



The Indiana Legion



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA * JACK SHAW, COMMANDER

NEW CAMP IN INDIANA!

It's official!! The Department of Indiana has a new Camp as of July 19, 2009, John B. Anderson Camp #223. Please be sure you camps are informed of the new Camp. I am sure in the not too distant future they will have "inaugural meeting", for official presentation of their Charter, to which we will all be invited. The Camp Commander is Phil McClure, Camp Sr. Vice Commander Bret Caldwell, Camp Jr. Vice Commander John McClure, Camp Secretary Steve Coffman, and Camp Treasurer Bart Caldwell.

SVR IN INDIANA

By Alan Teller

On June 6 the SVR presented the colors at the Annual Encampment in Kokomo. We had 6 members in uniform participating. There were about 25 SUVCW members present. On June 12 we had our largest crowd of the month at the Marion National Cemetery for their Flag Day Ceremony and parade. Only two of us participated in the parade, but we were joined by PCinC Allen Moore. He and his wife, Barbara, took the easy route, and rode in a horse drawn carriage. The DUVCW was also present in period clothing. The Indiana National Guard brought their Caisson Unit complete with flag draped coffin and five black horses. My guess is the crowd was over 300. This is an event we should think about next year. I believe we will be asked. On June 13 we marched north to participate with Porter Camp at the Northern Indiana Center for History in South Bend. We participated with the 5th Veteran Reserve. This was the opening of their exhibit, "Lincoln: The Man You Didn't Know" We had five members participating. We supplied guards for President Abraham Lincoln, for his carriage and funeral bier. Guards were changed in shifts. It was an interesting day; and they fed us to make it even better. Porter Camp had a table recruiting new members. It would be impossible for me to estimate the crowd, as it was constantly moving and changing.

On June 27 we supported Harrison Camp in dedicating a new grave marker for Pvt. Corydon W. Cook, C. H 73rd Indiana Infantry. This was a small crowd of SUVCW, DUVCW, and family. My estimate is 20+. Camp member, Don Cook, had the stone placed on an unmarked grave. Five SVR members fired three volleys.

To date 17 different members have participated in uniform in at least one event in Indiana. I have submitted an article to the Banner on an 18th member that participated in a Memorial Day Parade on the Western Front representing the 27th Indiana Infantry, think Tucson, AZ. If it is not printed I will bring you up to date later.

Current SVR schedule:

Sept. 18, Indianapolis, POW/MIA Ceremony at the War Memorial, This will be a table for recruitment. It will probably be a function of Harrison and Somers Camp. They will need uniforms to draw attention to the table. We need volunteers.

Oct. 17, Logansport, Last Soldier Dedication, Somers Camp Function, William A. Ziegler, Corporal, Co. E 19th Ohio Volunteers Infantry d. 03/12/1942.

Nov. 21, Gettysburg, Remembrance Day Parade, We have been participating for several years. I would like to hear from those that feel they are going to attend. This would be the highlight of everyone's year. Each of you should do it at least once.

Feb. 7, 2009, Lincoln Boyhood National Park, Yes, we have already been invited by Ranger Mike Capps, and I have accepted. So plan on attending.

We need a count of members attending for Sept 18, Oct. 17, Nov. 21.

We were asked to furnish an SVR honor guard for a Civil War gravestone rededication ceremony that took place on **September 7, 2009 (Labor Day)** at the Swift Pioneer Cemetery. This cemetery is located in Marion County (in the small community of Wynndale, which is located west of in a small and short parade at the National Cemetery, 17 East 38th Street, Marion, IN 46952. This is just west of the White River nearly just on the opposite side of the the river from the Indianapolis Museum of Art). New military stones will soon be erected for one Civil War veteran (Pvt. George W. Swift, Co. F, 3rd Ind. Cav.) and one War of 1812 veteran (Thomas E. Swift, Pvt., NC Militia). Another marker listing all of the other people interred there was also unveiled during the rededication. At least one Civil War Veteran will have a new stone dedicated.

SVR HISTORY

A short history of the 27th Indiana Infantry SVR unit is in order. I say this because a monumental achievement is about to happen. We are about to get the 27th Indiana Regimental Flag.

