

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 2-19

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



I am truly honored and humbled to have been elected to a second one-year term to the office of Department Commander. I would like to personally thank Alan Teller for his many years of service to the Department of Indiana. Brother Teller chose not to run for another term as Department Secretary. Brother Teller has served as Department Secretary for 16 straight years and three of those years he was the combined Secretary/Treasurer. I wish Brother Teller well as he certainly deserves a break from the hard work of the Department Secretary. It was my great privilege to present the first Dr. Mary Edwards Walker award presented by the Department of Indiana to Vickie Day, a member of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Rebecca Otis Tent #54, Department of Indiana, on June 1, 2019, in Kokomo, IN. Sister Day has worked tirelessly in support of veterans and homeless veterans in the state of Indiana for many years. In addition, June 2019 marked her 50th year as a member of the DUVCW. Please join me in congratulating Sister Vickie Day for a job well done!! Our total membership in the department remains stable based on our recently submitted Department Annual Report, Form 35. Total membership in the Department of Indiana now stands at 221, which is a slight net increase of 3 based on last year's numbers. With our increasingly aging membership, we obviously must continue to actively recruit new members into our order to keep our membership at sustainable levels. After much consideration and feedback from members of the Department of Indiana, I have decided to keep the date of the department's annual encampment on the first Saturday in June. I was very encouraged by the attendance at this year's annual encampment that took place on June 1, 2019. I will also recommend that the department continue to hold its midwinter encampment on the last Saturday in January, as the midwinter has always been well attended, despite the threat of bad weather. I hope to see many of you at the National Encampment in Independence, Ohio, on August 8-11, 2019. As always, any questions or concerns about anything going on in the department may be addressed to me via e-mail: timbeckman@gmail.com.

2020 Midwinter Encampment Location Announced

The Ben Harrison Camp No 356 and the Elizabeth E. George No. 356 Auxiliary have agreed to host the 2020 Department of Indiana Midwinter Encampment on January 25, 2020. It will be held at the Eden United Methodist Church, 2122 East Eden Road, Greenfield, Indiana. As some of you might remember, this is the same location of the 2018 Midwinter Encampment. A light breakfast and a lunch will be served on site. More details along with a registration form can be found in the next edition of the Indiana Legion, to be published in December 2019.

*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*

The Department of Indiana Elected and Appointed Officers for 2019-2020

Office	Name
Department Commander	Timothy J. Beckman
Senior Vice Department Commander	Dennis Hutchinson
Junior Vice Department Commander	James M. Floyd, Jr.
Council Member	Dennis H. Rigsby
Council Member	Michael W. Beck
Council Member	Bruce R. Kolb
Secretary	William R. Adams
Treasurer	Gilbert H. Young, Jr.
Patriotic Instructor	Dennis Hutchinson
Chaplain	Thomas Ashley
Graves Registration Officer	Rick Wiegmann
Historian	Bruce R. Kolb
Civil War Memorials Officer	Michael W. Beck
Eagle Scout Coordinator	Michael W. Beck
Counselor	Bruce R. Kolb
GAR Highway Officer	William R. Adams
Signals Officer	Timothy J. Beckman
Legion Editor	Gilbert H. Young Jr.
GAR Records Officer	Bruce R. Kolb



2019-2020 Department of Indiana Elected Officers

Left to Right: Dennis Hutchinson, Bill Adams, Dennis Rigsby,
Mike Beck, Tim Beckman, Jim Floyd (not in picture, Bruce Kolb and Gib Young)



