



**Camp Orders 2012-01**  
**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**  
*Grand Army of the Republic*  
**“Old Abe” Camp #8**  
 Wisconsin Department



Jan. 10, 2012

**Next Old Abe  
Camp 8  
Meeting**

**January 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Dinner at  
6:00 PM  
Meeting starts at  
7:00 PM**

at

**Jimmy’  
White House Inn,  
Buttes des Morts  
(5776 Main St.)**

From Oshkosh take Hwy 45 North, to Cty Rd S. In Butte Des Morts, turn left onto Washington St., then right onto Main St.

Wear Your  
Membership Badge

**- January Meeting -  
Dinner at Jimmy’s  
White House Inn**

Recently, those of you with e-mail received this note from Commander Vince Barker.

“Our upcoming January meeting (Monday, 16 Jan) is being held at Jimmy's White House Inn in Buttes Des Morts. Many of you have been there before.

The White House Inn is an historic building with Civil War relics displayed in the main bar that belonged to Corp. Tunis LaFever, 27th Wis Inf. Tunis is the ancestor of White House Inn owner, Miles LeFever. Miles is an SUVCW member.

We have dinner reservations starting at 6pm. If you do not wish to join us for dinner, the regular meeting will start at the usual 7pm.

The purpose of having a dinner with our meeting is to enjoy social and fellowship time between members (including spouses/guest), which was very much a tradition with the GAR. “

Information about the White House Inn can be obtained from:

<http://www.whitehouseinnonline.com>, or by contacting Commander Vince Barker.

Please see the route map below.

**BINGO!  
Hosted By Camp 8**

Camp 8 will host an afternoon of Bingo at Wisconsin Vets Home in King, WI on **January 28<sup>th</sup>**, in Marden Hall, from 1:00 till 4:00 PM. The purpose of this event is to provide entertainment for the residents.

What do we need to do? To run the game, 8 to 10 members (and/or spouses, etc.) are needed. The Camp will purchase coffee for everyone, and provide money for prizes. The Camp is also expected to provide 5 to 6 doz. Cookies (packaged 2 per bag) for the residents.

For more information, contact Kim Heltemes at (920)987-5911 or [heltemesk@vbe.com](mailto:heltemesk@vbe.com).

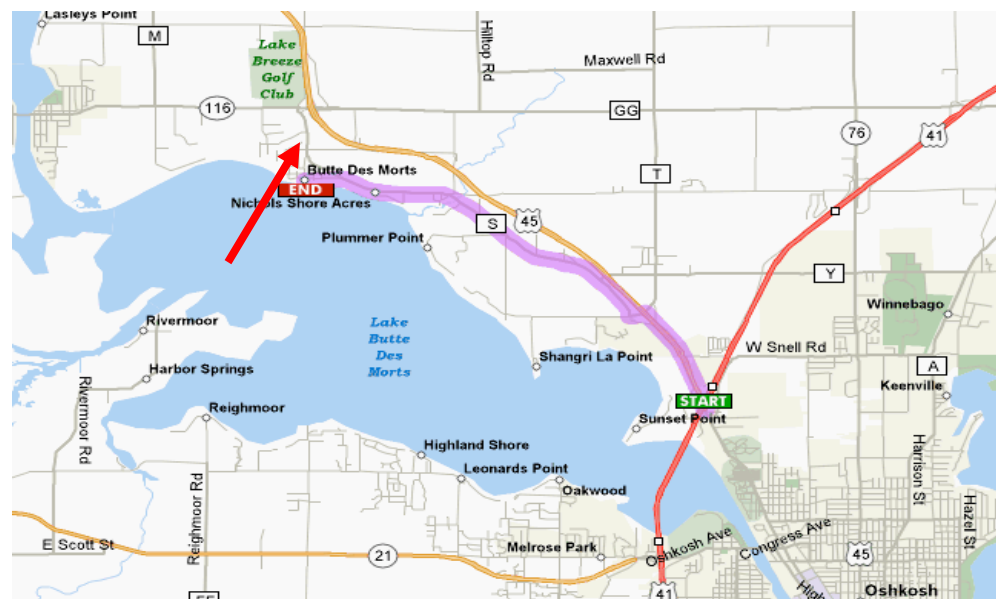
**Echoes Of The Past  
Trade Fair**

**February 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>** are the dates for this annual event. This 30 years old event is sponsored by *The Bradley Co. of the Fox*, a local company that supplies re-enactors of the Revolutionary and French and Indian war periods. Held in the Winnebago County Fairgrounds

*Continued on Page2.*

**- NOTICE -  
RENEWAL**

**2012 Dues Are Payable  
as of January 1<sup>st</sup>.**  
Please send **\$40.00**  
to the Camp Secretary:  
**Alan Petit**  
E7602 Cutoff Road  
New London, WI 54961



## Commander's Remarks



By Camp Commander  
Vince Barker

Greetings Brothers,

I hope you all enjoyed the holidays and were able to spend some much deserved time with family and friends.

