



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT DISPATCH



Winter 2003-2004

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ANNUAL MID-WINTER MEETING SET FOR FEB. 7

The Department Mid-Winter meeting is set for 8:30 a.m. on February 7th at Bluemound Gardens, 11703 West Bluemound Rd., Wauwatosa, Wis. (same as last year's location). Officers are reminded that reports covering their progress on assignments are due to Commander Elliott one week prior, and a short verbal report will be requested at the meeting.



Immediately following the meeting, members are invited to attend the 34th annual Patriotic Luncheon, honoring Presidents Washington, Lincoln and McKinley (see insert page) sponsored by Camp #1 and Auxiliary #4. Cost of the lunch is \$16 per person.

Detailed information is also available on the Wisconsin SUVCW Web site at: <http://www.suvcw-wi.org>

2003 Mid-Winter meeting business is conducted by DC Randy Novak.

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
SUVCW

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF VISITS WISCONSIN



Left to right: SVC-in-C Steve Michaels, NP Danielle Michaels, Judy Armstrong, C-in-C Kent Armstrong.

It's not often our Commander-in-Chief visits our state, and rarer still to have the Auxiliary National President and the Sr. Vice C-in-C on hand at the same time. On November 30, C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 and Auxiliary #4 held their annual Holiday Party at historic Turner Hall in Milwaukee. In addition to an excellent lunch, a speech by President Lincoln (Rev. Bob Rotgers) and plenty of camaraderie, the function served as a reception for Danielle Michaels of

Auxiliary #4 who was elected Auxiliary National President at the August Encampment. NP Michaels is the spouse of our Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief, Steve Michaels. Special guests also in attendance were Major Jack Grothe, Commander of the SVR 4th Military District and Maggie Grothe, Central Region Commander.

Your Department of Wisconsin 2003-2004 Officers

Commander

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Dept. Eagle Scout Coordinator

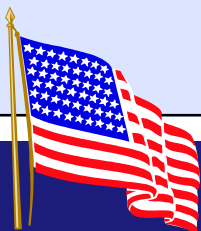
Donald W. Shawhan
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Resolutions and Recommendations Committee

Scott Gutzke, Chairman
1569 South Wolf Road, #206
Prospect Heights, IL 60070-1709
(847) 215-2060
sgutzke@lycos.com

Job Opening

Help Wanted: Department Secretary PDC Ron Aronis is looking for an assistant who is willing to help with some of the duties and "learn the ropes" for possibly assuming this very important job in the future. Contact RMASUVCW@aol.com or call (262) 284-3654.



This publication is available electronically!

Would you be interested in receiving the Department Dispatch in electronic form? You'll save the Department some money in printing and mailing costs, plus the electronic version is in full color! Forty of your Brothers now receive the electronic newsletter — won't you join them? Please contact Signals Officer Kent Peterson at kapeterson@wi.rr.com.

123RD NATIONAL SUVCW ENCAMPMENT
11-15 AUGUST 2004 CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

REPORT ON THE 2003 CENTRAL REGION CONFERENCE

By JVC-in-Chief Steve Michaels

The 2003 Central Region Conference was hosted by the Department of Michigan and convened on October 4th in Grand Rapids. The conference went very well this year. Several hundred people, including local officials and school children attended the rededication ceremonies for the restored Civil War monument in downtown Grand Rapids on Saturday morning. This was the culmination of nearly three years of fundraising to raise the \$250,000 needed for the four months of restoration work required. The ceremony followed closely the original 1885 dedication ceremony. The Department's two REAL Sons arrived in a horse-drawn carriage and one flipped the switch at the end of the ceremony, activating the fountain portion of the monument. The restored monument is seen at right.

After lunch, National Counselor PDC James Pahl spoke on Robert's Rules of Order and answered questions about proper meeting procedure. During the business meeting, the new Past CR Commander's badge was awarded to those eligible and still living: This included five from Wisconsin: PDC Thomas L.W. Johnson, PDC Ron Aronis, NP Danielle Michaels, PDP Peggy Schaefer, and PDP Rhoda Lemanski.

