

# 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 3-18

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## THE UNION FOREVER!!!!



## HAIL TO THE NAVY AND ITS MARINE HELPERS!!!



### From the Desk of the Department of Indiana Commander - Timothy J. Beckman



Brothers, since being elected as your new Department Commander on June 2nd, I hit the ground running and have literally been to both ends of the state and back several times (glad I put new tires on my truck!). I would like to congratulate Bill Adams, PDC and all of the charter members of our new camp, the John Auten Camp No. 8, in South Bend. I had the privilege of attending the Auten Camp's chartering ceremony in South Bend on September 22nd and I also installed the officer's of the camp before the chartering ceremony. It was a great day! Work continues throughout the department on amending camp by-laws for compliance to General Order #18. To date I have approved and signed new by-laws from the John Auten Camp, the Orlando A Somers Camp, the Ben Harrison Camp, and the John W Foster Camp. All amended camp by-laws shall be forwarded to the department commander and department secretary for approval no later than March 1, 2019. The amended Department of Indiana by-laws were distributed to all eight camp commanders in the Department of Indiana via e-mail on October 11th. Theses amended department by-laws will be voted on at the Midwinter Encampment in Valparaiso on January 26, 2019. Any questions or concerns about anything going on in the department may be addressed to me via e-mail: [timbeckman@gmail.com](mailto:timbeckman@gmail.com).

I would like to take this time to extend Christmas greetings to all and it is my hope and prayer that your 2019 be full of endless blessings.

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*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*

**Patriotic Instruction, November, 2018 - 100 Years After the End of World War I**

November 11th at 11:00 a.m., 2018 marked the 100th year since the “official” end of World War I. November 11th is now commemorated as “Veterans Day”. President Woodrow Wilson remarked that it was the “War to end all Wars”, but obviously that was not the case. Like the Civil War, we are still experiencing to this day the effects of that war also.

What were the effects of WWI?<sup>1</sup> The world changed significantly! The Russian Revolution, the collapse of the German Empire, the collapse of the Habsburg Monarchy (sometimes referred to the Austrian Empire), a major restructuring of the political order in Europe and in particular, the Middle East are all results of the effects of WWI. The war brought bitterness on both sides and shattered the secure and ordered life of nations like Great Britain and France. America embraced isolationism in its policies. Because of withdrawing from the world, Great Britain, France and the United States failed to act to prevent Hitler and others from advancing their policies that eventually led up to World War II.

Many people do not understand the importance of WWI and find it difficult to understand why it began. The war was fought as a “defensive” war which made advancing a breakthrough difficult, resulting in extremely high casualties. One problem for all of us in understanding the war is that little attention is paid to it, however one cannot understand fully WWII and the world we live in today without an understanding WWI.

This Veterans Day, let us remember the cost of War in lives lost and the lives changed of those who survived and its effects on us, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Dennis Hutchinson  
Patriotic Instructor-Dept. of Indiana  
Sr. Vice Commander-Dept. of Indiana  
Commander-John W. Foster Camp #2

<sup>1</sup> Information based on the article “100 Years after WWI: The Lasting Impacts of the Great War” written by Kathleen Haley of the Syracuse University, Media Law and Policy, from a discussion with Professor and Professor Emeritus, David H. Bennett, July 2014.

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**Armistice Day Ceremony and Civil War Plaques Dedication with Champion Hill Camp 17  
Huntington, Indiana – Nov. 10, 2018**

On Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018 the city of Huntington and the Huntington County Veterans Council hosted the annual Veteran’s Day Parade through town and the ceremony at the War Memorial at Memorial Park on the city’s west side. As it has done in the past Champion Hill, Camp 17 was a part of the event. This year’s event was special as the plaques listing the names of the Civil War dead from the county were unveiled to the public.



Five Civil War Plaques with the Names of Huntington County’s Civil War Dead

The War Memorial has had plaques unveiled each year for the past three years. And each plaque lists the name of veterans who died in service during a particular war. The first plaques listed for the recent wars in the Middle East, followed by WW II, the Korean War, Viet Nam War, World War I, and now the Civil War. Funding was a issue and, as the plaques for the boys in Blue contained more names than all the rest put together the researching for names was an important factor. The nearly 250 men from the county are on five plaques on the north side of the circular monument that has a jet plane as its centerpiece. The memorial also has a Sherman tank, an anchor, a bronze statue of a corpsman, a Civil War monument from the Allied Orders, and a Purple Heart Monument.

