

This issue of the Camp Orders provides the first-ever inventory of the seven Civil War historical markers in Milwaukee. One has significant wear and tear, and paint on another is starting to chip. See page 3 and beyond.



C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SERIES 2021

CAMP ORDERS

AUGUST 2021



HIGH OFFICE, HIGH HONOR AT NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

Allison Pollitt of Auxiliary 4 was elected as Auxiliary national president at the 140th National Encampment in St. Louis. Her mother, Danielle Michaels, held this office in the 2003-'04 term, and so did her aunt, Denise Oman (2016-'17 and 2018-'19). Longtime Camp Chaplain Dean Collins was one of six given the national Chaplain William Corby award for outstanding ministry leadership.



Pollitt, of Texas, turned age 36 a week after being elected and is the youngest Auxiliary president in recent memory. PCInC Steve Michaels says the youngest was the first – Laura Martin Miller was 19 when the Auxiliary was formed in the 1880s. Minnie Groth of Wisconsin was 36 when elected national president in 1922.

Past Auxiliary National President Danielle Michaels and Steve also received national awards from the Auxiliary. See page 4. We all salute CinC Michael Paquette of Fredericksburg, Va.

The next Camp meeting will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 8, at the Lions Clubhouse, 7336 St. James St., Wauwatosa. CC Brian Craig will have the patriotic presentation.

C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SUVCW

CAMP FUNDS STONE AT CALVARY IN WAKE OF AFTON EVENT

When it comes to getting a tombstone for an unmarked grave, the Camp is branching out into a second Milwaukee cemetery.

Pvt. Claude Oellrich of the 9th Michigan Infantry Regiment died in 1888 and was buried at Calvary Cemetery. We recently ordered a stone and provided the installation fee to the Milwaukee Archdiocesan Cemeteries. Hopefully it can be installed this fall.

Oellrich served from Feb. 15, 1865, to Sept. 15 of that year. He was from Grand Rapids, the same city as Pvt. John Afton, whom we honored last May on the 150th anniversary of being the first burial at what is now Wood National Cemetery.

The Afton family, some of whom still live in Grand Rapids, attended and later sent us a generous donation for our various programs. We put some of that to use for Oellrich – honoring not only a man from Michigan, but from Afton's own city, to boot.

Oellrich, who died at age 62, is buried a short walk from Afton, as long as you hop the fence between the two cemeteries, or figure out how to use the private gate between them. Oellrich is in Section 4D, two sections south of Jesuit Hill. We have placed many flags in that section for Memorial Day; now we will be doing one more.

For several years, and likely more years to come, we have funded one stone a year at Forest Home Cemetery.

The SUVCW is a tax-exempt organization under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)3, as per the Internal Revenue Service.

Donors thus are allowed to deduct contributions they make to C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1, if they do not use the standard deduction when doing their taxes.

We welcome donations of \$25, \$50 or anything you wish.

Tell your friends and local history groups that have appreciated our work.

REMEMBERING COL. PIER: ALMOST IN MANASSAS FIGHT

These monthly articles about our Camp namesake are written by PCinC Steve Michaels. This item first was published in the August 2001 Camp Orders.

In July 1861, Pvt. Colwert Pier and the 1st Wisconsin Infantry (3 mos.) were part of the 20,000-man volunteer force commanded by Gen. Robert Patterson. After its action at Falling Waters, Va., it was to take Harpers Ferry at the northern end of the Shenandoah River and then move south, keeping Confederate General Joseph Johnston fully engaged and, if possible, drive him away from the Manassas Gap line.

On July 18, Johnston's men, numbering 6,500, simply marched silently away from the hopelessly timid and inept Patterson, moving first to Winchester, then turning eastward toward Blue Ridge.

Having arrived at Charleston, Va., the day before, Pier knew that federal troops were to attack soon at Winchester, Manassas Junction and three other places. He wrote that "for some reason we did not go towards Winchester, but started off at a right angle towards Charleston What our object is in coming here I cannot tell, it is said to cut off the retreat of the enemy from Manassas Gap and Winchester..."

