



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

Vol 8 Issue 4— October 2023

suvcw-southwest.org

Department News

SUVCW NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT
NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE
AUGUST 3-6, 2023



Department of the Southwest Delegate Brother John Horton in Attendance

Department of the Southwest presents Eagle Scout Court of Honor certificates

Cole Ramon Skodinski **Eagle Scout Court of Honor** **August 13, 2023**

Commander Rick Stephens, Chaplain David Moore and PCC Tim Prater were honored to represent General U.S. Grant Camp No. 3 at Cole Ramon Skodinski's Eagle Scout Court of Honor, Prescott, AZ. Courts of Honor are fully developed celebrations recognizing scouts who attain scouting's highest rank, that of Eagle Scout.

Commander Stephens presented a Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Eagle Scout Commendation Certificate to Cole R. Skodinski which reads: "This Commendation is given on your attaining the rank of EAGLE SCOUT in the Boy Scouts of America." Cole was also presented with a SUVCW Eagle Scout patch. Tim Prater, Department of the Southwest (DSW) Eagle Scout Coordinator also read and presented Cole with a DSW congratulatory letter in recognition of his prestigious achievement. This is the second Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony Grant Camp has participated in this year. Our Camp looks forward to continued participation with Prescott and Northern Arizona scouting programs.



Grant Camp Commander Rick Stephens presenting the SUVCW Eagle Scout certificate to Eagle Scout Skodinski

Eagle Scout Court of Honor **Josh & Jordan Mannen** **September 23, 2023**

Tim Prater, Department of the Southwest Eagle Scout Coordinator and David Moore, General U.S. Grant Camp Chaplain, were honored to attend the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for brother and sister Josh & Jordan Mannen at the Prescott Veterans Hospital. Eagle Scout Courts of Honor are fully developed celebrations recognizing Scouts who attain Scouting's highest rank.

Brother Tim presented SUVCW Certificates to Josh & Jordan which read: "This Commendation is given to Josh & Jordan Mannen on attaining the rank of EAGLE SCOUT in the Boy Scouts of America." Each received an SUVCW Eagle Scout patch. Brother Tim read and presented a DSW congratulatory letter to the brother and sister team in recognition of this prestigious achievement.



Josh & Jordan Mannen



2024 Annual Dues Season is here! **Dues are . . . DUE**

Brothers, it is that time of the year so please submit your 2024 annual dues to your respective Camp's secretary/treasurer. The dues form is attached to this newsletter—dues are the same for all of the Camps.

Let's all get our 2024 dues in before December 31st 2023 (after all, you have been anxiously waiting for the season to begin)!

Don't wait for an individual notice to be sent to you (and remember, it was not curiosity that killed the cat—or the dinosaurs—it was procrastination)!



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 Todd Hoffay (480) 718-9753;
todthoffay@gmail.com or **Interim**

Secretary/Treasurer Ken Hooker 480-580-1612;
hooker56@gmail.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 2020-2022



August 19, 2023, Camp Meeting Minutes

Location:

Scottsdale City Library—Mustang room

10101 No. 90th Street.

Scottsdale, Arizona

Dual Meeting with the DUVCW Margaret Warner Wood Detached Tent #1

The Meeting started at 11:30am on May 20, 2023 with 16 Brothers in attendance, 6 Sisters and 1 guest, with Brothers Scott Martorano, Bob Cox, and David Swanson attending via Zoom for a total of 26.

A Quorum was in attendance (6+) Members. Commander Hoffay welcomed Brothers, Sisters and guests to the meeting.

CC Hoffay led the rituals of Principles, DUVCW Chaplin Mary Jane Forsythe the Divine Blessing, CC Hoffay the America's Creed, DUVCW President Verna Maleski the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Meeting was called to order by Commander Hoffay and President Maleski.

A moment of silence, prayer, and the draping of the charter ceremony was held for recently departed Sister Cyndee Krause. CC Hoffay also relayed condolences to our Brother Doug Krause, her husband.

Commander Hoffay spoke of our participation in the Pioneer Cemetery Memorial Day activities in Phoenix.

