



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

PICACHO PEAK CAMP No. 1

ARIZONA CAMP-at-LARGE



CAMP NEWSLETTER



July 2013

Camp Web site: suvchwaz.org

Minutes of the May 11, 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 upcoming Department-at-Large and the National Encampment to be held at Milwaukee, Wisconsin from August 8-11, 2013. This will be the second Department-at-Large Encampment and the 132nd National Encampment. Three Brothers have been voted as delegates: John Conrad, Mike Moore, and Don Strachota. Since the entire Camp was voted as alternates, we have four delegate positions open. If any Brother wishes to be a delegate, please contact CC Swanson before August.

Also discussed was the joint meeting with Margaret Warner Wood, Tent No. 1 DUVCW. We will have a joint meeting with the Sisters at JJ North's Country Buffet on August 24, 2013. The normal second Saturday of the month meeting in August will be changed to the 24th in order to accommodate the Department and National Encampment delegates. Brother David Kampf will be the program speaker and he will talk about the sailors and ships of the Union Navy and the Blockade.

Junior Vice Commander Jim Heller discussed our Camp's participation in the veterans assistance program Arizona StandDown which took place at the Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Phoenix from March 8-10, 2013. Br. Jim is our Camp liaison with the organization. Other attendees: Brothers John Conrad and Ron Jones gave inspiring stories of the assistance the veterans received. All agreed that this was a very

worthwhile project and one that our Camp will be involved with in the future.

Graves Registration Officer Jan Huber reported that since February 9, 2013, the date of his last report, that he has completed 3 initial grave registrations. All 3 were Confederate soldiers, 2 in Greenwood Memory Lawn in Phoenix and 1 in Cementerio Lindo in Phoenix. The total registration activities since his appointment: 254; 167 initial and 87 updates.

New Camp Brother: Robert D. McCord PhD., from Tucson, Az is our newest Camp Brother to be initiated into our Camp and the SUVCW. Robert's CW ancestor is his great-grandfather, Corporal Sterling W. Wickers, Co K, 50th NY Engineers.



Brother Robert D. McCord receiving his SUVCW certificate by Camp Commander David A. Swanson

Congratulations Brother Robert!

Guest Speaker: Our guest speaker was none other than Brother Jan Huber who gave a most interesting Power Point presentation about Oliver P. Morton, Indiana Civil War Governor. Jan gave a brief overview of Morton and went into detail about his telegraph slips and messages from August 1 to September 2, 1862 which have been preserved and digitized. Through these we can see that he was a very active manager when it came to the Indiana regiments and several times mentioned the 69th Indiana Volunteer Infantry which Jan's CW ancestor, Harvey K. Wolfe, was a member.

This was just a sampling of the available books of messages which as Jan said: "Were equivalent to our emails of today."

Great Job Brother Jan!



Brother Jan Huber giving his presentation



Special Notice of the August 24th Camp Meeting

Our August 24th Camp meeting will be a joint meeting with the Margaret Warner Wood Tent No. 1 DUVCW, which will start at noon at JJ North's Country Buffet, 1312 N. Scottsdale Rd. As previously mentioned this is a date change from our normal August meeting date.

Our speaker will be Brother Dave Kampf who will talk about the sailors and ships of the Union Navy and the Blockade (he even promised to come dressed in his Navy uniform!).

Be sure to tell the cashier that you are with the Civil War group.

Memorial Day Ceremony at the Phoenix Pioneer and Military Memorial Park

Once again, Camp Commander David Swanson was invited to speak on behalf of our Camp and the SUVCW about the significance of President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address to the county during the Civil War and how it relates to our current military service men and women. Swanson also gave the address to a very well attended gathering.

As in the past our Camp set up an information table which was manned by Brother Ron Jones. Brother Jan Huber bugled "Taps" which was very fitting for the ceremony.

Brother Al Harrica was the flag bearer for Co. B 1st New Mexico Volunteer Regiment of the Southwest Civil War Association. . Brother Al has in the past been very active with the group and this was his last appearance with it.



Brother Al Harrica



Brother Jan Huber

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

Our outstanding Graves Registration Officer Jan Huber has some very interesting information regarding Andrew J. Weaher which is contained below.

