



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR PICACHO PEAK CAMP No. 1 DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTHWEST



CAMP NEWSLETTER



To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union 1861 to 1865

April 2016

Camp Web site: suvcwaz-camp1.org

Minutes of the February 13, 2016, Camp meeting

Location:
Deer Valley Airport Restaurant
702 W. Deer Valley Rd.
Phoenix, Az.

The regular quarterly meeting of Picacho Peak Camp No. 1 and its Auxiliary was held at noon on February 13, 2016, at the Deer Valley Airport Restaurant. Thirty Brothers, Sisters and guests were in attendance. The meeting was led by Camp Commander Jerry Bloom.

Camp officer reports:

JROTC Coordinator Bob Archibald gave a report regarding the program and the schools which are part of it as follows:

“SUVCW JROTC certificates and medals have been received and will be forwarded to seven area high schools. We will have Chapter members making presentations for other organizations and will also do the honor for us at Deer Valley, Independence, Greenway, Glendale and Red Mountain high schools. In addition, awards are being sent to two small outlying schools at Ray and Globe which do not see as many honors given from National Organizations.

We ask that Chapter members come forward to nominate schools for future awards and to make the presentations. The presentation itself is a short and simple act but you will find that it is a very rewarding experience to be a part of the ceremonies.”

Bob also discussed the various funding options available for the proposed monument to the California Column in the Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza in Phoenix.

Secretary/Treasurer David Swanson gave a short report on the camp finances which are in good shape and a report about membership dues. We are missing

2016 dues from a total of four Brothers and they will be contacted. (Update: all but one paid their dues.)

He also gave a report on pending state legislation regarding the Union Civil War Memorial for the California Column contained in Senate Bill 1036 sponsored by State Senator Sylvia Allen. Other than the introduction of the bill nothing at this point has been done but it is early in the legislative process.

Department of the Southwest organizing officer and acting Department Commander John Conrad talked about the first Department Encampment which will take place at his residence on Saturday, March 26, 2016.

Delegates to that Encampment are Brothers: John Conrad, Gerald Bloom, William Hearter Jr. MD, Robert Archibald Jr., James M. Heller, Allen Nash, David Vessels and Mark Haynes.



Camp Patriotic Instructor Bob Massey presented some very interesting and obscure information regarding an interview procedure used by the Union for Confederate prisoners of war and that is an actual pre-printed “fill in the blanks” form to be used by the interviewer. Brother Massey had a copy of the printed form that was actually used in an interview with a nineteen year old prisoner named Private Isaac Emmons, Co K, 23rd Mississippi Vol. Infantry

Some of the questions are:

I was in arms against the United States and was a [rank] _____ in Company _____. I was sworn into the Rebel service about the _____ day of _____ 186_ by _____ in _____ County for _____ years.

How many times have you been in arms during the rebellion? What commanders have you served under? What battles and skirmishes have you been in? Did you have arms, or were you out on picket, at what part did you take in the action? Was there any rebel camp near you that you did not give notice of to the U.S. troops?

(Continued on page 2)

A final question is: “Do you sincerely desire to have the Southern people put down in this war and the authority of the U.S. Government over them restored?” To which Isaac truthfully answered: “I do not.”



Brother Bob Massey



Program speaker: We were privileged to have Brother John Kohl give one of his usual masterful presentations to our Camp and this one was about “Blacks in the Civil War.” It was obvious that a lot of time, effort, and research went into this presentation because it showed.

Brother Kohl talked about the Black contribution to the Union Army and their treatment in it. He also talked about slavery in general covering such items as the Underground Railroad and Harriet Tubman.

This brief recap certainly does not do justice to Brother Kohl’s presentation. But suffice to say if you missed it you missed a great one!



Brother John Kohl

Memorial Day, Monday May 30th

As we all know, in 1868 May 30th was set aside by the Grand Army of the Republic as Decoration Day (now Memorial Day) to remember those who died in the service of their country but due to federal legislation it was moved to the last Monday in May.

Well, we are celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Grand Army of the Republic and May 30th actually falls on the last Monday of the month!

Camp Brothers are encouraged to attend Memorial Day ceremonies at the Pioneer Military and Memorial Park, located on Jefferson between 14th and 15th Avenues, starting at 9:00 a.m. **Brother John Conrad** PCC will be delivering the Gettysburg Address on behalf of our Camp. Although there are other, and certainly larger, Memorial Day activities in the State, the Camp focuses on the one at Pioneer Military and Memorial Park because over 100 Civil War veterans are interred there. Our Camp is also a member of the Pioneer Cemetery Association. Come out and join us!



New Picacho Peak Camp Brothers

David Jackson of Cave Creek, Arizona has transferred his membership from the General Rosecrans Camp, Department of California to our Camp.

Brother Jackson’s Civil War ancestor is Private William Mumby who, on August 20, 1862, was mustered into Company B, 28th Iowa Infantry and mustered out on September 31, 1865, at Savannah, Georgia.

