

2023 Mid-Year Encampment

Department Officer, Camp, and
Department Committee Reports



Department of Indiana

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Thomas L. Schmitt
Department Commander

Department Officer Reports



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS

Department of Indiana

OFFICE OF THE

Commander

Thomas L. Schmitt
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Commanders report for Mid-year Encampment November 4, 2023

April 29. I was unexpectedly elected Commander of the Department of Indiana Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Due to the Resignation of Commander Jim Floyd.

I volunteer at the National Veterans Shrine and Museum at least two days per week. I am also a member or the board of directors there. I handle most of the Civil War things that arise there.

June 19, I attended the last Civil War Veteran of Kosciusko County Ceremony for Isaac W. Sharp Warsaw Indiana.

July 29 Placed three markers at grave sites in West Lafayette Indiana. While there toured the grounds of the Soldiers Home. Discussed with the maintenance leader about how we could help them. We also discussed holding one of our meetings there, The Old Commanders Home is available for this type of events.

August 19, I attended the Last Veteran Ceremony for George W. Parsons, in Nappanee. The last veteran of Elkhart County

August 27, I attended the ceremony for the dedication of a new statue of Abraham Lincoln in Kalamazoo, Michigan. While there discussed problems with the General Order Number 2 with National Parliamentarian, Jim Pahl.

September 9 and 10, Attended the Harvest Festival in Door Village, Indiana. There we did demonstrations, talked to the public and portrayed Civil war soldiers in the Cemetery. This was a 2 day event.

September 12, I Met with a group in Bluffton Indiana about starting a new Camp in Bluffton.

September 16, Served meals to participants on a twenty-mile horse ride. They were raising funds to help prevent Veteran Suicides. The project was called Trails to Zero

September 16, Attended ceremony for the rededication of monument to Colonel Ewing at Lindenwood Cemetery Fort Wayne.

September 30, I was in charge of three ceremonies. One was at Lindenwood Cemetery where we dedicated a new headstone to Civil War Veteran, Daniel H. Amsden. Who was buried in an unmarked grave since 1881. Family were present and participated in the ceremony.

We then traveled to the National Veterans Shrine and museum, where we preformed another dedication ceremony for a new Sultana Monument, which the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil war had provided.

After the Sultana ceremony we Completed a third dedication ceremony for the new Civil war monument that had recently been installed on the grounds.

After the Ceremony, I was presented with a beautiful award and shadow box from the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. It is Called the Mother George Award.

The Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic and myself are working to raise funds for a Mother George Monument that will stand beside the new Sultana Monument.

October 6-7. Attended the CRA meeting in Dayton Ohio. We toured the Air Force Museum. While there, again I spoke with Jim Pahl, The National Parliamentarian about problems with General Order #2 voting.

October 20, Attended Mississinewa 1812 near Marion Indiana. There I met with Senior Vice Commander Travis LaMaster. We discussed the November 4th Mid-Year Encampment

Submitted by Thomas I Schmitt
October 20 2023

Thomas L Schmitt
Commander Department of Indiana
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil Warp

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



Senior Vice Department Commander Department of Indiana

Travis LeMaster, PCC
506 Maple St
Sweetser, Indiana 46987
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I am pleased to report on my activities since April 29, 2023:

- May 5, 2023 : Sponsored new member, Mark Helm, to membership in the Orlando A Somers Camp.
- May 20, 2023: Attended Orlando A. Somers Camp meeting.
- May 28, 2023 : Attended Last Soldier Ceremony for Pvt. Jonathan Jones, Co. K, 11th Indiana Infantry at Mount Hope Cemetery in Peru.
- May 29, 2023 : Attended Memorial Day Ceremony at LaFountain, Indiana and Marion, Indiana representing the Mississinewa Battlefield Society (1812).
- July 22, 2023 : Attended Google meeting of National Membership Committee
- August 4, 2023 : Participated with the Orlando A. Somers Camp at the First Friday event in Kokomo, Indiana. Distributed information about membership.
- August 30, 2023 - Shared information with a prospective member about their ancestor, Josiah Shaneyfelt, who served with the 84th Indiana.
- September 7, 2023 - Distributed information on various social media channels about Somers Camp's effort to restore the G.A.R. marker at Thraikill Cemetery in Swayzee.
- September 8, 2023 - Received inquiry from a potential member whose ancestor served in an Ohio unit. He had heard about us through the G.A.R. marker restoration.
- September 16, 2023 - Attended Orlando A. Somers Camp meeting.
- September 29, 2023 - Was quoted in an article in the local county paper, *News-Herald*, about the Somers Camp efforts to restore the G.A.R. marker at Thraikill Cemetery.
- October 3, 2023 - Received inquiry from Brother Davis of Rhode Island about the SVR in Kentucky doing a ceremony honoring two brothers from the 37th Indiana - passed information along to the Department Google group.
- October 28, 2023 - Attended Orlando A. Somers Camp meeting.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty, Travis J. LeMaster, PCC
Senior Vice Department Commander
Department of Indiana, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA

Report of the

Junior Vice Commander

Mid-Year 2023 Encampment Report

April 15, 2023, to October 29, 2023



To: Department of Indiana Secretary, William Adams, PDC

Commander,

Conforming to the duties of the office of the Jr. Vice Commander, I have the honor to report the status and activities from April 15, 2023, to October 29, 2023.

Status: The Department of Indiana membership remains strong with 210 total Members and Associates at the beginning of 2023 despite an overall 8% drop from 2022. The Department saw a total of 27 Members, and Associates leave the organization. The loss included 17 Member and 1 Associate drops, 2 Member and 1 Junior Member Honorable Discharges, 4 Member deaths and 2 Members that transferred out of the Department. However, at the same time the Department brought in 10 Members and Associates, offsetting the loss for the year down to 17. Though 2023 saw a drop to 210 members, the amount was still slightly higher than the 208 members the Department retained during the 2020 pandemic year when the Department lost 6% of its total membership from the previous year. The years that followed saw a significant increase in membership from 208 Members/Associates in 2020 to 227 Members/Associates in 2023.

My assessment of the decline in membership in 2020 and 2023 appears to be the direct result of two separate factors. First, in 2020 the Covid 19 pandemic caused great fear in public gatherings, Federal mandates and financial struggles which contributed to membership losses. The pandemic fears and restrictions eased as time went by, and new membership grew by 9% in the following two years. Second, the increased dues imposed in 2023 by the National SUVCW once again caused unforeseen reductions in membership with 6 out of the 8 Department Camps having net losses in membership. Unfortunately, these fees will not ease and the effort to increase membership has been somewhat more difficult. There is no direct link to the Department Camps for these declines. The Camps, however, have taken a proactive stance in replenishing these losses with half of the Camps seeing slight to moderate increases. An unofficial estimate of the eight Department Camps suggests that as of October of this year the Department has increased again by 18 Members and Associates. My desire in the coming year is to see the Department totals climb back to or above the 2022 level of 227 Members and Associates. If the Department Camps sustain or improve the current estimated levels without any losses, we will accomplish this goal.

Department Camp membership totals as of 2023 are as follows:

<i>Ben Harrison Camp No. 357</i>	51	*Estimated net increase in 2023 - 0.
<i>Champion Hill Camp No. 17</i>	35	*Estimated net increase in 2023 - 12.
<i>Orlando A. Somers Camp No. 1</i>	31	*Estimated net increase in 2023 - 3.
<i>David D. Porter Camp No. 116</i>	24	*Estimated net increase in 2023 - 0.
<i>John B. Anderson Camp No. 223</i>	24	*Estimated net increase in 2023 - 0.
<i>John Auten Camp No. 8</i>	21	*Estimated net increase in 2023 - 2.
<i>John W. Foster Camp No. 2</i>	13	*Estimated net increase in 2023 - 1.
<i>William P. Benton Camp No. 28</i>	9	*Estimated net increase in 2023 - 0.

***The estimated net increase in 2023 is based on new recruit's reported in Department Camps thus far.**

Activities: Since being elected as the Department Jr. Vice Commander in April of this year, my efforts have been to establish a consensus of recruitment in the Department as well as promoting the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. I've blended this task with the responsibilities I have as Camp Commander and as such my activities will reflect this. Yet, no better tool can be given to us to improve recruiting than promoting the Indiana Department of the SUVCW in a positive way through Camp activities. My efforts promoting the SUVCW since January 2023 include the following:

- Lincoln Day at Lincoln Boyhood Memorial Site, February 11, 2023, Lincoln City, Indiana.
- Lincoln Pioneer Village Spring Heritage Days May 13, 2023, Rockport, Indiana.
- Completion of the replacement of 133 military headstones at Bellefontaine Cemetery, June 2023, Mt. Vernon, Indiana.
- Research of ancestor for recruitment, Champion Hill Camp, July 27, 2023.
- Last Soldier Event September 23, 2023, Locust Hill Cemetery, Evansville, Indiana
- Lincoln Pioneer Village Fall Heritage Days, October 28, 2023, Rockport, Indiana.
- Cemetery projects at Oak Hill Cemetery, Evansville, Indiana. [current activity]
- Cemetery Project at Fairview Cemetery, Rockport, Indiana. [current activity]
- Research and creation of a new plot map for Civil War burials at Bellefontaine Cemetery, Mt. Vernon, Indiana. To be given to the Bellefontaine Cemetery and Board for use. [current activity]
- Foster Camp meetings discussing potential members and projects, January to current, 2023.
- Essay Contest at local schools. [current activity]

The Bellefontaine Cemetery headstones and research alone has consumed many months this year. Newspaper articles have all been attributed to the SUVCW. Nearly all the remaining events have promoted the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War through social media, news outlets.

Summary: While the Department has taken a couple of hits on its membership over the past five years, the end results could have been much worse than the data shows. Recruiting during 2020 and 2021 came back strong and it appears it has done so again after an unfortunate January 2023 drop. I will continue to work with the Department Camps to understand what appears to be working well in recruiting and pass these suggestions onto the Department to improve membership. Likewise, I am currently getting ideas from other SUVCW Departments nationwide that could yield some better paths to recruiting success and where the Department of Indiana stands in comparison with the remaining Departments. Until then, my suggestion to the Department Camps is to push the SUVCW agenda to its fullest. Advertise, write articles, plan events, speak at historical societies and schools as well as promote any projects that preserve the memories of the veterans of the Civil War through the SUVCW. Utilize the tools the National and Indiana Department has provided such as the Last Veteran Project, Eagle Scout Recognition and ROTC, JROTC and NDCC Awards. Finally, feel free to contact me if needed to do ancestry research and/or assist in recruiting. I'm always happy to do what I can.

This 2023 Mid-Year Report of the Jr. Vice Commander is hereby submitted.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Hoesli".

David Hoesli
Jr. Vice Commander
Department of Indiana,
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS

Department of Indiana

OFFICE OF THE

Department Secretary

William R. Adams

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Department of Indiana Midwinter Encampment November 4, 2023

Department Secretary Activity Report from April 29, 2023 to October 31, 2023

- Completed Department Form #35, “Department Annual Report” and mailed it with all Camps Form #27’s “Camp Annual Report” to National Headquarters.
- Completed Department form #49, “Department Certification of Election and Installation of Department Officers and mailed it to National Headquarters.
- Completed the April 29, 2023, 137th Department of Indiana Annual Encampment minutes and forwarded them to Department Commander Thomas Schmitt.
- Received and confirmed 990-N IRS acceptance for seven (7) Camps out of eight (8) currently required to file by November 15, 2023. This includes Co. D 27th Indiana SVR. The remaining Camp who has not filed must file by the November date to meet IRS requirements. They have been contacted by myself three (3) times requesting that they complete the form 990-N.
- Searched for and requested records from National on two former Brothers intending to rejoin.
- I have answered numerous questions on forms, form due dates, applications, By-Laws, Life Membership, and forming a new camp.
- I with Commander Schmitt met with individuals interested in forming a new Indiana camp in Bluffton, IN. I provided all written and verbal instruction necessary to start the process. I have provided and completed forms #51 and #52, Application for Permission to form a Camp and Camp Organization Authorization.
- Since January 1, 2023 I have processed (72) Form #30’s. 22 discharges, 5 deceased, 19 new members, 17 General changes, 3 Transfers in/out, 5 associate to member, and 1 dual member change.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty,

William R. Adams

William R. Adams PDC
Secretary, Department of Indiana
SUVCW



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Patriotic Instructor Department of Indiana

Brian Mexin

957 Balto Drive
Shelbyville, IN 46176
Phone: (317) 400-3342

Email: mexinbrian@yahoo.com

- April 23, 2023: Distributed April National Patriotic Instruction from Br. Ben Frail.
- April 29, 2023: Attended 137th Department Encampment and gave a presentation on the United States Revenue Cutter Service during the Civil War. Participated in SVR Presentation of the Colors.
- April 30, 2023: Distributed Department PI for May – Samuel Colt’s Civil War Connection.
- May 13, 2023: Participated in Ben Harrison Camp’s Annual Cemetery Workday.
- May 28, 2023: Participated in SVR support for Last Civil War Soldier in Miami County event at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Peru, Indiana.
- May 29, 2023: Participated in SVR support for Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day Service. Forwarded National Patriotic Instruction.
- June 2, 2023: Distributed Department Patriotic Instruction – A Buckeye in the Civil War.
- June 10, 2023: Participated in SVR support for Last Union Soldier of Kosciusko County event at Oakwood Cemetery, Warsaw, Indiana.
- June 30, 2023: Distributed Department Patriotic Instruction for July about Fort Duffield, Kentucky.
- July 4, 2023: Distributed National Patriotic Instruction from Br. Ben Frail.
- August 4, 2023: Distributed Department Patriotic Instruction.
- August 19, 2023: Attended President Benjamin Harrison Birthday Wreath-Laying ceremony at Crown Hill Cemetery, along with Brothers Tim and Joe Beckman. Wrote an article for The Banner and The Legion.
- August 30, 2023: Forwarded August 2023 National Patriotic Instruction from Brother Ben Frail.
- September 1, 2023: Distributed Department Patriotic Instruction John Jefferson Williams of Company B, 34th Indiana Infantry, killed in action at the Battle of Palmetto Ranch, Texas, in May of 1865.
- September 27, 2023: Distributed National Patriotic Instruction from Brother Ben Frail.
- October 1, 2023: Distributed Department Patriotic Instruction.
- October 22, 2023: Distributed National Patriotic Instruction from Brother Don Martin, PCinC, new National Patriotic Instructor.

