



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



CAMP NEWSLETTER



January 2011

Camp Web site: www.suvcwaz.org

2011 Annual dues increased by \$5.00—see page 2

First Grand Army of the Republic Department of Arizona Encampment January 17-18, 1888—see page 3

Minutes of the November 20, 2010, Camp meeting:

Location:
Hometown Buffet
1312 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, Az

Camp Commander John Conrad called the meeting to order at noon. There were 24 Brothers and guests in attendance.

Camp officer election & installation

The following Brothers were duly elected and installed as Picacho Peak Camp officers:

Commander: David A. Swanson
Senior Vice Commander: John R. Conrad
Junior Vice Commander: Jim Heller
Secretary/Treasurer: Jerry Bloom
Camp Council: Bob Hannan PCC, Mark Haynes & Bob Young.

Appointed officers:

Chaplain: Mark Haynes
Graves Registration: Jan Huber
Color Bearer: Ron Jones
Patriotic Instructor: Dave Kampf
Historian: Bob Hannan PCC

Counselor: John Wanzel
Guide: Bob Young
Guard: David Vessels
Civil War Memorials: David A. Swanson
Signals: William Vessels
Eagle Scout Coordinator: John Wanzel
Brother Dan Heller also graciously accepted the position of Assistant Secretary/Treasurer.

Congratulations to all!

Guest speaker

Brother John Kohl gave his usual *excellent* presentation, this one regarding Railroads and the Civil War.

Brother John gave a power point presentation—it had taken him over a year to collect and research the pictures which were copies of the original depots, round houses, and repair shops. Railroads are home base for John. His Dad was a locomotive engineer – both steam and diesel. John was a “gandy dancer” during his high school years. Gandy was the name of the manufacturer of railroad equipment and the “dancer” was the worker who maintained the tracks.

Some interesting bullet facts about Railroads and the Civil War:

- The first railroad was 38 miles long and ran between Winchester , VA and Harpers Ferry, VA
- The Union federalized all their railroads – The South had strong convictions for state’s rights and didn’t coordinate moving troops and material.
- The Union had 71% of all the railroad tracks.

- The Confederacy was the first to move troops to battle by railroad - 1st Battle of Bull Run
- Railroad personnel were civilians – Engineers, Firemen, and Signalmen.
- The discovery of oil at Titusville, PA was a boon to the North because the South only had processed cotton seed oil for lubrication.
- There were cannons and mortars on rail cars in 1864. (Civil War Times – Feb. 2011 has an article on Southern rail cannons. Page 56).

Thank you Brother Kohl!

New Camp Brothers

Brent Jason Cooper, of Glendale. His great, great, great, grandfather is Benjamin F. Mewhinney, Co. H., 5th Indiana Cavalry.

Brian James Cooper of New River. His great, great, great, grandfather also is Benjamin F. Mewhinney, Co. H., 5th Indiana Cavalry.

Bryan Robert Zube, of Glendale. His great, great, great, grandfather is James Henry Robinson, Co. F., 10th Michigan Regiment

Welcome!

Change in Camp meeting dates for 2011

Those who attend the Camp meetings know that we always end up with the small meeting room at the Home Town Buffet, which for the most part is barely adequate. The large meeting room is not available because another group meets on the third Saturday of the month and has done so for years (something about squatter's rights).

The manager has assured me that by switching our meeting dates to the *second Saturday* of the month at noon we will always have the large room. So, with the concurrence of our Camp Council and effective with our February meeting, the meeting dates for the year 2011 are as follows:

February 12, May 14, August 13, and November 12.

All meetings will still take place at the Home Town Buffet 1314 N. Scottsdale Rd, at noon.

—David A. Swanson, Camp Commander

Change in 2011 Dues

General Order No. 7 issued on December 6th from National raises our 2011 annual dues by \$5.00 to \$36 annually.

Last summer, the National Encampment passed a resolution increasing them by \$5.00. This is the first raise in dues in eight years and General Order No. 7 is a result of that resolution.

Additionally, a reinstatement fee of \$10.00 is mandatory. (Reinstatement applies to those who are dropped for nonpayment of annual dues and wish to have their membership be reinstated.)

We did not know of the increase until the general order was issued. *For those of you who already sent in your membership dues under the old schedule, you will still need to send in an additional \$5.00 to our secretary/treasurer.*

If you have not sent in your 2011 dues (\$36.00) now is the time. You can also pay them at our February meeting.

Please see page 5 for the dues form.

