



Camp Orders 2010-02
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Grand Army of the Republic
“Old Abe” Camp #8
Wisconsin Department



**NEXT
MEETING
March 15 ,
2010**

Omro Historical
Society
building, Omro,
WI.

Doors open at
6:00 PM,

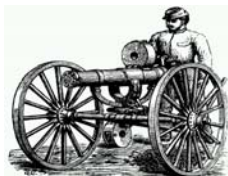
Meeting Begins
at
7:00 PM

Downtown -
At the corner of
Madison and
Main.

“Social Hour”
before the
business portion
begins.

**Commander's
Corner**

By
Kim J. Heltemes



Camp 8 is looking to get the paperwork done for the Dept. In doing that, we need to have the members send in their dues or we will lose you as a member. If you have not paid your dues, please do so. Having you as a member is important to us.

We started the year out at the Oshkosh Fairgrounds for the Trade Fair. Thank you for those that helped out. We cannot do it without you. Kirby made up a new display board. We had a lot of great comments about the board and people really took their time going around it. We were able to hand out brochures as people walked to see the display. Thanks Kirby. It's a great way to attract members.

We have a full slate of events this year. One that we forgot to add into the list was the Green Bay Heritage Hill event the last weekend of June. It had not been done in years and they are starting it up again. Put it on your calendar.



From the Associated Press

Carnegie, Pennsylvania ~ For some 30 years Civil War veterans met in a room at the Carnegie Library to share memories of victory and defeat and comrades past. Part social hall and part museum, the GAR Post was home to a collection of swords, rifles and other wartime mementos.

But some time before the Capt. Thomas Espy Post's last member died in 1907, the room in the town library outside Pittsburgh was locked and all but forgotten. Beset with funding problems and a deteriorating main library, the Post and its collection (including records, bullets, cotton tufts plucked from a Virginia battlefield, a canteen and a newspaper printed on wallpaper obtained when Grant took Vicksburg) would have to wait.

But now this Post – one of perhaps a half-dozen that remain largely intact – will reopen as part of the Library's celebration of the 201st ann. of President Lincoln's birth.

The renovations come courtesy of Bill Brown, who learned of the room's existence and donated the funds ~ “It was just a way to give back to the community. I could just imagine the old Union soldiers sitting in there reliving their tales of battle and victory and defeat. I just thought it was neat.”

Brown, 64, is president and CEO of a company that makes equipment for steel mills. While he isn't a Civil War buff, Brown had ancestors that fought on both sides of the conflict.

Restoration includes a dedicated ventilation system, reflective window coatings, and repainting the room to its original color, which exc. Director of the Andrew Carnegie Free Library, Margaret Forbes, describes as “pumpkin chiffon pie” orange.

The roughly 24-by-24 foot room on the second floor of the Library is a time capsule, with most of the original fixtures and many original documents. The members catalogued many of the relics ~ of these, 80% are still on hand, including a Bible resting on an oak stand with legs and braces carved in the shape of rifle stocks and bayonets.

Captain Thomas Espy, namesake of the Post, was 50 years old when he enlisted July 4, 1861. He was mortally wounded at Gaines Mill, Virginia, a year later; taken prisoner, he died shortly after in hospital.

It is hoped that descendants of the roughly 250 members of the Espy Post can shed further light on the history of the artifacts, and the stories these brave men had to tell.



A New Brother of Old Abe Camp 8 is initiated at the Jan. meeting ~ welcome, Gary Grant!!





Old Abe Camp 8 has pledged to help the Oshkosh Public Museum defray the costs involved with the Museum's purchase of the collection of some 140 letters written by Colonel John Hancock of the 14th Wisconsin to his wife, Jennie Reardon Hancock, from May of 1861 to Jan. 1863 – Col. Hancock wrote Jennie once a week and sometimes more, letters she carefully saved, tied in bundles with scraps of fabric and kept in a tin document box.

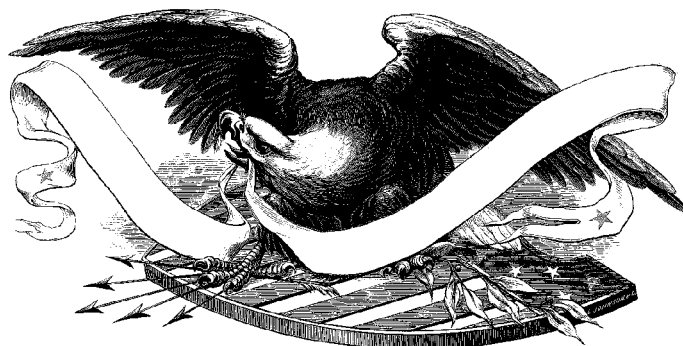
This very important collection cost the Museum dearly ~ Old Abe Camp 8 has done what we can to help financially. Pictured: Camp Commander Kim Heltnes presents Brad Larson of the Oshkosh Public Museum a check for \$500, while Kurtis Kirk, Alan Petit and Randy Novak (left to right) look on. This is our second contribution for this good cause!

Copies of the Colonel Hancock letters are available for inspection and study online at the Oshkosh Public Museum's website – Scott Cross has transcribed a number of these, and it is very interesting reading. The Museum also offers pictures of CDVs and artifacts in their collection. Visit soon at: <http://www.oshkoshmuseum.org/exhibits/exhibits.htm> (On this page, scroll down to Virtual Exhibits, click, to view Hancock letters do a Search in the Virtual Exhibits page.)

**Echoes of the Past ~ Sunnyview Expo Center
near Oshkosh January 2010**



Above ~
Alan Petit and
Terry Novak
have a lively
discussion near
our Camp
Information Table



Below ~
more of Sunday's
visitors to Old
Abe's table, and
Kirby Scott's
very nice stand
of pictures!



