



Pvt. Albert Cashier of the 95th Illinois Infantry kept a deep secret during the war and for decades afterward. Find out on page 3.



C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SERIES 2020

## CAMP ORDERS

FEBRUARY 2020

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

### RED, WHITE, BLUE AND GLORIOUS

Susan Fallon of Auxiliary 4 receives the Doctor Mary Edwards Walker Award from DC Jeff Graf for her many efforts to remember veterans and help current ones, including raising money for Wags 4 Warriors. When veterans come home from war with PTSD or traumatic brain injury, the group helps unite them with an appropriate dog, and trains it to be a service dog. Susan is a veteran of the Wisconsin Air National Guard, in the 128th Air Refueling Wing.



Fallon's award was only one of the highlights of the 50th annual Patriotic Luncheon and Department mid-winter meeting. Speaker and author Robert Girardi of Chicago scoured dozens of sources to give a detailed report about Lincoln's daily interactions with common soldiers. The raffle was even more spectacular than normal and the crowd was sharply higher. All in all, it was an event befitting of a golden anniversary.



Photos by Kent Peterson and Tom Mueller. More photos on page 4.

C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

# SUVCW

The next Camp meeting will be Wednesday, March 11, at the Lions Clubhouse, 7336 St. James St., Wauwatosa. Chaplain Dean Collins will have the patriotic presentation.

# THE RITUAL OF STACKING ARMS AND THE COLORS

*Susan Fallon of Auxiliary 4, national chaplain of the Auxiliary this year and national patriotic instructor last year, wrote this article for the National Auxiliary Voice.*

After the soldiers were finished for the day, the Color Guards, or “standard bearers,” would furl (roll on the staff) the flag. Then they would place the flag and staff over the stacked muskets that have bayonets fixed. The command was: “Present arms. Fix bayonets. Stack arms. Stack colors.”

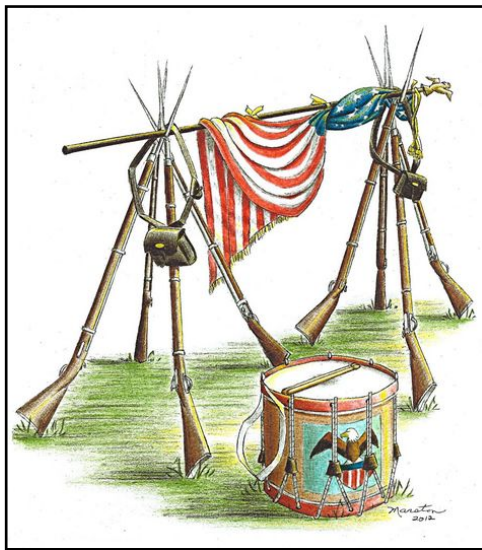
It is at this time that the color sergeant would place the rolled flag on the muskets. Then, the musicians would stack their drums next to the muskets with the flag and staff. Taps (Butterfield’s Lullaby) were played by the bugler while the drums were being stacked.

It is beautiful to watch if you ever have a chance to see a national re-enactment.

One thing to note is at the command of “present arms,” the whole army presents arms. Then at “fix bayonets,” the whole army fixes bayonets. And so on. This is one way the commanders can count the soldiers by counting the stacks (four muskets to a stack).

At the command to stack colors, each battal-

ion’s color sergeant stacks its colors by placing the furlled flag over the color company’s stacked muskets. There was 10 battalions to a division.



Drawing from <http://storiesandverse.com/civil-war/>

There is a difference between stacking colors and posting colors. Posting colors means placing the flag at headquarters.

When there is a new re-enactor, he is instructed to never walk between the stacked muskets. Also, never walk between the furlled flags placed on the musket stacks. Re-enactors are taught how to respect their colors the way our forefathers did.

Our forefathers took care in how they handled their flag, on both sides of the war. The flag was a symbol to rally around, a beloved symbol worth all the respect in the world. A Civil War soldier would have seen many of his friends and relatives die to save their flag.

In the modern military, a soldier knows how to respect our flag. At sundown, the flag at headquarters is taken down and folded while Taps are played.

Our marching style has changed over the years, but it is beautiful to watch the military in review. In Civil War times, it was quite an experience to

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## REMEMBERING COL. PIER: RECRUITS, HAIRCUTS AND EARS

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

During Pvt. C.K. Pier’s stay with the 1<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin Infantry at Milwaukee’s Camp Scott, he made some keen and often humorous observations about army life.

On May 16, 1861, Pier wrote:

“... During the past week, a phenomenon presented itself in Camp, which is more real than pleasant. Quite a number of boys became wild, war-like, or romantic (I don’t know which), went to the barbers and had their heads all but shaved: in fact leaving their hair less than an inch long, making their ears a fine mark for the hot sun to shine upon, and the effect has been truly wonderful.

“Ears have been all the go – the first and last thing seen. Indeed, our fourth corporal for a day or two presented a striking resemblance to a certain two-fanned windmill located in Fond du Lac. The “bark” has now commenced to peel and they (ears) are resuming their natural size...”

*From Fond du Lac Saturday Reporter, May 18, 1861; Trewloc letter #2, dated May 16, 1861*



No haircut for Pvt. Pier.



## THE SOLDIER WAS A SHE

BY BRUCE NASON

Although newspapers across the country carried Pvt. Albert D.J. Cashier's obituary when he died in 1915, he had lived his post-Civil War life pretty much in obscurity.

Thought of as a "loner," Cashier bedded apart from the rest of the members of Co. G, 95th Illinois Infantry.

