

## YOUR SUVCW MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED

Your membership expired Dec. 31.

If you recently have sent your renewal in response to the notices that we sent in November and December, THANK YOU!!! But if you have not yet paid, be advised that **WE WILL NOT SEND A NEWSLETTER IN FEBRUARY; ONLY A REMINDER.**

### 2021 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

Benefits of your membership in C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, include:

- Being part of what has been an outstanding Milwaukee civic organization since 1901.
- Receiving the *Camp Orders*, *Wisconsin Department Dispatch* newsletter and the *Banner* national magazine.
- Learning more about the Civil War via the interests and fields of expertise of other members, and adding your own.
- Professional and personal development from working with others to organize and carry out our variety of events.

### Enclose your dues with this form

### Make check out to C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1

Send to PDC Kent Peterson, 6024 S. Kirkwood Ave., Cudahy, WI 53110

We have kept the dues at \$40.

You are invited to help better fulfill our mission by making a voluntary extra contribution to one or all of our selected causes for 2021: (1) help support the costs of our Memorial Day commemoration and (2) veterans relief.

**RENEWAL DEADLINE WAS DEC. 31.** Under Camp bylaws, a late fee of \$5 is required as of **Jan. 31.**

Name: _____	\$ 40 _____	Annual Camp dues
Phone: _____	+ _____	Memorial Day continuing fund
Email: _____	+ _____	Veterans relief
Address: _____		
_____	= _____	Total amount enclosed

“With malice toward none; with charity for all ... let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds ...”

– Lincoln’s inaugural speech, March 4, 1865 – and echoed in President Joe Biden’s inaugural on Jan. 20, 2021

C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SUVCW



C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SERIES 2021

CAMP ORDERS

JANUARY 2021

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

## DEADLINE NEARS FOR THE PATRIOTIC FUNCTION

A belated Happy New Year, everyone. And may this year turn out better than the last one!!! Although it is off to a rocky start, I am still hopeful of a better year.

From the  
Commander –  
Brian Craig

But we have a sort of mixed bag of good news, bad news to start this

year with.

As we decided last fall, the bad news is we have had to cancel the annual Patriotic Luncheon, which the Camp and Auxiliary have held every year for 50 years, in some form or another. The COVID-19 pandemic is to blame.

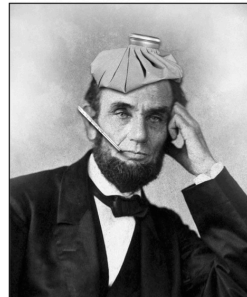
The good news that comes from that is the Patriotic Luncheon has morphed into a Patriotic Function event. This

### You're invited to our 51st Annual Patriotic Luncheon ... er, Function

Honoring Presidents Washington, Lincoln and McKinley

Saturday, February 6, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

You bring the lunch, we'll bring the guest speaker to you online!



#### “The Lincolns – In Sickness and in Health”

Guest Speaker:

**Dr. Trevor Steinbach**

- Premier medical impressions for over 25 years at 700+ events
- Widely published author on Civil War medicine (200+ articles)
- Developed teaching materials for the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

#### Free to attend!

Zoom will be used to host our event. You'll need a computer, laptop or tablet with an internet connection to attend. Use form below, or register online at [www.suvcw-wi.org/patriotic\\_luncheon](http://www.suvcw-wi.org/patriotic_luncheon). Presentation access code will be sent after your reservation has been received.

#### Sponsor our event!

Sponsor names will be listed on our Facebook page and on-screen during our Patriotic Function.

Mail this form and optional sponsorship check payable to C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 to:  
Elizabeth Craig, 3422 N. 79th St., Milwaukee, WI 53222

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  Optional sponsorship donation (\$10)

will be held the same day as the luncheon was planned for, Saturday, Feb. 6, but instead of being an in-person event it will

*Continued on page 2*

We again will meet on the Zoom videoconference platform at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 10. Chaplain Dean Collins will have the patriotic presentation.

# LUNCHEON BECOMES A PATRIOTIC FUNCTION

Continued from page 1

be held via videoconference.

The deadline to sign up is Feb. 5, the day before the event, but it would be better for our planning if you did it ASAP. See the flyer for directions to sign up via the web link or snailmail.

We have several people working diligently to try to get the Function up and running. PCC Steve Michaels, PDC Kent Peterson and JVC Grant Johnson (among others) are working to make this new idea into a reality.

The speaker will be Trevor Steinbach of Illinois, a longtime Civil War medical re-enactor who will discuss illnesses in the Lincoln family and how they were treated, compared with modern techniques.

Steinbach is a member of General Phillip H. Sheridan Camp 2 of the SUVCW, in Aurora, Ill. Among other things, he has provided historical interpretation as surgeon James R.M. Gaskill of the 17th Corps medical staff and surgeon Urban G. Owen of the Army of Tennessee, 15th Tennessee CSA.