Six brothers from Camp 17 rode in the parade in a horse drawn wagon owned and driven by PCC David Tilden. This was especially welcome as the day was bitterly cold. After the ceremony the boys went out to Miller's Merry Manor to honor the veterans at that nursing home. The brothers provided a color guard for ceremonies there, provided music, and then visited with and thanked the veterans in residence individually.



(L to R) A horse, Dave Tilden, Paul Kinningham, Rick Wiegmann, Tom Schmitt



(L to R) Don Morgan, Dave Tilden, Rick Wiegmann, Paul Kinningham, Tom Schmitt, Jim Kline



**Attention - Mark Your Calendars for the Department of Indiana Mid-Winter Encampment  
January 26, 2019, Valparaiso, IN - Watch Your E-mail for Upcoming Details**



### **Treasurer's Report**

Questions of the security of the Department's funds has lately arisen. No need for worry. I assure you the local police are on the job and use the latest techniques and devices to make sure of the safety of Huntington Citizens and their property.



As of the printing of this issue of the Indiana Legion the funds stand at \$10,551.52.  
(As usual the above amount includes \$600.00 being held for 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.



**Warning!**

This ad will be repeated until we get these badges sold



Grave Rededication by Members of Co. D. 27th Indiana SVR at the Moravian Cemetery in Hope, Indiana on September 30, 2018. Members from the Benjamin Harrison Camp #356 and John B. Anderson Camp # 223 were in attendance. Six (6) Union Veteran graves were rededicated. Four (4) from Indiana, one (1) from Illinois and one (1) from Pennsylvania regiments. 2nd Lt. Mike Beck, PDC officiating.

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Thought for the Day.

Brothers, there is a lot of griping this time of year, especially when the talk turns to the weather. I am one of those who doesn't like to be wet and cold at the same time. But I am tired of hearing about what it is like in Indiana in particular as if two feet outside of any state boundary is paradise. Fellows we live in paradise – being Hoosiers. The following is how I feel about it and it seems to me many a Hoosier boy in blue wrote about getting home to ‘God’s Country’.

**Ain't God Good To Indiana?  
By William Herschell**

Ain't God good to Indiana? Folks a feller never knows  
Just how close he is to Eden till, sometimes, he ups and goes  
Seekin' fairer, greener pastures than he has right here at home  
Where there's sunshine in th' clover an there's honey in th' comb.

Ain't God good to Indiana? Seems to me He has a way  
Gittin' me all out o' humor just to see how long I'll stay  
When I get the gipsy-feelin that I'd like to find a spot  
Where th' clouds ain't quite so reckless, or th' sun don't shine as hot;

But I don't go far, I'll tell you, till I'm whisperin soft an' low;  
Ain't God good to Indiana? Ain't He, fellers? Ain't He though?  
Other spots might look as fair  
But they lack th' soothin' somethin' in the Hoosier air.

They don't have that snug-up feelin' Like a mother gives a child;  
They don't soothe your soul an' body with their breezes soft an' mild.  
They don't know th' joys o' Heaven Have their birthplace here below  
Ain't God good to Indiana? Ain't He fellers, ain't He though?



**Remembrance Day – 2018 at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania - 27<sup>th</sup> Indiana SVR**



(L to R) Unknown, Gary Walls, Jim Floyd, John Eger, Bill Adams, Bruce Kolb, Mike Beck – Members of the 27<sup>th</sup> Indiana SVR.



Gettysburg National Cemetery, Indiana Section



Gettysburg National Cemetery, Indiana Section - Kudos to Brother Jim Floyd, Ben Harrison CC, for His Work on Getting all of the Flags Placed at the Graves

### **John Auten Camp No. 8 Chartering Ceremonies in South Bend**

The John Auten Camp No. 8 Chartering Ceremony took place on September 22, 2018 in South Bend. Ceremonies took place on the steps of the old St. Joseph County Court House and at the grave of Private John Auten in the South Bend City Cemetery.

