



# JOURNAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTHWEST



To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union 1861 to 1865

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## Department News

### 2022 JROTC/ROTC AWARDS

#### Picacho Peak Camp No. 1

##### School

Cactus—Bryan Gamez—Presenter —Bob Archibald  
 Tolleson—Recipient—No Contact.—Presenter—JROTC staff  
 Moon Valley —Recipient—Breadon Hamilton—Presenter—Dan Huskisson  
 Dysart—Recipient—Avery Anderson—Presenter—Dan Huskisson  
 Glendale—Recipient—Samuel Davis—Presenter—Dan Huskisson  
 Globe—Recipient—Callysta Halbert—Presenter—JROTC staff  
 Independence—No Contact—Presenter—JROTC staff  
 Agua Fria—Recipient—Jeffrey Getz—Presenter—JROTC staff  
 Cortez—Recipient—Ty Rolland—Presenter—JROTC staff  
 Westview—Recipient—No Contact—Presenter—Mailed  
 Deer Valley—Recipient—Ricky Cadena--Presenter—Bob Archibald  
 Apollo—Recipient—Cynthia Luna—Presenter—Dan Huskisson  
 Red Mountain—Recipient—Ethan Hoover —Presenter—Maura Mackowski—DUVCW  
 Greenway (2022)—Recipient—Sean Calhoun (2021)—Recipient—Toby Harms (2020)—Recipient—Alex Ramirez, Presenter—Bob Archibald  
 Thunderbird—Recipient—Jacob Jenna—Presenter—Dan Huskisson  
 Skyline—Recipient—Elex Izaquirre—Presenter—Maura Mackowski—DUVCW

#### General R. H. G. Minty Camp No. 2

Flowing Wells—Recipient—Joshua Benson—Presenter—Robert Irwin

Cienega—Recipient—Victoria Brouse—Presenter—Robert Irwin  
 Cholla—Recipient—Malachi Eafon—Presenter—Robert Irwin

#### General U. S. Grant Camp No. 3

Chinle—Recipient—No Contact—Presenter—JROTC staff  
 Coconino—Recipient—Derrick Sommers —Presenter—Dale Enlow  
 Bradshaw Mountain—Recipient—Kael Rivera—Presenter—Rick Stephens  
 Embry-Riddle (Army)—Recipient—Samuel Labaron—Presenter—Tim Prater/Rick Stephens  
 Embry-Riddle (Air Force)—Recipient—Jordan Owens—Presenter—Rick Stephens  
 NAU (Army)—Recipient—Classroom—Presenter—JROTC staff  
 NAU (Air Force)—Recipient—Bethany Vawter —Presenter—Frank Baker  
 Pinon—Recipient—Sky Johnson —Presenter—JROTC staff  
 Prescott—Recipient—Varick Funk—Presenter—Rick Stephens  
 Hopi—Rebuilding program  
 Albuquerque—(2022)—Recipient—Edger Ortiz —2021)—Recipient—Natatia Baltazar—Presenter—Ken Dusenberry  
 Tuba City—Recipient—Kalavyna Lee—Presenter—JROTC staff

### Message from Brother Bob Archibald, Past Department JROTC/ROTC Coordinator

This report is for the 2022 end of year results and my final as the JROTC/ROTC Program Coordinator for the Dept. of the Southwest. This year each Camp proceeded individually once the documents and medals were directly received. I was available for advice the entire year. One unexpected issue was that the Navy units in New Mexico have received a Navy Edit to eliminate Hereditary based awards like ours. It is

similar to the Air Force edit for schools under its oversight for California JROTC Air Force Units issued several years ago that included the Mohave High School. Two Navy units in New Mexico are now impacted, so will be removed from our awards in the future. Of interest however, is that none of the Arizona Air Force or Navy units have raised the issue. Perhaps this action is based on the political party leadership in each state.

I wish to thank all of the Brothers that have been available to assist me each year. It has been difficult in obtaining presenters at each school. For me, each of our presentations is as important as the next one and each is appreciated whether it is in Flagstaff, Tucson or New Mexico. Of particular thanks and recognition goes to Brother Dan Huskisson who has contributed his time and interest in making the largest number of presentations for Picacho Peak Camp #1 for a number of years.

General R.H.G. Minty Camp #2 new program lead, Brother Robert Irwin, processed three schools with little effort and demonstrated an interest in adding more schools

My sincere thanks to Tim Prater and his enthusiasm of the program at General U.S. Grant Camp #3 and has been active in developing a cadre of presenters.

I would be remiss in not recognizing our DUVCW Sisters and their presentations at several schools across the Valley in Mesa. I have hopes that more Brothers will get involved and have knowledge of this priority. Perhaps each Camp can provide time in explaining the program several times a year and how each of us has a role to be made.

Again, my sincere thanks to each of you for your contributions.

—Brother Bob Archibald.

### Greenway HS JROTC presentation



Brother Bob Archibald & Cadet Toby Harms

### Dysart HS JROTC presentation



Brother Dan Huskisson & Cadet Avery Anderson

### Coconino High School Army JROTC

Detrick Sommers was awarded the SUVCW medal and certificate. The young lady is dale's grand niece, Brigid Enlow. She gave the opening speech and took home several awards, including Expert Marksman!!! Way to go!!!



Brother Dale Enlow & Cadet Detrick Sommers



Dale Enlow & grand niece Brigid Enlow

**Embry Riddle Aeronautical University ROTC**



Gen. U. S. Grant Brothers Rick Stephens & Tim Prater present a SUVCW ROTC Certificate of Commendation & Medal to Cadet Samuel LeBaron

Freedom Is Not Free  
God bless America

"I believe that if you are going to do something you should give it your all. I also believe that America is a fantastic country that is worth dying for. With these two beliefs combined I try to give ROTC everything I have so that when the time comes, I can do what needs to be done to protect our fantastic country.

It is hard to tell how well I am actually doing in this program so recognition means so much. I am thrilled that some think I show attributes of military excellence. Thank you so much. I will try my absolute best to continue live up to the award "Son of the Union".

