



With this issue, PCC Tom Mueller has been editor of the Camp Orders for a full decade. He was a mere JVC in 2012, but also a longtime veteran of news publishing. He has researched and written stories galore for the newsletter, several of which became Camp events.

C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP #1

SUVCW



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SERIES 2022

## CAMP ORDERS

JANUARY 2022

THREE-TIME WINNER OF THE NATIONAL MARSHALL HOPE NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Two members of the Camp helped form a patriotic panorama at Wreaths Across America in December. Photo by Kent Peterson.



### STRIVING FOR A SAFE PATRIOTIC LUNCHEON

I hope everyone is having a happy and safe start to 2022, and that you will be able to attend the Patriotic Luncheon and Department Mid-Winter Meeting on Feb. 5, at Alioto's in Wauwatosa.

The event is still on. Vaccinations and other health steps have made a big difference vs. last year, when we had to go virtual. But we highly recommend bringing a mask.

Come and see Max Daniels por-

From the  
Commander – PDC  
Tom Brown

tray Lincoln wrestling with constitutional issues. We'll have silent auction items and the always-fun \$1 raffle for books and products.

Proceeds go to the many projects of the Camp and Auxiliary 4, including tombstones, aid to a variety of veterans' groups and publishing of research that adds to the annals of Milwaukee history.

But move quickly – the deadline for meal reservations is THIS FRIDAY,

*Continued on page 2*

The next Camp meeting will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9, at the Lions Clubhouse, 7336 St. James St., Wauwatosa. Patriotic Instructor Bruce Nason will have the patriotic presentation.

## MAX DANIELS TO FOCUS ON LINCOLN AND THE CONSTITUTION

*Continued from page 1*

Jan. 28. We emailed you the flyer in the November newsletter and in the winter Department Dispatch, and it is on the Camp Facebook page. If you need it again, ask Kent Peterson at [kapeterson@wi.rr.com](mailto:kapeterson@wi.rr.com) or Tom Mueller at [thewisconsin3800@gmail.com](mailto:thewisconsin3800@gmail.com). They will get you on the list, which is kept by Elizabeth Craig of the Auxiliary. Send the money to her, but contact Peterson or Mueller NOW.

We need everyone to help with the various duties that make this a great event, so please volunteer before or on Feb. 5, which will make this easier for all. Contact PCinC Steve Michaels at [lt.col.sm@gmail.com](mailto:lt.col.sm@gmail.com)

I am looking forward to an informative presentation by Max Daniels. Donna Daniels, his spouse, was the keynoter at the 2019 Patriotic Luncheon, discussing "My Side of the Story – Mrs. Lincoln on the



Max Daniels

first lady's much maligned image."

Their website is <http://abeandthebabe.com>

It says: "Max and Donna have an extensive background in community theatre and have been portraying Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln professionally since 1988. They are past vice presidents of the National Association of Lincoln Presenters and have received its awards for 'Best Abraham,' 'Best Mary,' 'Best Abraham and Mary Lincoln Team,' and 'Lincoln Legend.'"

They have performed at the Lincoln Home Visitor Center in Springfield, Ill., and at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. They participate in Memorial Day ceremonies at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.

They are attractions at Civil War Reenactments throughout the Midwest and make appearances at schools, libraries and other organizations.

## REMEMBERING COL. PIER: BOYHOOD PAL BECAME CAPTAIN

*These monthly articles about our Camp namesake are written by PCinC Steve Michaels. This item first was published in the January 2002 Camp Orders.*

On April 14, 1861, Colwert Pier and a neighbor's son, Christian Klock, spent an hour or more discussing the attack on Fort Sumter. Both decided to enlist, and signed the muster roll the next morning. Pier's name appeared first, Klock's second.

Who was Pier's companion, and what became of him?

Christie Klock, as he was known in Fond du Lac, was a year older than Pier (who was 19) and one of 19 children in his family. The Klocks came to Fond du Lac in 1855 from St. Lawrence County, N.Y., farmed 100 acres and later owned a mill.

Klock served with Pier in Co. I, 1<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin Infantry (3 months) from April to August 1861. The next month, he re-enlisted in Co. K, 1<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin (3 years) and immediately was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant. The following May, he was promoted to 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenant.

He took part in the battles of Perryville, Ky., and Stones River, Tenn., that fall and winter. Spring 1863 brought a promotion to 1<sup>st</sup> lieutenant and the Tullahoma Campaign. The battles of Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge, and the Atlanta Campaign, followed. On July 1, 1864, Klock was promoted to captain. He was in the battles of Chattahoochee, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta and Jonesboro before being mustered out that October. Colwert Pier and his 38<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin were adjusting to life in the trenches before Petersburg at that time.

