in his memoirs: "We lay down to rest for a time, but before the break of day (May 10) were again in the saddle. Hearing that a party with wagons was camped a short distance from the town, we had marched out toward it, guided by a negro."

In the dark, Harnden's men and soldiers from the 4th Michigan exchanged gunshots (each thinking the other was Davis' group). ... Two of the Michigan men were killed, and several wounded. Of the Wisconsin men, three were wounded.

Harnden continued: "We lost a number of horses. Col. (Benjamin) Pritchard (of the 4th Michigan) and I rode together into the Davis camp, which was just across a little swale, only a few rods from where our skirmish took place. The first person we saw there was John H. Reagan, the postmaster of the Confederacy, lately United States senator from Texas, who said to me, 'Well, have you taken the old gentleman at last!'

"Who do you mean?' I asked.

"I mean President Davis."

"Please point him out. 'There he stands,' said Reagan, pointing to a tall, elderly and rather dignified looking gentleman, standing a short distance away. We rode up, dismounted, and saluted, and I asked if this was Mr. Davis? 'Yes,' he replied, 'I am President Davis.' At this the soldiers set up a shout that 'Jeff' Davis was captured'."

Another account of the capture, focusing on the 4th Michigan, ran in Michigan History Magazine in 2000 and says the 4th Michigan was there just before Harnden's men. It is at <https://web.archive.org/web/20060513204614/http://www.michiganhistorymagazine.com/portfolio/pdf/nj00con.pdf>. Here are excerpts:

"Pritchard encountered elements of the 1st Wisconsin Cavalry and learned from its commander, Lt. Col. Henry Harnden, that the Badgers were also on Davis' trail. The two officers briefed each other, and Harnden told Pritchard that his men were on the way to Irwinville, about 20 miles south of Abbeville. " ... Pritchard learned from the local inhabitants that a party had encamped about one and one half miles north of the town. ... as the first dawn colored the sky, the 4th Michigan charged the camp, which included Davis, his wife, Varina, and about 25 others.

"... About 10 minutes later, Pritchard heard sharp fighting from the north.

"Leaving (a small group to stay at the camp), Pritchard took most of command and rode toward the sound of the shooting. ... The shooting lasted only five minutes, but the tragic mistake left two Michiganians dead and one wounded; the 1st Wisconsin suffered eight wounded.

"As Pritchard and Harnden sorted things out, (Adjutant Julian) Dickinson had his hands full back in the rebel camp. After Pritchard galloped off, Varina Davis conned trooper Andrew Bee, who was guarding her tent, to allow her 'old mother' to go for water. As Bee stepped away, Mrs. Davis and a person dressed in a woman's overcoat and a black head shawl left the tent. Noticing that the person was wearing men's riding boots with spurs a trooper shouted, 'There goes a man dressed in women's clothes!'

"Dickinson and Cpl. George Munger rode over to the pair and ordered them to halt. The couple ignored the command until they were surrounded by several troopers.

"Dickinson removed the shawl, revealing the Confederate president."





## Hats in the Civil War

Paul Johnson  
Patriotic Instructor Camp 8

During the Civil War, the concept of "uniform" was a bit loose. In the beginning volunteer troops often showed up in their state issued uniforms, e.g. Wisconsin volunteers of the first 8 regiments were clad in gray uniforms. As the war progressed the army became more uniform, mainly due to the economy of equipping troops with factory made clothing, and economy of scale demanded sameness.

An excellent web source for information is <http://howardlanham.tripod.com/newindex.html>

It has to be remembered that regulations and the reality of the war era did not always mean uniformity, especially with officers who seem to treat "regulations" as "suggestions."



Many photographs, especially of groups of officers show a wide interpretation of these suggestions, especially when it comes to hats.

The Hardee hat, also known as the Model 1858 Dress Hat and sometimes nicknamed the "Jeff Davis", was the regulation dress hat for enlisted men in the Union Army during the American Civil War. The Hardee hat was also worn by Confederate soldiers. However, most soldiers found the black felt hat to be too hot and heavy and shunned its use, preferring a kepi or slouch hat. In the Union Army, the most prominent wearers of the Hardee hat during the war were the soldiers of

the "Iron Brigade", also known as the Black-Hats. However, the unadorned, plain and often field-modified Hardee hat was worn by Union troops especially in the Western theater.