Sincerely, Samuel LeBaron

**NAU Air Force ROTC**



Brother Frank Baker & Cadet Bethany Vawter

**Margaret Wood Tent No. 1 DUVCW 20th Anniversary**



Margaret Warner Wood, DUVCW, 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, instituted 23 March 2002.

President Verna Maleski did great job presiding over the festivities—34 sisters and guests in attendance!

Brothers David Swanson, Jerry Bloom Ken Hooker, Avery Frantz attended this very special day on 30 April 2022 at the Shalimar Golf Resort—Tempe.

Brothers David Swanson & Jerry Bloom received certificates from President Maleski for their leadership and continued support to the Tent over the years (pictures below).



**Congratulations to all of the Tent Sisters—here is to 20 more years!**



## Camp News

### Picacho Peak Camp No. 1 (Phoenix)

Chartered on May 11, 1996, as the first Camp-at-Large in Arizona, it meets during the months of February, May, August, and November. Contact: **Commander Ken Hooker** (480) 580-1612; [hooker56@gmail.com](mailto:hooker56@gmail.com) or **Secretary/Treasurer Dennis Lamb** (602-319-1831); [dennislamb@msn.com](mailto:dennislamb@msn.com)

#### Past Camp Commanders:

Larry Fuller 1995-2003 †  
David A. Swanson 2003-2006  
Robert Hannon 2006-2008 †  
John R. Conrad 2008-2010  
David A. Swanson 2010-2013  
John R. Conrad 2013-2015  
Gerald N. Bloom 2015-2016  
James M. Heller 2016-2018  
Jeffrey D. Burgess 2018-2020  
Kenneth Hooker 2020-2021

### In Memoriam



**Brother Ronald E. Gray** passed on April 26, 2022, and was buried in the Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Phoenix. Brother Gray joined the Camp in 2016 and was the Camp's Assistant Secretary/Treasurer. He is survived by his wife Jean. Our Camp sends its condolences to Jean and family.

Commander Hooker brought the Meeting to order at Noon with a moment of silence for deceased Brothers Strachota and Gray.

Commander Hooker led the meeting with a recital of the "Principles of Our Order" and the "American's Creed".

Chaplain Heller led the gathering with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

(Note: Whereas the Minutes of the previous Camp Meeting on February 19th were approved by Camp Officers and published in the Department Newsletter, no reading of the minutes was made.)

#### Attendance

S/T Lamb reported that the quorum requirement of six Members had been met with 12 Members in person and 3 by Zoom for a total of 15. One guest and four members of the Ladies Allied Orders were also present. Those Members present in person included Brothers Hooker, Heller, Hoffay, Burgess, Lamb, Bloom, Rogers, Cox, Jackson, Hill, Schmidt, and Watson. Brothers Conrad, Archibald, and Kydd were present by Zoom.

#### Officer's Reports:

*Commander Hooker* provided an update regarding the Officer's Zoom Meeting of May 14<sup>th</sup> as follows.

Remembrances would be provided at the Camp meeting for Brothers Strachota and Gray. A mourning certificate would be provided to Brother Gray's widow by mail.

Four Brothers electing to attend the National Encampment in August require credentials to be provided by the Dept Sec.

It was decided that the "Member's Badge" would be added to the Certificate and Rosette already being provided to new Brothers. The name badge was not included in the decision at this time.

A Dual Meeting with the DUVCW would be held in August. Commander Hooker Will not be in attendance so SVC Hoffay will preside.

We will have two New Member Inductees for the Camp Meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Commander Hooker announced we would continue the "show and tell" provisions previously scheduled.

*S/T Lamb: Secretary Report*—our dues to the Dept and National were made per Form 27. Our current Roster is now 57 Members and 3 dual Members all in

**Picacho Peak Camp 1 May 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting at the Boulder's on Southern Restaurant in Mesa, AZ**

good standing as determined by their having received membership cards from the Camp Treasurer. Those cards expire on 12/31/2022.

**In order to make renewal a bit easier** we have provided a digital renewal option through a PayPal Service called Xoom.com. If linked to your bank account you can renew your dues for 50 cents, the cost of postage for mailing a check. Complete instructions will be provided this fall.

I will be pushing hard for renewal before the first of the year.

*S/T Lamb: Treasurer's Report*—my report has been submitted to the officers. It includes all banking activity since the last Camp meeting and is a one page recap of balances, income, and debits. Attached to that report are monthly banking statements and a Quicken Shadow report that provides more detail on each transaction.

Our current (May 16) Account Balance [was presented at Camp meeting]. The Camp will be replenishing the inventory of member badges and rosettes but that is about the only debit on the immediate horizon.

The Financial Report is available to any Brother in good standing who requests a copy.

*Patriotic Instructor's report*—John Conrad spoke via Zoom and described the history of Memorial Day. Of significant note is the National Moment of Remembrance, which every person is encouraged to observe with a moment of silence at 3:00 PM local time on Memorial Day.

### Old Business

Commander Hooker advised that the Camp had approved the technical amendments to the Bylaws at the Feb 19<sup>th</sup> 2022 meeting and the approval for insertion into the Bylaws was signed By Commander Hooker, S/T Lamb, and then Dept Commander Conrad.

### New Business

Per the Officer's recommendation new Brothers will receive a Member's Badge in addition to the Certificate and Rosette. The general membership signaled their concurrence.

The name tags are not yet approved for inclusion but have been provided for the last several new Brothers by an anonymous donor. The general membership also signaled their potential approval.

Commander Hooker discussed Memorial Day events. This year flag placements at Pioneer Cemetery will be completed by another party. Two of our members will be present.

**It is recommended that each member take a moment of silence at 3 PM local time on Memorial Day to Honor those that have passed**

The August National Encampment attendees will include John Conrad, James Heller, and Jerry Bloom. Encampment Credentials have been printed on card stock and forward to Brother Lamb for redistribution.

### Show and Tell

Commander Hooker brought a book of letters from soldiers and noted some of the more interesting. It was passed around.

