

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 1-19

MANLY MEN WANTED FOR THE UNION!!



**“HOOSIERS IS THE BEST DRESSED BROTHERS IN THE SUVCW –
(AND WE SMELL GOOD TOO!)”**



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



Spring is now upon us and Memorial Day will be here very soon. I trust that all brothers of the Department will remember not only our Civil War veterans but all veterans on this day with appropriate ceremony. We completed a very successful Midwinter Encampment in Valparaiso on January 26, 2019. Many thanks to the twenty members and CinC Don Shaw who braved the snow and cold to attend. I am pleased to announce that I have approved all eight camp's amended bylaws within the Department. In addition, the Department's amended bylaws were also approved at the Midwinter. All eight camps and the Department are now in compliance with General Order #18 (in support of future 501(c)3 IRS status). As a reminder, the Doodle Poll for possible alternative dates for our Department Annual Encampment, is still open for voting. To date, only nine members have voted in

*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 poll. Click on the following link to vote in this poll: <https://doodle.com/poll/wdw52f86wzyzyyav> You may vote for up to three dates and please only vote once. You must give a name, but you do not have to use your real name if you do not want to. You may also leave a comment in the comment box near the bottom of the screen. As administrator of this poll, I will be the only one who will be able to view the voting results and comments. I will keep the poll open until the third week in May, but try to vote sooner rather than later. I will tabulate the votes and report back the results at the our 2019 Annual Encampment in June. Speaking of the Annual Encampment, I encourage all brothers of the Department to attend the 133rd Annual Encampment of the Department of Indiana on June 1, 2019 at the South Branch of the Kokomo Howard County Library. For this year, we are very pleased to welcome back the Daughters of Union Veterans-Department of Indiana, in an adjoining room, for their 2019 annual encampment. Please see the registration form in this newsletter for more details and remember that the registration deadline is May 19th. I would also highly recommend that all members of the department plan on attending our next National Encampment, to take place in Independence, Ohio (Cleveland Metro Area), on August 8-11, 2019. It is a relatively close trip by car for most of our members here in Indiana. More information on the 2019 National Encampment can be found at <http://2019nationalencampment.org/> As always, any questions or concerns about anything going on in the department may be addressed to me via e-mail: timbeckman@gmail.com.

April 2019 Patriotic Instruction “Controversy before and after the War”

This April 12th (2019) will mark 158 years since the Confederates began firing on Fort Sumter, which became the official beginning of the Civil War. And this April 9th will mark 154 years since the day General Robert E. Lee surrendered his Confederate Army to General U. S. Grant at Appomattox Court House. The arguments and divisions in this country that led to the Civil War began long before actual military action took place. And as we all know, the end of the “war” never settled the arguments and divisions between us as a Nation. Some reconciliation took place after the war and that can be seen in some of the war “reunions”.

Soon after the end of the war, fraternal organizations based on one’s service in the war were created, the Grand Army of the Republic being one of many. The Southern soldiers had their organizations also. Along with these organizations, monuments and memorials began to spring up to memorialize or commemorate the participants. Histories and memoirs were written, paintings and other artworks were created, some of these putting on spins that distorted the actual facts. Just this past week I visited the newly restored Atlanta Cyclorama. It was painted a little over 20 years after the battle and was intended for a mostly “Northern” audience. After a short time traveling the country, it was sold and was moved to Atlanta. The owner wanted it to show the Confederacy in a heroic light and promoted it as “the only Confederate victory ever painted” to appeal to its new “southern” audience. Some of the confederate prisoners depicted in it had their uniforms painted “union blue”. Today it has been restored to its original glory and is now displayed as it would have in 1880s.

We see in the news the controversy over “Confederate” monuments being removed or relocated. If you can believe it, even today new monuments are being raised or planned. Controversy over these new monuments or memorials occurs as to what should or should not be displayed on them. One such recent case is a proposed memorial for Taneytown Maryland. The proposed monument is planned to have a bust of John Wilkes Booth that is creating much debate.

