



THE DISPATCH

AUGUST 2014

PUBLISHED BY THE SUVCW DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

SUVCW

Comments from Your Wisconsin Department Commander

Brothers,

First, I'd like to thank everyone that attended the June Encampment at Madison's Wisconsin Veterans Museum. It is your participation that makes it all work. The slate of officers has remained the same after the election. The only changes in leadership have been Dean Collins as the Chaplain and Bruce Laine will be the Historian. The list of officers can be seen on the Department website. As far as changes, please see General Orders #1 that was sent out early August. Contact me for anything of concern.

Please plan to attend the ceremony dedicating Wisconsin newest Civil war monument at Camp Randall, next to the Arch, sometime around the 1st of June 2015. The Department and members have donated towards this monument, helping to make it a reality. Another event the will probably never happen again is the "Return of the Lincoln Funeral Train" during the weekend of May 2, 2015, at Springfield, IL. Even though we will be part of the Lincoln Tomb ceremony a few weeks earlier, the Funeral Train event will be a once in a lifetime event.

Wisconsin had nine members at the National Encampment held mid-August in Marietta, GA. While we were not the highest in attendance, it was a respectable turnout. On Sunday, after the Encampment was over, we dedicated the new Wisconsin monument at Altoona Pass, GA. Thanks again to those from the Department of Wisconsin that stayed an extra day to be part of this long waited dedication. It was a nice event in 97 degree temps. A past Department officer, Eric Petersen, now in the Georgia/South Carolina Department, was moving force to have Wisconsin recognized at the Pass.



In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty,
Kim Heltemes, D.C.

Delafield native to get Medal of Honor for Civil War heroics



1st Lt. Alonzo H. Cushing was killed in Battle of Gettysburg

(AP) Washington — A century and a half after his valiant death at the Battle of Gettysburg, a Union Army officer from Delafield, Wis., is being awarded the nation's highest military decoration, thanks to a decades-long campaign by his descendants and Civil War buffs.

The White House announced Tuesday that President Barack Obama approved the Medal of Honor for 1st Lt. Alonzo H. Cushing, who was killed by a Confederate bullet to the head during the pivotal, three-day Battle of Gettysburg.

Congress granted a special exemption in December for Cushing to receive the award posthumously since recommendations normally have to be made within two years of the act of heroism and the medal awarded within three years.

The White House also announced that President Obama will award the medal in a ceremony on Sept. 15, 2014



Cushing was born in Delafield, Wis., raised in Fredonia, N.Y., and buried at his alma mater, West Point, after being killed on July 3, 1863, at age 22.

He commanded about 110 men and six cannons, defending the Union position on Cemetery Ridge against Pickett's Charge, a major Confederate thrust that could have turned the tide in the war.

The fierce battle near the town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, resulted in more than 51,000 casualties.

Confederate soldiers advanced into the Union fire but eventually retreated with massive losses. The South never recovered from the defeat. Four months later, President Abraham Lincoln memorialized the Union war dead in his Gettysburg Address.

During the battle, Cushing's small force stood their ground under a severe artillery bombardment as nearly 13,000 Confederate infantrymen waited to advance. Cushing was wounded, and his battery was left with two guns and no long-range ammunition. Historians say his stricken battery should have been withdrawn and replaced with reserve forces, but Cushing insisted on ordering his guns to the front lines on the last day of fighting.

Refusing to evacuate to the rear despite his severe wounds, he directed the operation of his lone field piece continuing to fire in the face of the enemy," the White House said in its "announcement." With the rebels within 100 yards of his position, Cushing was shot and killed during this heroic stand. His actions made it possible for the Union Army to successfully repulse the Confederate assault."



Several soldiers who fought alongside Cushing received Medal of Honor. It's not clear why Cushing never got one, but his descendants and admirers took up his cause in the late 1980s. Wisconsin lawmakers pushed through an amendment to a defense-spending bill to award Cushing in 2010, but then Sen. James Webb, D-Va., stripped it from the bill because he said it was impossible to go back 150 years to determine who should receive the award. Webb predicted it could open an endless series of claims and argued at the time, "The better wisdom would be for Congress to leave history alone."



