



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR PICACHO PEAK CAMP No. 1 ARIZONA CAMP-at-LARGE



CAMP NEWSLETTER



October 2009

Camp Web site: www.suvcwaz.org

Minutes of the August 22, 2009, Camp meeting:

Location:

Hometown Buffet

1312 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, Az

Camp Commander John Conrad called the meeting to order at noon. There were 26 Brothers and guests in attendance.

Brothers interested in running for office: Brother Conrad made a call for Brothers who wish to run for Camp office in November to contact him.

Chaplain's report: Camp Chaplain Mark Haynes related that Brother Bill Orr's wife Carol died, Brother Roland Rice's wife Charlotte is seriously ill and Brother Roy Goodale's health may keep him from attending meetings. Chaplain Haynes asked all Brothers to keep these Brothers and their wives in our prayers. (Note: Charlotte has since passed away.)

Graves Registration report: Camp Graves Registration Officer Jan Hubner reported that he is focusing on the Greenwood cemetery and has updated information on two headstones.

Speakers: Camp Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Bloom gave an interesting and humorous talk on the problems facing Abraham Lincoln during his early years in office.

Will Stoutamire, an ASU graduate student of history, gave a presentation regarding his study of Civil War monuments in Arizona. He found 10 such monuments located throughout the state in such places as Tombstone, Picacho Pass, Phoenix, and one in Dragoon Springs in Southeastern Arizona. This particular one was dedicated by the SCV in memory of three Confederate soldiers who were killed during an engagement with Indians. These are the only known Confederates to have died from injuries received in the territory during the War of the Rebellion.

Camp Patriotic Instructor, Dave Kampf, gave a slide show presentation about his travels as a re-enactor over the last 36 years.

The first slides showed his and his group's participation in the 1987 John Wayne movie *The Alamo*. He and his group portrayed both defenders and Mexican soldiers during the movie.

The second group of slides showed his participation in 1989 at the Appomattox re-enactment in Virginia.

The third showed his and Brother Dan Huskisson's travels to and throughout London during the "Royal Tournament."

All three speakers did an admirable job with their presentations—thank you!

Camp meeting notification

Our next meeting will be held at the Hometown Buffet on November 14, 2009, at noon. Our speaker will be Brother John Kohl who will give a presentation regarding his ancestor John Christian Kohls of Company C, 3rd Wisconsin Vol Inf.

We will also elect and install Camp officers for 2010 (see page 2).

The Hometown Buffet is located just south of McDowell on the west side of Scottsdale Rd in Scottsdale. The food is outstanding as is our meeting room. Be sure you tell the cashier that you are with Picacho Peak Camp to get your food discount.

In memory of Charlotte Rice, wife of Brother Rollin Rice.

Memorial services for Charlotte, who recently passed away, will take place at the Memorial Gardens (main chapel) Power & Broadway Roads, Mesa, AZ on Saturday, Oct 31, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. Charlotte and Rollin have attended many of our meetings over the years.

All Brothers are encouraged to attend the service.

Annual dues notification—first call

Stay active in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and your Camp. Please submit your annual dues (\$31) to our Camp Secretary Jerry Bloom. See page 5 for the form and his address. Don't make him hunt you down—hunting dogs cost your camp big bucks—and besides, those bites are painful!

Picacho Peak Camp officer election for 2010

The following Brothers are running for the office of Camp commander: Present Camp Commander John Conrad and Past Camp Commander Larry Fuller. The following Brothers are running unopposed for the remaining Camp offices as follows:

Senior –Vice-Commander: David A. Swanson

Junior- Vice-Commander: Zander Vessels

Secretary/Treasurer: Jerry Bloom

Camp Council (3 positions):

Bob Hannon

Mark Haynes

Rick Cups

The names of Camp Brothers appointed to fill “appointive officer” positions in the Camp will be presented at the meeting and listed in the January 2010 newsletter.

As a reminder: Officers in our Camp are elected/appointed and installed at each November meeting; therefore, once the ceremony is over (not the meeting), the newly elected/appointed officers take charge of the Camp.

OK, lets break out those member badges and member cards

The Banner Summer 2009, National Counselor Opinions:

“Opinion No. 2—Camp Meeting Requirements (November 7, 2008)

What is required to conduct an official camp meeting? According to the C&R regular and special meetings of Camps shall be held as provided by the respective By-laws. A member attending a meeting needs two things: (1) His membership card and (2) His membership badge worn upon the left breast . . .”

Everybody who has joined our Camp in the last few years has purchased a membership badge through his initiation fee. If you joined prior to this and have not purchased a membership badge you can do so on line at www.suvcw.org. If you do not have access to a computer look at the official supply order list on page 12 of the Summer 2009 issue of *The Banner*.

Lets wear our badges at all of our meetings!

Camp Activities

Brother Jan Huber set up an SUVCW display at the Sun City West Library that remained there until August 28. The contents are described as follows:

On top of case: Library notices about displays; copies of the SUVCW brochures obtained from national headquarters; free American Heritage CD's provided by the SAR for schoolteachers and a copy of *The Banner*.