Patterson had abandoned the attempt to hold Johnston in check and thus, the rebels were able to reinforce Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard on the battlefield of Bull Run on July 21.

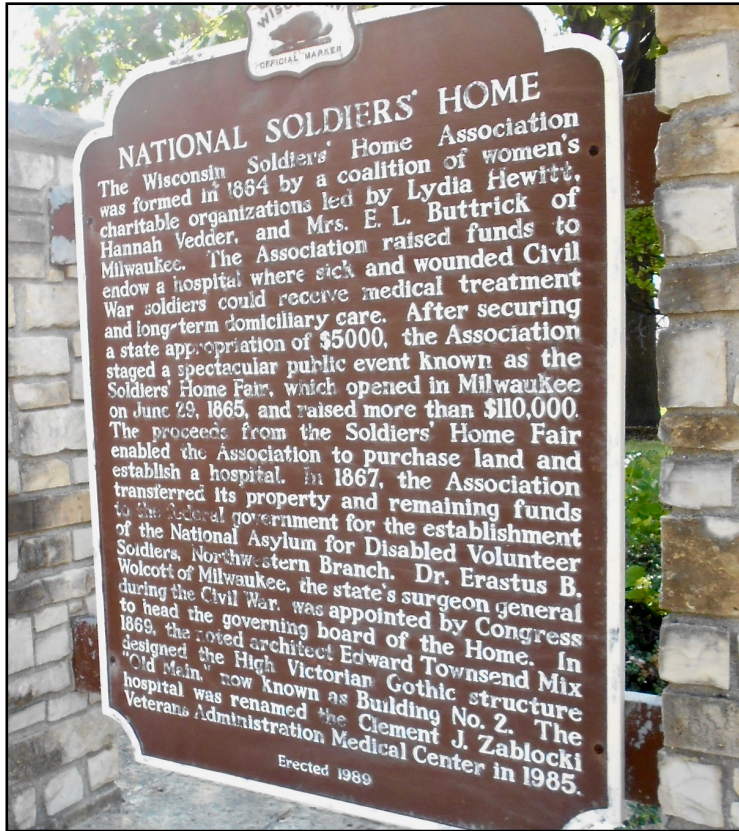
Pier wrote, "The news of the fight at Manassas Junction created much deep feeling with the boys. I think many will go home, take a little rest, and then come back with the regiment."

But for chance and better leadership, Pier and his fellow Wisconsin volunteers might have been part of a Union victory at Manassas.

From Fond du Lac Saturday Reporter Trewloc Letter XIII, July 27, 1861, and Trewloc Letter XIV, Aug. 3, 1861; and The Battlefields of the Civil War by William C. Davis

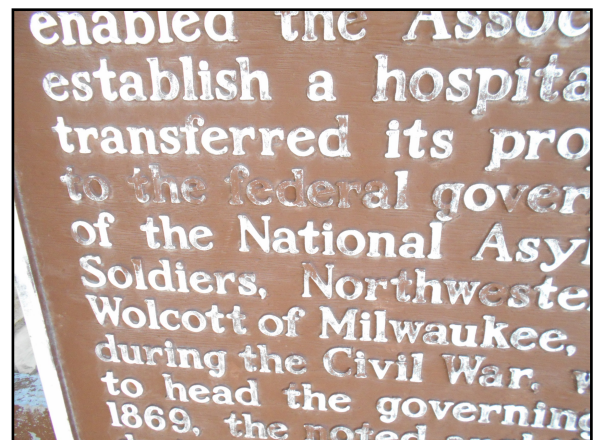
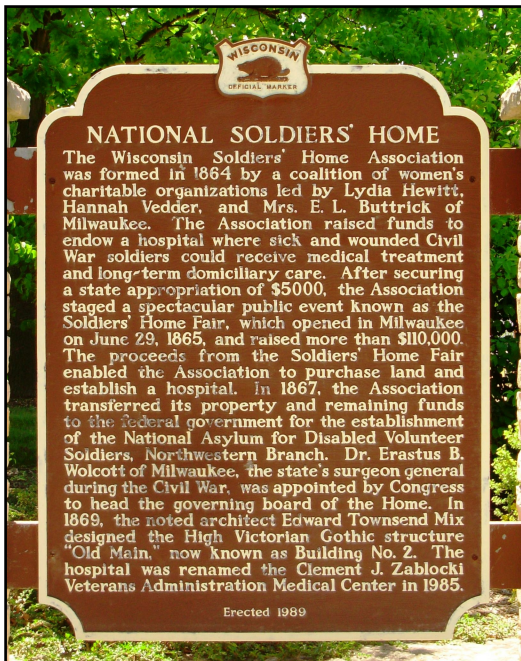