Right up front I want to mention that our January meeting is being held at the historic White House Inn in Buttes Des Morts. Directions are in this newsletter. We have dinner reservations for 6pm so please plan to attend and enjoy some good food and conversation. We are attempting to include more social and fellowship time in our meetings. Although camp business is important, we are after all a fraternal organization and heir to the Grand Army of the Republic, which placed much emphasis on the social aspect of their meetings and events. Many of you have been to the White House Inn before and are familiar with its Civil War motif. If you cannot make it to the dinner, our meeting will start at 7pm as usual.

I would like to welcome Russell Buhr as our newest member of Camp 8! Russ is a retired school teacher and coach from Lena and is very active in his community and other organizations. He is past President of the Wisconsin Society, Sons of the American Revolution (WISSAR), and is a member of the American Legion. Russ's Civil War ancestor was Sgt. Isaac Higley, 50th NY Engineers, who was a direct descendant of Russ's Revolutionary War ancestor. Several of us in the camp have known Russ for some time and I know he will make a great addition to Camp 8 and the SUVCW!

Hope to see you at The White House Inn on January 16th!

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty,  
Vince

## Camp 8 10 Years Ago

- Brian Peters assumes the office of Camp Commander.
- It is announced that Camp 8 *Orders* are soon to be available electronically, down loadable from the Camp web page.
- The *Camp Orders* carry a story about a GAR "ghost" in the Wisconsin Capital Building.
- The *Camp Orders* carry a story about Camp 8's True Son, Al Lang, who had passed away the previous September. Al's father was in the 48<sup>th</sup> Wis Inf.
- Camp 8 is making preparations for Waupaca's Rally Around the Flag Civil War weekend, organized in large part by area Camp 8 members (Kim Heltemes, Jim Waid, Dan Wilson, etc). McAllister's Battery and the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment Band will participate.
- Camp 8 is invited to join the Military Veterans Museum, Oshkosh, as a member organization.
- Outgoing Commander Randy Novak writes about the progress the Camp had made in 3 years, since it's inception.
- Edward S. Bragg Auxiliary #6 starts into it's second year after being revitalized by President Terry Novak. They continue to search for the groups' original records. The Auxiliary contributes to and is active in many Camp events.

## 2012 Camp Calendar

### January 16<sup>th</sup>

Camp 8 Dinner Meeting  
Jimmy's White House Inn  
Contact Vince Barker

### January 28<sup>th</sup>

Bingo at Wisconsin Vets Home  
King, WI Hosted by Camp 8  
Contact Kim Heltemes

### February 4<sup>th</sup>

Dept of Wis mid-Winter Meeting  
Waukesha, WI  
See SUVCW-WI.org for details.

### February 25, 26<sup>th</sup>

Echoes of the Past Trade Fair  
Winnebago Co. Fairgrounds,  
Oshkosh – Camp Display

### March 19<sup>th</sup>

Camp 8 regular meeting

### May 21<sup>st</sup>

Camp 8 regular meeting

### May 28<sup>th</sup>

Memorial Day observances

### Echoes Of The Past, from page 1.

Expo Building (County Road Y, north of Oshkosh), it is a large event with merchants, craftsmen, and entertainment representing the period from 1750 through the late 1800's.

The event opens at 9 AM each day, and runs to 5 PM on Saturday, and 4 PM on Sunday. An admission fee is charged.

Camp 8 has been permitted to have a display at this event for about 15 years. Our display of SUVCW and GAR information, along with reproduction and Civil War artifacts have become a regular for the viewing public.

Our friends from Company E, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin are usually set up next to us. This event allows us to visit and plan out some of the events for the upcoming re-enacting season. It also allows a chance to talk with others interested in the earlier time periods, and visit with the general public that come to the event.

