



Camp Orders 2016-05

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Grand Army of the Republic

“Old Abe” Camp #8

Wisconsin Department

September 2016



September Camp Meeting Will Be Held At Oshkosh Fire Station #17, 1813 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh, WI



Our September meeting, Monday, September 19th, is being held at Oshkosh Fire Station #17, 1813 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh, WI.

This fire station is located at the southern end of Riverside Cemetery in Oshkosh, WI. Parking will be in back of the fire station where the red arrow is.

- Meeting Directions -

Coming from the north or south take Hwy 41 to exit 120. After exiting head into the city of Oshkosh on Algoma Blvd. Drive on Algoma Blvd past the large cemetery on your right which will be Riverside Cemetery. At the end Riverside Cemetery you will see Fire Station #17 just before the intersection of Algoma Blvd & West Murdock Avenue.

From Waupaca & the west take Hwy 45 straight into Oshkosh. Hwy 45 becomes Algoma Blvd once you pass over Hwy 41. Stay on Algoma Blvd & go past the large cemetery on your right which will be Riverside Cemetery. At the end Riverside Cemetery you will see Fire Station #17 just before the

Commander's Comments

Camp Commander

William W. Parker



Greetings brothers. We have a rather active fall season ahead of us. September 24th and 25th is the Wade House Civil War reenactment. Past Camp Commander Kirby Scott will be there to set up our display Friday night and I am planning on being at the event all weekend. Also on Saturday October 22nd we have a Boy Scout Jamboree at the Tri-Norse Ski area near Rome Wisconsin. We will be doing musket fire demonstrations for 50-60 boy scouts, we need to be there at 8:00 A.M. with the scouts coming through in groups around 9:00 A.M. Our next meeting will be Monday September 19th at the Oshkosh fire station at 7:00 P.M.

Brothers, as many of you know November is our camp elections, I will be stepping down as camp commander at that time. I feel it is time for someone new to take charge of the camp. The past two years have been a great experience as camp commander of Old Abe Camp 8 and look forward to many years as an active member of the camp. If anybody is interested in an officer position at the November elections, please call or email me at any time.

Wade House Civil War Reenactment – Greenbush, Wisconsin

We need your assistance at the Old Abe Camp 8 booth

Saturday September 24, 2016 9am - 4pm

Sunday September 25, 2016 9am - 4pm

Boy Scout Jamboree – Tri-Norse Ski Area –

1001 County Road O, Rome, Wisconsin

We need men with muskets for a musket fire demonstration

Saturday October 22, 2016 8am

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 Lulabell0806@Yahoo.com

To receive a copy of the Edward S Bragg #8, ASUVCW Newsletter
Email LuAnn Williams Lulabell0806@yahoo.com

2016 Camp Calendar

- September 19th, 7:00 PM** Camp 8 regular meeting
Location: Oshkosh Fire Station #17
- September 24th – 25th** Civil War at Wade House
Location: Wade House, Greenbush, WI
- October 22nd, 8:00AM** Boy Scout Jamboree
Location: Tri-Noske Ski Area, 1001 Cty Rd O, Rome, WI
- November 21st, 7:00 PM** Camp 8 regular meeting, election of officers, & traditional bean supper
Location: Oshkosh Fire Station #17

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

On Aug. 11th, Camp 8 brothers MAJ John Bowe and BG Vince Barker visited the Big Hole National Battlefield located in the Bitterroot Valley in western Montana. The Battle of Big Hole took place on Aug 9-10, 1877, and involved MG John Gibbon's 7th Infantry and the Nez Perce Indians under Chief Joseph. After Gibbon's troops initially charged into the village, killing mostly non-combatants, the Nez Perce braves counterattacked, pushing the Soldiers up a steep mountainside near the village. Over the course of the afternoon and into the night, 30 soldiers were killed, before the Nez Perce retreated after US reinforcements began to arrive. Gibbon had brought along a small mountain howitzer that arrived late in the battle. After setting up on the mountain side the gun crew fired two rounds, which fell short, before they were overrun by the Nez Perce braves, killing one of the gun crew. The Indians dismantled the gun, however the tube was recovered the next day and is now on display in the Big Hole Visitor's Center. The cannon in the photo is a reproduction but is in the exact location of the original engagement.

*An interesting note, MG Gibbon and his Soldiers from the 7th US Infantry were the same Soldiers who were the first to arrive on the Little Big Horn battlefield and discover the bodies of Custer and his 220 troopers from the 7th Cavalry, a little more than a year earlier.



