



# THE DISPATCH

WINTER 2018

PUBLISHED BY SUVCW DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
**SUVCW**

## COMMANDER'S COLUMN



Brothers;

The SUVCW dept. of Wisconsin and the camps have passed successfully through another year. The camps have been many places. Four were involved in Wreaths Across America, and most of the camps were involved in some form of Veteran's Day observances. We turned out a good number of brothers for the National Encampment in Lansing, 10. Our departmental Mid-winter meeting is coming up on Feb. 3, 2018. Our guest is C-in-C Mark Day. The Iron Brigade highway marker sign is moving ahead and should be ready to install in the spring. The last soldier marker program is moving along well too. Contact Hans Heg Camp #15 for information and markers. Several camps have already installed some of these. Be sure to renew your camp 990/EIN promptly. This is an annual thing, not a once and done event. In late spring the camps annual reports (Form 27) will also be due. A closer notice will be given later. Every year there are some camps that drag out their Form 22 and Form 27 reports to the very end. The dept. secretary doesn't ask for these for fun. This all has to go to National, and they are clamping down on deadline dates.

In F,C, & L,

Alan O. Petit  
DC, Dept. of Wisc.

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

The Mid-Winter encampment, Feb. 3, 2018. The Department Commander requires reports from all the elected and appointed department officers and the Camp Commanders on their activities and the activities of their camps, for the period from the last annual department encampment until the Mid-winter. I need these reports by Jan 20, 2018 in order to compile and collate the encampment report. I prefer the reports to be sent as an attachment to an email, and not be placed in the main body of the email.

If you can't get your report in by then, you will have to bring enough loose copies to distribute at the encampment. At least 30 copies.

Thank you





## Camp News Camp 1



In one of its largest tombstone events in years, Camp 1 was joined by a contingent of Brothers from Camps 15 and 4 to dedicate the Oak Creek tombstone of Pvt. William Kolbow of the 28th Wisconsin Infantry, Co. K. About 18 of Kolbow's descendants attended, and his photo was found in an old family album shortly before the event. Kolbow died in an 1885 train accident, leaving a widow and eight children, and never got a tombstone. Family reported the likely grave to Camp 1 PCC Tom Mueller, who lives a mile and a half away, and Brother Tom Ludka and Marge Berres of the Woman's Relief Corps quickly tracked it down and ordered the stone. At the ceremony, the church bell tolled between shots from the honor guard.



Camp 1 honored the Last Soldier in Milwaukee County. Pvt. Charles Blanchard of the 49th Wisconsin Infantry, Co. D, died in 1942. He is buried at Forest Home Cemetery in Milwaukee along with 1,000 other Civil War veterans. Brothers from Camps 15, 4 and 8 assisted the ceremony.



Camp 1 is planning to erect a historical marker at Calvary Cemetery in Milwaukee, and has received a \$750 grant from the SUVCVW memorial fund to help it. The marker will salute the roughly 300 Civil War veterans buried at Calvary – including two Medal of Honor recipients – and note that the Camp has held Memorial Day observances there since 1927.

The marker will be the third by Camp 1 – it funded and dedicated one at Forest Home Cemetery in 2016 and another at the site of Rufus King's boyhood home in 2011.



C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1's PDC Tom Brown, Brothers Dean Collins, Jeff Lesar, Bill Seaman, John Thielmann, and PCinC Steve Michaels along with Camp 4's Rich Gross, Allen Keinert PCCs Bob Mann and Craig Wheeler paid their respects at the Wreaths Across America ceremony held at Wood National Cemetery in Milwaukee.



*PCC Mann (hidden), Rich Gross, John Thielmann, Craig Wheeler, PDC Tom Brown, Jeff Lesar and Allen Keinert listen attentively during the ceremony.*

Afterwards, Camp 1 partnered with its Auxiliary and delivered blankets, candy and cards to patients on the seventh and eighth floors of the Zablocki VA Medical Center.



*Brs. Jeff Lesar, Bill Seaman, Dean Collins, and PDC Tom Brown bring a selection of blankets through the halls of the Zablocki VA Medical Center.*



*Br. Bill Seaman served as bugler during the Wreaths ceremony, rendering the National Anthem and Taps.*



*Br. Bill Seaman displays the kinds of wreaths that were laid*



## Camp 2

On behalf of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War - Henry Harnden Camp #2; I would like to thank everyone who contributed to last Saturday's Wreaths across America event by donating funds, attending the event or both!



The weather was fine and the turnout was excellent. The only thing missing were the wreaths. They finally arrived over 3 hours late, rather than try to re-schedule for another date, we choose to take advantage of the fair weather and distribute the wreaths with the few people still available. Who besides me were: Alan Hembel, Stacy Weise and Byron Chase.



