



Camp Orders 2013-01
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Grand Army of the Republic
"Old Abe" Camp #8
Wisconsin Department



January 2013

**Camp January 21st Meeting Will Be Held At The White House Inn
Located In Butte Des Morts, Wisconsin**

**Next Old Abe
Camp 8 Meeting**

Jan 21st

**Meal begins at 6:00PM
Meeting starts at 7:00
PM**

at

**The White House Inn
5776 Main Street)
Butte Des Morts, WI.**

**Wear Your
Membership Badge**



Our January meeting, Monday, January 21st, is being held at Jimmy's White House Inn in Buttes Des Morts.

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 plan on having dinner 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, which was very much a tradition with the GAR.

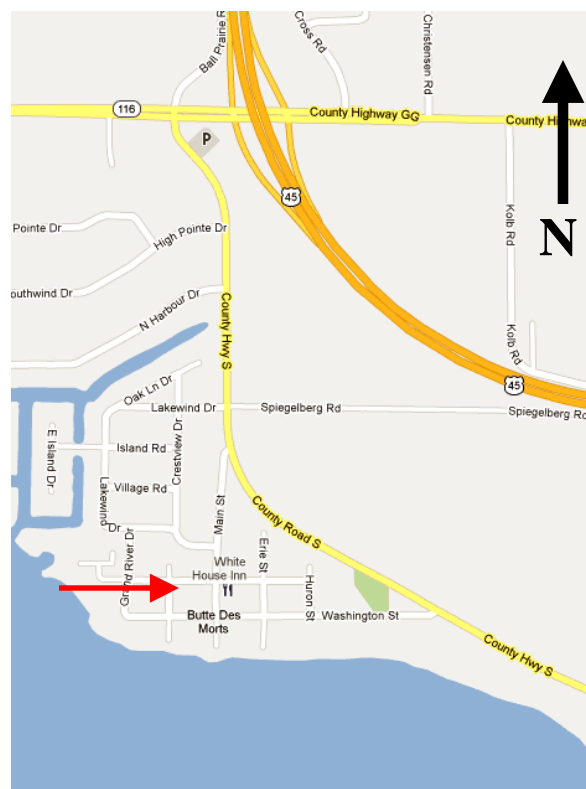
Additional information about the White House Inn can be obtained from: <http://www.whitehouseinnonline.com>

Please see the maps on this page.

- Meeting Directions -

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

From the North take Hwy 45 South to Cty Hwy GG. Go right, then left on Cty Rd S. Take Main Street South and the White House Inn will be on you left side.



Commander's Remarks



*By Camp Commander
Vince Barker*

Greetings Brothers,

I hope you all survived the holidays and enjoyed some "down time" with your family and friends. With the new year Camp 8 is already leaning forward in the foxhole preparing for upcoming events this year. This will be a big year for our camp and for our department, as the WI Department hosts the SUVCW National Encampment in Brookfield in August. This is quite an honor for our department, not to mention it occurs in the middle of the Civil War Sesquicentennial. On our more immediate calendar remember that Camp 8 is hosting the bingo event at the King Veteran's Home this weekend. More details are in this newsletter. Please try to attend if possible and help us support the veterans and their spouses at the King Home.

Also, remember our January meeting on January 21st, is our annual holiday dinner at the historic Jimmy's White House Inn in Butte des Morts. Spouses are invited to share in a good meal and fellowship prior to the meeting. We will have several potential members and guests attending this year including Scott Cross from the Oshkosh Public Museum and Luann Williams from Oshkosh who is bringing a couple potential SUVCW members and will also talk to us about re-activating our Camp 8 Auxiliary. Dinner starts at 6pm with meeting at 7pm. Please join us, this is always a fun event! Hope to see you there,

In F, C, & L,
Vince

Bingo at the Veterans Home at King

Please note that on Saturday, Jan 12, 2013, we are doing Bingo at the Veterans Home located at King, WI at 1:30 pm. It starts somewhere between then and 2 pm. We will be doing this in Marden Center building

This is a good time for the camp to have exposure, help the veterans in need, and have a good time. Please try to make it. It will only last until 4 pm or so.

We can go some place afterwards and get a bit to eat and socialize.

For more information contact brother Kim Heltemes at:
heltemesk@centurylink.net

Echoes of the Past Trade Fair Feb 23-24, 2013

at the Winnebago Co. fairgrounds, Oshkosh, Wisc.

Times are Sat. 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
and Sun 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Set-up Fri 2:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. and
Sat. 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.

