

# The INDIANA LEGION

*Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*  
DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA • GIB YOUNG, COMMANDER



Volume 24

Spring 2006

## General Orders No. 2

Series 2005-2006

**1** THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER announces the 120th Annual Encampment of the Department of Indiana for Kokomo Indiana on June 3, 2006. All brothers of the department are urged to attend. Good food and good fellowship, recognition of contributions made to our order, and even nifty prizes are promised.

**2** THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER urges all camps to hold Memorial Day observances at sites of their choosing. All brothers are called to attend and recognize a Memorial Day observance in their area.

**3** THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER wishes that all brothers in the department will consider helping to record the burial sites of Union veterans in Indiana.

**4** THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER calls upon each camp to initiate a procedure for a consistent collection of records of burials in cemeteries throughout the state and give a preliminary report on the efforts by each camp at the annual encampment.

**5** THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER urges brothers in the department to consider attending the national encampment in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, August 10-13.

**6** THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER wishes to recognize the achievements of Brother Bill Lynch. A native of Benton County, now a resident of Suffolk, Virginia, and member of Champion Hill, Camp 17, for his continuing efforts in locating, recording, and repairing Grand Army of the Republic monuments and Union Soldiers' graves in his area. (Of special note are his efforts in regard to the graves of veterans of the United States Colored Troops).



Gib

— Gib Young  
Department Commander



At the Salem Church in Hendricks County, Ben Harrison Camp brothers Tim Beckman and Jerry Thompson trial fit the stone of Pvt. Lewis Franklin that had been broken off about an inch from its base. New brother Roger Lester looks on. Note the copper tubing used to line up the two pieces before completing the repair with epoxy. See story on page 2.

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**Join us for the Annual Encampment at IU Kokomo June 3**  
**Coffee & muffins at 8:30 a.m. • Meeting Starts at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Registration information on the back page • Deadline May 22nd. • Act Now!**

*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*

## SUVCW on the Web

Tim Beckman, the Department of Indiana's Signal Officer and webmaster, reminds us of the SUVCW web sites available in our state; to wit,

**National:**

<http://www.suvcw.org/>

**Department:**

<http://www.suvcw.org/in/DEPTIN.html>

**Champion Hill Camp No. 17:**

<http://www.huntingtoncounty.org/suvcw>

**Ben Harrison Camp No. 356:**

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~inbhsuv/>

**David D. Porter Camp No. 116:**

[www.tribalpages.com/tribes/ddporter116](http://www.tribalpages.com/tribes/ddporter116)

**Join the IndianaSUVCW**

**e-mail news list:**

contact [timbeckman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:timbeckman@sbcglobal.net), or  
[David-Wiley@utc.edu](mailto:David-Wiley@utc.edu)



**Notify your camp secretary when you change your e-mail address; failing that, you may not receive either the printed or e-mail version of *The Indiana Legion*!**

## Encampment Speaker Announced

Kevin Lindsey will be the featured speaker at the 120th Annual Encampment of the Department of Indiana on Saturday, June 3rd., at Indiana University Kokomo.

Lindsey, who is commander of the Gen. Richardson Camp No. 2 in Oakland County, Michigan, will speak on the topic, "The 47th Indiana — Past, Present, and Future." He comes to his study of the 47th as the great grandson of William Lindsey who served in Company H. He has set up a web site devoted to the regiment at <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/klindsey/47thindiana.htm>.

Lindsey is Patriotic Instructor of the Department of Michigan and is chair of its nomination committee. He is also membership secretary of the Descendants of Mexican War Veterans. He and his wife are the proud parents of four children, ranging in age from 18 to 26. Together they are restoring an old farmhouse in their hometown.

*This will be the last issue of The Indiana Legion that I will edit. It has been a task that has taken just over seven years under the energetic leadership of six Department of Indiana Commanders: Ron Gill, Jay Crisp, Russ Kirchner, Tom Crawford, Alan Teller and Gib Young. They have been more than patient with me, for which I am very grateful.*

*But now it is time to step down, "to spend more time with my family," as the politicians say; but, seriously, it is time that our publication—I have always thought of it as more than just a newsletter—take on a new editor, a new and fresh look, and perhaps a new name.*

*My very great thanks to all those who have made contributions to these pages over the years—The Indiana Legion has been your effort.*



## Ben's Camp At Work

The Ben Harrison Camp, No. 356 remains the largest in the Department, with a membership of 66, a number that reflects the fact that the camp takes in SUVCW members not only from the Indianapolis area, but from the entire state south of the city.