From the Camp Commander

Well, here we are in 2011. What the heck happened to 2010? You know, the older we get the quicker time goes by. Well, time doesn't really go any faster but it sure seems like it. Did you ever wonder why? There are all kinds of theories and since my New Year's resolution is to be kinder to animals, plants and Picacho Peak Camp brothers, I won't bore you with them all—as if I knew them anyway. But here is an interesting one.

Proportional theory: “When you are 10 years old, a year isn't simply a year; it is also 10% of your entire life. In terms of your ability to retain memories, it is even significantly more than that. A year for a 50-year-old is only 2% of that person's life.

We experience time not only as a fixed measurement, but as a relative measurement of our experience. Thus a 2% measurement is going to seem 'less' than a 10% measurement.

If we lived to be 1,000 years, days to us would seem like hours as we aged to our upper years (compared to how a 100-year old would experience a day).”

--<http://volokh.com/2010/02/04/why-does-time-fly-by-as-you-get-older/> Justine Levine

Message from the Camp Commander--continued

I want to thank you for supporting me, once again, as your Camp commander. You must have forgotten my 2003-2006 "reign of terror."

I want to sincerely thank all of our Brothers who volunteered to fill the various Camp officer positions. I also want to thank you, the Brothers of Picacho Peak Camp No. 1, for your support of our Camp over the years.

We are Sons of Union Veterans, not because of anything we have done, but because of the sacrifices of our Civil War ancestors in keeping this splendid country together. As members of the Order, we perpetuate their sacrifices by our actions on behalf of the Order and our Camp. Even something as simple as attending meetings helps solidify that camaraderie.

I want to encourage a renewed vigor in the attendance of meetings and involvement in Camp activities. If you think you might be interested in graves registration or helping officers in the various offices, contact the officers and volunteer! Trust me, you won't be turned down.

Also, if you have any ideas regarding recruiting or anything involving the Camp, please feel free to contact me or any of the officers.

Thanks.

--David A. Swanson, Camp Commander



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

By David A. Swanson

In the last five newsletters (with the exception of April and October 2010) I have published newspaper articles about the John W. Owens Post No. 5 Phoenix, Az, covering the time period from its inception in September 1885 to December 1887. These articles not only give a historical sketch of the Post but also that of the city of Phoenix, and Arizona both as a territory and a state.

The following encompasses the first Grand Army of the Republic Department of Arizona Encampment and is a continuation of the articles originally printed the *Daily Phoenix Herald* and its successor newspaper the *Arizona Republican*.

January 10, 1888:

G.A.R.

Special meeting this evening of John W. Owens Post 5, at Masonic Hall. All members are requested to be present.



January 11, 1888:

A special meeting of the Grand Army was held last night to make arrangements for the Convention at this place on the 17th, instant, of the Grand Army of the Department of Arizona. Committees were appointed and initiatory steps taken to receive the delegates properly.

The Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Arizona, will meet in this city on Tuesday of next week, the 17th instant. Commander of the Department A. L. Grow, of Tombstone, will arrive on Monday next, and on Wednesday evening the members of the Grand Encampment, and all Grand Army men here will enjoy a banquet.

January 16, 1888:

Grand Army Matters



Mr. A. L. Grow, Commander of the Department of Arizona, Grand Army of the Republic, arrived this morning and will open the Department Encampment tomorrow. Mr. A. T. Atchinson, Adjutant General, with John Kilso and Dan Shanklin, Delegates, also accompanied him. They are all from Burnside Post No. 2, Tombstone. From Negley Post No. 1, of Tucson, Mr. A. B. Sampson assistant Quartermaster General, also came in with the Past Post Commander Thos. Hughes and Delegates B.C. Parker, F. G. Hughes and Robt Frazier. From Alexander Post No. 6, of Globe, Delegates Hampton Ellis, Geo A. Allen and B. E. Love have arrived. The Department Encampment will convene tomorrow at 10:00 a.m.



Historical sketch continued on page 4

Evening edition, January 17, 1888:

G.A.R.

First Encampment of the Department of Arizona

The First Department Encampment for Arizona was convened today at 10 o'clock a.m. Department Commander A. L. Grow, presiding, T. A. Atchison being Asst. Adj. General, and A. B. Sampson Department Quarter Master.

The following Post Commanders and delegates were reported present and entitled to seats by the committee on Credentials;

Negley Post, No. 11, Tucson; A. B. Sampson Asst. Quarter Master General; Past Post Commander, Thos. Hughes and Delegates B. C. Parker, F. G. Hughes and Robt. Frazier.

Burnside Post, No. 2, Tombstone; A. L. Grow Department Commander; T. A. Atchison, Asst. Adj. General; John Kelso and Dan Shanklin, Delegates.