The banquet that evening paid tribute to the new National Commander-in-Chief, Kent Armstrong. We were also entertained by a brother who provided a dramatic extemporaneous recitation of excerpts from various Civil War-era poems.

Happy 122nd Birthday, S.U.V.C.W.!

On November 12th 1881 Davis Camp #1, Sons of Veterans of Pennsylvania was formed at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania by Brevet Major August Plummer Davis. Eleven sons of Union veterans were present at the meeting.



The Kent County monument after its \$250,000 restoration.

A CONFEDERATE IN WAUPACA COUNTY

Editors note: This article is from the Old Abe Camp 8 newsletter of 3 Sept. 2003. It is a compilation of two notes received from Brother Vince Barker.

All, May 14th

I wanted to share with you a great story that was just uncovered here in Waupaca County. To make a long story very short, we have located a Confederate veteran buried at Crystal Lake Cemetery, Town of Dayton, in Waupaca County (I owe Jim Waid bigtime for tipping me off about this and doing alot of the leg work).

What is fascinating is that this veteran was not from a southern state and later moved here, he was a resident of Wisconsin! His name was William "Rebel Bill" Barrington, and he served with Co. C, 18th Mississippi Infantry.



Pictured left to right is Vince Barker, Walter Batten, Rebel Bill's grandson, and Vince's friend Dan McGraw (SCV).

He was wounded and captured at Gettysburg. Not sure of the details of his release or discharge yet (records are on the way) but the family story goes that he walked much of the way back to Wisconsin, back to Oconto County, where his brother Richard met him at the door with a rifle. Richard had served with Co. F, 12th Wisconsin Infantry. William eventually moved to the Town of Springwater in Waushara County and was known to family and friends as "Rebel Bill". Most of the Barrington family also moved from Oconto to Waupaca or Waushara Counties.

So how did William end up in Mississippi prior to the war starting? Apparently he had gone there to trade horses and when the war

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G.A.R. FLAG AND POST BANNERS

By JVC Kim Heltemes



Within the last few weeks there has been a small discovery in the Waupaca area pertaining to the G.A.R. Waupaca Post #21 flag and the G.A.R. Stevens Point Post 156 Banner. It seems that for the last 42 years or so the Waupaca Post flag has been stored in a closet at the Waupaca Historical Society. It was recently unfurled for the first time in decades to be seen by members of the King Civil War Round Table. Several members of the Round Table are also members of Camp #8. So it was of special interest to many that laid their eyes upon this historic flag. This flag was supposedly used at the Grand Army Home in King as well as in Waupaca. Many Camp or Round Table members had family belonging to that Post.

Also, the Stevens Point Post 156 banner turned up after many years of not so careful storage. The banner is made of silk with a cloth backing. The silk is in a

shredded condition. The writing on the silk had held together due to its painted structure. There is enough of the banner left to see what Post it was from. The flag is attached to the original top part of the flagstaff. This banner was thought to be long gone. A photo seen with this article shows the frailness of the banner.

There is still a chance that there are more of these precious items from our past to be found. We can only hope that by honoring our Boys in Blue and promoting their heritage that the public will speak up and alert us to the symbols of our past. Many of the flags and banners have been put in museums never to be seen again. Please be aware that if found these items should be handled with the utmost care. Most were made with silk, which under most conditions does not weather well. I would be pleased to learn of any other G.A.R. flags or banners in the area so that they could be documented, photographed, and stored in a safe manner.



*Photos by
Jim Waid
and Kim
Heltemes*

DID YOU KNOW ...

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War awards two \$1,000 scholarships annually for tuition and books to high school seniors and college students (male or female) contingent upon their enrollment at an accredited four year college or university prior to December 31st of the year the scholarship is granted. The applicant should be a descendant of a Union Civil War veteran who was honorably discharged or who died while in service; rank in the upper one-fourth of high school graduating class, have a record of performance in activities both in school and in the community; among other qualifications.