So where am I going with this? As Sons of Union Veterans we should educate and prepare ourselves in as many facts about the Civil War as we can, so that when confronted with controversial issues we know how to properly respond. Be ever mindful that we offer our opinions as our own and that they cannot be construed as representative of our organization, the SUVVCW.

Dennis Hutchinson
Patriotic Instructor - Dept. of Indiana
April 4, 2019

Editor’s Note * Well said Brother Hutchinson

**133rd Annual Department of Indiana Encampment
71st 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 1, 2019**

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) _____



**Brothers, for the past few years we have struggled to get two dozen members to attend the annual encampment. Would you please mark your calendars and plan to attend the June encampment at Kokomo. Each camp should have at least four members in attendance. It is a time for fellowship and renewal with men who have a connection with our Civil War ancestors as we do. It is a time too hear from other camps about what is happening around the state. And, there are times when the business of the department is important and needs input. Please, please, consider attending this year and bringing others of your camp with you.



New Department Website!!

I am pleased to announce that our new department website is up and running. It can be found at <http://suvewin.org/> Please update your web browser bookmarks with this new address. Please be patient as there are still a few pages "under construction" as I move/edit old pages over to the new website.

Please Note: I will not be updating the old department web site located at http://www.suvcw.org/?page_id=1120 I will place a link on the old page directing visitors to our new website. Please e-mail any comments or concerns about the new website to me at timbeckman@gmail.com

I would like to personally thank Jim Floyd, Dept. of Indiana JVC and Ben Harrison Camp Commander, for his expert assistance in getting our new department website up and running.

Tim Beckman
Department of Indiana Signals Officer

Illumination Ceremony Set for May 30, 2019

The Champion Hill Camp No. 17 encourages all members of the Department of Indiana to attend its annual Illumination Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial in Memorial Park on the west side of Huntington on May 30, 2019. The ceremony will start at 8:00PM. The site of the ceremony is on the north side of W. Park Drive which is also Business 24. There is plenty of parking. You may wish to bring a lawn chair. Please Note: If there is inclement weather the program will be cancelled. It will not be moved indoors as it was moved into the courthouse last year and a few years before that.

One of the features of using the Veterans Memorial at the park is that they have been trying to add to the circle of plaques each year. This past November the city unveiled five plaques bearing the names of all the dead who did not come home from the Civil War. For more information e-mail or call Gib Young at gibyyoung@comcast.net 260-356-7643.

Treasurer's Report



Hi, I'm Gib Young! Your money is as safe with me as if it were in the Bank of Venezuela!

As of the printing of this issue of the Indiana Legion the funds stand at 10,095.26.
(The Allied Orders amount has been evenly split and is no longer part of the total of the Department Funds.)

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.



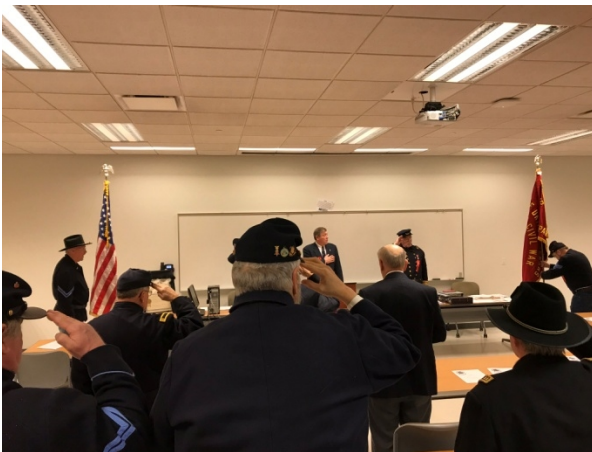
Warning!
This ad will be repeated until we get these badges sold

