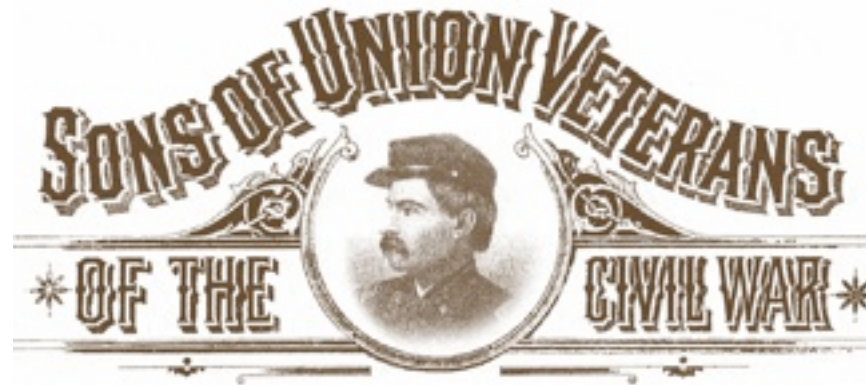


All of us are soldiers in the war against the pandemic.

Victory will be ours, but until then: Stay home. Be very careful in public. Help your neighbors and pray for America.



C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SERIES 2020

CAMP ORDERS

APRIL 2020

THREE-TIME RECIPIENT OF THE MARSHALL HOPE NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

## PANDEMIC CANCELS MEMORIAL DAY

The coronavirus pandemic has forced the cancellation of the Camp's traditional Memorial Day observance at Calvary Cemetery.

Gov. Tony Evers has extended stay-at-home orders to May 26, the day after Memorial Day. And under federal guidelines, gatherings for several weeks have been limited to no more than 10 people, and Evers agreed with federal policies that when certain criteria for measuring a sustained decline in the illness have been met, that could rise to 50. The Memorial Day event often draws 400 to 500, so the handwriting was on the wall.

Chaplain Dean Collins, a Roman Catholic deacon who sets things up for both the Camp and the Milwaukee Archdiocese, made the cancellation on April 16, hours after Evers took his action.



In a safe way to do our job amid the coronavirus crisis, the Camp met via the Zoom videoconference platform for its April 8 meeting. CC Brian Craig, upper left, presided. Screenshot by Kent Peterson.

"This required me to immediately re-contact all those people and organizations and inform them that our ceremonies in Calvary Cemetery this year could not go forward," Collins says.

He added: "We all took an oath when we joined the Sons that included the words, 'to be obedient to the law of the land'. Hence, we had no choice but

*Continued on page 2*

The next Camp meeting will be Wednesday, May 13, very likely on Zoom. We hope that some from the roster will join the regulars in this session, which is easy to do. Brother Jeff Lesar will have the patriotic presentation.

C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SUVCW

# PANDEMIC FORCES CHANGES IN EVENT PLANS

Continued from page 1

to obey the law and cancel our Memorial Day observances.”

The Camp has honored Memorial Day at Calvary since at least 1927, and in the current large form since the mid-1990s.

Jeffrey Haines, auxiliary bishop of the Milwaukee Archdiocese, was scheduled to concelebrate the memorial Mass, and the Camp ceremony was to immediately follow, with the keynote speaker being Dan Buttery, the new chief executive officer of the Milwaukee County War Memorial Center. Buttery is a veteran of the Iraq War with the Wisconsin National Guard.

Cushing's Battery, the American Legion Police Post #415 and Abraham Lincoln (Nic Bur) again were to have played their roles.

The Camp still plans to place flags on graves of veterans at some point before Memorial Day. We generally have one person walking each section of the



This familiar scene will not happen this year – Chaplain Dean Collins leading the Memorial Day speeches and President Lincoln (Nic Bur) ready to give his address. We have held this large event at Calvary Cemetery since the 1990s. Photo is from 2018.

adjutant of the 6th Wisconsin Infantry and sergeant major of Co. E.

Watrous' descendant, Ron Washburn of Isle of Palms, S.C., is a member of our Camp, joining in 2008. One way or another, Washburn was to read or reflect on his relative's remarks that day.

The ceremony also was to feature some of Wolcott's own words, written as Wisconsin surgeon general. He was responsible for hiring and training the surgeons for Wisconsin regiments.

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## REMEMBERING COL. PIER: HURRAH!!! OFF WE FINALLY GO



Col. John C. Starkweather

*These monthly articles about our Camp namesake are written by PCinC Steve Michaels. This item first was published in the April 2000 Camp orders.*

Pvt. C.K. Pier and the 1<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin Infantry had been in Milwaukee's Camp Scott for almost a month. Everything was being put in readiness so that the men could leave upon very short notice. Feelings of anxiety were mixed with those of patriotism and enthusiasm for defending the Union.

