

THE INDIANA LEGION

ORLANDO A SOMERS CAMP #1 KOKOMO

JOHN W. FOSTER CAMP #2 EVANSVILLE

CHAMPION HILL CAMP #17 HUNTINGTON

WILLIAM P BENTON CAMP#28 CENTERVILLE

DAVID D PORTER CAMP #116 VALPARAISO

JOHN B ANDERSON CAMP #223 COLUMBUS

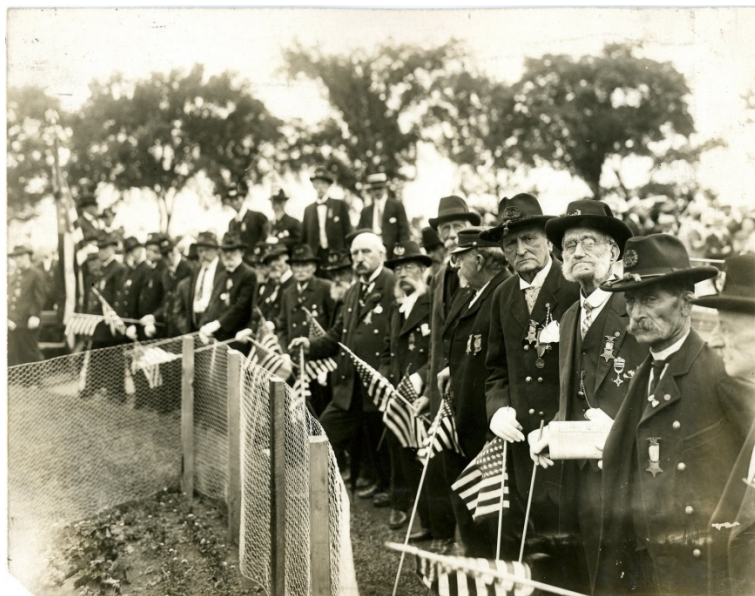
BEN HARRISON CAMP #356 INDIANAPOLIS

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

Dennis H. Rigsby – Commander

Issue 1-18

THE UNION FOREVER!!!



WHEN THE BOYS IN BLUE ARE GONE.
THE SUVCW WILL REMEMBER.



** Interim Appointments –

Dept. Commander Dennis Rigsby, acting according to By-Laws, had two positions to fill with the recent out of state move of Brother John Eger of Camp 17. Brother Dennis Hutchinson of Camp #2 was elected to fill the post of Junior Vice Commander for the Department until the next summer encampment elections. Brother Eger's loss also opened up the post of Graves Registration Officer. Commander Rigsby appointed Brother Rick Wiegmann of Camp 17 to the post Graves Registration Officer. The loss of Brother Eger to Texas will be sorely felt by the brothers of Camp 17 specifically and the Department of Indiana generally as he was always involved and could be counted on in every endeavor. But both Brother Hutchinson and Brother Wiegmann are also men of character and responsibility.

*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*



26th Indiana Monument at Vicksburg Update

At the winter Encampment Brother Bill Adams made a current report on the fate of the monument of the 26th Indiana Regiment at Vicksburg. This noble Hoosier band of brothers has seen its monument (Along with monuments of Iowa and Missouri units.) become a sort of orphaned monument. Originally located outside the National Park property these monuments sort of got lost in the ongoing care and maintenance given to these honored remembrances.



There is an ongoing effort to have the affected monuments removed to Park property. As you can guess with a new superintendant and the typical red tape the project gets delayed and set back from time to time. Brother Adams has been regularly in contact with the new superintendant, Mr. Bill Justice, and is in hope of things finally being on track for a resolution.

Once that is done Brother Adams tells us that the Department will be invited to a rededication of the monument.

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. (Or you can get one or two at the department encampment.)



Warning!

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

January Mid-Winter Encampment – Dept. of Indiana SUVCW

The 2018 Midwinter Encampment, Department of Indiana, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was held at the Eden Methodist Church in Eden, IN, mailing address 2122 E Eden Road, Greenfield, IN, on January 27. Dept. Commander Dennis Rigsby opened the meeting at 9:05AM. Co. D 27th IN SVR presented the colors.

