

*“Let us, then,  
at the time  
appointed,  
gather  
around their  
sacred re-  
mains and  
garland the  
passionless  
mounds  
above them  
with the  
choicest  
flowers of  
spring-time.  
...”*

– From CinC  
John Logan’s  
Memorial Day  
order, May 5,  
1868

C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SUVCW



C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SERIES 2022

CAMP ORDERS

MAY 2022

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

## CALL TO DUTY: A SPRINT OF EVENTS

The days leading up to the return of our grand Memorial Day event are very busy, possibly the busiest we have been in years.

Last Saturday, the Camp participated in a tombstone dedication at Forest Home Cemetery, sponsored by the Civil War Round Table and the Daughters of the American Revolution. On Sunday, we put flags on the graves of Civil War veterans and all other vets at Calvary Cemetery.

This weekend, on Saturday we will be the featured part of a ceremony at the War Memorial Center in downtown Milwaukee honoring Wisconsinites who died in the Civil War.

On Sunday, the Camp will be part of the rededication of the repaired Hans Heg statue in Madison. Then on Monday, the Camp and Auxiliary 4 host our large Memorial Day service and ceremony at Calvary Cemetery.

Last but not least, the Depart-



ment Encampment will be held in Madison on June 4. Get your registrations in by May 31, which is Tuesday. The fee this year is \$15.

Brother Tom Hesse places a flag on the grave of his soldier relative at Calvary Cemetery, who was not previously known to the Camp. Pvt. Jacob Dorfner served in the 51st Wisconsin Infantry from March 22, 1865, to May 30 of that year. He died in 1895. On Sunday, we put flags on the graves of veterans at Calvary in preparation for Memorial Day.

**From the  
Commander –  
PDC Tom Brown**

I hope a lot our members will be attending one or more of these activities, which show what we are all about, with some new twists to the events. If

*Continued on page 2*

**The next Camp meeting will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 8, at the Lions Clubhouse, 7336 St. James St., Wauwatosa. PCC Patrick Fallon will have the patriotic presentation.**

# LIST OF CAMP ACTIVITIES HAS SOME NEW TWISTS

*Continued from page 1*

you have signed up, great; if not, contact PCinC Steve Michaels or PCC Tom Mueller.

I am now turning this column over to Mueller for a description of each event:

**May 21:** The tombstone dedication was for Pvt. Horace Griffin of the 1st Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, Company D. He served from Aug. 22, 1864, to June 30, 1865, and died in 1918 at age 75. He was from the Town of Montrose in southern Dane County.

The Round Table and DAR have been striving for coordination with us because of our common missions, especially tombstones, and we are glad to help.

Mueller assisted the groups with research and their script for the Griffin event, and spoke about Montrose, where he has family roots.

**May 22:** Four from the Camp and Past Auxil-

iary National President Danielle Michaels did our annual flag-placing at Calvary Cemetery. This was hundreds of flags, for all veterans, but especially the Civil War vets with marked graves.

These included a new man – a relative of new Brother Tom Hesse, not previously known to us as a soldier despite years and years of looking for vets via many methods by Brother Tom Ludka, Marge Berres and others.

Pvt. Jacob Dorfner was in the 51st Wisconsin Infantry, Company D. He went in not even three weeks before Appomattox, and was part of the vital pipeline of new soldiers; something the Confederates did not have at all at the end.

**May 28 (this Saturday):** The Camp will have the honor of placing the final flags in the Field of Flags at the Milwaukee County War Memorial. This is

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## REMEMBERING COL. PIER: 2 PEAS IN A VETERAN POD

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

Of Col. Pier's many friendships after the war, one was exceptionally close and well-documented. At the reunions and campfires in the early 1890s, he often would poke fun at Col. Edmund B. Gray, GAR Department assistant adjutant and president of the 28<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry Association.

For example, at a reunion of the 28<sup>th</sup> in November 1891, Pier claimed Gray was caught walking the streets of Detroit during the National GAR Encampment with a sign, "Girl Wanted" pinned to his coat – and to prove it, submitted the sign!!! He regularly claimed Col. Gray always sought to "tell the exact truth."

Of course, neither statement was true, but where did this great familiarity come from, and when did it start?