2023 Midyear Chaplain Report

Only one death has been reported to me. John J. Copland a member of Harrison Camp #356, was born June 2, 1942; and died July 1, 2023. He was a veteran and had a passion for history. He traced his membership in the SUVCW to Sgt. Moses B. Pike Co. D 70th Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

Out of respect for our lost brother let us bow our heads and have a moment of silence.



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA

Report of the

GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER

Mid-year 2023 Encampment

April 15, 2023 – October 15, 2023



To: Department of Indiana Secretary, William Adams, PDC

I have the honor to report on the status and activities of the Graves Registration Officer for the Department of Indiana from April 15, 2023, through October 27, 2023.

As of October 27, 2023, there were a total of 39,488 Civil War veterans buried in Indiana who are registered on the National Graves Registration database. This total reflects an increase of 700 veterans that have been added to the Indiana total since the 137th Annual Department Encampment in April 2023 and an increase of 1,217 since January 1, 2023. I expect the total increase for this year to be well over 1,500 added veterans. The largest increases were in Floyd County, Indiana having added 319 new veterans followed by Tippecanoe County 106 and Posey County 78.

I personally have added 526 new names to the National database and made 133 adjustments to existing graves data since January 1st. I deleted one duplicate record. There still exists several duplicate records on the website and will be removed at a later date.

Throughout the United States there are 53,228 Indiana veterans that have been located and added to the National Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Graves Registration database. This is an increase of 837 since the Annual Department Encampment in April 2023 and 1,473 since January 1, 2023. This is just under 27% of the roughly 200,000 that served from Indiana.

The counties from Indiana with over 1000 total number of veterans on the National Graves Registration database are as follows:

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Floyd – 1,784 | 6. Lawrence – 1,316 | 11. Clinton – 1,010 |
| 2. Marion 1,559 | 7. Cass – 1,314 | |
| 3. Allen – 1,543 | 8. Howard – 1,136 | |
| 4. Grant – 1,470 | 9. Kosciusko – 1,066 | |
| 5. Wayne – 1,463 | 10. Hamilton – 1,042 | |

In addition to these, there are five more counties just under the 1000 veteran mark. They are Dearborn, Delaware, Noble, Owen, and Tippecanoe.

The following is a breakdown of the contribution to the Graves Registration project by county since the April 2023 Encampment:

<i>County</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Increase/Decrease</i>
Adams	353	0
Allen	1,543	0
Bartholomew	606	+1
Benton	199	+1
Blackford	402	0
Boone (Boon)	257	+10
Brown	289	0
Carroll (Carrol)	602	+1
Cass	1,315	+2
Clark	197	0
Clay	45	+2
Clinton	1,010	+2
Crawford	634	0
Davies	245	+3
Dearborn	852	0
Decatur	130	0
DeKalb	233	+1
Delaware	916	- 1
Dubois	177	0
Elkhart	161	+3
Fayette	211	- 1
Floyd	1,784	+319
Fountain	74	+1
Franklin	318	0
Fulton	486	0
Gibson	181	+2
Grant	1,470	+9
Greene (Green)	95	+3
Hamilton	1,042	+3
Hancock	253	+30
Harrison	154	0
Hendricks	141	+5
Henry	131	+1
Howard	1,136	+1
Huntington	740	+24
Jackson	119	+2

Jasper	41	+2
Jay	505	+2
Jefferson	170	+3
Jennings	56	+1
Johnson	356	+1
Knox	174	+3
Kosciusko	1,066	0
LaPorte	294	0
Lagrange	397	0
Lake	142	+1
Lawrence	1,316	0
Madison	361	+1
Marion	1,559	+3
Marshall	514	+1
Martin	109	+1
Miami	69	+2
Monroe	184	+2
Montgomery	288	+3
Morgan	103	+1
Newton	249	0
Noble	821	0
Ohio	82	0
Orange	181	+1
Owen	964	0
Parke	489	+1
Perry	230	0
Pike	177	+3
Porter	475	+1
Posey	360	+78
Pulaski	326	0
Putnam	41	+1
Randolph	236	+8
Ripley	219	0
Rush	33	+1
St. Joseph	165	+3
Scott	34	0
Shelby	267	+3
Spencer	501	+1
Starke (Stark)	337	+1

Steuben	275	+18
Sullivan	53	0
Switzerland	105	0
Tippecanoe	957	+106
Tipton	582	+2
Union	24	+1
Vanderburgh	642	- 14 (Transferred to Warrick Co.)
Vermillion	44	0
Vigo	53	+9
Wabash	261	+5
Warren	278	+2
Warrick	183	+17
Washington	216	0
Wayne	1,463	+6
Wells	424	+2
White	400	0
Whitley	<u>467</u>	<u>0</u>
Subtotal	38,819	+ 723
Unknown Counties	<u>669</u>	- 16
Total	39,488	

* Names in parentheses () are alternate spellings and are included in final count.

The total increases by county are slightly different than the total increases by an “Indiana” search only. Subsequent recounts resulted in the same scenario. The most likely cause is due to errors in data entry that can throw the count off when searching individual counties versus by state only. These miniscule errors are difficult to find.

The effort to reduce the number of errors and duplicate entries is ongoing. A major issue that still exists are Indiana records that have no named county. Though there have been great strides in reducing the number resulting in only 669 Indiana registrations that still list no county. This is down 6 from the April Annual Encampment Report. While this has been time-consuming, thus far the effort has been very successful. The reduction in Indiana errors in the past 18 months has been reduced from 2,558 to the current 669. The accumulated total of 39,488 is inclusive of these 669 Indiana registrations. These reductions in duplicates and errors may offset any gains that a county may have uploaded to the database as well as any overall totals. For example, if a submitter has added 10 names to the database for a specific county but had 5 removed from an administrator in the same county, their overall addition to the database will only reflect 5 new entries when counted.

In all, 59 out of the 92 Indiana counties contributed to the increase of new veterans added to the National database. There were three counties that had a slight decrease due to errors or duplications. Thirteen counties recorded at least five or more new veteran registrations to the National database since October. Seven of those counties had ten or more.

To conclude, the total entries indicate a slight drop of submitter activity on the website. This is due to an anticipated slump in the summer months when other activities are taking place. Please keep in mind as you enter data to the website, the effort here is to not only register as many Civil War veterans as possible on the National Registry, but to do it in a manner befitting the service these veterans have given to protect our Union.

While the number of entries can be impressive, entering just a name and cemetery doesn't do the veteran or the researcher any justice. The intended goal should be quality over quantity.

The Indiana Department Graves Registration Report for the 2023 Mid-year Encampment is hereby submitted.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David J. Green".

Graves Registration Officer
Department of Indiana,
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



2023 Department of Indiana Graves Registration Map



**Department of Indiana SUVCW
Past PDC & Eagle Scout Coordinator**

Michael W. Beck
322 Yorktown Rd.
Greenwood, IN 46142
(317) 364-6064 Cell

E-mail fsgtcod11thindiana@att.net
Website
<http://suvwin.org/>



April 2023 - November 4, 2023
Monuments Officers Report

All monuments and GPS coordinates have been placed on a Google Map system by Benjamin Harrison PDC Tim Beckman.

Indiana Monuments Page can be found on the Benjamin Harrison Camp #356 website
- <http://benharrisoncamp.org/indiana-civil-war-monuments-markers-and-sites-inventory/>

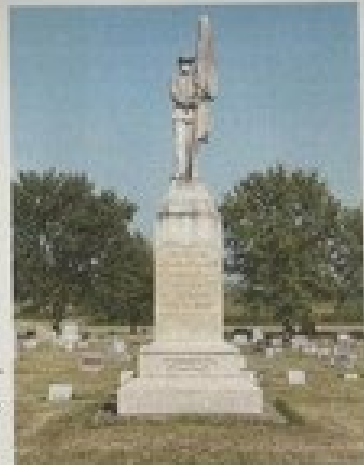
1. Blackford
2. Cass
3. Clark - Mt. Zion Cemetery - Henryville, IN - Photograph (New)
4. Clinton
5. Dubois
6. Fayette
7. Gibson
8. Grant
9. Hancock - GAR Stain Glass Window at the Fortville United Methodist Church
10. Henry
11. Howard
12. Huntington
13. Johnson
14. LaPorte
15. Madison
16. Marion
17. Monroe
18. Montgomery - Photographs & GPS Coordinates
19. Morgan
20. Newton
21. Orange
22. Owen
23. Putnam
24. Rush - Soldiers and Sailors Stain Glass Windows in Morton Hall Auditorium
25. Shelby
26. Tippecanoe
27. Vermillion

- 28. Vigo
- 29. Warren - Photographs - GPS Coordinates
- 30. Warrick
- 25. Wayne

Ongoing Indiana Monuments Projects



Save
Our
Soldier!



In 1910, the Swayzee Edwin Lennox, Post #408, of Grand Army of The Republic had constructed and dedicated in the Thrailkill Cemetery, the FIRST Veterans monument in Grant County. These Civil War Veterans raised the funds to purchase and install this monument. Now through time this monument has been damaged and in need of repair and cleaning to preserve the memory of our local Veterans.

Members of The Orlando A. Somers Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War are teaming with the local Township Trustee to raise fund to have the restoration work done.

If you would like to donate to the efforts to restore this Veterans monument, please contact SUVCW member:

Randy D. McNally

607 S. Washington, Swayzee IN46986

765-860-8542, randydmcnally@aol.com

or

Travis LeMaster

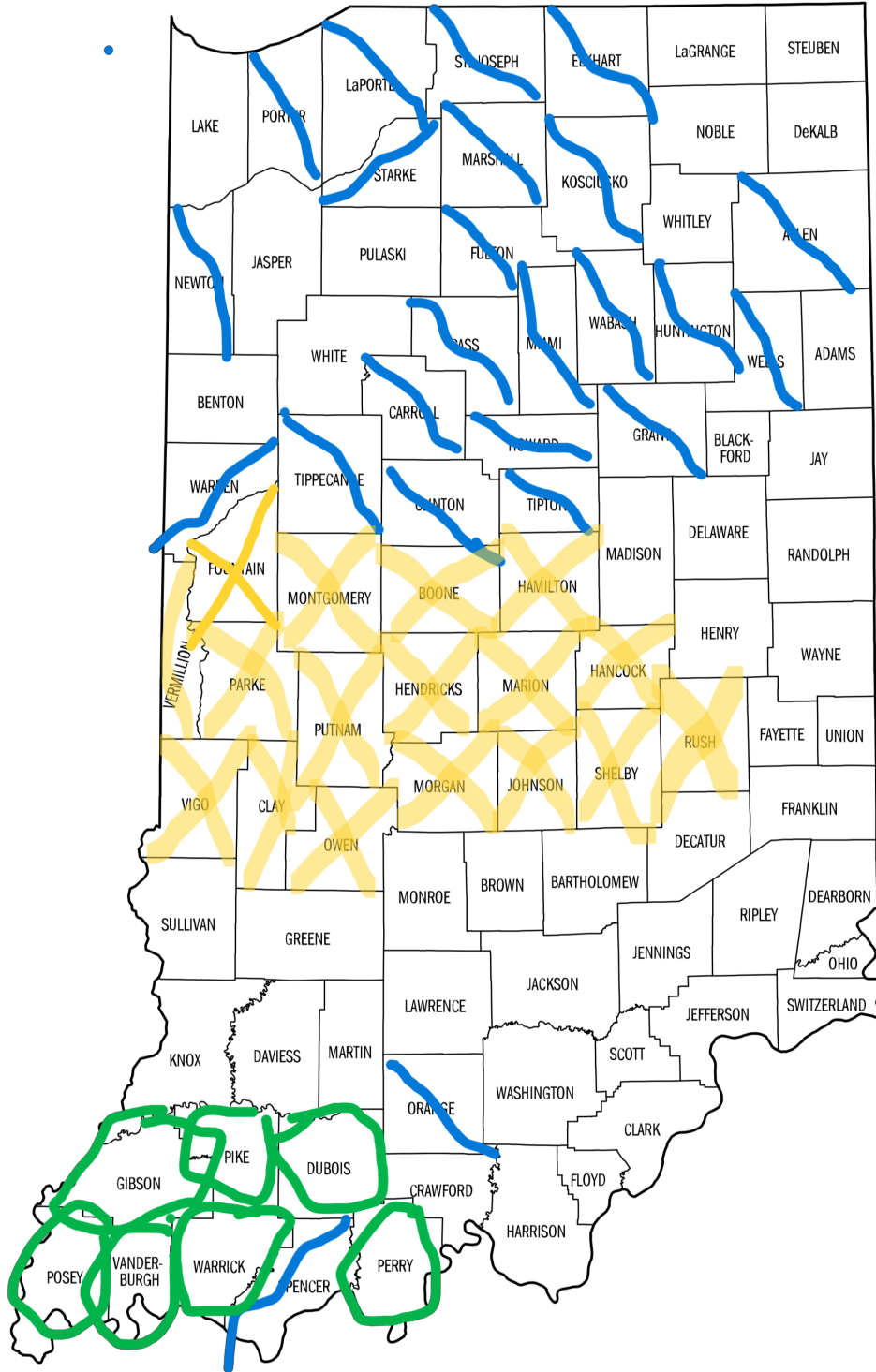
PO Box 56, Sweetser IN 46987

765-667-1940, Travis.lemaster@gmail.com



Last Soldiers Projects

INDIANA



David D. Porter Camp
#116
Lake Co.
Jasper Co.
Benton Co.
Pulaski Co.
White Co.