Steinbach has presented his medical impressions at more than 800 events in Wisconsin, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Missouri and Iowa. He has published 210 articles on medicine in the Civil War Courier national publication, and has been a consultant about medical history for films.

He is also a member of the Board of Directors with the Society of Civil War Surgeons, which pro-



Trevor Steinbach, from his Facebook page

vides seminars and support for medical re-enactors and historians.

Due to the fact that this is an online event, we will not be limited to people in the Milwaukee area or willing to travel here in mid-winter. So this will be a great opportunity to highlight our organization to people all over the country.

You most likely have friends and family all over the country, same as me, that have heard you talk about the SUVCW but live too far away to be a member of our Camp, or to come to Milwaukee.

It is a free event, but we welcome donations in any amount. Like they say on NPR, “no donation is too small,” but what they do not say is that no donation is too big, either!!!

Now for more bad news. Our big Memorial Day event at Calvary Cemetery is being cancelled for the second year in a row, due to COVID and the vaccination program running slowly. Because this is a huge event to coordinate and put on yearly, we think it best to focus on coming back strong in 2022.

The good news, however, is that the Camp will continue its unbroken string of celebrating Memorial Day by doing a smaller and socially distanced event on Sunday, May 30, as we did last year. There will be no visitors.

We are calling it Decoration Day (as Memorial Day was initially called). It will not be the usual huge event, but it still will be our way to honor the men who served to keep our nation whole.

Be safe, everyone.

## REMEMBERING COL. PIER: GETTING NEWS FROM HOME

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

A soldier’s close connection with family and community always has been important.

While serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin Infantry during the summer of 1861, C.K. Pier wrote letters, published in the Fond du Lac *Saturday Reporter*. From Hagerstown, Md., he wrote home, “... the farther we are from you, the more our desire is to hear what you are doing, etc.”

In responding, a local clergyman known as the Rev. Stone became the city’s spokesman. Pier said in May while still at Milwaukee’s Camp Scott that “a package of books and papers arrived from Rev. Stone, came like a ‘Godsend,’ for Sunday it rained all day. I don’t know what we would do without them ...”

By July, Pier and the 1<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin were encamped at Bunker Hill, Va. One Saturday, Rev. Stone entered the camp, “surprising and delighting the boys beyond description. He brought with him many letters, a bundle of *Reporters* and much other reading matter, for which we shall long continue to ask blessings abundant upon him ...”

*From Trewloc letters #3 (25 May 1861), #9 (29 July 1861), and #13 (27 July 1861), published in the Fond du Lac Saturday Reporter*



## A GRAND LEGACY IN WISCONSIN



*At the January Camp meeting, PC-in-C Steve Michaels narrated a slide show entitled “The Grand Army’s Grand Legacy.” This story is adapted from one of his prior writings.*

The massive soldiers reunion of 1880 that C.K. Pier organized not only revitalized the Grand Army of the Republic; it gave Milwaukee a powerful boost – and the GAR’s work rippled into housing for veterans and into schools.

Fully a quarter of a million people, including 100,000 ex-soldiers, gathered in Milwaukee. All of what was known as Prospect Hill was covered with tents. Hotels and private homes were filled to overflowing. The city had raised \$40,000 for the entertainment of its guests during the week of the reunion.

Generals U.S. Grant and Phil Sheridan arrived by special train and were guests of honor at the campfire and parade. Wisconsin’s famed war eagle, “Old Abe,” was there for what would be his last parade.

The doubling of the city’s population and trebling of her industries within the next 12 years is often attributed to the impetus given by this reunion. Milwaukee’s population in 1880 was 115,587. Ten years later, it was 204,468. It had been the 19th-largest city in the nation; in 1890 it was 16th and by 1910 it soared to the 12th-largest.

Wisconsin had been the first GAR Department, organized at Madison on June 7, 1866. The GAR made its first appearance in Milwaukee on July 31 of that year, when Phil Sheridan Post #3 was chartered.

But following an initial period of enthusiasm, the GAR experienced a general decline in membership and interest not only in Wisconsin, but throughout the nation as well.

When the Department Encampment was held at Berlin in January 1879, only three posts were represented. The meeting’s most important business was the proposition as to whether the Department should surrender its charter and become part of the Illinois Department.

But a Wisconsin Reunion Association was organized. It was composed partially of Grand Army men and a large majority of ex-soldiers who did not belong to any post. Pier was made president and Griff Thomas of Berlin the secretary of the association. It was decided to hold a reunion in Milwaukee for all the Wisconsin soldiers who could be brought together, during the week of June 8, 1880.

Pier composed a circular on Jan. 11, 1879, which was published in practically all the state’s pa-

pers and in hundreds more outside the state.

Replies poured in for a year and a half. Many letters contained war incidents, bits of biography and valuable war history. Col. Pier used this information and began a series of articles, which were printed in The Milwaukee Sunday Telegraph until the time of the reunion.

