

THE INDIANA LEGION

ORLANDO A SUMMERS CAMP #1 KOKOMO
CHAMPION HILL CAMP #17 HUNTINGTON
DAVID D PORTER CAMP #116 VALPARAISO
BEN HARRISON CAMP #356 INDIANAPOLIS

JOHN W. FOSTER CAMP #2 EVANSVILLE
WILLIAM P BENTON CAMP#28 CENTERVILLE
JOHN B ANDERSON CAMP #223 COLUMBUS

Newsletter of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Indiana
William R. Adams – Commander
Issue 2-14

THE UNION FOREVER!!!!



The Secesh shall not step one foot over the Wabash!!!

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Huzzah for Camp No. 2

After many a long and enduring effort the patriots of southern Indiana have put a new camp in the department. Every true and loyal brother of the SUVCW welcomes the 'boys' of Camp John W. Foster into the brotherhood. The new camp's first commander is Joshua Claybourn. You can find out more information about their camp and its vision and activities at their website – www.SUVCWCampFoster.org.

*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*

From the Desk of the Department of Indiana Commander - William R. Adams



I am honored and humbled by the opportunities to serve all of you, my brothers in the Hoosier State. Also, I am honored to represent my ancestors who fought for the Union and humbled when I consider those who have served in this position before me.

My agenda does not include a long list but rather a short list of what I consider most important objectives for the Department of Indiana.

1. Most important and the life blood of the SUVCW is growing our membership. To accomplish that I need your input. What does your camp do to recruit new members? We need to share best practices. Please, each camp send to me your recruitment methods used at your camp, I'll consolidate them and distribute them to all camps. Later on I would like to appoint a committee to consider new and creative ways to increase our membership.
2. We need to increase our attendance at our Annual Encampment. This is not new, PDC Mike Beck began working on this and I want to continue his efforts. I think the opportunity for members from the different camps to meet and get to know each other is very important. I will be speaking to PDC Mike Beck to learn where we can continue on with his efforts.
3. One area where Indiana seems to fall short is letting the rest of the SUVCW know what we do and how much we accomplish in our state. I just received the new Banner and again there is not one article about Indiana and if I look back to previous editions we are not in them either. I want to challenge each camp to place at least one article a year in the Banner. Let's proudly tell the rest of the organization what we do each year for it!
4. My personal objective is to explore the addition of another camp. Even with the addition of John W. Foster Camp #2 in Evansville we still have a hole in the West Central area of the state around Crawfordsville and Lafayette. Anyone wishing to help with this please contact me.
5. I also will continue to work with the committee created by PDC Mike Beck to determine a resolution to the 26th Indiana Vol. Infantry Monument that is currently no longer on the Vicksburg Battlefield National Park. It currently is sitting on private property along with a monument to an Iowa regiment that was close by.

Most of all I want all Brothers to know I want to hear from you with suggestions and Ideas that will improve the Department of Indiana. Write to me at adamswr@csinet.net.

Wall Street in the Hoosier State.
G. Young – Department Treasurer



Brother Alan Teller was able to sell several animal trophies he brought back from his Africa safari which the department backed and thus we made profit from that 'investment'. As of the printing of this newsletter the Department of Indiana is holding at \$7843.25. \$598.86 of that amount is money belonging to the Allied Orders.



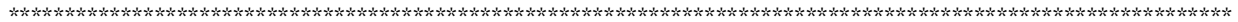
On Sale – Still!

Sons of Veterans – Department of Indiana Badges

These 'sharp looking' badges are of bright red bordered with gold. They are like those adopted and issued by the various departments over 100 years ago. The look sharp on hats (slouch or kepi) and look equally dashing on blazers or suit coats. The cost is a miniscule \$6.00 per badge. Send your check (or cash) to Gib Young, 2004 Hunters Ridge Dr. Huntington, Indiana 46750.

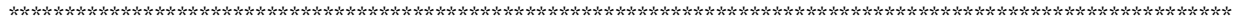


(PS. This ad will be repeated until we get these badges sold.)



