

## *Camp Orders 2017-04*

**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

*Grand Army of the Republic*

**"Old Abe" Camp #8**

Wisconsin Department

July 2017

Camp Summer Picnic will be held on Monday July 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm with 7:00pm meeting at the home of Br. Kurt Kirk

W2154 Cottonville Court, Auroraville



Remember to bring utensils, a chair, and a dish to pass.

Please RSVP the Saturday before so I know how much meat to purchase and tables to line up if necessary.

To get to Kurt's house at W2154 Cottonville Ct, go north at the Hwy 21 and 49 intersection into Auroraville. Before the dam, at the Willow Inn, turn right on Cottonville Ct by the old store. Go down a few hundred yards and you will see a yellow house and garage. Coming from the North, follow 49 South and cross the dam, turning left at the Willow Inn. If you have any questions and to RSVP, please call 920-361-1194.

**Please RSVP by Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup> for the Summer Picnic.**

**W2154 Cottonville Court, Auroraville**

**Brother Kurt Kirk (920) 361-1194**

**Please bring a dish to pass and a chair**

# COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

**CAMP COMMANDER**  
**DENNIS R. JACOBS**



Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July, may you and your family be safe and healthy during our nation's birthday. We are half way through our year and doing well as a camp. We have added 3 new brothers to our camp, and I hope we can add a few more by the end of the year.

Please welcome to our camp Brother Gregory Hubertus from Oshkosh, Brother Michael Mangan from Plymouth and Brother Timothy Nixon from Green Bay. I hope to meet you in the near future and see you at our meetings and camp events.

I would like to congratulate Brother Allen Petit who was re-elected our Department Commander for Wisconsin, Brother Brian Peters who was re-elected Department Secretary. I would also like to congratulate Brother Kirby Scott who is now our new Junior Vice Commander and Brother William Parker who is now our new Chaplain for the Wisconsin Department.

Please take a moment to send your thoughts and prayers to Senior Vice Commander Kim Heltemes, who is recovering from a recent operation and stay in the hospital. He is still healing and may need an additional surgery.

The camp needs your assistance on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. We are working a brat barn at the Plover Copps store as a camp fund raiser. So if any of you grilling experts are available to stop out to help, it would be greatly appreciated.

Our next meeting is a potluck at Brother Kurt Kirks house in Auroraville Wisconsin. I hope to see many of you there.

In F, C and L

Dennis R Jacobs

Commander Old Abe Camp 8

**CIVIL WAR AT OLD  
WADE HOUSE**

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED TO WORK**

**THE BOOTH**

**SEPTEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>  
AND 24<sup>TH</sup>**

**OLD WADE HOUSE**

**GREENBUSH,  
WISCONSIN**

Camp Booth at King Veteran's Home annual Open House on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

Photograph by PCC Kirby Scott





## OLD ABE CAMP 8 IN ACTION



April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 Camp 8 hosted a member orientation for brothers wishing to learn more about the order.

L to R PDC Bruce Laine, Br Jeff Williams, PDC Tom Brown, CC Dennis Jacobs PC-C Steve Michaels, Br Rich Beggs

Photograph by PC-C Steve Michaels

PCC William Parker presented a Civil War program on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to 7<sup>th</sup> grade students at Port Edwards Jr High in Port Edwards, Wisconsin. He always has a student dress up as a soldier as part of his presentation.

Photograph by PCC William Parker



June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 dedication of headstone for Michael Carroll Co. H 9<sup>th</sup> Indiana. He is buried at Wood National Cemetery in Milwaukee. For about 100 years his headstone had the wrong last name. CC Dennis Jacobs presented a bouquet of peonies, the state flower of Indiana, for the grave.

Photograph by Camp 1

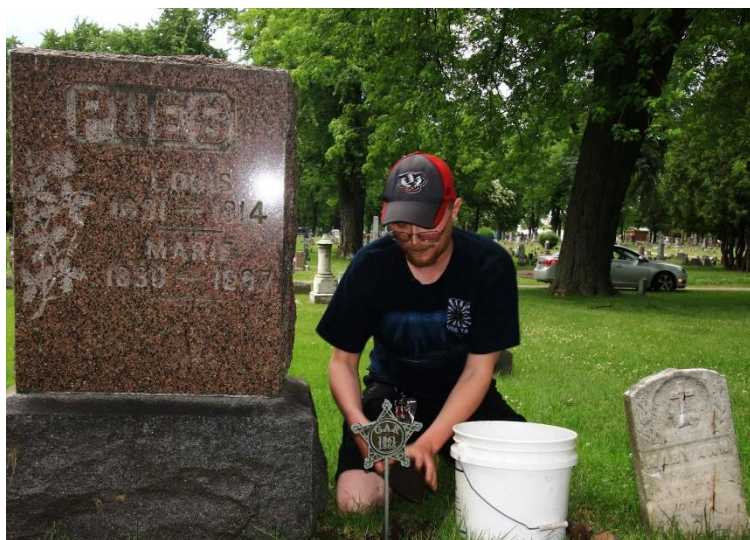


134<sup>th</sup> Department of Wisconsin  
Encampment June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017. (Right) Swearing  
in of Department officers: Br Alan Petit -  
Department Commander, Br Brian Peters -  
Department Secretary, Br Kirby Scott -  
Department Junior Vice Commander, Br  
William Parker - Department Chaplain.