**WE REVIEW THE 7
HISTORICAL MARKERS**



This historical marker on the southern edge of the outer drive at the Zablocki VA Hospital, along West National Avenue, was put up in 1989 and either needs a good cleaning or is showing its age. About one-third of the letters look like the closeup that is below at right. The marker is wooden with raised letters. Photos by Tom Mueller on Aug. 19, 2021.

Here and on pages 5-6, we display all seven Civil War historical markers in Milwaukee. We are using the photos big enough for you to be able to read the text.



The photo at left was taken in 2012 and showed the wear and tear underway in lower left. Photo by Paul Fehrenbach at www.https://www.hmd-b.org/m.asp?m=95766

Top awards from Auxiliary



PCinC Steve Michaels receives the Major A.P. Davis Award from outgoing National President Wanda Langdon for exemplary support and service, and Past National President Danielle Michaels receives the Laura Miller Award for exceptional service.

Congrats to them and for those in Auxiliary 4 elected at the National Encampment: Council #2, Susan Fallon; personal aide, Anne Michaels; supply officer, Past National President Denise Oman; historian, Danielle Michaels; and co-counselor, Steve Michaels.



CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

A: What is this?

MISSOURI SOLDIERS (1861-1865) WAR BETWEEN THE STATES				
SURNAME	GIVEN NAME	RANK		
CLEMENS	SAMUEL J.	Capt		
Service				
Gen. Price				
DATE ENLISTED	1861	PLACE OF ENLISTMENT		
DATE	PLACE	KILLED	PAROLED	DISCHARGED
CONFIRMATION OF RECORD:				
Page--931 History of Marion Co., Mo. (1881).				

Q: This is author Mark Twain's record card in Missouri archives – for two weeks, he was in the Marion Rangers, a Confederate militia in his home county, where Hannibal is located. His writer's-license embellished account of his time was entitled "The Private History of a Campaign That Failed," and describes days of sitting around, relocating, hunger, trading ranks, etc. At the end, "we were warned that a Union colonel was sweeping down on us with a whole regiment at his heels. This looked decidedly serious. Our boys went apart and consulted; then we went back and told the other companies present that the war was a disappointment for us and we were going to disband." More at <https://civilwarsaga.com/mark-twains-civil-war-experience/> and <https://muse.jhu.edu/book/12300>

SEPTEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

- 21 – Bob Nix
- 23 – Jim Brinks



Camp Commander – Brian Craig
(414) 418-9776

SVC – PDC Tom Brown (414) 429-8979

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

Report address changes to editor Tom Mueller, PCC, at thewisconsin3800@gmail.com
Your Banner is not forwarded by the Postal Service, so you need to report a new address to us.