Champion Hill
Camp# 17
LaGrange Co.
Steuben Co.
Noble Co.
DeKalb Co.
Whitely Co.
Adams Co.
Blackford Co.
Jay Co.

Orlando B.
Somers Camp # 1
Madison Co.
Delaware Co.

John B. Anderson
Camp # 223
Bartholomew Co.
Brown Co.
Monroe Co.
Lawrence Co.
Washington Co.
Clark Co.
Jennings Co.
Ripley Co.
Dearborn Co.
Ohio Co.
Switzerland Co.
Scott Co.

John W. Foster
Camp # 2
Knox Co.
Sullivan Co.
Greene Co.
Davies Co.
Miami Co.
Crawford Co.

John Auten
Camp # 8

William P. Benton
Camp # 28
Randolph Co.
Henry Co.
Wayne Co.
Union Co.
Franklin Co.

Ben Harrison Camp # 356
Rush Co.
Shelby Co.
Hamilton Co.
Marion Co.
Johnson Co.
Morgan Co.
Hendricks Co.
Boone Co.
Owen Co.
Putnam Co.
Montgomery Co.
Clay Co.
Vigo Co.
Fountain Co.
Vermillion Co.
Parke Co.



**Department of Indiana SUVCW
Past PDC & Eagle Scout Coordinator**

Michael W. Beck
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Website <http://suvwin.org/>**



**Eagle Scout Coordinator's Report for May 1, 2023 – November 4, 2023
Eagle Scout Certificates presented to the following:**

1. Cory J. Oswalt Armenteros – Crown Point, IN - Camp Assigned – David D. Porter
2. Evan Marshall Creighton – Carmel, IN – Camp Assigned - Ben Harrison
3. Dokota Huther – Pendleton, IN – Camp Assigned – Ben Harrison
4. Kately Delk - Pendleton, IN – Camp Assigned – Ben Harrison

Number of Eagle Scout SUVCW Certificates sent out from each camp 2022-23	
1	Orlando A. Somers Camp #1 - Kokomo, IN 0
2	John W. Foster Camp # 2 – Evansville, IN 0
3	John Auten Camp # 8 – South Bend, IN 0
4	Champion Hill Camp #17 - Huntington, IN 0
5	William P. Benton Camp #28 - Centerville, IN 0
6	David D. Porter Camp #116 - Valparaiso, IN 1
7	John B. Anderson Camp # 223 - Columbus, IN 0
8	Benjamin Harrison Camp #356 - Indianapolis, IN 3
	Total 4

Camp Eagle Scout Coordinators:

Orlando A. Somers Camp No. 1 (Kokomo, IN) Brother Drew Godby - dcgodby@gmail.com

John W. Foster Camp No. 2 (Evansville, IN)

John Auten Camp No. 8 (South Bend, IN) Brother Jonathan Swarts - jswarts@pnw.edu

Champion Hill Camp No. 17 (Huntington, IN) Brother Tom Schmitt – fxb443@gmail.com

William P. Benton Camp No. 28 (Centerville, IN) PDC Dennis H. Rigsby - dhrigsby@aol.com

David D. Porter Camp No. 116 (Valparaiso, IN) Brother Bob Westfall - bobpamwestfall@gmail.com

John B. Anderson Camp No. 223 (Columbus, IN): Brother Fred Lickley - leicklystory@gmail.com

Benjamin Harrison Camp No. 356 (Indianapolis, IN): PCC John Bowyer - bwyrpndltn@yahoo.com

Department of Indiana – Eagle Scout Coordinator

PDC Michael W. Beck



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS

Department of Indiana

OFFICE OF THE

GAR Highway Officer

William R. Adams PDC

2772 N. 150 East

La Porte, IN 46350

Home: (219) 326-6498

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Department of Indiana Midyear Encampment November 4, 2023

GAR Highway Officers Activity Report from April 29, 2023 to October 31, 2023

There is nothing new to report since the Annual Encampment of April 29, 2023

GAR Highway signs in Indiana continue to be in proper placement and in excellent condition across the entire length of the GAR Highway, US 6.

I wish to thank Brother Tom Schmitt, who continues to drive the eastern portion of US 6 and provides updated reports on the US 6 signage.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty,

William R. Adams

William R. Adams PDC

GAR Highway Officer

Department of Indiana, SUVCW

**SONS OF UNION VETERANS
OF THE CIVIL WAR
PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA**



TIMOTHY J. BECKMAN
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<http://suvwin.org>

Signals Officer Report

Here are my Department of Indiana Signal Officer's activities since the 2023 Annual Encampment:

Updated the Department of Indiana website with the new officers and email address on May 2, 2023.

Updated the Department of Indiana website with SVR activities/ceremonies on May 15, 2023.

Updated the Last Union Veteran page on the Department of Indiana website on May 24, May 31, and June 1, 2023.

Replied to an email concerning the Last Union Veteran of Monroe County on June 1, 2023.

Added the 1940 G.A.R. Department of Indiana Journal to the Department of Indiana website on August 14, 2023.

Updated the Last Union Veteran page on the Department of Indiana website, mostly updating many broken links, on August 15, 2023.

Added Department of Indiana Newsletter, The Indiana Legion, Issue 3-23, and the 2023-2024 Department of Indiana officer's pictures to the Department of Indiana website on August 18, 2023.

Added the 1912 G.A.R. 33rd Department of Indiana Journal to the Department of Indiana website on September 20, 2023.

Updated a few links on the Last Union Veteran page on the Department of Indiana website on September 21, 2023.

Updated the 2023 Department of Indiana Midyear Encampment event page on the Department of Indiana website on September 27, 2023

Updated the Last Union Veteran page on the Department of Indiana website on October 15, 2023.

Updated information on the 2023 Department of Indiana Mid-Year Encampment and added Department Order 2023-1, Series 2023-2024, to the Department of Indiana website on October 16, 2023.

Added Department Order 2023-2, Series 2023-2024, to the Department of Indiana website on October 20, 2023.

Added the 2023 Department of Indiana Annual Encampment Minutes to the Department of Indiana website on October 25, 2023.

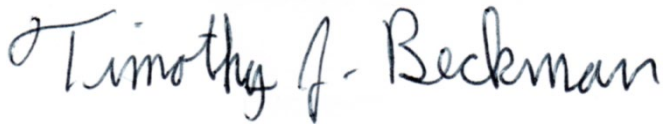
Added the 2023 Department of Indiana Mid-Year Department Officer, Camp, and Committee Reports to the Department of Indiana website on or after October 28, 2023.

The Department of Indiana Zoom Pro account was used by the following camps for their meetings during the period June 2023 through October 2023: John W. Foster Camp No. 2 and the Ben Harrison Camp No. 356.

I continue in the role of Co-moderator of the Department of Indiana Google Group e-mail list. There are currently 175 registered users in the group. I encourage all brothers to sign up for this if they have not already done so as this list has proven to be a very effective communication tool. Sign up is easy. Just send an email to me at timbeckman@gmail.com to request to be added to this group.

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty, this 4th day of November, 2023.

Timothy J. Beckman

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy J. Beckman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Signals Officer
Department of Indiana
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



The Indiana Legion

DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA • SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
EDITOR'S REPORT

Report to the 2023 Mid-Year Encampment

Since the Annual Encampment in April 2023, I edited and distributed one issue of *The Indiana Legion* (August 2023). I would like to thank all camps and camp officers for the submission of materials related to camp activities, as well as to several brothers who made creative suggestions for new features and submitted interesting material. Suggestions, ideas, and submissions on all aspects of camp and Department activities are always welcome.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan Swarts
Editor, *The Indiana Legion*



Dear Brothers:

I have had numerous emails requesting information regarding GAR posts in Indiana and our membership records. I have been able to respond to each request in a timely manner.

I am still making SUVCW members and the public aware of the law concerning Cemetery Preservation which can be found in the Indiana Code at IC 14-21-2 and pertains to the sale and purchase of GAR grave markers in Indiana, which at this time is still illegal.

Respectfully submitted this 4th day of November 2023.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Kolb', is positioned above the typed name.

Bruce Kolb, PDC
Camp Commander
Ben Harrison Camp #356

Department GAR Records Officer

Department Historian



COMPANY D. 27TH INDIANA SVR
SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE
[HTTP://SUVWIN.ORG/?PAGE_ID=295](http://suvwin.org/?page_id=295)



2023 Midyear Encampment Activity Report

27th Indiana SVR

January 1, 2023 – November 4, 2023

February 12, 2023

Co D 27th Indiana SVR was honored again by being invited to be the official Color Guard for the National Park Service at their annual Lincoln Day Ceremony. The service is conducted annually at the National Lincoln Boyhood Home National Park near Spencer Indiana. The 27th opened the ceremony by presenting the Colors. After the service indoors they retired the Colors and led the processional to Nancy Lincoln's grave site where they stood guard at the grave during the remainder of the ceremony. Those Brothers serving in uniform were: Lt. Col. Alan Teller, Captain M. Beck, 1st Sgt. D. Hutchinson, 2nd Sgt. T. Schmitt, 2nd Sgt. T. Furgason, Cpl. Garry Walls, Cpl. D. Tilden, Pvt. T. Beckman and Pvt. J. Swarts. Not in uniform were Cpl. G. Young and Pvt. D. Hoesli. Also attending was SUVCW member Brad Swain.

April 15, 2023

Co. D 27th Indiana SVR was represented at this year's Lincoln Tomb Ceremony in Springfield, Illinois by 2nd Sgt. Tom Schmitt. Thank you, Sgt. Schmitt for participating!

May 28, 2023

The 27th SVR participated in the Last Union Veteran of Miami County, buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Peru, Indiana. Pvt. Jonathan Jones served in Co. K, 11th Indiana Volunteers. Ten members of the SVR supported the dedication ceremony.

May 29, 2023

Members of the 27th Indiana SVR participated in the Ben Harrison Camp 357 Memorial Day Program. Those attending in uniform were; 2nd Lt. Bruce Kolb, Captain Mike Beck, 2nd Sgt. Garry Walls, Pvt. Tim Beckman, Pvt. Jerry Thompson, and Pvt. Brian Mexin. Attending not in uniform Joe Beckman.

Note: Many SVR Members attended Camp Memorial Day events with their camps but this was the only one reported as one with SVR participation.

June 10, 2023

The Last Union Veteran of Kosciusko County Isaac W. Sharp, was a Private who served in Co. G, 1st Ohio Cavalry. He was also a past Commander-in-Chief of the GAR. The 27th Indiana SVR, under the direction of Lt. Col. Alan Teller presented the Colors and fired the rifle salute. The program concluded with the playing of Taps. SVR Member

Will Radell sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic". SVR members who participated were Sgt. Tom Schmitt, Corporal Will Radell, Pvt. Brian Mexin and Pvt. Jon Swarts. and Lt. Col Alan Teller.

August 19, 2023

On this date the Last Union Veteran of Elkhart County George Parsons was remembered with a graveside ceremony. Co. D 27th SVR presented the Colors and fired a rifle salute at the conclusion. SVR members participating were Lt. Col Alan Teller, Sgt Tom Schmitt, Sgt. Stephan Hagman, Cpl. Randy Mc Nally and Pvt. Jon Swarts.