Lance Stevens organized this unit in the summer of 2002 and became our first commander as a 1st Sergeant. We had 9 privates. In 2003 we got our first officer, 2nd Lt. Lance Stevens, we had 21 enlisted men. (Lance may have been promoted to 1st Lt. in 2003. I do not find the paperwork.) **In 2004 1st Lt. Larry Ebert became our Commander** and 2nd Lt. Terry Reid was second in command. **In 2005 we commissioned and purchased our National Colors.** We had 24 enlisted men in 2005. Our officers had only one change in 2006; Alan Teller assumed the 2nd Lt. position. In 2009 we had some big changes 1st Lt. Alan Teller took command with 2nd Lt Bruce Kolb second in command.; we reported 27 enlisted men. Both of our past Commanders Lance and Larry remain in our unit as privates.

In the last four years we have carried and displayed our National Colors in many events inside and outside the state of Indiana. They have been a source of pride for our SVR unit. We have lacked the Regimental Colors because of money and finding time of the artist to paint the flag.

In 2009 we have commissioned our Regimental Colors to be painted and they will be ready any time now. In fact our 27th Indiana Infantry Regimental Flag is painted on one side. She, Amy, has started on the other side. With the Regimental Flag we will have two flags to present at events in the future. The bill is going to be \$500.00 for this hand painted flag. We have \$258.00 collected and **need another \$242.00**. We need donations to make up the balance and pay for the flag. I know I sound like a panhandler, but the bill will be coming due soon and **your donations are needed now**. No donation is too small. Please help your unit with a donation for the flag. Make Checks out to Alan Teller and send the donations to Alan Teller, 3003 Lamplighter Lane, Kokomo, IN 46902-8125. Thanks!!

CITIZENSHIP DAY

Greetings Brothers.

We all know Abraham Lincoln fought the Civil War to preserve the Union of States. But, it was thirty-nine delegates meeting in Philadelphia in the summer of 1787 who wrote in the Preamble to the Constitution the phrase "We the People" that allows us the privilege of calling ourselves "Americans"

In 1952 the United States Congress authorized the President to issue an annual proclamation designating September 17th every year as Citizenship Day in commemoration of the signing of the Constitution. In 1955 the Daughters of the American Revolution proposed devoting an entire week to the Constitution by extending the period of observance beyond September 17th. A second Congressional resolution, approved August 2, 1955, authorizing the designation of the week beginning September 17th of each year as Constitution Week. Now the President issues a single proclamation each year, September 17th as Citizenship Day and the period beginning Sept. 17th and ending Sept. 23 Constitution Week

Additional special observance days

Patriot Day Sept, 11. President George W. Bush signed this holiday in memory of the brave firefighters, police officers, military personnel, office workers, rescue workers, airline employees, and passengers into public record on Dec, 18, 2001

National POW/MIA Recognition Day Third Friday in September

Bless our men and women for the sacrifices they have made

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Brother John Bowyer

HILDALE CEMETERY CLEANUP

The Ben Harrison Camp held their annual cemetery cleanup at Hilldale Cemetery in Martinsville on May 10, 2009. With the able assistance of four Perry Meridian High School students, the camp was able to clean and/or reset approximately 30 Civil War veteran's gravestones. The Grand Army of the Republic/Women's Relief Corps monument dedicated "In Memory of the Unknown Dead of Morgan County" located in Hilldale Cemetery was also cleaned. A small article with two pictures from the days work appeared in the local on-line edition of the Reporter-Times Newspaper.



Left to right: Garry Walls, SVC and Mike Tomey, JVC cleaning gravestones at Hilldale Cemetery



Perry Meridian students resetting a gravestone at Hilldale Cemetery



**Tim Beckman, Camp Commander, with cleaned
G.A.R. monument in Hilldale Cemetery**

Private Corydon W. Cook Gravestone Dedication

On June 27th, 2009 members of the Ben Harrison Camp # 356, the Orlando A. Somers Camp # 1, the Department of Indiana Sons of Veterans Reserve, the Marinda B. Dye Tent # 17 Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and family members, gathered at the Galveston Cemetery, Galveston, IN to dedicate the stone of Private Corydon W. Cook. Corydon Cook is a civil war ancestor of Ben Harrison Camp member, Don Cook. Corydon Cook served in Co. H, of the 73rd Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted on August 6, 1862 and was discharged on July 1, 1865. Brother Don Cook ordered and installed the granite gravestone on his ancestor's grave in August 2008. Private Cook's grave had been previously unmarked since his death in 1922. Special thanks to the 4th Indiana Light Artillery who fired three cannon volleys during the ceremony of dedication.

