



THE DISPATCH

WINTER 2020

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Contents

Camp News

Misc Historical Articles

Patriotic Luncheon

Camps & Officers

Pages 2-5

Page 6-7

Page 8-9

Page 10

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

SUVCW

Commander's Column



Brother's:

Recruiting is the life blood of our organization. There needs to be a steady stream of new recruits to replace members lost. We all have that friend, acquaintance or family member that has held off joining for whatever reason. If it is provenance that is the stumbling block there are a few things you can do.

Get the prospects information. His parents and grandparents' names (including maiden names), and the general location of where they lived. Birthdates are a help, but not necessary.

Next step is to enter this in Ancestry or similar genealogy search engine. There is usually someone in the Camp who has a subscription, so I am recruiting them now. It costs nothing to add an extra tree and you can delete it as soon as you find the results. Once you have a probable ancestor, a male ancestor living in the US with a birth date from 1820 to 1845. Put them on your short list. You can check the Wisconsin Historical Societies roster, the 1885, 1895, 1905 veterans census', the NPS soldier and sailors database, Fold3 (if you have access) or if the ancestor is from a different state, their soldier's roster (most states have them), Civil War Index, Civil War Archives, Civil War Database. There are numerous databases not mentioned that are useful also.

If no one in your Camp has a search engine, get what info you can and send it to me or DJVC Decker. We will be more than happy to assist you in getting the provenance. If you have any questions about the process, feel free to E-mail me. I will be more than happy to help. I find it very rewarding to help increase our membership.

In F, C, & L
Department of Wisconsin Commander
Jeffrey M. Graf

CAMP NEWS

C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1



PDC Kent Peterson (right) received a 25-year pin at the Camp 1 meeting in November, presented by CC Brian Craig. Peterson joined the Sons in October 1994, has been Camp commander, and Department commander in 2006. Also receiving a 25-year pin was Chaplain Dean Collins, who joined three weeks after Peterson.



Camp 1 presented the Sons Eagle Scout certificate and a flag kit to Peter Keepman in January at the Wauwatosa Civic Center. Presenting it, from left, were Brothers Keith Rahn, PCC Tom Mueller, Chaplain Dean Collins and Bill Seaman.

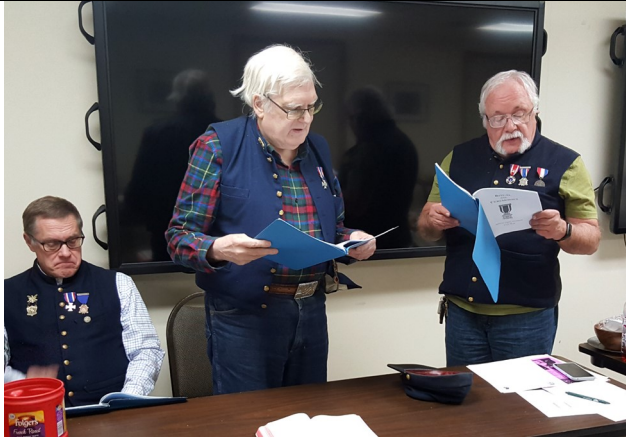


Camp 1 and the 29th Colored Troops, Co. F, along with representatives of Camps 15 and 4, gathered for a giant photo at the end of a double tombstone dedication at Forest Home Cemetery in Milwaukee. The stones were for Sgt. Horace Dangerfield, of the 13th U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery, Co. F, who died in 1893, and Cpl. Edward Allen, 43rd Wisconsin Infantry, Co. A, who died of disease in Tennessee in 1865.



Camps 1 and 4 were a central part of the Milwaukee part of Wreaths Across America on Dec. 14. More than 2,300 wreaths were placed. VA photos.

