

STONEWALL, ARIZONA (continued)

Others suggested the name Salina, but neither name suited the inhabitants. It was Darrell Duppa who suggested the name Phoenix, inasmuch as the new town would spring from the ruins of a former civilization.

This is the accepted derivation of our name.

Phoenix officially was recognized on May 4, 1868, when Yavapai County Board of supervisors, the county of which we were then a part, formed an election precinct here.

A post office was established in Phoenix on June 15, 1868 with Jack Swilling as postmaster..."

So there you have it.... if Lieutenant Jack Swilling, CSA, had his way, you would be having SUVCW Camp meetings in Stonewall, Arizona!

A paper entitled "Jack Swilling, the Founder of Phoenix" by Thos. E. Farish, Arizona State Historian (1914-1919) states: "During the Rebellion Mr. Swilling was a lieutenant in Captain Hunter's company of volunteers in Baylor's regiment and occupied himself, with thirty of his men, in protecting settlers and others from the Indians along the Rio Grand in Southern New Mexico and along the road to Tucson. When the confederates were driven out of New Mexico, Mr. Swilling remained in Arizona...In 1867, Swilling organized a company and built the first canal from the Salt River...and a quiet settlement was made in what is now the city of Phoenix."

It should be noted that a detachment from Captain Hunter's company found the time (when they were not protecting the settlers from the Indians) to engage in a skirmish called the Battle of Picacho Pass.

Lieutenant Jack Swilling was quite involved with the Confederate effort in early 1862, to keep the Confederate Territory of Arizona in tact...although this was a short lived effort on his part ...followed up by a stint as a civilian scout, or messenger, depending on the source, for the "California Column." (The "California Column" consisted of about 2,300 Union troops from California with the express purpose of expelling Confederates from the territory.)

Jack Swilling was one of the most colorful figures in the Arizona Territory. If you are interested, the Arizona Library and Archives at 1700 W. Washington should be visited.

Trivia: Was northern Arizona part of the Confederate Territory of AZ? Was there even a federal Arizona Territory for the Confederates to "invade"? Get these answers and more in our next newsletter!

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

In the July issue of our newsletter an overview of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Arizona was printed.

The *Arizona Sentinel*, January 28, 1888 issue, contains the following information regarding the first department encampment and is printed here exactly as published. The paper was published in Tucson.

"The first encampment of the G. A. R. ever held in Arizona closed its doors in Phoenix yesterday. Several Members of the Negley Post, whose headquarters are in this city were elected to offices in the department body. B. C. Parker was elected delegate to the National Convention; G. W. Sanders Department Chaplain and G. W. Brown member of the council of administration. A. L. Grow was elected department commander. Mr. A. B. Sampson who returned home last night was enthusiastic over their good treatment by the citizens of Phoenix who left nothing undone to make their visit a pleasant one. A banquet for them by the citizens was a source of preparations when Mr. Sampson came away. Carriages were placed at the disposal of the guests and the great Salt River valley with its locations and advantages was shown them. This kindness and attention was duly appreciated by the grand army visitors. The next department encampment will be held in Tucson. All Tucson members are expected home tonight."

It is interesting to note that in this article just the letters G.A.R. were used...the correspondent apparently felt that the initials were sufficient and the readers would know what they stood for.

The *Tombstone Prospector*, January 18 1889 issue contains the following regarding the second encampment and again is printed exactly as published:

G. A. R.

"The second annual encampment of the Department of Arizona, Grand Army of the Republic completed the business before it to-day at 1 o'clock, says the Tucson Citizen. Everything was harmonious and the best of feeling prevailed throughout the entire session.

Despite the muddy streets they were out early this morning. The contest between Geo. L. Coats, of Phenix (sic), and A. B. Sampson, of Tucson, was being energetically carried on in a spirit of friendship by the friends of each. Neither of these gentlemen were making any effort to secure the position, leaving the matter entirely with their friends. The contest was very close and resulted in the election of Mr. Sampson by one vote. (continued on page 3..Dept. of Arizona

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA...continued

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: A. B. Sampson of Tucson Department Commander; J. C. Creamer, of Phenix (sic), senior vice-commander; J. L. Guthrie, chaplain; J. W. Wharton, medical director; J. H. Campbell, A. B. Lighthizer, Mr. Gregory, Geo. Haxworth, and A. E. Love, commission of administration; John M. Ward alternate.

Tombstone was selected as the place for the next annual encampment of the department on the first Monday in March, 1890.” (Note: The writer of this article is obviously a graduate from the David Swanson School of Journalism!)

Information regarding the Department of Arizona is apparently quite difficult to obtain...If any Brothers have more information please contact the editor...it would be nice to have a continuing series in the newsletter.



THE STARS AND STRIPES

Many of the Brothers of our Camp have served in our nation’s military; most likely in the army, navy, marines, coast guard or air force. And gathering from our ages we served from WWII through Viet Nam...maybe even Desert Storm.