Officer Reports:

Department Commander report:

Department Commander Ken Hooker gave an update from the National Encampment, which was attended by Dept Memorials Officer Brother John Horton.

- weapons restrictions GO was rescinded
- definition of SUVCW eligibility for assigned male at birth upheld, but will go back to the Departments for another vote
- recommendation for posting National Encampment proceedings on the SUVCW.org was taken
- informal discussion on placing an oak leaf cluster on the badge ribbon to recognize supplemental ancestors was not encouraging, as previous similar measures have been voted down. The proposal did not make it to the official agenda this year, but may be sent to the National Encampment next year.
- the official record of the National Encampment will be the proceedings posted on the SUVCW.org website, this information was relayed by Brother Horton for informational purposes only

DC Hooker reported that we are currently looking at venues and the date for our Department Encampment which will be in March of 2024. It will be in the Phoenix area.

Dept Signals Officer report

PCC Jeff Burgess reported that all of the DSW records will be posted to the Arizona Memory Project as our records have been deemed historically significant by the State Of AZ. Some discussion proceeded about how to publicize and/or highlight this event, so that we can utilize this tool for recruitment. If any ideas come to mind, please reach out to CC Hoffay or Brother Burgess.

Camp S/T report:

Interim S/T Hooker reported the bank balance noting that only change since last report is \$80 for expenses (booking the Mustang room). Currently 60 members in PPC1. S/T Hooker mentioned that we can now accept Zelle for any payments to the camp, and will send instructions to members on how to use it.

New applications are currently in process for supplemental ancestors. Camp is currently looking for a Secretary and Treasurer to replace Interim ST.

Other reports

Brother David Kampf announced (and showed his plaque to signify) that he has been recognized for 50 years as a Civil War Reenactor. He recalled some of the highlights including meeting then Prince (now King) Charles, Ronald Reagan's (snowed out) inaugural, and sleeping on many a cold, rainy, snowy ground all over Arizona and worldwide! **Congrats to Brother David!**

CC Hoffay again asked for donations to purchase books from the collection of deceased Brother John Kohl (donated by his wife Joye).

Commander Hoffay reported that we need a new member to the membership committee of 3. Brother Mike Booth was appointed to replace Brother Dennis Lamb as the 3rd member, the committee now being Brothers Booth, Hooker, and Heller.

Old Business:

Brother David Jackson reported that the SUVCW Bench for the Pioneer Cemetery is in the storage at the cemetery. The hope is that it can be installed by next Memorial Day, and that the SUVCW will hold a ceremony to dedicate that memorial bench.

New Business:

CC Hoffay announced that the Camp has a new Facebook page and encouraged members to post Civil War or camp related media to it.

Brother Avery Franz mentioned the upcoming dedication of the last CW Veteran of Coconino County and encouraged all to attend.

President Maleski showed the awards received by the DUVCW Wood tent at the National Meeting, including most members attending and most members participating in Dedicated Daughters program. She gave a brief history of the DUVCW and a summary of the National Meeting activities. Since the National Meeting will be held in Scottsdale in 2024, she encouraged all Brothers and Sisters to attend. The Meetings will be held from July 30-August 4th 2024. Opening night escorts from the SUVCW are needed; Brothers should please consider volunteering for this activity as 10-12 will be needed.

Program speaker

Commander Hoffay gave a very interesting presentation all about Civil War cemeteries. Lots of photos and instructions on properly cleaning/restoring gravestones. He visited 12 cemeteries in the Adirondacks region of upstate New York and shared his memories of the trip and how to spot Civil War and other military graves.

Close of meeting

There being no further business Chaplain Heller asked the blessing of our God on our deliberations.

CC Hoffay brought the meeting to a close until our next meeting November 18th 2023, at Mustang Library. The Margaret Warner Wood Tent #1 next meeting will be on October 24th at Olive Garden in Scottsdale.

Addendum: The published minutes from May 20, 2023 contained an error. The line "Brothers Booth and Martorano were presented with certificates and Oak Leaf Cluster pins for their Supplemental Ancestors" should have read "Brothers Booth, Martorano, Owen, and Lamb were presented Oak Leaf Cluster pins for their Supplemental Ancestors." The record is hereby corrected.