Horses in the Civil War

Paul Johnson

Patriotic Instructor

The first use of horses in warfare occurred over 5,000 years ago. The earliest evidence of horses ridden in warfare dates from Eurasia between 4000 and 3000 BC. A Sumerian illustration of warfare from 2500 BC depicts some type of equine pulling wagons. By 1600 BC, improved harness and chariot designs made chariot warfare common throughout the Ancient Near East, and the earliest written training manual for war horses was a guide for training chariot horses written about 1350 BC. As formal cavalry tactics replaced the chariot, so did new training methods, and by 360 BC, the Greek cavalry officer Xenophon had written an extensive treatise on horsemanship. The effectiveness of horses in battle was also revolutionized by improvements in technology, including the invention of the saddle, the stirrup, and later, the horse collar. During the era of the Civil War, 1861-1865, there were no internal combustion engines fueled by gasoline, so there were only three ways to transport men, equipment and supplies: by boat, by train, or by horse. Horses were the primary means for logistics. Horses were used by artillery, by cavalry, by infantry, and by teamsters to move men and equipment.

When the Civil War broke out in the spring of 1861, there were approximately 3.4 million horses in the Northern states, and 1.7 million in the Confederate states. The border states of Missouri and Kentucky had an additional 800,000 horses. During the Civil War, the Union used over 825,000 horses for the purposes described above. More than 1,000,000 horses and mules were killed during the Civil War. In the early days of the conflict, more horses than men were killed. Just at the July 1863 Battle of Gettysburg alone, the number of horses killed was about 1,500—881 horses and mules for the Union, and 619 for the Confederacy. The toll taken on these loyal animals—upon which both sides relied heavily—was staggering, and is all too often overlooked.

Horses in the Infantry



In infantry regiments most of the senior officers were mounted, in fact officers could draw rations for as many as three horses. As any example, when Col. William Robinson of the 7th Wis. Vol. Inf. left Madison, Wis. for Washington he had four horses. It is assumed that he had two horses to pull his personal wagon and two riding horses. One of his horses was shot from under him at the battle of Brawner's Farm. Many of the senior staff of regiments and divisions was mounted.

The most prominent role horses played in the infantry, in fact all units of the Army was that of draft horses. The draft or pulling duties was shared between horses and mules. The standard wagon was the three-team (6 horses) two-ton Quartermaster wagons.



Cavalry Horses

Each Infantry company was assigned one of these wagons, and the regiment was assigned six for a total of ten wagons. Add to this the private wagons of the officers and one sees the length of road a single regiment of Infantry could occupy.



Immediately prior to the break out of hostilities between the National Government and the Confederate States, the U.S. Army had developed and built a quantity of ambulances. Up to that time, there was no purpose built ambulance in government service. In previous wars, various wagons were pressed into service for the transporting the sick and wounded. Most were found unsuitable. The commission that developed the specifications for the first U.S. Army ambulances examined European designs and those submitted by American sources. It was decided that a light, single horse, two-wheeled cart and a heavier, two (sometimes four) horse, four-wheeled wagon be built. A Battalion of Infantry was to receive an allotment of one two-wheeled cart per company plus one more two-wheeled cart and a four-wheeled wagon per battalion. Later, men were drafted from regiments to form an Ambulance Corps. An innovation of Jonathan Letterman, the Ambulance Corps first officially appears in the Army of the Potomac (1862). Congress would later make the institution a mandated part of the establishment (1864).



At the start of the war, the Northern states held approximately 3.4 million horses, while there were 1.7 million in the Confederate states. The border states of Missouri and Kentucky had an extra 800,000 horses. In addition, there were 100,000 mules in the North, 800,000 in the seceding states and 200,000 in Kentucky and Missouri. During the war, the Union used over 825,000 horses. The average price of a horse was \$150.00 a head. Occasionally, high-class horses were found, but the reverse was commonly true.

The role of cavalry historically was to provide screening, reconnaissance, mobile firepower and shock effect. Not all soldier on horseback were cavalry, there also was “mounted infantry” whose function was mobility and did not perform the screening and reconnaissance of the Cavalry.

Training horses for cavalry duties more often was processes of training both man and animal as most cavalry tactics in rely on the interaction of horse and rider.