The Secretary called the roll of officers as follows:

Commander, Dennis H. Rigsby, present
Sr. Vice Commander, Timothy J. Beckman, present
Jr. Vice Commander, John K. Eger, absent (Dennis Hutchinson appointed by council)
Secretary, J. Alan Teller, present
Treasurer, Gilbert H. Young, Jr, present.
Council Member #1 Jack Shaw, absent
Council Member #2 Bill Adams, present
Council Member #3 Mike Beck, present
Signal Officers, Josh Claybourn, excused
Historian, Bruce Kolb, present
The Legion Editor, Gib Young, present
Chaplain, Thomas Ashley, present
Civil War Memorials Officer, Mike Beck, present
Eagle Scout Coordinator, Mike Beck, present
Patriotic Instructor, William Adams, present
Graves Registration Officer, John Eger, absent (Rick Wiegmann appointed commander)
GAR Highway, William Adams, present
GAR Records Officer, Bruce Kolb, present
Asst. Signals Officer, Tim Beckman, present

The Department as a body held an opening ceremony conducted by Commander Rigsby. Chaplain Ashley offered the opening prayer. Commander Rigsby introduced Mark Day, National Commander-in-Chief. Commander Rigsby then stated he would give a few minutes to read the Minutes. Mike Beck made a motion to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Jim Floyd; passed.

Department Officers reports were as follows:

Commander, report
Sr. Vice Commander, report
Jr. Vice Commander, report z
Secretary, (see minutes above) Noted his inventory was included with the minutes
Treasurer, report
Council Member #1 Jack Shaw
Council Member #2 William Adams
Council Member #3 Mike Beck
Signal Officers, no report
Historian, report
The Legion Editor, oral report; stated he mails some Legions out
Chaplain, report
Civil War Memorials Officer, report
Eagle Scout Coordinator, report
Graves Registration Officer, report
GAR Highway (US 6), report
Patriotic Instructor, report
SVR, report

Summary of various discussions during the Officer Reports: (1) The Dept of Wisconsin offers an economical marker for Last Soldier Graves, email suvlastvet@gmail.com. (2) Jim Floyd and Mike Beck have developed an on-line, digital Google Map showing the locations of all known Civil War, Last Soldiers, Monuments, and Historic Markers in the state of Indiana. (3) The moving of the 26th IN Monument (including a MO and IA Monuments) at Vicksburg back into the National Park is back on the projects to be done list. (4) The Patriotic Instructors Report Form 40 is due before April 1.

The meeting was adjourned from 10:35 to 10:50 AM.

The Sisters joined us and a Vacant Chair program was led by Ben Harrison Camp Commander Jim Floyd.

Camp Reports were as follows:

Somers Camp #1, report and inventory submitted
John W. Foster Camp #2, report and inventory submitted
Champion Hill Camp #17, report and inventory submitted

Benton Camp #28, report submitted, but no inventory
Porter Camp #116, report submitted, but no inventory
John B. Anderson Camp # 223, report and inventory submitted
Harrison Camp #356, report and inventory submitted

PDC Gib Young conducted a “Quiz” with prizes. Each Camp had a contestant. Foster Camp’s Dennis Hutchinson won the whole contest and prizes.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at noon and reconvened at 1:20 PM.

Old Business:

Commander Rigsby stated our Bylaw amendment Article XI Minors, regarding minor participation in any and all activities of the Order occurring within the Department was approved by CinC Don Martin.

New Business:

The vacancy of the Dept. Jr. Vice Commander’s seat was discussed. Regulations Chapter II Article V Section 2 give the authority to replace an elected vacated position to the Dept. Council. Council Members Mike Beck and Bill Adams decided the replacement is Dennis Hutchinson. There is also the vacancy of the GRO. Rigsby decided between two candidates to replace the GRO with Rick Wiegmann. The Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln Day event will be Feb 11. The Lincoln Tomb Ceremony will be April 11, in Springfield, IL. The National Encampment will be Aug 9-12 in Framingham, MA (Boston area). Alan Teller announced the CRA will be in Valparaiso, IN Oct 6, 2018. The Lincoln Fellow contribution of Tom Schmitt was discussed by our commander. He further announced the Dept Annual Encampment in Kokomo on Jun 2.

We then discussed items for the good of the order. Valparaiso volunteered to be the host of the 2019 Midwinter. Commander Rigsby stated he had a gravestone setter at his house available for anyone who needed it. Mike Beck said and we discussed if we might want to assign counties to each camp; no decisions. The lack of flags for graves on Remembrance Day at the National Cemetery in Gettysburg, PA was discussed. Alan Teller made a motion to purchase a gross of American Flags for the Graves in the National Cemetery, Indiana Monument and the Regimental Monuments on the Gettysburg Battlefield. Gib noted he has a PowerPoint presentation on Indiana at Gettysburg available for presentation. Commander Rigsby asked all camps to keep their websites updated and available to the public. Mike Beck announced the money from the books on silent auction would be split half to the Department and half to Harrison Camp. Commander-in-Chief Mark Day addressed us on many topics of concern. He also congratulated us on our many activities including Grave Registration and the Last Soldier Project.

Commander Rigsby adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM.