Ben Harrison Camp Activities

August 14-16, 2009: National Encampment, Louisville, KY

September 7, 2009: Private George W. Swift Gravestone Rededication, at the Swift Pioneer Cemetery, 11:00 AM EDT. This cemetery is located in Marion County (in the

small community of Wynndale, which is located west of the White River nearly on the opposite side of the river from the Indianapolis Museum of Art). This pioneer cemetery had been nearly abandoned for many years. New military stones are being erected for one Civil War veteran (Pvt. George W. Swift, Co. F, 3rd Ind. Cav.) and one War of 1812 veteran (Thomas E. Swift, Pvt., NC Militia). Another marker listing all of the other people interred there will also be unveiled during the rededication. Note: We are still in need of additional SVR members who would like to take part in this ceremony. Please contact Tim Beckman (e-mail: timbeckman@gmail.com) if you think you might be available to help out. See the Ben Harrison Camp web site (<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~inbhsuv/campnews.htm>) for further information.





COMPANY SINGERS MOVIE DEBUT

The Company Singers of Champion Hill, Camp 17, Huntington, IN will be finally making it to a video store near you.

They traveled to Darlington, PA over four years ago to try and be a part of the movie 'Dog Jack', written by Frances Biros. The story is about a young slave runaway that finds a dog and later becomes involved with the Union during the Civil War.



During the filming of the campfire scene that the Company Singers were a part of in Darlington, PA

The local group performed until the wee hours of the next morning, before returning to Indiana and have been wondering two things. 1) Would the movie ever be finished and, 2) would they wind up in the movie or on the cutting room floor. It was a campfire scene that was to be taking place the night before a battle.

They found out the positive news when the director, Edward McDougal emailed everyone who had been a part of the movie to make sure the credits were correct. He also mentioned in the e-mail that the debut for the movie would be in Pittsburgh at the Soldiers and Sailors Museum on October 11.

Director McDougal also e-mailed Rick Henly and mentioned that, yes, they indeed had made it into the film and was excited to possibly see them at the premier in October. So, plans are now underway for the members to drive to Pennsylvania to see the movie in person. They also will be taking their instruments and will probably sing a song or two in the lobby before the showing. Good things come to those who wait...



Director McDougal tells actors how to react in this scene.

FIRST HOOSIER KILLED IN CIVIL WAR



Headstone of John Auten who served with Company I, of the 9th Indiana. Auten is recognized as the first hoosier killed in the Civil War. He fell on July 10th, 1861 during a skirmish at Elliot's Farm, West Virginia.. His remains were returned and he is buried in the City Cemetery, South Bend, Indiana. A South Bend GAR post was named in his Memory. Auten Post #8. Plans are underway to replace his headstone.

Here are some photos from the Northern Indiana, Center for History, South Bend Program, 'Lincoln, the Man you didn't know'. The Department of Indiana, SUVCW the SVR and the 5th Veteran Reserve were in attendance.







NEW SVR REGIMENTAL FLAG BEING MADE



Picture sent by Randy McNally of new flag during construction process.

I am calling off the request for donations. We needed \$242.00 to pay for the flag. We have had three donations. Gib Young gave \$30.00 and Rich McConnell gave \$20.00. Now a story is in order. Dennis Hutchinson wrote the following email and his words are better than mine.

Alan

I was part of the 31st Indiana V.I. Co. E reenactment group. That group disbanded in 2002 and all funds from the group were given to me to do as I please in the interest of Civil War history. That dollar amount rounded off to the nearest \$5 was \$175. I am planning on donating this money to our 27th Regimental Flag.

*I will write the check now for **\$175.00** and put in the mail Thursday Morning (Aug. 27th). This will get you to within \$67 of the final goal. **This donation therefore is from myself and the "Old" 31st Indiana, Co. E reenactors.***

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT PHOTOS

By Ron Gill





National Encampment 2009 New and Past CinC



National Encampment 2009 Present Charter New Camp



Indiana contingent pictures



**NEXT LEGION OUT IN DECEMBER 2009
SHOULD BE ON A REGULAR SCHEDULE AGAIN NOW
Get your articles of interest and pictures to:**

Rick Henly at rickhenly@comcast.net