We hope to see all of you again next year when our goal will be to the top this year's 465 wreath count. We were the last drop on the truck so we ended up with extra wreaths in addition to the 10 wreathes we bought the night before as a contingency.

Fred J. Campbell, Commander



## Camp 5

### **LT. ALONZO H. CUSHING CAMP 5 CIVIL WAR MONUMENT DEDICATIONS**

A few years ago, Washington County Veterans Service Officer, Mark Baldwin (now Ret.) was interested in honoring the Civil War veterans of Washington County. He was in touch with the Washington County Historical Society who had a record of some of the Civil War Veterans. A committee was formed with representatives from Viet Nam Veterans, American Legion, VFW, and Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War. The mission of this committee was to place a monument in each county cemetery with the names of the Civil War veterans interred there engraved on the monument.

There are over 500 Civil War veterans interred throughout Washington County cemeteries. Andrew Bollen of Camp 5 is the SUVCW representative on this committee. His responsibility is to compare the records from several sources (which don't all agree), to research and validate the information from the various records so the monument information is as accurate as possible. Since the committee's inception, five monuments have been placed at West Bend Union Cemetery, Hartford Union Cemetery, Orchard Grove Cemetery in the Town of Trenton, Holy Angels Cemetery in West Bend, and St. Lawrence Cemetery.



In the spring of 2017, Camp 5 with the VFW Honor Guard dedicated the monument at Holy Angels cemetery (l to r: Brothers Ron Aronis, Andrew Bollen, Tom Brown, monument, VFW member).



Coincidentally, St. Lawrence Cemetery installation service also included the last Civil War veteran buried

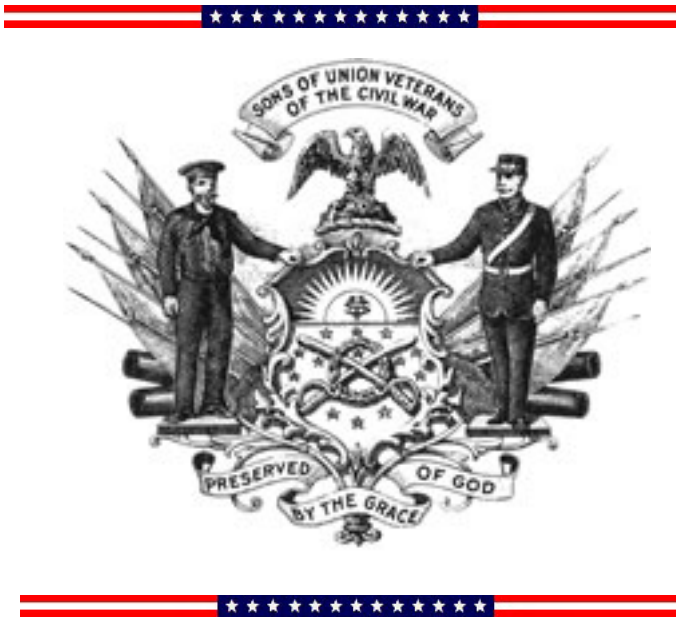


## Camp5 Con'd

in Washington County. In October 2017 Camp 5, the American Legion Honor Guard and SVR Unit, Battery A, 4<sup>th</sup> US Art. dedicated the monument at St. Lawrence Cemetery



At the same service, dedicated the SUCVW plaque for Pvt. John Kauper, the last Civil War soldier from Washington county (the picture of St. Lawrence SUCVW plaque dedication shows, Brothers Ron Aronis, Andrew Bollen and Richard Young). A number of descendants of Pvt. Kauper also attended and participated in the dedication.



## Camp 8

Camp 8 also participated in the "Wreaths Across America" laying wreaths at the cemetery of the Wisconsin Veteran's Home at King, WI. On December 16, 2017



*Camp 8 members gathered in front of the truck delivering the wreaths*



*BG Vince Barker PCC of Camp 8 Lays a wreath*



*PDC Kim Heltemes and Mrs. Richard Beggs, wife of a Camp 8 member*

## Tale of Two Tombstones

*Ed note: While looking for an image of Calvary Cemetery in Milwaukee, I ran across the images on the left and the story behind them. This reminded me of my own research into "the confederate buried in Hillside Cemetery" in Marshfield.*



