



# SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

## PICACHO PEAK CAMP No. 1

### ARIZONA CAMP-at-LARGE



## CAMP NEWSLETTER



October 2013

Camp Web site: [suvchwaz.org](http://suvchwaz.org)

### Minutes of the August 24, 2013 joint meeting with the Margaret Warner Wood Tent No. 1 DUVCW

Location:  
Deer Valley Airport Restaurant  
702 W. Deer Valley Rd.  
Phoenix, Az.  
623-582-5454

Camp Commander David A. Swanson and Tent President Verna Maleski called the meeting to order at 12: 00 p.m. We had 34 Sisters, Brothers, and guests in attendance.

Welcome remarks were given by both Swanson and Maleski and officer reports for both organizations were suspended until our next individual meetings. During this meeting the Sisters and Brothers had a most enjoyable time getting to know each other and socializing. Both Tent President Maleski and Camp Commander Swanson agreed that we will continue to hold joint meetings each August. We are the only two organizations in the state of Arizona representing the Allied Orders, and as such, interaction will hopefully be much more frequent.

All Brother and Sisters were notified previously that our Camp meeting location (JJ's Buffet in Scottsdale) had gone out of business. We found this out about two weeks or so before this meeting and the scramble was on. Restaurants with adequate meeting rooms are hard to find and we were fortunate to find the Deer Valley Airport Restaurant. As a side note, the restaurant, room, food, and service (as we later found out) were excellent.

### National Encampment overview

Senior Vice Commander John Conrad, as a Department-at-Large delegate, attended the 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at Brookfield, Wisconsin which took place between August 9-11, 2013.

Brother Conrad gave a very comprehensive overview of the Encampment. He also gave an overview of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of

the Republic and presented information specific to the Encampment some of which follows:

Membership: Slightly over 6,400 Brothers are currently in the SUVCW which includes 213 new Brothers in the past year. Two hundred and two Brothers were in attendance at the Encampment, including one junior.

Business Session: Information was given regarding nominations, elections and installation of officers; awards, campfire and courtesy hour, and the Allied Orders banquet.

Key actions: Some of the key actions of the Encampment were: Committee on Juniors to develop programs of interest for Juniors was continued; discussion of the tax status of National, Departments and Camps; made permanent the Promotion and Marketing and the Vision and Planning Committees; establish leadership training program; the launching of the GAR Records website at [www.garrecords.org](http://www.garrecords.org), and many other items.

Future Encampments:

August 13-17, 2014, Marietta, Georgia;

August, 2015, Richmond, VA (150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the Civil War);

August 10-15, 2016, Springfield, Illinois (150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the GAR)—all 5 Allied Orders will be together.

### Camp meeting speakers:

Camp Brother Dave Kampf and Mike Groff, (SVC member) gave outstanding presentations about life in the US and Confederate navies. These two need to take their presentation "on the road" as it was that informative.

Brother Kampf was dressed as a US sailor complete with cutlass and pistol. He contrasted the US Civil War Navy and Army in areas such as: total enlistments, total casualties (including deaths and deaths by disease).

He continued his discussion by talking about the uniform, ships, and the life of a sailor on them and on blockading duty.

Mike Groff wore a Confederate navy uniform (civilian clothes) and gave a detailed and very interesting talk about life on an ironclad and life on ships such as the CSS Huntley. He also brought his fine collection of Confederate navy ships.

Unfortunately this brief overview of their presentations does not do either any real justice—you had to have been there!

Both Dave and Mike were given certificates of commendation by Camp Commander Swanson for their presentations.

**Following are pictures of the meeting.**



Camp Commander David Swanson and Tent President Verna Maleski



Camp Senior Vice Commander John Conrad giving his report



Sister Barbra Metzger giving her report



Brother David Kampf in uniform



Mike Goff



Commander Swanson presenting certificates to speakers Dave Kampf and Mike Goff



Some of the Sisters and Brothers in attendance



Very nice turn-out



### In Memoriam

Robert Hannan, Picacho Peak Past Camp Commander 2006-2008, passed away on October 9, 2013.

Mary Bloom, wife of Camp Secretary /Treasurer Jerry Bloom, passed away on September 19, 2013.

### Picacho Peak Camp officer elections

Camp officer elections will take place on November 9, 2013.