September 23, 2023

The Last Union Veteran of Vandenburg County, Corporal George W. Winlock enlisted as Private in Company C, 115th U.S. Colored Infantry on August 15, 1864. A dedication recognizing him as the Last Union Veteran was conducted by John W. Foster Camp, Evansville. Co. D 27th Indiana SVR presented the colors and fired three rifle volleys. Those in uniform were, Lt. Col A. Teller, Captain M. Beck, Sgt. D. Hutchinson, Pvt. T. Beckman. SVR not in uniform were Pvt. J. Beckman, and Pvt. D. Hoesli.

September 30, 2023

Nine (9) members of Co D, 27th Indiana SVR gathered at Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne Indiana for the first stop of three different Monument dedications. Upon completion of this ceremony the group moved to the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum a few miles away for the dedication of monuments for the Sultana disaster and The Civil War. At all dedications of the three monuments the 27th Indiana SVR Presented the Colors and fired a rifle salute, concluding with taps. The Nine (9) members present were Lt. Col. A. Teller, Capt. M. Beck, 1st Lt. W. Adams, 2nd Lt. B. Kolb, Cpl. R. Mc Nally, Cpl. W. Radell, Cpl. D. Tilden, Pvt. T. Beckman and Pvt. A. Hagman. Sgt. T. Schmitt served as the Master of Ceremonies for the programs. Cpl. G. Young and Pvt. J. Beckman attended but not in uniform.

*** Current Unit strength, as of November 4, 2023 stands at (80). We currently have (1) Capt. (1) 1st Lt. (1) 2nd Lt., (1) first sergeant, (4) second sergeants (8) corporals and (64) privates. The treasury currently has \$379.42

*** I have filed the 2023 Unit application, the 2023 Unit Strength Report, and paid all required dues to the National and the Third Military District. Co D 27th Indiana SVR's 990-N has been filed and accepted by the IRS.

Respectfully Submitted,

1st Lt. William Adams

Adjutant, Co. D 27th Indiana Infantry, SVR

Camp Reports

November 4, 2023 Dept. of IN Mid-Year Encampment
Orlando A. Somers Camp, No. 1
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

We have 38 members including one Junior. We have gained a 2 Members since the April Encampment.

Our membership has custodial duties for a Civil War canon located in Highland Park, Kokomo, IN. Once a month, a Somers Camp member cleans the enclosure and the cannon.

Our meetings are at the South Branch of the Kokomo Howard County Public Library, 1755 East Center Road, Kokomo, IN 46902.

May 20, 2023 (3members and 1 guest attended) 2 new members were voted in by the Camp Membership. Brother Randy McNally gave an update on the Monument Restoration Project. Brother Drew gave a presentation on the Allied Orders

May 28, 2023 at 2:00 PM The Last Soldier Ceremony for Pvt. Jonathan Jones Co. K 11th Indiana Infantry. He is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, 411 N. Grant Street, in Peru, IN. There will be Boy Scouts involved with the Last Soldier Ceremony. News article in the Peru Chronicles was done on the Last Solider Project

June-August No Camp Meeting

August 3, 2023 Kokomo First Friday Event. Camp held a recruitment booth for the August Kokomo First Friday Event. Had many interested individuals stopped by to ask about the SUVCW.

September 16, 2023 (7 members present) Brother Travis talked about the Posters for the Monument Restoration Project. The Odd Fellows donated over \$2000 toward the project. Brother Drew gave a presentation on MOLLUS.

October 28, 2023 Camp Meeting

**Orlando A Somers Camp # 1
Property / Inventory
October 19, 2023**

- 1 Charter dated 08/05/1982**
- 1 Bible**
- 1 Lectern**
- 3 Large Ritual Books**
- 1 Small Ritual Books**
- 2 Framed Photos of Orlando A. Somers**
- 1 Mourning Cloth for draping charter**
- 1 Gavel**
- 1 Wreath w/tripod stand**
- 1 SUVCW Orlando A Somers Camp Banner**
- 1 SUVCW Banner from early 1900s Blue with Gold Lettering
(Alan Teller has rolled up in a closet. (Confirmed 01/07/2021))**
- 1 GAR Banner "POST No 30 GAR KOKOMO, IND (very damaged, presented to the
camp by Allen Moore 03/18/06, and framed by David Bastin.
(01/07/21 Alan Teller's possession in metal cabinet in basement)
Alan's guess this was carried by Harrison Post in parades**



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

JOHN W. FOSTER CAMP No. 2

DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA

Report of the

Commander

Mid-Year 2023 Encampment

April 15, 2023, to October 29, 2023



To: Department of Indiana Secretary, William Adams, PDC

I have the honor to report the status and activities of the John W. Foster Camp No. 2 from April 15, 2023, to October 29, 2023.

Meetings Held

The Camp held a total of six hybrid meetings from May 2023 to October 2023. All meetings were held at the Newburgh Public Library on Belle Road as well as being held via Zoom. The meeting facility is at no cost to the Camp.

Camp meeting dates were:

May 16, 2023, Hybrid

August 15, 2022, Hybrid

June 20, 2023 Hybrid

September 19, 2023, Hybrid

July 18, 2023, Hybrid

October 17, 2023, Hybrid

Membership

The Camp had, as of October 27, 2023, a total of 14 Brothers. The Camp had one new member to join since the April Annual Encampment, increasing our membership to fourteen. The Camp has had steady activity from potential new members to join the Camp since April and are still considered to be active potential members.

Treasurer's Report

The Camp as of October 29, 2023, has an account balance of \$1,527.79.

Representation of the Camp and SUVCW in the Community

Department of Indiana Encampment, April 29, 2023 – The John W. Foster Camp was represented by Brother Dennis Hutchinson PDC at the 137th Annual Encampment at Kokomo, Indiana. Brother Hutchinson was installed as the new Department Treasurer during the encampment meeting.

Lincoln Pioneer Village Spring Heritage Days, May 13, 2023 – Dennis Hutchinson – PDC and Secretary to the Camp presented a Civil War Living History with tent, muskets, accoutrements etc. for the public at the Rockport Lincoln Pioneer Village Spring Heritage Days at Rockport, IN. During the event Dennis gave information about the John W. Foster Camp No. 2 and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Assisting in the event were Commander David Hoesli and Jr. Vice Commander Mike Robinson.

National Encampment, August 3rd – 6th, 2023 - The John W. Foster Camp had two members of its Camp attend the National Encampment at Nashua, New Hampshire. Brother Dennis Hutchinson PDC and Brother Tom Carson were part of the Department of Indiana Delegation.

Lincoln Pioneer Village Fall Heritage Days, October 28, 2023 – As with the Spring event, Brother Dennis Hutchinson – PDC and Secretary to the Camp will present a Civil War Living History with tent, muskets, accoutrements etc. for the public at the Rockport Lincoln Pioneer Village Heritage Days at Rockport, IN. During the event Dennis will give information about the John W. Foster Camp No. 2 and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Assisting in the event will be Commander David Hoesli.

Last Union Veteran Project

The John W. Foster Camp No 2 held a Last Union Veteran event on September 23, 2023. The last Civil War Union soldier buried in Vanderburgh County, Indiana was Corporal George W. Winlock of Co. C, 115th U.S.C.T. Infantry. Born in Logan County, KY around 1847, Cpl. Winlock joined the 115th on October 15, 1864, as a Private. He was promoted to Corporal on December 1, 1865. He was mustered out at Indianola, Texas on February 10, 1866. George W. Winlock died on June 10, 1939, and is buried at Locust Hill Cemetery, Evansville, IN. A Last Veteran Medalion was added to his military headstone recognizing him as the Last Union Veteran buried in Vanderburgh County.

Mid-Year Encampment

The John W. Foster Camp No. 2 is hosting the 2023 Mid-Year Encampment being held at the Newburgh Chandler Public Library on Belle Road on November 4, 2023. The Camp has been steadily busy in preparations for the event. This will be the first Department of Indiana Encampment held at or near Evansville, Indiana since 1940.

Cemetery Projects

Bellefontaine Cemetery, Mt Vernon, Indiana: The John W. Foster Camp has completed the main portion of the Bellefontaine Cemetery project at Mt. Vernon, Indiana. In all, there were 133 military headstones replaced and reset within the Soldiers Row and various other locations at Bellefontaine. Over one quarter of the soldiers buried in Soldiers' Row at Bellefontaine died at the Mt. Vernon, Indiana U.S. General Hospital during the Civil War. The remaining number were buried after the war and include a small number of Spanish American war veterans as well as one Indian War and WW I veteran. The research to find unknown named soldiers has been ongoing since February of 2022. Work at the cemetery is nearing completion with only minor details left to complete. Additional work to be completed by May 2024 includes a War Memorial monument to be placed in Soldiers Row by the Sons of the American Legion and a completed new plot map showing all burials of Civil War veterans in Bellefontaine Cemetery by Commander Hoesli of the Foster Camp No. 2. The cemetery lacked any form of records going into the project. This will facilitate any further research in the future. The Foster Camp has been working side by side with the Sons of the American Legion Post in Mt. Vernon, Indiana to complete the headstone replacement.

Horace McCrary Headstone, The Camp is working on an Eagle Scout project to replace a damaged headstone in Spencer County in addition to fencing the area off to preserve the site. The site is in a plowed field and is in severe deterioration. This project is still in the planning stage.

Fairview Cemetery, Rockport, Indiana: The John W. Foster Camp No. 2 will be inspecting Fairview Civil War veteran headstones in the next few days and will be cleaning, straightening, and replacing any headstones as needed at Fairview soon. In all, there are 17 known Civil War veterans buried at the cemetery.

Oak Hill Cemetery, Evansville, Indiana: The John W. Foster Camp is currently working on the construction of two metal cannon carriages to replace the older wooden carriages that have fallen apart. The goal is to have at least one of the two cannons that have sat in Section 24 since 1872 back in the section by the summer of 2024. Currently the University of Southern Indiana Engineering Department has completed the CAD digital copies of the original blueprints and are compiling a list of materials and costs on the first cannon. In addition to the replacement carriages, the Camp will be cleaning and straightening all the headstones in Section 24 as well as painting the mounted siege cannons, mortars, and the fence as needed early next year.

Coliseum GAR Farragut Post #27 Records

The GAR records previously stored at the Evansville Coliseum have been removed to the University of Southern Indiana and all records of the Farragut Post #27 except for the death records and two cash books have been microfilmed and have been uploaded to the archive's website at Rice Library. The description books for the Daughter's of the Union are currently

being scanned and should be completed by the end of the year. Yet to be completed are the remaining Women's Relief Corps and the Daughter's of the Union meeting minutes.

GAR John K. Highman Post # 415 Records

The John W. Foster Camp is currently working to locate the remaining records for the Highman Post #415 that are in the collection of the Workingmen's Institute at New Harmony. The Charter has been located, but unfortunately is in extremely bad shape. The minutes of the Post are believed to be within their archives, but not located at this time. Once located, the Camp will work to get the records digitized at USI.

Future Grave Memorial Ceremonies

Bellefontaine Cemetery, Mt. Vernon, Indiana, A dedication ceremony is slated for next May for the approximately 133 headstones that were replaced and reset.

Last Union Soldier Ceremony, Mt. Vernon, Indiana, A Last Union Soldier Ceremony is slated for September 2024 for the Last Veteran of Posey County, Indiana.

Camp Inventory

The Camp reports the following articles in our inventory:

1. John W. Foster Camp No. 2 Charter.
2. Horace Greely Award for "Most Outstanding Camp website during the 2013-2014 administrative year".
3. One complete set of station banners.
4. SUVCW John W. Foster Camp No. 2 Memorial wreath.
5. John W. Foster Camp No. 2 banner to be used at events.
6. Four SUVCW membership medals.
7. John W. Foster Camp No. 2 Flag.
8. Flagpole and stand for camp flag.
9. Indiana Department Commanders Citation award and flag streamer on October 29, 2022, for gaining access to and retrieving records of the Farragut Post 27 to be digitized.

Summary

The John W. Foster Camp No. 2 has been very active in promoting the memory of the veterans of the Civil War through events, speaking engagements and cemetery projects. The Camp hopes to expand the effort by additional school related projects and media sourcing. The Camp was able to hold all monthly virtual meetings, as well as attend events all year. The gain of one new member was a nice change after losing two at the beginning of the year. While activity has been very good on new member prospects, there's much more work ahead to add additional members to the Camp. Without question the stability of the Camp is great and the future is bright for the John W. Foster Camp No. 2.

Inclusive of this report is the Roster of the John W. Foster Camp No. 2.

This Mid-Year Camp Report of the John W. Foster Camp No. 2 is hereby submitted.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,



Commander
John W. Foster Camp #2
Department of Indiana,
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

John W. Foster Camp No. 2 Membership

Timothy J. Beckman, 1135 N Leland Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46219 (317) 410-1299
tbeckman@indy.rr.com

Thomas Jackson Carson Jr., P.O. Box 1023, Little Compton, RI 02837 (401) 635-2924
tjcarson@cox.net

Joshua A. Claybourn, 1 Lincolnwood Drive, Evansville, IN 47715 (812) 480-6224
jclaybourn@gmail.com

Lance L. Ferris, 511 Breckinridge Loop., Lewisburg, KY 42256 (270) 847-2705
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TOTAL MEMBERSHIP 14



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS

John Auten Camp # 8

OFFICE OF THE

Camp Commander

William R. Adams PDC

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La Porte, IN 46350

(219) 575-8483

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Department of Indiana 2023 Midyear Encampment – November 4, 2023

The following reports the activities of John Auten Camp 8, South Bend from April 29, 2023 to October 31, 2023. Our camp meets every other month. We held camp meetings in May, June, and September. All meetings were held in person at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, South Bend.