**There are several ways you could become involved in this event:** You could help man the Camp 8 display, talking with the public; have artifacts or other Civil War related items on display; or demonstrate a craft from the Civil War period.

Help will also be needed to set up and tear down the display, and haul equipment as needed.

**If you are able to help during this event, contact:**

**Jr. Vice Bill Parker at  
715/424-2627 or wildbill@wctc.net;  
or Commander Vince Barker at  
(920)993-0676 or  
vbarker@new.rr.com.**

If you can participate for half a day, even a few hours, it would be appreciated.

## Joseph Stemler 10/24/1917 – 12/30/2011

Recently Commander Barker reported that Bro. Kurtis Kurk's father in law, Joseph Stemler had passed away; "Joe was a U.S. Army World War II veteran and a survivor of the infamous Bataan Death March, the POW hell ships to Japan, and over 2 years in a slave labor camp. He epitomized the word survivor." Below is a portion of Mr. Stemler's obituary, and is worthy of repeating here. Please do keep Ann Kurk and family in your thoughts and prayers.

Joseph Stemler, age 94, of Berlin, died on Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>. Born October 24, 1917 in Berlin, WI to Joseph and Jessie Stemler, one of 8 children. He married Beatrice J. Steger in 1946.

Stemler is survived by eight children, and other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Beatrice on November 6, 2009, his son Mark, his parents, and his brothers and sisters.

Stemler was a member of All Saints Catholic Parish of Berlin and a lifetime member of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, lifetime member of the V.F.W. Post #2925 of Berlin, and member of Berlin Veterans Foundation, Inc.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army in March of 1941 and he was assigned to the 200th Coast Artillery in New Mexico. Joe was serving on Bataan in the Philippine Islands, was captured and held at Cabanatuan. He survived the Infamous Bataan Death March, the Noto Maru hell ship to Japan and labor camps in Japan. Joe spent more than a year in the hospital when the war ended after 3½ years as a Japanese prisoner of war. Honorable Discharge papers were awarded to Joe on November 20, 1946. He was awarded the following medals: Presidential Unit Citation with Oak Leaf Cluster; Combat Infantryman Badge; Philippine Liberation Ribbon and Bronze Star; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal and Bronze Star; Purple Heart; Bronze Star Medal with Maple Leaf Cluster; Prisoner of War Medal; Army of Occupation Medal and Japan Clasp; American Campaign Medal; American Defense Service Medal for Foreign Service; Good Conduct Medal; Bataan Medal for 200th Coast Artillery from New Mexico and World War II Victory Medal.

Joe worked as a master boot maker/shoemaker for Russell Moccasin Company in Berlin for 49 years. He worked very hard to take care of his wife and 9 children.

## Arndt Family Dedicates Grave Marker of Civil War Ancestor

story and photos by Ron Arndt



Left to right: Jennifer, Ivy, Riley, Michael, Ron, Marling and Matthew Arndt, and Adam Mathewson.

*Ed. Note - Bro. Ron Arndt recently reported that the Arndt family got together to dedicate the grave marker they had placed for their Civil War ancestor a few years ago. What follows here is a story that Ron wrote and had published by their local newspaper.*

*Ron also reported that his son Mike (who we remember from many years of helping out at Camp 8 activities), was promoted to Staff Sgt in November (though listed as Senior Airman in the story). Congratulations Mike!*

Marlin Arndt (Ron's dad) and family members took some time during Thanksgiving day to remember the sacrifices of their ancestor Heinrich (Henry) Schwertfeger, a Civil War veteran, and dedicated a recently placed military grave marker for him. The marker was placed on his grave located in the Emanuel Lutheran Church cemetery near Caroline by Marlin and his son Ron. Ron, his son Mathew Arndt, and Marlin's grandson Adam Mathewson performed the honor squad duties. Ron's son Sr. Airman Michael Arndt commanded the squad. Marlin stood guard over the grave and played "taps" on the harmonica. Ron's daughter Jennifer and friend Nathaniel Madsen recorded the event for the family. Michael's wife Ivey and son Riley (yep, Ron is a grandpa) were present as well. The following is from Schwertfeger's military records obtained from the National Archives in Washington, DC.