We have a large merchant booth (9' by 11' deep) with one table provided. 2 chairs are provided (we need to bring more along) We will get 4 free wristbands. More will have to pay.

There is a lot to see.

We need bodies to man the display so that everyone has a chance to circulate.

Sign-up sheet at the Jan. meeting.

Entire camp is invited.

Welcome New Member!

New member Kyle Preusser has got to be our youngest member.

Kyle is from Plover, Wisconsin and got interested in the Civil War when he was just 10 years old because his brother was interested in it too. This interest died out after a while until one day while in his 10th grade history class they started to learn about the Civil War.

Kyle's ancestor was Private John H. Gambill who was in Company L in the 12th Kentucky Cavalry. The 12th Kentucky Cavalry was involved in the Knoxville & Atlanta Campaigns as well as the battles of Resaca, Kennesaw Mountain, Jonesboro, Saltville, and the Siege of Atlanta.

Kyle is employed as a cart collector and bagger.

Kyle likes to spend his free time walking outside, hiking, hunting, camping, and playing video games.

Below is a picture of Kyle with his parents.

Welcome Kyle!



Camp Orders Newsletter & Camp 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 suvcw-wi.org. Hard copies will also be mailed to any member upon request to the Camp Commander or the Newsletter Editor (contact info on last page).

All photos and stories are provided by the *Camp Orders* Editor unless otherwise indicated.

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.

2013 Camp Calendar

January 12th, 1:00 PM

Bingo at Wis. Veterans Home King, WI

January 21st, 6:00 PM

Camp 8 regular meeting & Dinner

Jimmy's White House Inn Buttes Des Morts, WI

February 2nd, 9:30 AM

Dept. of WI Midwinter Meeting

Bluemound Gardens Restaurant, Wauwatosa, WI
with Patriotic Luncheon at 12:30 PM

February 23 & 24th

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Sat. 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Sun.

Echoes of the Past Trade Fair Sunnyview Expo Center
Oshkosh, WI

March 18th, 7:00 PM

Camp 8 regular meeting

May 19th, 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM

King Open House Veterans Home, King, WI

May 29th, 7:00 PM

Camp 8 regular meeting

Location:

June 15th

State Department Encampment Boscobel, Wisconsin

July 15th, 7:00 PM

Camp 8 regular meeting

Location

August 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th

2013 National Encampment
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

August 24th & 25th

Stevens Point Living History

Pfiffner Park Stevens Point, WI

September 16th, 7:00 PM

Camp 8 regular meeting

Location: t.b.d.

September 28th & 29th

Wade House Civil War Weekend

Greenbush, Wisconsin

Please send information on events that you are aware of to
kirby.scott.camp8@gmail.com

52 Gun Raffle!

The Military Veterans Museum (Oshkosh) has announced a new fund raiser for 2013 – a 52 gun raffle drawing where a drawing will be held each week of the year (rifles and shotguns), AND the winning ticket goes back into the pot for another chance!

Tickets are available now – at the bean supper - \$50 – on sale till all 2400 are sold.



Old Abe Camp 8

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



*Camp 8 member Colonel Vince Barker stands with his son, Seth after the ceremony.
Photo by Kirby Scott.*

Camp 8 Participated in the 2012 Veterans Day Observances in Oshkosh

Veterans Day Memorial Services were held Nov. 11 at the South entrance of the Winnebago County Courthouse.

Camp 8 member Colonel Vince Barker, U. S. Army Reserve, was the guest speaker.



*Camp 8 member Colonel Vince Barker was the main speaker.
Photo by Randy Novak.*



Camp 8 color guard. Photo by Kirby Scott.

Civil War Goliath

The 27th Indiana had the tallest soldier of the Civil War

A family graveyard in the northwest corner of Monroe County, Indiana serves as the final resting place of David Van Buskirk, better known as “Big Dave” or the “Big Lieutenant.”

David Campbell Van Buskirk was the oldest of ten children. He was born November 23, 1826 to parents of German & Scotch-Irish descent, James and Mariah Van Buskirk, in the vicinity of Gosport, Indiana. He spent most of his life there as a farmer, marrying three times, and producing eight children. He was famous for being the largest and tallest man in Monroe County, Indiana. He was 6'10.5" and weighed 390 pounds. He was a farmer and stock-raiser.

David Van Buskirk was born on the farm he was later to own. On March 16, 1849, he married Lucy Ann Buskirk, and they had six children. When Lucy died in 1866 he married Martha J Stephenson Able. She died in 1873.