The membership of John Auten Camp, 8 South Bend currently stands at 22 members. Our most recent additions were by initiation of Brother Rev. Robert Armidon. Brother Armidon had previously been a member of Camps in Rhode Island and The Department of the Chesapeake. He was honorably discharged to attend Seminary. He was recently assigned to a Church in Elkhart, Indiana.

May 9, 2023: John Auten Camp's regularly scheduled Camp meeting.

May 28, 2023: Camp Commander Bill Adams participated in Somers Camp's Last Union Veteran of Miami County in Peru, Indiana.

May 29, 2023: John Auten Camp hosted their annual Memorial Day Program for the community at Bowmen Cemetery in South Bend. The program's community attendance grows each year. This year between 25-30 local citizens joined us. John Auten Camp had great newspaper coverage with an interview with Monuments Officer Brother Greg Fiechtner. It was also announced on social media. Local television station WNDU filmed the program and ran a brief interview with Camp Commander Adams. Civil War era music was provided by Judy Kubsch on the cello. Judy is the mother of camp member Brother Sean Kubsch.

June 10, 2023: Isaac W. Sharp, the last Civil War veteran buried in Kosciusko County, Indiana was recognized with a ceremony and dedication that took place in the Oakwood Cemetery in Warsaw under the direction of John Auten Camp #8, South Bend. At the 78th Annual Encampment of the GAR in Des Moines, Iowa, Isaac Sharp was elected Commander-in-Chief. John Auten camp members J. Wilson, W. Radell, T. Schmitt, J. Swarts, C. Powers, A. Hall, and B. Adams were joined by Brothers A. Teller of Somers Camp #1, and B. Mexin of Ben Harrison Camp #356. Also participating were Beth Thurston and Penny Bucks of LGAR Circle #78.

July 11, 2023: John Auten Camp's regularly scheduled Camp meeting.

August 19, 2023: On this date John Auten Camp 8, remembered the Last Union Veteran of Elkhart County George Parsons with a dedication ceremony. The camp was joined by members of Co D 27th SVR, and the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. A marker and wreaths were placed at the graveside. Lenny Sailor played Amazing Grace on the Bagpipes. The program closed with the playing of Taps by Camp member Sean Kubsch and Hayden Grindle.

September 9-10, 2023: Once again this year John Auten Camp attended the Door Village Indiana Harvest Festival. This annual family festival is focused on Veterans and History. It covers the period from the early Pioneers to the area to current day activities for seniors and children. It is the ideal environment for teaching the values and purpose behind the SUVCW. Our information tent was visited by an estimated hundred plus people. On Saturday the LGAR partnered with us in reaching and teaching the visitors. Camp Commander Adams and Camp Sr. Vice Commander Schmitt also participated in the living history Cemetery walk both days representing local Civil War soldiers.

September 26, 2023: John Auten Camp's regularly scheduled Camp meeting. At the close of the Regular Meeting and after a brief recess, the camp reconvened in a Special Meeting for the purpose of welcoming through initiation a new member. Our newest member, Reverend Brother Robert Armidon comes to us after previously being Honorably Discharged from his Rhode Island Camp to attend Seminary. Upon completion of Seminary, he accepted a call to an Elkhart Parish. At the conclusion of the Initiation Ceremony the meeting was adjourned and all shared fellowship and light refreshments.

September 30, 2023: Camp Commander Bill Adams and Camp Member Will Radell attended the "Triple Dedication Ceremony" at Lindenwood Cemetery and the National Veterans Memorial and Shrine in Fort Wayne Indiana. The Camp Wreath was presented by Brother Adams and Brother Radell sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic"

October 6-7 2023: Camp Commander Adams and Camp Sr. Vice Commander Schmitt attended the Central Region Association (CRA) Conference in Dayton Ohio.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty,

William R. Adams

William R. Adams PDC
Camp Commander, SUVCW

Camp Inventory Listing
John Auten Camp #8, South Bend IN
November 4, 2023

1. (1) Camp Charter for John Auten Camp, SUVCW
2. (1) 19" X 24" wooden frame (for charter)
3. (1) 22" X 27" picture frame carrying case
4. (1) King James Version Bible
5. (1) Blue 40" X 68" Alter cloth
6. (1) Black 40" X 68" cloth
7. (1) Wooden Gavel
8. (1) Large size SUVCW ritual book
9. (1) 30" X 48" John Auten Camp Vinyl Banner
10. (1) Black plastic portable file case.
11. (1) 4' X 6' Camp Flag and 9' Flag pole w/ Army Spear
12. (1) 4' x 6' American Flag and 9' flag pole w/ Gold Eagle
13. (2) 8 # Indoor Flag pole stands
14. (2) Steel tripod outside Flag pole holders
15. (2) Vinyl flag & flag pole set storage cases
16. (1) 20" grapevine wreath with red, white, and blue flowers w/ stand
17. (1) 16" Blue Ribbon wrapped wreath w/ stand

18. (1) Set of three Station Banners
19. (3) 18"X 28" Black plastic folding tables (Station Tables)
20. (1) Bose S1 Pro Portable PA
21. (1) Xvive XL Plug in wireless mic system
22. (1) Shure 565SD cardioid microphone
23. (1) Aluminum Speaker stand

Camp Commanders Report (Champion Hill, Camp 17)
Fall 2023 Encampment
Department of Indiana
SUVCW

May 26, 2023 Brother Young presented a wreath at the Memorial Day observance at the CW Veterans Park at Waterloo New York.

May 27, 2023 Brother Young gave short address at the Memorial Day Museum in Waterloo New, York

May 30, 2023 held a Memorial Day ceremony at the grave site of General James Slack and Col. C.E. Briant at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Huntington, Ind.

June 20, 2023 Camp 17 voted to buy and send to the SUVCW in Waterloo, New York two 34 star flags which was done by July of 2023.

July 28, 2023 Brothers Young, Morgan, Dyer, and Dept. Comm. Schmitt traveled to Lafayette to place markers, flags, and flowers at the graves of CW veterans Charles Felix and sons Ranzo Felix and William Felix. Charles and Ranzo were in the 16th Indiana Battery and William was in the 150th Ind. Inf.. The Camp 17 brothers also placed flowers and a flag at the grave site of Union and Confederate soldiers buried in the Greenbush Cemetery there.

July 28, 2023 Brothers Schmitt and Young stopped at the Indiana Soldiers Home and visited with members of the Administrative staff and toured the site in West Lafayette.

July 30, 2023 Brother Al Bowers repainted and repaired the sign put up last year at the Monument City Cemetery in Huntington County by Camp 17.

July 31, 2023 Brothers Schmitt, Dyer, and Young went to the Veterans Shrine on O day Road in Ft. Wayne and installed a memorial stone and plaque to the men lost on the Sultana in 1865. August 2023 sent two 36 star flags to the American Civil War Memorial in Waterloo, NY.

In June previous member, Kash Vanover, of Bluffton rejoined Camp 17 and since doing so has brought seven more men into the camp.

On Sept. Brothers Young, Tilden, and Schmitt participated in a new headstone for a CW veteran at Lindenwood Cemetery in Ft. Wayne. Then the brothers took part in the Sultana and Mother George ceremonies at the Veterans Shrine on the west side of Ft. Wayne.

On November 1, 2023 Brother Young gave a power point presentation in West Lafayette called "Indiana at Gettysburg". And passed out some SUVCW information to prospective recruits.

Camp 17 Inventory from Huntington Co. GAR room in HCHS Museum

Inventory for items belonging to Champion Hill, Camp 17, Dept. of Indiana, SUVCW that are stored in the Huntington Co. Museum at 315 Court St. Huntington Ind.

Camp 17 has agreed to pay \$100.00 a year to the Huntington Co. Museum for the use of the Museum meeting room for the Camp's regular meetings (normally ten a year).

The Camp will be allowed to store a minimal number of items needed for the camp to function. The items will be agreed upon between the Commander of the Camp and the Director of the Museum.

The Inventory of the Camp at the Museum on Nov. 30, 2022 is as listed:

In the Kitchen area	Top Shelf South Store Room
One Natl. Flag	Camp 17 Parade Banner
One Gold Flag Stand Base	Two Wreaths in Cases
One Camp Charter	Two Wreath Metal Stands
One Camp Easel for Charter	One Flag Holster
One Black Cloth	Four Picture Frames
One Gavel	One CW Art Binder
One Bible	Assorted Smaller US Flags
One Folded US Flag 3x5	Two Child Kepis
One Blue Flag Case – torn	Two Dozen CW Magazines in Bundles
	Eight Dept. Badges Red
	One Blue Flag Case - torn

In the center room
One Blue Camp Flag in Gold Base

SUVCW - Items on loan from the Department, given as gifts to Camp 17, or collected and donated by Champion Hill Camp #17 to the Dept of Indiana.

Date	Donor	Item
05/30/00	Stetzel, Brice. Huntington, Ind.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delegate ribbon and badge , Dept. of Indiana encampment, Anderson, Indiana May 12-14, 1903 (value \$50.00 to \$65.00) 2. Badge from Chicago encampment of the GAR in 1900. made of capture cannon and inscribed. (value \$65.00 to \$100.00) 3. Delegate badge of Dept of Indiana encampment, Richmond, Indiana May 1911 (value \$50.00 to \$65.00) 4. May 13, 1911 - Program GAR/SUV Richmond Ind. (value \$20.00) 5. Photograph of Isaiah Sours circa 1880. 130th Ind (owner of items 1, 2,3,4) 6. Photograph of Isaiah Sours family On Markle Road, circa 1926
07/13/00	Wertenberger Tire	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Glass display case, with light, 5 ft. (\$200.00 cost to purchase from Oppenheims Dept Store in North Manchester.
07/13/00	Stine's Printing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Glass display case, 6 ft, (donated from Stine's office inventory)
07/28/00	Archie Lintz	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Negatives of portraits in GAR room Lincoln, Grant, Meade, Thomas, Logan, Sheridan, Sherman – taken June 24, 1987 by Rickerts Studio – Huntington Ind. Value \$50.00 +
12/01/00	Robert Zent	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An original letter from A.R. Lange Co. F, 13th Indiana Inf. to Col. S. Zent asking for assistance in verifying disability. June 16, 1886 Has Zent's reply on back side.
12/01/00	Stan Matheny	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reunion Ribbon, 34th Ind. I.V.I.

Huntington Ind.

Morton Rifles - Huntington, Ind.
Sept 11, 1913. 31st Reunion

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 4/11/01
Huntington Ind. | Brice Stetzel | 1. Original 1864 Springfield rifle and bayonet carried by his great grandfather, Isaiah Sours during the Civil War. It was purchased, along with his Accoutrements, at the end of the war and kept Mr. Sours home, still located on the north side of Hwy 224 east of Hwy 105. (In gun case) |
| 5/18/01
Huntington, Ind. | Brice Stetzel | 1. Reunion Ribbon, Red, 23 rd Indiana Battery, Huntington, Ind. Oct. 12, 1911-25 th reunion |
| 6/01/01
Huntington, Ind. | Bill Abbott | 1. Copy of Photograph of Reunion of 130 th Ind. Inf. at Old Fairgrounds, Huntington, Ind. |
| 6/01/01
Huntington, Ind. | Jim Wertenberger | 1. Print of Battle of Champion Hill |
| 6/01/01
Huntington, Ind. | Bob Fettinger | 1. Painting of Battle of Champion Hill |
| 1/28/02
Bluffton, Ind. | Dr. Neal Pitts | 1. Program Booklet of 52 nd Annual Encampment of the GAR held in New Castle, Indiana, June 8,9,10,11 - 1931 |
| 1/25/03
Huntington, Ind. | Jim Wertenberger
Stan Matheny, Steve Williams, Gib Young | 1. Silk Banner of the Huntington County Battalion of the GAR. Over 110 years old, probably used at a state or national encampment. |
| 6/24/07
3-21/08 | Steve Williams
Jim Wertenberger | 1. GAR Flag Stand.
1. Confederate Belt Buckle with a minnie' ball in a glass covered wooden case. |
| 3/1/17 | John Eger | 1. Two book cases |
| 8/7/2020 | Bill Whitestine | 1. Framed Poster of Indiana and the Civil War Sesquicentennial. 2011 Indiana State Historic Records Advisory Board letter is on the back.
2. Porcelin decorated CW canteen given as a gift from Asa Whitestine to John Whitestine
3. Blue folder with original 'Special Order 120' to Lt. John Whitestine dated June 16, 1865. And a postcard from July 1904 inviting John Whitestine to attend a reunion of the 47 th Indiana in Wabash July 28, 2904. |

On loan from the Dept. Of Indiana

June 3, 2000 - Kokomo, Indiana

Date Name Item

06/03/00 Dept of Ind. SUVCW

- a. Rifled Musket - .58 1861 Springfield, 600s - excellent condition
- b. Rifled Musket - .58 1863/64 Springfield, type II ARA - very good condition, no ramrod
- c. Rifled Musket - .58 1863 LG&Y - WINDSORvt - very good condition, No ramrod
- d. No site
- e. Rifled Musket - .58 1861 Contract E. Robinson - New York - good condition, no ramrod - Letters P H carved on left side of stock
- f. Regulation .58 bayonet stamped US
- g. Regulation .58 bayonet stamped US
- h. Regulation .58 bayonet stamped US
- i. Regulation .58 bayonet stamped US
- j. Bronze GAR Grave Marker & post.
- k. Black felt pad (12x18) probably used to display GAR ribbons
- l. 35 Ribbons & Badges (Packaged and numbered according to the list presented by the department at the annual encampment.)

