

Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Arizona.

The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was the most successful of the many organizations that were formed after the Civil War. Its existence in Arizona started in 1887 after seven Posts were organized by the Department of California.

History of the Grand Army of the Republic, by Robert B. Beath, published in 1889, contains the following information regarding the Department of Arizona:

“Seven Posts were organized in Arizona by the Department of California. These by General Orders from National Headquarters, September 10, 1887, were transferred to the Provisional Department of Arizona.

Negley Post, now No. 1, Tucson, was organized October 28, 1881; Burnside Post No. 2, Tombstone, November 1, 1881; Barrett Post No. 3, Prescott, June 23, 1883; T.E.G. Ransom Post No 4, Flagstaff, October 28, 1883; J.W. Owens Post No. 5, Phoenix, September 24, 1885; J.W.S. Alexander Post No. 6 Globe, January 19, 1886. John A. Logan Post No. 7 has been since organized at Tempe, Maricopa county. Kehoe Post, at Bisbee, was also organized by the Department of California, but not represented in the transfer.

The officers of the Provisional Department were: Commander A.L. Grow, Post 2, Tombstone; Senior Vice-Commander, Hampton Ellis, Post a6, Globe; Junior Vice-Commander, Louis Burns, Post 4, Flagstaff; Assistant Adjutant-General, T.A. Atchinson, Post 2 Tombstone; Assistant Quartermaster-General A.B. Sampson, Post 1, Tucson; Council of Administration—J.A. Zabriskie, Post 1, Tucson; G.W. Sines, Post 3, Prescott; D.F. Hart, Post 4, Flagstaff; J.E. Wharton, Post 5, Phoenix; Geo. JA. Allen, Post 6, Globe.

The Permanent Department was organized at Phoenix, January 17, 1888, the Posts named, except those at Prescott and one at Bisbee, being represented.

The following were elected or appointed officers of the Department:

Department Commander, A.L. Grow, Post 2, Tombstone; Senior Vice-Commander, Hampton Ellis, Post 6, Globe; Junior Vice-Commander, Edward Schwartz, Post 5, Phoenix; Medical Director, J.W. Wharton, Post 5, Phoenix; Chaplain, Geo. W. Saunders, Post 1, Tucson; Assistant Adjutant-General, T.A. Atchison, Post 2, Tombstone; Assistant Quartermaster-General, Geo. F. Coates, Post 5, Phoenix; Inspector, D.F. Hart, Post 4, Flagstaff; Judge-Advocate, J.A. Zabriskie, Post 1, Tucson; Council of Administration—Geo. F. Coates, Post 5, Phoenix.”

During January, 1888, the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Arizona, held its first encampment in Phoenix. On June 30, 1888, the Department had 291 members in good standing. The following year its second encampment was held in Tucson and in 1890, the third was held in Tombstone. The first and second encampments were noted in local newspapers, specifically the *Arizona Sentinel*, the *Tombstone Prospector* and the *Tombstone Epitaph*. The articles from these papers will be reprinted in the October issue of our newsletter.

GAR BADGE TRIVIA

Did you know that from 1884, Grand Army of the Republic Badges were manufactured from “captured cannons”? You bet. Some information regarding badges in the *History of the Grand Army of the Republic* follows:

“For several years prior to 1884, the metal used in the manufacture of these badges was obtained from guns purchased of various societies to whom they had been donated by Congress for monumental purposes; since then captured cannon have been used, which were purchased direct from the government, and selected from guns stored at Governor’s Island.

These guns were made by Noble Brothers, Rome, Georgia; Quimby & Robinson, Memphis; John Clark, New Orleans and A. B. R. Brothers, Vicksburg. Three are presumably of English make, being better finished and free from iron or lead.”

Even earlier than this a reference to captured cannon and GAR badges was noted.

On June 8, 1880, GAR Commander-in-Chief William Earnshaw, in his address to the Fourteenth Annual Session said in part: “ I succeeded in getting a bill introduced in Congress, to appropriate six captured cannon from which to make badges. Said bill was referred to the Military Committee, but as yet has not been reported upon. The necessity of the case was such that we were forced to proceed in some other way, and I am pleased to say that, by the generosity of the president, a cannon was secured from which has been made over twelve thousand badges, and they are now worn by comrades of the order in all parts of the land.”

