

Camp Orders 2017-02



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Grand Army of the Republic

"Old Abe" Camp #8

Wisconsin Department



Our March meeting, Monday, May 20th, 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.



**Next Old Abe Camp 8 Meeting
will be on March 20th**

Meeting starts at

7:00 PM

Location is:

**Oshkosh Fire Station #17
1813 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh, WI.**

Wear Your Membership Badge

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 intersection of Algoma Blvd & West Murdock Avenue.

Camp Commander

Dennis R. Jacobs

Commander's Comments



Greetings Brothers,

I hope you are enjoying the nice weather we had in February. All the warm weather has given me the itch to go into cemeteries to do research, but they are still a bit too wet. The attendance at the January Dinner meeting was low, and I blame it on the freezing rain and heavy fog we experienced that week. Our Bingo event on January 28th, at King Veterans home went very well. It was pleasure watching the faces of the residence as they called out BINGO. The Mid-Winter meeting on February 4th was very enlightening for me as new camp commander and our guest speaker Steven Rogstad gave an informative speech about Abraham Lincoln and John Wilkes Booth. As I write this, Echoes of the Past trade fair will be happening soon, it is a great chance for our camp to meet with the public and try and recruit new members.

Our next camp meeting is on Monday March 20th at Firehouse #17 in Oshkosh. We have a lot of business to cover at this meeting from upcoming events to starting the raffle back up. Please mark your calendars and try to attend the meeting. Our camp will be hosting a member's orientation on April 1st at Firehouse #17. This is open to new and old members who want to learn about the history and the ceremony of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. An announcement will be sent out once details are finalized. I have been asked by some members if we could set up a date for a flag retirement ceremony, since we have a large collection of worn flags in need of disposal. As of right now, I am hoping to get this schedule for April and will notify the camp once a date and time has been set.

May this find you in good health and spirits, and I hope to see you at the March meeting.

In F, C, &L

Dennis R Jacobs

Camp Commander

Old Abe Camp 8

RENEWAL - NOTICE

Dues Are Payable as of Jan. 1st.

Please send \$40.00 to the
Camp Treasurer:

Kurtis Kirk
W 2154 Cottonville Court
Berlin, WI 54923

**King Open House same day
as Pinecrest event.**

**We are still planning on
attending the King Open
House on May 21st. It begins
at 10am and ends at 2:30 pm.**

Please try to attend.

2017 Camp Calendar

March 20th, 7:00 PM
Camp 8 regular meeting
Location: Oshkosh Fire House

April 15th, 10:00AM
Lincoln Tomb Ceremony
Location: Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL

May 15th, 7:00 PM
Camp 8 regular meeting
Location: To be announced

May 20th & 21st
Pinecrest Historical Village Civil War Weekend
Location: Pinecrest Historical Village, Manitowoc, WI.

May 21st
King Veterans Home Open House and Car Show
Location: King Veterans Home, King WI.

May 29th
Memorial Day

June 3rd
Wisconsin State Department Encampment
Location: Saukville Community Center, Saukville, WI.

June 14th
Flag Day

June 24th & 25th
Heritage Hill Civil War Weekend
Location: Heritage Hill Historical Museum, Green Bay, WI

2017 Events continued

July 17th, 7:00 PM
Camp 8 regular meeting & picnic
Location to be announced

August 10th – 13th
National Encampment
Location: Lansing, MI.

September 18th, 7:00 PM
Camp 8 regular meeting
Location: To be announced

September 23rd & 24th
Wade House Civil War Weekend
Location: Wade House, Greenbush, WI.

November 20th
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@centurylink.net

Please note:

No minutes from last meeting.

There were not enough at our last meeting which was held at Jimmie's White House Inn to hold a sanctioned meeting. Thus no discussion was done on camp business.

We will need to discuss whether we are having a raffle this year and what to do with the Waupaca GAR flag and charters. We also have a line on flag poles and accessories.

Please make the next meeting so we can get camp business done.

Camp Officers for 2017

Commander

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

Sr. Vice Commander

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

Jr. Vice Commander

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

Secretary

PCC Alan Petit - E7602 Cutoff Road. New London, WI 54961
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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 johnson@newnorth.net

Chaplain

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

Delegate

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

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
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Camp Council

PCC Kirby Scott - 2545 West Waukau Avenue #6 Oshkosh, WI 54904
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Camp Council

Michael Mladenik – 1718 Valley Lane Little Chute, WI 54140
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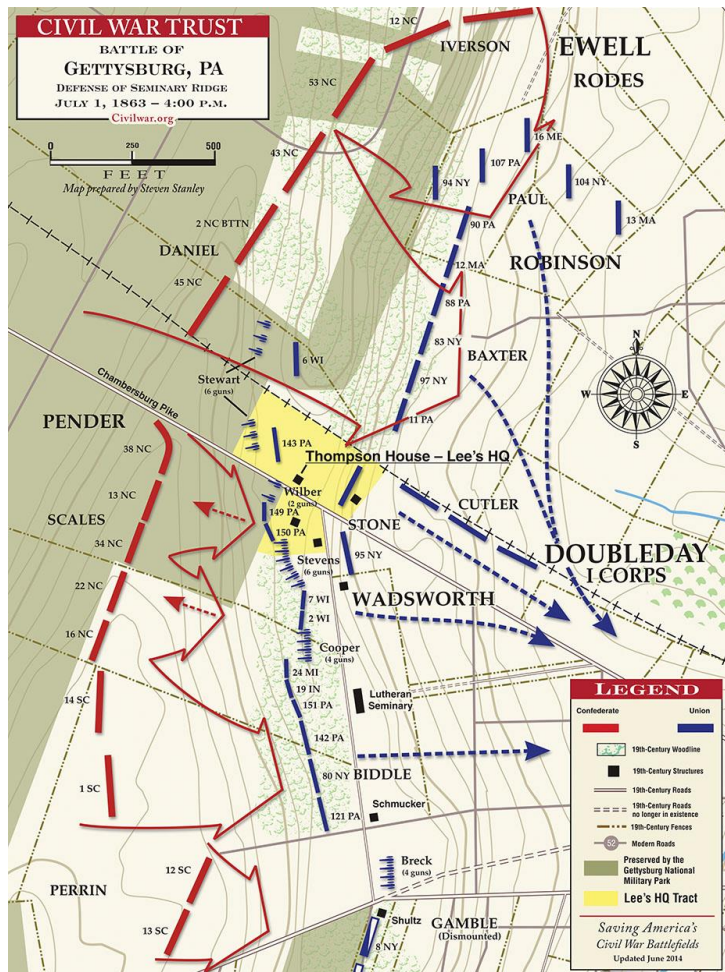
Camp Council