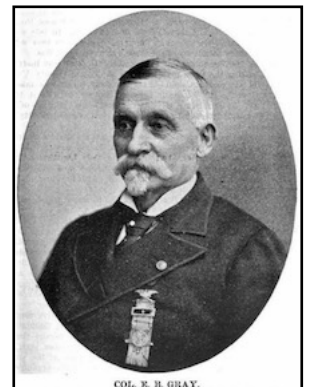
In September 1890, Pier recalled that he "met Col. Gray at a number of campfires and inspections, reunions and gatherings." It's more likely that the two became close friends while preparing for the 1889 National GAR Encampment in Milwaukee, as they had similar responsibilities: Pier was executive secretary of the event and Gray was Department assistant adjutant general. They both had a common acquaintance, Augustus Weissert of Milwaukee, the Department commander at the time. But the connection went a little further.

Gray grew up in Vermont, where Pier's family had migrated from. Like Pier, he studied law, although briefly. When war broke out, they both enlisted in April 1861 – Pier with the 1<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin Infantry, Gray with the 4<sup>th</sup>. Both saw service in Maryland and Virginia. After each had a break in service, they both accepted commissions with units formed later and served until the close of the war. Both were mustered out as colonels of their respective regiments.

The fact that Gray was almost 24 years Pier's senior did not seem to matter. Both shared a love of the Grand Army. Gray had joined in 1867, and probably no man in Wisconsin was personally acquainted with more soldiers. One observer said, "He was a ready, eloquent speaker, quick to think and equally quick to act, seldom making a mistake in either respect."

Those characteristics also described Col. C.K. Pier.

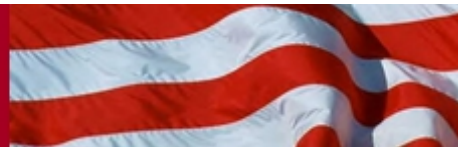
*From Milwaukee Telegraph, March 17, 1889; Milwaukee Sentinel, Nov. 4, 1891, and July 8, 1903; Minutes of the 1890 and 1891 Annual Reunion of the 28<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry Association*





# THE SHARPS RIFLE

BY PCC PATRICK FALLON



Even before the start of the Civil War, the U.S. military was the primary customer of the Sharps company, with the civilian market being a small part of the company's production until 1870. Between 1859 and 1865, 129,000 carbines and rifles were manufactured at its Hartford, Conn., facilities.

These weapons included the Model 1859, the New Model 1859, the New Model 1863 and the New Model 1865. The cavalry carbine was the most common type, followed by the military rifle.

Although receiving highly favorable results in multiple trials held by the U.S. Ordnance Department between 1850 and 1861, no large orders were made until the spring of 1861. Between then and 1865, a total of 9,141 rifles and 80,512 carbines were purchased by the Ordnance Department.

When one adds the number of carbines and rifles previously purchased by the government or privately, possibly in excess of 100,000 Sharps saw use during the war.

Because of the speed and ease of loading and handling, on or off horseback, as well as its accuracy, the carbine was highly popular with cavalry troops. It can be safely said that those carbines saw use in every major campaign and theater of the war. A total of 286 companies (80 regiments) of cavalry were totally or partially armed with the Sharps carbine. A complete listing of those companies can be found on pages 69-70 of the book "Sharps Firearms" by Frank M. Sellers.

While no regular Army infantry units were equipped with Sharps rifles, volunteer infantry in companies or larger organizations could arm themselves as they wished, provided there was a standard weapon chosen. While Berdan's 1st and 2nd Regiments of Sharpshooters became the most well-known such group, the 1st Connecticut Volunteers, from Sharps' home of Hartford, was the first unit so armed.

Originally issued Springfield rifle muskets, Berdan's Sharpshooters requested better and more accurate weapons. The Ordnance Department at-



tempted to replace the Springfields with Colt revolving rifles, but that led to threats to disband the regiment entirely, and a vote by the regiment to mutiny if they were forced to use those arms.

The Ordnance Department backed down, ordering 1,000 rifles

on Jan. 27, 1862, and increasing that order to 2,000 rifles and 200,000 cartridges by Feb. 6.