He was listed as a POW on December 29, 1862, Helena, Arkansas and paroled on January 1, 1863, (place not stated). He was wounded on April 4, 1864, at Sabine Cross Roads.

William Mumby adopted Brother David’s maternal grandfather William Edward Mumby (1884-1968).

Preston H. Long of Tempe, Arizona joined the SUVCW and our Camp on March 4, 2016.

Brother Long’s Civil War ancestor is his great-great grandfather Private William Marshall. On May 24, 1864, Private Marshall was mustered into Company E, of the 134th Indiana Infantry and mustered out on September 2, 1864 at the expiration of his enlistment.

Welcome Brothers Jackson and Long!

Fort Union, New Mexico Territory

By David A. Swanson

Fort Union National Monument is located about 80 miles north of Santa Fe on I-25. There is a very nice visitor's center and the ruins of the fort are quite impressive. One could spend many hours walking around the ruins on the self-guided tour. If you ever happen to "just be in the area" it is well worth the stop.

The following information about the fort is taken from the park's information pamphlet about the *Defender of the Southwest*:

"When New Mexico became United States territory after the U.S.-Mexican war, the army established garrisons in towns scattered along the Rio Grande to protect the area's inhabitants and travel routes. This arrangement proved unsatisfactory for a number of reasons, and in April 1851, Lt. Col. Edwin V. Sumner [sound familiar?], commanding Military Dept. No. 9 (which included New Mexico Territory), was ordered 'to revise the whole system of defense' for the entire territory. Among his first acts was to break up the scattered garrisons and relocate them in posts closer to the Indians. He also moved his headquarters and supply depot from Santa Fe, 'that sink of vice and extravagance,' to a site near the Mountain and Cimarron branches of the Santa Fe Trail, where he established Fort Union.

The first of the three forts built in this valley was begun in August 1851. For a decade it served as the base for military operations in the area and a key station on the Santa Fe Trail, affording travelers a place to rest nearby and refit at the post sutler's store before continuing their journey. It also became the principal quartermaster depot of the Southwest.

During the 1850s dragoons and mounted riflemen from the fort campaigned against several Indian tribes living in or around the southern Rocky Mountains that were disrupting traffic on the Santa Fe Trail. One of the earliest campaigns was directed against the Jicarilla Apaches who, in the spring of 1854, surprised and nearly wiped out a company of dragoons. The Apaches were driven into the mountains west of the Rio Grande and routed. Military operations were also conducted against Utes of southern Colorado in 1855 and against Kiowas and Comanches raiding the plains east of the fort in 1860-61.

When the Civil War began in April 1861, most of the regular troops (except those officers who joined the South) were withdrawn from Fort Union and other frontier posts and replaced by volunteer regiments. Anticipating a Confederate invasion of New Mexico, Col. Edward R. S. Canby, charged with the territory's defense, concentrated troops at Fort Craig on the Rio Grande and sent soldiers from Fort Union to patrol the

Santa Fe Trail, now the main artery of supply for Federal forces. He also ordered construction of the second Fort Union, a star-shaped earthen fortification, to strengthen defenses.

The second fort never saw the action for which it was designed. The Confederate invasion was halted and turned back in March 1862 by a force of Colorado and New Mexico volunteers and U.S. regulars from Fort Union at the Battle of Glorieta Pass, about 20 miles southeast of Santa Fe. The Confederates withdrew to Texas, effectively ending the Civil War activity in the Southwest, and the second Fort Union was soon thereafter abandoned.

In 1863, with New Mexico securely in Federal hands, the new departmental commander, Brig. Gen. James H. Carleton [of the California Column], began construction of the third (and final) Fort Union, whose ruins...[are now visible]. This sprawling installation, which took six years to complete, was the most extensive in the territory. It included not only a military post, with all its attendant structures, but a separate quartermaster depot with warehouses, corrals, shops, offices and quarters. The supply function overshadowed that of the military and employed far more men, mostly civilians.

Throughout the 1860s and the 1870s troops from Fort Union continued to participate in operations against Indians. Several relentless campaigns against the Apaches, Navajos, Cheyennes, Arapahos, Kiowas, Utes, and Comanches finally brought peace to the southern Plains in the spring of 1875, albeit on the white man's terms. Though Fort Union's involvement, in the Indian wars had come to an end, its garrison occasionally helped to track down outlaws, quell mob violence, and mediate feuds. The supply depot continued to flourish until 1879, when the Santa Fe Railroad replaced the Santa Fe Trail as the principal avenue of commerce. By 1891 the fort had outlived its usefulness and was abandoned."

(The following photo is from Wikipedia)



Blacks in the Confederate Army

By David Swanson

Here is what was written in the Sunday, March 13, 2016, "Today in History" section of the *Arizona Republic*. "In 1865, Confederate President Jefferson Davis signed a measure allowing Black slaves [was there another kind?] to enlist in the Confederate States Army with the promise they would be set free."

