



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

PICACHO PEAK CAMP No. 1

ARIZONA CAMP-at-LARGE



CAMP NEWSLETTER



April 2013

Camp Web site: suvchwaz.org

Minutes of the February 9, 2013 Camp meeting

Location:

J J North's Country Buffet

1312 N. Scottsdale Rd.,

Scottsdale, Az

Camp Commander David A. Swanson called the meeting to order at 12: 00 p.m. We had 25 Brothers and guests in attendance.

Officer reports:

Camp Commander David Swanson discussed the Ambrose Skinner headstone dedication service (see page 3) and the outstanding efforts of our Graves Registration Officer Jan Huber in the entire project. Br. Jan was given a certificate of commendation from our Camp for his efforts.



Br. Jan Huber (L) receiving a certificate of Commendation from CC David Swanson

Junior Vice Commander Jim Heller discussed the upcoming veterans assistance program Arizona StandDown which will take place at the Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Phoenix from March 8-10, 2013 and collected clothing items and money for the program. Br. Jim is our Camp liaison with the organization. Brothers were encouraged to get involved with the program by volunteering time or donating

items. Br. Jim can be contacted at: 623-975-4300 or jmh7116@aol.com

Br. Jim also talked about the Missing in America Project that our Camp is also involved in. What is the MIAP? Created in 2007 its purpose is to locate, identify, and inter the unclaimed cremated remains of American veterans through the joint efforts of private, state and federal organizations.

Notice was given as to when the ceremony would occur at the Veterans Cemetery in Phoenix. We, along with the SAR, DAR and other fraternal and veterans groups, would then line the driveway as the remains are brought in for the noon service.

Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Bloom advised that we have 84% of our Brothers who have sent in their 2013 dues to date and discussed the upcoming reenactment of the Picacho Pass skirmish and the New Mexico battles of Glorieta and Val Verde on March 16 & 17.

Eagle Scout Coordinator Dennis Lamb indicated to Cmdr Swanson earlier that he has processed four certificates to date.

Graves Registration Officer Jan Huber reported that since August 14, 2012 the date of his last report, that he has completed six grave registrations. All were Union soldiers, five were new initial registrations, and one was an update: three were in Greenwood Memory Lawn in Phx; one in Clarkdale, AZ; and two in Ohio cemeteries.

On December 29, 2012 he gave a program on the National Graves Registration project to the Margaret Warner Wood Tent No. 1 DUVCW and they will help him with a survey of a cemetery in Mesa, AZ.

On January 17, 2013 he finished the walking survey of the Greenwood Memory Lawn in Phx and will start next in the Glendale Memorial Park Cemetery.

Total registration activities since his appointment: 251; 164 new initial grave registrations and 87 updates.

New Camp Brother

David R. Palmateer of Payson, Arizona is our newest Brother. David's ancestor is his great-great-great grandfather Amos Mosher, Co C, 22nd New York Cavalry. Br. David wore an authentic cavalry uniform that he put together over the years and brought and displayed many SUVCW medals from the 1930's that belonged to his grandfather who was a member of the General Upton Camp No. 118 in Batavia, NY.

Welcome to our Camp Brother David!



Brother David Palmateer (R) receiving his member certificate from Camp Commander David Swanson.



Rich Dahl



Confederate currency

Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker, Rich Dahl, gave an outstanding presentation regarding Confederate currency and displayed his extensive collection of bills. Rich went into very interesting detail regarding the printing of the various Confederate concurrencies and it was obvious to those attending our meeting that his knowledge of the topic was broad and his presentation top notch.

Rich also gave out spent bullets found on various battlefields in Virginia

Job very well done Rich!



Rich Dahl receiving certificate of appreciation From CC David Swanson

Civil War and Buffalo Soldier Ambrose Skinner headstone dedication ceremony



BLACK HISTORY MONTH



HONORED, AT LAST

Military headstone is added to grave of Buffalo Soldier

By Caitlin McGlade
The Republic Journal Staff

Jan Huber knows of every Union veteran from the Civil War buried at Pioneer and Military Memorial Park. He has walked up and down every aisle at Greenwood Memory Lawn.

At the two Phoenix cemeteries, he looks for crumbling headstones to replace with new ones. He looks for Civil War-era private stones without veteran designation and orders military stones if his research reveals the men served.

