

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 2-15

THE UNION FOREVER!!!!

The Company Singers – Champion Hill, Camp 17 – Lincoln Museum, Springfield, Ill.



Eric Fricke, Gib Young, Jim Kline, Gary Bugge, Don Morgan, Rick Henly, Rich McConnell

*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 Department of Indiana Commander



Greetings to all Brothers:

I just wanted to take a moment to comment on a few items for all of us to consider now that summer is coming to an official end. Fall brings many of us back to our regular camp meetings. Depending on your camp, your meetings may not have been held regularly over the summer. This is not unusual due to vacations and each camp working projects or attending events where we can make more people aware of the SUVCW.

I know for Porter Camp the summer is one of our busiest times attending local festivals and historical events. It seems almost a relief to get back to the regular meetings and the meals we share before the meeting. But as we get back in our meeting routine please remember that we need to make them more than just fellowship time with our Brothers. There are a number of areas we can always be improving and finding better ways to continue the memory of the Boy's in Blue.

Examples of this can be improving our camp newsletters to be sure all members are included in our camps information and plans. This can make those far away feel some sense of belonging if they can't always attend. It could also bring back members who for whatever reason placed the SUVCW on their backburner of things to do.

We should be looking for Schools where we can speak to the students about the Civil War, the flag, and patriotism. Maybe attend a local Civil War Roundtable or help out the local museum or library in presenting a program on the Civil War.

Also let's not forget the Boy Scouts and the ROTC programs close to your local area where you can not only present them with a wonderful certificate and medal but also provide a possible avenue to increase your camp membership.

Indiana played a significant role in the Civil War, not only with the number of volunteers sent but with the reputation many of those regiments received for heroism, valor and courage. In the same manner we need to do all we can to grow the Sons and make sure no one forgets what they did.

One last note, I would like to congratulate the Major William A. McTeer Camp # 39 Tennessee for their outstanding performance this past year. They received 2 key awards at the recent National Encampment; The Horace Greely award for the best website and the Abraham Lincoln CinC award for the most outstanding Camp. At the same time the Department of Tennessee received the US Grant Cup for the greatest percentage increase in membership with 23%.

I bring this up first because one of our former Department members, Michael Downs, is the Commander for the Department of Tennessee and is also a member of McTeer Camp #139 and I think it is appropriate to Congratulate Mike, the Department of Tennessee, and his Camp for a job well done. Last year John W. Foster Camp # 2 in Evansville won the Horace Greely award and I would like to challenge all Hoosier Camps to work to equal or exceed the performance of McTeer Camp and the Department of Tennessee next year and let us take home a number of the awards at the National Encampment in Springfield Illinois.

William Adams
Commander, Department of Indiana

**Lincoln – A performance by Michael Krebs and Debra Ann Miller July 24, 1015
At Duncan Hall, Lafayette Indiana**

On the above date several men from the Department of Indiana, SUVCW, provided guards for Mr. and Mrs Lincoln at a fundraising performance by Mr. Krebs and Ms. Miller. Mr. Krebs has been appearing as Mr. Lincoln for many years and has

many film credits to his name .. including appearing as Lincoln in the promotional trailer for the book *Abraham Lincoln – Vampire Hunter*. Ms. Miller is an exceptionally fine actress with a fine resume’. Joining three or four CW reenactors the boys of the Department did a good job and their efforts were much appreciate as they added to atmosphere of the historic and beautiful Duncan Hall.



Pat Doyle, unknown reenactor, Dave Tilden, Bill Bierly, Tom Schmitt, John Eger, Gib Young, Bill Adams (on stage – Debra Ann Miller and Michael Krebs) -- not pictured but attending Dennis Rigsby

The engagement of brothers of the Department of Indiana proved to be a wise decision as not one vampire got through their lines to interfere with the performance of the Lincolns that night.



DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA LOSES A TRUE BLUE BROTHER

Ernie Ravinet - Benton Camp 28

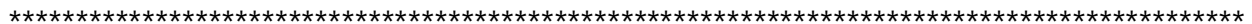
December 31, 1927 – July 9, 2014

Ernie was born in Richmond, IN, December 31, 1927. He was a 1946 graduate of Howe Military Academy. He graduated from Purdue University in 1951 with a degree in aeronautical engineering and was a member of the Air Force ROTC and Scabbard and Blade national military honor society while at Purdue.

After graduation, Ernie joined the US Air Force and was deployed to Korea. He flew 37 bombing missions over North Korea during the Korean War. He returned to Richmond, married Patricia Ann Miller in 1958, and worked in import/export for Wayne Works and as an engineer for Kemper Tappan.

Ernie was an avid history buff with an affinity for and expertise in the history of the Civil War. He was a proud 52 year member of the North-South Skirmish Association and 19th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Hoosier Blue & Gray Civil War Round Table, and 50 year member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. He spent many a weekend in full Civil War uniform either shooting authentic weaponry with his buddies in the 19th Indiana or teaching others about the Civil War. He was also a weekly volunteer at the Wright Patterson Air Force Base Museum, volunteering thousands of hours to restore historic planes, including the Memphis Belle.