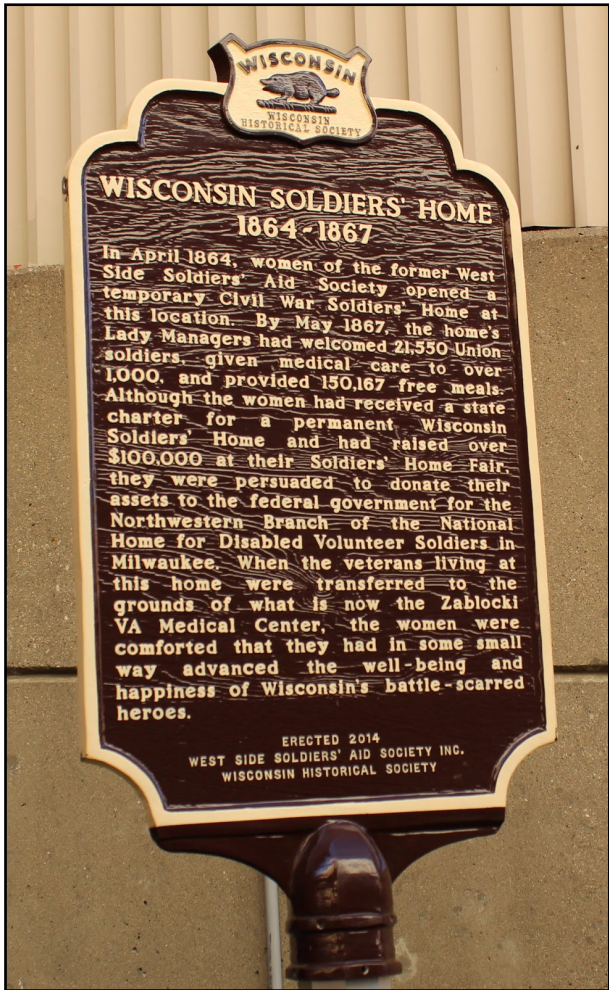
COMING UP

Here is a reminder of activities in the next few weeks.

Forest Home and the Camp's 120th anniversary: At 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 26, we will dedicate our most recent tombstones and start commemorating our December anniversary.

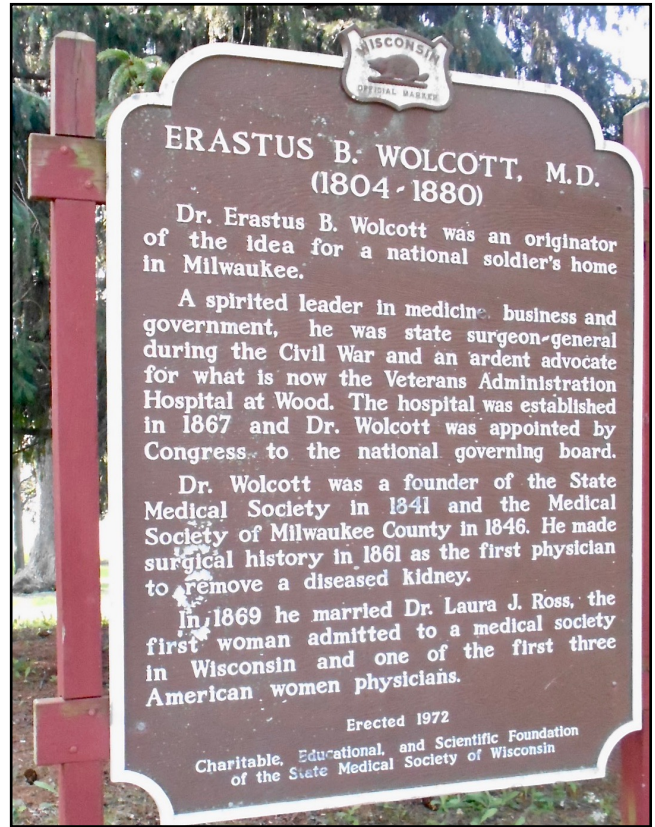
Christmas party, Patriotic Luncheon and more: It will be a busy fall for the planning of these items, depending on the state of the pandemic, too.