(Below Left and Right)

PCC William Parker and CC Dennis Jacobs  
taking part in a memorial ceremony at Union  
Cemetery in Saukville, Wisconsin on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Photograph by PCC Kirby Scott



PCC William Parker setting a flag holder near the headstone of Louis Pues at Riverside  
Cemetery in Oshkosh Wisconsin on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Photograph by PCC William Parker

## 2017 Camp Calendar

July 17<sup>th</sup>

Camp 8 Summer Picnic and Meeting

Location: Brother Kurt Kirk's home W2154 Cottonville Ct, Auroraville

July 22<sup>nd</sup>

Camp Fund Raiser – Brat Barn

Location: Copp's Market 1850 Plover Rd, Plover, Wisconsin

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

National Encampment

Location: Lansing, MI

September 18<sup>th</sup>

Camp 8 regular meeting 7pm

Location: Fire house #17 1813 Algoma Blvd Oshkosh WI

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

Old Wade House Civil War

Location: Old Wade House Greenbush, WI

November 20<sup>th</sup>

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:*

*heltemesk@vbe.com*

# CIVIL WAR FOOD

BY

PAUL JOHNSON

CAMP 8 PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

Much has been written about army chow during the Civil War. The quantity and quality certainly varied. With all due respect to veterans writing after the war and hard-core re-enactors, the men survived on more than hard tack and coffee.

Essentially there were two main rations – camp and marching. In general this is the diet in both daily rations:

Articles	Quantities/ration <sup>#</sup>					
	July 1861		August 1861		June 1864	
	oz.	Tbsp.	oz.	Tbsp.	oz.	Tbsp.
<b>Meat Components</b>						
Beef, fresh	20		20		20	
or salt beef	20		20		20	
or pork	12		12		12	
or bacon	12		12		12	
<b>Flour Components</b>						
Flour	18		22		18	
or soft bread	18		22		18	
or hard bread	12*		16		12	
or corn meal	20		20		20	
<b>Vegetable Components</b>						
Beans	1.2		2.4		2.4	
or peas			2.4			
or rice	1.6		1.6**		1.6	
or hominy			1.6			
or desiccated potatoes	3		1.5		1.5	
or desiccated mixed veg.	2		1		1	
or potatoes			6.6			
<b>Coffee &amp; Sugar Components</b>						
Coffee, green	1.6		1.6		1.6	
or roasted			1.28			
or tea	1.28		1.28		1.28	
Sugar	2.4		2.4		2.4	
<b>Seasoning Components</b>						
Vinegar		2.56		2.56		2.56
Salt	0.6		0.6		0.6	
Pepper					0.04	

The American diet, depending on region, consisted mostly of pork or beef, cornmeal or whole grains, Irish or sweet potatoes, and a limited variety of fruits. Americans had a propensity for meat and grease, according to theology historian Daniel Sack. Meat was very prominent in the American diet, with pork being the most popular. Beef came second and was more prominent in the North. Some of the most popular methods of preparing and serving meat included corning, stewing, boiling, frying, and baking in either butter or lard. Meat and grease, indeed

The army diet in many cases gave the men a greater variety of foods than did home. The army diet translates to a total calorie count of just under 4,000 in camp and just over 4,000 on the march. The recommended calorie level for active men of the same age today is about 2,600 –active men (as civil war soldier were in today’s recommendation is about 3,500) Carbohydrate, protein, fat were all present in the Civil War diet in almost double the recommended amounts for today. Then why the number of deaths from food related causes.

The scanty diets and nutritional deficiencies suffered by the average soldier resulted from a number of determinants. Logistical difficulties, commissary neglect, and officer’s ignorance denied many of their due rations. What food the men did receive was often of such poor quality as to make it inedible. A number of soldiers, lacking the basic culinary skills, ruined many a meal. However, even the full rations contained certain inherent nutritional deficiencies, and without knowledge of micronutrients by physicians and surgeons, the average soldier continued to suffer from its maladies.

