

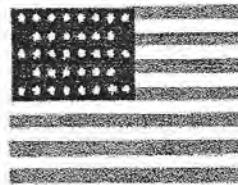
# The Camp Gazette

Volume I Number 3

November 1998



1861



1865

*The Official Newsletter of  
Camp Picacho Peak*

# The Camp Gazette

*The Official Newsletter of Camp Picacho Peak*

## DRUM BARRACKS REMINDER IN THE WEST

**I**n sunny California one will find a plethora of vacation locations. Amusement parks, scenic drives along coastal highways, giant Sequoias, the Golden Gate. However, did you know that there is also a small and little know Civil War barracks in Wilmont, CA?

A large white building nestled in a quiet seaside neighborhood is all that remains of Camp Drum. Don't judge this book by its cover!

Drum Barracks was saved from a certain demolition by the efforts of Walter Holstein, Oliver Vickery, and Joan Lorenzen. In 1963, they

formed the The Society for the Preservation of Drum Barracks. This provided the means to purchase the property. Three years of lobbying efforts by Mrs. Lorenzen and Mr. Vickery with many public officials, including then-governor Ronald Reagan, resulted in the purchase of the property by the State of California as an historical site open to the public.

The Society retained the responsibility for maintenance and the operation of the Barracks.

In 1986, the State turned the property over to the custody of the City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks. Drum Barracks Civil War Museum is a very unique historical attraction.

As North-South tensions flared into open hostilities in early 1861, the Federal government decided to consolidate and strengthen the Union presence in Southern California by moving men

and equipment from several widely dispersed military posts to the Los Angeles area, among them Fort Tejon and Fort Mojave. The purpose of this consolidation was twofold; first, to create a major staging area for California volunteers.

Secondly, it was clear that a sufficient force should be available locally to act on short notice to insure that California and the New Mexico and Arizona Territories remained a part of the Union.

Demonstrations in Los Angeles and other Southern California towns had shown that much of the local population, perhaps a majority, were Southern sympathizers, and a "secession company" was even holding public drills, deliberately displaying the Bear Flag instead of the Stars and Stripes. The military units ordered to the Los Angeles post were encamped first close to town at a site called Camp Fitzgerald.

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## LETTER FROM THE COMMANDER

**D**EAR BROTHERS:

November is almost here and some very welcome cooler weather!

I have some bad news and good news. The bad news first. Dan Zwiener is resigning as Camp Secretary, effective as of our November 7th Camp meeting. His heavy workload at school just got to heavy! Believe me without the tremendous amount of work Dan has done, this Camp would not be functioning at all. Actually, starting from scratch, he has processed over 40 members.

Now, the good news- Jerry McKenzie has volunteered to be our new Camp Secretary. He and Dan are just changing places. Dan will be on the Camp Council as Jerry takes over his duties. We're not missing a beat! All is well at Camp Picacho Peak.

Good news again- Dan Huskisson, Secretary of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, has been assigned to be the liaison officer to our camp. An unusual but welcomed decision by our Confederate friends. Welcome aboard, Dan.

I received a letter from the famed historian, Edwin Bearss reference battlefield preservation. You will find a copy reprinted in this issue.

See everyone November 14th.,  
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



Larry Fuller, Commander  
Camp Picacho Peak #1

Edwin C. Bearss  
1126 South 17th Street  
Arlington VA 22202

June 1998

Dear Friend of Civil War Battlefield Preservation:

During the course of the year, I have the privilege of leading many, many groups over Civil War battlefields. Almost all of those groups are disappointed and dismayed to learn of the preservation problems facing most of those battlefields.

I also have the privilege of receiving newsletters from many Civil War groups all over the country, and I continue to be disappointed and dismayed to see no notice of battlefield preservation news in many of those newsletters.

There are a few, of course, who have a regular column on preservation, for which much information is available from a variety of sources.

But the majority of these Civil War-oriented newsletters to not even mention the continuing battles for preservation at many important Civil War battlefields.