Camp members are quite aware that there is room for one or even two additional camps in the southern region, and we applaud the efforts department commanders have made over time—most recently Gib Young—to encourage such a development.

We know that there are brothers who have expressed an interest in forming new camps to our south. We urge them to pick up the leadership reins and start recruiting. They can get plenty of help from Gib Young and the Department leadership and the best wishes of the Ben Harrison Camp. Guidance will be found on the national web site as well.

### Memorial Day Observance at Crown Hill

At 11:00 a.m. on Monday, May 29, the Camp will conduct a service at the Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis.

The event will honor the memory of Ben Harrison Camp member Frank Shellhouse. Elected in 1914 as Depart-

ment of Indiana Commander of the Sons of Veterans (the SUVCW name at the time), in Indianapolis, he became Commander-in-Chief of the national organization in September 1922 at Des Moines, Iowa. C-in-C Shellhouse died in 1934.

This event continues a multi-year effort to recognize past Sons' leaders by the camp nurtured by PCC Steve Bauer, who has carefully researched, written, and designed excellent programs.

Brothers and friends should gather on the 29th at the main Crown Hill entrance at 34th Street and Boulevard Place at about 10:50 a.m. From there they will move out to the Shellhouse grave in section 39, lot 313.

We are looking forward to seeing the contingent of the Sons of Veterans Reserve who will also be in attendance.

### Gravestone Cleaning & Repair Workshop

On a very windy Saturday, April 8, several Camp members cleaned and repaired graves in the cemetery at the

*Continued on page 3*

## The INDIANA LEGION

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



# Andersonville & The Women's Relief Corps

The stockade-surrounded prison at Andersonville, Georgia, was used to confine Union soldiers, for fourteen months between 1864 and 1865. During this time frame, approximately thirty-five thousand Union men were confined behind log walls surrounding a twenty four acre plot of land uninhabitable by man or animal. With little or no shelter these soldiers had to endure the harshness of the Georgia seasons. More than half of the soldiers that entered Andersonville Military Prison died and their bodies laid to rest outside the confines of the prison.

After the war, the prison grounds and area surrounding the camp were purchased by the Grand Army of the Republic of Georgia. In 1906 the GAR-Georgia presented the Andersonville property to the National Woman's Relief Corps with the understanding that the WRC would preserve this area as a memorial. This gift of the Andersonville Prison property was accepted by the Fourteenth National Convention and steps were made to upgrade the property from its condition at the time.

Restoration of the Andersonville Prison area was directed by the Women's Relief Corps Past National President Lizabeth A. Turner. Under her guidance the prison grounds were cleared, trees planted, a caretaker's cottage built and a pavilion built over the spring which supplied thousands of soldiers with the only fresh water available in the camp. Monuments were erected by several States to their soldiers who had suffered from the lack of medicine, food, water, clothing, housing, and the elements of the Georgia weather.

In 1908 the Woman's Relief Corps National President Kate E. Jones recommended that the Andersonville Prison site be transferred to the United States Government, and on March 2, 1910, the Secretary of War was authorized by Congress to accept the Andersonville Memorial site with all of its improvements. This transfer was made official on September 20, 1910 with a bronze marker placed on the Anderson-



At the end of a very satisfactory day's work the motley crew at the gravestone cleaning and repair workshop. From left to right Brothers David Wiley, Jerry Thompson, Tim Beckman, Garry Walls, Michael Beck and Camp Commander Phil McClure. The Salem Church is in the background.

ville Prison site on May 13, 1911. This bronze plaque is a testament to love and dedicating that the members of the Women's Relief Corps poured into the preservation of ground where so many young Union Soldiers gave their lives.

The complete article on the preservation of the Andersonville Prison by the Women's Relief Corps can be found in the "Red Book" of the Woman's Relief Corps Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic - 1914, pp. 17-18.

— Michael W. Beck  
Senior Vice Commander  
Ben Harrison Camp No. 356

## Ben's Camp *cont. from p.2*

beautifully reconstructed Salem Church in Hendricks County. The workshop was conducted by Camp Commander Phil McClure who, as it turns out, is skilled in such matters when he is not channeling General Lew Wallace.