If selected for a scholarship, the check will be sent, upon proof of the recipient's acceptance to a college, directly to the college of the student's choice made out to the student and the college. Complete information and an application form are available on the SUVCW National Web site at <http://suvchw.org/scholar.htm>.

Financial Statement
2002-2003 Fiscal Year
Wisconsin Dept. Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Patriotic Fund

BALANCE FORWARDED - JUNE 30, 2002:	\$ 1,935.07
RECEIPTS:	
Gifts:	
C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1	30.00
Thomas L.W. Johnson	25.00
Kent A. Peterson	25.00
Old Abe Camp #8	<u>315.00</u>
Total gifts:	395.00
Sale of Road Signs	122.50
Bank interest income	<u>13.22</u>
TOTAL PATRIOTIC FUND RECEIPTS:	<u>530.72</u>
TOTAL BALANCE FORWARD PLUS RECEIPTS:	\$ 2,465.79
DISBURSEMENTS:	
Contributions:	
Boscobel G.A.R. Hall	25.00
Eagle Scout certificate program	389.34
Indigent V.A. patient funds	200.00
U.S. Mint – Grant Medallions	<u>231.95</u>
Total Patriotic Fund Disbursements:	<u>846.29</u>
TOTAL BALANCE ON HAND – JUNE 30, 2003:	<u><u>\$ 1,619.50</u></u>

Respectfully submitted,
In F. C. and L.
Dale J. Brassler, Treasurer
Wis. Dept. SUVCW

In Memoriam: Brother Harold W. Varney

Harold W. Varney, 89, of Beloit, passed away surrounded by his loving family on Thursday, October 23, 2003 in his home. Brother Harold joined the Sons of Union Veterans on July 1, 1956. He was a loyal Brother and member of the SUVCW for 47 years.

Harold and his wife owned and operated Varney Printers at 613 Cross Street, Beloit for many years. He was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; and many other organizations.

His hobbies included the white-face clown, known as "Stars, The Clown." He performed at schools, churches and clubs. For many years he visited the children at the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in Chicago.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of brother Varney.

Financial Statement
2002-2003 Fiscal Year
Wisconsin Dept. Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Operating Fund

BALANCE FORWARDED - JUNE 30, 2002 \$ 1,247.25

RECEIPTS:

Quarterly and Annual Payments

C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1	1384.00
Col. Henry Harnden Camp #2	1759.25
Gen. John Gibbon Camp #4	582.00
Lt. Alonzo Cushing Camp #5	467.00
Old Abe Camp #8	1672.25
L.G. Armstrong Camp #49	449.00
Col. William Colville Camp #56	<u>916.50</u>

7230.00

Income at National Encampment:

Sale of books and supplies	61.78
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Receipts from Wis. Dept. Encampment

Receipts from Camp #5	150.00
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Charter Fees

L.G. Armstrong Camp #49	25.00
Upham Camp #3	<u>25.00</u>

50.00

TOTAL OPERATING FUND RECEIPTS:

\$ 7,491.78

TOTAL BALANCE FORWARD PLUS RECEIPTS:

\$ 8,739.03

DISBURSEMENTS:

National Dues	6,127.00
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Central Region Dues	5.00
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Dept. Officer's Expense:

Postage	422.57
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Supplies	565.85
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Telephone & Fax	0.00
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Miscellaneous: Awards	<u>53.00</u>
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1,041.42

Charter Fee: L.G. Armstrong Camp #49	25.00
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Mid-Winter Meeting Expense	20.00
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Checks for checking account	<u>12.75</u>
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TOTAL OPERATING FUND DISBURSEMENTS:

\$ 7,231.17

TOTAL BALANCE ON HAND – JUNE 30, 2003

\$ 1,507.86

Respectfully submitted,
In F. C. and L.
Dale J. Brassler, Treasurer
Wis. Dept. SUVCW

CAMP NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

MG John Gibbon Camp #4

On November 8, Camp #4, Auxiliary #5 and the 5th Wisconsin rededicated the grave of Capt. Andrew Bennett of the 5th Wisconsin Infantry, at Prairie Home Cemetery in Waukesha. Below, at left, Camp #4 Commander Jim Johnson and Auxiliary #5



President Chris Zahn pose at the grave of Capt. Bennett.

