



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR PICACHO PEAK CAMP #1 ARIZONA CAMP-at-LARGE



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CAMP NEWSLETTER
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October 2007

Camp Web site: www.suvcwaz.org

Minutes of the August 18, 2007, Camp meeting:

Location: Coco's Restaurant
4514 E. Cactus, Phx, AZ

Camp Commander Bob Hannan called the August meeting to order at noon. We had 30 (no that is not a typo) Brothers, wives, and guests in attendance.

New Brothers Initiated:

Dan Heller of Phoenix, AZ. Ancestor: Great-great-grandfather, Jacob Smith Harnish; Co D, 8th Regiment, Indiana Infantry.

W. Michael Moore of Oro Valley, AZ. Ancestor: Great-great-grandfathers: George N. Bullman, Co.B, 6th Tennessee Cavalry and Pvt Sanders Brewer, Co. C, 1st Alabama Cavalry USV. Michael is a dual member with J. S. Durgin Camp #7, Dept. of New Hampshire.

Richard N. Case of Phoenix, AZ. Ancestor: Great-grandfather Henry Case, Co. F. 53rd Pennsylvania Volunteers.

John C. Lyons of Tempe, AZ. Ancestor: Great-great-grandfather Thomas Harter Oakley, Chaplain, Ohio Vols, 1st Reg. of Artillery. John is the grandson of Camp Brother John E. Oakley, Sr.

Welcome All!

Camp Donation:

Mr. John Hicks, a guest of Larry Fuller, was gracious enough to donate his complete 28-volume set of Time-Life Series on the Civil War.

The books are in excellent condition and will be a great asset to our Camp.

Thank you, John!

Camp "Show and Tell":

Thank you to all of our Brothers who brought their Civil War items to the meeting. This informal format worked out very well and was quite enjoyable.

GAR Memorial Markers

December 1, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. has been selected as the date and time for the GAR memorial marker placement ceremony at the graves of three early Phoenix pioneers. The location is the Pioneer Cemetery at 14th Ave and Jefferson, Phoenix. Two of the individuals to be honored, Major Ed Schwartz and C. H. Knapp, were very instrumental in the John W. Owen Post No. 5 and the other is Capt. John W. Owen, for whom the Phoenix post was named.

In addition to our Camp, the Daughters of Union Veterans have expressed a desire to attend along with reenactors from the 1st New Mexico and the Arizona Civil War Council.

More information will be available at our November meeting.



Camp Meeting:

Our next meeting will take place on Saturday November 17, 2007, at noon. Location: Coco's restaurant. Election and installation of Camp officers for the ensuing year will take place.

Junior Vice Commander John Conrad will give a presentation regarding the Appomattox Campaign. Don't miss it!

Please plan on attending and supporting your Camp.

First call for 2008 dues

Please mail your dues for 2008 to the Camp Secretary/Treasurer. (See page 6).

Proposed Picacho Peak Camp officer slate for 2008

The following proposed slate will be voted on during our November Camp meeting:

Camp Commander: Bob Hannan
 Senior –Vice-Commander: John Conrad
 Junior- Vice-Commander: **OPEN**
 Secretary/Treasurer: Jerry Bloom
 Camp Council (3 positions):
 David A. Swanson PCC
 Bob Young
OPEN

The following Brothers have volunteered to fill the following appointive positions:

Chaplain: Mark Haynes
 Camp Historian: Bob Hannan
 Eagle Scout Coordinator: John Conrad
 Signals Officer: Nathan Cups
 Color Bearer: Ron Jones

Here is a list of some of the other appointive Camp officer positions (taken from our Camp by-laws) that should be filled. Should you wish to volunteer *for any open office*, please contact any of the current officers listed on page 5.

Graves Registration Officer—The purpose of the this office is to locate, record, ascertain the condition of and bring to the attention of proper authorities the need for repair or replacement of grave markers/memorials of Civil War veterans buried in the jurisdiction of the Camp.