PCC William Parker - 351 17th Street North WI. Rapids, WI 54494
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Newsletter Editor

PCC Kim J. Heltemes - W2570 Archer Avenue Pine River, WI 54965
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The Iron Brigade Role on the First Day of Gettysburg



The Iron Brigade played a pivotal role in the fighting west of Gettysburg on July 1, 1863. The Confederates were fast approaching from the west with 13,500 soldiers and the only thing that stood between them and Gettysburg was Major General John Buford's cavalry division of only 2,700 men. Buford knew he could not stop the Confederates but instead engaged in a delaying action intended to slow them down until Union troops could arrive. Around 10:15am, Confederate Brigadier General James Archer's brigade comprised of 1,100 men approached Gettysburg from the west intent on pushing the Union cavalry off the ridges on the outskirts of town. His brigade contained the 1st, 4th and 7th Tennessee regiments and the 13th Alabama. Archer was unaware that the Iron Brigade had entered Gettysburg from the south along the Emmitsburg Road and was now approaching his position west of the Herbst Woods around Willoughby run.

The 1,800 man brigade under Brigadier General Solomon Meredith was comprised of the 2nd, 6th and 7th Wisconsin, the 19

Indiana and the 24th Michigan regiments. The units were thrown into the battle as soon as they arrived and made their way west toward the advancing Confederates. The 2nd Wisconsin advanced forward without waiting for the other regiments toward Herbst Woods.

The 7th and 14th Tennessee regiments opened fire on the 2nd Wisconsin and they suffered devastating casualties. At this moment, Major General John Reynolds was killed and although some believe it was at the hand of a Confederate sharpshooter, it may have been from the initial assault on the 2nd Wisconsin. The 13th Alabama obliqued left to put enfilade fire on the 2nd Wisconsin's left. The 7th Wisconsin approached quickly coming to the aid of the 2nd Wisconsin. The 19th Indiana and the 24th Michigan stopped to form their lines then hurried to support the Wisconsin regiments. When they saw the supporting regiments approaching, the 13th Alabama hastily retreated. Next in line were the 1st and 4th Tennessee regiments and the Iron Brigade quickly closed in. Soon Archer's entire Brigade was in full retreat and the 24th Michigan was able to wrap around the retreating Confederates as the pressure from the front continued to push them back. The Union brigade killed close to 350 Confederates and captured an additional 240 including General Archer himself.

The Iron Brigade saw heavy action again around 3:45pm as they formed a hasty defense along with other Union regiments against the Confederate assault on Seminary Ridge. The Union lines were crumbling north and west of town as the Confederates kept up the pressure. Although the Union lines were stretched thin along Seminary Ridge, they had good artillery support and were ready for a fight. They were lined up against three fresh brigades totaling 5,000 men under Confederate Major General Dorsey Pender.

Iron Brigade at Gettysburg continued

Less than 2,300 exhausted Union troops readied themselves for the inevitable assault behind makeshift barricades and many were out in the open. Four South Carolina regiments (1st, 12th, 13th and 14th) assaulted the Union lines and exploited a gap on the Union left between the infantry and dismounted cavalry defenses. The Union flank was rolled up and one-by-one, the Union regiments retreated back off Seminary Ridge and into Gettysburg.

Although the Iron Brigade was eventually driven from the field, their courage and fighting skill on July 1, 1863 slowed down the Confederate advance into Gettysburg thereby helping secure the high ground south of town.

By Paul Johnson

There is a need for the camp to process the disposal of American flags in a due way with respect and honor. Several of us have been collecting flags that are worn, torn, and faded.

The camp has a burner made for the process but we need to pick a date to finish the event.

To those that have flags saved, please get them to Ron Arndt.

The disposal ceremony calls for most to be in uniform such as flag bearers and color guard but we can use everyone – just wear your membership badge.

Let's get a date picked so we can do the ceremony.

In the past we have been kept busy with cemetery work, both in finding graves that need to be brought up to par or need to be marked. We have slowed down in this respect but there is a lot of work that still needs to be done.

Adopt a cemetery near you, try to get on the board of that cemetery or make friends with the people on the board.

There is always a lot of work to get done whether it is from weather damage, vandalism, or unmarked graves. See about looking at the records and verifying them with the headstones. We need to record the locations of our Civil War ancestors.

These activities give the camp direction and purpose. Let's get back to our purpose – it is our way to honor our ancestors.

If you need help ordering a headstone, there are several members that know the process and would be willing to help you.



Camp 8 Newsletter
PCC Kim J. Heltemes
W2570 Archer Avenue
Pine River, WI 54965

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. 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

Phone: (715) 754-4842

roliarndt@frontiernet.net



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