



Wisconsin Department Dispatch



Winter 2002-2003

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Winter Months a Good Time for Promotion

By SVC Kent Peterson

As the weather turns cold, the pace of our activities slows somewhat and most of them move indoors. But this doesn't mean we should stop letting people know who we are and what we do. As a matter of fact, this is a great time to put some effort into those areas. The more we can get the word out, the more we should benefit through new recruits and generally improving awareness of our mission.

This can be accomplished in many ways, and none of them are costly. Here are some things your Camp could be doing to help spread the word:

- Take advantage of your Camp's page on the Department Web site. Check it periodically and make sure information is up-to-date. Be sure you have a contact person listed and that this person is responding to e-mail inquiries in a timely manner.
- Most community newspapers have a free "community calendar" that will list your meeting and event dates.
- Many communities now have their own Web site, which also will list local organization's (i.e., your Camp) activities at no charge.
- Keep in close touch with your local historical and genealogical societies. In addition to being an excellent source of membership prospects, they may be willing to partner or assist you with events.
- Local libraries, museums, and bookstores usually have a display place for brochures and pamphlets. Drop some off and check back periodically to refill the supply.
- A small 8 1/2 x 11 recruiting poster for your Camp could be placed in the local VFW hall or library. Camp 1 created a template

in Microsoft Word that you could adapt for your own Camp. It looks good printed on parchment paper. Contact SVC Kent Peterson for a copy of the file.

Just like any business, growth will not take place unless there is an effort made to get the word out about the product or service. The information must be current and best results will be achieved when in-

Member Survey Inside

Commander Randy Novak has developed a member survey, which is included in this newsletter. Please fill it out and send it back to him by **January 18th, 2003**. These results will be compiled and used for discussion and planning at the Department Mid-Winter meeting in February. Your input is important and very much appreciated. Thank you!



Representatives from Wisconsin Camps and Auxiliaries laid wreaths during a ceremony at Wauksha's Soldier's monument during the September "Days of Glories Past" event.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
SUVCW

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COUNCIL

Council 1—Richard J. Rohan
Council 2—PDC Stephen A. Michaels
Council 3—PCC Alan G. Hembel

Appointed Officers:

Patriotic Instructor - Don Strube
Chaplain - Carl Liebert
Historian - James Benware
Graves Registration - Brian Peters,
chairman, James Benware, Don Strube
Color Bearer - Jim Johnson
Signals Officer - Kent Peterson
Memorials Registration - Richard Beggs,
chairman, Mike Wertel
Iron Brigade Highway - Alan Hembel
U.S. Grant Award Coordinator - Tom
Johnson

Department General Orders 2002-3

August 22, 2002

REF: Donations to WRC #32 – McDermott GAR Hall Maintenance

On August 1st, 2002, the SUVCW and it's Auxiliary in Wisconsin made a donation totaling \$805.00 to the WRC #32 in Boscobel for the maintenance of the McDermott GAR Hall.

An appeal was made by the Dept. to the Camps, members, and the Auxiliaries. The donations were received from:

Auxiliary 4	Novak, Randy & Terry
Auxiliary 6	Peters, Brian
Beggs, Richard	Peterson, Kent
Camp 1	Rohan, Dick & Cathy Cieszki
Camp 4	Schanning, Joel
Camp 5	Shawhan, Don & Laurie
Camp 8	Sprengle, Eric
Collins, Dean	Wis. Dept. Auxiliary
Felton PCC, Maurice	Wisconsin Dept. SUVCW
Larson, Charles	Young, Gary
Murphy PDC, Fred	
Michaels, PDC Steve and PDP Danielle Michaels	

I would like to thank everyone, Camps and members, who participated in this last minute fund drive. I also want to thank Kathy Cieszki DP and the Dept. Auxiliary, its' membership and Auxiliaries for participating in this project with the Sons. Our contribution to the WRC members was well received and appreciated.

The GAR Hall is in need of some maintenance and our donation will not only help to fund that, but does give us an opportunity to work with another one of the other GAR Allied Orders towards a common goal.