Old Abe Camp 8

Events for 2010 ~

April 18th – Lincoln Tomb, Springfield, IL

May 16 – King Open House

May 31st – Memorial Day (observances)

June 12 – Department Encampment

Wis. Vet.'s Home King

** hosted by Old Abe Camp 8**

June 26, 27 – Heritage Hill – Green Bay

August 21, 22 – Pinecrest Village, Manitowoc

August 28, 29 – Stevens Point Encampment

September 10-12 – Waupaca Encampment

September 25, 26 – Wade House, Greenbush

November 1st – William Henry Smith

headstone dedication ~ Auroraville

Vince Barker is arranging a dual dedication

Federal and Confederate

July 24th or 31st in Berlin, Wisconsin -

to be announced at a future meeting



Please note: the Iola Military Show is no longer on the schedule ~ it was decided that we have too many events, and dedications should take first position. We have a Brillion dedication for later this year as well, on date set yet. More news to come.





From the Appleton Post-Crescent
February 26, 2010 -

Recently Lt. Col. Vince Barker returned from Afghanistan for 15 days of R & R leave; during that time he gave a presentation to his son Seth's class at the Greenville Elementary School. Photos, clothing, and Emails sent by Vince from Bagram helped bring the presentation to life.

"It's great to be able to go in and talk to them. They had a lot of good questions," Vince said. "It means a lot to be able to share my experiences with the kids."

The buckets in the picture are filled with coins the students collected, part of the "Pennies For Peace" program - the money will be used to buy school supplies for children in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

"I'm going to take pictures of the kids with the supplies and send them to the class so they can actually see what their money went to," Vince said. "The kids in Afghanistan love school and they have so little. It's like Christmas when they get new supplies."

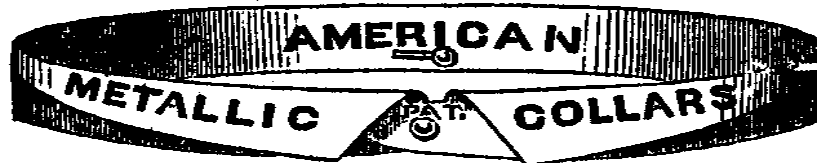
God Speed, Lt. Col. Barker ~ you are in our thoughts and prayers until you return home to stay, Vince.



Newsletter submitted by James C. Schumann

Senior Vice Commander

Old Abe Camp # 8, SUVCW, Dept. of Wisconsin



The only enameled "Turn-over" Collar made in metals. Send \$1 for a "Turn-over" or 75 cents for a "Choker," to Box 5173, and receive it by return mail. American enameled Metallic Collar Co., 94 Pine St., N. Y.

-
1. Opening Ceremony-7:00 P.M. (14 members present)
 2. Roll call of officers:
 - a. Commander-here
 - b. SVC-here
 - c. JVC-here
 - d. Secretary-here
 - e. Treasurer-here
 3. Minutes from November 16, 2009
 - Mike Bouchette moved to approve minutes from last meeting
 - Randy Novak seconded the motion
 - Minutes approved
 4. Treasurer's report
 - \$5002.90 in checking
 - \$4160.00 in CD
 5. Any sick or distressed brothers or family?
 - Dave Dresang is about the same as before, not good.
 6. No guests or visitors.
 7. New applicants for review?
 - a. Initiation of new brother Gary Grant
 8. Communications and/or bills?
 - a. Thank you letter for 1st donation to WRC/GAR hall in Springfield, Illinois.
 9. Prior business:

- a. Vote on motion from Nov. 19, 2009 for 2nd donation of \$100.00 to WRC/GAR hall is Springfield, Ill. Motion passed.
 - b. Grave dedication wreaths. 1 replaced. Material purchased to repair other. Material purchased to replace flag cases and cases made.
Marking in progress.
 - c. Dues are past due. Please pay up as soon as possible as annual report is due soon.
10. Past events:
- a, None discussed.
11. Future events:
- a. Feb. 6-Mid-winter meeting-Wauwatosa- Patriotic dinner afterwards. Info available
 - b. Feb. 27-28-Echoes of the Past Trade fair- Oshkosh-Sign up sheet circulated. Some discussion. More later.
 - c. Apr. 17- Lincoln Tomb Ceremony-Springfield, Ill-see the BANNER for details-Mar. 1 deadline for hotel.
 - d. May 16- King open house-King-more details later.
 - e. May 31-Memorial Day-Sons chief event of the year-go to event near you, or go to Oshkosh or King.
 - f. Jun. 12-Dept. Encampment-Camp 8 is host at King. Need some volunteers- more later.
 - g. Aug. 7-8-Iola military show-iola-more later
 - h. Aug. 28-29-Stevens Point event-Stevens Point-more later.
 - i. Sept. 10-12-Waupaca event-Lincoln display-Fritz Klein-2-4 day encampment-more later.
 - J. Sept. 25-26-Wade House CW event-Greenbush-more later.
 - k. Nov. 1-Wm. H. Smith headstone dedication-Auroraville.
 - l. Dual dedication-Berlin-no date-several other possible dedications-no dates or details yet.
12. New business:
- a. Raffle-prizes agreed upon are-1st –firing model cannon-2nd –BP revolver-3rd –book.
 - b. Newsletter. Let SVC know if you are not getting it, web or hard copy.
13. Patriotic Instructor William gave a presentation on dogs that were CW regimental mascots.
14. Presentation of \$500.00 check to Oshkosh Museum to defray costs of their letter collection purchase will be held next week-date and time
will be announced later.
15. Has anyone done something for the good of the order?
None noted
16. Closing ceremony. (approx. 8:00 PM)
Submitted by PCC Alan O. Petit, Secretary Old Abe Camp #8, SUVCW

