

THE INDIANA LEGION

ORLANDO A SOMERS CAMP #1 KOKOMO
JOHN AUTEN CAMP # 8 SOUTH BEND
WILLIAM P BENTON CAMP#28 CENTERVILLE
JOHN B ANDERSON CAMP #223 COLUMBUS

JOHN W. FOSTER CAMP #2 EVANSVILLE
CHAMPION HILL CAMP #17 HUNTINGTON
DAVID D PORTER CAMP #116 VALPARAISO
BEN HARRISON CAMP #356 INDIANAPOLIS

Newsletter of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Indiana
Timothy J. Beckman – Commander
Issue 2-18

THE UNION FOREVER!!!!



A FLAG WORTH FIGHTING FOR!
A FLAG WORTH DYING FOR!



General Order #18

As there was some discussion on this at the Annual Summer Encampment it was felt best to share this information with the department as a whole. For those camps who haven't discussed or taken action on the order here is some information for your use:

Please Note Important By-law Changes

Pursuant to the continuing effort to secure a group exemption status under the Internal Revenue Service 501c3 regulations and at the request of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) National Treasurer, specific language shall be inserted into, if not already appearing, in the by-laws of each Department and Camp of the SUVCW.

*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*

This action is required to become a 501c3 throughout the SUVCW organization. Currently only the National is a 501c3 which allows donations to be tax deductible and certain expenses of accomplishing work within the organization to be tax deductible. Most of the Camps and Departments are currently 501c4. This means no tax deductions are allowed for donations.

To see the exact language that must be inserted into all Camp and Department by-laws please refer to General Order #18 which can be found on the SUVCW National Website here:
<http://www.suvcw.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/General-Order-No.-18-Requested-By-Laws-Changes.pdf>

At the Annual Department of Indiana Encampment on June 2, 2018, it was decided that changes to the Department of Indiana by-laws, as stipulated in General Order #18, will be made and voted on by the Department of Indiana at the January 26, 2019 Midwinter Encampment. This will allow time to wait and see if any changes will be made to the language at the National Encampment in August 2018. After such time, the Department will contact all of the Camps in the Department of Indiana with the final language. All amended Camp by-laws shall be forwarded to the Department for approval no later than March 1, 2019

Follow-up to the national commanders order by Department Commander Beckman through his following Department General Order -

**General Order 2018-1
July 9, 2018**

1. I am truly honored and humbled to have been elected to the office of Department Commander. I would like to thank now Past Department Commander Dennis Rigsby for his service to the Department for the last 2 years. I would also like to thank all of the members, both elected and appointed, who have chosen to serve in the many departmental offices. The work of the department and the order would not be successfully preformed without your most able and generous service. Over the next two years I have a number of projects/goals for the Department of Indiana and the camps. These projects will need the participation and support of ALL members and camps for successful completion.
2. I encourage all brothers to always *Keep Green in Our Memories the Boys in Blue* by participating in activities such as grave stone and monument rededication ceremonies, grave stone and memorial cleanings, and educational events at schools and living histories/reenactments. These activities are not only core to what we as an order are about, but are effective in drawing in new members through our good works and as a bonus these events also tend to draw media coverage which is critical in getting the word out about our organization.
3. All camps of the Department of Indiana should have filled Graves Registration, Eagle Scout/ROTC coordinators, and Patriotic Instructor offices. These are important camp positions that enable us to carry out the mission of the SUVCW. Patriotic instruction should be provided to members at all camp meetings. In addition, all camps should be filling out the Patriotic Instructions forms 40 and 41 in detail, including any and all costs of materials like office supplies, cleaning supplies for grave stones and memorials, recruiting and education brochures, flags, etc. These reports provide essential information used by the National Treasurer in reporting our charitable activities to the Internal Revenue Service in support of our 501c3 tax exemption.
4. Brothers, it is my goal to have the 26th Indiana monument, now located off of the property of the Vicksburg National Military Park, to be moved back to the national park property by the end of 2018. Positive conversations with park personnel and other interested parties have recently taken place and it is my hope that we will get this monument moved before the end of this year. All correspondence concerning this project should be directed through the 26th Indiana Monument Committee of William Adams (PDC), Mike Beck (PDC), or Bruce Kolb (PDC).
5. New Department of Indiana Website: As most of you are probably aware, the department's web site has resided on the national server for some time now. All web sites residing on the national server will have to be moved off of their servers in the not too distant future. The time has come to update our department's web site and move it to a private server. It is my goal to have a new department web site up and running by the end of 2018 or early 2019.

The cost of a new domain name was approved at the June 2018 Annual Encampment. A new domain name and server space will be secured in the very near future. Going forward, I will fill the role as department Signals Officer. On a related note, Joshua Claybourn, the department's Signals Officer for the past 5 years, has decided to not continue in this position. I would like to personally thank Brother Claybourn for his many years of service to the department as caretaker of our web site.