Lt Cushing's grave at West Point



Lt. Alonzo Cushing (far left), shown with other Union officers



Lt. Rufus King, Lt. Alonzo Cushing, Lt. Evan Thomas and three other artillery officers in front of tent, Antietam, Md



Cushing Monument at Gettysburg

News from C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1 - Milwaukee

C.K. Pier Badger Auxiliary 4



Photo by Gary Porter MJS

Camp 1 of Milwaukee, joined by Camp 4 of Waukesha, honored Army Pvt. Lewis Rounds and Navy Boatswain's Mate Michael McCormick, who earned the MOH on May 12 and 5, 1864, respectively. Camp 1 CC Tom Mueller places a flag at Rounds' grave in Wood National Cemetery, where McCormick has a memorial stone. Rounds earned the MOH at Bloody Angle at Spotsylvania, Va., and McCormick on the USS Signal on the Red River in Louisiana. Rounds' 8th Ohio Regiment and 20 others were in the division of Gen. John Gibbon, namesake of Camp 4

The web URL for the newspaper coverage is quite long, so just Google the headline: "Milwaukee ceremony honors 2 Medal of Honor winners at Wood National Cemetery"



Camp 1 CC Tom Mueller traveled to the Stones River National Cemetery in Murfreesboro, Tenn., to honor Pvt. Henry Pfaff of the 24th Wisconsin, killed on Dec. 31, 1862. Pfaff was from Oak Creek, where Mueller has lived for 36 years. The specifics of what happened to Pfaff, 23, were reported in William Beaudot's book, "24th Wisconsin Infantry in the Civil War," and Mueller quoted the passage in his recent book, "Duty, Honor, Country and Wisconsin,"

which has two chapters about Oak Creek's losses in the nation's wars.



Photo by Racine Journal Times.

Brother Pat Kulas of Racine, a member of Camp 1, obtained a gravestone for his relative, Pvt. Franz Wozniak of the 9th Wis., and this summer drove to Poniatoski in Marathon County to install it at Holy Family Catholic Cemetery.

Wozniak died in 1896 but he never had a tombstone.

It was in the 1980s that Kulas first realized this, and he worked for years to obtain the necessary records. Church records had been lost in a fire sometime before or during the 1930s. After the tombstone finally



arrived, the story was not over, Kulas said: "We found through help from a neighbor from the Burlington Genealogy Society that Franz was the father of my grandmother. So all these years where I thought he was a great-uncle, he actually is my great-grandfather. I could probably write a story about my visits to the Mormons in Salt Lake City."



Photo by PDC Kent Peterson.

A salute of remembrance is fired at Camp 1's Memorial Day commemoration at Calvary Cemetery in Milwaukee. A crowd of more than 300 attended a Roman Catholic mass followed by Camp 1's ceremony

News from Old Abe Camp 8 - Fox Cities & Edward S. Bragg Auxiliary 6

The Berlin Area Historical Society with the help of Old Abe Camp #8, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, conducted a re-dedication of Berlin's 1894 Civil War Monument located in Nathan Strong Park on Saturday, August 23rd, 2014.



Old Abe Camp #8 members present arms during the re-dedication ceremony — with Jim Schumann, Michael Bouchette, Kirby Scott, Jeff Williams, Jim Waid and Alan Petit at Nathan Strong Park.