### **Welcome Brothers John Auten Camp 8 – South Bend!!!!**



Charter Members of Camp 8



Grave of John Auten – South Bend



Camp Commander Bill Adams (L)  
Commander-in-Chief Donald Shaw (R)



**SAVE THE 30 INDIANA BATTLE FLAG OF THE CIVIL WAR**  
We owe it the respect and honor it deserves, due to age it is in  
**NEED** of restoration.

How we came to be in possession of the 30 Ind. Inf. Battle Flag.

Captain James Mc Clean Preston was present at the end of the war by his comrades the flag, upon his death in 1922, it was placed on his coffin. It then became the property of Preston Museum in Orleans, NE. In 1987, Elmer and Joan Bennett, was given the flag by Memorial Library, Joan Bennett, is a Past National President of the Woman's Relief Corps. They in turn in 1987, presented to Woman's Relief Corps Museum in Springfield, IL. The cost of saving the flag is about \$9000.00, if you feel you can donate to this, make check out to NWRC National Woman's Relief Corps, Restoration of the 30th Ind. Battle Flag



**THE 30 IND. INF. BATTLE FLAG**

The flag was presented to the 30th by the Ladies of Lima, Ind. on July, 1861. The 30th was organized and mustered in for 3 years, at Fort Wayne, Ind. on Sept. 24, 1861. The flag was proudly carried into battle at SHILOH, SIEGE OF CORINTH, STONE RIVER, TULLAHOMA, CHICKAMAUGA, ATLANTA CAMPAIGN, RESACA, KENNESAW MT. SIEGE OF ATLANTA, JAMESBORO, SECOND BATTLE OF FRANKLIN, BATTLE OF NASHVILLE.

The 30th lost 412 men, 4 officers and 133 enlisted. 1 officer and 274 enlisted died from disease.

As a footnote one of the Officers in the 30th was awarded the MEDAL OF HONOR for his action at Atlanta, GA. Henry Ware Lawton. Born 1843 in Maumee, Ohio. Moved to IN. in 1843. Died 1899.

He fought in Civil War, Apache War, Spanish American and only officer killed in Philippine War. The city of Lawton OK. is named after him (PS my niece taught in Lawton and a lot of my family from OK)

Any help be appreciated, this is one of my project.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, Loyalty

Lucille Streeter National President  
of the Woman's Relief Corps



Donation sent in care of Civil War Indiana Battle flag  
to Lurene Wentworth National Treasurer  
1561 Naperville Lane Hernando, FL. 14442

**Individual camps, either on their own initiative or in conjunction with the department should consider contributing to this worthy cause!!**

### **CRA Conference a Resounding Success**

The David D. Porter Camp No. 116 and the Department of Indiana were the proud hosts of the 79th Annual Conference of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic Central Region Association in Valparaiso Indiana on October 5-6, 2018. Over 40 members registered for this conference including Commander-in-Chief Donald Shaw, three Past Commander-in-Chief's, and several Department Commanders and Past Department Commanders from the region. There was a most enjoyable tour of historic sites in the morning and a very productive business meeting in the afternoon, followed by a very nice evening banquet. Thank you to the following members of the Department of Indiana and the Allied Orders for such a successful conference: Alan Teller (PDC), Bill Adams (PDC), and Tom Schmitt (Camp No. 17 CC) for all of their hard work in organizing this conference; Steve Mockler (Camp No. 116 SVC) for his tour of the Maplewood Cemetery, the Memorial Opera House, and the Porter County Museum and for being one of the four moderators of the breakout sessions; and the other breakout session moderators Amy Bowyer (Eliza E. George Auxiliary No. 356), Jim Floyd (Camp No. 356 CC), and Tom Schmitt (Camp No. 17 CC).



Brother Steve Mockler's Presentation and Tour at the Maplewood Cemetery During the CRA Morning Session



No, this was not retirees going to the show lead by Bill Adams and Tom Schmitt. This was the attendees photo at the very successful CRA of the SUVCW in October in Valparaiso hosted by Bill Adams and Tom Schmitt





John Bowyer (Camp #356), Amy Bowyer (Auxiliary #356), and Robert Winters (Camp #356) staffing a recruiting and information table at the Indiana Genealogy & Local History Fair 2018 at the Indiana State Library on October 27th.\* (Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> is the birthday of Theodore Roosevelt.)