Bruce Laine, editor of the Camp 4 newsletter, received the Marshall Hope award for best Camp newsletter from CinC Bob Grim at the National Encampment in August. This award recognizes the best newsletter out of all Camps in the SUVCW. It takes a great deal of work to create a newsletter that is recognized nationally, and the Department Dispatch editors wish to congratulate Brother Laine and Camp 4 for this prestigious honor.

C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1

A total of 91 people turned out for the Camp 1 Flag Retirement Ceremony held at the Cudahy Family Library. More than 75 worn and tattered U.S. flags were turned in by the community for this special event. The Camp has already been invited back to conduct this event next fall.

The Camp Color Guard and a special Flag Guard were assembled for the occasion. Fifth grade children and teachers from Cudahy schools also participated in the ceremony, which highlighted the 50 states. Sisters from Auxiliary #4 worked with the children and coordinated their participation.

PDC Fred Murphy made arrangements with all



After "Taps" was played, a member of the Cudahy Fire Department ignited the first flags as the Flag Guard and PDC Fred Murphy (center) look on.

participants and served as event moderator. Brother Fred was also interviewed for a television news story by Channel 58, which ran at 10 p.m. that day.

Old Abe Camp #8

The celebration of Poy Sippi's 150th anniversary was a joint effort by Old Abe Camp #8, McAllister's Battery, Co. D, the King Civil War Round Table, King, Wisconsin W.R.C, and Camp #8 Auxiliary Edward S. Bragg #6. The opening ceremony on August 2, 2003 started with McAllister's Battery firing a 6 pound cannon and involving the



Camp's Honor Guard in a flag raising dedication to the citizens of the community. The Honor guard was given the privilege to raise the flag presented by Senator Thomas Petri and fire a 3 shot volley. A parade on Sunday, August

The Camp 8 Color Guard leading the Poy Sippi sesquicentennial parade.

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The *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 SVC Alan Wambold at 1434 Union Ave., Sheboygan WI 53081 or awambold@powercom.net. Editorial deadlines are April, July and October 15.

Visit us on the Web at
<http://www.suvcw-wi.org>

DEPARTMENT EVENTS CALENDAR

- 7 Feb: Department Mid-Winter meeting, Bluemound Gardens, Wauwatosa
- 15 April: Lincoln Tomb Ceremony & Luncheon, Springfield, IL
- 17 April: GAR Founder B.F. Stephenson Ceremony, Rose Hill Cemetery, Petersburg, IL
- 22-23 May: SVR Artillery Safety School, Boscobel

(Continued from page 3)

started, being a good Irishman (he came to the U.S. when he was 8) he wanted to get in the fight before it was over.

This is truly an amazing story that is yet to be fully revealed. Richard and William are both buried at Crystal Lake. We are ordering a Confederate marker for William's grave (Richard already has a military marker) and are in contact with several of his descendants. At some point we hope to hold a joint marker dedication, for William and Richard similar to the one held in Crandon last year. I will keep you all posted on the plans for that

All, *August 25th*

On Saturday morning (August 23rd) we installed the marker for Rebel Bill Barrington at Crystal Lake Cemetery. My good friend from the 10th Tennessee, COL(R) Dan McGraw came to help out. What made the day special though was Rebel Bill's grandson, Walter Batten, 84, of New London came also. What a nice man. He was 6 years old when Rebel Bill died so he remembered him pretty well. He said "grandpa" was almost totally blind by that time but he would still play and wrestle with the grandkids in the yard. He said he remembers pulling grandpa's whiskers.