In May 1865, Klock married Delia Adeline Soper. They moved to Texas in 1874. Christian and another Fond du Lac native farmed adjoining ranches 12 miles from Waco. The city was becoming the hub for commerce and the gateway for settlers and businessmen moving into south and west Texas.

A hailstorm in 1879 destroyed Klock's crops and 56 panes of glass in his house. He recovered sufficiently and became a successful sheep raiser. In the 1890s, Klock moved to Monroe County, Ga., and was a landlord, renting land to black tenant farmers.

He and his wife later moved to Tampa, Fla. After Adeline died there on June 15, 1917, Christian went to Seattle, Wash., via the Panama Canal. He died at the National Soldiers Home in Los Angeles on March 31, 1918, and was buried in the National Cemetery there.

*From History of Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin; Western Historical Company, Chicago, 1880; 1900 Federal Census for Georgia; FindaGrave.com; Milwaukee Sentinel; and Tampa Tribune, April 11, 1918*



## CAHABA PRISON CAMP IN ALABAMA



*This article is compiled from <http://www.americancivilwar101.com/pow/al-cahaba.html> and <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/sultana-disaster> along with related Wikipedia pieces.*

In January 1864, Confederate authorities decided to establish a permanent prison facility at an unfinished red-brick cotton warehouse at Cahaba, Ala.

The city in central Alabama was the first permanent capital of the state, from 1820 to 1825. It is near the larger city of Selma, which was destined to become famous in the civil rights movement 14 decades later.

The building originally was constructed as part of a complex to provide storage for the Cahaba, Mariion and Greensborough Railroad. The railroad failed in the 1850s and the warehouse was abandoned.

Starting in late 1863, the place was used to hold the military district's political and Union prisoners.

The prison, located on the banks of the Alabama and Cahaba Rivers, also was known as Castle Morgan. It was 15,000 square feet, covered by a leaky roof with 1,600 feet of open space in its center, and was surrounded by a tall brick wall. The building had four open windows and the floor was bare earth. A 12-foot-high wide-plank fence was built around the one-third-acre site. Inside the building, bunks, five tiers high, were erected along the walls and would hold 432 men.

The prison yard, enclosed by a fence, was about 35 by 46 feet and could be used during the daytime. It also served as the cook yard. Guards patrolled on an elevated walkway around the outside the fence.

By the end of March 1864, the prison held 660 soldiers. Two months later, there were 1,500, and the prison was ordered to be closed. Those healthy enough to travel were transferred to Andersonville Prison in Georgia. But when Andersonville became too overcrowded, Cahaba was reopened. By September, there were 2,500 prisoners, and that number eventually climbed to 3,000.

Capt. H.A.M. Henderson shared command of the prison with Lt. Col. Sam Jones. Henderson was in charge of the prison facilities, while Jones directed the prison guard of 179 troops, with many coming from established Alabama reserves.

Prisoners were held in an old, decrepit building that had no provisions for bedding. Instead, they slept on bare floors, and there was one fireplace in the building to keep them warm. There was not any other

way to heat it, so open fires were allowed on the floor.

The water supply came from an open trench that ran from an artesian well, which had become extremely polluted by the sewer runoff from the town and the prison itself. The well was 200 yards away, outside the prison wall. According to stories told, the river often flooded and covered the floors of the buildings in water running one to four feet deep.

Due to an increasing rate of sickness, a hospital was established at the Bell Tavern Hotel, two blocks from the prison. The prevailing diseases were scurvy, dysentery and chronic diarrhea. There also were problems with lice and rats.

However, Cahaba had access to ample medical supplies, firewood and food. This contributed to a substantially lower death rate than in other prisons – the rate was about 2 percent, the lowest rate of any Civil War prison camp. Most Confederate camps averaged 15.5 percent and Union camps had mortality rates of more than 12 percent. Federal and Confederate records indicate that between 142 and 147 men died at Cahaba Prison.

With the war near an end, Jones negotiated an exchange of Union prisoners for captured Confederates, with Cahaba being evacuated in March 1865. The exchange took place at Vicksburg, Miss., in April, after a long and arduous journey by the prisoners.

But for many, the trip home ended in a disaster. In the early-morning hours of April 27, 1865, the steamboat *Sultana* exploded on the Mississippi River near Memphis, Tenn. The *Sultana* was crowded with men from Cahaba and Andersonville; a total of more than 2,000. Of these, 1,500 or more were killed either by the explosion, the subsequent fire or drowning.

