



Camp Orders 2015-05

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Grand Army of the Republic

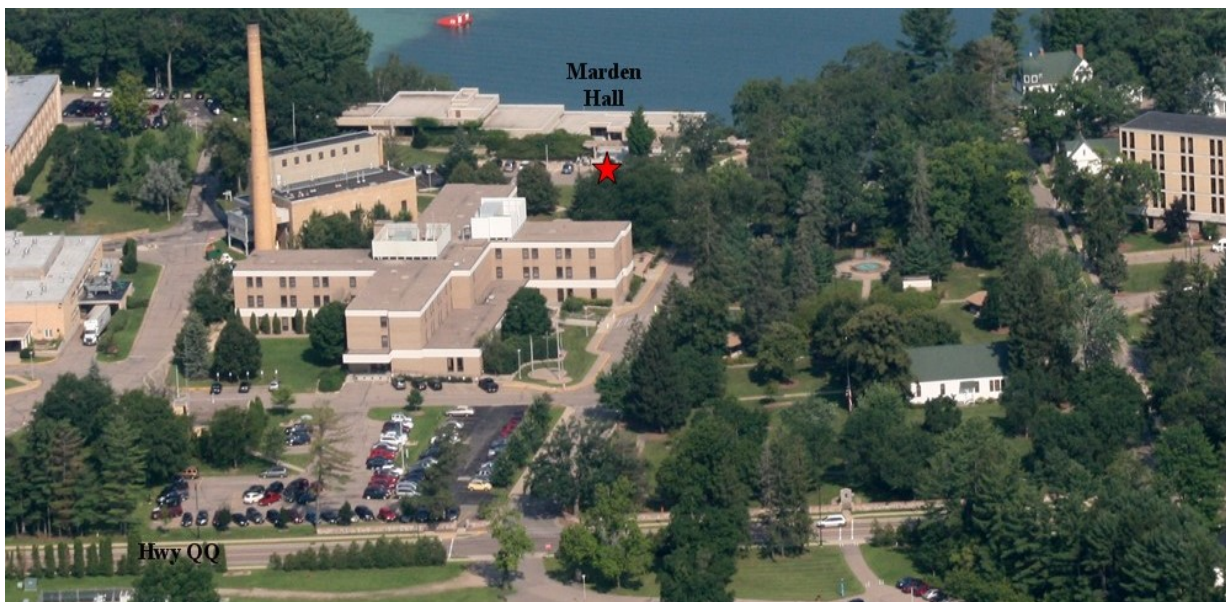
“Old Abe” Camp #8

Wisconsin Department

September 2015



**Camp September 21st meeting will be held
at Marden Hall, Veterans Home in King, WI.**



***Next Old Abe
Camp 8 Meeting
will be on***

***September 21st
Meeting starts at***

7:00 PM

Location is:

**Marden Hall at the
Veterans Home in King,
WI.**

**Wear Your
Membership Badge**

Our next Camp meeting will be held at the Veterans Home located in King, Wisconsin.

We will meet in Marden Hall, which is located where the red star is in the above picture.

Enter through the main doors and go to your left. When you get to the elevators, go down one floor, exit the elevator, go left, then take a quick right to get to the meeting room on the right side.

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

CAMP COMMANDER WILLIAM W. PARKER



September is here and with it comes fall. The past couple of months have been busy since the last July meeting I have attended a special lunch for Rich Beggs in Clintonville Wisconsin, who has earned his 40 year service pin. Also the Boscobel Civil War Reenactment where I also attended Camp 49 meeting on the restoration project of the GAR hall there which is a very extensive project. The following weekend a few of us attended Iola military show where we had a decent day selling raffle tickets.

The September meeting will be at Kings Marsden Hall on Monday September 21st at 7 pm. Hopefully we will have our new camp flags there and we will have a discussion on meeting options for next year. Keep in mind election of officers is right around the corner at November meeting. At the end of September we have the historic Wade house Reenactment the weekend of September 26-27.