Brother Hoffay brought a NCO sword and explained who would have had such a sword and for what purpose. It was also passed around.

### New Member Initiations

Two new Brothers were present for initiation into Picacho Peak Camp 1, Dept of the Southwest, SUVCW. JVC Jim Heller led Robert G Schmidt and Eric J Watson in their initiation.

Both Brother Schmidt and Watson spoke a bit regarding their Civil War Ancestor.



(L-R) Brother Robert Schmidt, JVC Jim Heller, CC Ken Hooker & Brother Eric Watson

**Close of Camp Meeting**—Commander Hooker brought the Meeting to a close.

### New Picacho Peak Camp Brothers

**Brother Robert Schmidt** of Sun City is a Brother in our Camp and the SUVCW. His Union Civil War ancestor is Great Uncle Quincy Adams Gilmore who was mustered into service on 28 April 1862 in the Regular Army, First Battalion Engineers, with the rank of Brigadier General and was discharged on 5 December 1865 by reason of resignation.

**Brother Eric Watson** of Cave Creek is a Brother in our Camp and the SUVCW. His Union Civil War ancestor is G-G-G-G Grandfather Thomas Ashford Watson who was mustered into service on 6 August 1862 in Co. D, 96th Ohio Infantry with the rank of Private and was discharged on 1 October 1864 by reason of mustered out.

**Welcome Brothers Schmidt & Watson!**

Upcoming Events

August 2022—joint meeting with the Margaret Warner Wood Tent No. 1, SUVCW. The exact date and location is to be determined and notification will be sent to Brothers.



**General R. H. G. Minty Camp No. 2 (Tucson)**

*Chartered on July 15, 2015, as the second Camp-at-Large in Arizona, it meets during the months of January, April, July, and October at the Kettle Restaurant, 748 W. Starr Pass Blvd, Tucson. Contact: **Commander Mark Clark**; phone (520)-709-1945; email: w.markclark@gmail.com or **Secretary/Treasurer Andrew Whipple** (744) 722-1768; whipple.andrew@gmail.com*

**Past Camp Commanders:**

- Robert McCord 2015-2017
- Randy McNally 2017-2018
- Robert Haley 2018-2020
- Robert Irwin 2020-2021



**In Memoriam**



**Brother Albert (Al) Niemeyer** (b May 27, 1931) passed on May 18, 2022, at age 90 and was interred on May 24, 2022, in the Evergreen Cemetery in Tucson. Brother Niemeyer joined the Camp in 2019. He is survived by his daughters Kathleen of Splendora, TX, and Elaine (Steve) of Willows, CA; sons John (Odi) of Huachuca City, and Paul of Laredo, TX; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Our Camp sends its condolences to his family.



**Draft Minutes for 16 July 2022 Camp meeting**  
**Meeting Place: The Kettle Restaurant, 748 W. Starr Pass Blvd. (22nd Street), Tucson, AZ**  
**Time: Saturday, 16 July 2022; 1:00 - 3:00 PM**  
**Attendees:**

In Person: W. Mark Clark, CC, William Crooke, SVC Ron Hyer, JVC, John Lyons, AT, John R. Agner, Scott Bouchard, Robert McCord, DC, PCC.

Guests: Shaunna Bouchard and Rick Collins.

Members via Zoom: Andrew R Whipple, CST and David Swanson, PDC.

Guests via Zoom from Grant Camp: Dale Enlow, ST, Grant Camp and DSW.

**Opening**

(Chaplain’s blessing, American’s Creed, Pledge of Allegiance). Meeting began at 1:05pm.

Reading and approval of minutes of April 16, 2022 camp meeting. In the interest of time, the minutes were not read. Prior to this meeting, the minutes were sent out to the membership for review and no comments or corrections were received. The minutes were approved without objection.

Reading and Approval of Treasurer’s Report - (Whipple/Lyons). Bro. Lyons provided the following report [which was given at the camp meeting] Report approved.

Report of sick brothers/ families in distress. A couple of the brothers are ill and Commander Clark invited us to keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Passing of Brother Albert Niemeyer reported by the Commander. Several brothers were present at his memorial service. Commander Clark made comments at Brother Niemeyer’s funeral on behalf of the camp. Posted flag on Brother Niemeyer’s gravesite. A brother mentioned Sister Verna Maleski’s husband Richard also passed away.

Reading/discussion of pertinent General Orders since last meeting. Brother Whipple indicated all General Orders since the last meeting were distributed via an email link to Brothers. Also, a summary sheet providing an overview of the Orders since the last meeting was emailed to members. Brother Whipple suggested Brothers read the summary email and we would forgo reading the Orders at this meeting. Brother Whipple indicated most Orders were administrative in nature. Brother Whipple highlighted the death of former Commander and Chief Andrew Johnson. Also, Brother Whipple mentioned an Order which identified a minimum age for running for national office, which is age 21.

**Unfinished business**

Final Report of flagpole refurbishment at Evergreen Cemetery (adjacent to GAR Plot) – Picture of Brother Irwin and Brother Hyer mentioned. Commander Clark

thanked Brother Hyer for his contributions supporting this effort.

Update on status of forming a Sons of Veterans Reserve unit. No additional update.

Report on JROTC/ROTC Awards (in Tucson area) for 2021/22 academic year. We want to continue to recognize these units.

Identification of Veterans Not Buried in the GAR Plot, or Evergreen. No action taken presently.

Any further “unfinished business” topics need discussion? – Confederates buried in various plots. If we have this data, we should send it along to the Confederate organization. We might want to review the SUVCW database.

### New business

Membership Update – We have a couple of individuals looking to join. We are seeing more interest.

Renewed informal efforts to form a New Mexico Camp – Dept. had undertaken efforts to establish a camp. Brother David Swanson provided an update. Our authorization to create a new camp expired in February or March. All of the brothers in New Mexico were emailed. David received three emails in response from people indicating they would be willing to get involved. Active numbers are essential. David indicated there is still much ground work needed to be done to start a camp. Currently, we are in an informal holding pattern.