I am writing you to make a personal request that at least some space in your group's newsletter be devoted to battlefield preservation on a regular basis. If you don't feel you receive enough information for a regular column, drop me a note and I'll see to it that you do receive plenty of battlefield preservation information. Thank you in advance for your continued commitment to the study of Civil War history and to the preservation of its hallowed ground.

Sincerely,  
Edwin C Bearss  
Historian Emeritus

## CAMP NEWS & BUSINESS

### THE BRIEFING BOARD

Upcoming Events

**CAMP MEETING TO BE HELD:** A camp meeting of the Picacho Peak Camp #1 will be held on **Saturday, November 14, 1998** at **1200 noon** at the **American Legion Post #44, 7145 E. 2nd St., Scottsdale, AZ**

Please RSVP no Later than Wednesday, November 11, 1998.

Make your checks to the **Camp Picacho Peak, SUVCW**

Send to **John Coon**

**14515 Granite Valley Dr.**

**#D543**

**Sun City West, AZ 85375-**

**6052**

We hope you can attend.

### SUN CITY AREA MEMBERS!

#### CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

..meets the first Tuesday of each month in the Hoover Room at the Bell Library, October through May. Anyone interested in obtaining information about the Civil War Roundtable contact President John Hieronymous at 977-7478.

#### THANKS TO THE MEMBERS

Your response for articles was wonderful. For those of you anticipating the publication of your articles in this issue your articles will be used in future issues.

Please, continue to send your articles to the Camp Editor.

### FEATURED SPEAKER at the upcoming Camp meeting

**Dave Kampf**

Member of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Authority on weapons of the Civil War

*(Participation is always encouraged)*

#### TOPIC

**BUFFALO SOLDIERS**

#### *Drum Barracks...cont.*

During the last half of 1861, regular troops from other posts and new recruits poured into Camp Latham, which was then under the command of Capt. Winfield Scott Hancock, who was assigned later that year to duty in the East, where he became one of Grant's favorite generals.

Lieut. Col. Harvey Lee assumed command of Camp Drum on October 7, 1862. through his efforts. The picturesque buildings we think of as Drum Barracks and the remaining junior officers quarters were not even a concept until Col. Lee had his say. He must have been a dedicated

officer who "told it like it was:"

Eventually, the buildings were raised and it was recommended that it be designated as Fort Drum, rather than Camp Drum.

Today, just as much as the site is recognized for its historical value, local legend has it that the barracks is haunted!

Drum Barracks is located near Long Beach, 1053 Cary Avenue, Wilmington, CA. Tour hours are Tue, Wed, & Thur 10 AM, 11AM, & 12 NOON, AND SAT 12:30 PM, 1:30 PM, & 2:30 PM. For more information call, (213) 548-7509.

# CAMP REPORTS

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

On Saturday, October 3, a meeting of the camp council was held at the Executive Park Hotel in Phoenix. The main item on the agenda was to select a site and time for our fall meeting. It was suggested that we try to meet at the Arizona Club again. However, concern was expressed over the price of the menu. It was determined that we should select a different site for our fall meeting due to the low turnout for this meeting and that the winter meeting should be held at the Arizona Club. Some council members expressed concern over the price of the menu may prevent some members from attending. Others were of the opinion that the high quality of this meeting place makes up for the price. *It would be hoped that our members would express themselves on this subject.*

Discussion then centered on the time and place for the fall meeting. November 7 was the preferred time for the meeting but since then it has come to light that we would not have a guest speaker. Since that meeting, it was decided that November 14 would be a date on which we could get a guest speaker: Dave Kampf. The American Legion in Scottsdale was then selected for the meeting place due to availability.

The resignation of the camp secretary was accepted. Brother Jerry McKenzie volunteered to perform the duties as secretary and brother Zwiener agreed to serve on the camp council. Brother Zwiener resigned due to his increasing demands at work.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

JUNE 30, 1998

J.R. Coon

BANK BALANCE - March 31, 1998 \$ 383.83

### RECEIPTS

1998 Dues	\$ 200.00
New Members	140.00
Name tags	50.00
Reimbursement for Board lunch Luncheon	33.00
274.00	
Check not cashed (added back)	.70
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 697.70</b>