Historical Flags (Set given to SUV in 1961 - mounted on numbered staffs)

- m. Cromwell English Flag
- n. 50 Star Flag - Eagle Filial
- o. George Washington Flag (plate on staff reads, " Presented by Military Order of Lady Bugs Circle 10, August 1961)
- p. 13 Star Flag - circa 1783
- q. 15 Star Flag - 1792
- r. 20 Star Flag - 1818
- s. 28 Star Flag - 1846
- t. 34 Star Flag - 1861
- u. 45 Star Flag - 1898
- v. 48 Star Flag - 1912
- w. 12. 50 Star Flag - circa 1959 (4x6)
(June 9, 01 - At the dept. encampment a unanimous vote authorized the Champion Hill, Camp 17 to retire the three heavily stained flags and donate the others to Forks of the Wabash Historic Park in Huntington, Ind.)

1. Papers of Reynolds Camp (unknown value)
 - a. A list of 250 Union Soldiers from Tippecanoe County who were killed during the Civil War. The list was compiled by Thomas Horn, past Dept. Commander of the SUVCW.
 - b. Two documents representing post membership in the GAR. The documents are dated 1922 and 1928
 - c. Five applications for membership in the GAR. Four are from Marion County.
 - d. There is a record book containing the names of 666 soldier. The entries include name, rank, army unit, enlistment and discharge dates. Many entries have the names of two witnesses. This appears to be applications for a \$100.00 bounty for enlistment. A few applications were rejected.
 - e. Several miscellaneous items related to recent souvenir programs.
2. Scrapbook of Mrs. Florence Bodle of Lafayette – 1958. (One Banner newsletter dated Nov.-Dec. 1956, one old photo showing two CW veterans walking down a cobblestone street, little else in the scrapbook)
3. Nylon Flag – 48 Star – tie on
4. Nylon Flag – 50 Star – grommet

5. 3ft flag cloth case for the colors
6. Assorted decorative lapel flags, pins, & patriotic displays
 - a. one Texas 3x5 flag
 - six 49 star US 3x5 flags

Sept 17, 2000 – by Alan Loomis for the Dept of Indiana SUVCW

Booklets

Rituals & Ceremonials – no date

1948 Roster – Commandery-In-Chief SUVCW

1952 4TH Memorial Encampment Program

1953 5th Memorial Encampment Program

1954 6th Memorial Encampment Program

1955 7th Memorial Encampment Program

1957 9th Memorial Encampment Program (2)

1961 13th Memorial Encampment Program

1962 14th Memorial Encampment Program

1963 15th Memorial Encampment Program

1964 16th Memorial Encampment Program

1965 17th Memorial Encampment Program

1966 18th Memorial Encampment Program

1967 19th Memorial Encampment Program

1955 74th National Encampment suvcw

1957 76th National Encampment suvcw

1980 Department of Indiana Encampment Program (16)

1981 Proceedings – 100th National Encampment SUVCW

1981 Department of Indiana Encampment Program (2)

1983 National Encampment Program

1984 Roster SUVCW – Dept. of Indiana

1984 Department of Indiana Encampment Program (2)

1966 History of the Central Regional States of the GAR

General Orders No. 1 – SUVCW – 1961

The Banner Newsletter (16 issues)

1940 photo guide – Indiana State Soldiers Home – Lafayette

Assorted papers from the Lafayette Camp

Photograph of a GAR monument

Program of the 22nd Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony

Package – GAR Material – Col. Harold A Shiudler (?) – Ind. State Soldiers Home

a. Souvenir Medal – Last Encampment of the GAR – 1949

b. Souvenir Program – Final Campfire – Aug 31, 1949

c. Official Program – 83rd (final) encampment of the GAR

d. Menu and program for the final supper

e. TAPS Salute to the GAR from the American Legion – 1949

f. Program for the issuance of the commemorative stamp GAR 1949

g. Dedication Program for the monument honoring Albert Woolson

h. Two photographs of the six GAR members able to attend the final encampment

June 9, 2001 - from Dept. of Indiana SUVCW

1. Original Charter and Frame - 1884 - GAR Charles R Gordon Post - Indianapolis,

2. Original Charter and Frame - 1934 - SUVCW Joseph R Reynolds Camp 251 - Lafayette
3. Two Leather Flag Carriers - (On Jan 25, 2003 at the mid winter encampment in Huntington, these four flag carriers were put in the care of Brother Lance Stephans, Summers Camp, Kokomo, officer in the SVR 27th Indiana)

July 2005 – from Joan Davis

1. GAR 69th Encampment of the Dept of Indiana
2. GAR Rules and Regs – Natl. Encampment 1909
3. GAR Journal 59th Encampment of the Dept of Indiana at Kokomo 1938
4. Ladies of the GAR Proceedings of Dept of Indiana at Columbus 1928
5. Ladies of the GAR Proceedings of Dept of Indiana at Elkhart 1948

April 2006 – from Richard R. Graves, Fork Union, Virginia

1. Original Discharge for Private Henry L Lester – 10th US Inf.

Nov. 2006 – Box of DUV collectibles – from Alice Stickler, Huntington

2. Program 61st GAR 1040 department encampment, Evansville (2)
3. Program 62nd GAR 1941 department encampment, Muncie
4. Program 69th GAR 1948 department encampment Elkhart
5. Program – 1st Memorial Encampment Dept. GAR 1949 – Marion (2)
6. Program – GAR 1951 department encampment, Muncie Ind
7. Program – GAR 1952 department encampment, Indianapolis
8. Program – GAR 1953 department encampment, Indianapolis
9. Program – GAR 1956 department encampment, Indianapolis
10. Reports of the DUV 1940 – 1952 –(12)
11. History of the DUV booklet
12. 1934 Revised Constitution of the DUV booklet
13. Assorted clippings and reports of meetings.

February 2018 – donated as a gift from Cal Kinzer of Tulsa Oklahoma to Camp 17 and from Camp 17 to the Department of Indian

1. Original GAR suit

April 1, 2019 - donated as a gift to the camp by Brother Jim Perry of Champion Hill Camp 17, resident of Warren Indiana.

- 1 Large, framed colorized photo of ancestor who was a captain in the 75th Indiana Infantry and a friend.
- 2 Letter from Adjutant General of Indiana's office showing that 1st Sgt. David Elliot of the 75th Indiana legally enlisted and discharged from the regiment.
- 3 Discharge paper from April 29, 1863 discharge from 75th Indiana.
- 4 Framed, under glass, five reunion ribbons for the 75th/101st Indiana regiment survivors ribbons are from 1890 to 1908.

CAMP INVENTORY

- 1 ONE CAMP FLAG WITH EIGHT FOOT STAFF AND STAND - \$500.00
2. ONE NATIONAL FLAG WITH STAND - \$250.00
3. ONE BLUE CAMP ALTAR CLOTH
4. TWO BLACK CLOTHS
5. ONE BIBLE

6. ASSORTED BOOKS AND MAGAZINES FOR RAFFLES
7. ONE CAMP BANNER - \$65.00
8. SAMSON SPEAKER (2pc)
 - 8a. 4pc On Stage mic stands
 - 8b. 2pc Mackie 1402-viz3 premium mic/line mixer #21 WK!16857
 - 8c. 2pc Roadway Meridian 457 speakers
#EO570737
#EO570733
 - 8d. one canvas bag (Don Morgans) wires, mic, etc.
 - 8e. one spool extention wire (Don Morgans)
 - 8f. one hand dolly (donated from Eric Fricke) - \$20.00
 - 8g. one throw rug to cover wires (Eric Fricke donation)
- 9 TWO WREATHS
- 10 Two Black Leather Flag Holders.
- 11 Three framed documents. .

In book cases – 13 generic military books west wall case

7 hardback CW books “
11 softback CW books “
3 videos

1 BINDER HOLDING BY LAWS AND RITUALS

1 BINDER AND 1 PACKET HOLDING LETTERS OF LT. COL. SWAIM OF 34TH IND

1 BINDER ABOUT CEREMONY FOR MOH SGT. WM. BAUMGARNER

1 BINDER OF PHOTOS AND PAPER OF CAMP 17 ACTIVITIES

229 assorted books in north wall cases

Artwork and Photos and Items on walls

Martin County Guards Commemorative Plaque

Battle of Champion Hill by Fettinger*

Battle of Campbell Station by Long

Battle of Champion Hill from Wertenberger*

Copy of photo of 130th Ind. Reunion at old Fairgrounds from Abbott*

Silk Banner of the Huntington County Battalion of the GAR*

Soldiers and Sailors Monument Print from Young

Battle of Stone River Print

Charge of the Iowa Regiments Print

Donelson Surrender House

1st Minnesota at G-burg small size

4th Alabama small size

Abraham Lincoln Print

Post 137 GAR Ribbons (2)

ALL OTHER WALL ART AND PHOTOS BELONG TO THE GAR ROOM AND THUS TO THE COUNTY OF HUNTINGTON.

*listed also as gift



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS
DAVID D. PORTER CAMP #116

Herbert W. Smith III
Camp Commander
1502 Azalea Dr.
Munster, IN 46321
E-Mail: hwsmith3@hotmail.com



October 13, 2023
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

138th Annual Department of Indiana Mid-Encampment – November 4, 2023

To: Department of Indiana Secretary, William Adams, PDC

Again, please excuse my absence at the 138th Department of Indiana's Annual Encampment as I will be in Colorado until November 8th.

The following is the report for the activities of the David D. Porter Camp #116 in Valparaiso, since the Department of Indiana's April 29, 2023 Encampment. (April 8, 2023 to October 21, 2023)

Our camp meets every other month. We've held camp meetings in May and September of 2023. All meetings were in person at the Valparaiso Memorial Opera House's "Chaplin Brown G.A.R. Post No.106", 2nd floor meeting room.

Membership: of the David D. Porter Camp #116 currently stands at 26. (1 renewed, 2 new and 1 departed members since the last Department Encampment)

Note: We are currently in contact with one previous member and seven potential new members and have created several of their SUVCW application pedigrees.

The David D. Porter Camp #116 held the following Meetings and Activities:

May 13, 2023 Camp meeting – Eight Brothers met in our historic "Chaplin Brown G.A.R. Post No.106", at the Valparaiso Memorial Opera House.

May 21, 2023 – The Camp placed American Flags at West Creek and Lowell Cemeteries in Lake County.

May 17, 2023 – The Camp awarded the SUVCW R.O.T.C. medal to a student at Hobart High School.

May 29, 2023 – Eight Brothers attended and made presentations at the Valparaiso Memorial Opera House.

June 7, 2023 – The Camp cleaned tombstones at West Creek Cemetery near Lowell, In in Lake County.

June 13, 2023 – The Camp attended and made a Presentation about "What is the SUVCW" at the first annual "Juneteenth Program" at Indiana University Northwest, in a partnership with the Auten Camp.

After the program a SUVCW grave marker was placed on the, newly dug-up, tombstone of John Eubanks of Co, 'K' 108th U.S. Colored Inf. Reg., the "Last Union Civil War Soldier" from Gary.

July 8, 2023 – Camp meeting/ Picnic – Cancelled

August 27, 2023 - The Camp was represented at the "Kalamazoo's Bronson Park Lincoln Statue Dedication" along with the Department of Indiana Commander and the Department of Michigan.

September 16, 2023 Camp meeting – Seven Brothers met in our historic "Chaplin Brown G.A.R. Post No.106", at the Valparaiso Memorial Opera House (MOH). Natalia Klobuchar Administrate Coordinator, of the MOH explained possible renovation of the building and rooms. She also requested that our camp's brothers attend and make a presentation at the planned MOH's Veterans Day Program on November 11th at 8pm.

September 20, 2023 - The Camp made a presentation about "What is the SUVCW" to the "Duneland Senior Group" in Porter, in a partnership with the Auten Camp.