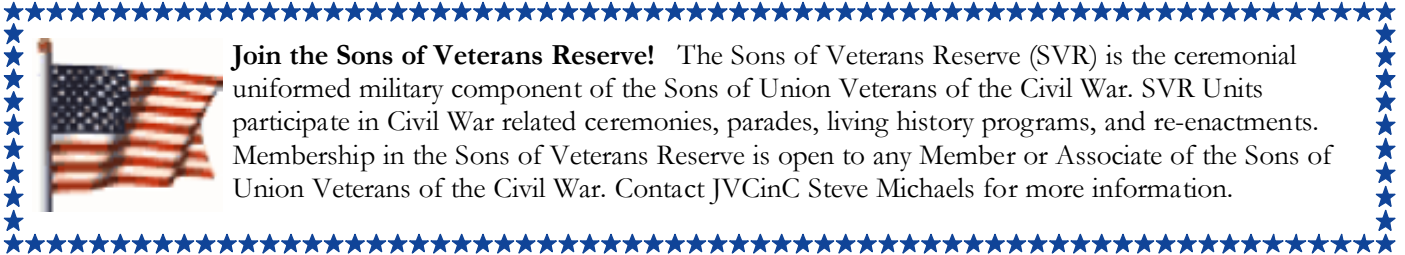
Fraternally,

Randy Novak, PCC
Department Commander



Presenting the donation to WRC #32—left to right—Jennifer Arndt (Camp 8), Dan Chroninger (Camp 49), Lisa Arndt (Aux. Dept. Treasurer), Gary Young (Camp 49), DC Randy Novak (Camp 8), Lyman Elliott (Camp 5), Kathy Cieszki (Aux. DP), Terry Novak (Aux. DVP), Lori Hooker and, Doris Cruckson (WRC 32).

At left, the McDermott GAR Hall in Boscobel.



Join the Sons of Veterans Reserve! The Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) is the ceremonial uniformed military component of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. SVR Units participate in Civil War related ceremonies, parades, living history programs, and re-enactments. Membership in the Sons of Veterans Reserve is open to any Member or Associate of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Contact JVCinC Steve Michaels for more information.

Department General Orders 2002-4
September 19, 2002

REF: PDC Ronald M. Aronis

PCC Ronald M. Aronis having served faithfully as Department Secretary since June 13, 1992 has been eligible for the rank of Past Department Commander since his 10th anniversary in that office, June 13, 2002. This is in accordance with the National S U V C W Regulations, Chapter 3, Article 2, Section 1, in affect at that time.

Therefore, this Department does recognize and acknowledge the rank of Past Department Commander for Ronald M. Aronis as of June 13, 2002. This action was confirmed at the 121st National S U V C W Encampment in Springfield, Illinois on August 10, 2002.

This Department is privileged to have PDC Ronald M. Aronis as a current Department Officer, where his experience and knowledge is a valuable asset to our organization. When the opportunity arises, please do congratulate Brother Aronis on this achievement.

Fraternally,

Randy Novak, PCC
 Department Commander

Department General Orders 2002-5
November 26, 2002

REF: Department Mid-Winter Meeting

The annual Department Mid-Winter meeting date and location has been set for

February 8, 2003
 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
 at Bluemound Gardens, 11703 W. Bluemound Rd., Wauwatosa, WI 53226

This is intended as a Department Staff Meeting, however Camp Commanders (or representative) are also requested to attend, and any member is welcome to attend. The meeting will consist of brief status reports of current projects, and focus on the future of existing and potential projects. The results of a Department member survey will be discussed. This is an informal business meeting, without ritual, intended to encourage participation and input from all attending. The goal is to identify areas where the Department needs to improve or initiate activity, to maintain growth and provide services that our members are looking for.

The meeting date and time coincides with the annual Patriotic Luncheon hosted by Camp 1 and Auxiliary 4, which begins at 12:30 and features guest speaker Robert Rotgers, who will do a first person presentation on the subject of President Lincoln. Details regarding the Patriotic Luncheon will be made available from Camp 1.

There is a small amount of rooms that have been reserved under the name of the S U V C W for those that wish to arrive Friday evening.

This past summer I did receive several requests regarding the Department Mid-Winter Meeting. After talking to a number of members I found considerable interest in moving the date of the Department Mid-Winter Meeting to a time of the year when weather would be less of a concern, and in moving the location of the meeting around to different areas within the Department (coinciding with locations or activities of interest). Essentially, providing variation on what the Camp 1 Patriotic Luncheon has offered to the meeting these past few years.

