

Out Going Senior Vice-Commander Commended

Brother **Bob Bohannan** who was our Camp's first (and up to this point) only Senior Vice Commander, was presented with a plaque honoring his service by Camp Commander David Swanson. Bob was one of the founding members of the Camp in 1996. *Bob, thanks for a job well done!*

Fourth Camp Meeting Approved

A motion to change our Camp by-laws and institute an fourth quarterly Camp meeting in August was approved by the Brothers present. Our meetings will now occur during the months of February, May, August and November. We had a great turnout for our August meeting and hopefully that is an indicator of things to come.

Raffle Winner

The raffle winner of Al Harrica's book was **David Swanson**. (He thought about not accepting the book, however, since the only other thing he won in his life was a white rat in the 4th grade, he decided his luck must be changing!).

Speaker

Our current Junior Vice Commander and past Camp Commander **Larry Fuller**, did a great job outlining the history of our Camp...great job Larry!



Camp Officers for 2005. Left to right: David Swanson, Camp Commander; Larry Fuller, Junior Vice Commander; Jim Greaves, Camp Council; Bob Hannan, Senior Vice Commander; Jerry Bloom, Secretary/Treasurer; John Conrad, Eagle Scout Coordinator.



CAMP MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2005

Our winter meeting is on February 19; The spring meeting is on May 21; The summer meeting is on August 20, and the fall meeting is on November 19. All meetings will be at Coco's Restaurant at noon.

Please make a note of these dates!

Annual Lee/Jackson Luncheon

Col. Sherod Hunter Camp # 1525 SCV is hosting its annual Lee/Jackson luncheon and all Brothers of our Camp are invited. This event has always been lots of fun, although apparently we have not done very well in the past with the Lee/Jackson trivia contest...so study up! Details follow:

January 22, 2005, 11:00 a.m. at Bill Johnson's Big Apple Restaurant, 16801 N. 19 Ave; cost \$16.00 per person. Make checks to Camp #1525, SCV and mail to:

Tom Tatum, Adjutant, Col Sherod Hunter Camp #1525, PO Box 40392, Phoenix, 85067-0392.

And as usual, Yankee Pot Roast will not be served!

ANNUAL DUES NOTICE

Please take this opportunity to send in your 2005 Camp annual dues.

As outlined in the October newsletter, a separate dues notification is not sent to our Brothers...dues notifications are only contained in our newsletter.

By sending in your dues with your luncheon reservation, or by only sending in your dues, you will continue your membership with the SUVCM and our Camp.

Please complete the form on page 7 and mail it today. (This saves the expense of hiring bounty hunters!)

SPEAKER FOR FEBRUARY 05

Brother John Conrad will give a power point presentation regarding his great-great grandfather Celestine McMullen, Co. A, 55th Pennsylvania. This will be very informative....don't miss it.

Bugler Orin F. Wilson Company G, 7th Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry

By Camp Commander David A. Swanson

The following information recaps the last action seen by Bugler Orin F. Wilson while under the command of General Kilpatrick during Sherman's march on Atlanta. The information is taken from *SABRE STROKES of the Pennsylvania Dragoons in the war of 1861-1865*, by Thomas F. Dornblaser. Thomas Dornblaser was a sergeant in Company E, 7th Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry.

"On the morning of the 18th of August (1864), Kilpatrick's command dashed out from Sandtown to the West Point road at Fairburn Station. The railroad was torn up for several miles. ...Just beyond Fairburn Station, while the 'Seventh' was marching in column of fours, on a road leading through a dense wood, the enemy's artillery opened on us with grape and canister shot, from a hill to the left of the column.

The suddenness of the attack excited the horses, the column was thrown into temporary confusion, several ambulances were overturned by the teams wildly dashing into the timber. Infuriated horses were plunging through the ranks entirely beyond the control of their riders. After clearing the woods, the 'Seventh' formed line in an open field and prepared to make a sabre charge on the battery, but the enemy speedily withdrew in the direction of Atlanta.

A courier was sent to inquire of Kilpatrick, if we should pursue the enemy; to which he replied, 'Never mind the *Johnnies* in the rear, there are plenty of them in front. Come on!'

Among those wounded was the bugler of our regiment, a fair curly-haired boy. He was mortally wounded in the abdomen, but he remained in the saddle until the column halted in the open field.

