



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

PICACHO PEAK CAMP No. 1

ARIZONA CAMP-at-LARGE



CAMP NEWSLETTER



April 2010

Camp Web site: www.suvcwaz.org

Minutes of the February 20, 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 18 Brothers and guests in attendance.

New Camp Brother: Robert Weinheimer was initiated into our Camp and the SUVCW.

Brother Weinheimer's ancestor is his Great-grandfather Francis H. Hull, who served in the 9th New York State Cavalry.

Welcome Brother Weinheimer!

Picacho Peak State Park closure: After giving the Treasurer's Report, Brother Jerry Bloom talked about the Southwest Civil War reenactment that is scheduled to take place at Picacho Peak State Park on March 13-14, 2010.

Our Camp will have a booth at the event on Saturday the 13th; however, the park mandates that all vendors have liability insurance and since we don't Brother Bloom will check into this. The Camp voted to spend no more than \$250 for this endeavor and our participation will depend on the outcome. The booth is for recruitment and will be manned by Brothers Wanzel and Bloom.

Brother John Wanzel talked about the park's closure and a discussion followed about the fate of the actual site of the Battle (skirmish) of Picacho Pass since the actual battle site is not in the park. Brother Al Harrica brought up the Civil War Presentation Trust and its efforts nationwide to save battlefields. Camp Commander John Conrad will contact the Trust (the Picacho Pass site is on its list of 15 at risk Civil War sites) to ascertain what assistance the Trust can give should our Camp spearhead a movement to save the site.

Graves Registration report: Commander Conrad gave the report in the absence of Brother Jan Huber (who had previously sent him a copy). The report is contained in the Camp Activities section of the newsletter.

Department news: Recently, Commander Conrad had been contacted by Alan E. Peterson PDC of the Department of California and Pacific. Brother Peterson is a member of the William B. Keith Camp No. 12 in Nevada (Nevada is part of the Department of California and Pacific). Both Camps in Nevada are exploring the possibility of breaking away from the California Department and creating a new Department which possibly could include Arizona.

Much discussion ensued regarding our Camp and the proposed new Department (assuming that Nevada is successful in its endeavor—it is just now in the very early stages of exploring the possibility of breaking away).

The members present at our Camp meeting voted to “authorize and direct our Camp officers to continue discussions with Nevada and to report to our membership on the benefits and obligations of joining a Department.” This in no way obligates our Camp to do anything more than remain a Camp-at-Large. Assuming that Nevada is successful, our Camp will vote on whether to stay a Camp-at-Large or join the new Department.

Speaker for our May 15 Camp meeting

Standby for a visit from General Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain!

Rev. Bob McFarlane will give his presentation on one of the most famous officers of the Civil War.

Don't miss this meeting!

Camp website

Please check out our Camp website,

www.suvcwaz.org

If you have any ancestor pictures or ancestor information you would like to see on it, please send the information to our Camp Signals Officer Will Vessels at wcvessels@cox.net or to Camp Commander John Conrad at jrconrad@post.harvard.edu

Camp meeting dates for 2010

OK, get your calendars out and start marking them with our 2010 meeting schedule.

All meetings will start at noon at the Hometown Buffet, 1312 N. Scottsdale Rd, Scottsdale, Az on the following dates (the third Saturday of each month)

May 15

August 21

November 20

The food is great, the price is great and the company is great. Come to our meetings and get (or keep) active in our Camp.

Camp Activities

Camp Graves Registration Officer Jan Huber provided the following report:

- November 20, 2009: School Children Day at the Pioneer Living History Museum – I set up a Taps display and was in my Civil War uniform
- November 22, 2009: Participated in the “Brawl in the Fall” Civil War reenactment at the Pioneer Living History Museum. I served as a bugler in the morning battle and an Infantry rifleman in the afternoon battle.
- December 1, 2009: attended the Sun City Civil War Roundtable meeting.
- January 29, 2010: resumed walking survey at Greenwood Memory Lawn in Phoenix.
- Tuesday, February 2, 2010: attended Sun City Civil War Roundtable meeting.
- February 11, 2010: At Pioneer & Military Memorial Park in Phoenix for Civil War soldier research. At the Greenwood Memory Lawn in Phoenix – continued walking survey.
- Graves Registrations done since November 15, 2009:

Union Cemetery, Fayette County, IN: 12 initial registrations; 2 updates to previous registrations. This is my home county which I visit once a year.
Keffer Cemetery, Union County, IN: 4 initial registrations

Greenwood Memory Lawn, Phoenix, AZ: 6 initial registrations; 1 update

While doing the walking survey of Greenwood Memory Lawn, I noticed that many headstones are inscribed with birth dates that indicate possible Civil War service; but, nothing else on the headstone that gives positive evidence. I decided that I should make a record of these and see if I can confirm Civil War service by searching websites such as Ancestry.com. So far, I have a list of 95 such men. For example, I may see a headstone that is inscribed: John D. Brown, 1841 – 1908. I have to be careful. I may find a John D. Brown in Ancestry.com who enlisted in the 9th Illinois Volunteer Infantry on August 30, 1862; but, that does not necessarily mean that he is the John D. Brown buried in Greenwood Memory Lawn. But, I really hit the jackpot on the first such person I investigated. I found a headstone in Greenwood that is inscribed: Henry C. Orme, 1846 – 1921. I found a Henry C. Orme in Ancestry.com who was a Confederate in a Virginia Cavalry regiment. Almost by accident, I discovered that I had already registered a Lindley Hogue Orme, a Confederate who also served in a Virginia Cavalry regiment. He is buried in the Pioneer & Military Memorial Park in Phoenix. I then turned to census records in Ancestry.com and found that Henry Crabbe Orme and Lindley Hogue Orme were brothers. They had a sister, Hallie Orme Thomas, and you guessed it, she is the person that the local Hallie Orme Thomas Children of the American Revolution Chapter is named after.

Jan D. Huber
Graves Registration Officer

Wildfire School presentation:

On Wednesday, January 27, 2010, Brother David Swanson, representing our Camp, gave a presentation on the Civil War to several third grade classes (including his granddaughter's) at the Wildfire Elementary School in northeast Phoenix.

Brother Swanson talked about his eight Civil War ancestors and then described a typical Union Civil War soldier's uniform, accouterments and the 1861 Springfield rifle. He entertained many questions including: “Were you in the Civil War?”



Granddaughter Maddie Suman on left with other classmates

Society Invites Descendants Who Have Camp Curtin Ties

HARRISBURG, Pa.—The Camp Curtin Historical Society of Harrisburg has formed a new Civil War descendant organization, the Camp Curtin Descendant Brigade.

Membership is open to men, women and children 12 or older who are direct or collateral descendants of a soldier who were at Camp Curtin from April 18, 1861, to Nov. 11, 1865.

More than 300,000 men passed through Camp Curtin during its four years of operation, making it the largest Federal camp during the Civil War.

Harrisburg's location on major railroad lines running east and west and north and south made it the ideal location for moving men and supplies to the armies in the field. In addition to Pennsylvania regiments, troops from Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Wisconsin and the Regular Army passed through Camp Curtin's gates.

Descendants of civilians who worked or volunteered at Camp Curtin, such as those who were members of the Ladies Union Relief Association of Harrisburg, are also eligible for membership.

The initial application fee is \$25. Accepted members will receive a membership medal, certificate and a one-year membership in the society. Subsequent dues will be \$15 per year.

For information and an application form, write to CCDB, P.O. Box 5601, Harrisburg, PA 17110 or email campcurtin1861@aol.com.



Who was Edward Everett?

Most of us know that Edward Everett was the keynote speaker at the dedication of the Gettysburg battlefield on Thursday, November 19, 1863, and that Lincoln had been invited simply to give a few appropriate remarks, but who was Edward Everett?

Who indeed! As Allan Nevins writes in *ORDEAL OF THE UNION* Volume I page 84-85:

“For all the high offices that Edward Everett held—Senator, Governor, president of Harvard, Secretary of State—he is now remembered chiefly as the man who also spoke when Lincoln appeared at Gettysburg! Yet, he was the imposing Ciceronian figure of his day. Many a listener . . . had his enthusiasm fired by ‘his full-blown, high-colored, double-flowered periods, the rich, resonant, grave, far-reaching music of his voice.’ His oration on Washington was delivered 129 times before Fort Sumter, often before auditories packed from floor to dome. When he visited New York in 1856, thousands were turned away from the Academy of Music; when he went to Richmond, two thousand of the best citizens crowded the capitol; at Charleston a gathering of equal size crammed Institute Hall . . . It was hard to believe, said the *National Intelligencer* that the staid man of sixty-five who slowly ascended the platform was the impassioned, vivacious figure, now humorous, now pathetic, who soon swayed every hearer.

“. . . The most distinguished people flocked to hear him. ‘A flowing stream of convincing wisdom,’ wrote one Richmond hearer audience, a Charlestonian assured John P. Kennedy, was stirred ‘to the point of rapture.’ He added that Everett’s sentiments had ‘given much strength to the Union in this quarter,’ . . . ‘Learning, and taste, and genius, and profound and faithful meditation, with illustrations from all the arts and sciences, and travel and history, blend their wealth to make up the grand whole . . .’”



Edward Everett

(Edward Everett—continued)

And History.com has something to say about this literary genius:

“Everett was 69 years old in November 1863, had recently suffered a stroke, and had a serious bladder problem. He was also about to give a two-hour address, one that he’d been working on for several weeks, and hoped to recite from memory (as was his habit).”



Civil War in the Southwest 2010, Picacho Peak State Park

On March 13th and 14th battle reenactments of Valverde, Glorietta Pass, and Picacho Pass took place to a very large spectator crowd at Picacho Peak State Park. This could very well be the last reenactment at the park, since it is in all probability closing due to our state’s sour economy.

Our Camp had a booth at the park manned by Brothers Jerry Bloom and John Wanzel. These two are to be congratulated for the fine displays they had and for their efforts.



Brothers John Wanzel & Jerry Bloom



Following are various pictures of the event



Brother Sergeant Dave Kampf & Co.



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

By David A. Swanson PCC

The historical sketch of the John W. Owens Post No. 5 will be continued in our next newsletter.

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.

CAMP MEETING

Plan on attending our next Camp meeting on Saturday May 15 where you will meet and listen to General Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain!



Past Camp Commanders

Larry Fuller 1995-2003
David A. Swanson 2003-2006
Robert Hannon 2006-2008



Camp Officers for 2010

Commander:

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