As it turns out, historically this meeting was often held in the fall of the year (November), and was held in different locations. Considering the way we operate today, with our schedule of re-enactments and other activities, a November meeting would serve well to summarize and review the summer events, including the National Encampment. To that end, tentative arrangements have been made to hold the Mid-Winter Meeting in Madison, WI, in November 2003, however, other suggestions would also be appreciated.

Fraternally,

Randy Novak, PCC
 Department Commander

Camp News

Camp 5 News: Cemetery work in Barton

On a blustery cold October 19th, members of Alonzo H. Cushing Camp #5 worked on veterans' gravesites in the St. Mary's cemetery in Barton, Wisconsin. Two headstones were repaired: Alois Ottinger of Co. C, 14th Wis. Vol. Inf. and Joseph Berend of Co. C, 17th Wis. Infantry.

Berend's military tombstone had fallen over and was partially buried. It was later determined that the stone had been sawn in half for some reason, and this was the reason it fell over. Members dug up the parts of the stone, and determined that the stone will need future replacement. During the digging, a Civil War era butter knife blade was unearthed. The blade was badly eroded, and was returned to the excavation. The stone was cleaned then replaced in an upright position until a new replacement stone can be obtained.

Ottinger's family headstone had fallen over because the base had settled. Members carefully disassembled the headstone, removed, leveled and reset the base stone, cleaned then reassembled all the components using epoxy adhesive. It appears that a cross belongs atop the stone, and the Camp is trying to obtain a replacement to match the rest of the stones.



Camp 5 members Camp Cmdr. Lyman Elliott Jr, GRO Andy Bollen, PDC Ron Aronis, JVC Dick Rohan work to level base stone of Alois Ottinger's headstone.



Camp 1 Conducts Semi-Annual Cemetery Cleanup

Camp 1 spent the second weekend of September in Wauwatosa's Oak Hill Cemetery, doing our semi-annual cleanup of the grounds. Along with general brush and weed trimming, the cemetery flag was replaced as was the GAR marker at the grave of Civil War veteran Dr. Levi Halstead. At left, Br. Pat Kulas, an accomplished artist, puts the finishing touches on Oak Hill's signage. Overall, the pioneer cemetery looked pretty respectable by the time we were finished.

Camp 5 holds second "Ancestor Day"

On October 26th 2002, Alonzo Cushing Camp #5 held it's second Ancestor Day at the West Bend library. Turnout was somewhat disappointing, as the local news-paper ran the notice the week before, and not the week of the event. Despite this, the Camp served 15 people in researching their ancestry for Civil War participants. Most requests had a successful conclusion.

Mrs. Sue Koefel of Kewaskum, Wisconsin brought in a very old family album full of tintypes. She said that her husband had his side of the family researched and was trying to do her side. She recently inherited the album and suspected that one of the pictures was of Gotlieb Velte of Co. G, 28th Reg. Inf. She said rumor had it that he died of pneumonia right after returning from the war. We verified the picture by uniform and insignia, and verified his service record. We were able to verify pension records showing he didn't die for many years after returning.

The next Ancestor Day is scheduled for February 1, 2003 at the Hartford Public Library.



Camp Sec. Treas. Jim Benware and SVC Alan Wambold use the computers to search for the ancestors of Rachel and Melvin Kluever of West Bend.

Camp 4 Cemetery Walk

On Sept. 7, the Eagle Historical Society teamed up with MG John Gibbon Camp #4 to host a cemetery walk, which is the first of its kind in the area. Participants made stops at four area cemeteries, including North Prairie, where David Hinkley and Kent Peterson doing first person impressions of their ancestors who served together in the 28th Wisconsin. CC Scott Gutzke, Tom Sobottke, Jim and Jeremy Johnson and others conducted a memorial service in Oak grove cemetery. Participants were charged for the guided tours and the proceeds were split between Camp 4 and the historical society. The two groups are discussing possible future partnership activities.