(Note: These minutes are not official until approved at the next camp meeting.)

Upcoming Events

Next meeting: November 18, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. at the Mustang Library (Reading room), 10101 N. 90th Street, Scottsdale, AZ. Food will not be provided; however, Brothers are certainly welcome to bring their own food and refreshments.

We will have officer elections/installation for 2023-2024, so please plan on attending!



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 John Lyons**; (520) 341-3914; email: lyonsj5257@yahool.com

Past Camp Commanders:

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



October 7, 2023, Camp Meeting Minutes

Location:

The Kettle Restaurant, 748 W. Starr Pass Blvd.,
Tucson, AZ

Time: Saturday 7 October 2023, 1:00 – 2:30

Attendees:

W. Mark Clark, CC

Ronald Hyer, SVC

Scott Bouchard, JVC

John Lyons, S/T

Ethan Lopez, Guide

William Sisco, New Member

Bill Sims, New Member

John Agner, Member

Guest: Matthew Lopez, Husband of Ethan Lopez

Zoom:

Andrew Whipple

Tanner Guske

John Conrad, PDC

Kenneth Hooker, DC

Agenda:

Opening

Chaplain's Blessing, American's Creed, and Pledge of Allegiance. Brother Ronald Hyer was acting Chaplain.

Approval of previous Camp minutes

Reading and approval of 22 July 2023 Minutes and 17 January 2023 Minutes. The Minutes were distributed via e mail before the meeting.

Treasurer's report

Checking Balance as of 7 October 2023 [given but not published in the newsletter].

Voted to reimburse Brother Lyons for medals and membership cards for \$132.00.

Report of Brothers/Families in distress

Brother Robert Irwin has cancer and has decided to depart the Camp. His Honorable Discharge will be effective 31 October 2023. Brother McNally's youngest daughter is still undergoing treatment and a Go Fund Me page was sent out to Department wide newsletter with a link.

Reading of General Orders:

A synopsis of the GOs was sent out to all members via email. Brother Lyons read the report.

Unfinished Business:

Discussed the Kit Carson Memorial. It was vandalized last year and it is surrounded by plywood but the top of it was exposed and it was torn off. The National encampment voted on turning it over to GSA by gifting it to them [quitclaim deed]. Brother Conrad stated that National doesn't have the money to claim the monument.

Another topic discussed was by Brother Andrew Whipple. He has been elected to be Commander of the Vermont SUVCW Camp. We congratulated him on his selection.

Pearl Harbor memorial—December 7th

Commander Clark brought up the 7 December 2023 the Pearl Harbor memorial. Brother Hyer and Brother Irwin have done it in the past. We are looking for volunteers to post the Wreath at the memorial.

Commander Clark brought up the National DUVCW is having there National Meeting in Tempe AZ. They are looking for escorts and other attendees.

Department Commander Ken Hooker's report

Department Commander Hooker stated that the State Encampment will be the first weekend in March. He also brought up some General Orders about weapons at meetings being rescinded. The issue of Oak Leaf Clusters on the Membership Badge for additional civil war veterans in our family tree was not brought up at the National Encampment.

Brother Conrad brought up the gender issue at the National Encampment. It was stated, that if you were born male at birth, and they change gender later they can belong to the SUVCW. Brother Conrad PDC worked on membership about the meaning of Blood Relative as stated in the Constitution and Charter. This was not voted on at National Encampment.

New Brother Initiation

Initiation of Bill L. Sims was conducted by the Commander and Chaplain. His forefather is Robert R. Tilton 3rd G Grandfather. He joined Company C 14th IL Cav. As a Private on 3 May 1864 and was discharged on 31 July 1865.



Camp Commander Mark Clark initiating Brother Bill Sims

Welcome to the Camp Brother Bill!

Camp Officer elections for 2024-25

Commander: David Swanson, PDC
Senior Vice Commander: Robert McCord, PCC,
PDC

Junior Vice Commander: Scott Bouchard
Secretary/Treasurer: John W. Lyon
Camp Council: W. Mark Clark, Robert McCord,
and John Conrad, PDC

Next Camp meeting
The next Camp meeting will be on 13 January 2024.