Garry Walls was particularly instrumental in making arrangements to work on the site, and Tim Beckman took special measures to advertise the event.

The camp is particularly indebted to the Salem Church and members John and Phyllis Parsons for their help and assistance in this project and for their knowledge of the burials in this very historic location.



Garry Walls and Phil McClure fit a stone broken in four places. After careful measurement, holes for the copper pins are drilled and the pieces fitted, epoxied, and clamped together. After drying, the excess epoxy is shaved off and smoothed. Below Mike Beck drills at the base of another stone.



## Gosport Project Contemplated

In 1861-1862 a camp of instruction was established in Gosport on the White River. Named Camp Hughes for a former congressman, it became the training ground for the 59th Regiment, Indiana Volunteers. Mustered in February

*Continued on p. 4*

# SVR On the March

## Lincoln Boyhood Home Event & Plans for the Future

The February 12, 2006, Lincoln Boyhood Home program was well attended in southern Indiana. It was probably the best overall attendance of the last six years. People were standing in the aisles. Four SUVCW Camps, Champion Hill, Somers, Harrison, and Porter, were represented.

Somers Camp attendees were Alan Teller, CC, and Larry Myer, CJVC. Porter Camp was represented by Jack Shaw, CC, and Cody Shaw, CJVC. Har-



At the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln last February are, left to right, Alan Teller, PDC, Larry Myer, and Dennis Hutchinson.

ison Camp had Dennis Hutchinson; while Champion Hill Camp had Gib Young, DC, Eric Fricke, James Kline, Don Morgan, Gary Bugge, and Archie Lintz, CSVC.

The Company Singers consisted of the first five from Champion Hill plus Jack Shaw. Introduced for the DUVCW were Beverly Massey, Department President, Lee Ann Teller, Department Sr. Vice President, and Janice Zendell. The Company Singers sang several songs and led the audience in "America the Beautiful."

The guest speaker was Dr. Kenneth J. Winkle, author of *Young Eagle, the Rise of Abraham Lincoln*. The Eulogy was given by Mark Gentry.

Your SVR consisted of 1st. Sgt, Al-

an Teller, Cpl. Dennis Hutchinson, Cpl. Larry Myer, and Pvt. James Kline, Pvt. Don Morgan, Pvt. Erick Fricke, and Pvt. Gib Young. The first three presented the colors, participated in the pledge of allegiance, and retired the colors for the Memorial Visitor Center Auditorium Program. They then led the procession up the hill carrying the colors to the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln.

While memorial wreaths were presented at her grave by the various attending organizations, we remained at attention behind the marker (see photo). It was a cold and snowy day, but most everyone made the trek to the grave for the short service. The Company Singers had an appropriate song saved for this ceremony. Several people asked for and received information about the SUVCW.

Other activities for 2006, of the 27<sup>th</sup> Indiana SVR, were presenting and retiring the colors at the Mid-winter Encampment, and holding our meetings in January and February.

**SVR plans include:**  
**May 21.** Gas City, 3:00 PM, Riverside Cemetery, Plaque Dedication to John C. Adams, He was the last Civil War Veteran to die in Indiana. This is a SUVCW activity, and the plaque is part of

the Sons' "Last Soldier Project."

**May 28.** Marion/Gas City, 2:00/3:15 PM, Estates of Serenity/Riverside Cemeteries, Somers Camp Memorial Day Services.

**May 29.** Indianapolis, Crown Hill Cemetery, Harrison Camp Memorial Day Ceremonies, Meet at north gate at 10:45.

**May 30.** Ft. Wayne, 2:30 PM, Lawton Park, Champion Hill Camp Memorial Day Ceremony.

**June 3.** Kokomo, SUVCW Annual Encampment IUK.

**July 9.** Kokomo, 2:00 PM, SVR Meeting, Alan Teller's home.

**November 16-19.** Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Remembrance Day.

— Alan Teller, PDC

## Gosport Project *Cont. from p.3*

1862, the regiment would make it all the way through the war to the Grand Review in Washington — after such experiences as Champion Hill, Missionary Ridge, the March to the Sea, Bentonville, and the surrender of Johnston.