In F, C and L
William Wayne Parker
Camp Commander



Old Abe Camp 8 July Meeting and Cookout at Kurt Kirk's home in Auroraville, Wisconsin

Edward S Bragg #8, ASUVCW

Auxiliary President

Kathy Heltemes

Hi Sisters,

I hope you all had a very nice summer. School has started and fall is just around the corner. Before you know it the holidays will be here.

Our next meeting is Monday, September 21, 2015. The meeting is at King at The Veterans Home and will begin at 7:00 P.M. I hope all of you will be able to attend. We are still looking to start doing some money making projects to fund the Auxiliary. Any ideas are welcome and appreciated. The winter provides time for working on them.

It is with sadness that I inform you of the passing of our sister Frances Galow. Frances is LuAnn William's mother and was one of the sisters instrumental in the forming of Edward S Bragg Auxiliary #8. She was a charter member.

I just came back from Nationals in Richmond, Va. We had a very nice meeting for 2days. Denise Oman is our State Auxiliary President. She was recently elected to this position in June at the annual State Encampment. She was also elected as National Vice President. We also had Grace Richmond from Auxiliary #5 elected as the National Press Correspondent. She is one of our junior members. Grace is only a junior in high school. We were very proud of her.

On Saturday and Sunday September 26 and 27 our Auxiliary along with Camp 8 will be setting up a table at the Wade House reenactment in Greenbush. This is located east of Fond du Lac about 20 miles. We could use help manning the table.

Going forward I just want to let everyone know that in our November meeting the third Monday night in November we will have the annual Bean dinner. Everyone brings a dish to pass consisting of some type of bean dish or a desert. This dinner is also our elections for the next year. Please be thinking of maybe taking a position of office in the Auxiliary.

Hope to see you all soon!
F,C,&L Kathy Heltemes

Neenah Historical Society and Neenah's Vintage Adventure

Saturday September 19th 8 am set up at the Octagon House

Come out and enjoy the day with members and visitors

Edward S Bragg #8, ASUVCW

AUXILIARY TO THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



Are you looking to give back to your country? Honor your Civil War ancestor?
Do more with your husband who is a Sons of Union Veterans member?

Join me in becoming a charter member of a new auxiliary and...

- Instill love of country in yourself and others
- Assist the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- Properly observe Memorial Day
- Support our troops
- Help with headstone dedications
- Support our Veterans at King Veterans Home
- Learn and teach proper flag etiquette
- Learn more about the Civil War
- Care for and support your fellow Auxiliary members
- Meet new friends and have fun

LuAnn Williams 2630 Hearthstone Dr Oshkosh WI 54901
920-410-5548 Lulabel10806@Yahoo.com

September 19th

Neenah Historical Society and Neenah's Vintage Adventure 8am

Location: Octagon House, 347 Smith Street, Neenah WI

September 21st

Camp 8 regular meeting 7pm

Location: Marden Hall King Veterans Home, King WI

September 26th & 27th

Old Wade House Civil War

Location: Old Wade House Greenbush, WI

November 16th

Camp 8 Election of Officers and Traditional Bean Dinner 7pm

Location: Fire House #17 1813 Algoma Blvd Oshkosh WI

*Please send information on events that you are aware of to be included in this newsletter to:
dennergb@hotmail.com*

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 Newsletter Editor. Deadline for a submission is 3 weeks prior to a meeting.

The Road to Camp Randall

By Paul Johnson

Patriotic Instructor

In looking at the political situation prior to the outbreak of the Civil War and Wisconsin's participation we must look at the strong Abolitionist tendency within the state.

While immigration from Ireland and Germany between statehood (1848) and the outbreak of war (1861) was large, the state was largely founded and governed by people from the New England states where the Abolitionist movement was at its strongest

In 1860, Gov. Randall, in his address to a joint session of the Legislature, stated his case for a peaceful settlement of the question of slavery through law.