After being discharged on April 17, 1865, Cashier worked as a handyman in the village of Saunemin, Ill., about 80 miles southwest of Chicago. Cashier was a member of the GAR and so proud of his service that each Memorial Day he would wear his uniform. Cashier was barely 5 feet tall, and children would tease him, "Were you a bugle boy?" Actually, Cashier was a rifleman and fought in major battles in the hardest three years of the war.

In 1913, a reporter from Quincy, Ill., said of a meeting with Cashier: "Of all the tales veterans will tell on this Memorial Day in a thousand cities and villages, there is not one so strange and full of heroism as the tale of this veteran that I have just visited at the Illinois Soldiers' Home.

"His record is full of events like these. During the siege of Vicksburg he was captured and while being guarded, he overpowered the Confederate guard, took his rifle and escaped back to the U.S. lines. In another incident, Cashier, his sergeant and others were cut off from the main body of the company. While the group took cover behind some huge logs, Cashier jumped up and shouted, 'Hey, you darned rebels, why don't you get up where we can see you?'"

In the years that he lived and worked in Saunemin, he gained the reputation as a kind and gentle man. Even though the children teased him, he always would pass out ice cream and candy at Memorial Day celebrations. A neighbor commented that no one could rock their baby to sleep better than he could.

Cashier also served as the church janitor and town lamplighter. He was the chauffeur for a local politician. One day in 1911 while he was making repairs under the car, the senator started it and drove over Cashier's legs. It was obvious that Cashier would not be able to work or live on his own, so he was ad-

mitted to the Illinois Soldiers' Home. The attendants attempted to bathe him, and Cashier's secret was discovered: He was a woman.

When word of Cashier's biological sex reached Washington, the War Department thought he was just a scam artist – a woman who had never set foot on a battlefield. Cashier's pension was threatened until members of Co. G came forward to vouch for her: She was indeed the private who fought alongside of them.

The superintendent of the Soldiers' Home decided to keep Cashier's secret, at least for the time being. While in the home, Cashier soon became demented and a newspaper reporter broke the story of her true identity. The story reported that she is not aware the world knows of her secret, that fellow residents treat her with care and kindness, and still call her Albert.

However, all that changed when she was transferred to the Illinois State Hospital for the Insane. Her uniforms were taken away and she was forced to dress in women's clothes. When Cashier died in 1915, the local GAR post conducted a full military funeral and Cashier was buried in her military uniform.

Once the truth was known, Cashier's story was told in newspapers across the United States and Europe. It was revealed that Cashier was born in Ireland in 1843, and that a relative convinced her to dress as a male in order to find work. She went by the name George.

In 1862, she emigrated to the United States and almost immediately answered President Lincoln's call for enlistees in the Union Army.

Years after Cashier's death, W.J. Singleton, a banker from Saunemin who had led the effort to keep Cashier's pension, discovered that her actual name was Jennie Hodgers. Her grave in Sunny Slope Cemetery in Saunemin is marked with two headstones: a U.S. government military marker in the name of Cashier and a larger, private headstone purchased with donations from townspeople.

More on women who were soldiers at <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-women-who-fought-in-the-civil-war-1402680/>



The story and service of Pvt. Albert D.J. Cashier is told on this tombstone in Saunemin, Ill., about 80 miles southwest of Chicago. There also is a government stone.

## Stacking – continued from page 2

march with the army and feel the rhythm while marching cadence (in step). There is a special sound made when the heel cleats hit the ground and footsteps echoing and the ground moves in a very special way.

No modern marching group can make the sound and rhythm of a Civil War division. (It's the cleats.)

I have experience in this from being a re-enactor portraying a Vivandiere (female water bearer) marching with an army of over 30,000 strong. I also have experience marching in the modern military, having served in the Wisconsin Air National Guard.

Civil War soldiers and modern soldiers are worlds apart – and still very much the same.



## More scenes from luncheon

Special guests included, from left, Auxiliary National Aide Judy Brown, Sons National Secretary Jonathan Davis and Auxiliary National President Wanda Langdon. All traveled from Ohio.



The raffle was running fast and furious, with tickets of various colors, and tables full of prizes. Elizabeth Craig (center) and Danielle Michaels (right) assist a lucky winner.

### CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

**Q:** What were the “Dictator” and the Coehorn?

**A:** These were mortars. The “Dictator” weighed 17,120 pounds and fired 220-pound shells. It was used around Petersburg during the summer of 1864. It was mounted on a railroad car that was strengthened with extra beams and iron rods to withstand the strain of firing. More at [https://civilwarwiki.net/wiki/The\\_Dictator\\_Mortar](https://civilwarwiki.net/wiki/The_Dictator_Mortar). The Coehorn was at the other end of the spectrum, weighing 50 to 100 pounds. Four men could move one a short distance from its carriage wagon. Coehorns came in two sizes, 12-pounder and 24-pounder. The 24-pounder, for example, could fire a 17-pound explosive shell up to 1,200 yards. More at <https://warfarehistorynetwork.com/2015/10/15/civil-war-artillery/> and <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coehorn>

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 8 – Tom Remington
- 16 – Glen Grippen
- 20 – Phil Olson



**Camp Commander – Brian Craig**  
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and <http://www.sucw-wi.org>

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### CAMP CALENDAR

**28 March:** The quarterly staff planning meeting, 11 a.m., at Watertech.

**25 May:** Memorial Day at Calvary Cemetery. Our speaker will be Dan Buttery, the new chief executive officer of the Milwaukee County War Memorial Center.

**14 June:** We are organizing a centennial observance for the E.B. Wolcott horse statue in Lake Park.