Camp News

Camp 8 to Rededicate Oshkosh Civil War Monument

On April 5th, 2003, the members of Old Abe Camp 8 will conduct a ceremony to re-dedicate the down town monument to the veterans of the Civil War. The monument has recently completed its complete restoration, made possible by an award from the Save Outdoor Sculpture program, the Hicks Trust Fund, and other donations – including Camp 8. Joan Mueller of the Oshkosh Public Library, which administers the Hicks Trust Fund, organized the effort. Mike Wertel of Camp 8, provided research assistance.

The bronze Trentanove sculpture is mounted high on a marble base and depicts three Civil War soldiers in action, an officer with sword drawn, and infantryman, and a bugler with pistol drawn. Encroaching streets and the need to move automobile traffic more easily almost caused it to be moved from its location in 1968, when there was considerable dispute regarding the future of the monument. In 1984 part of the marble base had to be repaired, requiring the replacement of two of its large granite panels.

For the re-dedication, basically Camp 8 will be directing the ceremony, which will take place near the foot of the monument in Opera House Square Park. The First Brigade Band will be participating in the re-dedication with us, furnishing music before, during, and after the ceremony. Joan Mueller of the Hicks Trust Fund will be a featured speaker.



DC Randy Novak discusses the steps to follow when organizing a new Camp.

Camp 1 conducts and Organizational Meeting for Prospective Racine Camp

Despite a lack of public turnout, the informational meeting held at Racine's Mound Cemetery had a very positive outcome. Racine area brothers led by Bill Zuelsdorff, Pat Kulas, Bob Koenecke and Brad Louis absorbed presentations by Dept. Commander Randy Novak (at left), Terry Novak, JVCinC Steve Michaels and PDC Fred Murphy, and decided to forge ahead with Camp organizational activities. The group has met again since then, and submitted an official request to begin recruiting for a new Camp in Racine, with its own name and number. They've already begun scheduling events and activities for 2003. Members in the Racine area who belong to other Camps may wish to consider transferring in.

Camp 2 Investigates Marker for Harden Gravesite

Br. Eric Sprengle expressed an idea to request a state historical marker for Col. Henry Harnden's grave site since his place in the history of the Civil War is important to the state since he and elements of the 1st Wisconsin Cavalry captured Confederate President Jefferson Davis. After making an inquiry to the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, it was discovered that the historical marker program has been suspended due to the condition of the state's governmental budget problems, but the program should be reinstated in July 2003.



Wade House 2002. Sons and Auxiliary members from several Camps manned our recruiting booth set up at Wade House. Visitors to the booth were non-stop at some points during the day, with many persons requesting additional information about joining our organization. At left, the re-enactment honoring the 2nd Wisconsin at Gettysburg.

President Bush Signs Battlefield Preservation Bill

On Tuesday, December 17, President George W. Bush signed into law the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002. The bill authorizes \$50 million for the protection of historic Civil War battlefields outside the National Park Service.

"This bill underscores Capitol Hill's commitment to saving America's Civil War battlefields," remarked CWPT President James Lighthizer. "Without this legislation, many of our nation's most hallowed battlegrounds would be lost to development during the next few years."

The Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act officially authorizes a matching grant program funded by Congress in the fiscal 1999 and 2002 Interior Appropriations bills. Since its creation, the program has helped protect nearly 8,000 acres of historic battlefield land in 12 states. In the past year alone, the program has helped save historic property at Prairie Grove, Arkansas; Antietam, Maryland; Chancellorsville, Virginia; and Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

The First Income Tax

The first Federal income tax was levied to help pay for the Union war effort. In the summer of 1861, Salmon P. Chase reported to the Congress that he would need \$320 million over the next fiscal year to finance the war. He thought he could put his hands on \$300 million by borrowing part of it and raising the rest through existing taxes and sale of public lands. He left it up to Congress to come up with a way to raise the remaining \$20 million.

In 1862, in order to support the Civil War effort, Congress enacted the nation's first income tax law. It was a forerunner of our modern income tax in that it was based on the principles of graduated, or progressive, taxation and of withholding income at the source.



During the Civil War, a person earning from \$600 to \$10,000 per year paid tax at the rate of 3%. Those with incomes of more than \$10,000 paid taxes at a higher rate. Additional sales and excise taxes were added, and an "inheritance" tax also made its debut. In 1866, internal revenue collections reached their highest point in the nation's 90-year history—more than \$310 million, an amount not reached again until 1911.