".....There is no right of interference with slavery in the Slave States by legislation in the Free States, tending to its abolition, or by citizens of the Free States through a violent intervention. But the government was formed for the declared purpose of "preserving the blessings of Liberty," among other things, and not for the purpose of extending slavery. The colonies which so urgently denounced the evils of the institution and so strongly complained of the slave trade, now, erected into states, seek to force upon free territories the evils of a system they then deplored, by planting slavery where the Fathers of the Republic never intended it should go...."

"...An institution so inhuman, so pernicious in its character, so disastrous to the interests of free labor, and terrible in its consequences to the bondmen, and so antagonistic to the great principles of human liberty that underlie our government, ought, by the exercise of every legitimate power, to be restrained from any further extension...."

"...Shall the mighty States of this hemisphere—the pioneers of the liberal principle of the greatest good to the greatest number—be known to the red and black races, struggling into existence, under liberal forms of government, in neighboring climes, suited to their caste, only as depredators and enslavers ?

They seem to have been committed to our guardianship by the gracious Providence that has conferred so many blessings upon us in the achievement of our own liberties."

His intent in the speech seemed to remind his audience of how deeply the institution of slavery put the expansion of the states in jeopardy, and ran against the basic unpinning of our nation.

Gov. Randall believed that if Lincoln did not gain the Presidency, Randall planned to propose secession from the union.

To drive the point home, it was reported in the March 10, 1860 The Daily Milwaukee News, that:

"Gov. Randall has sent a special communication to the Legislature, asking them to so amend the militia law, as to give him the power to compel the citizen soldiery, to fight the United States with arms which the United States Government itself has furnished them with, for a very different purpose. That would be a good joke on Uncle Sam."

In the opening session of the Legislature, "The Report of the Adjutant General shows 55 volunteer military companies, embracing 2,365 rank and file.

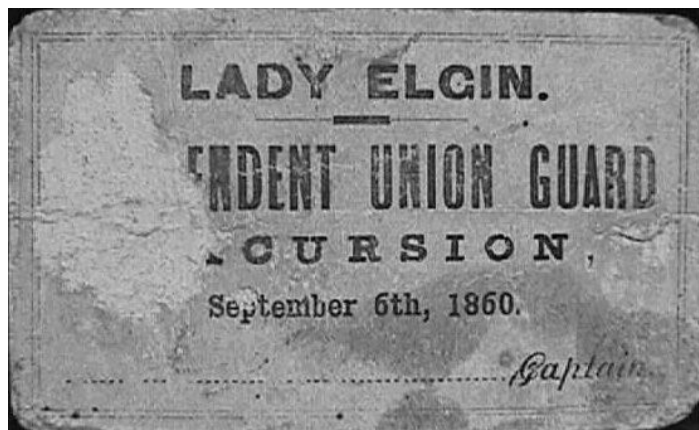
Gov Randall had the state adjutant meet with militia leaders to see who would support this move, and all but the Third Ward Irish Union Guard supported Randall's proposal. The whole proposal of course became mute when Lincoln was elected as President and Randall threw his support to the Union as the mechanism to abolish slavery.

In Milwaukee, what had been a fur trading post with access to the lake for transport of raw materials out through Great Lakes system become a major port of entry for immigrant groups from Ireland and Germany. The city grew with the two groups competing for political power.

The story of the Lady Elgin disaster helps illustrate the point. There was a dispute over a suggestion from radical abolitionists that Wisconsin secede from the Union if the federal government did NOT abolish slavery. The state Adjutant General James A. Swain polled the various militia companies on their possible reaction. Captain Garrett Barry of the Milwaukee Irish Union Guard from the predominately Irish and Democratic 3rd Ward told the adjutant that if the secession were to become a fact, that he and his company would support the Federal Government under any circumstances. The adjutant revoked the commission of the captain and ordered the unit to disband.