Any further “new business” topics needing discussion – Minty Camp members are invited to join a ceremony dedicating a plaque for Union Soldiers buried in the Prescott Citizens Cemetery on August 17th.

**Initiation of New Member** – Scott Bouchard was initiated as a new member. Brother Scott was welcomed and provided a brief overview of his ancestor who fought in the Civil War.



Brother Scott Bouchard with Shaunna Bouchard

**Program:** Rick Collins Talk - Rick’s talk covered episodes in Southern Arizona during the pre-Civil War era.

**Additional Business:** Brother John Lyons inquired about securing a debit card to make it easier to make purchases for the camp. Commander Clark indicated we will review how the camp can obtain a debit card.

**Closing** (Chaplain Benediction, Closing Charge, Adjournment – 2:20pm).

**Tentative Future Meetings: 8 October 2022, 21 January 2023**

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### New Camp Brothers

During the previous Camp meeting in April, **Brother John Agner** of Green Valley, AZ was initiated into the Camp and the SUVCW. Brother Agner’s Union Civil War ancestor is his 2nd great grandfather, Burgess Taylor, who was mustered into service in November 1862 in Company K, 47th Mass Infantry (Militia) with the rank of Private and honorably discharged on August 3, 1863—mustered out.

**Brother Scott P. Bouchard** of Vail, AZ was initiated during the July Camp meeting. Brother Bouchard’s Union Civil War ancestor is his 2nd great grandfather, John Quinn, who was mustered into service on December 30, 1863, in Company F, 3rd Regiment, Rhode Island Cavalry, with the rank of Private and honorably discharged on November 29, 1865, by reason of “End of Conflict.”

**Welcome to Brothers Agner & Bouchard!**

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### Flagpole Refurbishment Project – Evergreen Cemetery

By W. Mark Clark, Camp Commander

During 2021 and 2022, the Gen. RHG Minty Camp in cooperation with Evergreen Cemetery undertook an effort to refurbish the flagpole that stands adjacent to the GAR Plot (Block 29, Section A). DSW Memorials Officer, Avery Frantz, on a visit to the cemetery, noted that the flagpole was not in an operational condition and looked quite neglected. Brother Avery reported this situation at the 1 May 2021 DSW Officers & Camp Commanders Zoom meeting.

From that meeting, Robert Irwin (then camp commander) accepted an action item to investigate whether Evergreen would be willing to work with Minty Camp to refurbish the flagpole so that it would not only be functional but also aesthetic in appearance. The first meeting with the Evergreen General Manager, Cathy Fiorelli, occurred on 5 May 2021. Evergreen

very much desired to “bring the flagpole back to life,” using their funds and manpower. However, EG stated that they would only perform the efforts required to make the flagpole *functional* and they would not take on the *cosmetic issues*.

Functional issues: missing hoisting rope, pulleys frozen, nighttime illumination at top completely inoperative.

Cosmetic issues: corrosion/rust on a significant portion of the pole, the masonry base of the pole in need of repainting.

The functional issues were all resolved by late August 2021 and Brother Irwin dealt with the contractor EG had used (Fluoresco) to get a quote on performing the corrosion/rust removal and repainting the flagpole with rust inhibitor paint. Brother Ron Hyer (Minty Camp) provided an extremely generous donation to cover the entire amount quoted by Fluoresco. This part of the project was completed in mid-October 2021.

The final part of the project (painting of the masonry base) was completed 13 May 2022. Brothers Irwin and Hyer volunteered their time to perform preparation and painting of the base. Once again, Brother Hyer donated the funds required for primer, paint, and the associated items required for the painting effort. Many thanks to Ron for his generous financial support of this project!

Below are some “before and after” photos of the flagpole.

Before and after pictures



## **Minty Camp and Memorial Day Activities**

By W. Mark Clark, Camp Commander

As our Commander in Chief, Michael Paquette, noted in his General Order # 13, “This year traditional Decoration Day coincide(d) with nationally observed Memorial Day. We, as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, ha(d) the opportunity to fulfill our sacred oath “to always observe the day set aside by the Grand Army of the Republic as Memorial Day, sacred to the memory of the Union Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines of 1861 to 1865” concurrently with our fellow Americans’ observance of Memorial Day.

Minty Camp did that in two ways. On Friday morning, May 27th, Brothers Ron Hyer, Robert Irwin, PCC, John Lyons and I gathered at Evergreen Cemetery and posted flags on all the graves in the GAR plot and that of the Comrade whose grave we marked a few years ago. This year for the first time, we also posted a flag on the grave of former Territorial Governor and Comrade Louis C. Hughes who was a long-time member of GAR Negley Post No. 1 in Tucson. In fact, he was a member of Tucson's Negley Post No. 35, Department of California GAR in 1886. That Post, along with five other California GAR Posts were transferred to the Provisional GAR Department of Arizona in 1887 and the Post numbers changed. Thanks to Brother Ron for finding his grave. We also posted a flag on the grave of recently deceased Brother Al Niemeyer. Thanks also to Ron for collecting the flags on Tuesday.

We also had the opportunity to view the wonderful work done by brothers Robert Irwin and Ron Hyer on



the restoring the flagpole adjacent to the GAR plot. Thanks so much to Robert and Ron for their work on the important project

On Monday, we gathered early to participate in the Parade held at Tucson Estates. In addition to Department Commander Robert McCord, the detail included brothers Tanner Guske, Ron Hyer, Robert Irwin, PCC, and John Lyons. Joining the brothers were Louis Caldera and Sgt. Mike Cynecki from Company B, 1st New Mexico Vol. Infantry and Sgt. Brian Grove and Cpl. Steve Smith of Company D, 1st U.S. Infantry. This year we were a bit mechanized as brother Ron drove his car, accompanied by John Lyons. I was honored to lead the detail.



We started the morning off with an inspection of arms and a few words from the Memorial Day program in the Rituals and Ceremonials Blue Book. And then we took a little walk. Thanks to all who participated in this meaningful weekend of remembrance.