Then, on May 29, 1861, Pier reported, "...as we were marching in battalion drill, Col. (John C.) Starkweather chanced to be just behind our company, when a boy stepped up and handed him a sealed envelope, he opened, read, and swinging with his cap he shouted, 'Boys, we won't be here 48 hours.' Simultaneously, our boys pulled off their caps and 'Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!' rung wildly out from one end of the regiment to the other – when he drew us up in line of battle, read to us the telegram, which was to hold the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment ready to march within two hours.'

However, 11 days passed before the 1<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin left Camp Scott for the front. The journey to Maryland would be one continuous ovation.

*From Fond du Lac Saturday Reporter, June 1, 1861, Trewloc letter #4, dated May 29, 1861; History of Fond du Lac County, Wis., Western Historical Co., Chicago 1880*



**IRISH CIVIL WAR VETS  
INVADED CANADA  
BY KEITH RAHN**



Countless numbers of Irish had settled in the New World since the 18th century. Many came to escape political oppression and famine. During the potato famine of the 1840s, about half the Irish population perished or emigrated.

Most of the emigrants came to the United States.

It is estimated that around 200,000 Irishmen fought in the Civil War. The Irish proved their gallantry on many occasions, often serving in uniquely Irish units in both the Union and Confederate armies. The Confederate surrender and the following peace left large numbers of armed, organized and battle-hardened Irishmen.

The Fenian brotherhood was an Irish nationalist organization formed in the United States in 1858 by Irish Immigrants. It was the precursor to the Clan na Gael, the American counterpart to the Irish Republican Brotherhood.

In 1866, Irish nationalists from both the Union and Confederate sides invaded Canada to bring pressure on the United Kingdom to withdraw from Ireland. These are known as the Fenian raids.

In April, about 700 Fenians under John O'Mahony invaded New Brunswick, Canada, and attempted to capture Campobello island, but withdrew when they encountered a British warship.

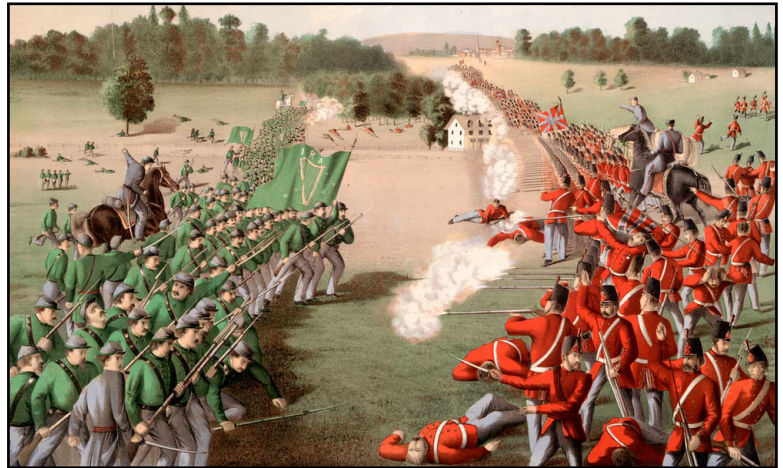
On June 1, a force of about 1,000 men under Union veteran Col. John O'Neill crossed the Niagara River from New York into Ontario. The gunboat USS Michigan was disabled by sympathizers, allowing the "Irish Republican Army" around 14 hours of uncontested crossing.

O'Neill's force was a motley assembly made up chiefly of Civil War veterans. Units had names such as the 7th Buffalo, the 13th Tennessee, 17th Kentucky and the Louisiana Tigers. They wore a mix of Union and Confederate uniforms garnished with green scarves and other pieces of clothing.

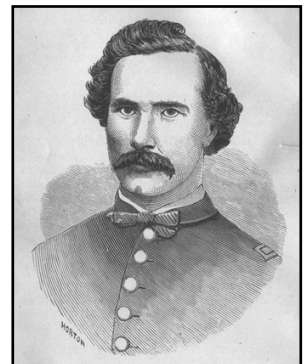
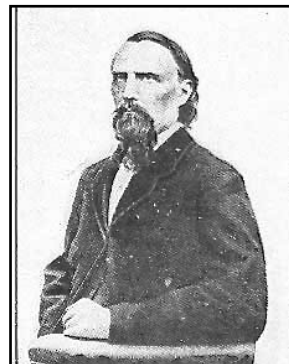
At the battle of Ridgeway, Ontario, Union and Confederate veterans defeated the inexperienced Canadian militia. This victory was short-lived, however, as the Fenian force was surrounded at the battle of Fort Erie, and was forced back into the US, surrendering to a Navy party from the USS Michigan.