On the shelf inside the case: 3 pages describing the history and organization of the SUVCW with information about our AZ Camp, a page on the National Graves Registration project, a SUVCW badge, and 2 Minnie balls.

On the bottom of the case: his CW cap, a package of lucifers, a CW toothbrush; pair of brogans, CW mess kit, CW ID badge, canteen, haversack, waist belt with percussion cap box, bayonet in scabbard, cartridge box, and CW wallet.



Historical Sketch of the John W. Owens Post No. 5, Phoenix, Az

By David A. Swanson PCC

In the last three newsletters I have published newspaper articles of the John W. Owens Post No. 5 Phoenix, Az, covering the time period from its inception in September 1885 through May 31, 1887. These articles not only give a historical sketch of the Post but also that of the city of Phoenix, both as a territory and a state.

The following is a continuation of the articles originally printed the *Daily Phoenix Herald*.

Friday, June 17, 1887:

In September next the G.A.R. will hold its annual National Convention in St. Louis at which will be

gathered many, many thousands of people from all over the United States and this fact is a matter that should not be overlooked by the Maricopa Immigration Union. We should have a good showing of the products of this valley. We should send there, three or four earnest capable men who are sufficiently liberal to work for the interests of Maricopa County in particular and the Territory in general. We should have there a vast quantity of carefully selected and illustrated information concerning this valley and County that will set forth our advantages as they are and in the best light. Let our Immigration Union turn their entire attention to that matter, now till September and they at that time be able to do any amount of advertising in a week that under other circumstances take years to accomplish.

[This was the GAR's 21st National Encampment. At this time the GAR had 372,600 members and approximately 40,000 attended the event. All the hotels were filled; people opened their houses and tent cities were set up to house the veterans attending. GAR PCinC John Logan has passed away the preceding December 26th. *The Banner*, Spring 2007.]

August 4, 1887:

G.A.R. Attention

John W. Owens, Post #83, will meet this evening in regular session in Masonic Hall. Junior Vice Commander Allen T. Bird, Department of California, is expected to be present and a full attendance is desired.

Geo. F. Coats,
Post Commander

Saturday, August 13, 1887:

G.A.R. Attention

There will be a special meeting of J. W. Owens Post 83, G.A.R. on Wednesday evening, August 17, 1887, at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of taking such action as may be deemed necessary to co-operate with the citizens in advancing the interests of the valley at the St. Louis National Encampment.

Geo. F. Coats, Post Commander
W. M. Breckenridge, Adjutant

Wednesday, August 17, 1887:

The G.A.R. boys meet this evening to consider the choice of some one to present the claims of the valley at the National Encampment at St. Louis next month. Mr. Allen T. bird, Vice Commander of this Department, Capt W. A. Hancock and Judge J. B. Lighthizer are all mentioned and it is hoped that means will be provided to send at least two of them in the special interests of the community. The Hon. Geo. F. Coats, Post Commander, is going but he intends going on his own and does not care to be encumbered with special outside business further than his duties as one of a general Committeeman require. There is one thing very apparent, which is that we cannot afford to let the opportunity go by without putting forth a special endeavor as a community. It is one of the moments of circumstance which taken at the right moment leads on to victory.

Thursday, August 18, 1887:

A Representative for St. Louis

Contrary to the general expectation and the acknowledged privilege of the Grand Army boys, last evening, they, after careful consideration, concluded not to select a representative of the interests of the valley at St. Louis on their own account, but appointed a committee composed of Messrs. J. B. Cramer, S. C.. Symonds, Col. Wm. Christy, Judge H. B. Lighthizer and Major Schwartz to confer with the Immigration Union in the matter and also to consult with the Commissioner of Immigration of the Territory, who had sent in a communication respecting the distribution by the representative, at St. Louis, of printed matter gotten up in his office. The Immigration Union will hold an early meeting to confer with the committee of the G.A.R. Post.

The event to which the representative of the community is to be sent is purely a Grand Army affair, and Grand Army men would have vastly more influence than anybody else we can send; indeed there is nobody else that would care to be sent on such occasion, so that the matter is not going to be hard to settle.

The probabilities are that a few citizens will have to bear the most of the expenses anyway and the general subscribers to such a fund will only want a man who can have influence and have the ear of the Grand Army people.

Stay tuned for dispatches from St. Louis in our next newsletter.

Note: John W. Owens Post is still No 83 and not No. 5. That is because at this time it is still part of the Department of California.



Trivial vice presidential information

By David A. Swanson PCC

OK, all of you history professors. We all know that Democrat Andrew Johnson was Republican Lincoln's vice-president. But, when Johnson became president (1865-1869) who was his VP? Was it:

1. John C. Fremont
2. Horace Greeley
3. Hannibal Hamlin
4. None of the above

If you answered "none of the above" you were quite correct. There was no vice president appointed during his term of office. In fact none of the following had vice presidents appointed during their term of office (all of them were vice presidents who became president after the in-office death of the elected president):

President John Tyler (Whig) 1841-1845, successor to William Henry Harrison;

President Millard Fillmore (Whig) 1850-1853, successor to Zachary Taylor;

President Chester A. Arthur (Republican) 1881-1885, successor to James A. Garfield.