Heinrick was drafted into Co. A, 1<sup>st</sup> Wis. Cav. on November 28, 1863 in Green Bay, WI. He was with Co. A when they were involved in the following battles/actions: Battle of Mossy Creel, TN, 12/29/1863; Battle of Dandridge, TN, 1/16 – 1/17/1864; Battle of Murphy, NC,

3/3/1864; Actions of Cleveland, TN, on 4/4/1864; Battle of Cleveland, TN, on 4/13/1864; Battle of West Point, GA on 4/16/1864. He was accidentally wounded in the performance of his duties, according to his Lieutenant, near Cleveland, TN on 4/18/1864. He suffered from a gun shot wound that passed through his left ankle and exited the bottom of his foot. The Minie Ball tore away 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the inside sole of his foot. He was reported at the hospital in Cleveland, TN, from 4/30 to 8/31/1864. He was then transferred to Co. K of the 17<sup>th</sup> Veterans Reserve Corps. He



traveled to Madison, WI, and convalesced there from 10/31/1864 to 4/30/1865. He was medically discharged on June 12, 1865 due to his wound.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Wis. Cav. went on to fight in many more famous battles such as Kennesaw Mountain, Siege of Atlanta, the pursuit of Joseph Wheeler, and their most famous prize, the capture of Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

When Heinrich returned home he suffered from severe stomach pains that progressively grew worse and he eventually died on September 17, 1876. He was laid to rest in the Emanuel Lutheran Church cemetery. He was survived by his wife, Sofia, and 3 young children, the oldest being 8 years old at the time of his death.



# Ramblin' With Randy

An Editorial



## Oshkosh's "Celebration of Lights" Honors Area Veterans Groups, and Camp 8

This past Holiday season in Oshkosh included the annual Celebration of Lights display in Menominee Park. This is when most of the park is done up with decorations and lights to help celebrate the season. This year, the American Legion sponsored a display to honor area veterans' organizations. The display included a large National flag, military branch colors, and the names of Oshkosh's veterans units - all displayed along a wall in the park. Spotlights were used to light the display through the night.

A couple of days after Christmas, while touring the park to see the lights with son Aaron and his family, I was pleasantly surprised to see that Camp 8 was included prominently on the display.

This happened because of our Camp's past involvement with Veterans organizations in the area. It reminded me that a couple of years ago, the Commander of the local American Legion told me that he viewed the SUVCW as a veterans group, not an auxiliary. He did not realize how much that simple comment meant to me. One of my objectives when originally forming Camp 8, and working to establish its structure during those first few years, was to promote Camp 8 as a veterans support organization, and not only a heritage group or an auxiliary. That was the original purpose for which the SOV was created.

My father died a long time ago. Long enough that I have forgotten more about him than I would have cared to. But, I do remember that what I learned from him was that we should always strive to do the very best we can, whatever the task. Though I could be mistaken, I cannot remember him ever saying "good enough". Sure, sometime it takes extra work - putting in long hours, extra effort, but what value is there in doing anything at all if you cannot take pride in your work, a job well done? I have been told that attitude is outdated, something we should not expect from younger generations. Maybe...

I greatly appreciate all the members of Camp 8 who have helped to make the Camp a success through the years. A review of past issues of the *Camp Orders* shows just how much our Camp has accomplished and the level of activity we have had, and maintained - unsurpassed by any other Camp in the Department (my biased opinion of course).

The future holds challenges for our Camp, an aging membership, a decline in popular interest in the Civil War (or history in general), and apparently a public where to an ever increasing degree apathy and mediocrity are acceptable social standards (makes it tough for recruitment). Despite all of that, I do have faith that thanks to the considerable amount of experienced leadership that Camp 8 has, we will continue to succeed in despite of all these challenges.

See you at the meeting!



## Heart Surgery For Members Al Heise and Denny Egan

At the November meeting I was surprised to learn that Bros. Al Heise and Denny Egan had experience heart bypass surgery this past summer. They are both recovering, and were healthy enough to attend the November meeting! The *Camp Orders* will attempt to report on personal events that affect our members.

## Free Access To Wisconsin Civil War Maps

Jeff Murray of the Wade House Historic Site staff recently reported that State Historian Michael Edmonds announced the availability of Wisconsin Historical Society maps on-line. The WHS has recently put nearly all of the Civil War maps in its collection on-line for public access. You can reach the maps by pasting the following link into your web browser:

[http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/highlights/archives/2011/12/civil\\_war\\_maps.asp](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/highlights/archives/2011/12/civil_war_maps.asp). Thanks to Russ Dempsey of McAllister's Batty for the information!