The hat apparently was named after William J. Hardee, a career officer in the U.S. Army from 1838 until resigning his commission on January 31, 1861. Hardee was Commandant of Cadets at West Point from 1856 to 1860. He was lieutenant colonel of the 1st U.S. Cavalry until just before the war. In 1855, he published Rifle and Light Infantry Tactics for the Exercise and Manoeuvres of Troops When Acting as Light Infantry or Riflemen, popularly known as Hardee's Tactics, which became the best-known drill manual of both sides of the Civil War. He joined the Confederate States Army in March 1861 and eventually became a lieutenant general and corps commander.



U.S. Army regulations specified that the hat should be adorned with a brass hat device and a wool hat cord denoting the branch of service of the wearer: sky blue for infantry, scarlet for artillery, and gold for cavalry. The brim was to be pinned up on the right side for cavalrymen and artillerymen and on the left for infantry soldiers.

The officer version, which was privately purchased, had a ½ inch black silk binding and the branch service and eagle patch were embroidered and the hat cord was a black & gold cord with "acorn" tips

The kepi is not to be confused with the model 1858 forage cap, sometimes called "bummer cap", which evolved directly from the used by the regular army earlier in the 1850s (see the design of the crown, chinstrap, brim, and buckle).

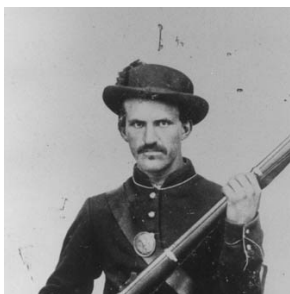






The kepi is most often associated with the American Civil War era, and continued into the Indian Wars. Union Officers were generally issued kepis for fatigue use. A close copy of the contemporary French kepi, it had a sunken top and squared visor. It was often called a "McClellan cap", after the Union commander of the Army of the Potomac, G.B. McClellan. For field officers, the caps were often decorated in a French-influenced style, with a dark velvet band around the base and black silk braiding on the crown. The kepi was also popular with various state union troops even though it was described by one soldier as "Shapeless as a feedbag" There were two types of brims: the first, called the

McClellan cap was flat; the second, called the McDowell cap, was curved. U.S. Army regulations called for insignia to be put on the top of the cap, with branch of service (infantry, cavalry or artillery) in the middle, company letter above and the regimental number below. In 1863 the corps badge was introduced in the Army of the Potomac in an attempt to boost morale among the troops; this badge was also added to the cap. If the soldier was in the infantry the bugle horn was put below the disk, with the regimental number inside the infantry horn, the company letter above the horn and the corps badge above that. It should be noted, however, that more frequently than not the soldier lacked this degree of insignia. Occasionally, the branch of service, company letter or regimental number insignia was also used. After the Civil War, the forage cap fell into disuse; it was rarely worn, but was in use until the 1870s. Forage hats were like because as one diarist put it "we can carry more eggs in it."



Many troops would replace their regulation kepis with civilian hats (normally in black). Popular styles included the slouch hat with either a flat or round top (the latter was issued to the Garibaldi Guard with black feathers added to resemble the Italian bersaglieri hat), pork pie hat, telescope crown hat, flat cap, bowler hat or smoking cap (worn in camp when off-duty)



One last minute addition:

Camp 4 dedicated a tombstone in Mukwonago in August, assisted by Camp 1 and the Mukwonago Historical Society. The stone was for Pvt. Charles Dillenbeck of the 106th New York Infantry, Co. B, who died in 1909 and was buried with family in at Oak Knoll Cemetery.