Despite an initial supply problem and lack of leadership and mission focus, by mid-1863 the Union cavalry was coming into its own. Union quartermasters smartly purchased many Morgans, a uniquely American breed known for endurance, versatility, heart and courage. The largest cavalry battle of the war, involving 17,000 horsemen, occurred on June 9, 1863, at Brandy Station, Va.

Stuart's forces were preparing to advance in order to screen Lee's march north toward Gettysburg. Begun by a Union surprise attack, the Confederates finally fended off the enemy. Yet the Union soldiers' strong stand resulted from the fact that for the first time, they had trained and been commanded as a coherent corps. After the Battle of Gettysburg, Union cavalry fought 15 battles in 16 days and captured or destroyed half of Stuart's cavalry, as well as 4,000 or so horses and mules and 1,000 loaded wagons. The South's food crisis also gave Union cavalry operations an edge; by early 1865 well-fed Northern cavalry mounts were able to beat malnourished Confederate horses to their own supply trains and depots in Virginia.

Horses and Field Artillery



The field artillery of the Civil War was designed to be mobile. When Union or Confederate troops marched across country, the guns moved with them. During battle, the guns were moved to assigned positions and then were switched from place to place, pulled back or sent forward as fortune demanded. The field batteries went galloping off to support an advance or repel an attack. When they withdrew, they contested the field as they went. Movement was everything. The guns could fulfill their essential function only when they could be moved where they were most needed.

The qualities most valued in a horse intended for artillery were described in John Gibbon's diary: "The horse for artillery service should be from fifteen to sixteen hands high ... should stand erect on his legs, be strongly built, but free in his movements; his shoulders should be large enough to give support to the collar but not too heavy; his body full, but not too long; the sides well rounded; the limbs solid with rather strong shanks, and the feet in good condition. To these qualities he should unite, as much as possible, the qualities of the saddle horse; should trot and gallop easily, have even gaits and not be skittish."