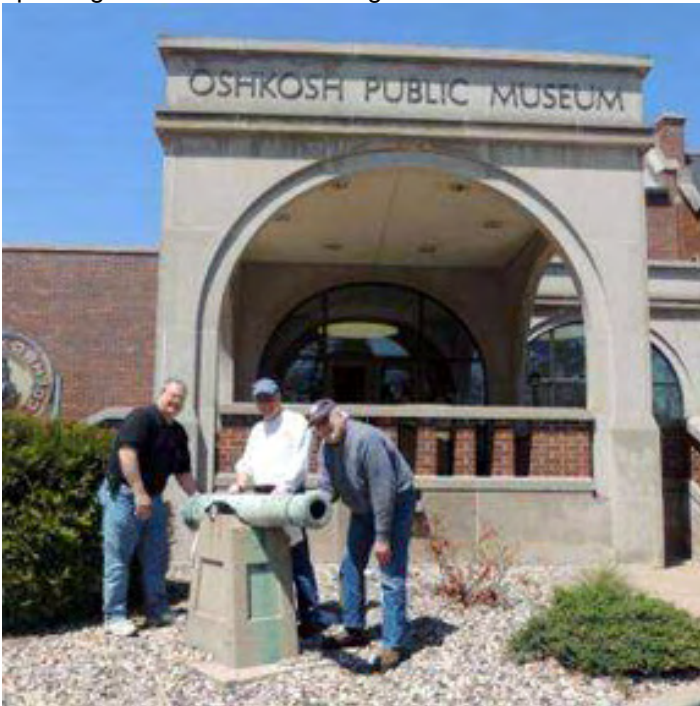
Old Abe Camp #8 Rifle Squad fires one of three volleys during the monument re-dedication ceremony on Saturday August 23rd. — with Vince Barker, Jim Schumann,



Also present at the ceremony, with his father, is Junior SUVCW member Seth Barker



On Sunday, May 18th, Old Abe Camp #8 set up our Camp display at the Veteran's Home in King, WI. Ron Arndt also brought along his canon. The weather was perfect and we did very well on raffle ticket sales. Edward S. Bragg was set up along side of us with lots of good food & other items for the public.

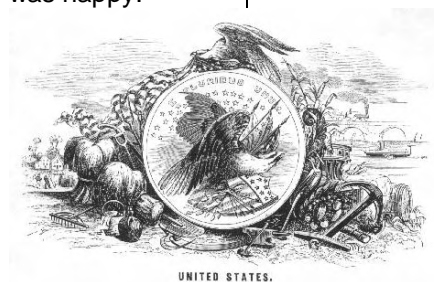


On Saturday, May 10 th, Kirby Scott, Kurt Kirk, and Alan Petit stop by the Oshkosh Public Museum to wax this cannon out front. After using a lot of elbow grease, the canon looked pretty good and the staff at the museum was happy.

Little Know Facts from Camp 1

Brother G.T. Regan provided the surprising news that a son of Union Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman and a nephew or great-nephew of Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens are buried next to each other in a Jesuit cemetery in Louisiana.

Thomas Ewing Sherman and John Salter both became Roman Catholic priests after the war, winding up in New Orleans. Each died in 1933 (Sherman on April 20 and Salter on May 2), and they are buried side by side at the Jesuit Cemetery in Grand Coteau, La.; a mere coincidence because Salter was the next priest of the local Jesuit community to be interred there.



William Colvill Camp 56 - Minneapolis/St. Paul

Each year Minneapolis commemorates 9/11 with a ceremony that includes the massing of colors of most of the Patriotic and Heritage Societies, plus Police, Fire and First Responder organizations.

The William Colville camp 56 have been invited to participate as potentially part of the opening ceremonies.



Sons of Union (SUV) MN Colville Camp Members
Doug Urbanski, Randy Nelson, Richard Cady, Glenn
Kiecker---Making final plans for Colville Camp
participation in 9-11 Ceremonials at Lake Harriet Band
Shell

M'CARTY'S PENSION CLAIM

"Are ye the pinsion-claim agent,
Whose name is down there on the dure?
Well, me name, sor, is Terrance McCarty,
An' I'll put me hat doon on the flure
While I tell yez me business. Tim Murphy-
He's a neighbor of moine, sor. is Tim,
Has jist got his pinsion, an' I, sor,
Did the boolk of the swearin' for him.
"These pinsions are very convanient.
An' they're aisy to git, too, yez see,
So I thought that I'd take wan meself, now,
An' have Tim do the swearin' for me.
So many are thrying for pinsions
That I thought that I'd thry it a whack,
For somehow in leppin' the bounties,
Bedad, sor, I hurted me back."