Words of Wisdom from Sommers Camp #1

Red meat is not bad for you. Fuzzy green meat is bad for you.
Ninety- Nine percent of all lawyers give the rest a bad name.
If at first you don't succeed skydiving is not for you.



The Encampment in Kokomo – June 2014

The 2014 Annual Encampment, Department of Indiana, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was held Indiana University-Kokomo, Kokomo, IN June 7. Department Commander Michael Beck opened the meeting at 9:15 AM.

The Secretary called the roll as follows:

- Department Commander: Michael W. Beck, present
- Sr. Vice Commander: William R. Adams, present
- Jr. Vice Commander: Dennis H. Rigsby, late but present

Department Council 1: Bruce R. Kolb, sent notice of his absence
Department Council 2: Jack O. Shaw, absent
Department Council 3: Matthew J. Elkin, absent
Secretary: J. Alan Teller, present
Treasurer: Gilbert H. Young, Jr., sent notice of his absence
Patriotic Instructor: Dennis H. Rigsby, late but present
Chaplain: Bret A. Caldwell, present
Graves Registration Officer: acting GRO, John K. Eger, present
Historian: Bruce R. Kolb, sent notice of his absence
Civil War Memorials Officer: Michael W. Beck, present
Eagle Scout Coordinator: Michael W. Beck, present
GAR Highway Officer: William R. Adams, present
Signals Officer: Timothy J. Beckman, present
Indiana Legion Editor: Gilbert H. Young, Jr., sent notice of his absence

The Department as a body held an opening ceremony conducted by Commander Beck. Commander Beck introduced guest, Donald W. Shaw, Representative of the CinC. Brother Shaw offered a few words.

The Department announced that two member of Somers Camp have passed away since May 21, Gayle A. Eikenberry and John D. Porman. The secretary then asked for a minute of silence to pay respects to these two former members.

The Treasurer's report announced the financial condition, which included the Allied Orders account of \$598.86. The fact that none of the Department Council was present was announced. It was stated they had previously reviewed electronically the financial statements and approved the report.

Old Business:

Alan Teller made a motion for Mike Beck to order additional Eagle Scout Award Certificates from the National Quartermaster; seconded by Ron Gill; passed. The Commander updated the encampment on the status of the Evansville Camp. The inventory of the Knightstown Children's Home was discussed. The question of possibly posting the known inventory on our web site was deemed not needed and dropped. Commander Beck appointed a committee to pursue the relocation/protection of the "Lost Indiana Monument" at Vicksburg. (It currently sits high on an inaccessible hill cut off from the National Park and subject to vandalism.) The committee consists of Chairman, Mike Beck, and members Steve Coffman, Bill Adams, and Dennis Rigsby. The Commander reviewed his two years of accomplishments as Commander and thanked the membership for all of their efforts during this time.

New Business:

The Commander asked guest Don Shaw to address the issue of obtaining military gravestones for veterans without one. Basically he said this is still being discussed with no acceptable resolution at this time. The processing of new membership applications from National and the need for clear written procedures was discussed by Steve Coffman. The secretary and Don Shaw also weighed in on the subject. The topic of Membership-at-large was also discussed during this conversation and Francis Frederick related his experience as a member-at-large. Don Shaw said he would follow up by asking the Council of Administration to address the issue of needing clear written procedures for new membership application processing by all concerned individuals. It was determined and confirmed by Camp Commander Craig Powers, Porter Camp would host the Midwinter Jan 31, 2015 at the Valparaiso GAR Hall. Rigsby made a motion to place a ½ page ad in the 2014 National Program for \$25.00; Beckman seconded; passed. Gill made a motion to spend \$113.00 and buy the Department Commander and Past Department Commander Badges at the National Encampment, thus saving the Shipping and Handling costs; Eger seconded; passed. (These badges will be used at the next change of officers, expected to be 2016.) Commander Beck made a motion to make all Members of the Indiana Department Alternate Delegates to the 2014 National Encampments; Robert Winters seconded; passed. Those thinking about attending or planning on attending the 2014 National Encampment were made delegates, Craig Powers, John Eger, and Dennis Rigsby. The secretary said the delegates could get credentials from him today or he would have them available at the Encampment for them. Several pieces of correspondence were read. No action was taken on any correspondence.