October 21, 2023 – Valparaiso "Old City Cemetery" guided walking tour presented by Past Camp Commander Steve Mockler and the Porter County Museum

Treasures Report: The camp as of October 21st, 2023 has an account balance of \$2789.75 dollars.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Herbert W. Smith III
Camp Commander
SUVCW

October 2023

CAMP INVENTORY

DAVID D. PORTER CAMP #116 VALPARAISO, IN

One American Flag with gold fringe and metal pole. **2**--One David D. Porter Camp flag with gold fringe and metal pole. **3**--One David D. Porter Camp banner with poles **4**- One ceremonial wreath. 5- One rosewood gavel with identifying plate one face **6**--Complete set of ritual books (old ones) **7**-- One small Bible, approximately 6"x9-1/2" **8**-- One notebook with enlarged print for ritual **9**-- One set current By-laws for Camp, Department, & National **10**-- One Camp Charter dated 1976 for Sons of Union Veterans (as original was not available when the present camp was established). **11**-- One Camp Charter for Sons of Union Veterans taken out when camp started in 1881. **12**-- One Charter for Sons of Union Veterans dated 1905 (a replacement for 1881 Charter?) **13**-- Memorial Plaque with names of deceased Camp members. **Last 4 items on display** at Memorial Opera House and Porter County Lib **14**-- One set of papers from Chaplain Brown Post and previous Porter Camp. Currently at the Porter County Library for safe keeping **15**-- Set of papers for operation of Porter Camp since 1976 in two boxes held by current Secy/Treas. (a- membership badges, b- Membership applications, both active and inactive, C- Meeting notes, d- Copies of quarterly reports, e- Banking information, f- Floppy disks of GAR inventory. g- Current miscellaneous notes.) **16**- SUVCW ceremonial sword and scabbard. **17**- 2 Composite picture of original members of original Chaplain Brown post, and 1 picture of Abraham Lincoln on deathbed with many notables around the bed. On Display at the Memorial Opera House and Porter County Library. **18**--One Civil War period reproduction wall tent with poles, ropes and stakes. **19**-- One Civil War period dining fly with poles, ropes and stakes. **20**--Two steel flag holders for use on soft ground. **21**-- One Plaque Naming David D. Porter Camp as the La Porte County Historian of the year for 2013. **22**-- One 52X8' American Cotton Duck Flag **23**-- Framed picture of David D. Porter-Donated by Randy Eckley **24**-- Framed window advertisement of the 2014 rededication of the Memorial Opera House Donated by Randy Eckley **25**--One (1) Donation Box on stand, Oak wood with brass hinges, supports, hasp and padlock (2017) Donated and Built by Stephen E and Stephen A Mockler **26**--One (1) Oak Wood Box with Brass hinges and hasp to hold Bible, desk flags and gavel. (2017) Donated and Built by Stephen E and Stephen A Mockler **27**- One (1) Solid Oak Rifle and Sword Presentation Stand (2017) Donated by Pat Doyle and Built by Stephen E and Stephen A Mockler **28**- One (1) Civil War period tent cover with ropes and stakes. (2017) Donated by Pat Doyle **29**--Materials to clean Gravestones-Buckets, Brushes, Spray Bottles and D2 Cleaning Solution (2017) **30**--Set of Books Kept at IUN ~~**31**--Rifles Donated by Pat Doyle~~ **32**- Sword Donated by Pat Doyle **33**—1 chemical sprayer **34**-- 2 post hole diggers **35**-- 4 shovels **36**--Flag markers and Flags **37**-- Second GAR Ceremonial Sword added 2018 **38**- Two Brass flag holders (at MOH) **39**- Blue Altar Cloth **40**- Black Charter Draping Cloth

Note: Previous Camp Inventories have listed Item “**31- as Rifles Donated by Pat Doyle**”. This information is incorrect and was corrected at the March 11th 2023 David D. Porter Camp #116 meeting. The Doyle Family had only stated that the rifles might be used for display or possible use by the camp. (Herb Smith III March 11, 2023)

SEPT. 26, 2023 UPDATE: Additional Camp Inventor received from Brother Bill Adams

41- Framed “Porter County Civil War Roll of Honor” listing 146 death during the Civil War

42- Photo album of the David D. Porter Camp's 2015-2016 events & activities. This album also contains photos of the “G.A.R. Chaplin Brown Post's” members. The album's “pocket” contains a “1919 G.A.R. - Dept. Of Indiana Delegate's Medal”!



John B. Anderson Camp #223 - Columbus, Indiana

Department of Indiana

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department of Indiana Encampment Meeting, November 2023.

Greetings from the John B Anderson Camp #223,

Camp Activities and Events – May 01, 2023 to November 30, 2023:

May 4, 2023 John B. Anderson Camp participated In the Talking Tombstones in Columbus, IN.

On Thursday May 4, 2023 our Camp participated in 'Talking Tombstones'. The Bartholomew County Historical Society's event brought back to life, if only for a few hours, a few of the citizens who are buried in the Columbus City Cemetery. Many were soldiers who fought in the Civil War. Visitors that evening would stop at a site and hear the story of the life and death of a few of our county's citizens. Brother Terry Furgason portrayed Colonel Simeon Stansifer – Provost Marshal and Commander of Camp Rendezvous. Commander Pete Dieterlen told the story of private Jacob Pancake Company H 53 rd Indiana Infantry. Brother Fred Leickly stepped into the boots of Major Augustus H. Abbott of the Indiana 6 th Infantry. Lastly, past Commander Phil McClure attended the GAR/WRC memorial to the Unknown Dead.





Memorial Day 2023

Three members of the Camp paid tribute to the soldier for whom our Camp was named- John B. Anderson. John was 14 years old when he joined the Indiana 6th Volunteer Infantry, noted as the first Hoosier regiment to enter the war. He survived the war and Andersonville Prison.



SALUTE PROGRAM

A Bartholomew County, Indiana tradition for Memorial Day is the SALUTE program. The program includes a published tribute and a concert program. This year the main article was the work by Camp brothers to discover those from the county who died during the war. Work done in the 1980s revealed 240-270 names. Using current research techniques, Brother Fred Leickly has found almost 400 soldiers who had some connection to the county and sacrificed their lives during the Civil War. There is no memorial in the County to these soldiers. The Camp is working to correct this omission. The article is titled 'Gone but not forgotten- Interest increasing in memorializing Bartholomew County's Civil War soldiers' by Bud Herron. (link online - 2023 SALUTE | The Republic News)

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Interest increasing in memorializing Bartholomew County's Civil War soldiers

John B. Anderson left his home in Elizabethtown 162 years ago on a mission to save our nation. John was only 14 that day in late summer of 1861 when he headed to Madison to muster in for service in the Sixth Indiana Volunteer Regiment — the first Hoosier regiment to enter the Civil War. He would return to Bartholomew County four years later, bringing with him the physical and emotional scars imprinted from battlefield wounds and months as a prisoner in horrifying Confederate prison camps.

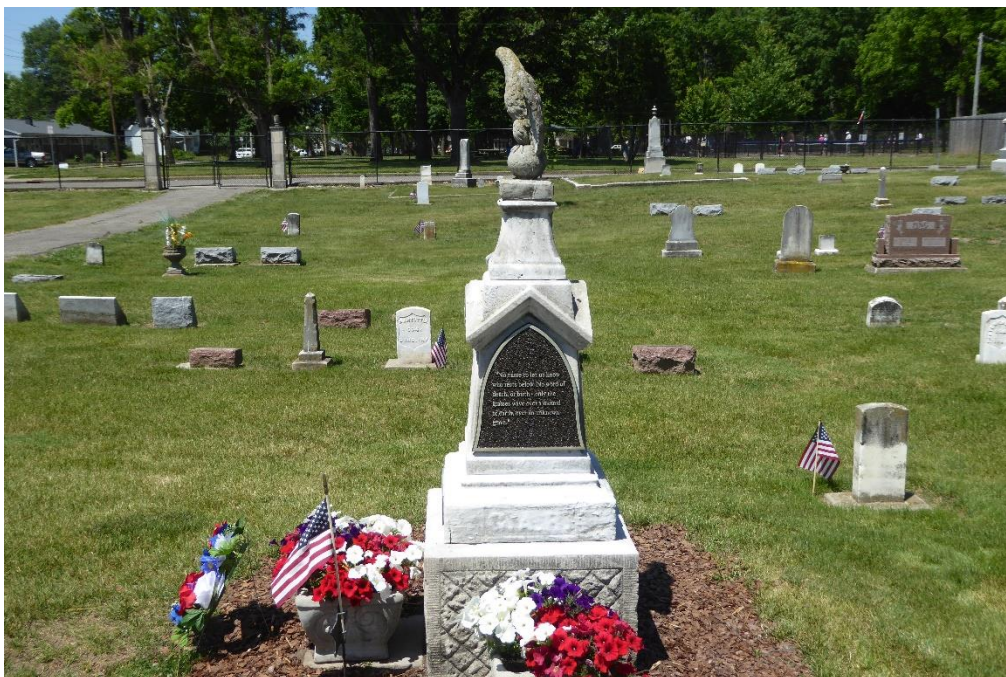
STORY BY
BUD HERRON
PHOTOS BY
MIKE WOLANIN

Union Civil War veteran John B. Anderson of Elizabethtown, shown in a historic photo, left to fight for his country at age 14 in 1861. The John B. Anderson Camp #223 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, which is working for further recognition of area veterans of that war, is named in his honor.

(SEE SOLDIERS PAGE 4)

June 2023 UNKNOWN SOLDIER GAR/WRC MEMORIAL RESTORATION

Time (128 years) and the elements all but eroded the inscriptions on a GAR/WRC Memorial to the Unknown Dead in the Columbus City Cemetery, Bartholomew County, Columbus, Indiana. The Camp's project was to restore the Memorial and restore the message it was meant to keep. The inscriptions were placed on bronze plaques. The memorial was rededicated on Flag Day June 14, 2023.





FLAG DAY 2023

On Memorial Day 1895 a GAR/WRC Memorial to the Unknown Dead was dedicated. Over the years, inscriptions etched in the stone were no longer readable. The brothers of our Camp researched and worked on the Memorial to discover the exact wording of the message. The words were scored in bronze with three plaques paid for by donations from Camp Brothers. Just over 128 years later, that Memorial was rededicated. The proceedings of May 28, 1895, were found in a copy of the local newspaper. The rededication ceremony included the same ceremony and speeches. The event included the original banner of the Camp that sponsored the Memorial.





This concludes the John B. Anderson Camp #223 activities and events report to the Department of Indiana members attending the 2023 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Indiana Meeting.

Cordially Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Peter Dieterlen
Camp Commander
John B Anderson Camp #223
Columbus, Indiana



John B. Anderson Camp 223 - Columbus, IN

Department of Indiana

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department of Indiana Encampment Meeting
- November 2023.

John B. Anderson Camp #223 Property/Inventory as of April 2023:

- 1 each: National Flag with Standard
- 1 each: Camp Flag with Standard
- 2 each: Flag Stands
- 1 each: Gavel Set
- 1 each: Alter Cover
- 1 each: Bible
- 1 each: SUVCW Camp Charter
- 1 each: John B. Anderson Banner
- 1 each: Ceremonial Wreath

This concludes the John B. Anderson Camp #223 property/inventory report to the Department of Indiana members attending the 2023 Encampment Meeting.

Cordially Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Peter Dieterlen
Camp Commander
John B Anderson Camp #223
Columbus, Indiana



Ben Harrison Camp No. 356

—Department of Indiana—

November 4, 2023 REPORT

On behalf of the Brothers of Ben Harrison Camp No. 356, I am pleased to report the following:

CAMP MEMBERSHIP:

- The Camp roll currently includes 51 members.

CAMP MEETINGS:

- Camp meetings have been held in person as well as virtually May, June, July, September, and October. November and December are scheduled for the remainder of the year.

EVENTS:

- May 28th Camp members as well as members of the 27th SVR and members of the Department of Indiana participated in Last Union Vet ceremony in Mount Hope Cemetery, Peru, Indiana.

- May 29th Camp members as well as members of the 27th SVR and members of the Department of Indiana participated in the Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day Program in St. Joseph Cemetery in Indianapolis, Indiana.
- On June 10th Camp members as well as members of the 27th SVR and members of the Department of Indiana participated in Last Union Veteran of Kosciusko County.
- September 23rd Camp members as well as members of the 27th SVR and members of the Department of Indiana participated in a Last Union Veteran of Vanderburgh County.
- September 30th Camp members as well as members of the 27th SVR and members of the Department of Indiana participated in Triple dedication at Linwood Cemetery and the Veterans National Shrine and Museum in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

RECRUITING:

- The Camp elected 0 new Brothers during the report period.

EAGLE SCOUT CERTIFICATES:

- 2 new Eagle Scout certificates were awarded.

SIGNALS:

- The Camp maintains a Google Group for Camp members and a Facebook page for information sharing with members, and to the public for recruiting purposes.
- The Camp maintains a website: www.benharrisoncamp.org for information sharing with members, and to the public for recruiting purposes.

CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS:

- Completed design and production of Last Soldier Medallions.
- Completed the installation and dedication of the Sultana Marker in Ft. Wayne, IN.

GRAVES REGISTRATION AND RESTORATION:

- Camp members participated in our annual Cemetery cleaning.

This year it was held at Eagle Creek Cemetery on May 13, 2023.

CAMP OFFICERS:

The following Brothers are Camp officers for 2023. Nominations were completed on October 14th and voting is on November 11th.

