

CAMP ORDERS May 2009-3

“OLD ABE” CAMP #8

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



**NEXT
MEETING
May 18
2009**

*Omro Historical
Society Building*

At the corner of Main
and Madison Streets
Omro, Wisconsin

**Social time before
meeting**

**Meeting starts at
7:00pm**

*Bring something for
“show and tell”*



**Please remember our veterans on Memorial Day, May 25, 2009.
Above is ceremonies held in the GAR section of Riverside Cemetery
in Oshkosh last year.**

2009 Memorial Day Activity, May 25th

Oshkosh provides a variety of Memorial Day oriented programs. Previously we have participated in the Memorial Day procession, the riverside service for sailors, and the main memorial service at the new veterans burial section in Riverside Cemetery. This year we've also been invited to participate in a service at the Oshkosh Lake View Memorial Park May 25th (details included further on). Not only represented in Oshkosh, Camp members have also been regular participants in services at the Wisconsin Soldiers Home in King, WI.

We all need to be aware of our fraternal obligation to Memorial Day. In 1868 the GAR National Commander, John Logan, wrote Order #11 which established the future of Memorial Day; stating that *“The 30th day of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion...with the hope it will be kept up from year to year”*. Originally the GAR members, and now all of us as members of the “Sons”, are obligated to fulfill this pledge.

The Memorial Day services in Oshkosh are conducted in the same manner and marching the same route that were used by the G.A.R. and the first generation of our members in the late 1800's. As we march down Algoma to the cemetery we are walking the same route that members of our organization marched 125 years ago.

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Riverside Cemetery Procession and Service

Old Abe Camp 8 will again be involved in this year's Memorial Day procession in Oshkosh. For those who have been involved in past years; it is pretty much the same. The members of Co. E (2nd Wisconsin Infantry re-enactors) have again been invited to join with us.

All Sons and Auxiliary members are encouraged to participate in the procession from downtown Oshkosh to Riverside Cemetery. Wear your membership badge. Camp members marching in the procession should dress appropriately (dark conservative clothes) and Camp Guard members should wear their CW period uniforms.

All members of the other Allied Orders are also welcome to join us. The Oshkosh procession is intended to be a reserved/somber event to show respect to our Nations' deceased veterans. There are no floats, no commercial displays, etc.

Memorial Service For Sailors

The morning of May 25st begins with a memorial service for sailors, at the edge of the Fox River near the Main St. Bridge. This is followed by the procession to Riverside Cemetery, where the main memorial service occurs.

Pot Luck Picnic

At the conclusion of the May 25th service, members and guests of Camp 8 and Co. E will retire to the GAR section of the cemetery to enjoy our regular potluck picnic, and the fellowship of those who share similar interests.

For more information about Memorial Day in Oshkosh contact:
Randy Novak, Memorial Day Event Organizer

Memorial Day in King, WI

Oshkosh is not the only place where Camp 8 members will be participating in Memorial Day observances. Several members will also be at the Wisconsin Veterans Home in King, WI; where with members of the WRC, they represent the Civil War era of our Nations veterans. For more information contact Camp 8 Chaplain Dan Wilson.

SUVCW Membership Badges

available from:

Treasurer

Gordon Moran

P.O. Box 393, Omro, WI

54963-0393 920/685-2424

Camp Orders Newsletter & Web Page

NOTICE: The full *Camp Orders* are available "on line" (in color!) and can be accessed in PDF format from our Camp 8 web page, on the Wisconsin Department Website at suvchw-wi.org. Hard copies will also be mailed to any member upon request to the Camp Commander or the Newsletter Editor.

To submit an article or information for the Camp Orders Newsletter or website, contact the News Letter Editor. Deadline for a submission is 3 weeks prior to a meeting. Reprints of any past issues can be available for \$4.00 each.

**Oshkosh
Memorial Day Schedule
May 25th, 2009**

7:45AM

Sailors Memorial Services, downtown Oshkosh near the Main St. bridge.

8:45AM

Assemble for Procession in Beech Building parking lot, 200 block of Algoma St.

9:00AM sharp!

Procession Steps Off

10:15AM (approx.)

Memorial Services at Riverside Cemetery in the new veterans section.

11:30AM (approx.)

Potluck picnic lunch in the G.A.R. Section for Camp 8 and Co. E members and their guests and family.