Closing:
Chaplain’s Benediction, Closing Charge and
adjournment at 2:30.

Individuals attending events hosted by the Sons of
Union Veterans of the Civil War, by virtue of their
attendance, agree to the usage of their likeness in the
Banner, any Camp or Department Newsletter, any
SUVCW website and/or on any SUVCW Social Media
outlet, promotional brochures, or any other SUVCW
material.

*(Note: These minutes are not official until approved at
the next camp meeting.)*

2024 Meeting Information

The Camp will meet at the Kettle Restaurant, 748
Starr Pass Blvd, Tucson on January 13, 2024, at 1:00
p.m.

We will install our new Camp Officers so be sure to
attend!



**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 various
northern Arizona locations.

Contact **Commander Richard Stephens** (928)
772-1320; r@almsysinc.com or **Secretary/Treasurer
dale enlow** (928) 715-5109; dale_elnow@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
- Timothy D. Prater 2022-2023



**General U.S. Grant Camp No. 3, October 7,
2023, meeting minutes**

Call to Order by Commander Richard Stephens

A meeting of General U. S. Grant Camp No. 3,
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was held at
Taverna Modern Mediterranean, 2420 S Woodlands
Village Blvd, Flagstaff AZ. in person AND virtual
(Zoom).

The official business meeting was called to order at
12 noon by Camp Commander Richard Stephens and
Secretary / Treasurer dale enlow called the roll of
Camp Officers with eight Officers reporting present.

Commander Stephens welcomed guests: Jan
Swanson and Chaz Wallis.

The Commander and Brothers present stated the
principles of our Order and Camp Chaplain David
Moore invoked the Devine Blessing. The assembled
Brothers and guests offered the Pledge of Allegiance
and followed with recitation of the Americans Creed.

Eleven (11) total SUVCW Brothers were present
(fulfilling a quorum). Brothers In attendance: Robert
Archibald JR Camp Council (zoom), S/T & Historian
dale enlow PCC, Memorials Officer Avery Frantz,
JVC John Horton (zoom), Chaplain David Moore,
Counselor Tim Prater PCC (zoom), SVC Lynn Scott
(zoom), Jeff Steadman, Commander Richard Stephens,
David Swanson PDC, plus new Brother David
Williamson.

Commander Stephens welcomed our guests, Jan
Swanson and Chaz Wallis (friend of Avery Frantz).

Chaplain Moore reported that Brother Gene
McCarthy is still in the hospital in Phoenix and S/T
enlow reported that Brother Robert Irwin of Minty
Camp (Tucson) was very ill and is requesting an
Honorable Discharge from the SUVCW..

Brother Moore then announced the Oct/ Nov/ Dec.
birthdays: Bob Archibald 11/15, Dennis DeAtley
12/31, Leonard Enlow 11/29, Avery Frantz 12/31,
Mark Haynes 11/26, Vernon Lemke 10/26, David
Minton 11/17, David Palmateer 10/2, Tim Prater
12/13, Richard Rice 12/12.

S/T Enlow advised that the minutes of the July
Camp meeting had been distributed to all Brothers and
no additions or corrections had been received. A
motion to approve as distributed was seconded and
passed.

Treasurer’s Report: Third Quarter Treasurers report
has been reviewed and approved by the Council
[various account balances were given]. Camp now
stands at 37 total members / 33 Primary.

Reading and disposing of orders, communications
S/T Enlow advised there were 6 National General
Orders, and one Department Order issued since our last
meeting. All orders have been forwarded to the
membership. A summary of each was given.

*Commander: New Member Initiation – David
Williamson*

NBM David Williamson was presented a member’s
badge, name tag, rosette, members certificate,
membership card, ancestor certificate, and a current
copy of the Camp roster. Brother Williamson’s great

grandfather was Pvt. Marcus E. Williamson, Co C, 95th IL Infantry.



Welcome Brother David!

Reports:

Memorials officer Avery Frantz reported that a VA headstone had been placed on a Union veteran grave in the Phoenix area in 2019, but has not yet had a dedication ceremony. It was decided that Picacho Peak Camp should take the lead on this task.