Ernie loved to tell war stories (both his own and historical), a good joke, a good cocktail (typically made and served by his grandchildren), animals, history, and seeing his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren at family gatherings. He will be missed.



News from Foster Camp #2

On Friday, 17 July 2015, members of Foster Camp No. 2 offered a presentation in Newburgh, Indiana, on the infamous Confederate raid in that town in 1862. Camp Commander Joshua Claybourn and Junior Vice Commander Scott Hurst both participated in character.

As a result of the raid, Newburgh became the first town north of the Mason-Dixon line captured by Confederates during the war. In it, Confederate colonel Adam Rankin Johnson captured the town of Newburgh using a force of only 35 men. He accomplished the raid thanks to fake canons which were actually made of stovepipes, charred logs, and the axles and wheels from a broken wagon. These were placed on hills that had a view of Newburgh and convinced the Union soldiers in town that resistance to the raiders was futile.

The presentation was made to the Sargent Family Reunion. In gratitude for the camp's assistance the group presented Foster Camp with a check for \$50.00.



Camp Junior Vice Commander Hurst and Commander Claybourn are the two in the blue uniforms

Department Treasurer's Report



(Resting safe and secure at the bottom of Dept. Treasurer Young's swimming pool is a burglar proof chest containing all the department riches and Brother Bruce Kolb's retirement bonds.)

Effective Aug. 7, 2015 Balance is \$8557.00 (This amount includes the \$600.00 being held for the Allied Orders.)

THE \$25,000.00 QUESTION QUIZ IS AT HAND. INDIANA LEGION QUIZ!!!

1. A recent regimental history of an Indiana Regiment just came on the market this year. The regiment is designated with two numerals. Name the regiment.
2. What county was Indiana General A. Hovey from?
3. What county was Oliver P Morton from?
(For the members of Sommers Camp #1)
4. What number comes after \$24,999.0?

Memorial Day Memorable in Huntington County this Year



As usual Camp 17 held its Memorial Day service on 'the' Decoration Day evening. A new twist to the candle lighting was added and a few more items were changed from the traditional 'Illumination Ceremony'. But the inclement weather played a major and unyielding role in the event. Almost at the last minute the ceremony was switched to the floor of the rotunda in the historic courthouse. Commander Eger and Sr. Vice Commander Young were able to rearrange the staging area, the band area, and the firing squad area in short order with the help of the efficient courthouse staff and police security. (Huntington's courthouse is one of those set up with a security check system but neither the guests nor the reenactors were given any hassle upon entering. Brother Tom Smith, Camp 17's Patriotic Instructor and Brother Steve Williams of Camp 17 both gave short and good addresses. Everybody survived the humidity. Everybody survived being bombarded by flowers tossed by children from the upper floors of the rotunda. Everybody survived the exterior light fixtures which fell upon the report of the guns of the firing squad. All in all folks thought it so well done it should be held there on a regular basis.

**News and Photos from the National Convention
Omni Hotel Richmond Virginia – Aug. 20 -23, 2015**



Sitting Left to Right – Mike, 'Mr. Happy', Beck – Bruce , 'I'm humbled to be sitting between these two giants of the SUVCW', Kolb– Alan, 'I'm happy to be a giant of the SUVCW' Teller – Mike, 'I should have stayed a Hoosier', Downs. Standing Left to Right - Bruce Kolb's Hair Guard, - John, 'Why does everyone else get to sit for the photo', Eger

Next Year's Encampment

Springfield, Illinois - Aug 11-14, 2016 - President Abraham Lincoln Hotel (Hilton) 217-544-8800

Future Encampments

Aug 10-13, 2017 – Lansing Michigan – Radison Hotel

Aug 9-12, 2018 - Boston, Mass. – Sheridan Framingham Conference Center

Hoosier Brothers – you will notice that the next two encampments are close to Indiana. This would be a good time for us to turn out in strength – especially if one of the members of the Department wanted to run for a national office. So give serious consideration to going in 2017 and 2018.

Future Remembrance Day at Gettysburg Dates

Nov 21, 2015

Nov 19, 2016

Nov 18, 2017

Nov 17, 2018

Nov 16, 2019

Nov 21, 2020

Nov 20, 2021



The SUVCW is meeting at the Wyndham Hotel for 2015 and 2016.

Starting in 2017 the SUVCW will go back to the newly renovated Eisenhower Complex.

****The national encampment voted to allow camps in foreign countries. Considering the number of volunteers from Canada during the Civil War and the influence by English, Irish, and Germans specifically the editor thinks this is overdue.**

Answer to the \$25,000.00 Question Quiz

1. The 21st Indiana Infantry and the 1st Indiana Heavy Artillery
2. Posey County
3. Wayne County
4. \$25,000.00 – Congratulations you have just won the \$25,000.00 quiz