Camp 8 Members and Co. E participated in the 2007 Memorial Day Service. Shown is featured speaker Bro. Dan McGraw.

**2nd Wis Inf Co. E to
Again Help Camp 8 in
Representing the Civil
War Veterans**

We are fortunate to again have participating with us this year members of Co. E, 2nd Wis. Inf. re-enactors.

The members of Co. E have been with us at many events the past few years. We always appreciate their participation, and their desire to honor the memory of the Civil War veterans.

Co. E will march in the procession with us and participate in the Memorial Day services. They will also be joining us for the potluck picnic lunch.



Co. E in the 2005 Memorial Day Procession, photo courtesy of Mary Schumann.

COMMANDER'S CORNER



Old Abe Commander Kim J. Heltemes



Top left, Alan Petit and Heltemes.

Above, Kathy and Kim Heltemes.

Left, Kurt Kirk, Alan, and Kim.

Photos by Kirby Scott, Kurt Kirk, and Kathy Heltemes

As the Commander of Camp 8, it has some perks that some can only imagine. For me, it allowed me the opportunity to do something that was a childhood dream. That was to see Lincoln's burial place, the Tomb building, and the very place that was home to my favorite president - Abraham Lincoln. Ever since the invitation to lay a wreath at his grave came in the mail, I could not wait. So, I accepted the invitation. Camp 8 was well represented on April 18, 2009, at the Lincoln Tomb and at the burial site of Benjamin Stephenson. Camp members, Alan Petit, Kurt Kirk and his wife Anne, Kirby Scott, and my wife and I, made the trek to Springfield for the occasion. While we all made separate arrangements for travel, we stuck together for the ceremonies and a few meals. Kirby took up as a color bearer while Kurt took his turn as the photographer for the Camp. Alan and myself presented the wreath at the grave. It started to rain just as the ceremony at the grave got going. Springfield has plenty to see for those that have not made the trip yet. A couple of days to sightsee are not enough.



**DON'T FORGET
TO
OBSERVE
MEMORIAL
DAY.**

Kirby Scott with the Camp flag to the left.

Another honor that I had in the past few weeks was receiving the retired flag of the 2nd Wisconsin, Co. E. The flag, made by the Women's Auxiliary, became well worn. The members wanted to retire the flag but were uncertain in what direction to go with it. David Dresang, offered it to the Camp for proper disposal so the ashes and grommets could be used during our dedications. So, on May 2, I went to Wade House during their Spring Muster, where the Company presented the flag to Camp 8. The flag will be disposed but the staff will be saved with a small plaque attached as a memento from Ernest A. von Frankenberg.

O CAPTAIN! my Captain! our fearful trip is done;
The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought is won;
The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,
While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring:
But O heart! heart! heart!
O the bleeding drops of red,
Where on the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead.

O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells;
Rise up--for you the flag is flung--for you the bugle trills; 10
For you bouquets and ribbon'd wreaths--for you the shores a-crowding;
For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning;
Here Captain! dear father!
This arm beneath your head;
It is some dream that on the deck,
You've fallen cold and dead.

My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still;
My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will;
The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed and done;
From fearful trip, the victor ship, comes in with object won; 20
Exult, O shores, and ring, O bells!
But I, with mournful tread,
Walk the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead.

Walt Whitman

Walt Whitman was a prominent mid-19th century American poet. He worked as a nurse in army hospitals around Washington during the Civil War and wrote the above as his response to Lincoln's assassination in 1865 or 1866.



2009 Annual King Open House

Once again The Wisconsin Veteran's Home at King is sponsoring an open house on May 17, 2009. Camp 8 has attended this event in the past and will be represented again this year. We usually do well on our raffle ticket sales there. We will be setting up our information booth. The times are 10:00AM to 4:00PM, so be there by 9:00AM to help set up. All camp members are welcome to attend. Uniforms are not required, but please wear your membership badge.



53rd Annual Lincoln Death Day observance, held in Springfield, Illinois on April 18, 2009. Camp 8 was well represented. Turnout was about double that of last year.



A STORY FROM MEMBER JIM SCHUMANN.....