The pain became so severe that he could no longer sit on his horse. He requested us to place him in an ambulance. The officer in charge refused to receive him, as he could live but a short time. They had room only for such of the wounded who would likely recover. With a look of sadness, he said, 'Then you will leave me to die in the hands of the enemy?'

Three of us carried him to a little white church by the roadside, and made a bed for him on the outside, as comfortable as we could. The thought that he must die in the hands of his foes was terrible to him. He had exhibited great courage in battle. A number of times we saw him at the head of his regiment in the 'bloody charge.' He was not afraid to face death, but to die in the hands of his enemies was more than he could well endure.

He was just such a boy as would be the idol of a fond mother. He longed for his mother. 'Oh! If mother knew

this, how soon she would come to me.' His last words to us, were, 'Please write to my mother, and tell her all about it.'

A score of years have passed since this event occurred, but the scene at the *little church* comes back to my memory as a picture of indescribable sadness and pity."

David Evans in his book *Sherman's Horsemen* (the definitive source regarding Sherman's Atlanta Campaign) also writes about this event... excerpts follow.

"It was Ross's 3rd Texas, supported by Lieutenant George B. Young and a 12-pound howitzer from the Columbus Light Artillery... Upon reaching the West Point railroad, Lieut. Young had sited his gun on a commanding ridge, while the Texans dismounted and crept through the woods under the cover of the heavy morning mist. Closing to within 200 yards of the Sandtown and Fairburn Road, they opened fire.

The volley caught Companies G and M of the 7th Pennsylvania squarely in the left flank... Bugler Orin F. Wilson doubled over in agony with a bullet in his belly, but somehow stayed in the saddle as his regiment ran the gauntlet. Three of his comrades carried him into Shadnor Church, a little white building by the roadside, and gently laid him on a plain wooden bench near the door."

Orin Wilson's muster roll for Sept. & Oct. 1864, states "Wounded and missing at Red Oak Church, Ga., Aug 19/64." His muster rolls from December 1864 through April 1865 stated: "Wounded and left in enemy's hands, Red oak Church, GA. August 20, 1864." It wasn't until the muster roll for May and June 1865 did his muster rolls state: "Died of his wounds rec'd at Red Oak Church, GA., on 19th of Aug & died on 21st '64"

It might be noted that on June 7, 1862, Orin was captured at Readville, Tennessee while with a scouting party (but that is the source for an additional article!)

Author David Evans believes that Orin was re-interred at the Marietta National cemetery as one of the unknowns.

Bugler Orin F. Wilson is the great-great uncle of Camp Commander David A. Swanson and the great-great-great uncle to Camp Brother Todd McIntosh.. Brother Swanson is also a member of the 7th Pennsylvania Cavalry Descendant's Association. (David has a copy of Evans' book autographed by the author and dedicated to Bugler Orin F. Wilson and his brother-in-law Corporal Oscar F. Foote, both of Company G, 7th Pennsylvania Cavalry.)



CAMP ANCESTOR BIOGRAPHIES

PRIVATE ALEXANDER COURTRIGHT

Co. F, 13th Regiment,

Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry

By Brother Morris Courtright

(Alexander is Morris' great grandfather)

Alexander enlisted in Company F, 13th Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry on January 1, 1862, and left with the Regiment for Leavenworth Kansas, January 13, 1862. Marching to Fort Scott, KS, they arrived March 1, 1862, thence to Fort Riley on April 20 and Fort Leavenworth on May 27.

This was followed by a move to St. Louis, MO, thence to Columbus, KY where Alexander did guard duty along the Mobile and Ohio Railroad from Columbus, KY to Corinth, MS and saw action at Rickett's Hill. On November 6th he moved to Fort McHenry for duty guarding supply steamers between the Fort and Hamburg Landing until February 1864. Alexander then did guard duty along the Tennessee River until his discharge January 19, 1865.

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PRIVATE JESSE THOMPSON

Co I, 63rd INDIANA INFANTRY

By Brother Don Thompson

(Jesse is Don's great grandfather)

Jesse (1826-1900) was 36 years old when he enlisted in the Union Army. He was a Private of Captain A.T. Jenkins Co (I) of the 63rd Indiana Volunteer Regiment. He was enrolled in August of 1862 and served through the remainder of the war being discharged on 26 May 1865 in Indianapolis. During the war most of the service involved guarding Confederate soldiers held at Camp Morton in Indianapolis and then transferred to guarding Washington, DC. From there they were sent to Tennessee and Kentucky guarding railroads and other vital structures. During the summer of 1864 Jesse became ill with dysentery and lost his eyesight temporarily. The condition persisted and he was transferred to duty in Louisville. He was in the Goldsboro, NC area at the end of the war which is ironic since the Goldsboro area was his place of birth. By the end of the war, he could barely see his hand in

front of his face. His eyesight did eventually return and returned to carpentry and casket making.