Old Abe Camp 8



PDC Tom Brown swears in PDC Alan Petit



*Swearing in of Camp 8 officers
L to r, PDC Tom Brown, PCC Dennis Jacobs, Mike Mladenik, PDC Alan Petit,
camp treasurer Kurt Kirk.*



*Old Abe Camp 8 members Kim Heltemes and Dennis Jacobs start to
unpack the wreaths.*



*Old Abe Camp 8 members, Kirby Scott, Kim Heltemes (back to Camera), and
Dennis Jacobs start laying wreaths on the graves of soldiers*



*PDC Kim J Heltemes is with one of the branches of
service National Commanders by the grave of General
Sherman's right flank scout during the March to the
Sea, Moses Ladd.*



*Dept SVC Kirby Scott decorating Civil
War graves at the Wisconsin Veterans
Home in King.*



*Old Abe Camp 8 member Kim Heltemes stands next
to the grave of Moses Ladd, Company B, 21st
Wisconsin Infantry, before placing a wreath*



Col. Hans C. Heg Camp 15

The Abraham Lincoln Commander-in-Chief trophy designating Camp #15 as the best camp in the country arrived in the mail in early December. Camp #15 plans to proudly display this singular honor at all camp meetings and camp events.

The award was given Camp #15 at the National Encampment in August in recognition of the camp's long fight to clean up a weed-choked cemetery in Muskego where three Civil War soldiers are buried.

The award also recognized the camp's on-going campaign to install a Last Soldier Marker on the grave of every last Civil War soldier buried in each of Wisconsin's 72 counties. In addition, the award recognized Brian McManus, the camp's secretary-treasurer, for his hard work as Wisconsin Department Commander in 2018-2019.

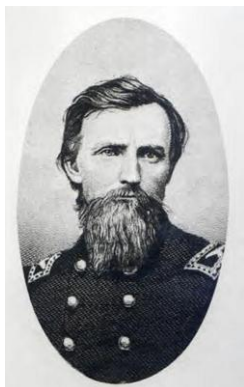


Also in December, Camp #15 laid a wreath

Col. Hans C. Heg, the camp's namesake, at Norway Lutheran Church cemetery in Wind Lake, Wis. The wreath-laying, on Dec. 14th, was part of Wreaths Across America ceremonies across the country to honor military veterans. at the grave of at the grave of Col. Hans C. Heg, the camp's namesake, at Norway Lutheran Church cemetery in Wind Lake, Wis. The wreath-laying, on Dec. 14th, was part of Wreaths Across America ceremonies across the country to honor military veterans.



Col. Heg recruited the 15th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment, made up largely of Scandinavians from the Town of Norway area in western Racine County, and was mortally wounded leading his men at the battle of Chickamauga in September 1863.



William Colvill Camp 56

The camp met November 23, 2019. Among the business addressed was the initiation of three new members and two junior members, updates on camp activities and the election and appointment of officers.

The three new members initiated were Ronald Peterson, Jon Alan McCollum and Geoffrey Alan Forbes. The junior members were Andrew Duncan Forbes and Christopher Nicholas Forbes.

The ongoing Civil War veterans grave registration project at Lakewood Cemetery was discussed. The work plan for 2020 was established with the third Saturday of each of the non-winter months selected for workdays, as weather permits. By the calendar this means 18 April, 16 May, 20 June, 18 July, 15 August, 19 September and 17 October. The camp also discussed plans for starting the Last Soldier project within Minnesota in 2020. Issues needing to be addressed are fundraising and planning to meet a broad geography. The camp decided to initially focus on Hennepin, Ramsey and Dakota Counties for research, planning and implementation. Camp 56 has also been invited to participate in a gravestone rededication for Moses Basil Bashaw, Co. G, 53rd New York Infantry, in Arkansas, WI, in 2020, date to be determined.

Officers elected were:

Commander	Douglas Urbanski
Senior Vice Commander	Andrew Willenbring, PCC
Junior Vice Commander	Glenn Kiecker
Secretary/Treasurer	Mark Campbell
Camp Councilor 1	Paul Hodnefield
Camp Councilor 2	Randall Nelson, PCC
Camp Councilor 3	Robert J. Selden

Officers appointed for 2020:

Chaplain	Mark Dittman
Graves Registration Officer	Andrew Willenbring, PCC
Signals Officer	Mark Dittman
Guide	Robert J. Selden
Eagle Scout Coordinator	Geoffrey Forbe

The next meeting for Camp 56 is Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 1000 hours at the Minneapolis Scottish Rite, 2011 Dupont Ave S., Minneapolis. Brother Brian McManus, PDC, is anticipated to attend to oversee the installation of camp officers.