J. Alan Teller,

Department Secretary

Before the meeting a grave rededication took place in the church cemetery. It should be noted there were 24 members present, and 1 guest Mark Day. All 7 Camps were represented. An attendance sheet will be filed with the minutes. 19 members of the SVR were present and 14 were in uniform. (SVR present in uniform: Dennis Hutchinson, Dave Tilden, Jim Floyd, Alan Teller, Bill Adams, Michael Beck, Tim Beckman, Rick Wiegmann, Tom Schmitt, Bret Caldwell, Steve Coffman, Garry Walls, John Bowyer, Bob Winters and Bruce Kolb. Not in uniform were Dennis Rigsby Thomas Ashley, Larry Myer, and Gib Young.) Others attending were Ron Hyer, Jerry Thompson, Howard Paschal, and Glynn Thomas. Ladies of the ASUVCW fixed and served our lunch they were Amy Bowyer (also member of the DUVCW), Jenny Thompson(also member of the DUVCW), Jo Lynn Oates, Carol Thomas, Carolyn Wiley, and Linda Floyd (member of the WRC). Other guests were Shirley Ashley, Caryl Lamb, and Scott Sisk.



Grave Rededication at the Eden Methodist Church Cemetery
National Commander-in-Chief Mark Day also Attending



2018 Midwinter Encampment Altar and Commander Table



2018 Midwinter Encampment Attendees

Graves Registration Report as of the Winter Encampment

Indiana has recorded 36,728 grave sites of Union soldiers and sailors. The Hoosier state stands fifth among states in numbers recorded. We are only 1062 behind the Keystone state. We gained over 500 by count in the past year. Of Indiana's 92 counties, Wayne County has 2400 men listed. Of the counties with camps the following numbers apply; Marion – 1508, Howard – 1137, Huntington – 709, Vanderburgh – 645, Bartholomew – 570 Porter – 465.

Other counties are; Allen – 1538, Hamilton 1030, Clinton -1009, Lawrence – 1323, Jasper – 27, Putnam – 31, Vigo – 35, Decatur – 24, Rush – 28, Union – 170.



Brothers, to me the duty, the oath, the focus of the SUVCW includes this effort to log all the graves of these heroes as best we can. Please make an effort to visit cemeteries and record at least a few of these men and help Brother Wiegmann in this project. Brother Wiegmann's email address is rickwieg@gamil.com.



132nd Annual Department of Indiana Encampment
 70rd Memorial Encampment to the GAR
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 Registration Form

South Branch Kokomo Howard County Public Library, 1755 E. Center Road, Kokomo, Saturday June 2, 2018
Deadline No Later Than May 19th !

Pre-Registration ___ x \$5.00 _____

Lunch will be at your own expense
 We plan to eat again as a group at Richard's Restaurant

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

Name: _____ **Camp #** _____

Guest: _____

I/We would like to eat with the group (number) _____

News from the 27th Indiana SVR

2018 SVR Upcoming Schedule of Events

May 28 - Ben Harrison Memorial Day Ceremony at Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis, 11am	Aug 9-12 SUVCW Natl. Encampment Mass.
May 30 - Huntington Memorial Park, 8pm	Oct. 6 Central Region Association Valparaiso, IN
June 2 - Department of Indiana Encampment Kokomo Public Library, 1755 E. Center Rd, Kokomo, IN, 9am	Nov. 17 Remembrance Day Gettysburg, PA
July 1 - Greencastle Monument Rededication, Time TBA	Dec. 9 SVR Annual Meeting 12928 Bartlett Dr
July 4 - American Legion Post #500 1926 Georgetown Rd, Indianapolis, IN	Additional events without a specific date as of yet: John B Anderson Camp Ceremony for Soldier Killed on the Sultana Gas City Plaque Dedication
July 20-22 - Newburgh Remembers event Newburgh, IN	

Please feel free to add to the list and keep forwarding updates.

In F, C & L
Bruce Kolb, PDC



Lincoln Day Ceremony at the Abraham Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, February 11, 2018
L-R, Front Row: David Tilden, Bruce Kolb, Terry Furgason, Tim Beckman, Mike Beck, Dennis Hutchinson
L-R, Back Row: Jim Floyd, Joe Beckman, Gary Walls, Tom Schmitt, Gib Young