Old Business

National Encampment:

Brother John Horton gave a summary of his attendance at the recent National Encampment in New Hampshire as the only Department of the SW Delegate. He strongly urged all Brothers to try to attend these Encampments to get a much better understanding of the SUVCW and a fabulous opportunity to meet fellow Brothers from around the country.

Phone Tree: Brother Prater reported he would be working to get the phone project up and running.

Last Soldier Markers: Commander Stephens gave a report on the marker dedication at the Williams, AZ cemetery for the last Union Veteran of Coconino County. The dedication was a beautiful ceremony with the granddaughter and great grandson of Pvt. John Simpson in attendance. A beautiful plaque and photograph of the occasion will be presented to the family. Commander Stephens has acquired the marker for the LUV of Yavapai County to be installed at a later date and contact has been made with descendants of the Union Veteran as well!

Williams Patriot Day Parade: Commander Stephens reported that our 2nd year of participating in the Patriot Day (Sept.11) parade was a success.



New Business

Eagle Scouts: Brother Tim Prater PCC, advised that significant inroads had been made to get our Camp and the SUVCW onto the radar of the Eagle Scout Program in Arizona. He is scheduled to attend an Eagle Scout supervisor meeting very soon.

2024 Camp Officers election: General US Grant Camp Council presented the following slate of nominees for 2024: Richard Stephens for Camp Commander, Lynn Scott for Senior Vice Cmdr., John Horton for Junior Vice Cmdr., Robert Archibald JR, Dennis DeAtely, and Avery Frantz for Camp Council, and Dale Enlow for Camp Sec. / Treasurer. Commander Stephens opened the floor to any other nominees for any of the elected positions. No further nominations were put forward. A motion was made and seconded to elect the slate of candidates as presented. The motion passed.

Congratulations to the Officers Elect who will be sworn in at our January 2024 Camp meeting!

“Good of the Order” comments: Brother Enlow advised that the 2024 per capita dues renewal notices will be sent out soon. Member renewals are currently \$54 and we would like to encourage “Round-Up” tax deductible donations would be very welcome.

Brother Frantz called for Brothers to consider filling the expected vacancy for the Department Graves Registration Officer, responsible for documenting Union Veteran graves.

Commander Stephens announced that he had received communication from a woman in the Prescott area that had a collection of Grand Army of the Republic items for evaluation. Brother Moore was asked to follow up.

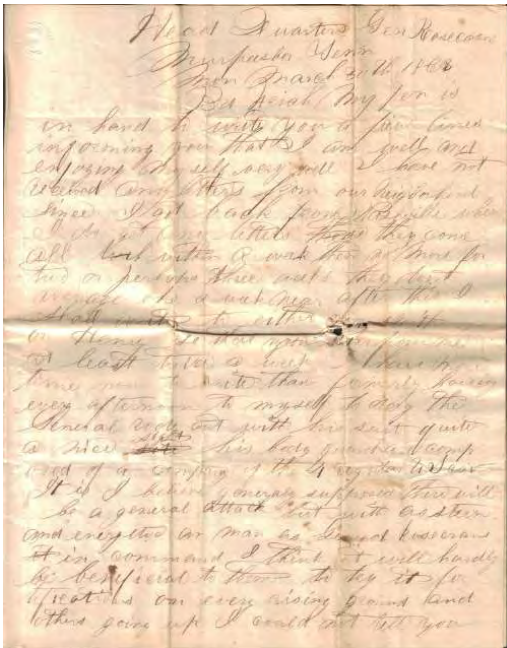
PDC, PCC David Swanson gave a short presentation on the demise of the GAR Department of Arizona.



Historical presentation: Brother Dale Enlow gave a transcript of a letter home from a soldier in the 4th IN Cavalry. This is the same regiment in which Brother Enlow’s great grandfather, Elliott served until his medical discharge at Murfreesboro, TN in March 1863.

S/T

(Historical presentation continued)



Closing: Commander: Our next meeting will be on January 6th, 2024 Hassayampa Inn, 122 E Gurley St, Prescott AZ. 11:00 am for lunch, 12:00 for meeting. ZOOM will start at 11:50.