The following Brothers are running unopposed:

- Commander: John Conrad PCC
- Senior Vice Commander: Gerald N. Bloom
- Junior Vice Commander: Jim Heller
- Secretary/Treasurer: Gerald N. Bloom
- Camp Council (3 positions):
- Mark Haynes
- Don Strachota
- David Palmateer

The names of Camp Brothers appointed to fill “appointive officer” positions in the Camp will be presented at the meeting and listed in the January 2014 newsletter.

As a reminder: Officers in our Camp are elected/appointed and installed at each November meeting; therefore, once the ceremony is over (not the meeting), the newly elected/appointed officers take charge of the Camp.

We will also elect delegates/alternates to the 2014 Department-at-Large Encampment which will take place on August 13, 2014, (the first day of the National Encampment) will run from August 13-17, 2014, at Marietta, Georgia;



### New Camp Brother

Col. John E. Coulahan USAF Ret. of Oro Valley, AZ recently had his membership approved in the SUVCW and our Camp. Brother John’s CW ancestor is his Great-great grandfather Michael J. Burns, Co. F., 12<sup>th</sup> Rhode Island Infantry. Michael was killed in action during the Battle of Fredericksburg in 1862.

Welcome Brother John Coulahan!



### November 9<sup>th</sup> Camp meeting

Just a reminder, our next Camp meeting will take place on Saturday, November 9, 2013, at noon at the Deer Valley Airport Restaurant, 702 W. Deer Valley Rd. Phoenix, AZ.

Our speaker for the November meeting will be Joye Kohl and her topic is: Women in the Civil War.

Both Brother John and his wife Joye have given excellent presentations previously and this will be no exception.

Please plan on attending!



### 2014 Camp meeting dates—changes!

All Camp meetings will take place at the Deer Valley Airport Restaurant, 702 W. Deer Valley Rd, Phoenix, Az at noon on the following dates:

- February 15<sup>th</sup>
- May 17<sup>th</sup>
- August 23<sup>rd</sup>
- November 15<sup>th</sup>

Please mark your calendars!

### 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 through 1889.

Friday, May 24, 1889:

### Memorial Day Observance.

Preparations for a proper observance of Memorial day in this city have been completed by the Grand

Army of the Republic and the programme shows that no time of trouble has been spared to make it one of the most impressive occasion in this city. The exercises will commence early in the afternoon of the 30<sup>th</sup> inst. and will consist of a parade by the G. A. R. headed by the band, in which the city council and all other societies have been invited to participate, after which the usual annual ceremonies will be proceeded with on the plaza, where a large monument will be erected to the memory of the dead heroes, the base of which will be strewn with flowers of every description donated by the patriotic ladies of the city.

The programme will be continued in the evening on the plaza, when the Hon. Wilbur F. Lunt, a member of the G.A.R., will deliver an oration on the heroic dead, and Miss Parce, the talented elocutionist, will read an appropriate poem, the exercises to be interspersed with music.

Tempe post, G. A. R. have accepted the invitation to observe the day in this city, and a special train will be run for their benefit.

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Line of March

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In the commemoration of memorial day by the John W. Owen post, G.A.R., of his city, an extended line of march has been prepared, in which the following societies will participate:

Advance Guard.  
City Marshal and Aids.

Band.  
Marshal and Staff.  
J. B. Creamer, Sen, Vice Dep't Com'd'r.  
And  
Department Staff Officers.  
Mexican Veterans.  
John A. Logan Post, Tempe,  
Thomas Gregory, Commander.  
John W. Owen Post No. 5,  
H. B. Lighthizer, Commander.  
Visiting Comrades and ex-Soldiers  
Patriarchs Militant.  
A. C. Churchill, Commandant.  
Phoenix Lodge No 2., I.O.O.F.  
Select Knights, Joseph Campbell, Com'd'r.  
Lodge of A. O. U. W.  
City Officials.  
Ladies' Flower Committee.  
Fire Department, Under the Command  
of Frank Czarnowaski.  
Knights of Pythias Lodge No. 2.

Garden City Lodge, I. O. G. T.  
Citizens of Foot.  
Equestrians.  
Carriages, Etc., Etc.

The column will for on Washington street, right resting of Montezuma street, march west to Cortez street, north to Monroe street, east to Pima street, south to Washington street, west until it reaches the plaza, where it will form for the memorial services.

All are requested to be on the ground at 4 o'clock p.m., as the column will move 4:15 sharp.

Ed. Schwartz.  
Marshal of the Day.

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Wednesday, May 29, 1889:

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**Tomorrow's Program**

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**How Memorial Day will be Observed in this City**

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The published program of the exercises to be observed by John W. Owen post, G. A. R., in this city tomorrow, in commemoration of Memorial day, promises to be unusually interesting and impressive. A line of march has been prepared, which will form at the city hall at 4 o'clock and proceed through the city and return to the plaza, where the regular memorial services will be conducted. A large number of societies of the city will participate in the parade, as well as the G. A. R, post and other orders from Tempe, thus making an imposing procession.

In the evening the program will be continued by instrumental music by the Phoenix band and vocal selections by the quartette, consisting of Messer's. Hershey, Heenan, Burtis and Williams. Adjutant Knapp will read the orders of the day, and Post Commander Lighthizer will make the opening remarks. The oration of the evening will be delivered by Hon. Wilbur F. Lunt, an honored member of the noble order of the G. A. R., and his eloquence will keep the audience deeply interested in the story of the civil strife which a quarter of a century ago caused the sacrifice of thousands of lives for the cause of liberty. The talented elocutionist, Miss Bertha Parce, will deliver a declamation on "Memorial Day," and will also sing the "Star Spangled Banner" during the evening. All business will be suspended during the day throughout the city to do honor to the occasion, including all stores, the banks and the post office.

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Friday, May 31, 1889:

Yesterday was sacred to the memory of the comrades of the Grand Army who a quarter of a century ago dared suffering and death that the nation might live. Hundreds of thousands of a grateful people and aging sorrowing comrades of the dead bore to the peaceful resting places of the dead all over this broad free land testimonials of their tender regard for those who have fought the fight of life, and while going down in its most terrible storms, have won the heights of immortality by their devotion to the country they love. The Grand Army boys of Phoenix and this valley, together with the people generally, joined in a most earnest demonstration commemorative of the occasion yesterday. All business houses closed up at noon. At 4 o'clock the parade took place, and at 8 o'clock in the evening the literary exercises on the plaza. The oration by the Hon. Wilbur F. Lunt, himself a member of the Grand Army, was a noble tribute to those of his comrades who fell in the battle's front or were destined for the more trying ordeal of wounds and shattered constitutions and the hand of Time. Our community did nobly on the occasion, and the plaza was packed to hear the words of eloquence and tender fellowship that fell from the lips of the gifted orator.

Friday Evening, December 6, 1889:

**G. A. R. Election**

At its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, the John W. Owens Post No. 5, G. A. R., elected the following officers for the ensuing year:  
 W. T. Woods, Sr. Commandant; J. D. Monihon, S. V. Commandant; Copeland, J. V. Commandant; S. C. Symonds, Q. M.; Ed Schwartz, O. D; Wm McNulty, Chaplain; Dr Hyde, Surgeon; Geo Kingman O. D.

Saturday, December 7, 1889:

**Jeff Davis' Memory**

Charleston, S.C. Dec 7—A memorial meeting is to be held here Wednesday to show respect to the memory of Jefferson Davis.

Raleigh, N.C., Dec. 7—Flags on the capitol and public buildings are at half-mast. At a mass meeting last evening governor Fowler presided. A committee was appointed to attend the funeral of Jefferson Davis.

Richmond, Dec. 7—Governor Lee sent the following telegram to Mrs. Davis: "The sympathetic chords of the hearts of our people are deeply touched at the loss of one we have ever regarded with the greatest affection, the memory of whose valor and virtues we will ever hold sacred."

December 13, 1889:

**G.A.R. Election**

John A. Logan Post No 7, Department of Arizona, Grand Army of the Republic, at Tempe.

The annual election of officers for 1890, held on the evening of the 12<sup>th</sup> inst; resulted as follows:

Commander I.B. Sampson; Senior Vice Commander, L. H. Hawkins; Junior Vice Commander, B. F. Hunt; Surgeon, Dr. Wm Faris; Chaplain, H. R. Lewis; Quartermaster, T. Gregory; Officer of the Day, W. W. Fellows; Officer of the Guard, N. Zubrod; Delegate to Department Encampment, G. B. Scidmore; Alternate, L H Hawkins

Installation occurs first meeting in January.

*Editor's note:* The John A. Logan Post No. 7 was not a long lived Post and there isn't much information about it.



**First Call for 2014 dues**

Dues for 2014 are now being gratefully accepted by our secretary/treasurer.

Dues are \$36 for members and \$10 for junior members.

Please do not wait until the last minute because you may forget and then we have to hire bounty hunters *and then things can get ugly.*

Please mail them to Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Bloom, (see page 7) or pay them at our Nov 9<sup>th</sup>, meeting.