The 59th lost 1 officer and 36 men killed and mortally wounded, but 229 of their number died of disease. Eight of those would never see any of the great events that were to follow, for they lie in

**Marker Placed in Cemetery**  
A huge block of rough grey granite, was placed several days ago in the lot in Gosport cemetery occupied by eight unknown soldiers of the Civil War who died while in camp, south of town, with their regiment, the 59th volunteer infantry. The granite marker, a particularly appropriate one, was presented by L. R. Gray and expenses of moving and setting were met through money received by the secretary, Miss Ura Sanders, from contributions and other sources. It is planned to have the marker lettered or a bronze tablet attached. This will cost in the neighborhood of \$50 it is thought, and as funds are practically depleted, it is asked that others make small contributions. *LS Oct 1923*

*From the Gosport Reporter, October 25, 1923*

the Gosport Cemetery in graves marked simply "unknown."

A faded newspaper clipping tells part of the story. An imposing granite stone was erected for soldiers still unidentified in 1923, but through the research of Tim Beckman of the Ben Harrison Camp, and Sue Trotman of the Gosport History Museum, we now know their names, and we contemplate adding a plaque to recognize them at last.

## Looking for a few good recruits

All members in good standing of the SUVCW are eligible to join the Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR). The annual dues are \$3.00.

ASK 1<sup>ST</sup> LT. LARRY EBERT  
tdebert\_1999@yahoo.com  
or 765-457-1577

# Somers Camp

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## Celebrations of Valor

The Orlando A. Somers Camp No. 1 will recognize the last Indiana Civil War veteran (died in 1949), John C. Adams of Grant County, by placing a 12" x 24" bronze plaque at his grave at Riverside Cemetery in Gas City. Plans are to conduct a dedication ceremony on Sunday, May 21. The inscription on the plaque will read:

**John C. Adams – G.A.R.  
Here in honored Glory rests the  
last Civil War Veteran of Indiana.  
May his deeds and sacrifices be  
ever green in our memory.**

**Placed by Sons of Union Veterans  
of the Civil War**

We would like to express our appreciation to the Department for contributing \$300.00 to this effort and to Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral Services of Gas City for their enthusiastic support.

We are considering a proposal to honor the last Howard County Civil War veteran, Gordon Williams, buried at Albright Cemetery in Kokomo, with a similar plaque next year.

We look forward to our cannon's (Confederate, 12-pound field howitzer, 1862—one of only 9 made) new home in Kokomo's Highland Park. A small building to house it should be constructed by the end of summer or early fall. The cannon is presently in storage at the Kokomo Parks Department, and members clean it monthly.

At our February meeting, we were entertained by Allen Parker Shinn, great grandson of Orlando A. Somers, who read selections from letters written home by Somers during his involvement in the war with Company D, 39th Regiment of the Indiana Volunteers. This regiment of infantry became a part of the Army of the Cumberland and served in the historic battles of Shiloh, Perryville, and Stones River. Pvt. Somers was discharged as a private on September 24, 1864, having served 36 months and 29 days. His letters offers insight

into the daily lives of the soldiers, the cost to purchase clothing, food, weapons, and other necessities, the irregularity of receiving their pay, and how he viewed the locals in the areas where he traveled and fought. His accounts are interesting and occasionally quite humorous.

We are planning to launch our own website and participate in the Memorial Day ceremonies at Crown Point Cemetery in Kokomo. We are grateful for so many members who are willing to work to promote the purpose of our organization.

## Porter Camp

### A Job Completed

The David D. Porter Camp, No. 116 moves around a lot. Officially located in Valparaiso, the camp has members from Lake, Porter, LaPorte, St. Joseph, Marshall, Starke, and Elkhart counties. With this geographic spread, it really is necessary to get where the members can attend and enjoy the programs and fellowship of the brothers of our order.

It met last on April 22 for lunch at Honker's Restaurant in the south part of South Bend, and then all moved over to the Center Township Library, which was about a mile away.

The meeting opened with a program

presented by Patrick J. Furlong, Professor Emeritus of History at Indiana University South Bend. He talked about the life of John Hunt Morgan in the Civil War, focusing on the campaign through the southern part of Indiana in the summer of 1863. If the campaign did nothing else, it did put quite a scare on the folks in Indiana and Ohio, but on the whole it was a military farce because not a thing was accomplished—except for the fact that 2400 men and countless number of horses and material were needlessly lost. Hence, the word "farce" is a fair name for the campaign. He had several pictures accompanying his talk; it was quite informative and created some discussion about cavalry tactics that developed during the Civil War.