### DISBURSEMENTS

Kepeco (name tags)	\$ 69.03
Ex. Park Hotel (Board Meeting)	41.69
Nat. SUVCW (merchandise)	61.00
Nat. SUVCW (quarterly dues)	110.00
Newsletter (Dan Gray)	125.83
Luncheon	207.00
Refund's (3) Luncheon	27.00
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$ 641.55</b>

BANK BALANCE - June 30, 1998 \$ 439.98

## FINANCIAL REPORT

October 3, 1998

J.R. Coon

SEPTEMBER 30, 1998

BANK BALANCE - June 30, 1998 \$ 439.98

### RECEIPTS

New members:	140.00
(Taylor, Heller, Pohlman, Cusack)	

### DISBURSEMENTS

Kepeco, badges	8.95
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BANK BALANCE - September 30, 1998 \$571.03

## THE MEMBER'S CORNER

Excerpted from "Roster & Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion,"

Volume 5. Des Moines, IA: Emory H. English, State Printer, 1911.

On January 26, 1865, the Thirty-fourth Iowa was assigned to the Third Brigade of the Second Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, and, embarking on transport, was conveyed to Barrancas, Fla., where it went into camp and remained for about five weeks, awaiting the completion of preparations for the Mobile campaign. On March 12, 1865, the regiment, with its brigade and division, moved to Pensacola Fla. On

March 20, 1865, the regiment took up the line of march, with its brigade and division, in the direction of Mobile, Ma. The progress of the troops was slow, much of the time being occupied in the construction of corduroy roads, the route for the greater part of the way being through swamps. Owing to the slow progress made, the rations were nearly exhausted before the march was ended, and the troops suffered greatly from

## THE CAPTURE OF FORT BLAKELY

submitted by Glenn C. Taylor

hunger. On the 2d of April the weary march was completed, and the troops went into camp in the vicinity of Fort Blakely. Preparations for the siege of that rebel stronghold at once began. The troops were placed in position, supporting the batteries, and the bombardment of the fort was vigorously kept up until the 9th of April, 1865, upon which date a general assault was ordered. The brigade to which the Thirty-fourth Iowa was attached occupied the

*Continued Page Eight*

### *...from the Historian* THE BATTLE OF THE CRATER.

At 3:30 A. M. the men and officers were in a feverish state of expectancy, the majority of them having been awake all night. Daylight came slowly. Four o'clock arrived, officers and men began to get nervous, having been on their feet four hours; still the mine had not been exploded. General Ledlie then directed me to go to General Burnside and report to him that the command had been in readiness to move since 3:30 A. M. and to inquire the cause of the delay of the explosion. I found General Burnside, delivered my message, and received the reply from the general that there was some trouble with the fuse dying out, but an officer had gone into the gallery to ignite it again, and that the explosion would soon take place.

I returned immediately, and just as I arrived the mine was sprung. It was a magnificent spectacle, and as the mass of earth went up into the air, carrying with it men, guns, carriages,

and timbers, and spread out like an immense cloud as it reached its altitude, so close were the

Union lines that the mass appeared as if it would descend immediately upon the troops waiting to make the charge. This caused them to break and scatter to the rear, and about ten minutes were consumed for the cloud of dust to pass off. The order was then given for the advance. As no part of the Union line of breastworks had been removed the troops clambered over them as best they could. This in itself broke the ranks, and they did not stop to re-form, but pushed ahead toward the crater, about 130 yards distant, the debris from the explosion having covered up the abatis and chevaux-de-frise in front of the enemy's works.

Little did these men anticipate what they would see upon arriving there: an enormous hole in the ground about 30 feet deep, 60 feet wide, and 170 feet long, filled with dust, great blocks of clay, guns, broken carriages,

projecting timbers, and men buried in various ways - some up to their necks, others to their waists, and some with only their feet and legs protruding from the earth.

The whole scene of the explosion struck every one dumb with astonishment as we arrived at the crest of the debris. It was impossible for the troops of the Second Brigade to moved forward in line, as they had advanced; and, owing to the broken state they were in, every man crowding up to look into the hole, and being pressed by the First Brigade, which was immediately in rear, it was equally impossible to move by the flank, by any command, around the crater. Before the brigade commanders could realize the situation, the two brigades became inextricably mixed, in the desire to look into the hole.