## Possible Grave Dedications in Mattoon

Commander Barker reported the possibility of a May 19<sup>th</sup> dedication (still TBD) for 11 Civil War veterans at Woodlawn Cemetery. He reported that area resident Amy Demveld and her team had identified the soldiers, evaluated the grave markers, and replaced the ones that were broken or missing. The new markers have been received. Damveld is not new to this type of activity, having previously organized last year's grave dedication in Shawno.

Another broken grave marker for a veteran of Antietam (Co, H, 6<sup>th</sup> Wis Inf) was found at a small overgrown cemetery in the same area. That replacement marker has been ordered. Plan for this event to be discussed at the January meeting.

## OLD ABE CAMP MEETING MINUTES, NOVEMBER 14,2011

1. Opening ceremony- 7:03 P.M. Omro Historical Society. (18 members present)
2. Roll call of officers:
  - a. Commander-present.
  - b. SVC-present.
  - c. JVC-present.
  - d. Secretary-present.
  - e. Treasurer-present.
3. Minutes of Sept. 19, 2011-approved as printed in the newsletter.
4. Treasurer's report:

As of 11-14-11, \$4150.53 in checking & CD'S of \$1008.29 and \$4182.79.
5. Any sick or distressed brothers? Dave Dresang is regressing with headaches and memory loss. Teresa Dresang had an appendectomy. Kathy Heltemes has had knee surgery and is laid up. Al Heise had a heart attack and treatment.
6. Introduction of visitors and guests: DC Tom Brown & Camp 1 SVC Jeffrey S. Lesar.
7. Any new applications for review or acceptance?
  - a. Russell Buhr filed an application.
  - b. Michael Boldon was initiated.
8. Any bills and/or communications to address? None.
9. Prior business:
  - a. Donation to OPM for the restoration of the Oshkosh Volunteers Company flag, (B Co., 3<sup>rd</sup>. Wisc. Vol. Inf.). Motion was made and seconded to donate \$500.00 this year, 2011, with the option of \$500.00 next year, 2012, and \$500.00 more in 2013, the two later donations to be authorized at those times by a revote. PASSED.
10. Past Events:
  - a. Wade House-Sept 24-25. Weather good one day but lousy the next. Had good ticket sales.
  - b. Rufus King dedication Oct. 8. Milwaukee area camps were there and it went well.
  - c. Mohican grave dedications-Oct. 8. Went very well. More opportunities here for future efforts. \$50.00 donation to the camp.
  - d. Department Leadership Conference. Kirby was there. It went well.
11. Future Events:
  - a. King Home bingo event. Takes one Saturday afternoon. Kim will set it up.
  - b. Echoes of the Past Trade Show-Feb. 25-26,2012. Vince registered us. need volunteers.
  - c. Dept. Mid-winter meeting- Feb. 4,2012. Waukesha at Bluemounds Gardens. Watch next department newsletter for details or see flier at camp meeting.
12. New Business:
  - a. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Wis. Inf. flag. Done. See 9a above.
  - b. Altoona Pass Memorial. Motion made (J. Schumann) and seconded (W. Parker) to donate \$100.00 to it's construction. Tabled to next meeting (January) for a vote.
13. Patriotic presentation. Cancelled due to length of meeting.
14. Any other new or old business?
  - a. Dues and fees for 2012. Approved same as last year. See last year's fee schedule.
  - b. Raffle drawings:
    - 1<sup>st</sup>. prize-(choice)- Randy Slogy.
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>. prize-(remainder)- Barry Kedrowski.
    - 3<sup>rd</sup>. prize- T. Muraski.
15. Has anyone done something for the good of the order? No reply.
16. Elections of 2012 officers.
  - a. Commander-Vince Barker
  - b. SVC-Randy Novak
  - c. JVC-William Parker
  - d. Secretary-Alan Petit
  - e. Treasurer-Kurtis Kirk
  - f. Delegate- Dan Wilson
  - g. 1<sup>st</sup>. Council-Brian Peters
  - h. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Council-Kim Heltemes
  - i. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Council-Kirby Scott

All were elected by unanimous consent. Michael Boldon was appointed Patriotic Instructor. All other appointed positions are the same as last year. DC Thomas Brown installed the newly elected and appointed officers.
17. Closing ceremonies. Closed at 9:00 P.M.