**MORE HISTORICAL MARKERS
ALL OVER MILWAUKEE**

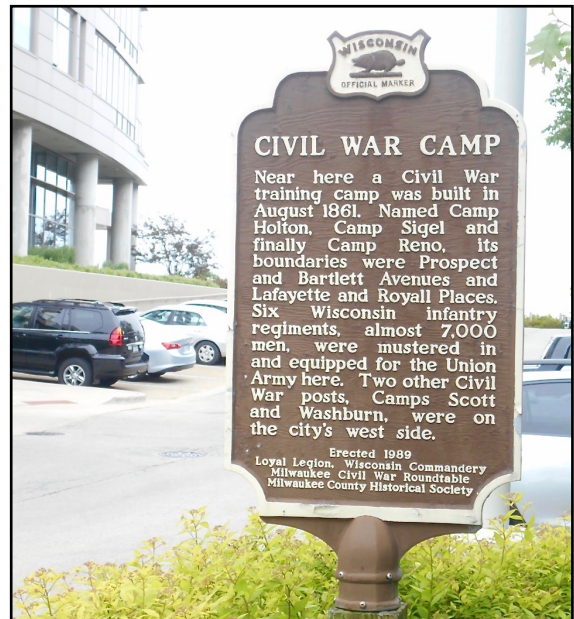


The first Soldiers Home was downtown, and this marker is just off of North Plankinton Avenue just north of West Wisconsin Avenue. It was erected in 2014, when Paul Fehrenbach took this photo. See <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=77417>

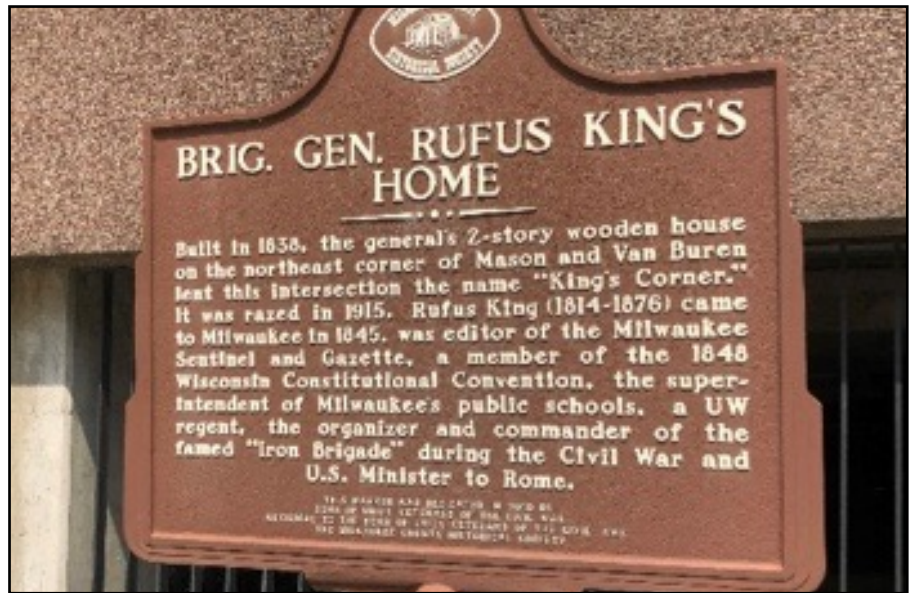
The marker at right was put up in 1989 and is on the east Side, at North Prospect Avenue and East Royall Place. Photo by Tom Mueller in 2019.