### The Stone Replacement Project Done

On Friday and Saturday, May 5 and 6, the camp completed a project of replacing grave stones in the G.A.R. plot in Maplewood Cemetery in Valparaiso.

There were 16 stones in bad shape, and the camp embarked on the project by getting new stones from the Veterans Administration, and setting them in place with the old stones placed back to back with new ones. Last Fall a small crew went to the cemetery and replaced 3 of them.

Mark Davis, working with Alan R. Loomis, PC-in-C, who chaired the project, volunteered to help the camp.

*Continued on p. 6*



# Benton Camp Volunteers

Centerville's William P. Benton Camp No. 28 has two members who travel to the Air Force Museum near Dayton for volunteer work several times a month.

Camp Commander Ernest Ravinet and Vice Commander Ray Moak do two important jobs there. Ravinet does restoration work on beat up airplanes, and Moak twice each month patrols the exhibit galleries, responds to visitor and building emergencies, safeguards the aircraft and artifacts, and provides factual information and help to youth groups and adults.

Ravinet works each Tuesday on a Korean War era reconnaissance jet fighter RF-84 Thunderchief that had been a school playground exhibit.

It had a lot of damage and missing parts. Ravinet has made and replaced missing wing panels, rebuilt seat ejection equipment, and replaced six large cameras used for terrain and enemy photography. One camera provided negatives 18 inches by 18 inches. When the RF-84 is undercoated, painted and decaled with appropriate squadron insignias, it will be installed in the Interwar Years Gallery exhibit area.

The next plane Ravinet will undertake is a Russian MIG 21 jet fighter. Last fall the famous War II B-17 Heavy Bomber, the *Memphis Belle*, was brought in pieces to the Museum for restoration and display. Elevators, vertical stabilizer and ailerons are missing, and the engines were rusted immovable. Interior parts and instruments are missing.

Four men are restoring the engines so they can be run on test stands. For safety reasons, they won't have fuel or batteries. Its paint is being stripped and old cloth-covered wiring is being

replaced with modern insulation wire. During its 25 missions (the first bomber to complete 25) its tail stabilizer was shot away, anti-aircraft shells destroyed three wings, several engines were replaced, but only one crewman received a wound. The *Belle* can be seen on Friday's only after a phone reservation is made. A bus ride is provided across the field to maintenance buildings.

Ravinet was a Korean War aircraft maintenance officer who had some missions as an observer in an A-20 light bomber. Moak received his pilot's license in an Aeronca Champ after his Army service between wars. He retired from the Visteon plant near Connersville.

The Air Force Museum is the oldest



Former B-25 pilot Stanley Bobbit and friend of Benton Camp Secretary, Clifford Cox, in a visit to the Air Force Museum. A Junkers-52 transport is in the background.

and largest military museum in the world. It has 2900 aircraft, 300 missiles, 35,000 artifacts, uniforms, and photos on exhibit. Sixty-three thousand aerospace vehicles are on loan worldwide. It has an art gallery, an IMAX theatre, and gift shops where you can buy a B-17 cap

and books about it.

Youth groups sometimes cause problems with wandering individuals tampering with artifacts. One guy stole a dummy machine gun and walked out with it. He was observed and caught in a couple of hours. Moak watches to prevent thievery.

The area was established as McCook Field in 1923, named Wright Field in 1927, and its Memorial Park opened in 1971. Now it has an Eighth Air Force type War II control tower, a Nissen briefing hut, a modern flight hangar, various era galleries, large planes displayed on outdoor ramps, including the Presidential collection — FDR's *Sacred Cow*, Truman's *Independence*, and Eisenhower's *Columbine*.

There is also the German transport JU-52, Hitler's favorite type.

This past April 19 the museum was the scene of the Doolittle Raiders Re-

union of six or eight survivors of the B-25 attack on Tokyo. They were available to the public for a dinner and autographs. The museum has a display of a B-25 with manikin figures of Doolittle and crewmen nearby.

Ravinet and Moak enjoy their work there even though it is tiring. They encounter people from all over the world, so life there is interesting to them.

## Attention to Veterans of Yore

Recently four volunteers from the Camp cleaned up two Civil War veterans' headstones and straightened up nine leaning stones at Earlham's Soldiers' Hill.