In 1861 David Van Buskirk enlisted in Company F, 27th Indiana Infantry, and fought in the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. It was rumored that he wore out 5 horses enroute to Gettysburg. He was held as a prisoner of war after the first battle of Winchester. He was imprisoned at Lynchburg, Virginia; Salisbury, North Carolina & Libby Prison at Richmond, Virginia. After the battle of Antietam, Van Buskirk was promoted to Captain, but resigned because of disability and in 1864 he returned to his farm. Four of his relatives served with him, one dying at Chancellorsville.

Big Dave was the single tallest soldier in on either side during the Civil War. This would be about 7'4" inches today by comparison. The average soldier at the time stood five feet eight and a quarter inches tall. He was called the “Biggest Yankee in the World” by the Southern press.

When he was captured at Winchester on 25 May, 1862 Big Dave was sent to the infamous Libby Prison in Richmond. He attracted the attention of none other than Confederate President Jefferson Davis. On a visit to the prison, Davis asked about his home and family. "Back home at Bloomington Indiana," answered Van Buskirk, "I have six sisters. When they told me goodbye, as I was standing with my company, they all walked up, leaned down, and kissed me on top of the head."

David was paroled in September of 1862 and returned to his regiment October 6, 1862 where he took command of Company F when Peter Kopp was killed at Antietam. Company F boasted 35 men over



six feet. Incredibly, as large a target as Big Dave was, he was never wounded. He served with the regiment until April 1864.

After the war in 1866 he was elected County Treasurer. That same year his wife Lucy passed away and then Dave married Martha Stephenson Able and later her sister-in-law Mary Able.

In 1876 he ran for State Treasurer but was defeated.

Dave Van Buskirk's farm consisted of 450 acres of land on the White River bottom, with a residence, outbuildings and orchard, and a family cemetery on a hill east of the house.

After David died on August 12, 1886 in Gosport, Indiana, an obituary published in Bloomington's Republican Progress allowed that "few men have been more respected and honored than 'Big Dave Buskirk.'" The Captain's sword and scabbard belong to the permanent collection of the Monroe County History Center located in Bloomington, Indiana.

The "extraordinarily large and corpulent man," as he was described in his obituary, was the grandson of a

Revolutionary War soldier and the nephew of a veteran wounded in the Battle of Tippecanoe. His brother and three cousins also served in Company F. The “Monroe Grenadiers” were an unusually tall company for their day, with 67 men out of 101 exceeding six feet in stature.

As a serviceman, he participated in the battles of Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and Antietam, and rose through the ranks from Second Lieutenant to Captain. Taken prisoner on multiple occasions, “Big Dave” would allegedly bargain for additional rations by agreeing to be put on display.

By 1864, plagued with chronic sciatic rheumatism in his right hip and knee joint with an almost entire loss of motion, Van Buskirk resigned from duty on April 26, 1864 after being sick in a hospital in Dechard Station, Tennessee and trying to convalesce at home since October 25, 1863. He was not suitable for the Veterans’ Reserve Corps.

David Campbell Van Buskirk was buried in the Van Buskirk Cemetery located in Blossom Township, Gosport, Indiana.

His stone at the right reads: “He enlisted in the War of the Rebellion Aug. 13. 1861 in the 27 Ind. Vol. Co. F. as private. was soon promoted to Captain was in the Battle of Winchester May 25, 1862. taken prisoner and held in Libby Prison until the last of Sep. was then exchanged and returned to his company. was in the Battle of Chancellorsville May 3, and Gettysburg July 3 1863. Was taken sick soon after sent home and discharged.”



Dave Dresang

Many of you know our Br. Dave Dresang and the serious health issues he has been dealing with the last few years. In addition to his existing health problems, he recently had surgery for a previous auto accident injury and it did not go well. Dave is in very serious condition and is not expected to improve. Please keep Dave and his family in your prayers.

Old Abe Camp #8 member Dan Wilson has started a web page at;
<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/daviddresang>

This is a website at which all friends and acquaintances of Dave can post a note of support, write a tribute, and post photos. We would like this url to be circulated as widely as possible so that it can serve as an ongoing sympathy and support card with daily updates. This may be more practical than a visit and the updates and notes can be shared with Dave when the time is appropriate.

There is no login required and almost no limit to the number of posts and photos. I would ask that we comb our files for any and all photos of Dave that family members may not have in their possession and also any stories we may wish to share.

Old Abe Camp #8 Chaplin Dan Wilson started the first post with the Chaplain's bedside prayer.