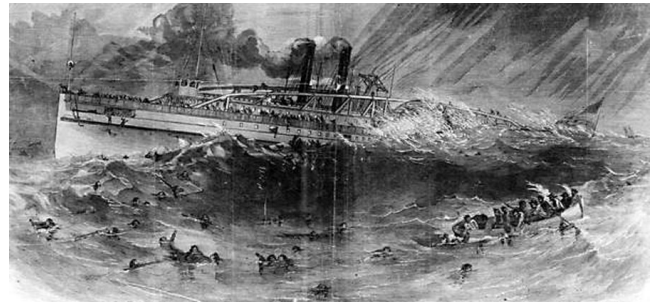
In a response to the order and waiting an official proclamation Capt Barry wrote this open letter to the adjutant general in the March 10, 1860 of The Daily Milwaukee News

"Is it the intention to go through with a mere form without actual demand of the arms, for fear of a refusal, and consequent resistance, or a regret at the issuing of an ill-advised and uncalled-for order. If the former please inform the Governor that, though the arms are the property of the United States, and given to the State in trust, to be used by the militia, for the purpose of executing laws of the Union, suppressing insurrection, and repelling invasions, the law of the State required that I should deliver up the arms to his authority whenever officially commanded; which will be cheerfully complied with, as the members of the Company are anxious, with myself, to place ourselves outside the militia law of this state as now executed."



The unit continued holding events to fund its ongoing existence. One of the events was a cruise of the company to Chicago to attend a Democratic rally and listen to a speech the Democratic candidate for president, Steven A. Douglas. The cruise was booked for September 7, 1860 aboard the Lady Elgin, a popular steamer of the time. The excursion paraded the unit, did sight seeing around Chicago and attended a dinner-dance and heard Douglas' speech.

At 11:00 p.m. the party re-boards the Lady Elgin and, despite misgivings about the weather, its captain, Jack Wilson sets sail. Clearing harbor the Lady Elgin cruises out onto the lake and towards Milwaukee when at about 2:30 a.m. it collided with the 129 ft., 266 ton schooner Augusta. The ship broke apart within 20 minutes of being struck, in all about 400 or more people perished, taking most of the elite of Milwaukee's Irish community to the bottom of Lake Michigan.



The disaster contributed to a shift in the politics of Milwaukee, allowing the Germans to move into power. The Lady Elgin disaster had its effects felt for many years, starting with the 1860 election and subsequent support for the "War of the Rebellion."

Before Sumter, the legislature under the guidance of Gov Randal had passed a resolution supporting the Union and authorizing \$100,000 for its defense.

It has been argued that the victims of the Lady Elgin, aboard for mainly political reasons in rejecting secession of Wisconsin were amongst, if not the first casualties of the Civil War. There is a section in Calvary Cemetery (located on West Bluemound Road, Milwaukee) in which there is several hundred tombstones with names of the unrecovered victims of the tragedy.

OLD ABE CAMP MEETING MINUTES, JUL. 20, 2015

1. Motion to go informal. Kim moved, Vince seconded. Kurt Kirk's backyard, Auroraville, Wisc. (9 members present)
Passed. Started at 7:30 P.M.
2. Roll Call of officers:
 - a. Commander-present.
 - b. SVC-present.
 - c. JVC-present.
 - d. Secretary-present.
 - e. Treasurer-present.
3. Minutes of 5-18-15 meeting approved as published.
4. Sick or distressed brothers. None. Dennis Egan is coming along nicely.
5. Introduction of guests. None.
6. New members: Joe Lindsey of Sturgeon Bay has applied for membership.
7. Prior business:
 - a. Flags. Two large camp flags, w/lettering. Are approved and to be ordered from Danny Wheeler, the national quartermaster. Two large national flags, CW infantry regulation size will also be purchased. Accoutrements also.
 - b. King dedication in October. More details later.
8. New business:
 - a. Rich Beggs 40 year service pin presentation in Clintonville, at Matthews Restaurant, Jul. 22, 2015 at 12:30 P.M. CK Pier Camp 1 representative and Camp 8 CC and DC plan on attending. All brothers invited.
 - b. Iola military show, Aug 8-9, 2015. See Kurt for details.
 - c. Plover Cemetary GAR monument in bad shape. Possible camp project? CC Bill will try to get pictures.
9. Past events:
 - a. Memorial Day-May 25, 2015-King. Rained a lot-held indoors- went off okay.
 - b. Memorial Day-May 25, 2015-Oshkosh-went off okay.
 - c. Department encampment-Jun.6, 2015-Kenosha-went off okay.
 - d. Heritage Hill CW encampment-Jun.20-21, 2015-D. Jacobs and A. Petit attended for Camp 8. We sold some raffle tickets and the event went off okay. Ist. Brigade Band was there. Excellent.
 - e. Camp Randall Dedication-Jul. 18, 2015-CinC Tad Campbell, DC Kim Heltemes, PCinC Steve Michaels present. Rained hard, otherwise went off okay.
10. Future Events:
 - a. Iola Military Show-Iola, Wisc.-Aug. 8-9, 2015-call K. Kirk for details.
 - b. SUV CW national encampment-Aug. 20-23, 2015-Richmond, Vir.
 - c. Wade House CW event-Sept.26-27, 2015-Greenbush, Wisc. More details at next meeting.
 - d. Next meeting. Vince will explore possible use of the Marine Corps League facilities, for March and July??