G.A.R. Magnolia Post No. 409 Stained Glass Window Finds New Home

Article Submitted by Tim Beckman

The Jonesboro Indiana Grand Army of the Republic Magnolia Post No. 409 stained glass window, which was originally located in the First Presbyterian Church in Jonesboro Grant County Indiana, has now found its way back home to Grant County. It now resides in the Marion Public Library in Marion Indiana thanks to the effort and generous donation of Jim and Pat Garstka. This stained glass window, was at some point, removed from the church

and around the year 1999, it was auctioned off to the Gartska's. This was the same church that John C. Adams, Indiana's last living Civil War veteran and G.A.R. member, attended. Brother Adams was also a member of the Magnolia post. The Garstkas kept the window at their home in the Fort Wayne area and then later moved it with them to South Carolina and then back to Fort Wayne. The Garstkas donated the window to the Marion Public Library in May 2019. It now resides in the Indiana Room of the library, which houses state and local histories as well as genealogical resources for the Grant County area (see the picture of window below). It was officially dedicated with a public ceremony on May 30, 2019. At the ceremony, Bruce Kolb, PDC, gave a presentation about the Grand Army of the Republic in Indiana. Department of Indiana Commander, Tim Beckman, was also in attendance and publically thanked the Garstkas for their most generous donation and for being such good caretakers of the window for nearly 20 years. See the following link for a Fort Wayne news video and article, published in February 2019, before the Garstkas had arranged to donate the window to the library:
<https://wpta21.com/news/featured/21country/2019/02/19/shedding-light/>



Magnolia G.A.R Post No. 409 Stained Glass Window at its New Home in the Marion Public Library Indiana Room



The Lincoln Pioneer Village and Museum in Rockport, Indiana played host to a large group of kids on a tour organized by Owensboro, Kentucky Parks and Recreation early Thursday, 20 June 2019. Nearly 80 youths as well as guides explored the replica cabins representing the environment that raised a young Abe Lincoln. Re-enactors completed the aesthetic, hosting a number of activities representing pioneer life and even the American Civil War. Here SUVCW Foster Camp #2 commander Dennis Hutchinson leads a group of kids through some of the simple infantry maneuvers with mock muskets. He also explained some other aspects of life for soldiers in the war that defined Lincoln's legacy.

**Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day Ceremony at Crown Hill Cemetery, May 27, 2019
Honoring Captain Richard Burns, 3rd Battery Indiana Light Artillery**



Ben Harrison Camp Members at the Grave of Captain Burns

Left to Right: Dave Wilson, Bob Winters, Mike Beck,
Tim Beckman, Garry Walls, Bruce Kolb, Jim Floyd

Solomon Laster Headstone Dedication

Article Submitted by Dennis Hutchinson

On June 29th, 2019, Dennis Hutchinson participated in a Headstone dedication to honor the life and service of Private Solomon Laster of the 22nd Tennessee, Co. G, Cavalry, CSA. The Memorial ceremony took place about 20 miles south of Greenville, Kentucky in Todd County. Seventeen year-old Kassidy Cobb located the burial place of her 5th Great-Grandfather who never received a headstone for his grave. Kassidy completed the paperwork required to obtain a headstone and organized the event. The Carneal-Turner Cemetery could only be accessed by 4-wheel

drive vehicles over a hilly, rocky and mud holed, 1 mile unimproved road. The service was followed by 4 rifles firing 3 volleys and a 1/2 scale cannon firing twice.

Dennis Hutchinson is Camp Commander of the John W. Foster Camp #2 and Sr. Vice Commander of the Department of Indiana. Not only was the event attended by the Cobb family, relatives and friends, but also members of the Calhoun Kentucky, Camp #2 SUVCW and members of the Forrest's Orphan Camp 1744 SCV.



L. to R.: Alan Bivens-Commander, Camp #2, KY; Albin Shockle-Camp #2, KY; Dennis Hutchinson-Commander, Camp #2, IN; Tom Sabetta-Adj. Forrest Orphans Camp 1744 SCV, KY; Youngest Cobb daughter, Oldest Cobb daughter, Arron Cobb, Kassidy Cobb, Unknown, Alex Baity, Patricia Brewer, Unknown, Unknown, Lane Maddox, and Gary Tunget-Chaplain Camp #2, KY