Jesse's wife, Rebecca, had three brothers also in the CW. Two were killed in the fighting and her brother, Welcome, was a surgeon with Grant and Sherman throughout the war.

Jesse and Rebecca had 11 children, two dying in childbirth. My grandfather was the youngest of his sons. However, the next youngest son, Samuel Luther Thompson (1860), became one of America's superstars of the major leagues in the 19th Century. Sam is baseball's all-time RBI producer per game, is 23rd on all-time batting average, and was the first player to get 200 hits in a season doing it three times. He was the all-time home run leader until Honus Wagner broke his record followed shortly by Babe Ruth. Sam was a contemporary of Cap Anson, Cy Young, Connie Mack, and played with the Tigers in 1906 when Ty Cobb was a rookie. Jesse and many other soldiers from his town brought baseball back and taught all their sons to play. In old newspaper clippings the six Thompson sons almost made a complete team in Danville, IN. Sam, Amos Rusie, and Mordecai Three-Finger Brown all eventually became members of the Baseball Hall of Fame. They were all from the same area in central Indiana. The Civil War had a tremendous impact on baseball in Indiana.

(Editor's note: Don, you need to visit the Diamondbacks...maybe some of this will rub off!)

TRIVIA

Who said: "Disunion by armed force is treason. Are you ready to incur its guilt?"

- (a) Abraham Lincoln
- (b) General Winfield Scott
- (c) Andrew Jackson
- (d) James Buchanan

General Winfield Scott may have thought it, and for that matter so may have President James Buchanan; however, President Andrew Jackson said it during the Nullification Crisis of 1832.

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GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC Dr. BENJAMIN F. STEPHENSON, FOUNDER AND PROVISIONAL COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, APRIL 6, 1866-NOVEMBER 21, 1866.

The following article is taken from the SUVCW website and was submitted by Lorraine Orton, , Past Department President Woman's Relief Corps, Aux to GAR.

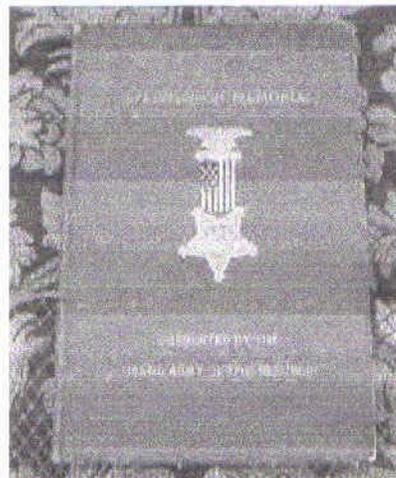
Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson, founder of the Grand Army of the Republic and provisional commander-in-chief, April 6, 1866 to November 21, 1866. Born in Wayne County, Ill, October 3, 1823, his father being a native of South Carolina and his mother a native of North Carolina. When he was about 3 years of age the family moved to Sagamon County. Here he received his early education and February 7, 1850, he (was) given his diploma from Rush Medical College, Chicago. He then returned to the family home, a farm in Menard County, near Petersburg, Ill, and after a time began the practice of medicine in Petersburg. On the organization of the 14th Illinois Infantry he was elected surgeon of his regiment by the officers and enlisted men, but another doctor was commissioned. Later he was mustered in as surgeon of the 14th Illinois Infantry at Pittsburg Landing, April 7, 1862. He served with the regiment through all its campaigns as part of the Army of the Tennessee. As a result of his action at Shiloh he was commissioned major by Governor Yates. The 3 year term of the regiment expired June 24, 1864, and it was mustered out of service. He returned to Springfield, Ill., to resume the practice of medicine and became connected with a firm of druggists. During the service in the Army his tent mate and close companion was the chaplain of the regiment, Rev. W.J. Rutledge, a native of Virginia. They often discussed what would be the future of the men and boys in the Union Armies after the war and from these talks came the foundation for the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic.