L.G. Armstrong Camp # 49

This summer has been busy. Brother Garrett Reynolds carried the son's flag in the July 4th parade in Boscobel. Brother Gary Young has secured funds to remove the porch from the GAR hall and it has been lifted up in preparation for placing a basement under it. On July 13th Camp Commander Dan Chroninger attended the annual Cemetery walk in Viroqua.

Dan portrayed Jeramiah Rusk who was Dept. Commander for the GAR in Wisconsin, also was Governor of Wisconsin.



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 Auxiliary 4

[Henry Harnden Camp 2](#) - Madison
Henry Harnden Auxiliary 2

[Major General John Gibbon Camp 4](#) - Waukesha
Ammi Hawks Auxiliary 5

[Lt. Alonzo H. Cushing Camp 5](#) – Saukville

[Old Abe Camp 8](#) - Fox Cities [FaceBook Page](#)
Edward S. Bragg Auxiliary 6

[L.G. Armstrong 49](#) - Boscobel

[William Colvill Camp 56](#) - Minneapolis/St. Paul

The New Wisconsin Monument at Altoona Pass, Georgia.

By DC Kim J. Heltemes

Through the efforts of a few, including a former member of the Department of Wisconsin, Eric Petersen, Wisconsin is the latest and last state to put up a marker for their state at the Pass. Several members from Wisconsin stayed after the National Encampment that was held in Marietta, Ga., to see the unveiling of the Wisconsin monument.

This has been many years in the making but through donation efforts by many organizations and corporations as well as our Department, the unveiling became a reality on August 24, 2015. Our PDC Tom Brown, was asked to say a few words about the meaning of the Pass to Wisconsin while the National Chaplain, Jerome Kowalski, was there to dedication and bless the monument. Wisconsin Department Commander, Kim J. Heltemes, was there to place a wreath at the foot of the monument. Tom Brown brought dirt from Wisconsin and placed it at the foot of the monument. Steve Michaels, Brian McManus, and Alan Petit were there for support. Linda Brown, Kathy Heltemes, and Danielle Michaels were there to represent the Auxiliary.

After the ceremony, all were invited to share supper at a local historic manor.



PDC Bob Brown's presentation at the ceremony



Wisc. DC Kim Heltemes & PDC Bob Brown after placing the wreath at the monument



Wisconsin Department Pioneers

Thomas L. Jacobs

Mighty Man from Menasha"

The 1895 Wisconsin Dept. Encampment was held in conjunction with the GAR Dept. Encampment in Green Bay on May 22-23. The delegates observed that the GAR was so much larger, that the Sons meeting received little local attention by comparison. They decided to hold future meetings at a separate location and time. Perhaps there was also a desire to distance the Sons in the minds of those preaching amalgamation.

A 29 year-old Menasha printer, Thomas L. Jacobs, was elected Dept. Commander. Jacobs was born August 28, 1866, in Menasha, the only son of William C. Jacobs and Charlotte Rose Ann Hulce. His father, a German immigrant, had enlisted as a corporal in the 12th Wis. Light Artillery in 1862 and was mustered out a sergeant three years later. At the age of 13, Thomas began working at the *Waupaca Wis. News* as an apprentice. With the exception of a few months working in his father's store, he followed the print business all his life.

Br. Jacobs was one of twelve charter members of Menasha's U.S. Grant Camp 17. The Camp was mustered-in on May 24, 1887. Two years later, the Camp entertained the Dept. Encampment

At the 1888 Dept. Encampment, Br. Jacobs was elected Dept. Sr. Vice Commander, serving under DC Charles Hudson. When the Wisconsin Dept. was chartered in 1889, Jacobs name was one of two dozen names placed on the charter. In 1892, he was elected to the Dept. Council. In 1895, he took over a Department comprised of 717 members in 34 Camps. During DC Jacobs' term, Camps were chartered at New Richmond, Rhinelander and Fond du Lac (recharter).