- NOTICE - RENEWAL

2013 Dues Are Payable as of January 1st.

Please send \$40.00
to the Camp Secretary:

Alan Petit

E7602 Cutoff Road
New London, WI 54961

OLD ABE CAMP MEETING MINUTES, NOV. 12, 2012

1. Opening Ceremony-7:05 P.M. Military Veterans Museum-Oshkosh (9 members present)
2. Roll Call of officers:
 - a. Commander-here.
 - b. SVC-here.
 - c. JVC-absent (K. Scott filling in).
 - d. Secretary-here.
 - e. Treasurer-here.
3. Minutes. Approve minutes from last meeting. Moved, seconded, & approved.
4. Treasurer's Report:

Donations received in 2012-\$335.00. Donations paid out \$682.50. As of 11-12-12, \$4262.02 in checking, CD1 \$4266.89, CD2 \$1010.83. A detailed statement was presented. Copies available from treasurer.
5. Any sick or distressed brothers?

Update on Dave Dresang. He has little motion, eyes only. He has gone home to await the outcome. The chaplain led a prayer for him.
6. Introduction of visitors and guests.

3 guests: DC Thomas Brown was here for the bean dinner and to swear in the new officers. Joseph Moubarak, Mike Bouchette's son-in-law was present. Terry Schlack of the MVM opened the door for us and showed us the sights.
7. New applications to for review and acceptance?

Dwight Perkins of Thorp, Wisc. has applied for membership and his application has been passed on to department.
8. Any communications and/or bills to address?

Latest MVM newsletter was received and will be posted online to the camp.
9. Prior business:
 - a. The 3rd Wisconsin flag at the Oshkosh Public Museum has been completed and returned and is now on display at the museum.
10. Past events:
 - a. Wade House CW event. Went well. Alan and Bill sold out all the raffle tickets they had. Lighter crowd than last year. Only three camp members were there. Makes for a long session at the booth.
 - b. Oct. 26-King 125th rededication. Kim helped out a lot setting it up. Went well but the wind was freezing. Oct. 27-Florian Ries MOLLUS/SUVCW rededication ceremony. Went well. Camp 1, Camp 8, Wisc. MOLLUS, and Milwaukee Police were all represented.
11. Future events:
 - a. Jan. 21, 2013-January camp meeting will be at Jimmy's White House Inn in Butte des Morte. Dinner at 6:00 P.M., meeting at 7:00 P.M. More details in newsletter and watch the emails.

- b. Jan. 12, 2013-KING BINGO EVENT. Camp 8 hosts the weekly bingo game. See the newsletter and emails for more details.
- c. Feb. 2, 2013. Department Winter Encampment. Same place as always. See camp and department newsletters for details.
- d. Feb. 23-24, 2013 Echoes of the Past Trade Show. Need people to man the table. Sign-up sheet will be circulated at next meeting. See newsletter for details.
- e. June 2013. Department Annual Encampment will be in Boscobel at the same place as last time. Watch newsletters for further details.
- f. Aug 8-11, 2013 National Encampment. At the Brookfield Sheraton. \$99.00/night. Watch newsletters for further details.
12. New business:
 - a. Raffle prize drawing:
 - 1st Prize-revolver-John Brunow-of Eagle.
 - 2nd Prize-knife-Beth Stadler- of Sheboygan Falls.
 - 3rd. Prize-print Walter Lange-of Allenton.
 Winners will be notified and prizes sent out.
 - b. K. Kirk made a motion to send a donation of \$25.00 to the Walter Beltz Historic Landmark Church in Auroraville as thanks for letting us use the facilities in July. Seconded by K. Heltemes and approved by the camp.
 - c. Motion by K. Heltemes to continue last year's dues and fees schedule for 2013. Approved.
13. Patriotic Instructor's presentation.

There was a presentation on the breweries of Oshkosh, excerpted from a book.
14. Any other old or new business? None.
15. Has anyone anything for the good of the order. None.
16. Election of Officers:

Nominations for:

 - a. Commander- Vince Barker was nominated by Kurt Kirk.
 - b. SVC-Kirby Scott was nominated by Randy Novak.
 - c. JVC- Bill Parker was nominated by Vince Barker.
 - d. Secretary-Alan Petit was Nominated by Kurt Kirk.
 - e. Treasurer-Kurt Kirk was nominated by Kirby Scott.
 - f. Council-
 - Kim Heltemes
 - Brian Peters The slate was nominated by Kurt Kirk.
 - Kirby Scott
 - g. Delegate-Dan Wilson was nominated by Vince Barker.

Votes were taken after each nomination. All were elected by unanimous ballot.

Dan Wilson was reappointed chaplain. Vince will present the list of staff appointments at a later date.
17. Officers were installed by DC Thomas Brown.
18. Closing ceremony. Closed at 8:___ P.M.