While Dr. Stephenson worked in the drugstore he never lost an opportunity to discuss with former soldiers the possibility of a society to bind them closer together and so as a result of these efforts of April 6, 1866, in Decatur, Ill., there was formed post No. 1 of the Grand Army of the Republic with 12 charter members. Dr. Stephenson then worked enthusiastically to promote the formation of more posts, often neglecting his own personal interests. Then came one disappointment after another, for the first departmental encampment called in Springfield, Ill., in July 1866, another was elected department

commander, an honor which should have gone to Dr. Stephenson. Again at

the first national encampment held in Indianapolis, Ind., in 1866 he expected to be chosen commander-in-chief, but had to see his friend General Hurlbut chosen instead. He was, however, appointed adjutant general and the work of the organization became uppermost in his mind. He died at Rock Creek, Menard County, Ill., August 30, 1871...

EBay (an internet company) had a "rare Grand Army of the Republic Stephenson Memorial" book for bid and it is now in the possession of our Senior Vice-Commander **Bob Hannan**. The item was described as follows: "I do not often use the word rare but this may be one of those rare items you might be interested in. There were only 7000 of these published in 1911. The opening reads, 'Proceedings on the Occasion of the Reception and Acceptance of the Stephenson Grand Army Memorial'. Benjamin F. Stephenson was the founder of The Grand Army of the Republic. At the 43rd encampment of the GAR in Salt Lake City, Utah, August 12 and 13, 1909, it was decided to erect a monument to this man. This book is the record of these proceedings with a photograph under onion skin of the proceedings. The book is hard bound with the a Medal of the GAR on the front cover. It has 48 pages and measures 7 by 10 ¼ inches with a green cover..."



editor's note: I understand Bob is selling the opportunity for Brothers to either look at or touch this book...at least I think that was what he said!



Who is this Civil War Veteran?

Joe was the eldest son of Hungarian Jews. His father, Philip, was a prosperous grain merchant, who died when Joseph was eleven. A few years later his mother married Max Blau, a businessman. Joe was educated in private schools in Budapest. In 1864 he emigrated from Hungary to the United States, landing at Castle Garden practically penniless. The Austrian army had rejected him for his weak eyesight, and the French Foreign Legion did not accept him, *but in the new country he served in I. Company of the First New York Lincoln Cavalry until the end of the Civil War.*

Joe was fluent in German, French, and Hungarian, but his English was still awkward. After the war he went West to seek his fortune. His first business as a boss stevedore in St. Louis failed. Joe worked as a waiter, buried cholera victims of 1866 on Arsenal Island, and eventually found work as a reporter, first in St. Louis on the *Westliche Post*, a German-language newspaper. "He was a born reporter", said one of his colleagues later. Later, in 1871 he acquired a part ownership of the paper. In the 1860s he participated in politics and studied law, but he practiced only a short time. In 1869 he was elected to the Missouri Legislature, and in 1874 he was admitted to the bar in Washington, D.C., where he worked as a correspondent of the New York *Sun*. In 1877 he married Kate Davis, a niece of Jefferson Davis.

The purchase of the New York *World* in 1883 from the controversial financier Jay Gould turned out to be a successful decision, and made him wealthy. The magazine increased in stature through its crusades against great business monopolies, lotteries, and white slavery. In 1885 he was elected to Congress from New York, but he resigned after a few months' service. Two years later he founded the *Evening World* in New York, although he began at that time to withdraw from direct management of his publications. At the age of forty, he was struck blind, but he still continued to run his press empire for twenty-two more years.

In 1890s Joe had a circulation war with William Randolph Hearst, and his newspapers were accused of "yellow journal" practices.

The two newspaper barons showed their power in 1898: *The World* urged President McKinley to declare war against Spain.

Joe died of heart disease aboard his yacht, the *Liberty*, on October 29, 1911. Before his death his German secretary had been reading him an account of the reign of Louis XI of France (1423-1483), who broke the power of the nobility.

Through his will, he established the Columbia University School of Journalism, which was one of his chief desires, and annual prizes for literature, drama, music, and journalism. In this he followed in the footsteps of Alfred B. Nobel (1833-1896), the inventor of dynamite, who established through his will the Nobel Foundation with its awards.

The name of this Civil War veteran is Joseph Pulitzer and the annual prizes he established are the Pulitzer Prizes...and as Paul Harvey says...now you know the rest of the story. (The information for this article was taken in part from an internet story.)

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