Medal of Honor Soldier in Greenwood Memory Lawn Cemetery, Phoenix, Arizona

The following inscription is on a flat grave marker in the Forest Lawn Section of Greenwood Memory Lawn Cemetery in Phoenix, Arizona:

Andrew J. Weaher
Medal of Honor
Pvt. Co B 8 US Cavalry
Indian Wars
May 22 1842 August 27 1920
AKA Andrew J. Weaher

The following records that may be associated with this soldier were found in various sources:

From the National Park Service, U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865 (Ancestry.com): Andrew J. Weaher, Union, Private in Co. A, 106th Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry.

From Historical Data Systems, compilation; U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles (Ancestry.com): Andrew Weaher; enlisted 3 Apr 1864; rank at enlistment: Private; State served: Pennsylvania; was wounded; survived the war; enlisted in Company K, Pennsylvania 48th Infantry Regiment; mustered out on 17 Jul 1865 at Alexandria, VA.

From the National Park Service; U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865 (Ancestry.com): Andrew Weaher, 2nd Regiment, U.S. Veteran Volunteer Infantry.

From the National Park Service; U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865 (Ancestry.com): Andrew J. Weaher, Private in Company A, 3rd Regiment, U.S. Veteran Volunteer Infantry.

A record for Andrew J. Weaher in U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914 (Ancestry.com): 21 May 1867; enlisted in Philadelphia, PA; born in Philadelphia, PA; occupation – umbrella maker; brown eyes, dark hair, fair complexion; Co. B, 8th Cav.; discharged 31 Dec 1868.

From an on-line website, Military Times: Andrew J. Weaher (aka: Andrew J. Weaher): Entered service in the US Army from Philadelphia, PA; earned the Medal of Honor during the Indian Campaigns for heroism in action in Arizona, August-October, 1868. In the late summer and fall of 1868, bands of hostile Apache Indians were marauding through the Arizona



Brother Ron Jones



CC David Swanson addressing the gathering



Territory, killing settlers and stealing livestock. Two Troops of the 8th Cavalry, a force of no more than 50-60 soldiers, were tasked with responding to secure settlements and keep the territory open for habitation. From August to October, Troops B and L were constantly in the saddle as they patrolled the territory. Though there were no major engagements, these troops were frequently attacked from ambush or sniped at from hidden ravines, and the 90-day period was one of intense danger and dedicated around-the-clock security for the Arizona Territory. At the end of the campaign, 34 of the men of these two troops (including 4 from Company L, 29 from Company B and one other trooper from the 8th Cavalry) were awarded Medals of Honor. The Medals were presented the following summer on July 24, 1869 in one of the largest Medal of Honor presentations to that date. Among the awardees was Private Andrew Weaheer, who was cited for "Bravery in scouts and actions against Indians".

Very similar information is recorded in Wikipedia: The engagements against the Apache Indians were in the Black Mountains of Arizona.

From the National Archives (Ancestry.com): U.S., Civil War Pension Index: a record for Andrew J. Weaheer: Service: Co. A, 3rd U.S.V V Inf.; Co. B, 8th U.S. Cav.; Co. A, 106th PA Inf.; filed on 11 Dec 1897, from Arizona; and Invalid Pension; Cert. # 1010615.

A record for Andrew J. Weaheer; U.S. National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938 (Ancestry.com): born about 1842 in Philadelphia, PA; admitted in 1910 at the age of 68; state of California, Los Angeles County, city of Sawtelle: Military History: enlisted 8 Aug 1861 at Philadelphia, A; Private; Co. A; 106th PA Inf.; discharged 10 Sep 1864 at Philadelphia; cause of discharge – term of service ended; disability upon admission: cataracts both eyes – blind. Enlisted 22 Feb 1865, as a Private in Co. A, 3rd U.S. Vet. Inf.; discharged 21 Feb 1866, at Ft. Snelling, MS. Domestic History: born in Philadelphia, PA; 68 years old; height 5' 5"; light complexion; gray eyes; gray hair; cannot read or write; Protestant religion; occupation – cook; residence subsequent to discharge: Phoenix, AZ; not married; name and address of nearest relative: a sister, Lizzie W Weaheer, 231 W. 3rd St., Canal Dover, OH. Date of admission: 27 Apr 1910; discharged at own request on 19 Oct 1911. Readmitted on? 22, 1918; discharged at own request on 7 Jul 1919. Pension certificate 1.010.615.

Editor's note: Thank you Brother Jan for some fascinating Civil War and Arizona history!