The slate of officers was presented to the encampment and properly voted on. Donald Shaw was announced as he Installing Officer and he proceeded to install the new officers.

Newly elected and appointed officers are:

Department Commander: William R. Adams
Sr. Vice Commander: Dennis H. Rigsby

Jr. Vice Commander: Timothy J. Beckman
Department Council 1: Jack O. Shaw
Department Council 2: Matthew J. Elkin
Department Council 3: Michael W. Beck
Secretary: J. Alan Teller
Treasurer: Gilbert H. Young, Jr.
Patriotic Instructor: Dennis H. Rigsby
Chaplain: Bret A. Caldwell
Graves Registration Officer: John K. Eger
Historian: Bruce R. Kolb
Civil War Memorials Officer: Michael W. Beck
Eagle Scout Coordinator: Michael W. Beck
GAR Highway Officer: Stephen E. Mockler
Signals Officer: Joshua A. Claybourn
Indiana Legion Editor: Gilbert H. Young, Jr.
Department Counselor: Bruce R. Kolb

J. Alan Teller, PDC
Department Secretary



Brothers, the 27th Indiana Vol. Infantry, SVR, has been requested to participate in a dedication ceremony of the old GAR Hall in Valparaiso on October 25, 2014 at 10:00 am Central time.

The Memorial Opera House and GAR hall was built by the Chaplin Brown Post 106 of the GAR in 1893 and given to the Community of Valparaiso and Porter County. Certain rooms were maintained for the GAR and Women's Auxiliary to meet with the remainder of the hall to be used for theatrical and musical performances.

The current David D. Porter Camp is the continuance of the Chaplin Brown Post but had never held meetings in the building. Recently an opportunity presented itself to invite Porter Camp to begin using the original room that Chaplain Brown post used for their meetings.

This dedication is in honor of the GAR via the SUVCW and David D. Porter Camp 116 coming back home again. The ceremony is expected to take approximately 35-40 minutes after which the Memorial Hall and Opera House and next door, the Porter County museum, will be open for review. The Museum will have its Civil War room and all artifacts on display.

Direct all questions to Bill Adams – Adjutant 27th Indiana Vol. Inf.

How do you know when you are at a meeting of Champion Hill Camp 17 in Huntington?

You Know You're at a Camp 17 meeting if - the camp refuses to vote to provide funds for the purchase of a chandelier because none of the members knows how to play one.

You Know You're at a Camp 17 meeting if - when members discuss the Bible they ask, when they learn that Jesus fed the 5000, whether the two fish were bass or catfish, and what bait was used to catch 'em.

You Know You're at a Camp 17 meeting if - the camp brothers vote to make the opening day of deer season recognized as an officially sanctioned National Organization holiday.

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The Super Duper Quiz-a-roo presented by Brother Gib Young. Always young always popular

What Indiana regiments suffered more battle deaths than non-combat deaths?

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INVITATION TO ALL BROTHERS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA

ON NOV. 1 AT 2:00 PM AT THE ARMSTRONG CHAPEL IN WARREN COUNTY INDIANA CHAMPION HILL CAMP 17 WILL HOST AN EVENT CELEBRATING BRIG. GENERAL GEORGE WAGNER AND SOLDIERS OF THE 15TH INDIANA INFANTRY. WE INVITE ALL TO HELP US REMEMBER AND HONOR OUR HOOSIER ANCESTORS. THIS 175TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT WILL HAVE PRESENTATIONS DELIVERED BY PETE ARVIDSON, A DESCENDANT OF GENERAL WAGNER AND BY BILL CRANE A CO-AUTHOR OF A BOOK ON THE 15TH INDIANA. THERE WILL BE REFRESHMENTS SERVED AFTER THE CEREMONY IN THE CEMETERY AT THE CHURCH WHERE GEN. WAGNER AND SEVERAL VETERANS ARE BURIED.