Later that day I had a phone message from Linda Thompson who is Walter's daughter. She said her dad really enjoyed being there and getting to see the marker put in. That's what it's all about. It makes man handling that darn 240 lb. marker all worth it. - *Vince Barker*

(Continued from page 7)

3, 2003 was led off by the Berlin VFW with the Camp #8 Color Guard following. About 150 entries were in the parade for a town that has a ¾ mile long Main Street. It was an honor to help lead off this parade.

William Colvill III Camp No. 56

Camp 56 has awarded its first Eagle Scout Commendation certificate - and in the process, gained a new camp member!

Young Brother Brett Anderson was awarded his Eagle Scout badge and certificate—and his SUVCW Eagle Scout Commendation certificate and SUVCW badge on 7 September in a very complex and opulent Eagle Scout Court. Two of Brother Anderson's uncles were on hand, both SUVCW members and in full dress uniform. Brother Anderson elected to write a war-service biography of his maternal great great grandfather, Albert M. Glenn, who served with the 26th Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment in the Western Theater for three years. Brother Anderson also has a great great great grandfather, Henry Bartels, who was honorably discharged after 14 months for service-incurred disability.

L. G. Armstrong Camp #49

Camp 49 will participate in the annual Civil War Era Symposium for Ladies & Gentlemen sponsored by Muskets & Memories on January 16-18, 2004 in Boscobel, Wisconsin. On Saturday afternoon there will be an Oyster Stew Supper, a traditional fundraiser by the Sons of Union Veterans L. G. Armstrong Camp #49, served from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m., at the historic Boscobel Hotel. Other activities include a Civil War Civilian Roundtable, Civil War era hairstyles, period textiles, underpinnings (corded petticoat), gentlemen's etiquette, and Civil War Compendium. All are invited to attend the Saturday evening: Civil War MASKED Ball - (period attire and masks are requested, but not required).



34th Annual Patriotic Luncheon



The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and Auxiliary to the SUVCW cordially invite you to attend their 32nd annual Patriotic Luncheon, honoring Presidents Washington, Lincoln and McKinley on Saturday, February 7, 2004, at Bluemound Gardens, 11703 West Bluemound Rd., Wauwatosa, Wis.

At 12:30pm, lunch will be served and will precede guest speaker, author, UWM history professor and former chancellor Dr. John H. Schroeder. A doorprize raffle will again be featured. Cost of the lunch is \$16 per person.

Recent Patriotic Luncheons have been attended by numerous hereditary, patriotic and historical organizations. Each year a uniformed Civil War Color Guard posts the colors.



For more details including a list of meal choices and a reservation form to mail in with payment, see Luncheon Registration info on the next page. Checks should be made payable to:

C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 and sent in before January 31st.

We had over 90 in attendance last year, as many societies and organizations were represented. All had a great time. Please join us this coming February 7th!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Steve Michaels via e-mail at steve_michaels@metronetworks.com or by phone (evenings) at (414) 425-4648.



**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Department of Wisconsin**



Come to our 34th Annual
Patriotic Luncheon

Saturday, February 7, 2004 at 12:30 p.m.
Bluemound Gardens
11703 W. Bluemound Rd., Wauwatosa, Wis.

Guest Speaker: Dr. John H. Schroeder

Meal Choices

includes potatoes and vegetables, jello, rolls and butter, and coffee, tea or milk

A. Beef Stroganoff - braised chunks of
tender beef on noodles

B. Roast Young Tom Turkey - slow roasted breast
meat, homemade dressing and gravy

Hosted by C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 and Auxiliary #4
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*Sponsored by the Society of Mayflower Descendants, Sons of the Revolution, Society of the War of
1812, Sons & Daughters of the Pilgrims, Sons of American Colonists, Colonial Dames of the 17th
Century, Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of
Confederate Veterans, and Society of Ancient Planters.*

For more information, call (414) 425-4648

Mail this form and check (\$16 per person), payable to C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 before Jan. 31st to:
6623 North Cape Road, Franklin, WI 53132-1227

Name(s): _____

Meal Choice(s): _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

Unfortunately, this year we can admit no one at the door on the day of the luncheon.