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

By David A. Swanson

Here is a continuation of articles regarding the John W. Owens Post No. 5, GAR from its inception in September 1885. This "historical sketch" includes a glimpse of the Post, the Department of Arizona GAR, the city of Phoenix and the territory and state of Arizona, taken solely from published Phoenix newspaper accounts.

This *Daily Phoenix Herald* account of the activities will take us in to 1889.

Saturday, July 28, 1888

G.A.R.

General Order No. 5
Headquarters Dep't of Arizona
Grand Army of the Republic
Ass't Adjutant General's Office
Tombstone, Ariz, July 23, 1888

I. The attention of all comrades of our order is called to the general order number 9, issued from National Headquarters, of date July 16, and all are cautioned against using the order for political purposes, or wearing the G.A.R. badge at political gatherings, or in any manner connecting the G.A.R. with either or any party during the coming election. (Article XI, Chapter 6, General Laws).

II. The Department Commander congratulates the posts and the good feeling and fraternal spirit shown among the members.

By Order

A.L. Grow
Dept. Commander

A.A. Atchinson
A.A. General

August 11, 1888

Talking of the Valley

From the Marietta (Pa) Times of the 4th instant, we clip the following item of interest to the people of the valley.

Interesting Lecture
Rev. Winfield Scott, D. D., of San Francisco, California, lectured last Tue. evening in the Lyceum Hall to a good audience, on the industries of the great

west, especially of California and Arizona. The lecture was replete with interesting facts and was listened to with attention. He dwelt more particularly upon the county of the Salt River valley, in and about Phoenix, Arizona. He described this valley as the largest body of irrigatable land; land in the west, as fertile as the valley of the Nile, and the perfection of climate. It is pre-eminently adapted to the fruit interest, and is equal if not superior to the best in California, enjoying the advantage of producing fruits a month earlier, and being about two days nearer the eastern markets. He believes it to be the finest raisin country in the United States, an industry that is the most profitable of all the fruit industries of our land. His description of the alfalfa fields, orchards, nurseries, vineyards and fine stock, excited much interest.

Mr. Charles W. Mills of Phoenix, Arizona, is here and expects to take a colony to that valley in September. A number have decided to go, and many are thinking of the favorable positions offered to secure a home in that valley.

August 27, 1888:

Col. Zabriskie has returned from California and of him the *Star* says: "He was invited to stump the state of California for Harrison, but owing to present private business had to decline. Should an arrangement be made by where Blaine will visit the coast, the colonel has been selected as a member of the reception committee and will be present to greet the Plumed Knight to the garden state. He is not, however, one of those who think the whole Republican party centers on Blaine, and in 1884 expressed the opinion that it was a mistake in putting him up for president, and the result showed he was right. The colonel informs us that he has made arrangements to locate in Los Angeles to practice his profession and will go there about January 1st. The people of Tucson will be loath to part with Colonel Zabriskie, there whom no more genial man ever lived in Arizona."

Monday, September 3, 1888:

Territorial

Hon. Geo. F. Coats, of Phoenix, was in Tempe Wednesday. Mr. Coates' name has been mentioned in conjunction with the office of county assessor on the

Republican ticket. He has many friends and if nominated will give his opponent a severe tussle.

Wednesday, September 19, 1888:

Major Ed Schwartz has an exhibition at his Curiosity Shop, some photographs of Phoenix scenes taken by Willis P. Haynes of Tucson, and they are well worth seeing. As works of art they are formidable and prove that the photographer as well as the painter requires inspiration and an eye to beauty.

October 17, 1888:

Mr. Geo. F. Coats, the Republican candidate for Assessor on the county ticket, is a gentleman of long and honorable standing in this county. For a number of years he conducted a most successful mercantile business among us and has accumulated some property in the county. Having retired from active commercial business he was elected Mayor of the City of Phoenix, which office he filled greatly to the credit of himself and the city and finally declined to be again elected to that responsible position. For good sound business judgment he is generally known throughout the community and he has become thoroughly conversant with values of property throughout the county by handling his own. For the office which he seeks there is no better qualified man in the county, nor is there one who is more thoroughly responsible. Mr. Coates is a man of mature age, and sound judgment into whose hands the property owners of Maricopa County can put their property for valuation with perfect safety, with perfect confidence that he will deal justly by them in all things. For such a man no property owner in the county can afford to do less than support him with all vigor possible. Mr. Coats will be elected and should be.

Wednesday, December 5, 1888:

G.A.R.

