

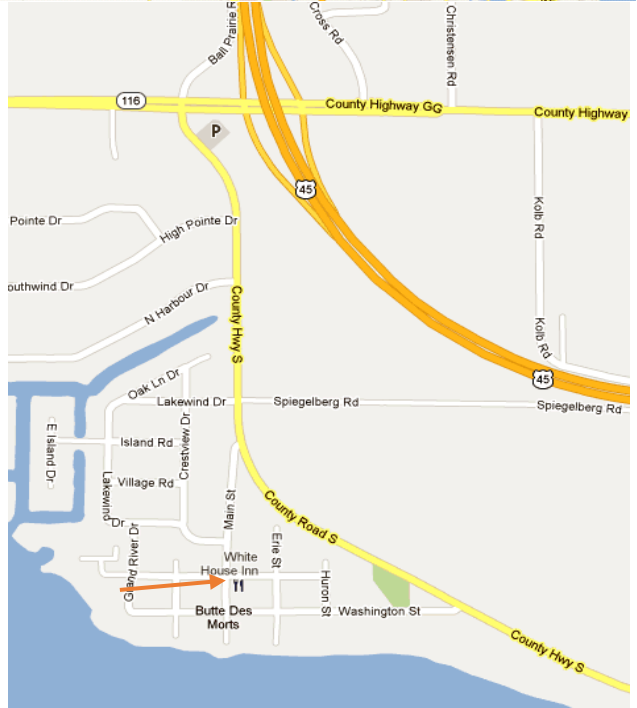


**Camp Orders 2017-01**  
**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**  
*Grand Army of the Republic*  
**“Old Abe” Camp #8**  
 Wisconsin Department  
 January 2017



**Camp January 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting Will Be Held At The White House Inn  
 Located In Butte Des Morts, Wisconsin**

Next Old Abe  
 Camp 8 Meeting  
 Thursday Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Meal begins at 6:00 PM  
 Meeting starts at 7:00 PM  
 The White House Inn  
 5776 Main Street  
 Butte De Morts, WI.  
 Wear Your  
 Membership Badge



Our January meeting, Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 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.

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 Comments

**Camp Commander  
Dennis R. Jacobs**



My duties as new Camp Commander have started quickly. On Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, I attending a holiday reception congratulating Denise Oman, who is our new National Auxiliary President. It was a nice lunch filled with music, speeches and great conversation. December 17<sup>th</sup>, was Wreaths Across America. It was the first time I attended this event, but it will not be my last. I traveled the snow covered roads to assist in laying wreaths on the grave of the veterans buried at King Veterans Cemetery. I would like to thank Rich and Anne Beggs, who also assisted in laying wreaths on behalf of Old Abe Camp 8.

As we enter the new year, I have been looking at our camp calendar. There are many opportunities for all our brothers to attend events and assist in camp activities. I look forward to meeting the brothers I have not met yet, and to welcome future brothers we will be adding in the coming years.

As a reminder, we have our winter dinner meeting on Thursday January 19<sup>th</sup> at The White House Inn at Butte De Mortes. Dinner at 6 PM with meeting starting about 7 PM. Besides the meeting, we have bingo at King Veterans Home on January 28<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm.

Happy New Year  
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty  
Dennis R Jacobs  
Camp Commander

## **Bingo at the Veterans Home at King**

On Saturday, January 28, 2017, Old Abe Camp #8 will be doing Bingo at the Veterans Home located in King, WI at 1:00 pm. Bingo starts around 1:30 pm. We will be doing this in the 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 will need people to bring cookies wrapped in zip locked bags with 2 cookies per bag We will need about 12 dozen cookies or enough for about 75 people.

Please wear your membership badge.  
Uniform is optional

For more information contact brother Kim Heltemes at:

[heltemesk@centurylink.net](mailto:heltemesk@centurylink.net)

## **RENEWAL - NOTICE**

**Dues Are Payable as of Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Please send \$40.00 to the  
Camp Treasurer:**

**Kurtis Kirk  
W 2154 Cottonville Court  
Berlin, WI 54923**

## **Mid-Winter Department Meeting And**

### **Patriot Luncheon**

**February 4, 2017**

**Alioto's Restaurant 3041 N. Mayfair Rd.,  
Wauwatosa, Wis.**

**9:00AM - Noon Meeting 12:30 PM Luncheon**

**RSVP for Luncheon before January 29, 2016**

**See Department Winter Newsletter for Full Details**

# Wreaths Across America 2016



**Group photo before laying wreaths**

Photo from American Legion Riders WI District 8

Old Abe Camp 8 Camp Commander Dennis Jacobs and Brother Rich Beggs and his wife Anne had the honor of assisting in the laying of wreaths at the King Veterans Cemetery on December 17. It was a snowy morning, but the spirits of those who were there to lay wreaths were warm and cheerful. The day was not without a few issues. First the cemetery did not receive all the wreaths that had been ordered, so a load of wreaths were rush shipped overnight from Maine and arrived around 10:30 am. The second item was the weather; it was in the middle of our first major snowstorm of the season. The cemetery staff did a great job keeping the roads within the cemetery cleared so we were able to climb the hill and start laying the first shipment of wreaths. Throughout the morning, the second shipment was driven up the hill so we could continue the task on hand. It was close to noon when all 6500 plus graves had a wreath.