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U.S. Flag Information

With the July 4th celebrations upon us, it is fitting to be informed about different aspects of the U.S. flag. Yes, we all realize that June 14 is Flag Day, however, the following information, received by our Camp Treasurer **Bro. Jerry Bloom**, will be quite informative. (The meanings of the folds of the flag are also outlined in the flag folding ceremony of the U.S.; Air Force Academy and the Coast Guard).

"I hope you have noticed the honor guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the American flag 13 times. You probably thought it was to symbolize the original 13 colonies, but we learn something new everyday. Be surprised at the following only because 'they' quit teaching it around 1955 in public schools...some of you out there might remember.

The 1st fold of our flag is a symbol of life.

The 2nd fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.

The 3rd fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing our ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.

The 4th fold represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in time of war for His guidance.

The 5th fold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decaur, 'Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is till our country, right or wrong.'

The 6th fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our hearts that 'We pledge allegiance to the flag of the united States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.'

The 7th fold is a tribute to our Armed forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

The 8th fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.

The 9th fold is a tribute to womanhood, and Mothers. For it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The 10th fold is a tribute to the fathers, for they too, have give their sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.

The 11th fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrews' eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The 12th fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in the Christians' eyes, God the Father, the Son and Hold Spirit.

The 13th fold, or when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding us of our nation's motto 'In God We Trust.'

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for us the right, privileges and freedoms we enjoy today."

As a side note in this same paper, "Do you know that at military funerals, the 21 gun salute actually stands for the sum of the numbers in the year 1776?"

WE ALL WANT TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR ANCESTOR!!!

Our Camp is part of a larger fraternal organization whose purpose, in part, is to "perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union 1861-1865." What better way than to share your ancestors information with your fellow Brothers! But I am not much of a speaker...people would be bored...hopefully someone else will speak...Trust me, *we would all appreciate hearing about your ancestor...*very few of us...if any are accomplished speakers. Very few of us have had the opportunity to speak to a group and of those who have, most, if not all, get nervous when called upon to so...welcome to the club! Whether you can talk for one minute or one hour (that had better be real good!) your fellow Brothers...who are no better at speaking than you...want to hear about your ancestor!

Let the Camp commander, or any officer know, and we will ensure you have time to proudly talk about your ancestor...after all it is because of him that your are here!

As an alternative, if you wish to see his information published in this newsletter...with a circulation of 46 and growing (watch out CIVIL WAR TIMES) contact the current publisher/editor/copyboy.

Military Salute to Bob Hope

While the following doesn't have much to do with the Civil War, a principle of our Order is to proudly honor "all who have patriotically served our country in any war."

The following is an excerpt from an article written in the May 2003 edition of the *California Column* which is the newsletter of the Department of California and the Pacific:

"Bob Hope, the actor, entertainer and comedian, is universally known around the world for his long career as a star of stage, screen and television. Yet it is in the hearts of generations of U.S. servicemen that his most enduring legacy will reside. For over a period of fifty years, from 1943, he dedicated himself to entertaining soldiers, sailors and airmen of the armed forces in the many battle fronts and remote outposts where they've served throughout the world. His overseas USO tours, which often took place over Christmas, were deeply appreciated and well remembered by countless thousands of servicemen on protracted tours of duty, often under combat conditions, far from their families.

Fifty-seven years have passed since Bob Hope first entertained our country's men and women in uniform. Whenever there was a need, Bob Hope was there. Thanks to him, hundreds of thousands of soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines have had their spirits lifted.

Congress has honored Mr. Hope five times. But, in October 1977, he received one of his greatest tributes when he was unanimously made an honorary Veteran—the first individual so honored in the history of the United States.

Ninety-nine and still making a difference. That's Bob Hope. Now it is our turn to make a difference in honoring this legendary men. Currently, Taffy III is raising funds to create a Military Tribute to Bob Hope in recognition of his efforts for all our country's servicemen and women.