Dissecting the Henry repeating rifle

By PDC Tom Brown

The few Confederate troops that happened to capture Henry had little way to resupply the ammunition it used, making its widespread use by rebel forces impractical. The rifle was known to be used by some Confederate units in Louisiana, Texas and Virginia, as well as by personal bodyguards of Confederate President Jefferson Davis.



The Henry had a significantly lower muzzle velocity and energy than other repeaters of the era, such as the Spencer. The lever action, on the down stroke, ejected the spent cartridge from the chamber and cocked the hammer. A spring in the magazine forced the cartridge into the follower; locking the lever back into position, pushing the new cartridge into the chamber and closing the breech.

But the Henry lacked any form of safety. When not in use, its hammer rested on the cartridge rim; any impact on the back of the exposed hammer could cause a chambered round to fire.

To load the magazine, the shooter moved the cartridge-follower along the slot in the top portion of the magazine-

Trivia items from Camp 1 newsletter

The African-American 54th Massachusetts Infantry made the July 1863 attack on Fort Wagner, S.C., that was immortalized in the movie "Glory." What other units were in the attack?

The brigade also included the 6th Connecticut, 48th New York, 3rd New Hampshire, 9th Maine and 76th Pennsylvania. Col. John Lyman Chatfield of the Connecticut unit was mortally wounded, as was the brigade commander, Brig. Gen. George C. Strong.

If a soldier came to the doctor with symptoms of typhoid, what were they?

Fever, diarrhea, headache, enlargement of the spleen and extreme physical exhaustion and collapse. This bacterial disease was a result of contaminated water or food. Typhoid killed around 30,000 Confederate and 35,000 Union troops. One out of every 3 people who contracted this disease died of it, according to <https://www.civilwaracademy.com/civil-war-diseases>

tube and pivoted it to the right to open the front end of the magazine. Then loaded the 15 cartridges one by one. When full, he pivoted the top portion back and released the follower.

While never issued on a large scale, the Henry rifle demonstrated its advantages of rapid fire at close range several times in the war and later during the wars between the United States and the Plains Indians. Examples include the successes of the two Henry-armed Union regiments against large Confederate attacks at Franklin, Tenn., in 1864, and the Henry-armed Sioux and Cheyenne destroying the 7th Cavalry at Little Big Horn in 1876.

The Henry evolved into the famous Winchester Model 1866 lever-action rifle. With the introduction of that new model, the New Haven Arms Co. was renamed the Winchester Repeating Arms Co.

What was plunging fire?

This came from a battery firing projectiles from a higher position above the enemy. It was a form of indirect fire, at a trajectory such as to fall on its target from above. It could be used deliberately to attack a target not susceptible to direct or grazing fire due to not being in direct line of sight. In naval warfare, plunging shellfire often was used to penetrate a ship's thinner deck armor rather than firing directly at its heavily armored side. This is from <http://www.civilwarartillery.com/glossary/glossary.htm> and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plunging_fire

Dog tags had a humble beginning

This article is by David McCormick and appeared in the May 2012 issue of America's Civil War.

Shortly after the surrender at Appomattox, Union Maj. Gen. Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain and his men stopped to camp near Hanover Court House in Virginia. Just around midnight, Chamberlain was roused from sleep as his horse stirred at its tether. Leaving his tent to investigate, he soon discovered a ghastly sight—half-buried human skeletal remains strewn throughout a pine grove, barely visible in the darkness. Found among the bones the next day were armor breastplates with initials carved in them.

What caused those fallen Union troops to cut marks into their metal plates? Perhaps they were taken by the same apprehension that had prompted Union soldiers at Cold Harbor to pin bits of paper bearing their names to their uniforms. Others carried identity tags carved from wood.

During the Civil War, there was no “knock at the door” or telegram delivered by hand to notify family of a loved one who was missing in action. If a father, brother or son fell in a hotly contested battle, he might have been quickly buried in an unmarked and sometimes mass grave. Without a comrade close by to witness his death, he would pass unnoticed. Often, when one side was driven from the field in defeat, casualties were left behind and disposed of unceremoniously – by the enemy – in unmarked graves.

The U.S. Christian Commission supplied 40,000 Union soldiers with “personal identifiers,” small pieces of paper with a metal grommet for a string to run through and attach to one's uniform. There was space to record a soldier's name, company, regiment, brigade, division and corps.

In 1899, Chaplain Charles Pierce—who was in charge of the U.S. Army Morgue and Office of Identification during the Spanish-American War—recommended that each soldier be issued an aluminum “identity disc” as a standard part of his field kit. The Army finally made this mandatory in 1913. Little anecdotal evidence exists of Confederate soldiers using identifying items, although surely some did.

Government-issued identification tags that we now know as “dog tags” were nonexistent during the Civil War, despite the obvious need for them. By war's end, more than 40 percent of Union Civil War dead remained unknown. Of the more than 325,000 Federal soldiers buried in national cemeteries, almost



149,000 are marked “unknown.” Most common are round metal tokens, made from a bit of lead or copper or perhaps an old coin, and crudely stamped with the recruit's name. Others were commercially manufactured from gold or silver and advertised for sale in Harper's or Leslie's magazines.

“Attention Soldiers!” an 1863 Harper's ad from Drowne & Moore Jewelers of New York blared. “Every soldier should have a badge with his name marked distinctly upon it ... a solid silver badge ... can be fastened to any garment.”

Less-expensive examples were produced in brass or steel. Sutlers accompanying the army would set up shop, and using a stencil or a die, would imprint the soldier's name, regiment or other personal information on the tags.

Many dog tags that turn up belonged to soldiers who survived the war. Tags worn around the neck or attached to a watch fob or pin might have easily been torn away during the action. Corporal Hill of the New York 153rd Infantry tag at the Battle of Cedar Creek. Hill lived 65 years after the war, passing away in 1930.

John L. Hebron, the sole survivor of the three male members from the Hebron family of Ohio who served in the war, returned wearing his tag. It was discovered as part of a family treasure trove that included 150 letters, a number of photographs and several other artifacts belonging to the Hebron fighting men.

A number of Union ID tags and badges have been discovered; battlefields have offered up several; others were found amid mementos marking a family's history, or tucked away in an old trunk.



Seth lost his for another

The History of Taps



The melody that gave the present day "Taps" was made during the Civil War by Union General Daniel Adams Butterfield, in command of a brigade camped at Harrison Landing, Virginia, near Richmond. Up to that time, the U.S. Army infantry call to end the day was the French final call "L'Extinction des feux". General Butterfield decided the "lights out" music was too formal to signal the end of the day. One day in July 1862, he recalled the "Tattoo" music and hummed a version of it to an aide who wrote the melody down. Butterfield asked the brigade bugler, Oliver W. Norton, to play the notes, and after

listening, he lengthened and shortened them while keeping the original melody. Thereafter, General Butterfield ordered Norton to play this new call at the end of each day instead of the regular call. The music was heard and appreciated by the other brigades, who asked for copies and adopted it for own use. It was even adopted by the Confederates.

The first time "Taps" was played at a military funeral may have been in Virginia, soon after Butterfield composed it. Union Captain John Tidball, head of an artillery battery, ordered it played for the burial of a connoneer killed in action. Not wanting to reveal the position of the battery, Tidball substituted "Taps" for the three rifle vollys fired over the grave.

Major Seymour, in 1867, was evidently not aware of General Butterfield's composition. The major did not include it in his system of calls, and it was not officially adopted until 1874. Considered to be the most beautiful of calls, Taps provides a fitting close to the soldier's day, and when the time comes, to his or her final departure from the ranks. The melody was made the official Army bugle call after the war, but was not given the name "Taps" until 1874.

Source "U.S. Army Military District of Columbia Fact Sheet"

While there are no official words to the bugle call "Taps", the commonly used lyrics are:

*Fading light dims the sight,
And a star gems the sky, gleaming bright.
From afar drawing nigh -- Falls the night.*

*Day is done, gone the sun,
From the lake, from the hills, from the sky;
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.*

*Then good night, peaceful night,
Till the light of the dawn shineth bright;
God is near, do not fear -- Friend, good night.*

You're invited to our 50th Annual **Patriotic Luncheon**

Honoring Presidents Washington, Lincoln and McKinley

Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 12:30 p.m.



Guest Speaker: Robert I. Girardi

Renowned Civil War historian and author

“Lincoln and the Common Soldier”

- Bid on premium silent auction items
- Choose from a multitude of prizes in our \$1 raffle
- Make new friends among more than 30 patriotic, hereditary, fraternal, historical and service organizations in attendance
- Luncheon buffet price still only \$20 per person

Location: Alioto's Restaurant

3041 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa, Wis.

(exit Hwy. 45 at Burleigh; east to Hwy. 100; turn right to restaurant)

Luncheon 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**

Registration form and program advertising information on reverse side.

For more information, call (414) 614-3690

Spread Your Message in the 2020 Patriotic Luncheon Program

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and its Auxiliary began the observance with a speaker's program in February 1890. We invite you to be a part of this long tradition, by placing an ad in the luncheon program booklet. Proceeds from ad sales are used to support history education in schools and the community, Eagle Scout recognition programs and Civil War monument restoration. Use the order form at the bottom of this page to place an order for your ad.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sell Your Product/Business • Send Greetings/Congratulations • Remember Your Ancestors | <p>Quarter Page Ad = 2" tall x 5" wide = \$5</p> <p>Half Page Ad = 4" tall x 5" wide = \$10</p> <p>Full Page Ad = 8" tall x 5" wide = \$15</p> <p>Back Cover (one) = \$30</p> |
|---|---|

INSTRUCTIONS

Please make checks payable to "C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1" and mail by the respective deadline to:

Elizabeth Craig, 3422 N. 79th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53222

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



2020 Patriotic Luncheon Meal Reservation Form

Deadline for meal reservations is Monday, Jan. 27, 2020.

Name(s): _____

Organizational Affiliation: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

I/we would like to join you at the Patriotic Luncheon: _____ meals X \$20 each = \$ _____



Program Booklet Advertising Order Form

Deadline for advertising is Saturday, Jan. 18, 2020.

My ad is a NEW ad: ☐

Re-use my ad on file: ☐

Your name: _____ Phone: _____

Subject or title of ad: _____

AD SIZE: ☐ Quarter Page \$5 ☐ Half Page \$10 ☐ Full Page \$15 ☐ Back Cover \$30

Special instructions: _____ My ad payment = \$ _____

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



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: Brian Craige
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 Krachtt

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: Kim Heltemes
Edward S. Bragg Auxiliary 6
Face Book Page

Hans Heg Camp 15
Meeting @ 7 P.M. 1st Thursday, monthly
Commander: David Daley

L.G. Armstrong 49 – Boscobel
Meetings @ 7 P.M. 3rd Thursday, monthly
Commander: Charles Griesel

William Colville Camp 56 - Minneapolis/St. Paul
Meeting held Quarterly, 10am, April 4, place TBA
Commander: Douglas Urbanski

	
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Color Bearer	Robert J. Mann, PCC guard@suv-cw-wi.org
Signals Officer	Kent Peterson, PDC webmaster@suv-cw-wi.org
Officers were elected at the 8 June 2019 Department Encampment at Boscobel, Wis. and will serve until the 2020 Department Encampment.	





SUVCW

NOTICE

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Paul Johnson at:

johnson@newnorth.net

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Visit us on the Web at

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

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