**Laying wreaths in the snow.**

Story and Photograph by Camp  
Commander Dennis R Jacobs

# 2017 Camp Calendar

## January 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM

Camp 8 regular meeting & Dinner

Location: Jimmy's White House Inn Buttes Des Morts, WI

## January 28<sup>th</sup>, 1:00pm

Veterans Bingo

Location: Marden Hall, Veterans Home, King, WI

## February 1<sup>st</sup>

National Freedom Day

## February 4<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM

Dept. of WI Midwinter Meeting

Location: Aliuoto's Restaurant, Wauwatosa, WI

with Patriotic Luncheon at 12:30 PM

## February 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Sat. 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Sun.

Echoes of the Past Trade Fair

Location: Sunnyview Expo Center Oshkosh, WI

## March 11<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Civil War Expo

Location: Civil War Museum, Kenosha, WI.

## March 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

Camp 8 regular meeting

Location: To be announced

## April 15<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM

Lincoln Tomb Ceremony

Location: Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL

## May 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

Camp 8 regular meeting

Location: To be announced

## May 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

Pinecrest Historical Village Civil War Weekend

Location: Pinecrest Historical Village, Manitowoc, WI.

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

King Veterans Home Open House and Car Show

Location: King Veterans Home, King WI.

## May 29<sup>th</sup>

Memorial Day

## June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Wisconsin State Department Encampment

Location: Saukville Community Center, Saukville, WI.

## June 14<sup>th</sup>

Flag Day

## June 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

Heritage Hill Civil War Weekend

Location: Heritage Hill Historical Museum, Green Bay, WI

**July 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM**

Camp 8 regular meeting & picnic  
Location to be announced

**August 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>**

National Encampment  
Location: Lansing, MI.

**September 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM**

Camp 8 regular meeting  
Location: To be announced

**September 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>**

Wade House Civil War Weekend  
Location: Wade House, Greenbush, WI.

**November 20<sup>th</sup>**

Camp 8 Annual Bean Dinner, Meeting and Camp Elections  
Location: To be announced

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

## **Echoes of the Past Trade Fair**

**Feb 25-26, 2017**

*at the Winnebago Co. fairgrounds, Oshkosh, Wisconsin*  
Times are Sat. 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. and Sun 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

We will have a large merchant booth (9' by 11' deep) with one table provided.  
2 chairs are provided (we may need to bring more along)  
We will get 4 free wristbands. More will have to pay.  
There are a lot of interesting items to see & buy.

We need bodies to man the display so that everyone has a chance to circulate.  
*Sign-up sheet at the January meeting.*  
*email [dennerg@hotmail.com](mailto:dennerg@hotmail.com) for more information & directions.*

## Patriotic Instruction

### PATRIOTIC RECOLLECTIONS What if We Had Failed?

*From the GAR department of Kentucky  
Yearbook 1914-1915  
Dept. Historian Cyrus Edward's Report*

Brother Edwards is speaking of the war and presented the question ... what if we had failed?

If we had been fought to a standstill, and if at the close of the year 1865, or a year or two later, our supplies of men and money had failed, and - with both sides exhausted, industry prostrated, mountains of debt on every hand, general bankruptcy both public and private, with more than half of the young men in the land dead and an army of cripples and women and children to care for - we had been compelled to give up the conflict for our united country, what sort of peace could have been arranged that would have lasted any longer than when we could have been able to fight again? How long would the eleven seceded states have been able to agree among themselves when released from the military despotism set up by the Confederacy during the war? Could they have disbanded their armies while surrounded by the bitter enemies of human slavery, and with the loyal mountain country of East Tennessee and North Carolina extending like a wedge into the interior of the Confederacy? Glorious old East Tennessee - the Helvetia of America; with a people whose veins are filled with the best blood of the whole world; a people who may be overrun by numbers, and will suffer every form of hardship and persecution cheerfully for conscience sake, but who cannot be conquered or reduced to slavery, and who never could have been held in even a nominal subjection in their mountains without the constant presence of an overwhelming military power.