6. New Camp: We are nearing completion of all of the paperwork and signatures for the new John Auten Camp No. 8, to be located in South Bend. The Department anticipates receiving the charter and the final paperwork from national very soon. Please join me in congratulating Camp Organizer, Brother William Adams (PDC), and the other six charter members of the John Auten Camp for their accomplishment. After such time when the department receives the charter and paperwork, the John Auten Camp will announce the date, time, and place of the chartering ceremony.

7. Two New Camps Needed in Indiana: Brothers, we are in need of a two new camps in the Department of Indiana. One to be located in west central Indiana and in one in south/southeast Indiana. The Terre Haute area would be a logical choice geographically for west central Indiana and maybe Jeffersonville, Madison, or Lawrenceburg for the south/southeast area of Indiana. Any members who live in these areas and would like to start a new camp, please contact the department as we would be most willing to assist in any way possible in getting new camps chartered in these areas.

8. I strongly recommend all camps in the department to start utilizing social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) if they have not already done so. This is a very powerful tool to help promote our projects and the works of our order. This is especially important when trying to reach out to the younger generation. The SUVCW, as with most other organizations, need younger people to join as they are, most certainly, our future.

9. I encourage all members and camps of the Department of Indiana to continue documenting and recording all known Civil War monuments, markers and Last Soldier locations. The Ben Harrison Camp No. 356 has worked very hard in creating a user-friendly on-line Google map for this purpose. A link to this map can be found on the Department of Indiana web site or the Ben Harrison Camp web site. Please submit all monument and marker information, including pictures, histories, and any coordinates you might have to Mike Beck, Department of Indiana Civil War Memorials Officer. Special thanks to Brother Jim Floyd, Ben Harrison Camp Commander and Department Junior Vice Commander, who without his expertise, this map would not have been possible.

10. I strongly encourage all members to submit articles and pictures to the *Banner* and the *Indiana Legion*. If your camp participated in a ceremony or activity, please submit these to the editor. I have heard members complain that there is nothing from the Department of Indiana in the *Banner*. If you do not submit anything, that is what you will see.

11. This is YOUR Department of Indiana, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and I value your comments, suggestions, and concerns. The headquarters for the Department Commander will be located at 1135 N. Leland Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46219. All correspondence may be mailed to this address. I can also be reached at the following e-mail address timbeckman@gmail.com or at the following phone number: 317-410-1299.

Ordered this 9th Day of July, 2018

Timothy J. Beckman

Timothy J. Beckman
Commander- Department of Indiana
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

New SUVCW Camp Formed in South Bend!!

As Commander Beckman's report indicated back on July 9th, John Auten Camp #8 has been organized and chartered 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 him. The new Camp currently has 6 members and is actively recruiting new members.

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



The John Auten Camp # 8 has pledged to carry on the Hoosier initiative of helping the rural south improve their transportation system

Recently, Department Commander Tim Beckman announced that he had received and signed the charter for the newest camp in Indiana. With that great news the John Auten Camp #8 in South Bend became a reality. Charter Members of John Auten Camp are: William Adams, Craig Powers, Michael Downs, James Wilson, Ronald Hyer, Alan Hall, & William Bierly.

The camp meetings are currently held on Tuesdays at 10:00 AM at various branches of the St. Joseph County Library. Plans are now underway to have a Chartering Ceremony on Saturday September 22, 2018 at 2:00 PM EDT. The Chartering ceremony will take place on the same court house steps that John Auten mustered into the Union Army and where less than 90 days later his funeral was held. We will then drive several blocks down the street to the South Bend Cemetery where there will be a dedication at John Auten's grave.

John Auten Camp #8 is inviting all Department of Indiana Camp members to attend the activities on September 22, 2018 in South Bend. More details are will be forthcoming but please mark your calendars and plan to attend! Anyone with questions may contact Bill Adams at the following e-mail address: Adamswr949@gmail.com

The story of John Auten:

On April 15th, 1861 President Abraham Lincoln issued a call for 75,000 volunteer soldiers for a ninety day enlistment to help defeat the rebelling southern states. Soon after the Presidents' call for men to fight Pvt. Auten enlisted in the 9th Indiana Volunteer Infantry at a Union rally on the courthouse steps in South Bend. At the rally Congressman Schuyler Colfax and other leaders from St. Joseph County urged men to enlist and put the "traitorous secessionist" in their place. Auten was one of a hundred men in company I of Colonel Robert H. Milroy's Ninth I.V.I.. On May 29, 1861 the regiment was sent off to the western part of Virginia (now the state of West Virginia) and saw "the elephant" for the first time during an attack on the rebel's forces at Phillippi, Virginia. On July the 10th, just 15 days before his enlistment was up, Pvt. Auten and a friend joined a scouting party which went into the Confederate lines and was killed by a rebel picket. The men of the regiment recovered his body and it was returned to South Bend where his family and the citizens of the county mourned their first lost. On August 2' 1861 Auten's funeral was held in the county courthouse and more that 5,000 people turned out to help celebrate his sacrifice. After a eulogy by Congressman Colfax and a service by the Reverend J. C. Reed the casket was carried in a procession to the South Bend City Cemetery.



Report of the Department Treasurer

As of the 'press time' for this newsletter the department treasury stands at - \$10,872.75 (Of which \$600.00 belongs to the Allied Orders which we are holding for them.) All bills have been paid and responsibility is the watch word of the Department officers.



Your treasury dollars at work.

The Department's new bus to be used by Dept. Commander Beckman while recruiting throughout the state.... and at tail gate parties at Purdue and IU



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.

Rededication of a Civil War Monument in the Forest Hill Cemetery, Greencastle, Indiana

On July 1st, 2018 members of the Department of Indiana, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) and Company D. 27th Indiana SVR met at the Forest Hill Cemetery, Greencastle, Indiana to rededicate a Civil War monument. This monument was originally dedicated on July 2, 1870 and stands 30 feet tall with 321 names of Putnam County Soldiers that were killed during the Civil War. The youngest of these soldiers was Samuel Swartz, 15 years and 9-month-old, and the oldest soldier was Joseph Ball, 41 year and 3-months-old.

There were a number of state and local dignitaries present for the monument rededication. At the end of the rededication of this grand monument, Company D. 27th Indiana SVR fired three volleys and played taps. Ironically the date of the of the 2018 rededication was 155-year anniversary of the start of the Battle of Gettysburg, PA.

For photo following. From left to right: 2nd Lt. Mike Beck (SVR), Corporal Jim Floyd (SVR), 2nd Sgt. Garry Walls (SVR), Lt. Col. Jim Stagers, Brigadier General William L. Black, DC Tim Beckman, Private William Radell (SVR), Private Bill Henderson (SVR), and Brother Paul Champion. Not shown Brother Dave Wilson and Sister Linda Floyd.



David Hoesli, Sr. Vice Commander of the John W. Foster Camp #2 was presented with the “Civil War Remembrance Award” by the Brigadier General Eli Huston Murray Chapter, Daughters of the Union 1861-1865 on June 24th, 2018. Molly Hall, Regent of the Murray Chapter presented the award and medal which goes to an individual who has dedicated him or herself in preserving American History from the years of 1861 to 1865.

Hoesli has entered over 2,000 Indiana Civil War Veterans into the Civil War graves database, has filled out 570 applications for Civil War Veterans to receive military headstones and has personally set 540 of them. He has been involved in restoring the Oak Hill Civil war cannon in Evansville, IN and in the restoration of the Perry County Museum, most notably the military room.



David Hoesli receiving the “Civil War Remembrance Award” from Molly Hall, Regent of the Brig. General Eli Huston Murray Chapter, Daughters of the Union, 1861 to 1865

John W. Foster Camp; Tobinsport, Indiana Headstone Dedication Ceremony

A headstone dedication service hosted by the John W. Foster Camp #2, Dept. of Indiana, was held June 24th, 2018 at the Simons Cemetery in Tobinsport, Indiana. The service was held for four Civil War soldiers who never had a proper headstone. The soldiers were Pvt. John F. Henderson of Co. E, 44th Indiana, Pvt. Thomas Carter of Co. C, 12th Kentucky Cavalry, Pvt. George W. Powers of Co. C, 10th Kentucky and Pvt. James Wood of Co. L, 1st Indiana Cavalry. Private Wood is buried in the Lamb Cemetery, about 1/2 mile from the Simon cemetery. The headstones were installed by the John W. Foster Camp #2 in November 2017.

Not only was the service attended by SUCVW brethren, but also by fourteen other descendent organizations and Veterans groups. The Department Commander for Indiana, Tim Beckman and the Department Commander for Kentucky, Robert Jones were in attendance. To sum up the attendance from the SUCVW, five John W. Foster Camp #2 brothers were in attendance as well as three other Indiana SUCVW brothers from the Ben Harrison Camp #356 and John B. Anderson Camp #223. Eight Kentucky SUCVW brothers were in attendance from the Fort Duffield Camp #1 and Calhoun Camp #2. The SVR members from Indiana and Kentucky fielded 8 muskets for the firing of the Salute and a brother from Kentucky played Taps. The John W. Foster Camp #2 thanks all those who were involved in the program and those who attended.



L-R, back row Kentucky SUCVW members: Bruce Loveall-Camp #1, John Gatton-Camp #1, Bruce Fortin-Camp #1 & KY PDC, Robert Jones-Dept. of Kentucky Commander-Camp #1, Bradley Clement-Camp #2, Alan Biven-Commander Calhoun Camp #2, Gary Tunget-Camp #2 & Albin Shackle-Camp #2.

Front row Indiana SUCVW members: Tim Beckman-Dept. of Indiana Commander & Camps #356 & #2, Taylin Allen-Camp #223, Dennis Hutchinson-Dept. of IN Sr. Vice Commander & Commander J. W. Foster Camp #2, David Hoesli-Jr. Vice Commander Camp #2, Keith Batteiger-Chaplain Camp #2. *Not pictured;* Joe Beckman-Camp #356, Jim Floyd-Dept. of IN Jr. Vice Commander & Camp #356 and Mike Robinson-Camp #2.

Changing of the Sentries

By Jim Floyd

A vigilant 14-year-old soldier watches over the Civil War dead in Rushville's East Hill Cemetery having assumed the duties of his 87-year-old predecessor who was involuntarily mustered out of service.

The story begins on May 22, 1885. Joel Wolfe Post No. 81, Grand Army of the Republic in Rushville, Indiana held a campfire at Melodian Hall to raise money for a Civil War memorial. The post raised \$300 which was sent to the State of Indiana to construct a monument to Indiana Civil War Veterans. The State did not have the funds to erect such a monument, so the State returned the

\$300 to Wolfe Post. The Post was still committed to seeing a Civil War monument constructed, so it began to loan the \$300 out at 8% interest. In 1900 – 15 years later – the Post had enough money for the monument’s construction.ⁱ The Post commissioned locally-based Schrichte Monument Works to create the monument. Anthony Schrichte sculpted and stonecarved the 21-foot-tall monument. Life-sized and standing guard atop the monument “a Union soldier, formed of sheet copper with a bronze-toned coating, was from the W. H. Mullins Company of Salem, Ohio.”ⁱⁱ



At 2:00 p.m. on October 16, 1900 the Rushville City Band lead a procession consisting of members of Joel Wolfe Post No. 81, Woman’s Relief Corps No. 68, and school children from the courthouse to the cemetery. Captain David E. Deem, Department Commander of the G.A.R. of Indiana delivered the dedicatory address. The new monument bore the emblems of the G.A.R. and the W.R.C., included the names of 2,385 Rush County Civil War soldiers, a quote from Lincoln’s *Gettysburg Address*, and had been completed at a cost of \$1,500.ⁱⁱⁱ

The faithful Union infantryman held his rifle-musket and honorably performed his duties for 87-years. At some point during those years, someone decided they needed his musket more and it was stolen from him. Although unarmed, the soldier continued to watch over his comrades until August 19, 1987 when he was captured and taken prisoner by some unknown opposing force.^{iv}

Only the flat-topped limestone monument stood in testimony to the old soldier’s post, and several efforts to replace the soldier failed.

Finally, on August 28, 2003 the Rush County Veteran’s Memorial Foundation reported that, as part of a three-year project, funds had been contributed, and a sculptor selected, to bring a new sentry to East Hill Cemetery.^v

Bedford-based artisan Lou Barreta was selected from several candidates to carve the replacement soldier. Since the cost of

replicating a sheet copper soldier was prohibitive, the new replacement would instead be made of Indiana limestone.^{vi}

Saturday, June 7, 2004 marked two occasions: Former President Ronald W. Regan died; and the new sentry was dedicated at East Hill Cemetery. With appropriate pomp and circumstance, attendees witnessed the soldier being lifted upon his post. Civil War reenactors had led the procession and fired their cannon in a 21-gun salute. A local veteran color guard was part of the patriotic rededication service.^{vii}

This then, is the story of the changing of the sentries. In East Hill Cemetery, and in our organization. We, as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, are the new sentries. We too have replaced our old ancestors who had their final roll call and mustered out. It is now our sacred duty to keep their memory green.

ⁱ Brett, L. and Delgatto, R. (1975). History and Hearsay. *Rushville Daily Republican*, p.8.

ⁱⁱ United States Department of the Interior - National Park Service (2014). *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. Indianapolis, p.11.

ⁱⁱⁱ The Indianapolis Journal (1900). Monument Dedicated. p.3.

^{iv} Lee, D. (1987). Gosser: Citizens can help stop burglaries. *Rushville Republican*, pp.1 & 2.

^v Voiles, J. (2003). Monument Meeting Friday. *Rushville Republican*, pp.1, 2.

^{vi} Voiles, J. (2004). Civil War soldier will guard East Hill again. *Rushville Republican*, p.1.

^{vii} Voiles, J. (2004). Civil War soldier guards East Hill Cemetery again. *Rushville Republican*, p.1.