*This is a brief excerpt from the BATTLES AND LEADERS OF THE CIVIL WAR, VOLUME IV, by William H. Powell, Major, USA. The Battle for Petersburg Crater was a complete failure, born from a unique idea to win a battle.*

**SONS OF UNION VETERANS**  
**CAMP PICACHO PEAK**  
**CAMP OFFICERS, 1997-1998**

COMMANDER	Larry Fuller 6801 E. Camelback Rd. S114 Scottsdale, AZ 85251 945-9816	CAMP COUNCIL	Richard Graffin 10002 N. 7th ST. #1123 Phoenix, AZ 85020 870-1728
SR. COMMANDER	Robert Bohannon 27202 N. 150th ST Scottsdale, AZ 82555 471-2222	CAMP COUNCIL	Jerry McKenzie 4242 N. 10th Pl. Phoenix, AZ 85014 234-1672
TREASURER	John Coon 14515 Granite Valley Dr. #D543 Sun City West, AZ 85375 584-3304	CAMP COUNCIL	Michael Pierce 1823 Canary Way Chandler, AZ 85248 786-3060
SECRETARY	Daniel C. Zwiener 2561 W. Camino Ebanio Tucson, AZ 85742 (520) 797-3127	CAMP CHAPLAIN	Robert Baxter 7877 S. 12th ST Phoenix, AZ 85040 877-3619
HISTORIAN	Robert Hannan 8445 E. Depew Ave. Mesa, AZ 85208 380-9153	CAMP GAZETTE EDITOR	Daniel Gray 6850 W. Sierra St. Peoria, AZ 85345 646-0525

**CAMP MEETINGS:** The Camp meetings for the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Camp Picacho Peak meet three times per year in the months of February, May, and November. Times and dates and camp meeting sites are announced in this newsletter.

**CAMP DUES:** Total dues for full members are \$25.00 per year, which includes National Dues and Camp Dues. New members first dues are \$35.00.

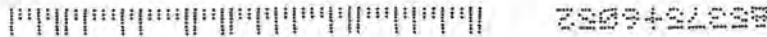
*Fort Blakely...cont.*

center of the line of General Andrew's division, and he made a most gallant charge over that portion of the enemy's works in their front, and, notwithstanding the brave and stubborn resistance of the enemy, the works were soon captured, together with that portion of the rebel garrison. General Andrew's division had taken possession of a line of works three-quarters of a mile long, had captured eight hundred prisoners, together with their arms, battle flags, all the artillery on that part of the line, and the ammunition magazines, together with all the supplies and other property belonging to that portion of the

rebel garrison. The Thirty-fourth Iowa was conspicuous in the charge, and sustained a loss of fifteen men, killed and wounded. In the meantime, the assault was being made at all points on the line of investment, with equal success, and the rebel commander, realizing the futility of further resistance, ordered the white flag to be displayed, in token of the surrender of the entire garrison, and the Stars and Stripes were soon waving over the captured fort. That night the Thirty-fourth Iowa was encamped inside the works of Fort Blakely, and the next day the Union flag was seen proudly waving over the city of Mobile and all the defenses of the harbor.

*Orlando J. Clark, great-great-grandfather of Glenn Clark Taylor of Phoenix, participated in the assault on Fort Blakely. This is verified by his Individual Muster-in-Roll. he was a veteran of many other battles, including the siege of Vicksburg, a previous campaign at Mobile, and the Galveston, TX, expedition.*

*He was promoted from first sergeant to second lieutenant "in the field near Pensacola" shortly before the march to Fort Blakely began. Clark enlisted in August 1862 at Decarah, IA. The regiment was disbanded Aug. 29, 1865, at Davenport, IA. All four of his brothers also served in the Civil War.*



John Coon  
14515 Granite Valley Dr #D-543  
Sun City West AZ 85375

FORWARDING AND ADDRESS  
CORRECTION REQUIRED

Camp Picacho Peak  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
6801 E. Camelback Rd. Apt S114  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251-2430

# The Camp Gazette