John W. Owens Post, No. 5, Phoenix; Past Post Commanders Edward Schwartz, Geo. F. Coats, C. H. Knapp, and Allen T. Bird and S. C Symonds and J. L. Ward, Delegates.

Alexander Post, No. 6, Globe; Hampton Ellis and Geo. A. Allen, Delegates.

An election of Department officers takes place tomorrow.

January 18, 1888:

Grand Army Matters

The boys in blue continued their labors today in the Department Encampment, this principal event of the session being the election, which took place this afternoon and resulted in the selection of the following officers all of which were unanimously elected:

Department Commander, A. L. Grow, Burnside Post, No. 2, Tombstone.

Sr. Vice-Commander Hampton Ellis, Alexander Post, No. 6, Globe.

Jr. Vice Commander, Edward Schwartz, John W. Owen's Post, No. 5 Phoenix.

Medical Director, J. E. Wharton, John W. Owen's Post No. 5, Phoenix.

Chaplain, G. W. Sanders, Nagle Post, No 1, Tucson.

Council of Administration, Geo W. Brown, Nagle Post, No. 1, Tucson; Geo. A. Allen, Alexander Post, No. 6, Globe; Geo. F. Coats, John W. Owen's Post No. 5, Phoenix; B.S. Coffman, Burnside Post, No. 2, Tombstone; and -Savage, T. G. Ransom, Post No. 4, Flagstaff. [J. G. Savage].

Representatives to National Encampment; B.C. Parker, Nagle Post, No., 1, Tucson; alternate, Geo. F. Coates, Quarter Master General for the Department; T. C. Atchison, A. A. General for the Department.

The next Department Encampment was fixed by vote to meet at Tucson.

The various officers were installed late this afternoon, and this evening the banquet will be held at the Lemon Hotel.

Before adjourning this afternoon the Encampment unanimously passed the following resolution:

Whereas, The First Annual Session of the G.A.R., Encampment of the Department of Arizona, held at Phoenix the 17th and 18th, days of January A.D. 1888, has been handsomely entertained by John W. Owen's Post, No. 5, G.A.R. and by the people of Phoenix, therefore be it,

RESOLVED, That the thanks of this Encampment are hereby tendered. John W. Owen Post and the citizens of Phoenix for that entertainment which we shall ever hold in pleasant remembrance, carrying away from here a lively appreciation of the kindness and hospitality of both the Post and the people of Phoenix.

A. B. Sampson
Geo. A. Allen
D. B. Shanklin,
Committee.

Camp meeting

Our February 12, 2011, Camp meeting will be held at the Hometown Buffet, 1312 N. Scottsdale Rd., and will start at noon. **Be sure to tell the cashier that you are with the Civil War group for your food discount.**

Our speaker will be Brother John Conrad PCC. His presentation is "The Blue and the Gray: the story of Jack Swilling. You all know what an excellent job John does with his presentations, so come out, meet your fellow Brothers and listen to a great presentation!

The Straight Line newsletter (Dec-Jan 2011 edition), published by the office of the SUVCW Commander-in-Chief, will be forwarded to all Camp Brothers either via E-mail or regular mail depending on how you currently receive our newsletters.

Brothers, if you would like to see some of your ancestor information published in this newsletter or if you have other Civil War related information you would like to share, send it to the newsletter editor.

A few years ago quite a number of ancestor biographies were published and since then we have had new Brothers who have not had the opportunity—so here it is!

My adjutant needs something to do—well something constructive anyway—so help save his job!

2011 ANNUAL DUES

Name _____

Dues for calendar year 2011 are \$36.00

Dues enclosed \$ _____

Junior dues for calendar year 2011 are \$10.00

Junior Dues \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please mail to:
Jerry Bloom, Secretary/Treasurer
4323 N. 28th Way
Phoenix, AZ 85016

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.

Past Camp Commanders



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



Camp Officers for 2011

Commander:

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Junior Vice-Commander:

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

Secretary/Treasurer:

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Camp Council:

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Bob Young (642)-801-7037
E-mail: bob.young1@cox.net
Bob Hannan (480) 380-9153
E-mail: bobpeg1@hotmail.com

Chaplain:

Mark Haynes (928) 755-3714
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Patriotic Instructor:

Dave Kampf (602) 978-0951
E-mail: myfight@q.com

Eagle Scout Coordinator:

John Wanzel (4800 306-7738

Signals Officer:

Will Vessels (480)488-4703
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Graves Registration

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Civil War Memorials Officer:

David Swanson (Camp Commander)

Counselor:

John Wanzel: (480) 306-7738

Historian:

Bob Hannan PCC (480) 380-9153 Camp Council

Color Bearer:

Ron Jones ((480) 834-8036

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David A. Swanson (Camp Commander)