THE CHAPEL ONLY SEATS 110 AND SO WE ARE ASKING THAT BROTHERS WHO SHALL ATTEND LET GIB YOUNG (260 356 7643) OR GIBYOUNG@COMCAST.NET KNOW. WE WANT TO ALLOW BROTHERS THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO RESERVE SEATING BUT THE INVITATION WILL BE EXTENDED TO CHAPEL MEMBERS, DESCENDANTS, AND CITIZENS OF BENTON AND WARREN COUNTY.

THE BEST WAY TO GET TO THE CHAPEL IS TO DRIVE WEST ON HWY 26 FROM WEST LAFAYETTE INDIANA. SHORTLY AFTER CROSSING THE TIPPECANOE COUNTY/WARREN COUNTY LINE YOU WANT TO TURN SOUTH ON 1100 E. A SHORT DRIVE WILL FIND THE ARMSTRONG CHAPEL SITTING ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE ROAD. COMING FROM THE SOUTH OR NORTH ONE SHOULD TAKE HWY 41 THROUGH WARREN COUNTY TO HWY 26. THEN TURN EAST UNTIL YOU MEET 1100 E.



Battle of Franklin November 1864

News from Benton Camp 28

William P Benton Camp #28 hosted a social evening on August 8, 2014 to present Brother Ernie Ravinet with his 50 Year Service award from the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The program was held at the MCL Restaurant in Richmond Indiana. In honor of Brother Ravinet's love of the Air Corp and flying Brother Alan Teller presented his program on WW 2 Gliders and Glider Pilots.

Return of the Martin County Guards of the 14th Indiana

On June 21st, 2014 Brothers Michael Beck, Tim Beckman, John Eger, Tom Schmitt, and Gib Young participated in the Loogootee Indiana ceremony in remembrance of the anniversary of the return of local boys from the Civil War after their discharge in June of 1861. Mr. James Houghton, a descendant of the last colonel of the regiment took it upon himself to organize and finance this event, in spite of the fact he lives in New Mexico. Speeches were read and discharges issued to members of the 14th Indiana reenactment unit. Plaques honoring the 14th Indiana and the event were purchased and distributed to several participants and the town. Mr. Houghton also commissioned an exact replica of the 14th Indiana’s regimental colors which were entrusted to the care of the local American Legion.

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Answer to the greatest quiz in any newsletter in North America

7 th Indiana	117 to 115
14 th Indiana	150 to 72
15 th Indiana	107 to 76
19 th Indiana	199 to 117
20 th Indiana	201 to 113
27 th Indiana	169 to 133



On November 8th, 2014 there will be "The Blue and the Gray Ball" to raise funds for Greenbush Cemetery, which is located in Lafayette, IN. This cemetery has over 200 Civil War veterans buried within its walls. Twenty-two of the Union Soldiers died in a train accident on Halloween 1864, making this is the 150th anniversary. The cemetery needs major restoration and needs to be preserved, so all proceeds will go toward that cause! See the information below and/or their website for more information:

<http://greenbush.fairfieldtownship.us/2014/05/21/the-blue-and-gray-ball/>



The Blue and the Gray Ball



TO PROMOTE THE PRESERVATION OF GREENBUSH CEMETERY

November 8th, 2014 6:00pm-10:00pm

Lafayette Country Club

1500 SOUTH 9th STREET LAFAYETTE, IN 47905

TICKETS \$50

TIME PERIOD OR SEMI-FORMAL ATTIRE

VISIT WWW.GREENBUSH.FAIRFIELDTOWNSHIP.US TO PURCHASE TICKETS.

FEATURING "ABE LINCOLN" AND MARY BLAIR IMMEL, AUTHOR OF "BENEATH THESE STONES"

"Restoring the Past for the Future"