Submitted by PCC Alan O. Petit, Secretary Old Abe Camp #8, Dept. of Wisconsin

# Camp 8 Participation in 2011 Veterans Day Observances in Oshkosh

Veterans Day Memorial Services were held Nov. 11 at the Winnebago County Courthouse. The service was conducted by the Oshkosh Patriotic Council and began with a short procession of the Colors by local Veterans and Patriotic organizations (including Camp 8).

Bro. CSM Michael Boldon, U. S. Army Reserve, was the guest speaker (Thank you Michael!). Memorial wreaths were placed at the entrance of the courthouse and the ceremony concluded with a rifle salute and the playing of "Taps".



*Guest Speaker Michael Boldon, other members in attendance were Jim Schumann, Alan Petit, Randy Novak, & Terry Novak (WRC).*

Ed - Bro. Boldon made references to a connection between veterans of past and present. Re-printed here are excerpts from his speech.

"It's difficult to imagine what the United States would be like if we did not have in our midst those who were willing to fight to protect our freedoms. Indeed, this country has been blessed by generations of brave men and women who unhesitatingly sacrificed—even their lives—so that their fellow Americans might continue to enjoy the fruits of

liberty. If they had not answered their nation's call, this world would be a very different place.

Today, we honor those men and women whose personal sacrifices have preserved our nation through the toughest of times. They embody everything that has made this country great. Combined with tremendous drive and self-reliance, these traits enabled our citizen-soldiers to succeed in times of peace as well as war.

They stem from history's earliest marks on this civilized nation. Patriot Thomas Paine recognized the importance of these sacrifices when he said: "These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country. But he that stands now deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

Those words apply as much today as they did in Paine's time . . . for America's veterans truly deserve "the thanks of a grateful nation."

Today new generations of Americans are once again answering the call.

In this current war, our men and women in uniform have once more been called on to lead America's assault against those who threaten the security of freedom-loving people everywhere. As such, our troops need to know we stand with them.

These extraordinary young men and women who have accepted the baton of service from generations of the veterans before them—do so with the same devotion to duty—and with the same dreams for justice and peace—as their predecessors.

By keeping faith with them, we help ensure that the sacrifices of every American veteran who ever served his or her country will not have been made in vain."



*Veterans unit color bearers, students from St Francis Cabrini school, and about two hundred citizens attended.*



*After the ceremony, students shake Boldon's hand & ask questions.*

## Pearl Harbor Day

For years Camp 8 has participated in the Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance services in Oshkosh. This year the Camp did not, due primarily to an unfortunate breakdown in communication within the Oshkosh organizations. Apparently organizers were pre-occupied with the unpublicized visit by Gov. Walker.

Jim & Sue Waid did report attending the Pearl Harbor ceremony at King, as they have in past years. Two guest speakers, VA Sec. Scocos and Lt. Governor Kleefisch, and a school band helped to complete the event.

## Veterans Day Thoughts, from Dave Dresang

Back in November Dave shared some thoughts with us about what Veterans Day means to him. In talking about the sacrifices of our veterans, he also pointed out that a lot of individuals from all disciplines, military and civilian, work hard and take risks to help keep our country safe. He also made a poignant statement regarding people like the members of Camp 8 – which I wanted to repeat here.

"To all of us who help keep the memories of veterans alive no matter what timeline, we keep the spirit and memories alive. We give voice to those that no longer can speak, we honor those that have since passed away long ago, and we educate a generation that would otherwise be blind and deaf to those who sacrificed so much."



# Camp 8 November Meeting

Held at the Omro meeting hall, the November meeting featured once again what has turned out to be an annual event for Camp 8, the bean supper. We may not have had quite as much food or head count as in past years, but there was plenty to go around and it seemed to be enjoyed by all who were present.

Joining us for the evening was Department Commander Tom Brown, accompanied by Camp 1 Sr. Vice Jeff Lesar. Tom drove up for the purpose of installing the 2012 Camp officers. It also provided an opportunity for a little Department discussion, as Brian Peters, Kim Heltemes, Alan Petit, and Randy Novak are all Wisconsin Department officers.

We also took the opportunity to initiate new member (and now Patriotic Instructor) Michael Boldon into the Camp.

The November meeting is also when we draw the raffle winners.