The Act of 1862 established the office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The Commissioner was given the power to assess, levy, and collect taxes, and the right to enforce the tax laws through seizure of property and income and through prosecution. His powers and authority remain very much the same today.

Members Volunteer for Civil War Preservation Trust's Classroom Visitor Program

Some of you have spoken to Jennifer Lind of the Civil War Preservation Trust regarding our listing of reenactors and other living historians who are willing to go into the schools to do presentations. These presentations vary depending on the individual, unit, and area.



Jennifer had said that the listing would go up on the CWPT web site (www.civilwar.org) as soon as the 2 week Civil War curriculum was finished. The curriculum will encourage teachers either to visit a battlefield, or to ask a presenter to visit their classroom.

At long last, the list is up. Several Wisconsin Sons appear on the list. If you're on it, check to make sure your listing is accurate. If you're not on it, and you enjoy doing living history presentations, contact Jennifer with your information.

The following Wisconsin Brothers and Auxiliary members have been listed: Dean Collins, Frederick Murphy, Harold Edebohls, Bill Zuelsdorf, Steve Michaels, Kent Peterson, Gary Young, Ron Aronis, Paul Stache, Rick Gross, Kathy Cieszki, Danielle Michaels.

To refresh your memory -- teachers would contact you to see if you would be willing to visit their class. You would coordinate a visit time, talk about the special needs of the class, and arrange for any costs such as travel, supplies, etc. You do NOT have to "take any assignment" unless you want to, but it would be appreciated if you could respond to each teacher's request in a reasonable time frame.

The Web page is at:

<http://www.civilwar.org/classvisitors.htm>

CIVIL WAR TRIVIA: Who was I?

I attended West Point in 1833. During my career I was a newspaperman, customs official and politician. I was also to be appointed as diplomat to the Vatican in 1861 but joined the army instead.

I was an "Iron Brigade" commander. Was sent to Washington to command fortifications there briefly, then resigned October 2, 1863 for health reasons. I helped capture John Surratt (one of Lincoln's assassination conspirators).

A high school in Milwaukee is named for me.

Who was I? (*Answer is found elsewhere in this issue*)

Christmas in the Civil War

Many of today's American Christmas customs are rooted in the early 19th century. Perhaps ironically, they came to maturity during the Civil War, when violence, chaos, and staggering personal losses seemed likely to drown out the choruses of "peace on earth." Many of the artists of the period, Winslow Homer, Thomas Nast, and Alfred Waud created visual chronicles of the spreading influence of many holiday traditions we enjoy today, including Santa Claus, Christmas trees, gift-giving, caroling, holiday feasting, and Christmas cards. Homer and Nast drew scenes of the wartime practice of sending Christmas boxes filled with homemade clothes and food items to soldiers at the front.

When in 1861, for the first *Harper's Weekly* Christmas cover of the war, Homer drew overjoyed soldiers reveling in the contents of Adams Express boxes from home.

John Haley of the 17th Maine, for instance, wrote the day before Christmas. "It is rumored that there are sundry boxes and mysterious parcels over at Stoneman's Station directed to us," Haley continued in his diary. "We retire to sleep with feelings akin to those of children expecting Santa Claus. We have become very childish in some matters--grub being one of them."

The most beloved symbol of the American family Christmas--the decorated Christmas tree--came into its own during the Civil War. Christmas trees had become popular in the decade before the war, and in the early 1860s, many



Lonely camp scene from an 1862 *Harper's Weekly* entitled "Christmas Eve".

families were beginning to decorate them.

Illustrators working for the national weeklies helped popularize the practice by putting decorated table-top Christmas trees in their drawings.

It was only a matter of time before the Christmas tree made its way into military camps. Alfred Bellard of the 5th New Jersey remarked about the arrival of the newly popular Christmas icon to his camp along the lower Potomac River.

"In order to make it look much like Christmas as possible," he wrote, "a small tree was stuck up in front of our tent, decked off with hard tack and pork, in lieu of cakes and oranges, etc."