Smaller raids were made into the 1870s, until it became clear that Canada could defend its borders.

**More material about the Fenian raids can be found via Google and in the 2019 book "When the Irish Invaded Canada: The Incredible True Story of the Civil War Veterans Who Fought for Ireland's Freedom," by Christopher Klein. Four copies of the book are in Milwaukee County libraries.**



The charge of the Fenians (left, wearing green uniforms) under Colonel John O'Neill at the Battle of Ridgeway, near Niagara, Ontario, on June 2, 1866. In reality, the Fenians had their own green flags but wore a very mixed bag of Union and Confederate uniforms or civilian garb, with strips of green as arm or hat bands to distinguish themselves.



John O'Mahony, left, a former colonel of the 69th Regiment of New York State Militia, led the first raid into British North America, in April 1866. John O'Neill, right, was a sergeant in the 1st California Cavalry until December 1862, when he was commissioned as an officer in the 5th Indiana Cavalry. He later transferred to the 17th U.S. Colored Infantry as a captain.

# Virus pandemic

Continued from page 2

Wolcott died in June 1880 and his name was put on the E.B. Wolcott GAR Post #1, organized in January 10 of that year. It lasted until 1942.

If we cannot hold this ceremony, our honors to Wolcott will receive prime play in the Camp Orders and on our Facebook page, and we will share it with local history groups and fans.

It is likely that the Camp would take a photo of our Brothers at the statue that day or soon thereafter, as was done at Victorious Charge for the Camp's 2001 centennial.

Beyond these events, the parades we plan to appear in – Humboldt Park on the Fourth of July and South Milwaukee on July 25 – face their own decisions whether to proceed. The Civil War Weekend in Menomonee Falls recently sent an email saying will proceed as planned on July 18-19, but ...

# 2 MORE VETS GETTING STONES

The Camp and Auxiliary have quickly moved to sponsor tombstones for newly reported unmarked graves at Forest Home Cemetery.

GRO Tom Ludka said another researcher is compiling lists of graves by regiment, which he and Marge Berres compared to those gathered under their longtime effort and to cemetery records. Some clues were dead-ends, but more than 30 new graves of vets were found; 10 unmarked.

Under the Adopt a Soldier program that they spearheaded with the Forest Home Foundation, about 200 vets previously had received new or replacement government tombstones.

The Camp is sponsoring Sgt. Hugo F. Rohn, Co. C and A, 5th Wisconsin Infantry, who served from April 21, 1861, to July 11, 1865. He fought at Antietam, Gettysburg, Fredericksburg, Wilderness and Appomattox, and was at the surrender of Lee's forces. Rohn died in 1898 at age 67. Rohn was from Milwaukee.

The Auxiliary is funding Sgt. William E. Bardon, Co. D, 3rd Wisconsin Infantry, who served from April 22, 1861, to July 18, 1865. Among many other things, he was at Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and battles in Georgia. He died in 1887 at age 47. Bardon was from Scott, according to the Wisconsin roster; there are seven such townships in the state.

## CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

**Q:** What were the nicknames of some of the Wisconsin light artillery units?

**A:** The 3rd Light Artillery was the "Badger Battery," the 6th was "Bue na Vista Artillery," the 7th was "Badger State Flying Artillery" and the 8th was "Lyons' Pinery Battery." Also of note is that the 12th was organized at St. Louis, Mo., under authority of Gov. Louis P. Harvey, as a company for the 1st Missouri Light Artillery, to be known as the 12th Wisconsin Battery. See all the light artillery records beginning at <http://civilwararchive.com/Unregst/unwarty.htm#3rdlight>

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 7 – James Cook
- 23 – Brian Craig
- 25 – Bill Seaman



Camp Commander – Brian Craig  
(414) 418-9776

SVC – PDC Tom Brown (414) 429-8979

<https://www.facebook.com/CKPierBadger>  
and <http://www.sucw-wi.org>

Report address changes to editor Tom Mueller,  
PCC, at [thewisconsin3800@gmail.com](mailto:thewisconsin3800@gmail.com)

Your Banner is not forwarded by the Postal  
Service, so you need to report a new address to  
us.

## CAMP CALENDAR

**In the pre-pandemic world, we would be previewing Camp activities and events here. For now, we will offer a bonus trivia:**

**Q:** Quarantine, vaccination and the destruction of infected clothes and bedding were the primary tools used to control the spread of what highly contagious disease?

**A:** See [https://www.civilwarmed.org/surgeons-call/small\\_pox/](https://www.civilwarmed.org/surgeons-call/small_pox/)