## General U. S. Grant Camp No. 3 (Flagstaff)

*Chartered on September 11, 2015, as the third (and final) Camp-at-Large in Arizona, it meets during the months of January, April, July, and October at the Grand Canyon Brewery 1800 S. Milton, Flagstaff. Contact **Commander Tim Prater** (928) 533-1478; [timprater86323@gmail.com](mailto:timprater86323@gmail.com) or **Secretary/Treasurer dale enlow** (928) 715-5109; [dale\\_enlow@hotmail.com](mailto:dale_enlow@hotmail.com)*

### **Past Camp Commanders:**

- David A. Swanson 2015-2017
- Mark J. Haynes 2017-2019
- Dale E. Enlow 2019-2021
- William C. Smith 2021-2022



## July 9, 2022, Camp Meeting Information

Location: Hassayampa Inn Prescott, AZ

### *Call to order*

A meeting of General U. S. Grant Camp No. 3, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was held at the Hassayampa Inn, Salon Room, Prescott, AZ on July 9, 2022. This was a first attempt for our Camp to have a “hybrid” in person AND virtual (Zoom) meeting. The official business meeting was called to order at approx. 11:45am by Camp Commander Timothy Prater and Secretary / Treasurer dale enlow called the roll of Camp Officers with twelve Officers reporting present. Commander Prater welcomed guests: Georganne Melick, Gretchen D’Andrea (DUVCW applicant), Charles Storkey (potential SUVCW), Jan Swanson, Paul and Joanne, Jack and Lee Nelson (presenters), Wayne Hallford and new Camp member for initiation, Richard (Dick) Melick. Commander Prater and the Brothers present stated the principles of our Order and Camp Chaplain David Moore invoked the Devine Blessing followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and recitation of the Americans Creed



Ten (10) total SUVCW Brothers were present in person plus 10 guests and new Brother Member Melick. Joining us via Zoom were 8 Brothers for a total attendance of 28 persons. I believe this to be a record attendance for US Grant Camp.

**Brothers In attendance:** Council Members Robert Archibald JR, Dennis DeAtley and Richard Stephens, John Conrad PDC, dale enlow PCC, Avery Frantz, Mark Haynes PCC, James Heller PDC, John Horton, Keith Knotek, Daniel Mason, Gene McCarthy, New Brother Member Richard Melick, Chaplain David Moore, David Palmateer, Commander Tim Prater, SVC Lynn Scott, Past Camp Commander Bill Smith, and David Swanson PDC.

**First order of business was the initiation of Richard (Dick) Melick,** conducted by Commander Prater and Chaplain Moore. Brother Moore was

presented with his membership certificate, member badge, rosette, and name tag. His qualifying ancestor is his great great grandfather, Surgeon Wesley Melick, 6th Regt. KS Volunteer Cavalry.



(L-R) Cmdr Tim Prater, Dick & Georganne Melick

### Old Business:

Scholarship Program/Cadet Skye Johnson  
Advised she has also received a \$2k scholarship from a local Prescott church

ROTC/ROTC Program

Flag Day (Jun 14, 2022) 15 Flag certificates issued.

Memorial Day (May 30, 2022): We were represented at the National Cemeteries at Camp Navajo and Prescott, plus the Prescott Citizens' Cemetery.

Department of the Southwest Union Plaque dedication Ceremony, scheduled for August 17th at 9 am. Commander Prater displayed the plaque.



Grant received: Announced that we received a grant for \$795.00 from SUVCW Memorial Fund

Zoom Camp Meeting: YouTube link to a recording of this meeting:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BctFobG6Hv8&t=12s>

(PS sorry the very beginning of the meeting was not captured...we are learning as we go.) *Please give us feedback on the virtual portion of our hybrid format and let us know how we can improve.*

### New Business

Brothers who may be ill or in need? Richard Rice and Gene McCarthy have been ill, Brother DeAtley's sister-in-law recently passed, and Sister Verna Maleski's husband Richard recently passed. Prayers for all Brothers and Sisters and their families.

Treasurer's Report (Bank Account Update)—enlow 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. Report reviewed and approved [bank balances provided].

Prescott City Council Mtg (Memorial Day 2023)—Tim Prater and David Moore to attend.

Yavapai County Board of Supervisors (Memorial Day 2023)

Call Tree—SVC Scott gave an update.

Visit (Heritage Middle School ~ Chino Valley)—Tim Prater and Dick Melick will give a presentation on the US Constitution to 7th & 8th grade students.

Patriot Parade, Williams, AZ (September 10, 2022)—Avery Frantz: point of contact.

Camp Council: Vetting Nominations for October Camp meeting: *Reminder that the next meeting will be Officer elections.* Camp Council duty to present a slate of candidates for the elected positions of Commander, SVC, JVC, Council, and Secretary/Treasurer

Reminder that the next meeting will be Officer elections. *Camp Council duty to present* a slate of candidates for the elected positions of Commander, SVC, JVC, Council, and Secretary/Treasurer.

### All Brothers are encouraged to consider serving in a Camp position.

Welcome Packet—working from a package developed by Gen'l. RHG Minty Camp, USG3 has created one of their own for use by new Brothers.

July, August, and September Birthdays announced: Paul Halverson, Bill Smith, Jack Berry, Richard Stephens, Ken Morgan, Dale Enlow, William Butcher SR.

### Presenters:

Vietnam Veteran Jack Nelson & Lee Nelson (DUVCW) gave a presentation on local artifacts discovered by the pair. They generously gifted a railroad tie date nail display to everyone present.

David Swanson Past Department Commander and US Grant Camp No.3 organizer gave an interesting summary of the history/creation of the Department of the Southwest. Picacho Peak Camp 1 was formed in 1996 and the Gen'l. RHG Minty and General US Grant Camps were formed in 2015 allowing for the creation

of the Department of the Southwest also in 2015. Note: our Camp received its name from a Sons of Veterans Camp formed in Flagstaff in 1889 by the Ransom Post, Grand Army of the Republic



(L-R) Camp Commander Tim Prater presenting a certificate of appreciation to Jack Nelson

**Acknowledgement: Special recognition of Brother Dan Mason** for making the long trip from Albuquerque, New Mexico to attend the Grant Camp Meeting. Huzzah!