Patriotic Instructor—The purpose of this office is to educate and provide Brothers and the general public with information that will help to foster patriotism among the members and the populace in general.

Civil War Memorials Officer—The purpose of this office is to coordinate the locating, physical examination of, land recording of all memorials dedicated to Union Civil War soldiers and sailors (outside the care of the National Military Parks, the U.S. Departments of Defense, or Veteran’s Affairs) within their respective geographic boundaries. This includes all sizes of monuments (with or without sculpture), those with Civil War era cannon and inert ammunition, memorial fountains, memorial buildings, memorial windows (stained glass), historical markers, and even small plaques.

These three positions really help define a Camp; unfortunately, they continue to go unfilled. So volunteer and help get the Camp active in these important areas.



Chaplain’s Corner

By Mark Haynes, Camp Chaplain

The chaplain in the Union Army faced a variety of challenges. He was leaving his comfort zone of ministry to enter in to a way of life that he often had very little knowledge. The typical preacher had no idea what lay before him in the great Civil War and, to compound matters, the Army often did not know what to do with him. In fact, the army chaplaincy had no organization higher than the regimental level until 1920. Their pay would change frequently and there were some who did not want to see chaplains in the military at all. There was a learning process for both the chaplains and the men they endeavored to serve.

Baptist Chaplain William M. Haigh entered into his service with high hopes, but they were not initially shared by his new flock. As the members of the 36th Illinois Infantry looked down the road, they were excited to see a wagon coming that usually brought rations and coffee. Bad as they were, it was a break from the mundane conditions that five months of camping and inactivity had brought. Chaplain Haigh commented that the Boys in Blue were not happy to find that the wagon contained him, not rations! He had rehearsed a speech to introduce himself to his new congregation, but it all seemed pretty much a waste of time now! For 27 months, though, he faithfully labored among the troops and even earned a commendation from his regimental commander for his “active religious service” and his care for the sick and wounded.

General Sickles decided to have a vote concerning the new chaplain for the 73rd New York Volunteers. It was reported that 400 men voted for a Catholic priest. One hundred and fifty-four voted for any kind of Protestant minister and eleven for a Mormon elder. The other 335 stated “they could find their way to hell without the assistance of clergy.” I’ve met some congregations like that! This is just another example of the challenges facing a minister among the troops. Since the army book of regulations barely mentioned the place and duties of the chaplain, it was difficult to live in a world where everyone else had prescribed responsibilities. One chaplain commented that this situation required the chaplain to realize he could not succeed without both “moral energy and tact.”

Often, initial hostility faded away as the hour of battle drew near. It has been said that “there are no atheists in foxholes” and this was generally true in the Civil War. Many chaplains did not hesitate to participate in battle. The colonel of the 94th Illinois stated that their chaplain, Chaplain R. E. Guthrie, had “proved himself to be a soldier in every sense of the word. He was on the field throughout the whole engagement, encouraging the men . . . calling on them to trust in God, do their duty, and fire low.”

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Another soldier in the 15th Illinois stated, "our chaplain could not rest unless doing something for the good of the men."

Not all chaplains were greeted with hostility or suspicion. Amos S. Billingsley wrote about his reception as chaplain of the 101st Pennsylvania Volunteers in his great work *From the Flag to the Cross*. His first sermon to the troops was in a Methodist Church that seated 800. Billingsley reported that the crowd was overflowing and that hundreds had to be turned away from the service. He preached a sermon on the "advent of the Saviour and they listened with rapt attention." He reported that the meetings were always crowded and the men, including the officers, seemed to be "hungry for the Gospel."

The Union Chaplains of the Civil War were not entirely like the typical soldier in any given regiment. They had a duty to perform and often did so with a definite lack of support from their immediate authorities. They all, however, answered the call of a Higher Authority. It was this call that pushed them to do all they could to serve the soldiers and do it with honor and dignity. If future articles, I hope to share with you some of the sacrifices that these men made. It is reported that eleven chaplains were killed in action, 73 died non-combat deaths, and over 200 died inordinately young or within five years of their discharge. There was a price to be paid for our freedom. These chaplains paid the same price that many other soldiers paid. As Sons of Union Veterans, may we be found worthy of the calling of freedom as those who went before us.