Matthew Brennan a grad student at VPI posited in his 2005 paper (available on line at: <http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/available/etd-05262005-2146/unrestricted/CivilWarDiet.pdf>) that the problem was what is now described as “micro-nutrients” or those parts of food that allows the body to properly use the nutrients. Vitamin deficiencies caused problems, like night blindness from lack of Vitamin A; scurvy, diarrhea and dysentery from lack of Vitamin C. exacerbated by exposure to unsanitary conditions.

Another aspect of food in the Civil War was not necessarily the quantity, but the quality. Salt beef and salt pork were staples of the soldier’s diet. Army suppliers did not have the best reputations for honest dealings. Individual armies tried as best as possible to supply fresh meat and employed cowboys to herd cattle behind the armies. There was more success in this endeavor in the west than the east.

Life in camp and on the march varied, the armies typically established winter quarters in late November or early December, but for the Army of the Potomac in 1861, it was early November. During the first several months of this seasonal hiatus, the Wisconsinites and Hoosiers dined upon beef, salt pork, beans, and soft bread. Hominy, rice, potatoes, and molasses were issued the men for periods but not throughout the entire winter of 1861/1862. “We are living very well,” wrote one Wisconsin soldier to his wife. “Have not had hard crackers much of the time...Fried bread is an excellent dish for us. We fry a piece of pork until it is nearly done then put in a piece of bread and fry it until brown.”

Rations on the march were often meager, not because the quartermaster stores were low, but rather the movement of large armies of men made the job of getting the supplies to the men. In addition regiments and companies could not rely on the time to set up field kitchens and the men were forced to prepare their own food, or at least prepare it for others in a 3 to 5 man “mess”. The company cooks were, often as not, no better prepared for food service than any other individual man in the rank. Overcooking became as much a problem in reducing the healthiness of any given food as its innate lack of nutrients.

One other problem with Civil War rations, as it appears to have been in almost all wars is the lack of variety – I had an uncle complain about army rations he had in New Guinea – Kerosene and Chicken feathers most of the time but for a change they’d have Chicken feathers and Kerosene.

Encore article from 2013



# Camp Fund Raiser

Your assistance is needed

Brat Fry

Copps Market

1850 Plover Rd, Plover, Wisconsin

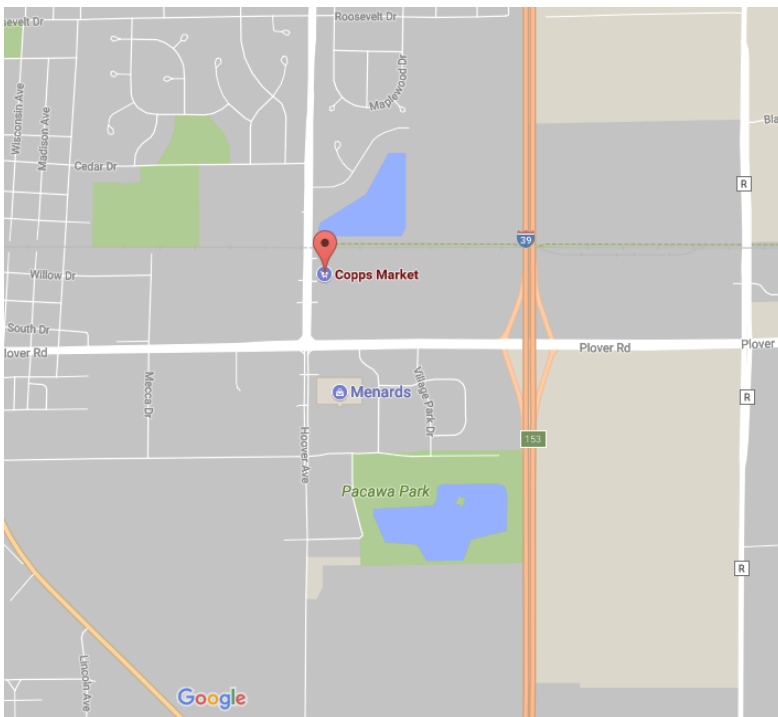
July 22, 2017

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Need 5 to 6 people to grill and sell brats

Email or Call CC Dennis Jacobs to sign up

[dennergb@hotmail.com](mailto:dennergb@hotmail.com) (920) 471-7824



Located on Plover Road just west of Highway 39/51. Exit 153 County B (Plover Road)

Minutes from the May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting was not available at the time of publication.  
The minutes will be available at the meeting on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017.



# 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 [apetitsucvw@hotmail.com](mailto:apetitsucvw@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

PDC Kim Heltemes  
W2570 Archer Avenue  
Pine River, WI 54965  
heltemesk@vbe.com

## NEXT OLD ABE CAMPE 8 MEETING July 17<sup>th</sup>

**Picnic starts at 6:00pm at  
W2154 Cottonville Court  
Auroraville, WI.**

**Meeting starts at 7:00PM  
After the cookout**

**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](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](https://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)**