- Commander – Bruce Kolb, PDC
- Senior Vice-Commander – Mike Beck, PDC
- Junior Vice-Commander – Brian Mexin
- Camp Secretary – Tim Beckman, PDC
- Camp Treasurer – Mike Beck, PDC
- Camp Council Member #1 – Garry Walls, PCC
- Camp Council Member #2 – Jim Floyd, PCC
- Camp Council Member #3 – Jerry Thompson
- Camp Chaplain – Brian Mexin
- Camp Patriotic Instructor – William Gillispie
- Camp Color Bearer – Joe Beckman
- Camp Guide – Andrew Kolb
- Camp Guard – Joe Beckman
- Camp Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator – John Bowyer, PCC
- Camp Signals Officer – Tim Beckman, PDC
- Camp Historian – Andrew Kolb
- Camp Civil War Memorials Officer – Brian Mexin
- Camp Graves Registration Officer – Tim Beckman, PDC
- GAR Records Officer – Bruce Kolb, PDC

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

/s/Bruce R. Kolb, PDC

Camp Commander

Ben Harrison Camp No. 356

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



Ben Harrison Camp No. 356

— Department of Indiana —

INVENTORY OF CAMP PROPERTY

November 4, 2023

GRAY STORAGE TUB #1: (in possession of Camp Secretary)

- 3 leather parade flag carrying belts
- Railroad spike found at Andersonville, GA (week of 4-5-99), donated to camp by John Copeland
- Bullet found on Munfordsville battlefield, donated to camp by John Copeland
- 11" x 14" picture of Benjamin Harrison
- Red, white & blue table cover with gold fringe
- Blue "356" cover with gold fringe
- Red & gold patriotism banner
- 8" x 10" picture of 5 membership badges (member, junior, GAR, associate & war medal)
- Shrink-wrapped copy of *Butler's Battlin' Blue Bastards* (The Story of the Men of the 3rd Battalion – 395th Infantry in WWII Under the Leadership of Lt. Col. McClernand Butler) by Thor Romington

- Copy of *Butler's Battlin' Blue Bastards* (The Story of the Men of the 3rd Battalion – 395th Infantry in WWII Under the Leadership of Lt. Col. McClernand Butler) by Thor Romington
- KJV Bible (presented to Carter C. Keith and his wife, Aug. 22, 1975)
- Flag bunting
- 2 photo albums of camp and department activities, (photos donated by widow of David Wiley)
- Original SVR membership card (1972), donated by John Copeland
- *The Acme Haversack* (1890) songbook, donated by John Copeland
- Discharge paper for Corporal Henry Roberts, Co. D, 138th Indiana Infantry

GRAY STORAGE TUB #2 – HISTORICAL ARCHIVE: (in possession of Camp Secretary)

- Former member records
- Correspondence
- Minutes
- Hayes Embezzlement file
- Old installation and quarterly reports
- Bank statements
- General Memorial Association information
- Unknown application papers
- 2007 National Encampment Souvenir Program
- 2 boxes of computer discs of camp files
- Bible presented to SUCVW Ben Harrison Camp #356 by Mrs. Dema Monson, March 21, 1944
- Computer CD – SUCVW Archives
- Photos from Camp Morton marker dedication (10-25-03)
- Photos taken at World War Memorial and Crown Hill
- Photos taken at Lincoln's Boyhood Memorial
- Computer SUCVW banner
- GAR Commemorative Badge
- Blue folder containing 2005 Department Encampment program and Monroe County Civil War Roundtable "The Sentinel" tribute to David Wiley

BLACK STORAGE TUB (CURRENT RECORDS): (in possession of Camp Secretary)

- Copies of Form 10, 13, 22, 27 and 30 Reports
- Postage Permits
- Legion Costs

- 1991 Indiana House Concurrent Resolution 60 celebrating 125th anniversary of 1st National Encampment of GAR in Indianapolis
- Job Description notebook
- Current member records
- Table display file
- SUVCW cannon and descendants project file
- Rosters
- Promotion and advertisement pamphlets
- Monument documents
- Department reports
- EIN Number information
- CWPT maps
- Current correspondence
- Constitution and regulations
- Certificate originally mailed to Smith Cornell Impressions for help with Camp Morton markers (was returned by the post office)
- Camp By-laws
- Action Items File
- Memorial Day programs

OTHER CAMP ITEMS (in possession of Camp Secretary)

- Minutes and monthly financial reports
- Camp Morton Medal (sold out)
- Camp Ben Harrison medals
- In Memoriam ribbons
- Official Camp Membership Book (started in Dec. 2006, but backdated to 1981 using archive information)

OTHER CAMP ITEMS (in possession of Camp Commander)

- Camp U.S. Flag (donated by Brother Beck)
- Camp flag & base (base was donated by Brother Walls)
- Camp Bible
- Camp Gavel
- Duplicate Camp Charter and stand
- Color Copy of Duplicate Camp Charter
- Charter black mourning drape
- Blue cloth altar square
- Ceremonial bugle
- Computer LCD Projector and case
- Portable projection screen

- 100 State of Indiana stick flags for Gettysburg Remembrance Day decoration
- 144 U.S. stick flags for Gettysburg Remembrance Day decoration
- 2 Medal of Honor stick flags for Gettysburg Remembrance Day decoration (donated by Brother Joe Beckman)
- Portable PA/sound system (donated by Brother & Sister Floyd)
- Camp banners

OTHER CAMP ITEMS (in possession of Camp Senior Vice-Commander)

- In-Ground Flag holders for outdoor activities (donated by Brother Beck)

OTHER CAMP ITEMS (in possession of Camp Treasurer)

- Financial books
- QuickBooks program

OTHER CAMP ITEMS (in possession of Graves Registration Officer)

- 4 gallons of Biocide (for cleaning grave stones)
- Come-along, rope, and tripod for gravestone work
- Chain hoist for grave stone tripod (donated by Brother Floyd)
- Lifting strap for grave stone work (donated by Brother Floyd)
- 4x6" 34-star souvenir flags to hand out for events
- WPA – GAR burial cards for Marion County
- 3 GAR grave stone markers
- New, heavier base for Camp flag (donated by Brother Tim Beckman)

GIFTS FROM BOB WINTERS

- 1 Dinning fly
- 2 dog tents
- Assorted tent stakes
- 1 tarred knapsack
- 2 pair of gaiters (one plain and one tarred, both small)
- Assorted rope tighteners
- 2 one gallon spray tanks

Committee Reports

Committee On Department Record Storage

Presented to the Midyear Department Encampment 2023

At the 137th Annual Encampment in April of this year I reported that I had been in contact with Dr. Heather Galloway, Director for the Center for Fraternal Collections and Research, Indiana University. She recommended that we arrange a time for face-to-face discussions. WE are to bring with us examples of our records so she can better analyze the records to determine our best options. She expressed a willingness to come to us and meet to review the records and to discuss her program.

At the conclusion of my report in April I requested that two others be assigned to join myself in those deliberations with Dr. Calloway. Then, Department Commander Jim Floyd, stated that he would leave the appointment of those two Brothers to incoming Commander Tom Schmitt. Commander Schmitt and I have discussed these appointments and as soon as he is able, he will select the two. After which I will make contact with Dr. Calloway to proceed with the review.

The Centers Mission Statement:

The Center for Fraternal Collections and Research collects, preserves, and makes accessible historical and cultural materials related to fraternal organizations and their membership, with an emphasis on organizations that are extinct or without stable historical repositories, and promotes research into the history of fraternal organizations in service of the university's teaching, research, and service mission.

Respectively Submitted,

William Adams, IDC

26th Indiana Monument – Vicksburg National Military Park

Vicksburg, MS

November 4, 2023

Report to the Midyear Department of Indiana Encampment

Brothers at our Annual Encampment in April of this year I reported on the history and current state of the situation in Vicksburg National Military Park in Vicksburg Mississippi. I at that time recommended that we need to continue to “march in place”, to remain patient and maintain a constant monitoring of the Parks environmental situation. Once that improves then to move forward with our request to locate the 26th Indiana Monument to more secure Park property. That remains my recommendation.

I have not attempted to make contact with Park personnel or the Friends of Vicksburg since May of this year as it would not be of much use at this time in my opinion. Requests from various groups and letters to Congress have been sent and it would appear there are few in Wahington DC at this time that are paying more than lip service to any additional funding to more quickly correct the infrastructure issue within the park.

We should not stop to continue to monitor the situation which I will continue to do through phone calls and other contacts in the area. It is not a hopeless situation but one as I said before requires patience.

This is based on the fact that at this time there is no permanent Superintendent, and the repairs to correct the roads and cemetery should and will have first attention. Additionally, I suspect they are experiencing manpower problems and budget issues that would make senseless our pursuit of the relocation.

This project is one that is going to take persistence to achieve. I believe we have done that and need to continue. Commander, I continue to recommend that you maintain this special committee.



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA



REPORT ON THE 142ND NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

Held at the Courtyard Hotel in Nashua, NH

August 3-6, 2023

By: Dennis Hutchinson, PDC

- A.** The 142nd National Encampment of the SUVCW was held at the Courtyard-Marriot Hotel in Nashua, New Hampshire from August 3rd through 6th. I will report of a few of the significant items of interest that occurred during the Encampment.
- B.** The most discussed item that was that of the Special Committee to Review Membership Qualifications recommendations. This resulted in General Order #2, series 2023-2024 which is up for ratification today at this Department Encampment. Several changes to the recommendations were made mainly having to do with the “definition” of a male that was listed in several locations within the original draft given to the attendees. It was recommended that a single definition of a male be listed for the Eligibility to Membership in the Constitution in one place, now under Recommendation 1. Voting on the committee recommendations 1, 2, 4 passed easily, but 3 passed with a slimmer majority. Recommendation 3 essential denies a Camp from removing a member who changes their gender. Recommendation 5 was moved to be reviewed during the 2023 to 2024 committee review.
- C. Recommendations from the C-in-C, Bruce D. Frail:**
- a. From what I understand a committee will be appointed that will be tasked with outlining the requirement for lineal documentation to be included with every membership application. It is recommended to be completed prior to the end date of the 143rd National Encampment. This recommendation Passed.
 - b. A recommendation was made to change the ratio of 2-1 for Lineal to Associates at the Camp level to the National level. This recommendation was sent to the Constitution and Regulations (C&R) committee.
 - c. Another recommendation was made to allow Associate members to be counted when forming a new Camp as long as the number of Associates does not exceed 49 percent. This recommendation was rejected.
 - d. A recommendation to create a Lifetime Associate Membership was made. This item was not recommended by the C&R committee, but was passed anyway.
- D. Recommendations from the Patriotic Instructor, Ben Frail, PDC:**
- a. 1. That the position of Camp Patriotic Instructor become a 1 year elected position. Presently this is an appointed position. This failed to pass.
 - b. 2. That the position of the Department Patriotic Instructor become a 1 year elected position. This failed to pass.
 - c. 3. That the position of the National Patriotic Instructor become a 3 year elected position. This failed to pass.
 - d. 4. If any camp fails to file a Form 40 (Patriotic Instructor’s annual report) shall have it’s Charter automatically suspended. This failed to pass. As a matter of note, the C&R

committee did not concur with the above 4 recommendations. Also, Ben Frail was relieved of his duties as National Patriotic Instructor and Chairperson and committee member on National Committee on Memorial University on October 2nd, as per General Order #3, series 2023-2024.

E. General Orders 24 and 24a - Weapons Regulation:

- a. This order prohibits the possession, transport and storage of all weapons at any meeting, encampment, event, or while dressed in a manner that identifies you as a member of the SUVCW. Bruce Frail was challenged on this G.O. towards the end of the Encampment by several people including a couple of lawyers. Brother Frail was asked as to why he wrote it. He indicated that someone had threatened the encampment and was going to “shoot it up”. The person’s identity was known and reported to the authorities. When this was said an audible moan was made by many in the Encampment. Personally, I felt we could have been “lambs to the slaughter”. After this it was requested that G.O. #24a be Rescinded. A motion was made to rescind the order was made, seconded and voted on. Only a couple of people did not want it rescinded. If you look at the series 2022-2023 G.O.’s online, you will see that it was overturned by the 142nd Encampment.

F. 2023-2024 Newly Elected Officers:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. Commander in Chief: | Peter J. Hritsko Jr., PDC |
| b. Senior Vice C-in-C: | Kevin Martin, PDC |
| c. Junior Vice C-in-C: | Kevin P. Tucker PDC |
| d. Council of Administration | Rodrick Fraser Jr. |
| e. National Quartermaster | Robert Welch, PDC |

G. 2024, 143rd Encampment:

- a. The next National Encampment will be held in Lexington, KY, August 1st through 4th, 2024.

H. General Thoughts:

- a. I did enjoy the encampment and fellowship of the brothers. There were fewer attendees than in past Encampments. There were 160 voting attendees. The Hotel was very good and fairly close (by car) to favorable restaurants. The food at the Hotel was on the pricey side.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Dennis Hutchinson, PDC

Secretary-John W. Foster Camp No. 2

Treasurer-Department of Indiana, SUVCW

October 27, 2023