Until next time, may the Lord bless and keep you.



The Grand Army of the Republic in Phoenix, Arizona

By David A. Swanson, PCC

Here are some of the articles, which I copied from the *Daily Phoenix Herald* (this was Phoenix's first newspaper and was the forerunner of the *Arizona Republican* and the *Arizona Republic*):

On February 25, 1881, the city of Phoenix was incorporated and four years later on Sept. 24, 1885, the John W. Owen Post No. 83, Department of California was formed.

The January 6, 1886, edition of the *Daily Phoenix Herald* lists its officers for the ensuing year.

January 6, 1886:

G. A. R. Installation

On last evening the officers of John W. Owen Post, 83 Grand Army of the Republic, were installed for the ensuing term as follows:

C. H. Knapp, P.C.; R.J. Cartwrite, J. V.; John King, Quartermaster; J. E. Wharton, Surgeon; L. A. Tiffany, Officer of the Day; H. B. Lighthizer, Chaplain; J. B. Creamer, Adjutant; John Mullin, Officer of the Guard; Anthony Hagerups, Sgt. Major.

There was a large attendance and a good time. The boys talk uniform very strongly and think that Memorial Day they will have a membership of at least fifty which is a lively growth for a young post.

Dr. J. M. Hurley a visiting brother from a Missouri post was present and participated in the ceremonies of the evening.

GAR MEMORIAL CEREMONY DECEMBER 2007

Two out of the three soldiers, whom we will honor with GAR memorial markers in December, are mentioned in this article.

The first, by reference, is John W. Owen for whom the Post was named. What significance did he have that a GAR post was named after him? Well, that's a good question.

As far as I can determine (with the help of our Camp Historian Bob Hannan), John W. Owen was born circa 1824 in Illinois and died on November 4, 1877, in the Arizona Territory [most likely Phoenix, since he was the ex- Maricopa County Treasurer and was buried in Phoenix].

He was a captain assigned to Company F of the 7th Regiment, California Infantry. The California Infantry was organized at large from October to December 1864, and attached to Dept. of the Pacific. The Regiment moved to District of Arizona June 1865, and was stationed at various posts, until June 28, 1866, when it was mustered out.

Captain Owen is buried in the Phoenix Pioneer Military Memorial Park and Cemetery and its informational brochure relates the following:

Owen, Captain John W—died 4 Nov 1877.

Although a GAR post was named after Captain Owen, his role in the local political scene may be considered somewhat dubious. As Maricopa County treasurer, he "performed the duties of his office rather loosely." After Owen's death, "his bondsmen [searched]...where he kept the money belonging to County Treasury . . .



The grave of Captain John W. Owen

The second soldier is C.H. Knapp, who is listed as the first Post Commander.

Charles H. Knapp was born in Honesdale, Pa, on Sept. 7, 1845.

During the Civil War he enlisted for three years in Company I, 11th Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was a corporal upon his discharge.

After the war he eventually made his way to Phoenix and arrived two months after Phoenix's incorporation in 1881. In May 1881, he was appointed as the deputy clerk of the District Court, a position he held until his death in November 1898.

Charles H. Knapp was very active in the community, the John W. Owen Post, and was a prominent member of the Phoenix Knights Templar Commandery.

The third soldier, Major Ed Schwartz isn't listed in this first news article, however; as an early Phoenix pioneer he was very prominent in the John W. Owen Post, the city of Phoenix, and the territory of Arizona, until his death in 1904.

In 1891, he was elected as the GAR Arizona Department Commander (Arizona became its own Department in 1888) and for you Arizona National Guard folks, on May 25, 1893, he was appointed as the Adjutant-General of the Territory of Arizona. He also ran a "curiosity" shop in Phoenix and was the recorder for the city for many years.