But he hasn't come across a case like Ambrose Skinner's.

Skinner was buried without a marker. But about 90 years later, Huber's organization, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, secured a military headstone from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

See VETERAN, Page B4



ABOVE: Edward Reece, a member of Buffalo Soldiers of the Arizona Territory, salutes the headstone of Ambrose Skinner. TOP: Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett stands with Skinner's great-granddaughter Diana McClinnon at the dedication ceremony Saturday. PHOTOS BY CAITLIN MCGLADE FOR THE REPUBLIC

On Saturday, February 2, 2013 the headstone dedication ceremony for Private Ambrose Skinner at the Greenwood Memory Lawn Cemetery was a great success. Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett, pictured above with Skinner's great-granddaughter Diana McClinnon, presented a certificate to her from the State of Arizona. Also pictured in the background is Brother Jan Huber. As stated in the previous newsletter, none of this would have happened except for Brother Huber's persistence.

The story was headline news in the Valley & State section of the *Arizona Republic* on February 3, 2013 and was broadcast on KPHO Channel 5 television news.

The ceremony was attended by the members of our Camp, Daughters from the Margaret Warner Wood Tent No. 1, members of the Buffalo Soldiers and the general public.

We used the adapted version of the GAR 1917 headstone dedication service which worked out extremely well.

The complete history of Ambrose Skinner and other detailed information is contained in the January 2013 newsletter.



Headstone and grave of Pvt Ambrose Skinner



Honor Guard (Camp Brother David Kampf—left) and members of the Arizona Civil War Council



Camp Commander David Swanson (L) thanking Secretary of State Ken Bennett for his attendance



Camp Commander Swanson addressing the audience



Verna Maleski, Tent President of Margaret Warner Wood, Tent No. 1 DUVCW addressing the audience



Buffalo Soldiers of the Territory of Arizona Commander Fred Marable addressing the audience



Some of the Camp Brothers



Diana McClinnon addressing the audience



Ceremonial guards L-R Brother David Kampf & Buffalo Soldier Commander Fred Marable



Brother Jan Huber (Ceremony Chaplain)



Brother Jan Huber bugling "Taps"



L-R Camp Commander David Swanson
Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett,
Tent President Verna Maleski

Thank you to all of the Brothers and Sisters who attended this fine event!



New Camp Junior member

Chet D. Zoeteman of Tucson is our newest Junior member. Chet's Civil War Ancestor is his great-great-great grandfather, Archibald W. Goodman, Co E., 2nd Regiment Tennessee Mounted Infantry.

Welcome to our Camp Chet!

Arizona StandDown

The Arizona StandDown is this state's largest singular outreach event for homeless veterans and took place on March 8-10, 2013 at the Veterans' Memorial Coliseum in Phoenix, where approximately 1500 veterans were helped in various ways. Fulfilling one of the objects of our Order's Constitution and Regulations: "to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war . . ."

Words in action thanks to Junior Vice Commander—and Camp coordinator for this annual event, Jim Heller, Senior Vice Commander John Conrad, his daughter Rachel, and Camp Color Bearer Ron Jones for volunteering their time at the Memorial Coliseum on March 8 & 9, 2013. Your participation was very meaningful to the veterans that you helped!

And also a round of thanks to the generous donations of our Camp Brothers, \$90 was donated to the Arizona StandDown!

Missing in American Project

On February 22, 2013 Camp Brothers David Swanson, H.G. Smith, Bob Young, and Don Strachota represented our Camp during the Missing in America ceremony at the Veterans cemetery in Phoenix. Some 29 urns (one was 58 years old) containing the remains of cremated, unclaimed veterans were brought to the cemetery and a fitting memorial service followed. Some of the guest speakers were; Rick Romley, Former Maricopa County Attorney and member of the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society; Marshall Trimble, Arizona State Historian and member of the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame; Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett (who is quite the singer/guitarist) and many others.



(L-R) Brothers H.G. Smith, Don Strachota and David Swanson

Civil War in the Southwest

On March 16, 2013 Brother Tim Iliff and his wife Linda represented our Camp at Picacho Peak State Park during the annual Civil War in the Southwest battle reenactments. They manned a table and provided information to many visitors, twenty of which wanted information regarding their ancestry, the SUVCW and our Camp.

Thanks for taking the time and energy to represent your Camp!



Brother Tim Iliff and wife Linda



Memorial Day for 2013

All Brothers are requested to attend Memorial Day observances, which are most convenient to them, held at the various cemeteries statewide.

For those Brothers in the Phoenix area, please join your Camp Brothers in attending the ceremony at the Phoenix Pioneer and Military Memorial Park, 14th Avenue and Jefferson, on May 27, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

We will have a booth at the event and Camp Commander Swanson will recite the Gettysburg Address and provide a little history at the same time.



VA Cemeteries Update 07: We've all been taught the consequences of the U.S. Civil War since childhood. How it led to the emancipation of slaves, solidified state and federal rights, and further made the case for women's suffrage. But the unprecedented carnage of the war also transformed the attitude of how the nation honors its military dead; a tradition now indelible to the American spirit. That was the premise behind a talk given by Harvard University President Dr. Drew Faust at VA central office in Washington today. Through her research, Dr. Faust found that the Civil War fundamentally changed the way our country

handled death on the battlefield. Both the Union and Confederacy were ill equipped to bury fallen troops in a dignified manner, and death notifications sent to families were informal and happenstance, if they happened at all. Unmarked and hasty graves littered fields and farms near battlefields where hundreds of thousands of men struggled and died. Humanitarian ideas and the dignity of the human spirit were transformed in the crucible of war, and an emerging sense of responsibility for our war dead led to drastic shift in government obligations.

Edmund Whitman, an Army officer and a quartermaster during the Civil war, led the effort. Whitman inspected cemeteries and battlefields across the south from 1865-1869, examined informal records, and conducted interviews to find out locations of fallen troops. He oversaw the reinterment of over 100,000 Union soldiers. About 300,000 were reburied in 74 national cemeteries, which now fall under the purview of the National Park Service. As Dr. Faust noted, it was Whitman's mission to put human faces and human cost to the war, and to recognize the sacrifices of so many of our own. His work helped to establish the notion that those who fell in battle are to be honored, and it's our duty as citizens to remember and cherish that. It's difficult to fathom the damage of the war. An estimated 600,000 soldiers from both sides were killed; if the war were fought today with the same casualty rate, six million would lay dead. But it's also hard to imagine a time when the care of our slain troops was an afterthought—an annoyance to both troops in the field and folks in the halls of government. It's now one of VA's most sacred obligations, but it took a war of staggering magnitude for our nation to realize it had a duty to honor the dead as much as they honored us. For a video on VA's Sacred Trust which covers many details of the National Cemetery Administration and its service to our nations Veterans plus how burials are conducted refer to

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=81ESNHb9_YQ.

To determine eligibility for burial refer to the attachment to this Bulletin title, "**National Cemetery Burial Eligibility**" or

http://www.cem.va.gov/CEM/pdf/IS1_Jan_2011.pdf.

[Source: VAntage Point Alex Horton article 16 Apr 2012 ++]

Copied from ROA bulletin 5/12/12



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

By David A. Swanson

This column will be continued in the next newsletter.



Civil War Soldier and Indian Wars Medal of Honor recipient buried in Greenwood Memory Lawn Cemetery

Graves Registration Officer Jan Huber has some very interesting information regarding Andrew J. Weaher; however, due to space limitations the report will be contained in the next exciting issue of our Camp newsletter—don't miss it!



May 11, 2013 Camp meeting

Just a reminder, our next Camp meeting will take place on Saturday, May 11, 2013, at noon at J J North's Country Buffet, 1312 N. Scottsdale, Rd., Scottsdale

Our Camp meetings take place on the second Saturday at noon on the following months: February, May, August, and November.

Our speaker for the May meeting will be Brother Jan Huber who will give a presentation regarding Oliver P. Morton, Indiana Civil War governor. This will be a most interesting talk and one not to miss!

Address Change

Brothers, if you change your address, *e-mail address* or phone number please advise our Camp Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Bloom at your earliest convenience.

This will ensure that you get *The Banner*, our Camp newsletter, and additionally this will enable us to contact you.

Past Camp Commanders



- Larry Fuller 1995-2003
- David A. Swanson 2003-2006
- Robert Hannon 2006-2008
- John R. Conrad 2008-2010
- David A. Swanson 2010-2012



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