

THE INDIANA LEGION

ORLANDO A SUMMERS CAMP #1 KOKOMO
CHAMPION HILL CAMP #17 HUNTINGTON
WILLIAM P BENTON CAMP#28CENTERVILLE

DAVID D PORTER CAMP #116 VALPARAISO
JOHN B ANDERSON CAMP #223 COLUMBUS
BEN HARRISON CAMP #356 INDIANAPOLIS

Newsletter of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Indiana
Michael W. Beck, Commander
Issue 1-13

From the Desk of the Department of Indiana Commander - Michael W. Beck



Brothers, I am very excited to announce the rebirth of the “Legion” newsletter. PDC Gib Young has volunteered to be the Editor and Chief of this great publication. It is now up to the Brothers of the SUVCW Department of Indiana to support this publication. I myself will be supplying Brother Young with one (1) to two (2) articles for each issue and would like to see an article from each Camp Commander. The Camp Commanders articles should include camp activities such as lectures, living histories community projects and grave stone cleaning and rededications. I would also like to call to each and every Brother back to their roots and write an article about their Civil War ancestors. These articles could deal with the life or military history of the ancestors that they used to become a member of the Indiana SUVCW, including other relatives that were Civil War veterans. If you have a picture or pictures of anything related to them or the company and regiment they belonged to, please include them. With your help, we can make this one of the best SUVCW Department newsletters in the county.

F. C. & L.

DC Michael W. B

*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*



Department of Indiana 2012 Annual Encampment Attendees - June 12, 2012

From the Department of Indiana Chaplain - Rich McConnell



I recently read a quote that reminded me of a section of President Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address delivered on March 4, 1865. Speaking of the Union and of the Confederacy, he stated, “Both [sides in the conflict] read the same Bible, and pray to the same God; and each invokes His aid against the other.... The prayers of both could not be answered; that of neither has been answered fully.” [At this junction in the war].“

Both sides were certain that God was on their side, both certain that they were right and that they would prevail. “The Union knew that it was waging a righteous war that served God's purposes, and similarly the Confederacy believed that ‘God will vindicate us’.”

The quote I mentioned above was also from President Lincoln. He responds to the question, “whose side is the Lord on?” by stating:

“Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God’s side, for God is always right.”

A wonderful response reminding us it is not that we should be concerned with the Lord being on our side, but rather concerned that we are on His side.

We are to follow, the greatest commandment, Matthew 22:36-40,

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. And the second is like it: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

May the Lord bless each one of us and we strive to complete His will for our lives.



Lincoln Boyhood Home - Spencer Co. Ind. - Feb. 10, 2013

The 27th Indiana SVR presented and retired the colors this year 4 of 6 department camps represented. Inclement weather prevented the graveside wreath laying this year.

Back row l. to r. Garry Walls, Dennis Hutchinson, Larry Myer, Dennis Rigsby, Thomas Ashley, Dave Tilden. Front row l. to r. Matthew Ashley, Alan Teller, Joseph Ashley. (Not pictured Mike Beck and John Eger)

The 27th Indiana, Co D, Sons of Veterans Reserve Upcoming Events for 2013

- **April 13**, Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, IL 10:00 AM CST, **Muster will be about 9:30 AM CST**
- **May 30**, Huntington Illumination, Huntington, Slack Park, 9:00 PM, **Muster 8:00 PM**, Champion Hill Camp (This is a Thursday)
- **June 1**, SUVCW Annual Encampment, IUK, Kokomo meeting 9:00 AM, **Muster 8:30 AM**
- **June 8**, Medal of Honor Gravestone Dedication, Laporte, Patton Cemetery, time to be determined
- **Aug, 8-11**, National Encampment, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- **Nov. 23**, Remembrance Day, Gettysburg, PA, 1:00 PM, **Muster Noon**
- **Feb. 9, 2014**, Lincoln Day Program, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, 2:00 PM CST **Muster 1:30 PM CST**, Present Colors and lead the procession to the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln



127th Annual Department of Indiana Encampment
 65th Memorial Encampment to the GAR
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 Registration Form
 Indiana University Kokomo, Saturday June 1, 2013
Deadline No Later Than May 15th !

Pre-Registration ___ x \$5.00 _____
 Lunch ___ x \$14.00 _____
 Total \$ _____

Wives& guest are welcome at the luncheon.
 Make checks payable to **SUVCW Dept. of Indiana**
 Send checks to Lee Ann Teller, 3003 Lamplighter Lane, Kokomo, IN 46902-8125

Name: _____ Camp # _____

Guest: _____

Directions for Indiana University Kokomo

From any direction take US 31 to Lincoln. 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 be near the cafeteria.

In the immortal words of our Dept. Chaplain -
 “Don’t make me holler and don’t make me shout! Turn them pockets inside out!!”
 And get your pen out and fill out the registration and send in - along with the money.

Brothers, I have been asked from all around the state, from Bippus to Warren, to add the immensely popular quiz I have created for Camp 17 to a department newsletter. Well, I usually do this for money but since your general community begging has touched me so I am humbly offering --

The All Time Unbelievable Untouchable Super-Hard Civil War Trivia Quiz!!



Brother Art Fern is your genial quiz master

1. (For Brothers of Camp 1) Indiana was on which side during the recent “unpleasantness”?
2. How many states were ‘neutral’ - less than twenty or more than twenty?
3. Who was President during the Civil War?
4. (For Brothers who have high school degrees) Arizona has a ‘battlefield’ site?
T or F
5. How many men could ride on a caisson or limber?
6. What was Lincoln referring to when he said “_____ flows unvexed to the sea”?
7. (For Brother Kolb) What does ‘unvexed’ mean?

Answers can be found on next page

From the Department of Indiana Historian - Bruce Kolb

As Department Historian I am charged with collecting and preserving all historical and biographical material pertaining to the Civil War, members of the Grand Army of the Republic, and to members of the Order.

My duties include maintaining and cataloging all historical, biographical, and photographic material given to or developed by the Department. Such material would include newspaper articles, membership records, meeting minutes, financial records, photographs and donated memorabilia.

I also assist in helping the public research their ancestor's participation in the Civil War.

The best way to contact me is by email at Bkolb2@yahoo.com.

From the Department of Indiana Signals Officer – Tim Beckman



Brothers, as your Department of Indiana Signals Officer I am responsible for the maintenance of your departmental web site which can be found here: <http://suvchw.org/in/DEPTIN>. Any corrections/additions or comments about the web site should be forwarded to me at the following e-mail address: timbeckman@gmail.com. I am also the moderator of your Department of Indiana Yahoo E-mail Group. This is a closed e-mail group, and as such, I need to approve all membership to the group. I generally approve all request for membership, so please do not hesitate to join if you have not already done so. To sign up for the Department of Indiana Yahoo E-mail Group go to the following web site and click on the "Join This Group" link: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IndianaSUVCW/> or you may send an e-mail to: IndianaSUVCW-subscribe@yahogroups.com from the e-mail address that you would like e-mails sent to.

Please note that the Indiana Legion newsletter will only be electronically distributed through this e-mail group. It will also be available for download from our department web site. I am also assisting the current editor of the Indiana Legion newsletter, Gib Young, with formatting. Please forward any formatting issues or comments about this newsletter to me at the following e-mail address: timbeckman@gmail.com

Answers to Quiz

1. The top side of the USA.
2. No states were neutral so it was less than twenty.
3. A. Lincoln, Andrew Johnson, and J. Davis if you only count North American Presidents
4. True - some place called Pichaco Pass or something like that.
5. Three were supposed to be able to crowd on top of one.
6. The Father of Waters (That is the Mississippi River for Commander Beck.)
7. Untroubled or Undisturbed or calm as a Karen Carpenter song.

List of Department of Indiana Upcoming Events in 2013

April 13, 2013 - Lincoln Death Day Observances - Springfield, Illinois

May 11, 2013 -

Ben Harrison Camp will have the following activities in May then break for the summer. May 11th (weather permitting) will hold their annual cemetery clean-up day at the Philadelphia Church Cemetery on U.S. 40 about 3 miles east of Cumberland, IN in Hancock County.

May 27, 2013 -

Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day service at Crown Hill Cemetery. We will meet at the 34th Street entrance at 11AM. We are honoring Gen. Robert Stanford Foster. He served in the 11th and 13th IVI. He was on the commission that tried the Lincoln Conspirators. Co-founded the Indiana GAR and served as the first Dept. Commander in Chief. All are welcome to attend.

May 30, 2013 -

Champion Hill, Camp 17, will be holding its third illumination ceremony at Slack Park on Guilford St. in Huntington starting about 8:40 pm. This ceremony honors all Union soldiers and sailors who died during the Civil War generally and Huntington County soldiers and sailors specifically. All brothers are welcome to attend and all camps are welcome to place wreaths at the monument during the ceremony.

June 1, 2013 - Annual Summer Encampment - Kokomo, Indiana - IUK Campus Please pre register.

June 8, 2013 - Medal of Honor Graveside Ceremony - Laporte Indiana

June 14, 2013 -

William P. Benton Camp #28 (Centerville) will host a Flag Day ceremony on Friday evening (June 14). This will include a Flag Retirement ceremony by American Legion Post #65 and a Luminaria Ceremony at dusk to honor the 320 men that died from Wayne Co. during the Civil War. The ceremonies will be held at the Wayne Co. Veterans Memorial Park (Richmond).

Aug 8-11, 2013 - National Encampment - Milwaukee WI.

Nov 23, 2013 - Remembrance Day at Gettysburg, PA.

Indiana Battle Flag Update

On January 8, 2013 Senator Merritt authored a bill to fund Civil War battle flag restoration in the State of Indiana. Indiana's Civil War battle flags are currently stored in the basement of the Indiana War Memorial. The Senate Bill 323 moved through the Senate and the House and was signed by the Governor on April 8, 2013. The law will go into effect on July 1, 2013. The bill was amended to apply to all Indiana battle flags and not just Civil War. Additionally a provision was added so that the money in the fund cannot revert to the state's general fund. The biennial budget bill 1001 is the funding mechanism for this law, and the current amount to be placed in the fund at this time is \$300,000. This is a one-time appropriation, and is subject to amendment until the final bill is approved (which is by the end of the legislative session on April 29, 2013). The full text of the bill is as follows:

SENATE ENROLLED ACT No. 323

AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning the military and veterans.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SOURCE: IC 10-18-1-14; (13)SE0323.1.1. -->

SECTION 1. IC 10-18-1-14 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 14. (a) The Indiana battle flags fund is established to restore and preserve Indiana battle flags.

(b) The commission:

(1) shall administer the fund; and

(2) may spend the money in the fund for the purposes of the fund.

(c) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(d) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.

(e) All money accruing to the fund is appropriated continuously for the purposes of the fund.

(f) Money in the fund at the end of a fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

Respectfully submitted by Bruce Kolb, PDC.

David D Porter Camp 116 has forwarded special correspondence in regard to its activities and we are glad to pass such along to the brothers in the department.

The camp is currently developing the annual Memorial Day program that is held in Valparaiso. Our new camp Chaplain Bernie Doyle is developing the Memorial Day program in conjunction with the Porter County Museum. The Museum grounds were used last year for the program and this year we intend to include activities for the public at the museum that day.

Sr. Vice Commander Craig Powers and Camp Commander William Adams presented (2) ROTC medals and certificates to the Top Naval and Marine Midshipmen at the Annual Notre Dame ROTC Awards Ceremony. Porter camp has a long history of being a part of the Notre Dame Naval ROTC Awards program.

Perhaps the Camps' largest event for this year will be the dedication of a new grave marker for MoH recipient Walter P. Johnston. On June 8, 2013 in La Porte, David D. Porter Camp will be conducting a headstone dedication ceremony in Patton Cemetery. Walter received the honor while serving on the USS Fort Hindman near Harrisburg LA. The MoH citation reads: "Served on board the U.S.S. Fort Hindman during the engagement near Harrisonburg, La., 2 March 1864. Badly wounded in the hand during the action, Johnston, despite his wound, took the place of another man to sponge and lead one of the guns throughout the entire action in which the Fort Hindman was raked severely with shot and shell from the enemy guns." Walter's location had been lost for years because he was also known as William, believed used to join the Navy at age 14. During genealogy research his G.G. Granddaughter with the help of La Porte County Historian Fern Schultz located his grave and the fact he was indeed Walter P. Johnston the Medal of Honor recipient.

The SVR will be providing the color guard and we are asking all camps to attend this important event. Currently the La Porte Mayor, who recently retired from active Navy duty, Senator Donley's office and other state representatives have been invited. A member of the Medal of Honor Society will attend as well as Al Lynch who is a current living Medal of Honor recipient. The Navy Band out of Great lakes has been invited and we are waiting to confirm their availability.

From the Department of Indiana Newsletter Editor – Gib Young



Greetings Brothers,

As you can see The Legion is back as the newsletter of the Department of Indiana, SUVCW. For most organizations such a 'job' is given out to anyone dumb enough to take it and is done so with the promise to the Volunteer that he 'won't have to do much'.

Well, Commander Beck never promised I wouldn't have to do much but I admit being dumb enough to take the job.

You don't have to be a genius to recognize the importance of having some sort of communications for any type of organization. In our case it is an electronically created and delivered newsletter. The communications delivered are often vital to the members of our order. And, if not vital, they can certainly be informative and even entertaining.

But The Legion will only be as successful as the organization supports it. So, hopefully, you will find in the issues to follow three or four times a year articles from the various officers of the department and information about and from the various camps. The activities of the department as a whole and the camps individually need to be featured in the newsletters to come.

All suggestions and ideas for The Legion are welcome. My email is gibyoung@comcast.net and my home phone is 260-356-7643.

One last item; this is an electronic newsletter so any brother who does not have email will not be getting a newsletter unless they inform The Legion editors and pay \$5.00 extra with their dues. (Each camp can, if it chooses, print the newsletter off and give it to the brother who does not have email service.)