National Chaplain Scott of the Grand Army of the Republic preached his funeral sermon. (This was Winfield Scott, founder of the city of Scottsdale.)

His service during the Civil War was exceptional and the following article from the *Arizona Republican* will just give you a hint:

Tuesday, May 12, 1891:

Major Schwartz this morning received by express his Cavalry sabre, carried through the civil war by him, and at its close loaned to a lieutenant in the regular service, who has carried it ever since, winding up in the late Indian war in

the north. It comes back to Ed like an old friend of his youth, bright and true as steel.

A Sword of Shenandoah

A much prized relic of the war was returned to Recorder Schwartz this morning, being nothing less than the handsomely engraved cavalry sword that the members of his old company, "E," 4th N. Y. cavalry, presented to him at Culpepper, Virginia, in the winter of 1863.

The blade is of magnificent steel, picked out from the Arsenal at Washington, after repeated blows on an iron bar, by a swarthy artisan, had proved its edge to be without shadow of turning.

Through the rapid movements of General Sheridan up and down the Shenandoah, and at widely scattered points, on the front flanks and rear of Lee's army, in many a sudden charge, and in desperate assaults often; when the sun shone, or the drenching rain descended, and the plantation mud was deep; in despair and victory that sword had been the constant companion of Major Schwartz, as he felt impelled to maintain the soldierly endurance expected by gallant Phil from every member of his staff.

In 1866 the major loaned his sabre to Captain William Parnell, of the 1st U. S. Cavalry, and for the years following it has seen hard, exciting, hair-breadth escape service in many Indian wars. At length, Captain Parnell, ever a soldier, who came here from a sergeant-majorship in the British Dragoons, retired upon his laurels and returned the sword to its original owner.

The steel is still bright; its blood has been wiped off, and in its peaceful chamois covering it will lie, memorial of glorious days of battle that secured, let us hope, centuries of peace and prosperity to America and those who love her free institutions.

SUPPORT YOUR CAMP WITH YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION

Donations to Picacho Peak Camp #1, as part of the SUVCW, and by its own tax number, are tax deductible for 2007.

Please help yourself and your Camp with this tax deduction option!

Mail your contribution to our Secretary/Treasurer, Jerry Bloom, 4323 N. 28th Way, Phx, AZ 85016, or send it in with your reservation for the fall meeting (separate check required). Your receipt will be mailed to you.

2008 Dues

Please send in your 2008 dues at your earliest convenience. (See page 6.)

Each year we have dues stragglers and since all of our certified dues enforcement officers (and their staffs) are on temporary assignment throughout other regions of the world, we will have to hire rookies, and well . . . it just won't be a pretty picture.



Support your Camp and the Sons of Union
Veterans of the Civil War

Camp Officers for 2007

Commander:

Bob Hannan (480) 380-9153
E-mail: hsuvcw82az@aol.com

Sr. Vice-Commander:

Open

Jr. Vice-Commander:

John Conrad (480) 488-4703
E-mail: jrconrad@post.harvard.edu

Secretary/Treasurer:

Jerry Bloom (602) 955-3091
E-mail: marjerB@att.net

Camp Council:

Bob Young (602) 841-7037
E-mail: Bob.Young1@cox.net
David A. Swanson PCC (480) 515-2798
E-mail: DavidJan1854@cs.com

Chaplain:

Mark Haynes (928) 755-3714
E-mail: haynes9@frontiernet.net

Eagle Scout Coordinator:

John Conrad (480) 488-4703
E-mail: jrconrad@post.harvard.edu

Signals Officer:

Nathan Cups (623) 546-1662
E-mail: Ncups@cox.net

Color Bearer:

Ron Jones ((480) 834-8036

Newsletter Editor/Publisher

David A. Swanson PCC (see Camp Council)