Chaplain David Moore delivered the closing prayer and closed the Bible.

(Note: These minutes are not official until approved at the next camp meeting.)

**In Memory of John Landon Simpson
Last Union Veteran of Coconino County**

By Dale Enlow, Camp S/T

On September 9th, 2023 our General US Grant Camp No. 3, held a Last Union Veteran of Coconino County, AZ marker ceremony after marching in the Williams, AZ Patriot Day Parade. We were very honored to have Harriet Pruitt (granddaughter of Pvt.

John L. Simpson) and her son John William in attendance, who shared family memories of Private John Landon Simpson. The National President Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Verna Maleski, was also present and participated in the marker dedication. Special thanks to Camp Memorials Officer, Avery Frantz for his research and installation of the bronze marker and Camp Commander Richard Stephens for organizing the event.



Private John Landon Simpson

The following information is taken from the ceremonial brochure:

John Landon Simpson is hereby recognized as the Last Union Soldier of Coconino County, Arizona. He was born in Fayetteville, New York on April 29, 1845.

He enlisted as a Private in Company H of the 2nd New York Volunteer Cavalry Regiment of the Union Army. It was reported that he fought in, and I quote,

“... many Shenandoah Valley battles and also fought in the Stanton courthouse battle as well as engaging in many skirmishes against Lee’s Early’s and other Confederate Generals’ forces and had been hard upon the heels of Lee’s forces when the flag of truce came in on the front and brought to a close the battle of Appomattox and the end of the war in 1865.”

After the war, John became a physician in Dickerson County, Kansas and married Adeline McCune in 1870. He lived in Abilene, Kansas until his wife died in 1885. He then decided to head west in search of gold, and roamed the western mountains for 29 years, along with pack burros and a gold pan.

He tried to settle down in Williams, AZ in 1924, living with his daughter, but that did not last long as gold fever struck once again and he took off with his burros to the Wickenburg area. He spent the next few years prospecting in fall through spring, but returning to Williams each summer in order to stay out of the Arizona heat. Eventually, John settled down and ran a local tavern/hotel until his death on August 4, 1938, at the age of 93. He was buried with full military honors.



L-R David Moore, Camp Chaplain; Brother Alan Fitch; Camp Commander Rick Stephens; DUVCW National President Verna Maleski; David Williamson, AZ Civil War Council; John William Pruitt, great-great grandson; Harriet Pruitt, great-granddaughter; dale enlow, Camp S/T; Brother Jeff Steadman, Avery Frantz, Memorials Officer; Prospective Brother Jackson Steadman



For a video of the ceremony:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JeMz7NbeHoM>

2024 Meeting information

Our next meeting will be on January 6th, 2024, at the Hassayampa Inn, 122 E Gurley St, Prescott AZ. 11:00 am for lunch, 12:00 for meeting. ZOOM will start at 11:50.

We will install our 2024 Camp Officers so please attend the meeting and give your support!

General News and Information

Wreaths Across America

Dear Brothers,

Margaret Warner Wood has been a proud sponsor of Wreaths Across America for many years. The wreaths that we sponsor go to the Phoenix National Cemetery. There are over 69,000 of our service men and women buried there. Many of us have family and friends buried there. Last year **less than 10%** of the graves received a wreath and this year could be worse! Currently there are only enough wreath orders to cover 3% of the graves.

Our goal is to make sure that none of our service men and women are forgotten and every grave has a wreath. So please open your hearts and pocketbooks to help us achieve this goal by purchasing a wreath using the order form that Brother David has included. There is a group and location ID on the form. This ensures that your wreath will go to the Phoenix National Cemetery and Margaret Warner Wood will be recognized as the sponsor. Feel free to share the form with your friends and neighbors. I think we can all afford \$17 and it's also tax deductible so order several!!

Orders must be received by November 30th. Volunteers will be placing wreaths at the National Cemetery on December 16.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty
Verna Maleski, National DUV CW President

by a band from their headquarters in the Lincoln hotel to the Council Chamber, where they were welcomed to the city by the acting mayor. The following evening they were given a reception at 30 Association Hall, music was an attraction, and the evening was spent in listening to speeches by Colonel John O. Winship and Mexican War comrades Dickey, Hodge, Craddock and others.

The opportunity to enjoy a boat ride on the lake was given the veterans and admission tickets were furnished them for Paine fireworks.

A sad event in connection with the reunion was the sudden death of General E. H. Hobson, the president of the national association, who expired, September 14th, at the Lincoln hotel. The remains of the General were taken charge of by the committee, embalmed and placed in a casket and duly escorted to Cincinnati, where they were received by General Hobson's family and his friends and taken to his late home in Greensburg, Ky.

O. J. HODGE, Chairman.

Information from the GAR National Encampment, 1901 & Mexican War Veterans

While compiling a history of the Department of New Mexico GAR, I noticed the following committee report in the *Cleveland Executive Committee of the Thirty-fifth Annual Session of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic 1901, Cleveland, Ohio*: This has nothing to do with the GAR in New Mexico but I thought it interesting that members of the GAR were escorting the Mexican War veterans from a war that ended 13 years before the Civil War. Soon it will be the Spanish-American War veterans and eventually the World War I veterans who would be escorting the GAR members (and the circle continues).

Mexican War Veterans

Your committee on Mexican war veterans has to report that the attendance of veterans of the Mexican war at their reunion in this city, Sept. 12-14, during the Grand Army encampment, was much smaller than had been expected, there having been present only about fifty. The youngest member in attendance was aged seventy-two years, and the oldest one hundred and two. The average age of the veterans of this war is about eighty. This, no doubt accounts for the limited number present.

On Sept. 12 the members were escorted by Memorial Post of the Grand Army, of Cleveland, led



Department of the Southwest— Officers 2023-2024



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
Robert D. McCord 2022-2023



Commander:

Kenneth J. Hooker
hooker56@gmail.com



Senior Vice-Commander:

Timothy D. Prater, PCC
timprater86323@gmail.com

Junior Vice Commander:

Todd Hoffay, CC
toddhoffay@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Dale E. Enlow, PCC
dale_enlow@hotmail.com

Department Council

Robert D. McCord, PDC
rdmccii@aol.com

Mark J. Haynes, PCC
haynes9@frontiernet.net

Scott Martorano
scottmartorano@gmail.com

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Timothy D. Prater, PCC
timprater86323@gmail.com

Chaplain

Mark J. Haynes, PCC
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Patriotic Instructor

James M. Heller, PDC
jmh7116@aol.com

Graves Registration Officer

Avery D. Frantz
averyfrantz08@gmail.com

Historian:

Dale E. Enlow, PCC
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GAR Records Officer

David A. Swanson, PDC
swanson1854@yahoo.com

Civil War Memorials Officer

John B. Horton
j.b.horton@hotmail.com

Eagle Scout Coordinator:

Timothy D. Prater, PCC
timprater86323@gmail.com

Counselor:

William C. Smith, PCC
wcs813@aol.com

Signals Officer:

Jeffrey D. Burgess, PCC
jeffreydavidburgess@gmail.com

Allied Orders Relations Officer: John D. Conrad,
PDC; jrconrad55@gmail.com

Color Bearer:

William C. Smith, PCC
wcs813@aol.com

Guide

Dan Huskisson
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Newsletter Editor/Publisher

David A. Swanson, PDC
swanson1854@yahoo.com



2024 ANNUAL DUES ARE NOW DUE

Please use this form to submit your 2024 dues, if they haven't already been submitted, and mail them to your respective Camp Secretary/Treasurer (mailing information below). Camp dues are the same in all Camps. **Please make every effort to have them in prior to December 31st.**

Name _____

Regular/Associate Member

Regular/Associate member primary Camp dues are \$54.00. (Includes National dues \$33, Department dues \$8.00, and Camp dues \$13.)

Dues enclosed \$ _____

Regular/Associate Dual Member (Department of the Southwest)

If you are a Regular/Associate member in two or more Camps, dues are \$54 to your primary Camp and \$46 to each of the other Camps to which you belong. (Department dues of \$8.00 are only applicable for your primary Camp).

Dues enclosed \$ _____

Life Member

Life Member primary Camp dues are \$21. (Life members are exempt from National dues and only pay Department and Camp dues).

Dues enclosed \$ _____

Life Dual Member

If you are a Life member and also a Dual member in one or more Camps (excluding your primary Camp) dues are \$13.00 for each additional Camp to which you belong. (You pay no National or Department dues to Camps other than the primary Camp.)

Dues enclosed \$ _____

Junior Member

Junior member dues are \$18 (\$10 Camp dues and \$8.00 Department dues)

Dues enclosed \$ _____

Primary Department other than the Department of the Southwest (DSW)

If your primary membership is in a Department other than the Southwest dues are \$54.00. (Includes National dues \$33, Department dues \$8.00, and Camp dues \$13.) If you are a Life Member dues are \$21.00 (Life members are exempt from National dues and only pay Department and Camp dues).

Dues enclosed \$ _____

Please make your check payable to your respective Camp/s and mail as indicated.

Note: For Picacho Dues only—you have the option of mailing dues or using Zelle. If using Zelle, transfer funds to hooker56@gmail.com. In the notes section place: "SUVCW PCC 1 dues." This will transfer dues directly to the Camp account.

Picacho Peak Camp No. 1
Ken Hooker S/T
1752 S. Heritage
Mesa, AZ 85210

General R. H. G. Minty Camp No. 2
John Lyons, Treasurer
2365 W. Orange Grove Rd Apt 203
Tucson, AZ 85741

General U. S. Grant Camp No. 3
Dale E. Enlow S/T
7723 E. Treeline
Hackberry, AZ 86411



WREATHS *across* AMERICA

2023 Wreath Sponsorship Order Form

Add
QR Code
Here

Sponsored wreaths are placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries, as well as at local and community cemeteries each December for National Wreaths Across America Day.

Your donation will ensure the placement of a veteran's wreath for one or more veterans laid to rest at the participating location of your choice.

All sponsored veteran wreaths are shipped directly to the location selected by the sponsor on this form. Wreaths are not shipped to individual wreath sponsors.

SPONSORSHIP TYPE	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Individual = 1 Wreath	\$17.00		
Family = 4 Wreaths	\$68.00		
Small Business = 10 Wreaths	\$170.00		
Corporate = 100 Wreaths	\$1,700.00		

For quicker processing and the convenience of paying with a credit card, debit card, Google Pay, or PayPal, veteran wreaths may be sponsored online by scanning the QR Code above or by visiting: [{{insert direct link to group page and update the QR code}}](#)

You should be the only one to enter your credit card information at checkout on the Wreaths Across America website. For your security, do not share this information with anyone else who offers to place an order for you. To verify the validity of the QR Code, always check that wreathscrossamerica.org is part of the web address when sponsoring wreaths online.

If you prefer to pay with a check, please complete this form and mail it along with your check to Wreaths Across America at the address listed in the box above.

CHECK #	CHECK DATE	SPONSOR NAME FOR DISPLAY <i>If different than name on check.</i>
GROUP ID(s)	AZ0057P	EMAIL ADDRESS
LOCATION ID(s)	AZNMCP	PHONE #
DOLLAR AMOUNTS(s)		MAILING ADDRESS

To split your donation between multiple groups and/or locations, please list the IDs and dollar amounts for each.

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Please note in memory/honor of requests do not place a wreath on a specific loved one's grave.

IN MEMORY OF REQUEST	The "In Memory Of" Name will be listed on the Wreaths Across America online Remember Wall, along with your personal message.
NAME FOR MEMORY WALL POST	
SPONSOR EMAIL ADDRESS	
MESSAGE (optional)	

IN HONOR OF REQUEST	An email will be sent to your chosen recipient from Wreaths Across America letting them know of your donation of sponsored veteran wreaths in their honor.
RECIPIENT NAME	
RECIPIENT EMAIL ADDRESS	
MESSAGE (optional)	

Thank you for supporting our mission to REMEMBER, HONOR, and TEACH!