The dream of Jeff Davis and a few other leaders of secession of building up a strong slave empire around the Gulf of Mexico would have failed, as, even while the war was in progress here, the European powers had taken advantage of our division and set up an empire in Mexico, presided over by an Emperor of the house of Hapsburg, and upheld by foreign bayonets. This empire would have been a standing menace to Texas and Arkansas, and hostile to any expansion of the Confederacy westward - firstly, from selfish motives, and, secondly, from opposition to the spread of human slavery, which had then become, or was fast becoming, a moral stench in the nostrils of the whole world professing any sort of pretensions to Christianity;

this opposition arising only partly from humanitarian motives, and largely from an economic-labor point of view. The Confederacy had issued hundreds of millions of bonds which were held in Europe, and if it had achieved its independence the bondholders would have demanded payment and their governments would have upheld their demands with armies and navies. The South, utterly worn out by war, with no navy, no money or credit and no friends (for their pretended friends during the war were only friends for the purpose of breaking up our government) would have been at the mercy of these combined foreign powers. Being unable to pay their bonds and other debts in Europe they would have been compelled to grant commercial privileges, and perhaps free ports, to foreigners, which would doubtless have developed later into colonies or protectorates, as has been the usual course in the history of similar cases. The government having been founded on the principle that any state could withdraw at will from the others, could not have held long together. The interests of the different states would soon have clashed and separations would have followed, and several weak, feeble states or confederacies would have been in existence - all burdened to the breaking point by taxation and dominated more or less by foreigners.

So much for the South. If we had failed what would have been the condition of the rest of our country and its people? They would at first have been in nearly the same condition of physical and financial exhaustion of the Southern states - burdened by a mountainous debt demanding a ruinous rate of taxation. They would have held together longer - not recognizing the right of secession - and would have had some advantages over the South in an incomparably better labor system, a large seafaring population, a much shorter coastline to defend against foreign aggression, and the boundary of the great plains to the west, but would have been subject to many ills enumerated for the South, only perhaps in a less degree. The Pacific States would have been taken from us at once, and probably all beyond the great plains would have gone with them.

Our fishing rights would have been taken away and our commerce destroyed, and possibly we could have preserved our independence only by withdrawing mostly from the Eastern coast and living comparatively isolated in the interior, with a hostile Canada on the North and the unhappy Southern Commonwealths somewhere to the South, and with all the monarchical governments of the world anxious for, and willing to assist in, our destruction.

We would have no security of life or property; no power to protect our citizens abroad, or even on the frontiers of our own land; no power for good in the world and but little hope for ourselves in the future: and if this, the latest experiment of national self-government by the people, had failed, then perhaps it had been the last, and successful government of the common people, by the common people, for the common people, would possibly have been at an end for ages to come.

A mountainous country of small extent, with a hardy and warlike population, and little wealth to invite conquest, may possibly preserve its independence among more powerful nations, but if it is worth the attention of a conqueror it is idle to talk or think of a small nation of people maintaining their nationality long against powerful and aggressive neighbors with whom their interests clash. Among monarchical or military governments honor, truth, treaties solemnly entered into and all other moral obligations are thrown to the winds when they clash with self-interests. It has always been so, and probably always will be so unless a change in human nature and national conscience shall be brought about by the Creator of all things. Look at Palestine, Poland, Grenada, Bohemia, Silesia, Holland, Belgium and Mexico, and see what would be our condition if we consisted of half a dozen or more little hostile states instead of the Great United Republic that we are.

We can in this world only protect our liberties by force - by armies and navies when it comes to the pinch - the treaties and peace societies and Hague or other tribunals are and will be worthless as factors for peace or for national protection, beyond the range of the big guns of our forts and ships of war, and it is well to remember that if we had failed half a century ago our country would not now be the wealthiest, freest and most powerful nation of the earth - able to maintain itself against all the world that lies beyond the three thousand miles of ocean that lies to the Eastward, and would to God that ocean might be ten times as wide as it is and the crossing bad at all seasons.

In view of the unnumbered woes that would probably have been visited on our country in case we, who met the storm, had failed to make good in the time that tried men's souls, and of the present happiness and contentment of the people of our land - so far above the average of the condition of mankind - and of the prestige and power to which our united country has attained, and of the impetus

given to the cause of liberty and free government in the whole world, because we did not fail, it would seem that we were favored above all others in being permitted to take an active and useful part in the great events that laid the foundation for, as we hope and now believe, the permanent prosperity and union and happiness of our people, and the few of us who lived through those awful years of war and hardship and apparent ruin, and have been mercifully permitted to grow old in peace in the land, for the welfare of which and its free institutions, we staked our lives, should be proud, and we are every one of us proud, that in the days of our youth we stood up for our convictions of right like men; that we stood firm in the awful shock of battle; on the weary marches, in the heat of summer and in the cold and ice of winter; in the mud and the snow; in the darkness of night and storm on lonely picket posts; in hunger and thirst and pain in hospitals and prisons, and that we stood ready during all of that dreadful time, if it had been our lot, to "give the last measure of our devotion" to our country rather than that our cause should fail.