Taffy III is a group of World War II navy veterans who served on three ships that were sunk during the Battle for Leyte Gulf on October 25, 1944. ("Taffy III" was the code name of this task unit.) In recent years, these men have devoted their efforts toward raising money for monuments to preserve the history of this era. In the past several years they have successfully erected and dedicated four monuments. The Port of San Diego has graciously donated almost a full acre of land on the shoreline of San Diego Bay for a tribute to Bob Hope. This property is worth approximately 4.9 million dollars.

One of the hardest obstacles to overcome was the agreement of Bob, his wife Delores and daughter Linda

to erect this Military Tribute. After 14 months of communications and meetings, agreement was reached with certain conditions: that money raised for this project would come from the Veterans themselves and the American people. It was further agreed that corporate money would not be solicited and neither his former corporate sponsors nor professional friends be approached for funds.

Completion of this "tribute" requires the raising of 4.5 million additional dollars. All Brothers area encouraged to make a donation to this worthy tax-deductible cause."

As a further incentive if the Department of California and the Pacific collects 50 or more donations of \$20 or more each, those donors will receive a 5X7 inch plaque inscribed with the name of the donor, the SUVCW Department emblem, and a photo of Bob Hope. This doesn't mean our Camp has to send in 50 donations...it includes the entire Department and our Camp.

Please send your donations... for any amount...to our Camp Treasurer Jerry Bloom. He will forward the checks to Brother Bob Lowe, PDC in California.

Brother Bloom must receive your checks **on or before July 31st** to be included in the mailing.

Mail to:

Brother Jerry Bloom, Camp Treasurer
4323 N. 28th Way
Phoenix, AZ 85016

More information can be found on the web at www.hopetribute.org.

Back to the Civil War...maybe

By David Swanson

Here is a question that will make you think. Which one of the following wars had the highest death rate of U.S. soldiers?

- A. War of 1812
- B. Revolutionary War
- C. Civil War
- D. War with Mexico

Take your time and think this through. If you are not sure I will give you a hint. A person with the initials A.L. had, *in a small way*, something to do with it.

If your answer was "B" ...well...see page 5...

Back to the Civil War continued...

Of course...the person with the initials A.L. is Abraham Lincoln and in a small way he did indeed have something to do with the War with Mexico. He was a one term Whig Congressman from Illinois during the ear who was certainly against it...so much so in fact...many say it cost him any chance at a second term.

But what is the answer? In his book *So Far From God, The U.S. War with Mexico 1846-1848*, John S.D. Eisenhower wrote: "Of the 104,556 men who served in the army...13,768 men died, the highest death rate of any war in our history." And you are correct again in the name of this general sounds familiar...John S.D. Eisenhower is a retired army general and the son of another famous army general and president of the United States...man, you guys know your history...I think I will go back to Bob Hope!

As a side note: Eisenhower won a Pulitzer prize for this book...it is probably the best book about the least understood war in our history.

The Battle Over General Meade's Horse

OK, now we really are back to the Civil War. **Bro. John Coon** forwarded an article from the Sun City newspaper, *Daily News*, which contains the article "Two museums battle over Gen. Meade's Horse" written by Joann Loviglio of the AP, from which I will quote at length.

As of April 8, 2003, a feud was going on between the Grand Army of the Republic Museum (the director of which is Bud Atkinson, SUVCW National quartermaster and Past Commander-in-Chief) and the Civil War library as to the rightful ownership of the mounted horse head. Yep, "Old Baldy" is still with us and as Joann Lovigilo points out he had quite the charmed life.

"The horse at the center of all the fury was known in his day as Meade's beloved and nearly indestructible mount. Legend has it that Old Baldy was wounded 14 times but returned to battle time and again. The horse was said to have taken a bullet to the lung at Gettysburg, and was shot in the neck and left for dead at Antietam—only to turn up grazing in a nearby field a few days later.

Old Baldy, whose name might have come from his white nose and forehead, was the riderless horse at the Philadelphia-born general's military funeral in 1872.

He spent his golden years on a suburban farm and died at the age of 30, a decade after the general. The

horse was buried but Civil War veterans later dug up the carcass and mounted the head."

The news article had a picture of the head and it was in surprisingly good shape considering its path from an 1880's buried carcass to a 2003 court battle!

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PLEASE HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE SUMMER.....

REMEMBER OUR NEXT CAMP MEETING IS ON NOVEMBER 15, 2003.