In order to fulfill a lucrative contract, J. Cass Mason, the *Sultana's* captain, had opted to patch a leaky boiler rather than complete more extensive and time-consuming repairs. Fearing that his colleagues were taking bribes to transport prisoners on other boats, Union Army Capt. George Williams, who oversaw the operation, hastily ordered that all former prisoners at the parole camp and hospital at Vicksburg be transported on the *Sultana*.

Although it was designed to only hold 376 people, more than five times that number of Union troops were crowded onto the steamboat. Despite concerns of overloading from several officers, Williams refused to divide the men, insisting that they travel on one vessel.

# ANOTHER GREAT YEAR OF PATRIOTIC PRESENTATIONS

The Camp's long tradition of wide-ranging and sometimes unique patriotic presentations was stronger than ever in 2021, adding to our general knowledge and to Milwaukee's annals of history. Huzzah x 12, Brothers!!! We are confident that 2022 will bring even more learning and teaching.

**January:** The Grand Army's Grand Legacy in Wisconsin, rippling across areas of society including schools and housing for veterans.

**February:** The return of Old Glory to Fort Sumter in 1865.

**March:** Boston Corbett, the soldier who killed John Wilkes Booth.

**April:** Michigan cavalry Pvt. John Afton, the first man buried at Wood National Cemetery, and how he was wounded and captured in Custer's charge at Gettysburg.

**May:** South Carolina cadets and U.S. Marines in the war.

**June:** The Burnside carbine.

**July:** Touring the remodeled Building 1 and Old Main at the Milwaukee Soldiers Home.

**August:** Cataloging the seven Civil War historical markers in Milwaukee, erected between 1972 and 2018. Three of the seven were erected by the Camp.

**September:** Wisconsin and the presidential election of 1860.

**October:** Drummers, their music and field maneuvers.

**November:** Spying and scouting.

**December:** How some current Camp members had relatives in the very same regiments as the 1901 Camp founders, such as in the 4th Wisconsin Cavalry, 1st Infantry (3 months), 6th Infantry and more.

## CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

**Q:** What problem did Robert E. Lee spot while proofreading U.S. Grant's draft of the surrender document at Appomattox?

**A:** A missing word. One sentence said, "... not to take up arms against the government of the United States until properly and each company or regimental commander sign ...". Lee asked whether Grant had inadvertently missed using the word "exchanged," after "until properly," and Grant readily agreed. This is on page 491 of "Lee," a 1991 condensation of a four-volume work by Douglas Southall Freeman.

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

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



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We are at <https://www.facebook.com/CKPierBadger>  
and <http://www.suvcw-wi.org>

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.

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.

## COMING UP

**Here are things to do in the next few weeks.**

**Patriotic Luncheon on Feb. 5:** As you can see on page 1, the deadline is upon us for your RSVP. Masks are strongly recommended. If you cannot attend, donations are welcome.

**Read up during wintertime:** All Camp members, anywhere, ought to share their findings from reading about the war in books or on the web. The old expression is, "two eyes are better than one;" for the Camp it should be, "84 eyes are better than two."

# WHERE WE SERVED AND FOUGHT

— A SERIES SALUTING THE ANCESTORS OF CAMP 1 BROTHERS



## **PCINC STEVE MICHAELS' ANCESTOR: WILLIAM H. WILSON**

Was a private in Company G, 48th Ohio Infantry, and a veteran of the Mexican-American War.

Enlisted on Dec. 19, 1861, at age 38.

Disability discharge on Jan. 26, 1863. Loss of sight in right eye.

During Wilson's time, the 48th fought at Shiloh; besieged Corinth, Miss.; and was in Sherman's Yazoo Expedition.

See <http://civilwararchive.com/Unreght/unohinf4.htm#48th>

A year after Wilson's service, the entire regiment was captured on April 8, 1864, in the battle of Sabine Crossroads, La. It was held as prisoners of war until October 1864, when exchanged.

Official history at <http://www.48ovvi.org/oh48hist.html>

Born June 5, 1823.

Died June 13, 1886.

Buried at Williamsburg Cemetery in Williamsburg in his native Clermont County, which is in southwestern Ohio.

Four years after William Wilson died, his wife, Nancy Jane, and her grandson posed for this tintype.

The 5-year-old was Albert L. Wilson, the great-grandfather of Steve Michaels. "Albert lived until 1972, so I knew him," Michaels says.