Reminder

Annual Bean Dinner and Camp Elections

November 21st, 2016

Fire Station #17 Oshkosh

Supper at 6:00pm

Meeting and Election at 7:00pm

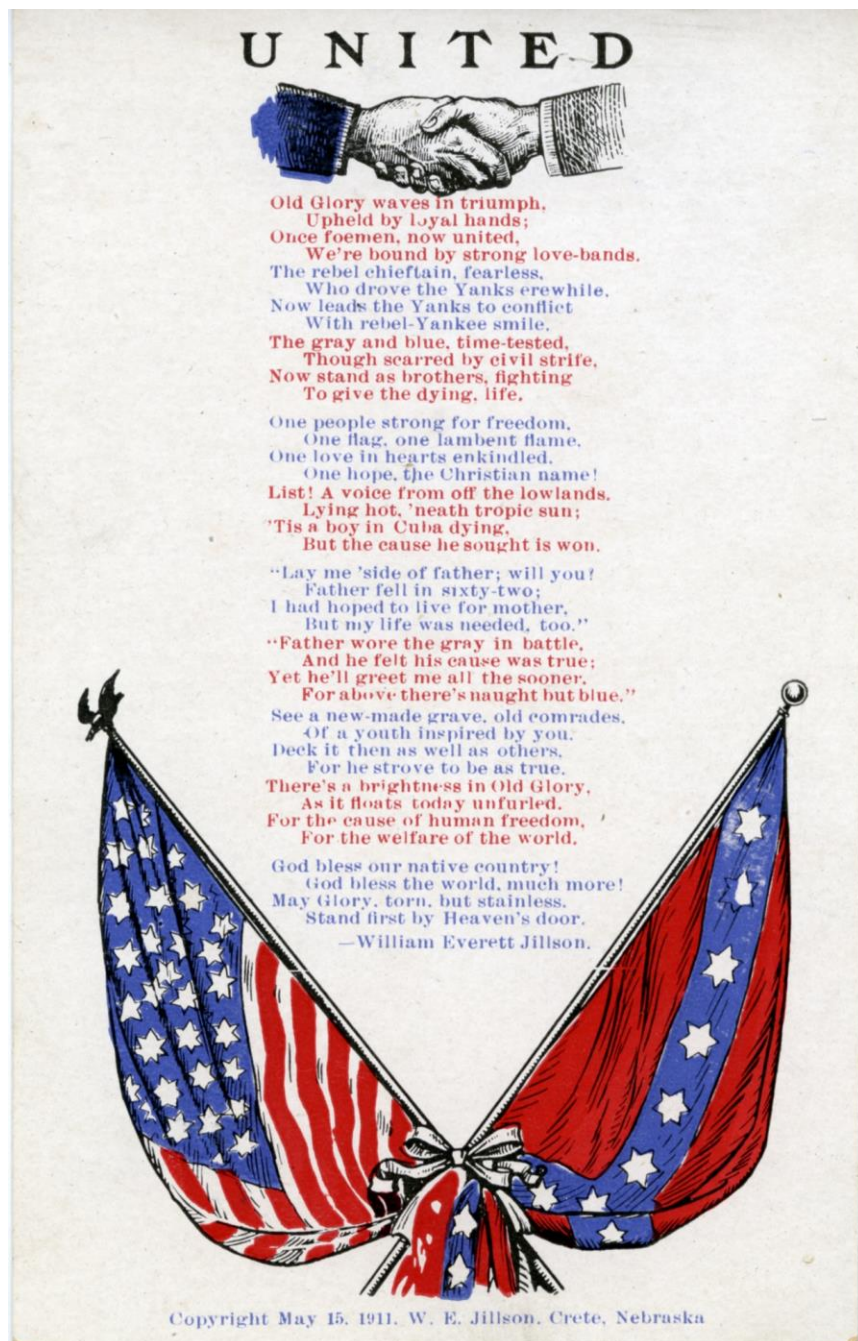


OLD ABE CAMP MEETING MINUTES, JUL. 18, 2016

1. Started at 7:20 P.M. Motion made and approved to dispense with ritual for to-night. Cook out at K. Kirks house.
(No roll taken. 8-10 present)
2. Roll call of officers. NONE.
3. Treasurer's report. \$4216.42 in checking. \$9509.77 on hand total. Department dues are paid. Spent \$46.00 for Memorial Day food supplies. Spent \$37.00 for food for tonight.
4. Any sick or distressed brothers? Kirby looked good at King, Kim H. had his cast off.
5. Guests? NONE.
6. Any new brothers? NONE.
7. Prior business.
 - a. We can get a regulation silk 34-35 star infantry flag (6' x 6 ½') for \$300.00 from Squaw Creek Sutlery of Texas. Stars to be hand painted. A motion was made by K. Heltemes and seconded by J. Williams to proceed and order one up. Motion passed.
 - b. Poles. Long or short? Metal collapsable. type with spearhead and tassels and trimmings. Secretary will check this out. Also collapsed length.
8. New business.
 - a. GAR star flagholders for graves. Used up our supply and we need more. Motion bt K. Heltemes and seconded by J. Williams to buy 10 more at \$18.00 each. Motion passed. Secretary will buy 10 at the National Encampment in August.
 - b. K. Heltemes filled us in on some possible future projects at King VA Home. Benches and flagpoles were mentioned.
9. Past events:
 - a. Pinecrest Village CW event was held May 14-15, 2016.
 - b. King Open House, May 15, 2016. Several brothers there. Event went well.
 - c. Memorial Day commemorations.
 1. Don Blaney read Logan's orders at Oshkosh.
 2. King VA Home. A number of brothers were there. Went well.
 3. Grave dedication and pic-nic at Weyawega after King. Went well.
 - d. Department Encampment at Wind Lake. Jun. 11, 2016. Camp #15 hosted. Went Well. Alan Petit elected DC and Brian McManus SVC.
 - e. Heritage Hill Park CW Event. Dennis Jacobs was there.
10. New events:
 - a. Old Wade House CW event. Sept.24-25, 2016. Who is going and will we set up our information booth?
 - b. Boy Scout Jamboree type event near Rome, Wisc. Oct 22, 2016. 9:00 A.M.-4:30 P.M. See Bill Parker for details

11. Any communications and/or bills to address.
 - a. Camp #8 paid our dues to the Military Veteran's Museum in Oshkosh.
12. Any other business? NONE.
13. Patriotic Instruction is in the newsletter.
14. Anything for the good of the order? NO.
15. Closed at 8:23 P.M.

Submitted by DC Alan O. Petit, Secretary Old Abe Camp #8, Dept. of Wisc, SUVC



Working for the Brown County Library's Local History and Genealogy Department offers me a unique opportunity to find hidden gems like this postcard from 1912 in our collections. This was in a library scrapbook from 1912.

Senior Vice Commander
Dennis R Jacobs



Camp 8 Newsletter
Dennis R Jacobs
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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 18 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 Ron Arndt

N10998 Town Hall Rd, Marion, WI 54901

(715) 754-4842

roliarndt@frontiernet.net



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