Commander Prater presided over the closing of the meeting.

**Next meeting:** 11am, October 1, 2022, at the Grand Canyon Brewery, 1800 S. Milton Rd., Flagstaff, AZ (location subject to change)

### Memorial Day Ceremonies—May 30, 2022

Brother Dale Enlow, PCC, recited the Gettysburg Address at the Prescott Citizens Cemetery (picture below). Brother Enlow also gave the Address at the Prescott National Cemetery.



Brother David Swanson, PCC, attended the ceremony at the Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Camp Navajo at Belmont, AZ (below) where he recited the Gettysburg Address and spoke about its relevance today. Civil War reenactor Jim Timney is holding the flag.



### Prescott City Council Meeting—Tuesday, July 12, 2022



Commander Tim Prater and Chaplain Dave Moore attended the Prescott City Council Meeting on Tuesday, July 12, 2022. Tim made a presentation about Memorial Day 2022 to Mayor Phil Goode and the City Council. He thanked Mayor Goode for his outstanding speech presented at the Citizens Cemetery Memorial Day Observance. Tim publicly recognized LTC Bill DeKemper, Senior Military Instructor, Prescott High School Air Force JROTC Program for his outstanding leadership and mentorship of 130 JROTC cadets. Tim also introduced and thanked Cadets Addison Hormor and Erica Normandy for their support (and that of their fellow cadets) of General U.S. Grant Camp prior to and during the Memorial Day Ceremony. General U.S. Grant Camp looks forward to continued collaboration with Prescott High School Air Force JROTC in honoring Veterans.

**Kit Carson Monument at Santa Fe, New Mexico**

By David Swanson, PDC, Department of the Southwest

As Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War we abide by the articles in our SUVCW Constitution. We among other things: “perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union 1861 to 1865; we cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war; to teach patriotism, and the duties of citizenship, the true history of our country, and the love and honor of our Flag.”

Christopher Houston “Kit” Carson is one of those who helped save the Union. He not only served his country in the Civil War, he served it in the War with Mexico (1846-1848) and in the Indian Campaigns in the Southwest. He was a hunter, trapper, explorer (making important contributions to the westward expansion of the United States), Indian Agent, and, in short, an American hero—one the GAR and the SUVCW are proud to embrace.

In 1885 the Department of New Mexico Grand Army of the Republic thought so highly of his service to our nation that it erected a tablet at his grave site in Taos and a monument in Santa Fe.

The June 1, 1885, edition of the *Santa Fe New Mexican Review* detailed Memorial Day festivities at Santa Fe, the dedication of the Kit Carson monument, and its history:

**GARLANDS OF GLORY**

**Five Hundred Bouquets Strewn on the Graves of  
the Nation’s Dead in Santa Fe  
Five Thousand People Witness the Event and  
Solemnly Celebrate Memorial Day  
Imposing Ceremonies Attending the Dedication  
of the Kit Carson Monument  
History of the Splendid Column which Stands to  
His Memory on Lincoln Avenue  
The Festivities Conducted by a Reception of the  
G.A.R. at the Governor’s House**



The observance of Memorial day and the unveiling and dedication of the Kit Carson monument in Santa Fe was indeed a memorable event. The solemn festivities were carried out in a most impressive manner, and in magnitude fully came up to the expectations of every citizen and visitor. Flags and

bunting and evergreens were visible everywhere. The flags, portals and principle streets constituted bowers of beauty and marital significance . . . Sun-rise salutes for the nation’s dead were fired both at Fort Marcy and in the plaza. The city and its guests awoke early and when the celebration began at 2 p.m., 5,000 people thronged the principal thoroughfares. [A procession led by Chief Marshall E. W. Wynkoop and others then made its way to the cemetery].

After every grave had been decorated the sound of the bugle brought the various divisions of the parade again into line and the chief marshall led the way to the foot of San Francisco Street, thence up to the plaza, and thence to the head of Lincoln Ave. [The U.S. Courthouse—started in 1853, stands here and at its south entrance is the Kit Carson Monument].

**The Kit Carson Monument**

During the winter of 1883 Col. Wm. Craig, Capt. Smith Sampson, and Col. W. S. Fletcher, while on a tour of inspection to the rich gold mines near Taos, owned by Col. Craig and others, had occasion to pass the lonely mounds where rests the dust of Kit Carson and his faithful spouse [Josefa Jaramillo]; and the heroic deeds of the celebrated scout naturally became a subject for comment. Two grass-covered mounds surrounded by a dilapidated, rudely constructed picket fence were all that marked the spot. A monument to the memory of the brave Kit was spoken of then for the first time , and upon return to Santa Fe the subject was broached to a few of the pioneer citizens and members of the G.A.R. and the suggestion met with the most cordial endorsement from the very beginning. Accordingly, at the next general meeting of the G.A.R., the same being the first annual encampment of the order in the department of New Mexico, the then adjutant general, Col. W. S. Fletcher, introduced a resolution February 22, 1884, providing for the appointment of a committee to take steps for the erection of a monument in honor of Major General Kit Carson. Col. E. W. Wynkoop, who was at the encampment chosen the department commander, was made ex-officio chairman of this committee and a representative from each post in the territory was selected as members as follows: J. C. Bromagem, Thomas Post No. 1, Las Vegas; Daniel Ridsen, Sedgwick Post No. 2, Raton; S. H. Bogardus, Sergt. Ben Hopper Post No. 4, Wallace; E. S. Stover, G. K. Warren Post No. 5, Albuquerque; A. J. Bahney, Slough Post No. 6, Socorro; Richard Hudson, McRae Post No.7, Silver City; B. K. Knowles, Custer Post No. 8, Deming; A. L. Vallet, E. G. Roys Posts No. 9, Fort Bayar; H. C. Harrison, Kearny Post No. 10, White Oaks.

The original intention was to erect a plain column over the grave site at Taos, and twenty-five cent subscriptions were asked for to this end; G. A. R. posts west of the Missouri and those of Kentucky and Missouri, his birthplace and his home, being permitted to subscribe. A liberal response came and a considerable sum was thus realized, but as the affair grew in interest, it grew in proportions, many of the comrades and admirers of the brave Kit being quite unwilling that so little should be done to honor his memory. Finally, it was agreed to place a tablet at the grave site of Carson and wife, and erect to the same end a monument here in Santa Fe.

The general committee met at Albuquerque, April 5, 1884, eight of the ten posts being represented, and an organization was perfected by the election of E. W. Wynkoop as chairman and W. S. Fletcher, secretary. It was agreed that owing to the scattered location of the posts, the executive committee, consisting of Chairman Wynkoop, Secretary Fletcher and Messrs. E. S. Stover, Daniel Ridsen, and J. C. Bromagem, should have entire charge of all matters connected with the erection and dedication of the monument. About this time Ex-Senator Stephen W. Dorsey, a member of Sedgwick Post No. 2 at Raton, and who from the very start, had taken a deep interest in the success of the enterprise, notified the committee that he would bear the bulk of the cost of this projected monument, and he proposed to have the column chiseled into shape on his own premises in Colfax County. The generous offer was accepted and Senator Dorsey immediately took steps to fulfill his part of the agreement. In the meantime the tablet was completed and forwarded to Taos, and there on December 28, 1884, it was placed over the graves of Carson and his wife, the dedication being attended with much ceremony and witnessed by over 5,000 people. Six weeks ago the Santa Fe Board of Trade raised \$250 and expended it in constructing an enduring stone foundation for the monument at the site at the head of Lincoln Avenue which had been selected by proper committees representing the G. A. R. and the Santa Fe Board of Trade. Ten days ago, the monument was shipped from Senator Dorsey's ranch to Santa Fe, the A. T & S. F. donating the freight charges; was safely transferred from the depot to the grounds by government teams supplied through the kindness of Gen. L. P. Bradley, and on Wednesday last, it placed in place by Contractor R. D. Silver under the direction of a committee of the Board of Trade, of which Judge Spiegelberg, president of the Board of Trade, was chairman and having as its members, Hon. Sol. Spiegelberg, Gen. E. L. Bartlett and Col. Max Frost.

### Dedication of the Column

Arriving on the government grounds at the head of Lincoln avenue, the procession broke ranks; the horseman and the occupants of vehicles alighted and a grand rush for choice points of observation and hearing ensued. The orators and officers of the day, members of the governor's and department commander's staff, ladies of the floral committee, and the pretty flower girls, were admitted to seats in the upper balcony of the speaker's stand, and the military band occupied the lower floor. After music and a prayer by Chaplain Harwood, Col. E. W. Wynkoop, as chairman of the Kit Carson Monument committee, said: "Ladies, Gentlemen and Comrades:—As chairman of the Kit Carson Monument committee, I desire to say our work is finished. There is stands; at present veiled by the flag he loved in whose memory that column is erected; it is a result of a resolution offered by Comrade Fletcher in the first annual encampment of the G. A. R. department of New Mexico, and now, the labors of the committee having ceased, I deliver the monument to the department commander Comrade Fitzgerrell, as well as the conduct of the ceremonies attending the dedication of the same to the memory of the pioneer pathfinder and soldier."

At this time the beautifully bedecked column, its base resting on an embankment of flowers and evergreens and the pedestal wrapped in the stars and stripes, was eagerly watched by every eye. A second later Territorial Secretary Sam'l S. Loch, ex-senior vice department commander of Pennsylvania said: "Through and by the authority of the Grand Army of the Republic department of New Mexico, I do now dedicate and unveil this column to the memory of Brigadier General Kit Carson." The stars and stripes fell away and exposed the beautiful structure, a facsimile of which, as it faces Lincoln avenue. The monument is of a fine grained brown stone from the Dorsey quarries, and bears the following inscriptions, in neatly chiseled gold-faced letters.

South Side  
KIT CARSON  
DIED MAY 23, 1868  
AGE 59 YEARS  
West Side  
HE LED THE WAY  
North Side  
PIONEER  
PATHFINDER  
SOLDIER  
East Side  
ERECTED BY COMRADES  
OF THE G. A. R.

The foundation of the monument is laid in cemented stone layers four feet below the surface.

Thence comes the base of solid blue limestone in three steps, each one foot in height. Above this the monument proper is in four parts. The handsome shaft is 12 feet six inches in height and the entire monument is nineteen feet high.

### The Orations

In receiving the shaft from Chairman Wynkoop, Department Commander J. J. Fitzgerrell expressed the deepest pleasure of behalf of the G. A. R. comrades of this department; thanked Senator Dorsey for the interest he had manifested in its completion; spoke briefly of the gallant members of Kit Carson's old regiment; said the column was erected by and among a liberty-loving people; touched tenderly upon the Grand Army of the Republic and its institutions; paid a tribute to Kit Carson's pioneer associates who were present; thanked the committee for its honest work; consigned the column to the keeping of Carleton Post No. 3 Santa Fe, and closed by giving the military record of the western-pathfinder as follows:

"The records of the adjutant general's office of the United States Army, on file at the war department in Washington show Gen Kit Carson's military record to be as follows: Second lieutenant, United States Mounted Rifles, June 9, 1847, to January 28, 1848, He was mustered in as lieutenant-colonel of the First New Mexico cavalry, to date July 25, 1861, for three years. On the roll for September and October 1861, he is reported promoted colonel, September 20, 1861, by reason of the muster out and consolidation of the regiment. He was mustered in as lieutenant-colonel of the first battalion, October 8, 1866, and mustered out November 22, 1867, and brevetted brigadier-general of the United States volunteers, to date March 13, 1865, "for gallantry in the battle of Valverde and for distinguished service in New Mexico."

[New Mexico Territorial Governor Lionel Sheldon gave the principal oration but due to its length it is not included in this article.] Later in the evening members of the GAR and their ladies were invited to the governor's executive palace for a reception.