New SUVCW Camp Forming in South Bend

John Auten Camp #8 is being organized in South Bend. Organizers are Bill Adams, PDC, Craig Powers, Bill Bierly and Ron Hyer, all members of David D. Porter Camp, 116 in Valparaiso. Organizing a new camp in South Bend had been PCinC Alan Loomis' goal for many years before his death and this camp will be the realization of that goal. While David D. Porter Camp has adequately covered the South Bend area since its beginning it was felt that there was a need to have a camp in the South Bend area. This due to the distance area members needed to drive to get to Valparaiso. The South Bend area including Elkhart offers a large population to draw members. John Auten was the first soldier from St. Joseph County to die in the Civil War and the former South Bend GAR Post had been named after John. The new Camp currently has 6 members and is actively recruiting new members. Camp Organizer Bill Adams has received Form #51 "Camp Organization Authorization," approved by Department Commander Dennis Rigby. This grants permission to the newly forming camp to begin organizational meetings, elect temporary officers, recruit new members and complete the other tasks required to complete the application. All approved forms along with

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the chartering fee have been forwarded to National. The Camp hopes to apply for the Charter sometime in late August. If any Brothers in other Camps know of anyone in the South Bend area who would be interested in becoming an SUVCW member, please direct them to contact one of the following individuals.

Bill Adams

Adamswr949@gmail.com 219 326 6498 or 219 575 8483

Craig Powers

Craigpowers1@aol.com 574 310 1127

New LGAR Circle Chartered in Goshen Indiana

Sunday March 11th a new Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic Circle was granted a charter by the National Association of the LGAR. The new Circle is Arsinoe Martin Circle #78. The new Elkhart County-based chapter, consisting of 11 members, is the second LGAR circle in Indiana, the other Circle in the state is based in Columbus. Approximately 30-35 people, including representatives of DAR and SAR Chapters, attended the luncheon and Chartering ceremonies. New president Elizabeth Thurston, explained that the Circle was named after an Army Nurse, Arsinoe Martin from Elkhart County. “Martin served as a nurse to Union Army soldiers during the Civil War, leaving her role as a teacher and her family, which included her father William Martin, a farmer who worked with the Underground Railroad to aid escaped slaves. She climbed a podium and volunteered on the spot, which spurred 30 men to follow her lead and enlist in the Army, according to local history read by Thurston.” “While helping treat sick and wounded soldiers, Martin became ill with typhoid fever and died at her home in 1863 at age 25.” Eight members and spouses of Co D of the 27th Indiana Infantry SVR attended.

Those attending were Alan Teller of Somers Camp, Jim Floyd of Harrison Camp, Tom Schmitt, Rick Wiegmann, of Champion Hill Camp, and Bill Adams, Ron Hyer, Will Radell, and Pat Doyle of Porter Camp A headstone dedication ceremony was conducted at the graveside of Arsinoe Martin. The 27th SVR presented the colors and fired a three musket volley. A local bagpiper, Leonard Sailor, provided music for the Chartering Ceremony and at the graveside dedication.

Any SUVCW camp who would like to work with the LGAR on different events and occasions should contact the Circle through their Face Book page, Arsinoe Martin Circle # 78. President Elizabeth Thurston indicated her desire to work with the SUVCW in joint ventures.



Tribute at Arsinoe Martin’s Grave



Ladies of the LGAR Arsinoe Martin Circle #78 – Goshen, IN

Please Note

This newsletter is circulated via the SUVCW Department of Indiana Yahoo e-mail list. If you have not already done so, you may join this list for free (cannot beat that). The easiest way to join the SUVCW Department of Indiana Yahoo e-mail list is via e-mail. Send an e-mail to: IndianaSUVCW-subscribe@yahoogroups.com from the e-mail address that you would like e-mails sent to. You should then immediately receive another e-mail from the Yahoo e-mail list which will confirm your subscription to the list. You will then need to reply to this e-mail to finalize the sign-up process. The moderator will have to approve all new membership request, but this requires no further action for the new member. The Indiana SUVCW Department of Indiana Yahoo e-mail list is a closed group which requires that all new members be approved by the moderator. Nearly all requests are approved within a day.

News from the Camps of the Dept. of Indiana



John W. Foster Camp No. 2, Evansville, IN
Resetting of 6 Civil War Headstones at Cliff Cemetery in Cannelton, IN, 3/28/18
L-R: Dennis Hutchinson, Brian Lankford, Shawn Newton, David Hoesli, and Keith Batteiger



Ben Harrison Camp No. 356, Indianapolis, IN
L-R: Ben Harrison Camp Commander Jim Floyd and Mike Beck PCC & PDC
Oozing with Enthusiasm at the Beech Grove Indiana Civil Show, March 24, 2018



Things that Dept. Commander Rigsby stays awake worrying about

Why isn't the number 11 pronounced onety-one?
If 4 out of 5 people SUFFER from diarrhea...does that mean that one out of five enjoys it?
Why do croutons come in airtight packages? Aren't they just stale bread to begin with?
If people from Poland are called Poles, then why aren't people from Holland called Holes?