No matter how many times a historical myth is repeated it does not make it a fact. The "measure" was "AN ACT to increase the military force of the Confederate States" signed by Davis on March 13, 1865, which authorized him to "ask for and accept from the owners of slaves, the services of such number of able-bodied negro men as he may deem expedient, for and during the war, to perform military service in whatever capacity he may direct." Additionally, "nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize a change in the relation which the said slaves shall bear toward their owners, except by consent of the owners and of the States in which they may reside, and in pursuance of the laws thereof."

But even this did not allow for all slaves (with the permission of their owners) to join the army: "Provided, That not more than twenty-five per cent. of the male slaves between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, in any State, shall be called for under the provisions of this act."

There is nothing in that act which allows for freedom or even gradual freedom from slavery (without the slave owners consent). This was a half-hearted, last gasp measure to increase the manpower that the army so desperately needed—but much too little, much too late. In three weeks the war was over. (Oh, and if you read about the tens of thousands of slaves that flocked to the Confederate Army—don't believe it.)



2016 Camp Meeting dates

Picacho Peak Camp meeting dates for 2016 are as follows—all meetings start at 12:00 noon. Location: Deer Valley Airport Restaurant, 702 W. Deer Valley Road, Phoenix, Arizona

May 14
August 13
November 12

Camp/Auxiliary Meeting—May 14, 2016

The next meeting will be held at noon on November 14th at the Deer Valley Airport Restaurant, 702 W. Deer Valley Rd, Phx.

The Sisters of the Picacho Peak Auxiliary No. 1 are also invited.

Our speaker for the meeting will be Brother David Swanson who will speak about the experiences of Regimental Bugler Orin Wilson during the Civil War. Wilson is one of Swanson's Union Civil War ancestors.

Please make every effort to attend our Camp and Auxiliary meeting!



We are Brothers in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War not because of anything we have done, but because of the sacrifices of *our* Civil War ancestors who saved the Union!

Address Change

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

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

A standing invitation to join the SUVCW and our Camp

Brothers, please help spread the word about our Camp! Male descendants, (son, grandson, great grandson, nephew, grand nephew, great grand nephew, etc.) aged 14 years or older, of a Union Civil War soldier, sailor, marine, or member of the Revenue Cutter Service who honorably served in the Civil War between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865, are eligible for membership. A Junior membership for those aged 6-14 (meeting the above requirements) and an Associate membership are also available.

Please contact the Camp Junior Vice Commander for more details and assistance.

If you are receiving this newsletter in black & white via the Unites States Postal Service and an e-mail color version would work just as well for you, e-mail the newsletter editor—

Ancestor Biographies wanted

If you have a biography of your Civil War ancestor that you would like to see published in the Camp newsletter please send it to the editor. Try to keep it to a maximum length of one double sided page. Your Civil War ancestor biography will also be posted on our excellent Camp website!

Past Camp Commanders



- Larry Fuller 1995-2003 †
- David A. Swanson 2003-2006
- Robert Hannon 2006-2008 †
- John R. Conrad 2008-2010
- David A. Swanson 2010-2013
- John R. Conrad 2013-2015



Camp Officers for 2016

Commander:

Gerald N. Bloom (602) 955-3091
E-mail: jerrybloom@q.com

Senior Vice-Commander:

Jim Heller (623-975-4300
E-mail: jmh7116@aol.co

Junior Vice-Commander:

David R. Palmateer (928)-978-0066
E-mail: Palmateer@npgcable.com

Secretary/Treasurer:

David A. Swanson (480) 515-2798
E-mail: swanson1854@yahoo.com

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Don Strachota Jr. (See Camp Council)

Camp Council:

John Conrad (602) 750-0938
E-mail: jrconrad@post.harvard.edu

Don Strachota Jr. (480-588-6589
E-mail: antondon@cox.net

William Hearter Jr. MD (480) 596-6750
E-mail: whearter@yahoo.com

Signals Officer

Jeff Burgess 602-819-0795
E-mail: jeffreydavidburgess@gmail.com

Chaplain:

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

Patriotic Instructor:

Robert C. Massey (602)-298-2656
E-mail: rmassey6165@yahoo.com

ROTC Coordinator:

E-mail: barch2@mindspring.com
Bob Archibald: 623-561-8261

Eagle Scout Coordinator:

Dennis Lamb (480) 595-6356
E-mail: dennislamb@msn.com

Graves Registration

Jan Huber: (623) 975-4805
E-mail: jandhuber1933@gmail.com

Civil War Memorials Officer:

David Swanson PCC (480) 515-2798
E-mail: swanson1854@yahoo.com

Historian:

David Swanson PCC (480) 515-2798
E-mail: swanson1854@yahoo.com

Counselor:

Bob Young (602) 841-7037
E-mail: bob.young1@cox.net

Color Bearer:

David Vessels (602) 369-8165
E-mail: dtkv@cox.net

Guard:

Al Harrica (623) 322-5939
E-mail: dharrica@cox.net

Guide:

Christopher Beisner (623) 692-8488
E-mail: cmbeisner@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor/Publisher
David A. Swanson