Department of New Mexico GAR issued its General Order No. 2 on May 11, 1885, and in section II the Kit Carson monument is discussed. It is quite lengthy but the last paragraph is meaningful: "The thanks of the department of New Mexico, through the department commander, are due and are hereby tendered the various subscribers to the "Kit Carson Monument Fund" throughout the nation, and especially to Comrade Stephen W. Dorsey, by whose magnanimous generosity the monument, in all its magnificence, was build and shipped to its final resting place."

### Battle of Valverde, NM

As previously noted, Kit Carson was brevetted brigadier-general of the United States volunteers, to date March 13, 1865, "for gallantry in the battle of Valverde and for distinguished service in New Mexico." Here is a part of a report of his actions at the battle that was made by Carson (it was not written by him since he was illiterate): "About 1 o'clock in the afternoon I received from Colonel Canby the order to cross the river, which I immediately did, after which I was ordered to form my command on the right of our line and to advance as skirmishers toward the hills. After advancing some 400 yards we discovered a large body (some 400 or 500) of the enemy charging diagonally across our front, evidently with the intention of capturing the 24-pounder gun, which, stationed on our right, was advancing and doing much harm to the enemy. As the head of the enemy's column came within some 80 yards of my right a volley from the whole column was poured into them, and the firing being kept up caused them to break in every direction and retreat. Almost at the same time a shell from the 24-pounder was thrown among them with fatal effect. They did not attempt to reform, and the column, supported by the gun on the right, was moving forward to sweep the wood near the hills, when I received the order to retreat and recross the river. This movement was executed in good order. The column, after crossing the river, returned to its station near Fort Craig, where it arrived about 7 o'clock in the evening." (This was the same battle that Captain Alexander McCrae, who was in charge of a battery of six cannons, was fatally wounded and for whom the proposed NM SUVCW Camp is named.)

The battle was a Confederate tactical success but the invasion of New Mexico by the Confederates was ultimately a major strategic failure.

As noted above part of Carson's citation was also for "distinguished service in New Mexico." We have to remember that the U.S. Army was involved in the Civil War and simultaneously in the Indian Wars in the Southwest, which included actions against the Navajo, Apaches and other tribes. Carson's actions, as a result of orders from his commanding general (Carleton), during this time were effective but later deemed controversial. The Navajos were forcibly removed from their land onto the million acre Indian reservation called Bosque Redondo in New Mexico and in 1868, after Navajo leaders signed a treaty with Lieutenant General William Sherman, another reservation (Navajo Reservation) was established on most of their previously held lands and they were allowed to return. I mention this because this is the source of the current controversy that some in Santa Fe and New Mexico have regarding Carson. There are two sides to every story—much has been written about both—but it is not

the intent of this article to belabor that chapter of New Mexico territorial history.

**Did the GAR “own” the Kit Carson Monument?**

Is there an actual deed showing ownership of the monument? Probably not—probably never was, and none is needed; it is obvious that the custody and control of the monument belonged to the GAR. The Kit Carson monument was purely a Department of New Mexico GAR project from start to finish. It obtained the funds and donations through its “Kit Carson Monument Fund” and when completed the department had the authority to consign the column to “the keeping of Carleton Post No. 3.” No other entity, not the New Mexico Board of Trade or any other group of citizens challenged the GAR over its control of the monument because of the obvious. The inscription “ERECTED BY COMRADES OF THE G. A. R.” is also telling.

“Future generations will tell their grandchildren that this monument was erected by a liberty-loving people to remember the brave deeds of a pioneer and a patriot who fought for his country. It stands as a tribute to the memory of our illustrious comrade, Gen. Kit Carson.”

—J J. Fitzgerrell, Commander, Department of New Mexico, Grand Army of the Republic



Carson Monument in 2021—boarded up to prevent graffiti/destruction (photo—D. Swanson 2021)



Kit Carson Monument at Santa Fe (2016 photo—Mark Simmons)



## Department of the Southwest— Officers 2022-2023

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### Past Department Commanders

John R. Conrad 2016-2017  
David A. Swanson 2017-2018  
Robert D. McCord 2018-2019  
Gerald N. Bloom 2019-2020  
James M. Heller, 2020-2021  
John R. Conrad 2021-2022



### Commander:

Robert D. McCord, PDC  
rdmccii@aol.com



### Senior Vice-Commander:

Timothy D. Prater, CC  
timprater86323@gmail.com

### Junior Vice Commander:

Kenneth J. Hooker, CC  
hooker56@gmail.com

### Secretary/Treasurer

Dale E. Enlow, PCC  
dale\_enlow@hotmail.com

### Department Council

Mark J. Haynes, PCC  
haynes9@frontiernet.net  
William C. Smith, PCC  
wcs813@aol.com

Todd Hoffay

toddthoffay@gmail.com

### Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Timothy D. Prater, CC  
timprater86323@gmail.com

### Chaplain

Mark J. Haynes, PCC  
haynes9@frontiernet.net

### Patriotic Instructor

James M. Heller, PDC  
jmh7116@aol.com

### Graves Registration Officer

Avery D. Frantz  
averyfrantz08@gmail.com

### Historian:

Dale E. Enlow  
dale\_enlow@hotmail.com

### GAR Records Officer

David A. Swanson, PDC  
swanson1854@yahoo.com

### Civil War Memorials Officer

Avery D. Frantz  
averyfrantz08@gmail.com

### Eagle Scout Coordinator:

Dennis W. Lamb  
dennislamb@msn.com

### Counselor:

John R. Conrad, PDC  
jrconrad55@gmail.com

### Signals Officer:

Jeffrey D. Burgess, PCC  
jeffreydavidburgess@gmail.com

**Allied Orders Relations Officer:** John D. Conrad,  
PDC

jrconrad55@gmail.com

### Color Bearer:

John R. Conrad, PDC  
jrconrad55@gmail.com

### Guide

Dan Huskisson  
azhuskisson@cox.net

---

### Newsletter Editor/Publisher

David A. Swanson, PDC  
swanson1854@yahoo.com