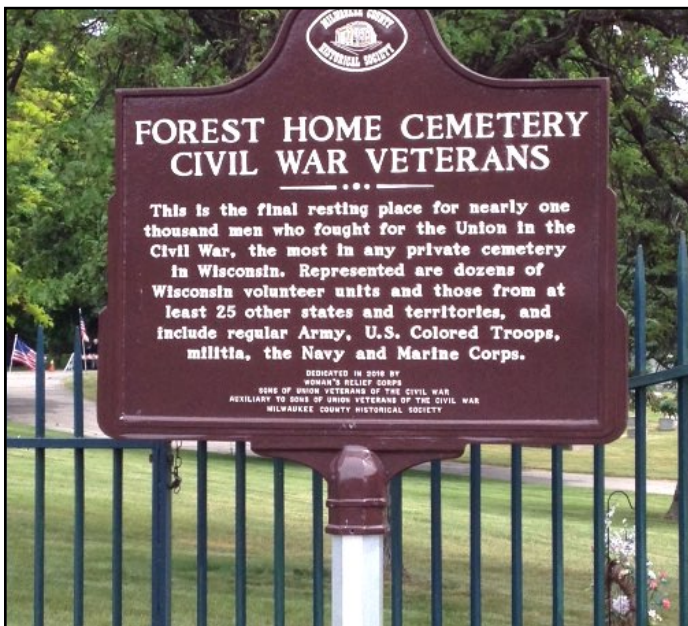
E.B. Wolcott was saluted in 1972 at General Mitchell and Hines Boulevards at the Milwaukee Soldiers Home, just north of the Zablocki VA Hospital. Note the chipping paint in lower left part of the marker, which is wooden. Photo by Tom Mueller on Aug. 19, 2021.



After years of fund-raising and organizational work, we dedicated the Rufus King marker in fall 2011. It is at East Mason and North Van Buren Streets, on the campus of Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance. Photo by Brother Peter Keepman in August 2021. He notes minor discoloring in top middle, under the headline, and that the pole has some chipped paint. All the Camp's markers are metal, unlike the problematic wooden ones at the VA hospital.

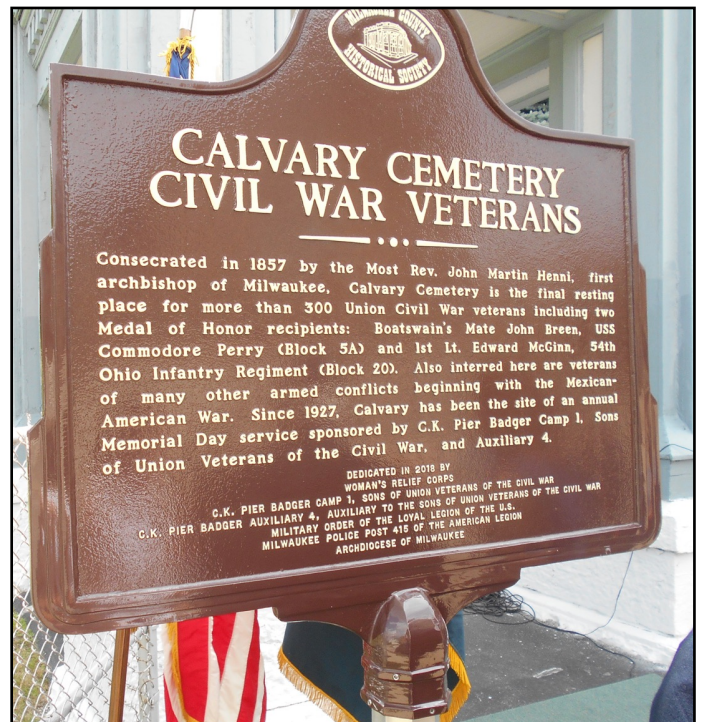


3 markers from Camp add well to Milwaukee history



The marker by the front entrance to Forest Home Cemetery was unveiled in June 2016, the product of years research and walk-throughs by the Camp and Auxiliary, led by Brother Tom Ludka and Marge Berres of the Woman's Relief Corps. Photo by Maggie Menard-Mueller.

Brother Peter Keepman, the Camp's memorials officer, visited a dozen monuments, plaques and more this summer. His report soon will be emailed to you.



In July 2018, the Camp completed its trifecta of historical markers by erecting this one at the entrance to Calvary Cemetery. Photo by Tom Mueller.