This is the 4th and last to the final chapter of the soldiers' story of brothers, Carl and John Noe, who served in the 19th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company F. All information in this and preceding installments was taken from information researched and written by Alan J. Lemke during the years of 1984 and '85 (he was the son of Ethel [Noe] Lemke); it was retyped in Dec. 1996 by Virginia (Platten) Zobel (Granddaughter of Clara [Noe] Schunk)

Our narrative left off in April of 1864, as General Benjamin F. Butler ordered the 19th Wisconsin to Yorktown, Virginia, where they were assigned to the 3rd Brigade of the 1st Division of the 18th Army Corps. The 19th would soon be a part of the historic siege of Petersburg . . .

Yorktown, Virginia, May 4, 1864 ~ the 18th Army Corps was ordered to the nearby James River, where they were joined by the Army of the James; on May 5th the 19th Wis. moved to the Bermuda Hundreds. On the 6th of May, the 19th marched to Point of Rocks, which became their base camp. Fortifications were erected. On May 9th, the Regiment took part in the movement to Walthall Junction and Swift Creek; on the 10th of May they took and destroyed three miles of the Richmond and Petersburg rail tracks, after which they "returned to camp," - probably at Point of Rocks.

May 12 - 16, 1864: the battle of Fort Darling / Dewry's Bluff (second)

The entire Regiment participated in this famous battle. We have two written accounts of the 19th's participation, both found in the OR. The most complete was written in May by Colonel Sanders:

On May 12th, Companies A, C, D, F, & I of the 19th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment, under Lt. Col. Strong's command, left their camp at Point of Rocks; with them was the 188th Pennsylvania. Leaving at 6AM this force marched through rough Chaparel brush until they reached a brow of a hill that was on the left of a nearby road. Reaching this point Companies A, C, and F were sent out as skirmishers, to seek out the enemy lines on the right wing for the planned attack on Fort Darling.

May 13 - the skirmishers had not been called in, so continued to advance and took possession of one of the Fort's outer brick buildings near Dewry's Bluff; a counterattack by Beauregard's forces, superior in number to the Federals, forced a retreat to an open field - 11 men were wounded in the exchange. The main force of the 19th Wisconsin had at this point advanced past this area, so reinforcements came up from the 188th Pennsylvania Vol. Inf. Regiment. With these new men, the enemy was driven back. By evening, the skirmishers of the 19th were replaced by units of the 188th Penn., and the skirmishers rejoined their Regiment.

May 14 - the 19th was part of a general advance of the Union forces which captured the first line of the enemy works. Under severe fire across and open field, the 19th sustained the loss of two privates. The men held this line, under sporadic artillery fire - midafternoon a shell burst in the works, killing two men and wounding two others.

May 15th - the 19th was assigned to occupy a road in the rear of Fort Jackson.

May 16th - the enemy took advantage of a dense fog, massed its forces and launched a furious assault on the Union lines. Under "deadly and withering fire," the Union right broke. Col. Sanders, in command of the center, took personal command of the 19th and attempted to hold the road the Regiment had been assigned to hold. There was intense fighting, the Rebels finally capturing the road. The Federals regrouped, and the 19th, at about 2:30 PM, was ordered to drive the enemy from some woods near a place called Half Way House. They succeeded under heavy fire, with two men killed and 23 wounded.

The Confederate attack had been halted; the 19th was sent back to camp at Point of Rocks.

Here Companies B, C, and I were detached for duty at General Butler's headquarters.

Why they were taken from the lines is made clear in a letter penned by Brig. General Brooks:

on May 16th the 19th, according to Brooks, showed an "entire want of discipline due to the unskillfulness of the officer in command, Lt. Col. Strong. The whole regiment, when ordered to advance near the Half Way House woods, rose to its feet and began to fall to the rear in direct opposite of orders. When ordered to resume their position, the regiment moved forward at the double quick, with cheers, as though this was the only way to get them to advance. On reaching the woods, they completed the performance by delivering a volley from nearly all of the regiment, firing into the 188th Pennsylvania Infantry that was in front, killing and wounding quite a number of them."

The 19th was given garrison duty until June of 1864.

Both Carl and John Noe were reported present at the April company muster so it can be assumed that they took part in most of the fighting of the Battle of Fort Darling / Dewry's Bluff (second.)

It was probably the most intense fighting the brothers would see during the whole war. The skirmishes fought on the 12th and 13th involved F Co. heavily.

The battle itself was a defeat for Benjamin Butler and his Union forces - even though he outnumbered the Rebel forces, he did not take Fort Darling and strike on for Richmond; indeed, he retreated down the Peninsula and was bottled up there, ineffective for many months to come. Grant was not pleased. Early June found the 19th either at Point of Rocks or guarding Butler's headquarters.