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

Camp Officers for 2013

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

Sr. Vice Commander - Kirby Scott - 2545 W. Waukau Ave. #6 Oshkosh, WI 54904 (920) 858-1916 kirby.scott.camp8@gmail.com

Jr. Vice Commander - William Parker - 351 17th St. North WI. Rapids, WI 54494 (715) 424-2627 wildbill@wctc.net

Secretary - PCC Alan Petit - E7602 Cutoff Rd. New London, WI 54961 (920) 982-2374 apetitsuvcw@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) 340-6537 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 - W2570 Archer Ave. Pine River, WI 54965 (920) 987-5911 heltemesk@vbe.com

Camp Council - PDC Brian Peters - 646 Rays Lane Stevens Point, WI 54481 (715) 344-7924 peters@powercom.net

Camp Council - Kirby Scott - 2545 W. Waukau Ave. #6 Oshkosh, WI 54904 (920) 858-1916 kirby.scott.camp8@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor - Kirby Scott - 2545 W. Waukau Ave. #6 Oshkosh, WI 54904 (920) 858-1916 kirby.scott.camp8@gmail.com

Camp 8 November 12th Meeting

Our November 12th meeting was at the motor pool building of the Military Veterans Museum in Oshkosh, WI.

This was our annual bean supper as well as the time to elect our 2013 officers of the Camp.

Here are the Camp 8 officers for the 2013 year elected at our Camp meeting on November 12, 2012.

Camp Commander - Vince Barker
Senior Vice Commander - Kirby Scott
Junior Vice Commander - William Parker
Camp Secretary - Alan Petit
Camp Treasurer - Kurtis Kirk
Camp Delegate - Dan Wilson
Camp Council – three positions:
Brian Peters, Kim Heltemes, Kirby Scott



Terry Novak draws the winning tickets for the Camp's 2012 raffle prizes. Photo by Kirby Scott.



2012 – 2013 Camp officers are sworn in by State Commander Tom Brown, Photo by Randy Novak.



Some of the vehicles in the motor pool building. Photo by Kirby Scott.



Traditional bean supper was enjoyed by all. Photo by Randy Novak.



Camp members pose in front of a Soviet T-34/85 Tank in the motor pool building. Picture by Kirby Scott

ABRAHAM LINCOLN SPOKE HERE

*The Underground Railroad
Stopped Here*

Four Union Generals and
21 Colonels Made Their Homes Here

The Grand Army Encamped Here (4 times)

CONGRESS BUILT A NATIONAL HOME
FOR CIVIL WAR VETS HERE

HAVE WE PIQUED YOUR INTEREST?



THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE
AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN INVITE YOU TO THE

2013 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

AUGUST 8 - 11, 2013



2013 National Encampment Commemorative Badge

— Artist's rendition, appearance of actual medal may vary slightly.

A special commemorative medal has been produced, celebrating the last National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic in Wisconsin. The badge also honors Wisconsin's Civil War eagle, Old Abe, mascot of the 8th Wisconsin Infantry, who became a living symbol of the Union at war. This is a limited edition—supplies are limited!

_____ [quantity] Commemorative Badges @ \$20 each = \$ _____

Check one: ☐ Mail badge(s) to me ☐ Pick up badge(s) at Encampment

Shipping & Handling Fee @ \$3 each = \$ _____

(Note: shipping and handling fee waived if picked up at the National Encampment)

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Send this form with check (payable to "National Encampment 2013 SUVCW") to:

2013 Commemorative Badge
c/o PCinC Steve Michaels
6623 S. North Cape. Rd.
Franklin, WI 53132



Camp 8 Newsletter
Kirby Scott
2545 West Waukau Avenue #6
Oshkosh, WI 54904-9292
kirby.scott.camp7@gmail.com

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 own page 7 of this newsletter. Visit the Department of Wisconsin website, and Camp 8 WebPages, at www.suvcw-wi.org. Also, visit the national SUVCW website at www.suvcw.org. Camp 8 also has a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/Old-Abe-Camp-8-Sons-of-Union-Veterans-of-the-Civil-War-SUVCW/192313178329.

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 officer below for information.

Join Old Abe Camp 8! **Membership**

\$40.00/yr. Annual Dues*

For New Membership, Contact:

Jr. Vice William Parker

351 17th St. North, WI Rapids, WI 54494

(715) 424-2627 wildbill@wctc.net



**Old Abe Camp 8 Sons of Union
Veterans of the Civil War
(SUVCW)**