DC Jacobs presided over the 1896 Dept. Encampment, held in Marinette

After stepping down as Dept. Commander, he was elected Dept. Quartermaster. He was also serving as Commander of Camp 17.

In 1897, Br. Jacob's father passed away. With the end of the Financial Panic of 1893 and the Spanish American War, interest and membership decreased and in 1900, Camp 17 was suspended.

PDC Jacobs moved to Tacoma, Washington, in 1902 and became one of the city's most popular and progressive printers. He was elected the first president of the Tacoma Division of the United Typographical Association.

On September 28, 1910, he married Miss Faddie Eldridge. They had no children.

He was suggested for the presidency of the Tacoma Typographical Union and president of the Employers Association, a mark of universal confidence and esteem, but he declined, due to his poor health. He died on September 2, 1918, at the age of 52.

Sources:

Ancestry.com

Historical & Biographical Sketch of the Order of Sons of Veterans compiled by A.G. Braband; Radtke Bros. & Kortsch, Printers, Milwaukee, 1899

Press Forward the Good Work, History of the Wis. Dept., SUVCW by PDC Stephen Michaels, 1997

Proceedings of Annual Convention by United Typothetae of America; Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 1919

Submitted by PCinC Stephen A. Michaels

The New Wisconsin Monument at Altoona Pass (cont)



Both rifle and cannon salutes were fired



Linda Brown, Danielle Michaels, Catherine Heltemes of the A.S.U.V.C.W. also present

THE OLD CANTEEN.

BY G. M. WHITE.

Send it up to the garret? Well, no;
what's the harm
If it hangs like a horse-shoe to serve as
a charm?
Had its day. to be sure; matches ill with
things here;
Shall I sack the old friend just because it
is queer?
'Thing of beauty 'tis not, but a joy none
the less,
As my hot lips remember its old-time caress.
And i think on the solace once gurgling between
My lips from that old battered tin canteen.



It has hung" by my side in the long, weary tramp.
Been my friend in the bivouac, barrack, and camp.
In the triumph, the capture, advance, and retreat.
More than light to my path, more than guide to my feet.
Sweeter nectar ne'er flowed, howe'er sparkling and cold,
From out chalice of silver or goblet of gold.
For a king or an emperor, princess or queen,
Than to me from the mouth of that old canteen.

It has cheered the desponding on many a night.
Till their laughing eyes gleamed in the camp-fire light.
Whether guns stood in silence, or boomed at short range,
It was always on duty; though 'twould not be strange
If in somnolent periods just after "taps"
Some colonel or captain, disturbed at his naps.
May have felt a suspicion that "spirits" unseen
Had somehow bedeviled that old canteen.

But I think on the time when in lulls of the strife
It has called the far look in dim eyes back to life;
Helped to stanch the quick blood just beginning to pour.
Softened broad, gaping wounds that were stiffened and sore,
Moistened thin, livid lips, so despairing of breath
They could only speak thanks in the quiver of death;
If ail angel of mercy e'er hovered between
This world and the next 'twas that old canteen.

Then banish it not as a profitless thing,
Were it hung in a palace it well might swing
To tell in its mute, allegorical way
How the citizen volunteer won the day;
How' he bravely, unflinchingly, grandly won.
And how, when the death-dealing work was done,
'Twas as easy his passion from war to wean
As this mouth from the lips of that old canteen.

By and by, when all hate for the rags with the bars
Is forgotten in love for the "stripes and the stars";
When Columbia rules everything solid and sole,
From her own ship canal to the ice at the pole:
When the Grand Army men have obeyed the last call,



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Jr. Vice Commander	Andrew Bollen III, PCC jvc@sucvw-wi.org
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NOTICE

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

Paul Johnson at:

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Editorial deadlines are April, August, and Dec.

Visit us on the Web at

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

EVENTS CALENDAR

11 NOV 2014

VETERAN'S DAY