— Clifford Cox, Secretary,  
Benton Camp No. 28

## Porter Job cont. from page 5

Along with Mrs. Helen Wildermuth, he brought in a couple helpers and started by pulling out all 13 of the remaining old headstones and placing them alongside to the spot where the new ones were to be installed.

On Friday the camp members brought the new gravestones to the GAR plot and laid them out for the next day. On Saturday morning, camp members and Mark Davis and his crew worked out the location for the new stones. They were joined by eight young men from an ROTC unit at Valparaiso University who assisted in moving, digging, and replacing all the stones — both the new and old ones. The project was completed by Saturday noon.

## Dedication Planned this Month

On May 29 the camp will have a dedication ceremony at the cemetery for all the new grave stones that were installed, which will take place at 9:30 a.m. They will be assisted by the 9th Indiana Infantry Regiment, reactivated, which will be fully uniformed and equipped to do the honors.

When the dedication is completed, the group will adjourn to the Porter County Courthouse for the annual Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony, as the group has done since 1976.

— Ronald Gill,  
Editor of THE MONITOR  
David D. Porter Camp 116,

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# Champion Hill Reports

The excellent Champion Hill Newsletter that arrived in our e-mail boxes last month is full of news of the extraordinary goings on of Huntington's very busy camp.

In it we read of Jim Perry and Archie Lintz at work in augmenting the list of Civil War soldier grave sites in Northeastern Indiana; of Keith Stroud's reports on the discovery of the grave of Sgt. William Bumgarner, possibly a Medal of Honor winner; of the maneuvers of the Camp's vintage baseball team; of the successful program — one of many it seems — by the Company Singers at the Lincoln Boyhood Home in February and the Huntington County Expo in March, and much more.

Plans are already well developed for a very special Memorial Day celebration on May 30th at 1:30 p.m. at the Lawton Park Statue at Spy Run and Tennessee Street in Fort Wayne. It will be Commander Gib Young's task to present the dedication address. The forever ubiquitous Company Singers will intone "Rally Round the Flag," the 44th Indiana will fire a salute, and new brothers will be initiated.

Brother David Winship has worked mightily at restoring the monument and bringing the event to fruition, not only on behalf of the men of 1861-1865, but in behalf of the nearly forgotten folk who put the monument up 111 years ago. He is rededicating the monument in honor of his son Michael Bryan Winship and his great-great grandfather, 1st Lt. James Winship.

Winship's devotion was recognized in the pages of the *Fort Wayne News-Sentinel* on January 2.

## Testimony to be Remembered

Keith Stroud, a new member of the Champion Hill Camp writes,

Let's see! When I was introduced to the Sons' organization last spring, I thought maybe these guys were nuts. One of the brothers (Terry Reid) mentioned that it would be a great way to look up information about our men in Blue. So I joined the SUVCW for that reason. I started attending meetings regularly and was more and

more active. I was sworn in at the Slack Park recognition, with three others.

From that point on I tried to attend all other meetings, including our encampment this year. I met a lot of supporting people and found more info about my forefathers.

Gib Young has asked me to help gather info on a Medal of Honor winner who is buried in my home town of Liberty Center. I have contacted the relatives of this winner (William Bumgarner), and found that he was a great great grandfather of a classmate of mine in school. Gib has thought of a memorial service, placing a Medal of Honor stone at the Mossburg Cemetery next Memorial day (2007). I think this is a great Idea. Another project was brought up about looking up the soldiers in different counties of Indiana cemeteries. I have started to look up the Civil War soldiers of Wells County. This is a job! I have even taken my wife with me to the cemeteries to help me. I have two very large binders of Wells County's Civil War men in blue. I think, the work that is being done to preserve our heritage is fantastic, and we need to be more active in supporting such projects as these. Hope to see everyone out and about Memorial weekend to celebrate at the activities planned.

Right on, Brother Stroud!

## A Small World After All

I want to relate an unusual experience. Last March I accompanied my wife while she attended a committee meeting of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865 (DUVCW), at the Holiday Inn, in Columbus.