**Ed Note: A look back of Patriotic Instruction over 100 years age**

**Any ideas for subjects would be appreciated  
contact me at [johnson@newnorth.net](mailto:johnson@newnorth.net)**

### ***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](http://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.

## OLD ABE CAMP MEETING MINUTES, NOV. 21, 2016

1. Started at 7:06 P.M. Oshkosh Fire Station #17
2. Roll call of officers: (6 members present)  
CC-present                      SVC-present  
JVC-present                      Secretary-present                      Treasurer-present
3. Treasurer's report.  
We have \$3913.05 in checking and \$9212.15 overall total. The name of our bank has changed.  
We also should have a co-signer on the accounts in case something happened to Kurt. He will check it out.
4. Minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.
5. Any sick or distressed brothers? NONE.
6. Guests. PC-in-C Steve Michaels and PDC Tom Brown.
7. Prior business.
  - a. Final vote on last meeting's motion to donate \$500.00 to the Boscobel GAR hall project.  
Passed unanimously.
  - b. Bill will check on progress of our new U.S. flag.
8. New business.
  - a. Motion by Brian Peters, seconded by Kurt Kirk to set camp dues for 2017 at \$400.00  
Passed.
9. Past events.
  - a. Wade House CW event-Sept23-25. K. Scott, W. Parker, Al Heise were there. Went ok.
  - b. Boy scouts jamboree. W. Parker & J. Schumann attended. Went ok.
10. Future events.
  - a. Dept. Mid-winter encampment-Feb 4 in Wauwatosa. More details in camp and department newsletters.
  - b. Echoes of the Past Trade Fair-Feb 25-26 in Oshkosh. We are registered. More at next meeting.
  - c. Dec. 17-King-Wreaths Across America. Check your emails.
  - d. King-January. Bingo Day. More later or check with commander.
  - e. January Camp meeting. At Jimmie's White House Inn in Butte-de-Morts. See next news-letter for time and details.
11. Any bills and/or communications to address? NONE.
12. Patriotic instruction. See Newsletter.
13. Anything for the good of the order? D. Jacobs gave a presentation on Charles Tyler.
14. Elections. Only one candidate was nominated for each office, so a motion to approve all nominees as elected unanimously. Motion passed. Slate of nominees is as follows:  
CC- Dennis Jacobs  
SVC-Kim Heltemes  
JVC-Ron Arndt  
Secretary-Alan Petit  
Treasurer-Kurtis Kirk  
Council I-William Parker  
Council II-Michael Mladenik  
Council III-Kirby Scott  
Delegate-Paul Johnson  
All were elected.  
New officers were  
sworn in by PDC  
Tom Brown.
15. Closing. Closed at 8:15 P.M.

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



# Camp Officers for 2017

## Commander

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

## Sr. Vice Commander

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

## Jr. Vice Commander

Ron Arndt – N10998 Town Hall Road Marion, WI 54950  
(715) 754-4842 [roliarndt@frontiernet.net](mailto:roliarndt@frontiernet.net)

## Secretary

PCC Alan Petit - E7602 Cutoff Road. New London, WI 54961  
(920) 982-2374 [apetitsvcw@hotmail.com](mailto:apetitsvcw@hotmail.com)

## Treasurer

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

## Patriotic Instructor

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

## Chaplain

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

## Delegate

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

## Graves Registration

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

## Memorials

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

## Historian

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

## Camp Council

Michael Mladenik – 1718 Valley Lane Little Chute, WI 54140  
(715) 854-2055 [smguide@centurylink.net](mailto:smguide@centurylink.net)

## Camp Council

PCC William Parker - 351 17th Street North WI. Rapids, WI 54494  
(715) 451-1330 [wildbill@wctc.net](mailto:wildbill@wctc.net)

## Newsletter Editor

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



**Camp 8 Newsletter**  
**PCC Kim Heltemes**  
**W2570 Archer Avenue**  
**Pine River, WI 54965**  
**heltemesk@vbe.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 on page 9 of this newsletter. Visit the Department of Wisconsin website, and Camp 8 WebPages, at [www.suvcw-wi.org](http://www.suvcw-wi.org). Also, visit the national SUVCW website at [www.suvcw.org](http://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](http://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**



**Find us on  
Facebook**

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