By 1863, the Union blockade of the Southern coasts had made it nearly impossible for Santa Claus to visit homes in the South; scarcity of goods and the consequent high prices put both store-bought presents and raw materials for homemade gifts out of the financial reach of many Southern consumers. Quite a few mothers explained to their children that even Santa Claus would not be able run the formidable blockade.

Following Union Major General William T. Sherman's capture of Savannah, Georgia, and presentation of it as a Christmas gift to Lincoln in 1864, about 90 Michigan men and their captain in turn gave a token of charity to Southern civilians living outside the city. On Christmas Day the soldiers loaded several wagons full of food and other supplies and distributed the items about the ravaged Georgia countryside. The destitute Southerners thanked the jolly Union Santa Clauses as the wagons pulled away under the power of mules that had tree-branch "antlers" strapped to their heads to turn them into makeshift reindeer.

By late 1865 the country was starting to reunite as the horrors of war and the shock of Lincoln's assassination faded into memory. That December brought the first peacetime Christmas in five years. Most soldiers had been mustered out of the military and were home to celebrate the holiday with their families. Of course, many others had never returned home.



Children still found Christmas morning joyful in this 1864 *Harper's Weekly* edition. Note that the youngster on the right is equipped with sword, drum, kepi and a haversack with "U.S." prominently displayed.

This is an edited version of an article that appeared in the December 1998 Civil War Times by Kevin Rawlings.

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 Kent Peterson, 6024 South Kirkwood, Cudahy, WI 53110 or e-mailed to svc@suvcw-wi.org

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

Calendar

January 25	Member Orientation session, location TBA (watch Dept. Web site for details)
February 8	Mid-Winter Meeting and Annual Patriotic Luncheon, Wauwatosa
January 25	Member Orientation session, location TBA (watch Dept. Web site for details)
May 26	Memorial Day ceremonies
7 June	Department Encampment, Madison

News Dispatches

Congratulations to
**Camp 4 Commander Scott Gutzke
and Auxiliary 4's Mary Benecke**

Who were married October 26, 2002

Annual Patriotic Luncheon

C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 and Auxiliary #4 cordially invite you to attend their 33rd annual Patriotic Luncheon, honoring Presidents Washington, Lincoln and McKinley on Saturday, February 8, 2003, at Bluemound Gardens, 117th & Bluemound Road, Wauwatosa.

Fine food and fellowship will be enjoyed by all. At 12:30 pm, lunch will be served and will precede guest speaker and Lincoln impressionist Robert Rotgers. A door prize raffle will again be featured. Cost of the lunch is \$15. Please make check payable to C. K. Pier Badger Camp #1 and send before Friday, January 31st, with name, organization and number attending to JVCinC Steve Michaels at 6623 S. North Cape Rd., Franklin, WI 53132-1227

"Gods and General s"

The eagerly anticipated film "Gods and Generals" is set to open at 1100 theaters on Feb. 21, 2003. The film, which is rated PG-13, is 3 hours, 35 minutes long and will have an intermission. Historically it will cover the early years of the Civil War with a particular focus on Stonewall Jackson.

Fees for Re-setting Headstones Nixed

Something that might be of interest for the newsletter. A few people have commented about a cemetery wanting to charge them a resetting fee or something like that for a headstone replacement.

Last summer Br. Virgil Matz supplied a tip regarding who is responsible for the financial burden of maintaining veterans graves. Terry found the state statute that specifies that the County in which the grave resides is responsible for any costs. This being the case - no one should ever be charged a fee of any kind for re-setting a head stone, etc. from a cemetery. It is Wis. Statute 45.185 titled Care of Soldier's Graves, and in that part it states that "The expense of the care of such graves and tombstones shall be borne by the respective counties where said graves are located..."

Silverware Found in *Monitor* Turret Muck

Dec. 11, 2002--Scientists excavating the turret of the revolutionary Civil War ironclad USS *Monitor* have announced the discovery of several pieces of silverware, all of it personalized with the engraved initials of men who are known to have died when the ship sank in a storm on New Year's Eve, 1862.

Some two dozen utensils, all forks or spoons, were found in the turret, all with initials on the handles. The initials and the men whose names they match are:

"JN" on one of the spoons matches the name of Seaman Jacob Nicklis. "G. Frederickson" on a fork matches the name of Masters Mate George Frederickson.

The skeletal remains of two crewmen were found when the turret was raised from the Atlantic Ocean off Cape Hatteras last summer. It is not yet known if it will be possible to identify the remains to specific crewmen. Four officers and 12 crew members died in the *Monitor* sinking, either swept into the sea during the rescue attempt or lost when the ship sank before a boat could return for a third evacuation trip.

The pieces have been put on display at the Mariner's Museum in Newport News, VA., where the *Monitor* excavation and preservation process is underway.

TRIVIA QUESTION

The answer to the trivia question on page 7 is

General Rufus King



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

2002 Wisconsin Department Member Survey

The purpose of this survey is to help the Department Officers do a better job of determining what is needed to provide the best organization for our members. Please do take the time to participate. Circle the best answer, or where requested write in a number.

1. I first learned of the SUVCW through;
 - a. The internet – website
 - b. A recruiting display
 - c. Personal recommendation – word of mouth
2. My first impression of the SUVCW was that it was a;
 - a. re-enacting group
 - b. patriotic society
 - c. veterans group
 - d. heritage society
 - e. fraternal society
3. Before joining the SUVCW, I had prior knowledge of the GAR.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
4. The SUVCW is the legal heir to the GAR.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
5. The SUVCW is a federally chartered organization.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
6. Donations to the SUVCW are tax deductible.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
7. My interest in the SUVCW is primarily as a;
 - a. re-enacting group
 - b. patriotic society
 - c. veterans group
 - d. heritage society
 - e. fraternal society
8. The SUVCW was organized by;
 - a. A re-enacting group
 - b. The Union Civil War soldiers
 - c. The Sons of the Civil War soldiers
 - d. Don't know
9. The SUVCW honors and supports;
 - a. The veterans of all wars
 - b. The union soldiers of the civil war
 - c. Descendants of veterans
 - d. All things patriotic
 - e. Don't know
10. The SUVCW is one of the GAR Allied Orders.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
11. I attend Camp meetings?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Occasionally
12. I attend the Department Encampments?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Occasionally
13. I participate in Camp activities?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Occasionally
14. My Camp publishes a newsletter?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Occasionally
15. My Camp newsletter information is helpful or interesting.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Occasionally
16. The Department newsletter information is helpful or interesting.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Occasionally
17. What is the importance of these to me as a Camp member? (Rate each on a scale of 1 thru 4, 1 is least important.)
 - a. Camp business meetings
 - b. Camp projects and functions
 - c. Guest or featured speakers
 - d. Socializing with other camp members
18. The SUVCW has a woman's Auxiliary.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
19. Auxiliary membership is available to any interested female.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know

20. It would be beneficial if each Camp had an Auxiliary associated with it.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
21. It is important to have Camp recruiting displays at public functions (such as re-enactments)?
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
22. What is the importance of these to me as a SUVCW member? (Rate each on a scale of 1 thru 4, 1 is least important.)
 - a. Department functions
 - b. Camp functions
 - c. National functions
 - d. Honoring my heritage
 - e. Meeting with others having a similar interest
 - f. Listening to guest speakers
 - g. Actively working on related projects
23. The SUVCW has a documented purpose, or "mission statement".
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
24. Any member may attend the Department and National Encampments.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
25. The SUVCW has a legal claim to GAR property.
 - d. Agree
 - e. Disagree
 - f. Don't know
26. The Department communicates well with the Camps.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
27. The Camps should cooperate with one another on projects.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
28. The SUVCW meets my expectations.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
29. I would participate in SUVCW activities more if only I knew what to do.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
30. The SUVCW is fulfilling its' purpose.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
31. My Camp should be more of a heritage/social type organization.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
32. My Camp should be more active in hands-on projects.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
33. I, as an individual, represent the SUVCW in my community.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
34. I have been able to utilize my talents to contribute to the work of SUVCW.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know
35. My Camp should be more of a service type organization.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Don't know

Please add comments here (and on separate sheet if necessary):

My Camp # - _____ I have been a member of the Sons for - _____ years.
My residence is located near (town or city) - _____

Return this survey to by JANUARY 18, 2003 to:
Randy Novak
641 Bowen St.
Oshkosh, WI 54901