Several of us were walking through the pool area when a young man, probably in his late thirties, stopped us after staring at the ladies: some were wearing sweatshirts that read Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865. He didn't notice the Daughters part, but understood the rest. After hearing the word daughters, he instantly spouted, "My name is Gar." Whereupon I asked, "Gar, as in Grand Army of the Republic"? "Yes," he replied, "my dad was Frank Heacock, a former Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War." I then introduced myself as a fellow member. When

I asked him where he was from, he said, "Delaware." He said he was at Camp Atterbury, and staying at the Holiday Inn. When I asked what he was doing at Atterbury he said he was on his way to Afghanistan. When we asked when, he looked at his watch and shrugged his shoulders. Asked again, he simply shrugged his shoulders once more. Someone then suggested that perhaps it was confidential; he said yes. Asked if he had been to Afghanistan before, he answered, "not officially." Invited to answer what "not officially" meant, he answered, "not officially."

His answers evoked a myriad of further questions in our minds, but we dropped this line of questioning and moved on. He asked about several other members of the SUVCW, most of whom I did not know. He did at some time state that David Orr was the father of Richard Orr, and his father, Frank, was a close friend of David Orr. I shook his hand and said it was nice to have met him and wished him a safe trip to and return from Afghanistan. He took his leave, wandering off to another part of the motel.

From the national SUVCW website, I learned that Gar's father was Frank M. Heacock, Sr. He was Commander-in-Chief 1968/1969. His residence was listed in Pennsylvania until he moved to Delaware in 1958. He presided over the 87th National Encampment in Wilmington, Delaware, on August 22, 1969. His grandfather was Cpl John H. Gifford, who enlisted as a musician in Co. K 72nd Pennsylvania, the Fire Zouve Regiment, on March 28, 1862, and transferred to Co. A of the 183rd Pennsylvania on July 19, 1864. He was discharged, March 27, 1865 at the end of his enlistment.

Heacock served as Camp Commander in 1929 (forty years earlier), Department Commander in 1942. In 1943 he was named as Secretary to the Pennsylvania Department of the Grand Army of the Republic, a post he held until the passing of the last GAR Department Commander in 1946. Gar's father had one son by a first marriage, Frank M., Jr. He had another son by a second marriage, Gar Edward. The second wife was obviously a lot younger.

— Alan Teller, PDC

**REGISTER NOW**  
**For the 2006 Department Encampment!**

From any direction, take US 31 to Lincoln St. in Kokomo. Lincoln is North of IN 26 and South of US 35 & IN 22. Turn West on Lincoln to Washington. Turn North on Washington: just past Cossells Landscaping on right; turn right. You are on IUK property (2300 S. Washington). Stay right at first stop sign. At second stop sign turn left. Park in lot on right. Enter the Kelly Student Center. If you keep turning right within the building, you will find us. We will look for you near the cafeteria.



120<sup>th</sup> Annual Encampment  
**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**  
 & the 58th Memorial Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic  
 Department of Indiana • Indiana University Kokomo • Saturday 3 June 2006

**Registration deadline no later than 22 May**

Pre-Registration \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Lunch \$13.00 \_\_\_\_\_ : Total \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Camp # \_\_\_\_\_

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Wives & guests are welcome at the luncheon.

Make checks payable to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW)

Send your check to Lee Ann Teller, 3003 Lamplighter Lane, Kokomo, IN 46902-8125 to arrive on or before 21 May!

**May 20**, Knightstown Soldiers and Sailors Home Graduation, 10:00 a.m. • **May 21** Gas City, 3:00 PM, Riverside Cemetery, Plaque Dedication to John C. Adams, Last Indiana Civil War Soldier • **May 28** Marion/Gas City, Somers Camp Memorial Day Services • **May 29** Memorial Day: Ben Harrison Camp, Crown Hill 11:00 a.m., Porter Camp cemetery dedication 9:30 a.m., and Porter County courthouse ceremony • **May 30**, Ft. Wayne, 2:30 PM, Lawton Park, Champion Hill Camp Memorial Day Ceremony • **August 13-14**, National Encampment in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania • **November 16-19**, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Remembrance Day.

# The INDIANA LEGION

*Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,  
 Department of Indiana*

*3800 W. Woodmere Way  
 Bloomington, IN 47403-4123*

This space, devoted to the mailing address in the printed edition, presents an opportunity to call attention to the Library of Congress, American Memory Collection, available on the Internet at <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>.

The Collection is a great source of written, visual, and musical information concerning the American Civil War.

The poster to the right is an example. It speaks worlds about the era.