Stated meeting of the John W. Owens Post No. 5., this Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. sharp. Election of Officers and delegates to Department Encampment. All comrades invited to attend.

Thursday, December 6, 1888:

G.A.R. Election

John W. Owens Post No. 5, Grand Army of the Republic, at its regular meeting last evening elected the following officers for the ensuing term:

H. B. Lighthizer, Commander; J. D. Monihan, Senior Vice Commander; E. K. Baker, Junior Vice Commander; D. H. Wallace, Chaplain; J. E. Wharton, Surgeon; S. C. Symonds, Quartermaster; J. B. Cramer [Creamer] Officer of the Day; E. A. Copeland, Officer of the Guard.

Delegates to the Grand Encampment to be held in Tucson, January 15: John Gray, J. L. Ward, J. D. Monihan, W. T. Woods; alternates, Jno, Mullen, W.F. McNulty, B.A. Fickas, and C. S. Symonds.

Thursday, December 3, 1888:

G. A. R. Installation

John W. Owens Post No. 5, Department of Arizona, installed its officers last evening for the ensuing term, Junior Vice Commander Ed Schwartz officiating, as follows:

H. B Lighthizer, Post Commander; J. W. Wharton, Surgeon; D. H. Wallace, Chaplain; S. C. Symonds, Quartermaster; C. H. Knapp, Adjutant; J. B. Cramer [Creamer], Officer of the Day; J. D. Copeland, Officer, Guard; W. T. McNulty, Quartermaster Sergeant.

❧ 1889 ❧

Highlights of the year

The second annual Department Encampment at Tucson—officers elected; Tombstone selected as encampment meeting place for 1890; Memorial Day ceremonies; Post officer elections for Tempe Post No. 7.

The G. A. R.

The Grand Encampment of the Department, Grand Army of the Republic, met in Tucson on Tuesday of this week, and from the *Citizen* we take the following as to election of officers for the ensuing year:

A. B. [J] Sampson of Tucson, department commander; J.C. Creamer, of Phoenix, senior vice- commander; J S Kelsoe, of Tombstone, junior vice commander; J L Guthrie, chaplain; J E Wharton, medical director; J H Campbell, H B Lighthizer, Mr. Gregory, Geo Haxworth, and E A Love, commission of administration; Jno M. Jones, delegate to the national encampment and J L Ward as alternate.

Tombstone was selected as the place for the next annual encampment of the department on the first Monday in March 1890.

January 18, 1889, *Tombstone Prospector*:

G. A. R.

“The second annual encampment of the Department of Arizona, Grand Army of the Republic completed the business before it to-day at 1 o’clock, says the *Tucson Citizen*. Everything was harmonious and the best of feeling prevailed throughout the entire session.

Despite the muddy streets they were out early this morning. The contest between Geo. L. Coats, of Phenix [sic], and A. B. Sampson, of Tucson, was being energetically carried on in a spirit of friendship by the friends of each. Neither of these gentlemen were making any effort to secure the position, leaving the matter entirely with their friends. The contest was very **close and resulted in the election of Mr. Sampson by one vote.**

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: A. B. Sampson of Tucson Department Commander; J. C. Creamer, of Phenix [sic], senior vice-commander; J. L. Guthrie, chaplain; J. W. Wharton, medical director; J. II, Campbell, A. B. Lighthizer, Mr. Gregory, Geo. Haxworth, and A. E. Love, commission of administration; John M. Ward, alternate.

Tombstone was selected as the place for the next annual encampment of the department on the first Monday in March, 1890.”

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. Years ago I published quite a few of these and in recent contacts with our Camp Signals Officer, Will Vessels, he advised that he will soon begin posting these on the Camp website.

Email version of the Camp newsletter

The Camp newsletter is currently mailed via the US Postal Service to about 20 Brothers. Some of Brothers do not have internet/email service and it is a pleasure to mail the newsletters to them.

But, if you have an email address and you are capable of receiving the newsletters via the internet PLEASE ADVISE THE EDITOR. (Otherwise it will still be a pleasure to mail one to you as well).

The benefits of email reception are: full color vibrant pictures (unless you only receive black and white email pictures—just kidding), saves the Camp money, and after all these years the editor's staff can finally take a vacation.

Past Camp Commanders



Larry Fuller 1995-2003
David A. Swanson 2003-2006
Robert Hannon 2006-2008
John R. Conrad 2008-2010
David A. Swanson 2010-2011-2012



Camp Officers for 2013

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