On June 17th, they took part in General John Wesley Turner's raid on the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad line, destroying some 3 miles of track, after which they marched the 12 miles back to their camp at Point of Rocks.

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On June 27, 1864, the 19th Wisconsin was transferred to the 2nd Brigade of the 2nd Division and became part of General Grant's siege of Petersburg, taking positions in the trenches around that city. July 30th, 1864 - the Battle of the Crater: the 19th was in a support role - the Union forces directly involved in this attack by the IX Corps forces suffered almost 3,800 casualties, and the result was not a lightening advance but eight more grueling months of siege.

Both Carl and John Noe were present at the muster at the end of July - for them, and the rest of Co F of the 19th, this meant skirmishes and snipers and heat and siege. In August, John Noe became ill, and was probably sent to Balfour General Hospital at Portsmouth, Virginia. The regiment remained in the trenches - it was during this time many of the men of the 19th came to the end of their enlistment - should they choose to re-enlist, they were to receive a 4 week furlough. On August 13th of 1864 about 250 "veterans" left for Wisconsin and the promised, very welcome furlough home; they arrived in Madison on the 22nd, and found their way to their individual home cities and towns from there. They were back in the deadly trenches by Oct. 3, 1864, just as things were heating up again.

September of '64 found the remainder of the Regiment, now less than 200 men, still at their posts surrounding the defenses of the Confederate forces in Petersburg. Some time during this month, the 19th was transferred to Norfolk, Virginia, as provost guards. During Sept., John Noe returned from hospital, although he was to relapse and return to hospital in November. Although guard duty may have seemed dull for the men of the 19th, they were soon to learn how lucky they were.

To be concluded on the next newsletter

Camp Calendar

- ◆ May 17 - King Open House
- ◆ May 30 - Robinson dedication?
- ◆ May 25 - Memorial Day
- ◆ June 6 - Department Encampment / Veteran's Museum / Madison
- ◆ July 25 - Crandon "Kentuck Day" Celebration and City Centennial
- ◆ August 8 - Shawano dedications.
- ◆ August 8-9- Iola Military Show.
- ◆ August 15-16 - Pinecrest Village-Manitowoc.
- ◆ August 29 -30 - Stevens Point Living History
- ◆ Sept. 26-27 - Wade House Reenactment
- ◆ Oct 31 - Bingo at Wisconsin Veterans Home at King

- ◆ **Possible parade at Omro for 4th of July**



Membership Certificates

Anyone who joined initially as a member of Camp 8 is entitled to a membership certificate, as part of his original initiation fee.

If you originally joined the SUVCW as a member of Camp 8, and you have not received a membership certificate - please contact,

Kurt Kirk

W2154 Cottonville Ct.

Berlin, WI 54923

920/361-1194 kirk000@centurytel.net

NOTE

New members have the option to purchase a membership badge for one half (1/2) the cost as charged by the National Quartermaster, plus shipping costs.