Now, two last points: Upon the death of a president, wasn't there a Constitutional mandate for the vice president to automatically take the presidential office? And once he takes the presidency wasn't he mandated to appoint a vice president? Don't hang your hat on Article II of the Constitution. It took a special Constitutional Amendment to clarify these—at times—very contentious issues. Thus you have the Twenty-fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States adopted in 1967.

Seven months into the Civil War

Here is some interesting information all of which occurred within the first seven months of the Civil War.

The Wheeling Convention adopted an "ordinance of dismemberment" on August 20, 1861, in an attempt to break away from which Confederate state?

1. Mississippi
2. Delaware
3. Virginia
4. Kansas

Answer: Since neither Delaware nor Kansas were in the Confederacy and Mississippi retained its state boundary throughout the war, it must be Virginia. Many in the western part of that state

were not all that thrilled when one night they went to bed in the United States and then without leaving it woke up the next morning in what its organizers hoped would be foreign country.

The "dismemberment" had to be ratified by referendum and then delegates would have to be elected to this new state's constitutional convention.

What was the name of this proposed state?

1. Nevada
2. Kanawha
3. West Virginia
4. New Mexico

Answer: The original name of this future state of West Virginia was Kanawha, named after the river and valley of the same name. (It eventually became a state on June 20, 1863).

Robert S. Garnett was the first Civil War general killed during the war on July 13, 1861, during the action at Corrick Ford, Virginia. Was he Confederate or Union?

Answer: Confederate.

During the same campaign General Rosecrans' regiments were victorious (no thanks to this unnamed Union general) who weeks earlier arrived to take personal command, but since he was not directly at the scene and judging by the sound of battle thought Rosecrans was involved in a losing proposition, refused to supply additional troops (Rosecrans won anyway).

Who was this general? Answer: It was the same general who would consistently display timidity in battle and who had a knack for consistently overestimating the enemy's strength; however, if the battle outcome were favorable, regardless of his action or inaction, he would take all the credit—as he did in this one. And so starts the Civil War stage presence of "Little Napoleon", General Geo. McClellan

In September 1861 this general was sent to western Virginia and after about a three week campaign gave up and pulled his forces out (and quite frankly, with good reason).

The *Richmond Examiner* wrote that he was "outwitted, outmaneuvered and outgeneraled." Not a good political start for the career of another actor upon the stage of the Civil War, General Robert E. Lee.

**WANTED: EAGLE SCOUT
COORDINATOR FOR 2010**

Our Camp is looking for a Brother to fill the Eagle Scout Coordinator position for our Camp. Prior Eagle Scouting experience is helpful but certainly *not* a requirement.

Please contact Camp Commander John Conrad for details.

**SUPPORT YOUR CAMP WITH
YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE
DONATION**

Donations to Picacho Peak Camp No. 1, as part of the SUVCW, and by its own tax number, are tax deductible for 2009.

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

See the annual dues form below.

Your receipt will be mailed to you.

Address Change

Brothers, if you change your address, *e-mail address*, or phone number, please advise our Camp Secretary Jerry Bloom at your earliest convenience. This will ensure that you get the National publication *The Banner*, our Camp newsletter, and additionally, this will enable us to contact you.

ANNUAL DUES

Name _____

Dues for calendar year 2010 are \$31.00

Dues enclosed \$ _____

Junior dues for calendar year 2010 are \$10.00

Junior Dues \$ _____

Tax deductible contribution (please *submit a separate check*) \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please complete the annual dues form with your check made payable to Picacho Peak Camp No.1 SUVCW and mail it to:

Jerry Bloom, Camp Secretary/Treasurer
4323 N. 28th Way
Phoenix, Arizona 85016

Camp Officers for 2009

Commander:

John Conrad (602) 750-0938

E-mail: jrconrad@post.harvard.edu

Senior. Vice-Commander:

David A. Swanson PCC (480) 515-2798

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Junior. Vice-Commander:

Zander Vessels (480) 488-4703

E-mail: steelpan87@cox.net

Secretary/Treasurer:

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Camp Council:

Bob Young (602) 841-7037

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Rick Cups (602) 942-0935

E-mail: rcups@psualum.com

Bob Hannan (480) 380-9153

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Chaplain:

Mark Haynes (928) 755-3714

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Patriotic Instructor:

Dave Kampf (602) 978-0951

Eagle Scout Coordinator:

John Conrad (480) 488-4703 Camp Commander

Signals Officer:

Nathan Cups (623) 546-1662

E-mail: nathan@tekassistance.com

Graves Registration

Jan Huber: (623) 975-4805

E-mail: janhuber1933@yahoo.com

Civil War Memorials Officer:

David Swanson PCC, Senior Vice-Commander

Historian:

Bob Hannan PCC (480) 380-9153 Camp Council

Color Bearer:

Ron Jones ((480) 834-8036

Guard:

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First Class Mail



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