*Photos courtesy of Randy Novak or Kirby Scott.*



*The annual bean supper, always makes for a nice evening of fellowship.*



*Lucy Peters was given the privilege of drawing the winning raffle tickets:*

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Randy Slogy*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Barry Kedrowski*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – T. Muraski*



*Newer member Michael Boldon was initiated. See the November issue of the "Camp Orders" for a biographic of Bro. Boldon. Michael was also voted in as our Patriotic Instructor for 2012.*

**Old Abe Camp 8**  
***Fraternity, Charity, Loyalty***  
*Supporting the Grand Army of the Republic & Wisconsin's Veterans*



*Wisconsin Department Commander Tom Brown, and Camp 1 Sr. Vice Jeff Lesar were in attendance (sitting on PCC Kim Heltemes' left).*



*DC Tom Brown installs PCC Vince Barker for another term as Commander of Camp 8.*



**Camp 8 Newsletter**  
**Randy Novak**  
**641 Bowen St.**  
**Oshkosh, WI 54901**

***Camp 8, Based in Omro, WI***  
***SUVCW, Part of the***  
***Veterans & Patriotic***  
***Community in Wisconsin***  
***Since 1873***

**Join Old Abe Camp 8!**  
**Membership**  
**\$40.00/yr. Annual Dues\***  
**For New Membership, Contact:**  
**Jr. Vice William Parker**  
**351 17<sup>th</sup> St. North,**  
**Wis Rapids, WI 54494**  
**(715) 424-2627**  
**wildbill@wctc.net**

**OSHKOSH and the OLD ABE Camp**

*In 1885 the Old Abe Camp, located in Oshkosh, was the largest SUV camp in Wisconsin. Old Abe was the famous mascot of the 8th Wisconsin Infantry, popularly known as the Eagle Brigade, a unit heavily involved in the campaigns of the western armies. Old Abe the battle eagle became a real war hero - used for recruiting during the war's later years, attending veterans reunions for years after, and finally becoming a National icon for Wisconsin.*

**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT US**

*Contact the officers shown below. Visit the Department of Wisconsin website, and Camp 8 WebPages, at [suvchw-wi.org](http://suvchw-wi.org). Also, visit the national SUVCW website at [suvchw.org](http://suvchw.org).*

*Membership is open to male descendants of a Union Civil War soldier. Application is made through National, Department, or local channels to become a member of a Camp. Some documentation about your ancestor is required – assistance is available through the Camp.*

*Membership is also available for males who cannot prove lineage to a Civil War soldier.*

*\* The initial dues for a new member are pro-rated through the year, and an initiation fee does apply. Contact the Jr. Vice for information.*

**Camp Officers for 2012**

**Commander** – Vince Barker  
W6109 Colonial Drive  
Appleton, WI 54914 (920)993-0676  
vbarker@new.rr.com

**Senior Vice** – PDC Randy Novak  
641 Bowen St.  
Oshkosh, WI 54901 (920)426-2763  
randyknovak@hotmail.com

**Junior Vice** – William Parker  
351 17th St. North  
Wis. Rapids, WI 54494 (715)424-2627  
wildbill@wctc.net

**Secretary** – PCC Alan Petit  
E7602 Cutoff Road  
New London, WI 54961 (920)982-2374  
apetitsuvchw@hotmail.com

**Treasurer** – Kurtis Kirk  
W2154 Cottonville Ct.  
Berlin, WI 54923 (920)361-1194  
kkirk000@centurytel.net

**Patriotic Instructor** – Michael Boldon  
32747 Horizon Ave.  
Camp Douglas, WI 54618 (608)427-6698  
j.boldon@us.army.mil

**Chaplain & Delegate** – Dan Wilson  
3616 S. Berryfield Lane  
Appleton, WI 54915 (715) 258-9272  
danwilly@yahoo.com

**Graves Registration** – Don Jager  
Unit 61322, Box 811  
APO AE 09803 (817)551-5610  
djager@vinnellarbia.com

**Memorials** – PCC Kim Heltemes  
W2570 Archer Ave.  
Pine River, WI 54965 (920)987-5911  
heltemesk@vbe.com

**Historian** – PDC Randy Novak  
641 Bowen St.  
Oshkosh, WI 54901 (920)426-2763  
randyknovak@hotmail.com

**Camp Council** -  
PCC Kim Heltemes  
PDC Brian Peters  
Kirby Scott

**News Letter Editor** – PDC Randy Novak