11. Any communications and/or bills to address? NONE.
12. Any other old or new business to address? NONE.
13. Has anybody done anything for the good of the order. NONE.
14. Patriotic Instruction. See newsletter.
15. Close. 8:30 P.M.

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

Images of the Plover GAR Memorial in the
Plover Cemetery. Future project proposed by our
Commander William Parker.



Camp Officers for 2015

Commander

William Parker – 351 17th Street North WI. Rapids, WI 54494
(715) 451-1330 wildbill@wctcl.net

Sr. Vice Commander

Dennis Jacobs – 329 N. Jackson Street Green Bay, WI 54301
(920) 471-7824 dennergb@hotmail.com

Jr. Vice Commander

Jeff Williams – 970 Christian Drive Oshkosh, WI 54901
(920) 232-4752 e6843d8@yahoo.com

Secretary

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

Treasurer

Kurtis Kirk - W2154 Cottonville Court. Berlin, WI 54923
(920) 361-1194 kkirk000@centurytel.net

Patriotic Instructor

Paul Johnson - 8804 Pine Lake Road Hiles, WI 54511
(715) 649-3359 johhnson@newnorth.net

Chaplain

PCC Vince Barker – W6109 Colonial Drive Appleton, WI 54494
(920) 993-0676 vbarker@new.rr.com

Delegate

Jeff Williams - 970 Christian Drive Oshkosh, WI 54901
(920) 232-4752 e6843d8@yahoo.com

Graves Registration

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

Memorials

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

Historian

PCC Kirby Scott - 2545 West Waukau Avenue #6 Oshkosh, WI 54904
(920) 858-1916 kirby.scott.camp8@gmail.com

Camp Council

PCC Kirby Scott – 2545 West Waukau Avenue #6 Oshkosh, WI 54904
(920) 858-1916 kirby.scott.camp8@gmail.com

Camp Council

Paul Johnson – 8804 Pine Lake Road Hiles, WI 54511
(715) 649-3359 johnson@newnorth.net

Camp Council

Dennis Jacobs – 316 North Jackson Street #5 Green Bay, WI 54301
(920) 471-7824 dennergb@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Dennis Jacobs – 329 N. Jackson Street #5 Green Bay, WI 54301
(920) 471-7824 dennergb@hotmail.com



Camp 8 Newsletter

Dennis Jacobs
329 N. Jackson Street #5
Green Bay, WI 54301
dennergib@hotmail.com

NEXT OLD ABE CAMPE 8 MEETING September 21st

Meeting starts at 7:00PM at
Marden Hall
King Veterans Home
King, WI.

Wear Your
Membership Badge

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 on page 13 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!

\$40.00/yr. Annual Dues

For Membership, Contact:
Junior Vice Jeff Williams
970 Christian Drive, Oshkosh,
WI 54901
(920) 232-4752
e6843d8@yahoo.com



Find us on
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Old Abe Camp 8 Sons of Union
Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW)