

# THE INDIANA LEGION

ORLANDO A SOMERS CAMP #1 KOKOMO  
JOHN AUTEN CAMP #8 SOUTH BEND  
WILLIAM P BENTON CAMP #28 CENTERVILLE  
JOHN B ANDERSON CAMP #223 COLUMBUS

JOHN W. FOSTER CAMP #2 EVANSVILLE  
CHAMPION HILL CAMP #17 HUNTINGTON  
DAVID D PORTER CAMP #116 VALPARAISO  
BEN HARRISON CAMP #356 INDIANAPOLIS

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Newsletter of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Indiana  
James M. Floyd, Jr. – Commander  
Issue 2-22

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**RESOLUTE MEN & LOVE OF COUNTRY – THE UNION FOREVER!**  
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## From the Desk of the Department of Indiana Commander – Jim Floyd

Brothers of the Department of Indiana:

As I communicated in Circular 2022-1 dated June 24, 2022, there are changes to the Department Encampments.

I am pleased to report that John Auten Camp No. 8 has agreed to host the 2022 Mid-Year Encampment in the South Bend Area. In the Circular I stated the tentative date would be November 5, 2022 however, there is a Notre Dame home football game that day. While we would likely avoid the traffic, the issue is hotel room prices are in excess of \$200 per night that weekend. Although I am aware only a few of us obtain hotel rooms for Department Encampments, I did not wish the cost to be a burden for those who do so. Therefore, the date of the Department of Indiana Mid-Year Encampment will be OCTOBER 29, 2022. Please make note of the change and plan accordingly to attend. I will provide a department order and registration information in due time as more definitive information becomes available. Thank you for your patience, understanding, and support as we work to improve the Encampment experience!

As always, please contact me if you have any questions, comments, ideas, or concerns.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Jim

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*Remembering the sacrifices made by the soldiers and sailors of the Civil War who fought to preserve the Union  
we are dedicated to continuing the patriotic work begun by our parent organization,  
The Grand Army of the Republic*

**Treasurer’s Report**



**Gib Young** – Champion Hill, Camp 17 Dept. Treasurer  
Safe Guarding the Department funds waaay too long.

**\*The new instruments for the Department of Indiana Cymbal Band.**

**As of the printing of this issue of the Indiana Legion the funds stand at \$10,546.44**

(The Allied Orders amount has been evenly split and is no longer part of the total of the Department Funds.)

\*If you remember Clem Kaddilhapper you are older than you think. But we all agree Red Skelton was a great Hoosier

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On June 11, 2022 members of the Department of Indiana along with members of the 27<sup>th</sup> Indiana SVR took part in the ‘Chartering Ceremony’ for the Oscar and Mollie Mott Corps #1 of the Women’s Relief Corp, the only corps in Indiana at this time. At one time many GAR posts had a WRC corps associated with them. The new members were installed by National WRC Secretary Kathy Bower.



**Oscar and Mollie Mott Corps #1**



**Brother Tom Schmitt leads brothers of the Dept. of Indiana onto the field**

Department Commander Jim Floyd Department Patriotic Instructor Brian Mexin, and Department Secretary Bill Adams represented the SUVCW at the ceremony.



**Two fine young men from St. Joseph County, Hayden Grindle and Auten Camp 8 member Sean Kusch played ‘Taps’ for the ceremony. Young men like these two are the future for the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Brothers Tom Schmitt, John Bower, Stephon Hagmon, Jon Swarts, Will Radell, and Gib Young were in the Rifle/Color Guard.**

\*You may be wondering ‘why does Jim Floyd get such a large photo unlike the other brothers’? He says it is because his mother cuts all his pictures out and frames them to go with his bronze baby shoes.



**Dept of Indiana Commander SUVCW received his Logan’s Brigade charter member badge from National Junior Vice President Beth Thurston during the charter service for the Oscar and Mollie Mott #1 Woman’s Relief Corps - Nappanee Indiana**

**Photo by Kathy Bower**

## **Department of Indiana Graves Registration**

During the previous two years as Department of Indiana GRO under Dennis Hutchinson PDC, I dedicated myself to the arduous work of making sure that all the veterans who have been buried in Indiana and who have had their names entered on the National Graves Registration database, were entered in a manner befitting of the sacrifices these veterans made during America's bloodiest conflict. As many who have entered the thousands of names on the Graves Registration database will tell you, the process is daunting, yet the rewards are great. I have been given the honor by Indiana Department Commander Jim Floyd of continuing with this task for the next two years and without question I look forward to the challenge ahead.

Indiana has entered 37,575 veterans on the National Graves Registration database. Our current researchers have done an excellent job of entering complete records of the buried Civil War veterans within our state. Unfortunately, in my quest to reign quality over quantity, I have found that records were duplicated or entered with simply a name only and no military history to go with that name. Most, if not all were entered during the Graves Registration's infancy. For those that work hard to locate Civil War veterans, there's no worse disappointment than having hundreds of duplicate veterans removed from the very county they just spent years amassing. Likewise, there can't be anything much more frustrating than working several hours researching a veteran only to find out that the same veteran had been entered with just a name and no way to add, change, or delete the record. I recently deleted 926 duplicates from Wayne County and another 867 that had no county name at all but ended up as duplicates from Owen County. The resolve to these problems will not be easily attained. We as researchers can only do our best to be sure that when a name is entered on the Graves Registration database, that the record is as complete as the sources available. If a record is found to be incomplete or incorrect, please contact the Indiana Graves Registration Officer who has the administrative tools to correct and or delete a record that doesn't meet the standards that these veterans deserve.

While these issues are not much different than in any other state, the task at hand is to produce the best veteran record possible in Indiana. I encourage our Indiana researchers to continue towards the goal of entering every Civil War veteran in the state of Indiana. The work isn't easy, the hours are long, and the pay is nothing, but for those that yearn to honor our Civil War veterans and assure they are not forgotten, your efforts are noticed and much appreciated. For those individuals that have spent the many hours per day, weeks and even years to be sure there is a full and complete record of the veterans buried in Indiana..... thank you!

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,  
David Hoesli  
Graves Registration Officer  
Department of Indiana SUVCW

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## **From the Desk of Bruce Kolb, PDC**

Most people are not aware that Abraham Lincoln owned farm land in Iowa. Unfortunately, he did not live long enough to ever visit them, nor did he ever earn any money from his ownership.

Thanks to his service during the Black Hawk war in 1832 he earned two parcels of land. Congress authorized land bounties based upon service in times of war. Based upon the act passed on September 28, 1850, Lincoln was granted 40 acres. Then again on March 3, 1855 he was awarded 120 acres.

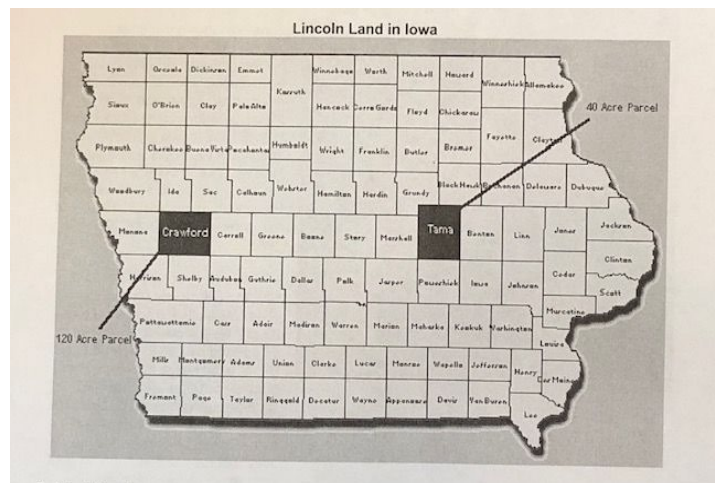
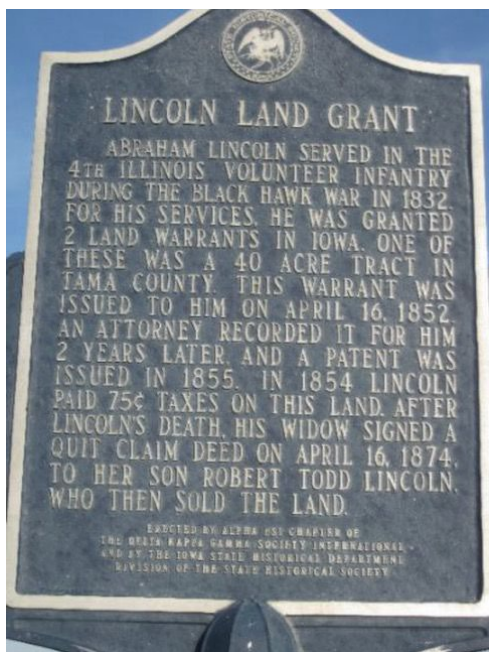
The acts stated that bounty land was granted to certain classes of persons in the military service of the United States. Those entitled to land under this act would receive a certificate from the Department of the Interior for land which was located at any land office of the United States.

Even though Lincoln could accept land from any U.S. Land office he chose land outside of Illinois. Lincoln chose Iowa based on the recommendation of fellow attorney Clinton H. Moore who himself owned land in Tama and Crawford Counties.

Lincoln owned the land until his death, when it passed to Mary Todd and his two remaining sons.

To visit the Tama County land take Route 63 to 260th Street which is approximately five miles north of Toledo. Turn west on 260th Street and go three miles to H Avenue and turn north. You will see a marker on the east side of the road.

To find the Crawford County land it is seven miles north of Dennison and one mile east of Schleswig.



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**Last Union Civil War Soldier in Warren County Honored**

Orlando A. Summer Camp # 1 & Company D. 27th Indiana Vol.- 3rd Military District -Sons of Veterans Reserve gathered on May 29, 2022, in Williamsport, honoring and marking the grave of the Last Union Civil War Soldier to be buried in Warren County, Indiana - Private Daniel Webster Reed of Co. F, 27th Indiana Infantry ("Wilder's Brigade"). Several members of our SUVCW camp along with the Sons of Veterans Reserve and Scout Troop 393 participated (see picture next page).



**New Department of Indiana Officers Installed on June 4<sup>th</sup> in Kokomo**



**2022-2023 Department of Indiana Officers: Front Row (LtoR): Alan Teller, Jim Floyd;  
Middle Row (LtoR): Tom Schmitt, Bill Adams, Bruce Kolb, Travis LeMaster, David Hoesli;  
Back Row (LtoR): Dennis Rigsby, Dennis Hutchinson, Gib Young, Mike Beck, Tim Beckman**

## Memorial Day salute to long-gone veteran

Ambrose Kintz: Quite an unusual name in this day and age. Yet, there he lay, at the crest of a little hill in Lindenwood Cemetery. Just three rows away from my parents.

I noticed Ambrose Kintz when placing flowers on my folks this Memorial Day.

My grandfather taught me long ago that not only do we honor our war dead on Memorial Day but

our own loved ones as well. I used to help him take home-grown flowers every Memorial Day to my his parents' gravesite.

I noticed Kintz's gravestone was different than the others around it. It resembled the kind the government used to issue a hundred years ago. The kind one sees at Arlington National Cemetery.

I read the stone: Ambrose Kintz CO E 55th IND INF 1842-1918. Ambrose Kintz was a Civil War soldier.

My research found that the 55th Indiana Infantry was mustered out of Indianapolis in April 1862 and tasked with guarding prisoners from the Battle of Fort Donaldson (Tennessee) in February 1862, a battle that helped Gen. Ulysses S. Grant become a household name in the western theatre of the war and, ultimately, the entire Union.

I realized I had one more duty this Memorial Day.

I drove to the front of the cemetery. There was a stand there and I got out to speak with Timothy, an employee at Lindenwood. I told him I found a veteran's grave that requires a little 4x8 inch flag. Without hesitation, he handed me a miniature flag on a staff.

I drove the winding road back into the cemetery, parked my car and again went up the hill that my parents share with Ambrose Kintz. I placed the toe of my shoe against the marker and planted the flag at my heel - as I've seen our current service members do when honoring our deceased soldiers.

Then I stood there and thought. Ambrose Kintz may not have died in battle, but he still served our country. Helped preserve our country when it almost stopped being a country we'd want to live in. All at the tender age of 20.

God rest him.

This Memorial Day, 104 years later, someone remembered. I honored our local boy, Ambrose Kintz. Isn't that what Memorial Day is all about?



Source: Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, 6-27-2022