*Tombstone as found*



*Tombstone as corrected*

In 1866, the Milwaukee Archdiocese donated a plot of land in the southern end of Calvary cemetery for the burial of two dozen Catholic Civil War veterans. Ten years later the section was enlarged to eventually include 690 Civil War veterans. Among them was William John Sheehy of the Missouri Battery K, 1st Regiment, Light Artillery. When his headstone was placed initially on his grave the top was rounded indicating that he fought on the Union side. In 1906 Congress marked Confederate soldiers, who died in federal hospitals or prisons, with a peaked headstone. Apparently, local officials assumed that Sheehy (misspelled on the tombstone and appears like Shefhey) was a Confederate soldier and his headstone was peaked. A hundred years later in July of 2016, Sy Kreilein of the Friends of Calvary Cemetery, noticed that his headstone had been rounded. His research discovered that his Muster Roll from 1861 to 1865 definitely placed him on the Union side. Apparently in 2013, the Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration in Washington, D.C., following a detailed survey of the Wood Cemetery, including Calvary Cemetery, noticed that Sheehy had been incorrectly given Confederate status.

His marker was removed and taken to the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Illinois where the peak was rounded and smoothed again. Maybe now William John Sheehy can rest in peace with the rest of his Union companions at Calvary Cemetery.

*From: Friends of Calvary Cemetery site*



In researching the number of veterans buried in my home town of Marshfield, WI in 2011 I was asked by one of the members of the local genealogical group to find out about the "Reb buried in Hillside." Turns out there wasn't one, but a man, born in France in 1841, Emil Hager, who immigrated to New Orleans, LA prior to the Civil War and in 1862, after the fall of New Orleans, volunteered for the Union infantry regiment that was to backstop the Artillery batteries that had also been formed for the defense of New Orleans. Between 1862 and 1865 Hager and his regiment participated in over a dozen engagements in Louisiana and thereabouts, including the Red River Campaign.

It is not known when he came to Marshfield or what his occupation was. A pension record shows that he was married. This obit is short reporting that he resided in the town of Lindsey (south of Marshfield) and "was walking the railroad tracks last Tuesday Evening and accidentally fell off a bridge...and when found on Wednesday was dead."

The Obituary also noted that his remains were brought to Marshfield and buried by the GAR, which he had recently joined. To me this note was as compelling as the widow's pension the he was a Union Soldier.

Apparently his headstone had been damaged or destroyed and the CVO who applied for a new one, believed that the 1st LA Inf. was a rebel unit

There have been some attempts to correct the stone made, none successful so far.



## From the GRO

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Distant families requested that GAR markers be placed on graves that never had any military recognition, and the Sons gladly obliged.

In Glendale in Milwaukee County, Department GRO Tom Mueller and Brother John Thielmann found and marked the grave of Pvt. Anton Kasper, 26th Wisconsin Infantry, Co. B, who died in 1911. Thielmann sang two marching songs in German, standards of the all-Deutsche unit.

Near Ixonia in Jefferson County, Mueller and GRO Bob Mann of Camp 4 honored Pvt. Christian Kalvel, 42nd Wisconsin, Co. A. He died of disease soon after returning home in July 1865. His stone is broken and only his first name is visible. The scene was very peaceful – St. Luke's Cemetery is next to a cornfield, and turkeys were gobbling in the distance.



**Q:** How did soldiers in the 6th Wisconsin Infantry object to an 1862 order by Gen. John Gibbon that they must wear white leggings?

**A:** They did not like it because the items would be impossible to keep clean and were another thing to carry around, among other reasons. The next morning, the general “found the legs of his horse ornamented with white leggings,” said Michael H. Fitch, quoted on page 345 of Lance Herdegen’s 1990 book “In the Bloody Railroad Cut at Gettysburg.” The book has an extensive discussion of these items, uniforms and specifications.

*Ed note:* there is a story that at a reunion of the Iron Brigade at either Milwaukee or Boscobel, Gen. Gibbon appeared and one of members there asked “what can I do to help you, General?” To which Gibbon replied “Show me the SOB who put the gaiters on my horse!!”

## **Patriotic Instruction**

### **Army pay in the Civil War**

In theory, the soldiers of both the Confederate and the Union armies were supposed to be paid every two months. In practice, they usually weren't so lucky because the military paymaster had to keep up with the troops who moved swiftly over long distances. When the paymaster did arrive with the current and back pay, it was a happy day in camp. The following figures compare the income per month of the soldiers of each rank.

ARMY PAY PER MONTH	
Private	\$13
Corporal	\$13
Sergeant	\$17
First Sergeant	\$20
QM Sergeant	\$21
Sergeant Major	\$21
Second Lieutenant	\$105.50
First Lieutenant	\$105.50
Captain	\$115.50
Major	\$169
Lieutenant Colonel	\$181
Colonel	\$212
Brigadier General	\$315
Major General	\$457
Lieutenant General	\$758
General	

### **NOTES**

Officer Allowances: When you notice the discrepancy between the enlisted ranks and the officer ranks, remember that the officer pay included certain allowances, such as additional rations, forage, and fuel allowances. So, for instance, the Union infantry colonel's pay included the cash value for six human and three horse rations a day, which came to \$78 a month.