Wreaths Across America - December 15, 2018

On a cold and raining day, nine members from the Department of Indiana participated in the Wreaths Across America ceremony at Crown Hill National Cemetery in Indianapolis. The 27th Indiana, Co. D, S.V.R. fired three volleys toward the end of the ceremony. See pictures below:



The Department of Indiana Midwinter Encampment - Valparaiso January 26, 2019



OPENING OF ENCAMPMENT



ALTAR WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICERS



ENCAMPMENT ATTENDEES



C-IN-C SHAW



LUNCH AT THE VIKING CHILI BOWL

Lincoln Day Ceremonies - February 10, 2019

Eighteen members of the Department attended the annual Lincoln Day ceremonies at the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial in Lincoln City, IN. Members of the 27th Indiana, Co. D, S.V.R. posted and retired the colors for the ceremony. In addition, the Department and the John W. Foster Camp presented wreaths in honor of President Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln.





Tom Schmitt & John Eger (Camp 17) Representing the Department and All Old Men at the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony in Springfield, IL - April 13, 2019

Governor's Proclamation Declaring May 30, 2019 Indiana Civil War Soldier's Memorial Day
Note: The Department Commander would like to thank Bruce Kolb, PDC, for his exceptional work on this project

STATE OF INDIANA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
INDIANAPOLIS

PROCLAMATION

Executive Order

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, three years after the Civil War ended the Commander in Chief John A. Logan, the head of an organization of Union Civil War veterans—the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)—declared that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 1870, the GAR established Memorial Day to be observed on the 30th of May annually in commemoration of the deeds of our fallen soldiers; and

WHEREAS, Indiana contributed approximately 210,000 Union soldiers, sailors and Marines; and

WHEREAS, Indiana ranked second among the states in terms of the percentage of its men of military age who served in the Union Army roughly 15 percent of the states; and

WHEREAS, Indiana's war-related death toll eventually reached 25,028 and an estimated 48,568 soldiers were wounded; and


WHEREAS, Hoosiers are encouraged to observe the day by decorating the graves of those who died in defense of their country during the Civil War;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric J. Holcomb, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby proclaim May 30, 2019 as

INDIANA CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL DAY

in the State of Indiana, and invite all citizens to duly note this occasion.

In Testimony Whereof, I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed the Great Seal of State, Done at the City of Indianapolis, this 29th day of March the year of our Lord 2019 and of the Independence of the United States 242.



BY THE GOVERNOR: Eric Holcomb

The Book Stand

It is proposed – as space is available – to provide a book review in each issue of the Legion. I know we have sold our souls to the godless computer/iphone but there are few things that are more pleasant than enjoying a good book in your favorite chair.

To start such reviews we are going to share three books written by the same excellent author. Few Civil War writers match the great Bruce Catton. I think that Peter Cozzens is one that does though in a different manner than the style Catton used so well.

Cozzens wrote a trilogy; *No Better Place to Die* – 1990, *This Terrible Sound* – 1992, and *The Shipwreck of Their Hopes* – 1994. All three of these deal mainly with the Army of the Cumberland and its gallant, if somewhat forlorn, foe The Army of Tennessee. Cozzens did commendable research and writes in a smooth and orderly fashion. I think the armchair general and the thread counter historian both can enjoy these three works.

What really makes his books stand out, in my opinion, are the maps. He is generous with them throughout and they detailed by regiments in a finely drawn matter. I don't think anyone can get confused for very long in battles that define Civil War confusing movements. And like all good Civil War books these have the opposing forces listed in an easy to read format. This is especially good for war gamers. But all three battles – Stones River, Chickamauga, and Chattanooga, are well treated and give those historic moments life.

Rating Five Minnie' Balls

*The Indiana Legion is looking for some brother to write book reviews for the three yearly issues. If you enjoy reading and would like to share you view on books you are reading or have read please contact the Legion editor for more details. gibyoung@comcast.net 260 356 7643