To reach either the Camp's page or its Facebook page, hold curser over the name, hold "Ctrl" and left click

C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1 - Milwaukee

C. K. Pier Badger Camp #1 and Auxiliary #4 meet on the second Wednesday of the month (except Aug.), at 7 p.m.,  
Commander: [Brian Craig](#)

C.K. Pier Badger Auxiliary 4

Henry Harnden Camp 2 - Madison

Commander: [Fred J. Campbell](#)

Henry Harnden Auxiliary 2

Major General John Gibbon Camp 4 - Waukesha

Meetings @ at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month (except August)

Commander: [Timothy Kracht](#)

Lt. Alonzo H. Cushing Camp 5 – Saukville

Meeting @ 7 P.M. last Tuesday of month

Commander: [PDC Tom Brown](#)

Old Abe Camp 8 - Fox Cities

Meeting @ 7 P.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of odd months

Commander: [Kim Heltemes](#)

Edward S. Bragg Auxiliary 6

Facebook Page

Hans Heg Camp 15

Meeting @ 7 P.M. 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, monthly

Commander: [David Daley](#)

L.G. Armstrong 49 – Boscobel

Meetings @ 7 P.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, monthly

Commander: [Charles Giesel](#)

William Colville Camp 56 - Minneapolis/St. Paul Meeting

held quarterly, time, date place TBA

Commander: [Douglas Urbanski](#)



Dept. Commander	Jeffrey M. Graf, PCC <a href="mailto:commander@sucvw-wi.org">commander@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Sr. Vice Commander	Kirby A. Scott, PCC <a href="mailto:svc@sucvw-wi.org">svc@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Jr. Vice Commander	John R. Decker <a href="mailto:jvc@sucvw-wi.org">jvc@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Council 1	Brian D. McManus, PDC <a href="mailto:council1@sucvw-wi.org">council1@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Council 2	Fred Campbell <a href="mailto:council2@sucvw-wi.org">council2@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Council 3	James Giesel <a href="mailto:council3@sucvw-wi.org">council3@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Secretary	Brian Peters, PDC <a href="mailto:secretary@sucvw-wi.org">secretary@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Treasurer	Alan Hembel, PCC <a href="mailto:treasurer@sucvw-wi.org">treasurer@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Patriotic Instructor	Rich Kallan <a href="mailto:pi@sucvw-wi.org">pi@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Graves Registration Officer	Thomas S. Mueller, PCC <a href="mailto:gro@sucvw-wi.org">gro@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Eagle Scout Coordinator	Kenneth Artlip <a href="mailto:scouts@sucvw-wi.org">scouts@sucvw-wi.org</a>
ROTC Award Coordinator	David D. Daley <a href="mailto:rotc@sucvw-wi.org">rotc@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Iron Brigade Hwy Officer	Robert F. Koenecke, PCC <a href="mailto:highway@sucvw-wi.org">highway@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Last Soldier Project Officer	Robert F. Koenecke, PCC <a href="mailto:lastsoldier@sucvw-wi.org">lastsoldier@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Civil War Memorials	Robert F. Koenecke, PCC <a href="mailto:memorials@sucvw-wi.org">memorials@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Chaplain	Pat Kulas <a href="mailto:chaplain@sucvw-wi.org">chaplain@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Counselor	Kent Peterson, PDC <a href="mailto:counselor@sucvw-wi.org">counselor@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Historian	Bruce Laine, PDC <a href="mailto:historian@sucvw-wi.org">historian@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Camp Organizer	Kim Heltemes <a href="mailto:organizer@sucvw-wi.org">organizer@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Guide	David D. Daley <a href="mailto:guide@sucvw-wi.org">guide@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Color Bearer	Robert J. Mann, PCC <a href="mailto:guard@sucvw-wi.org">guard@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Signals Officer	Kent Peterson, PDC <a href="mailto:webmaster@sucvw-wi.org">webmaster@sucvw-wi.org</a>
Officers were elected at the 8 June 2019 Department Encampment at Boscobel, Wis. and will serve until the 2020 Department Encampment.	



SUVCW

## NOTICE

**Wisconsin Department Dispatch © 2020** is published four times per year for members of the Wisconsin Department, SUVCW. articles, photos and news items may be submitted to:

Paul Johnson at:

[johnson@newnorth.net](mailto:johnson@newnorth.net)

Editorial deadlines are March, July, October & December

Visit us on the Web at

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

Winter: Published January 3, 2020

Deadline December 27, 2019

Spring: Published April 4, 2020

Deadline March 27, 2020

Summer: Published July 3 2020

Deadline June, 26,2020

Fall: Published October 2, 2020

Deadline September 25, 2020