When looking at the pay for the lower ranks, one must remember that the average wage for a store clerk or factory hand was about \$12 a month, for farm hands \$8-10 (with found{room& board}) A journeyman carpenter earned from \$1-\$1.50 per day. In many cases the army pay was almost entirely discretionary income since clothing, food and shelter was provided.





To reach either the Camp's page or its Face book 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 first Wednesday of the month (except August), at 7 p.m.,

Commander: [PCinC Steve Michaels](#)

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. 3rd Monday of odd months

Commander: [Dennis Jacobs](#)

Edward S. Bragg Auxiliary 6

[Face Book Page](#)

#### [Hans Heg Camp 15](#)

Meeting @ 7 P.M. 1st Thursday, monthly

Commander: [Robert Koenecke](#)

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

Meetings @ 7 P.M. 3rd Thursday, monthly

Commander: [Gary Young](#)

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

Meeting held Quarterly, time, date place TBA

Commander: [Randy Nelson](#)



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<b>ROTC Award Coordinator</b>	Dave Daley <a href="mailto:rotc@suvchw-wi.org">rotc@suvchw-wi.org</a>
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<b>Color Guard</b>	Bob Mann, PCC <a href="mailto:guard@suvchw-wi.org">guard@suvchw-wi.org</a>
<b>Signals Officer</b>	Kent Peterson, PDC <a href="mailto:webmaster@suvchw-wi.org">webmaster@suvchw-wi.org</a>

Officers were elected at the 2018 Department Encampment at Wind Lake, Wis. and will serve until the 2018 Department Encampment.

You're invited to our 48th Annual  
**PATRIOTIC LUNCHEON**  
Honoring Presidents Washington, Lincoln and McKinley  
Saturday, February 3, 2018 at 12:30 p.m.



**Guest Speaker: National SUVCW Chaplain Jerome Kowalski**

**"Let the Virginian Wait"**

Major Gen. George Henry Thomas remembers Lincoln (the president who kept him waiting).

**Location: Alioto's Restaurant**

3041 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa, Wis.  
(exit Hwy. 45 at Burleigh; east to Hwy. 100; turn right to restaurant)

**Buffet includes:**

Tenderloin Tips with Noodles or Roast Turkey with Sage Dressing  
Served with assorted relish tray, pasta salad, mixed vegetables, buttered new potatoes, Jello,  
tossed green salad, Italian bread, coffee, tea or milk, sheet cake for dessert

**Hosted by C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 and Auxiliary #4**

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

For more information, call (414) 614-3690

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Reserve your seat now for Milwaukee's premier patriotic event! Mail this form and check (\$20 per person), payable to C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 to Elizabeth Craig, 4622 W. Mill Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53218

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of meals: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Please sponsor an ad in our Patriotic Luncheon program booklet!



Spread Your Message in the  
**48th Annual Patriotic Luncheon Program**

February 3, 2018

Milwaukee's Patriotic Luncheon ceremoniously celebrates the birthdays of Presidents Washington, Lincoln and McKinley. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and its Auxiliary began the observance with a speakers program in February 1890. We invite you to be a part of this long tradition, by placing an ad in the luncheon program booklet.

- **Sell Your Product/Business**
- **Send Greetings/Congratulations**
- **Remember Your Ancestors**

**Quarter Page Ad = 2" tall x 5" wide = \$5**

**Half Page Ad = 4" tall x 5" wide = \$10**

**Full Page Ad = 8" tall x 5" wide = \$15**

**Back Cover (one) = \$30**

Proceeds from ad sales are used to support history education in schools and the community, Eagle Scout recognition programs and Civil War monument restoration.

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**2018 Patriotic Luncheon Program Booklet Advertising Order**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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This is a NEW ad: ☐ Re-use my ad on file: ☐

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Special instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail copy/artwork to **kapeterson0681@gmail.com** or you may attach your ad copy to this form.

Make check payable to "C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1" and mail to:  
Elizabeth Craig, 4622 W. Mill Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53218

**Deadline for receipt is Saturday, January 20, 2018.**

Due to volume of sales, we cannot guarantee ad placement in booklet, with exception of back cover.



SUVCW

## NOTICE

**Wisconsin Department Dispatch** 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)

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Deadline September 28, 2018

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