Most of Wisconsin’s GAR posts were organized in the decade after the reunion.

Milwaukee was host to the National GAR Encampments of 1889, 1923 and 1943. At the 1889 Encampment, Gen. William T. Sherman made his last visit to the city and reviewed the great parade of veterans. One of the attractions of the week was a naval battle planned and conducted by Capt. J.B. Oliver, captain of Battery A. The revenue cutters Michigan and Andy Johnson participated. The shore force, consisting of the Wisconsin National Guard, extended from the Northwestern Railroad depot to the government pier.

As a charitable and fraternal order, Wisconsin’s GAR urged the founding of a Soldiers’ Home at King in Waupaca County. Milwaukee posts did their part in helping raise over \$5,000 toward establishing that facility in 1887. Wives and widows of veterans were allowed to live at the home, unlike the Milwaukee Soldiers Home.

A Wisconsin law requiring the display of the U.S. flag over every schoolhouse in the state had its origins at a soldiers’ gathering at Plymouth, Wis., in June 1884. Gen. Harrison C. Hobart of the E.B. Wolcott Post of Milwaukee made the following address: “I hope to live to see that flag displayed in or over every educational institution throughout the nation, from the little district school in the back town to the great university, and if perchance churches adopt the custom of so placing it, where all who worship may see it, all the better.”

The GAR also conducted a history textbook campaign after the issue was presented at the 1887 Department Encampment. Three years later, when the national commander-in-chief instructed posts to urge teaching of patriotism in schools, Wisconsin posts sponsored a series of free lectures on Civil War subjects in schools.

On Sept. 15, 1934, after 18 years, after a World War and a stock market crash, Milwaukee’s Abraham Lincoln memorial was dedicated on the lakefront. Prior to World War I, the E.B. Wolcott Post and members of the business community raised \$5,000 for the project.

# OUR TOPICS RANGED FROM SHIPS TO DIPLOMACY

Eight bonus pages of coverage, made a lot easier now that we send the Camp Orders electronically to most Brothers. And the traditional wide range of patriotic presentations from each meeting.

That summarizes 2020 for the newsletter; a deep look at intricate Civil War topics, worthy of a history symposium. All of it giving you plenty to chew on during the long months of social distancing wrought by the pandemic.

We review:

**January:** Training manual for how to survive the sinking of a ship.

**February:** The soldier was a she. Plus Susan Fallon's story on stacking arms and the colors.

**March:** The last stand of the war was in Texas. Plus a two-page salute to Col. C.K. Pier marking the 125th anniversary of his death.

**April:** When Irish Civil War vets invaded Canada.

**May:** Surgeon's kit – from borers to bone saws.

**June:** Lincoln and the Irish. Plus the 100th anniversary of the E.B. Wolcott statue in Lake Park

and a two-page review of how to prime a musket.

**July:** The Balloon Corps. Plus the story of our first Camp commander, George A. Shaughnessy, elected in 1901, and how his father died of disease in 1864 and is buried at the Marietta National Cemetery in Georgia.

**August:** The entire list of the 52 brothers who have served as commander in the 119-year existence of the Camp; some in different decades and one in different centuries.

**September:** The Spencer repeating rifle and carbine. Plus the many sites across Wisconsin that were training camps for soldiers. And a two-page look at the long-awaited refurbishing of buildings at the Milwaukee Soldiers Home, including our former site of Building 1.

**October:** The sad case of Maj. Henry Rathbone, witness to the assassination of Lincoln.

**November:** Wild claims about the body of John Wilkes Booth.

**December:** Foreign diplomacy by the Confederates. And a two-page tribute to history reporter Meg Jones, who had died of pancreatic cancer only a month after being diagnosed.

## CIVIL WAR

### TRIVIA

**Q:** Why were women a priority at ammunition plants?

**A:** The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps says this was because of the contemporary perception that a woman's nimble and petite fingers worked better at assembling paper rifle cartridges. In the Allegheny Arsenal explosion in Pennsylvania on Sept. 17, 1862, the same day as the battle of Antietam, 78 workers were killed – 71 of them women. See <https://www.history.gordonance.army.mil/history/ORDhistory.html> and <https://www.history.gordonance.army.mil/history/ORDhistory.html>

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Kent Peterson
- 1 – Grant Johnson
- 6 – Jeff Lesar
- 15 – Joe Fallon



**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.**

## MEDICAL CORNER

**Q:** What were some common treatment methods used by war doctors?

**A:** For bowel complaints, open bowels were treated with a plug of opium. Closed bowels were treated with the infamous "blue mass" – a mixture of mercury and chalk. Camp itch could be treated by ridding the body of the pests or with poke-root solution. Much more at <https://ehistory.osu.edu/exhibitions/cwsurgeon/cwsurgeon/introduction>