**Join your Camp Brothers and Sisters of Margaret Warner Wood Tent No. 1 at the dedication ceremony for the World War II Memorial in Phoenix, Saturday December 7, at 8:00 a.m.**



*Wesley Bolin Plaza Memorial Park at the Arizona State Capitol will be the location of a new memorial honoring the nearly 2,000 men and women of Arizona who sacrificed their lives in World War II. The public is encouraged to attend the WWII Memorial dedication at the state Capitol in Phoenix beginning at 8 a.m. on Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7, 2013. . .*

*The dream of the WWII Memorial began in 2011 when two historic gun barrels were about to be sold for scrap metal in Virginia. Efforts to bring the guns to Phoenix finally came about in the spring of 2012. The two gun barrels, a 14-inch gun off the USS Arizona and a 16-inch gun off the USS Missouri, will flank Mediterranean-blue steel pylons bearing placards with the names of Arizona's fallen WWII soldiers. The nine pylons, representing the nine minutes of the sinking of the USS Arizona, will symbolically represent the silhouette outline of the structural support of the ship.*

*The gun barrel from the USS Arizona signifies the beginning of American involvement in WWII and the gun barrel from the Battleship USS Missouri symbolizes the signing of the peace treaty ending WWII. "They really represent the bookends of World War II," said Secretary of State Ken Bennett, who led the effort to bring the guns to Arizona.*

*Memorial pavers [can be purchased] and will be installed as a walkway surrounding the new memorial now under construction. Funds will go toward the construction of the memorial. All funds come from private donations and contributions and no taxpayer dollars have been used for the project.*

[This information was taken in part from the following]  
<http://www.prescottaz.com/m/Articles.aspx?ArticleID=123752>

about our specific involvement in this dedication (if any other than just attending) prior to the event. **If you plan on attending the event please call David Swanson at, 480-515-2798, a day or two before the event and he can give you more specific information.**



### **Miscellaneous Civil War information**

Civil War Pensions: Despite the fact that the Civil War ended April 9, 1865 (53,630 days ago, for reference), the government is still paying out veterans' pensions. Records from the Department of Veterans' Affairs show that two children of Civil War veterans, as of SEP 2011, are receiving pensions from their fathers' service. Department of Veteran Affairs spokesman Phil Budahn says the VA last checked in on the benefits recipients in the fall. Both were alive, but in poor health. Budahn says it's likely that the children of the Civil War veterans, who have wished to remain anonymous, both had illnesses that prevented them from ever becoming self-sufficient.. Trevor Plante, a reference chief at the National Archives says it's also possible that the beneficiaries were young when their fathers died and had no living mothers to care for them, which would also qualify them for their fathers' pensions.

Plante says unlike current times, where pensions are granted to dependents based off military service numbers or social security numbers, in the late 19th century, people had to prove their connection to a deceased veteran by sending the government evidence of their relationship. Children, parents and spouses submitted photographs, love letters, marriage certificates, diaries and gifts to prove they were eligible for pensions. "Genealogists love pension files because you never know what you are going to get. Civil War pensions are especially fascinating because of the wide array of things people submitted as evidence." In the 19th and early 20th centuries, only Union soldiers were eligible for military benefits. It wasn't until the 1930s that confederate soldiers began receiving pensions from the federal government. Prior to that, confederate soldiers could apply for benefits through the state they resided in. The last verified Civil War veteran, Albert Woolson, died in 1956 at age 109. The last widow, Gertrude Janeway, died in 2003 at age 93. [Source: U.S. News & World Report Lauren Fox article 10 Feb 2012 ++]

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Our Camp has purchased a memorial paver.  
Commander Swanson will receive more information

**Address Change**

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

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

**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—**

**2014 ANNUAL DUES**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dues for calendar year 2014 are \$36.00

Dues enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Junior dues for calendar year 2014 are \$10.00

Junior Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check out to Picacho Peak Camp No. 1 SUVCW

Please mail to:

Jerry Bloom, Secretary/Treasurer  
4323 N. 28th Way  
Phoenix, AZ 85016

**Past Camp Commanders**



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



**Camp Officers for 2013**

**Commander:**

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E-mail: Swanson1854@Yahoo.com

**Senior Vice-Commander:**

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**Junior Vice-Commander:**

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**Secretary/Treasurer:**

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

**Chaplain:**

Mark Haynes (928) 755-3714  
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**Eagle Scout Coordinator:**

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**Signals Officer:**

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**Historian**

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**Color Bearer:**

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David A. Swanson (Camp Commander)

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