CAMP MINUTES MARCH 09

1. Opening Ceremony
2. Roll Call of Officers –
 - a. Commander – present
 - b. SVC – present
 - c. JVC – present
 - d. Secretary – present
 - e. Treasurer – present* 14 camp members in attendance
3. Approve minutes from Last Meeting
4. Treasurer's Report - \$2741.60 in bank, \$4000 in CD.
5. Any sick or distressed brothers? Mike Bouchette's mother in law is in hospital with stroke. She is 91. Tom's wife is awaiting heart surgery. Dave Dressang is doing better. He has a doctor who recommended he go to the Mayo Clinic. He is able to get out and do certain things. PDC Randy Novak's mother has had serious heart surgery and is not doing well. Please keep all of these people in your hearts and prayers.
6. No visitors or guests
7. No new applications for review or acceptance
8. No new bills – most members have paid their 2009 dues. Only 3-4 who have not.
9. Prior Business
 - a. Iola Military Show – Aug. 8-9. Camp will have our information/recruiting booth set up. Application will be out soon and CC Heltemes will submit.
 - b. Dues need to be paid – as stated above most have paid.
 - c. Donation of \$100 to Dept. Patriotic Fund – motion made and seconded to approve the donation.
 - d. Rifle purchase for raffle – Br's Kurtis Kirk and Jim Schumann arranged for purchase of Henry Rifle to use as 1st prize in our camp raffle. Thanks to Kurt for all his effort wading through the red tape to make this happen!
 - e. Recommendations from Camp Council regarding camp audit – Kurtis Kirk did the camp audit and presented his recommendations to the Camp Council. Camp Council recommendations are as follows:
 1. Develop an Excel spreadsheet to record all transactions in greater detail to ensure correct classification. Add an alternate signature to the bank account in addition to current signature.
 2. Develop a spreadsheet to record dues receipt, deposit, payments to OAHS, and mailing of membership cards. Use this to make quarterly OAHS per capita payments.
 3. Develop an inventory listing of camp supplies.
 4. Determine what are donations and what are disbursements from the general fund.
 5. Continue sending dues directly to Camp Secretary.
10. Past Events
 - a. Echoes of the Past – CC Heltemes thanked everyone for their participation. The booth was well manned, many volunteers from the camp.
11. Future Events and Dedications;
 - a. April 18 – Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony
 - b. May 9 – Marker dedication for August Buss (Jim Schumann's ancestor) in buried in _____, Nebraska. Jim Schumann, Dan McGraw, and Vince Barker will participate. Will send e-mail as a reminder.
 - c. May 17 – King Open House
 - d. **May 25 – Memorial Day** – King and Oshkosh
 - e. June 6 – Department Encampment / Veteran's Museum / Madison
 - f. August 8-9 – Iola Military Show – Camp will have information booth/raffle ticket sales set up.
 - g. August 8 – Shawano marker dedications
 - h. August 29-30 – Stevens Point Living History
 - i. Sept. 26-27 – Wade House Reenactment
 - j. Oct 31 – Bingo at Wisconsin Veterans Home at King
12. New Business
 - a. May 30 – possible marker dedication for Andrew Robinson, Paul Johnson's ancestor.
 - b. July 4 – Parade in Omro
 - c. July 25 – Crandon "Kentuck Day" Celebration and City Centennial
 - d. Aug. 14-15 – Pine Crest Village Reenactment & Living History in Manitowoc – set up information booth/raffle tickets??
 - e. By Law Change – Need to list Junior Associate members as eligible to be Camp Members – members age 8 to 14 who cannot prove Union lineage. Motion to suspend rules for Article IX to suspend voting until next meeting. Motion raised, seconded, and carried. Motion then raised to add Junion Associate Members to our Camp By Laws. Motion raised, seconded, and carried.
13. Patriotic Instructor Presentation.
 - a. Br. Jim Schumann gave presentation on General Sherman, particularl this actions during the Atlanta Campaign in 1864.
14. Any other old or new business?
15. Has anyone done something good for the Order? Thanks to Br. Kirby Scott for creating the awesome camp picture board to be used in our information booth. Great job Kirby!
16. Closing Ceremony.



Alan Petit
E7602 Cutoff Rd
New London, WI
54961

Notice!

**NEXT CAMP 8
MEETING
May 18 2009
Omro, WI**

Camp Officers for 2009

Commander – Kim Heltemes
W2570 Archer Ave., Pine River, WI 54965
920/987-5911 heltemesk@vbe.com
Senior Vice Commander – PCC Alan Petit
E7602 Cutoff Road, New London, WI 54961
920/982-2374 apetitsuvw@hotmail.com
Junior Vice Commander – Kurt Kirk
W2154 Cottonville Ct., Berlin, WI 54923
920/361-1194 kkirk000@centurytel.net
Secretary – Vince Barker
W6109 Colonial Dr., Appleton, WI 54914
920/993-0676 vbarker@new.rr.com
Patriotic Instructor – Jim Schumann
842 Harmel Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54902
920/235-0648 jschumann@new.rr.com
Chaplain – Dan Wilson
709 High St., Waupaca, WI 54981
715/258-9272 danwilly@yahoo.com
Delegate – Jim Waid
N4800 State Road 49, Scandinavia, WI 54977
715/467-4800 jdward@execpc.com

Color Guard – Greg Bellmer
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920/361-0327 gregbellmer@alliantenergy.com
Graves Registration – Don Jager
2017 Tippy Terrace, Ft. Worth, TX 76134
817/551-5610 don_jager@myfamily.com
Memorials – Kim Heltemes
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Camp Historian – PDC Randy Novak
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