Whether we were stationed in the U.S., on a ship or in a foreign country, many of us kept informed through the Armed Forces Radio Network or from a newspaper that has a very large circulation. I’m sure most of you can name that newspaper, but if not read the following:

“On November 9, 1861, soldiers of the Illinois 11th, 18th and 29th Regiments, after forcing the Confederates south, set up camp in Bloomfield, Missouri. Upon finding the newspaper office empty, they decided to print a newspaper for their expedition relating the troops activities. They called it the *Stars and Stripes*. This was the beginning of the ‘soldiers newspaper 140 years ago.’” And as Paul Harvey says, “now you know...the rest of the story.” (the information about the paper was obtained from the Stars and Stripes Museum/Library Association. Its website is: www.starsandstripesmuseumlibrary.org.)



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR WEB PAGE

There is an amazing amount of information about the SUVCW and its history, among many, many other items on the SUVCW web page.

Many of our Camp Brothers do not have a computer or if they do there is no internet connection.

Some of the information that would be of interest to our Brothers will be published in this and future newsletters, so what better way to start than by presenting the following:

“BRIEF HISTORY

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was a creation of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) which was formed in 1866. Wanting to pass on its heritage, the GAR in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania created a Corps of Cadets in 1878 which later became the Sons of Veterans of the United States of America (SV). This latter organization was formed in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on November 12 1881. The SV units functioned much as National Guard units and actually served along with state militia during the Spanish American War. In 1904, the SV elected to become a patriotic education society and in 1925 changed its name to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). However, to keep the military aspect alive, the SUVCW created within the organization the Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) which was carried on the Army rolls as a Reserve contingent. Some SVR units served with the Army during World War I. After World War I, the SVR was listed as a training company of the U.S. Army. In more recent years, the SVR’s mission has become historic, ceremonial, and commemorative. Prior to disbanding and before the death of its last member, the GAR officially designated the SUVCW as its successor and heir to its remaining property. On August 20, 1954, the SUVCW was officially incorporated by an Act of Congress by the passing of Public Law 605 of the second session of the 83rd Congress.”

For those with a computer the web address of the SUVCW is www.suvcw.org.



Be not deceived. Revolutions do not go backward.

A. Lincoln



“It would be a fine city if they drained it.” Comment said to have been made by President Grant about Venice during his post presidency world tour.



MEMO TO ALL BROTHERS:

Please bring a written biography of your Civil War ancestor to our next Camp meeting. This can be three sentences long, written on scrap paper or a typed paper or anything in between.

The object of this is to have information about your ancestor published in our newsletter.

For our literary giants, please limit your paper to two fully typed 8" x 11" sheets (single sided).

We would all enjoy reading about him even if all you have is his name, rank and company...anything would be interesting. (as an alternative, please forward your information electronically to the editor at DavidJan1854@cs.com...or phone me and I will give you my mailing address)

PS. If you wish to give a brief talk or an extended one at a Camp meeting, please let the editor or any officer know...we would really like to hear from you. This talk could be on your ancestor or any aspect of the Civil War.



Dixie Union Style

The following was forwarded by Brother John F. Crossen:

During the course of the War both sides produced parodies of popular songs favored by either the United States or the Confederate States. Here is a Union version of *Dixie*, by John Savage:

Oh, the Starry Flag is the flag for me;
The flag of life, the flag of the free,
Then hurrah, then hurrah, for the flag of the Union.

Oh, the Starry Flag is the flag for me;
The flag of life, the flag of the free,
We'll raise the starry banner, boys,
Where no pow'r or wrath can fact it.

O'er town and filed—
The people's shield;
No reason can erase it;
O'er all the land,

That flag must stand,
Where the people's might shall place it.

Then hurrah, then hurrah,
Hurrah for the flag of the Union!



Scottsdale Civil War Round Table

Just a reminder: This outstanding organization meets during the months of Sept. through May on the third Tuesday of the month at the Scottsdale Civic Center Library, 3819 N. Drinkwater Blvd. Hours: 7 PM to 10PM. Ed Bearss will be a guest speaker soon...when?...show up and find out!

Camp Officers for 2003

Commander:

Larry Fuller (480) 945-9816

Sr. Vice-Commander:

Bob Bohannan (480) 480-471-2222 (evening only)

Jr. Vice-Commander:

David Swanson (480) 515-2798
e-mail: DavidJan1854@cs.com

Secretary:

Jerry McKenzie (602) 234-1672
e-mail: eclecticdog@msn.com

Treasurer:

Jerry Bloom (602) 955-3091

Camp Council:

Dick Graffin: (602) 870-1728
Jim Greaves (623) 544-8977
e-mail: jimgreaves@mindspring.com
Bob Young (602) 841-7037

Chaplain:

Bob Baxter (602) 276-3892

Camp Historian:

Bob Hannan (480) 380-9153
e-mail: suvcw82@aol.com

Graves Registration:

Duane Branson (928) 286-1756

Newsletter Editor/Publisher/Copyboy

David Swanson

REMINDER: PLEASE FILL OUT THE LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM AND DON'T FORGET TO INCLUDE YOUR 2004 DUES...