The original order specified the rifles were to have single triggers, but Col. Hiram Berdan attempted to modify that order to have the rifles equipped with

At Gettysburg, 100 men from Col. Hiram Burdan's 1st Sharpshooters fired almost 10,000 rounds in less than 20 minutes with their Sharps rifles. In 1862, Berdan had battled the U.S. Ordnance Department, wanting to change its production order from single triggers to double set triggers. More about Berdan's Sharpshooters at <http://www.berdansharpshooter.org/history.htm>

double set triggers and a dull blue finish on the barrels.

On March 12, 1862, the chief of the Ordnance Department firmly stopped those changes with an immediate order to cease making those alterations, saying Berdan lacked the authority to change the original order. Of the 2,000 rifles ordered, 1,500 were delivered without the set triggers by April 12, 1862.

Berdan's 1st Regiment began receiving its rifles on May 7, 1862, at Yorktown, Pa., with the final weapons arriving to the 2nd Regiment by June 1 at Fredericksburg, Va. Berdan's soldiers went on to see service at Malvern Hill, Mechanicsville, Gaines Mill, Glendale and Gettysburg.

At Little Round Top, fighting alongside the 3rd Maine Infantry Regiment, 100 men from the 1st Sharpshooters fired almost 10,000 rounds in less than 20 minutes.

By early 1865, orders for carbines began to fall off sharply due to the rising popularity of the Spencer carbine. The final order for Sharps firearms was made in January 1865. Delivery of the order was set to begin before April 15, 1865.

With the end of the war, the Sharps Rifle Manufacturing Co. would face five to six lean years before the demand for rifles to hunt buffalo improved its sales. However, the boom years of 1861 to 1865 never were seen again.



# CAMP HAS AN HONORED PLACE AT FIELD OF FLAGS EVENT

Continued from page 2

at 11 a.m., ending three days of flag-placing by legions of volunteers.

The center is placing 12,301 flags in honor of the Wisconsin service members who gave their lives during the Civil War. The Camp requested, and was granted, the honor of doing the ceremonial final flags, which will provide a great, new kind of visibility for us and the SUVCW.

Work by volunteers, of all ages, on Saturday begins at 9 a.m., so we hope you help that part, too.

**May 29 (this Sunday):** The repaired Col. Hans Heg statue in Madison will be rededicated in a large event at 1 p.m.

The statue was toppled and desecrated in June 2020 by rioters who also damaged several buildings.

Heg, who led the 15th Wisconsin Infantry and was mortally wounded at the Battle of Chickamauga, was the highest-ranking service member from Wisconsin to give his life in battle in the war, and had gained fame before the war as a leader of immigrants,

political reformer and abolitionist.

“No fewer than 21 direct descendants of Col. Heg will be in attendance,” says Department Commander John Decker, a main organizer of the event.

The many participants include the Norwegian American Historical Association, the Sons of Norway and the Edvard Grieg Chorus.

**May 30 (this Monday):** This is the return of our big Memorial Day event, starting with the Roman Catholic Mass at 10 a.m., with our ceremony to immediately follow.

It will be complete with the Cushing’s Battery cannon fire, rifle salute by the Sons, Abraham Lincoln, the 29th Colored Infantry Company F, First Brigade Band and a speech by Dan Buttery, president and CEO of the Milwaukee County War Memorial Center.

Buttery was a company commander in the Wisconsin National Guard’s 724th Engineer Battalion and earned a Bronze Star for 300 missions conducted during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He deployed to Iraq from March 2003 to April 2004.

## CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

**Q:** What was a budge barrel?

**A:** An oak barrel with only one head; the other end was covered with leather and secured by a cord, similar to a purse. It was used in forts and siege batteries to move powder bags from the magazine to the battery. The bags then were transferred to haversacks or pass-boxes and carried to the individual weapons. This is from the extensive list at <http://www.civilwarartillery.com/glossary/glossary.htm>

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 21 – Tom Heinen
- 23 – Joel Schanning



Camp Commander – PDC Tom Brown (414) 429-8979  
[tjbcarver@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tjbcarver@sbcglobal.net)

SVC – Grant Johnson [grant.johnson@responsory.com](mailto:grant.johnson@responsory.com)  
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

**As explained starting on page 1, we have a rich variety of events that show what the SUVCW is all about:**

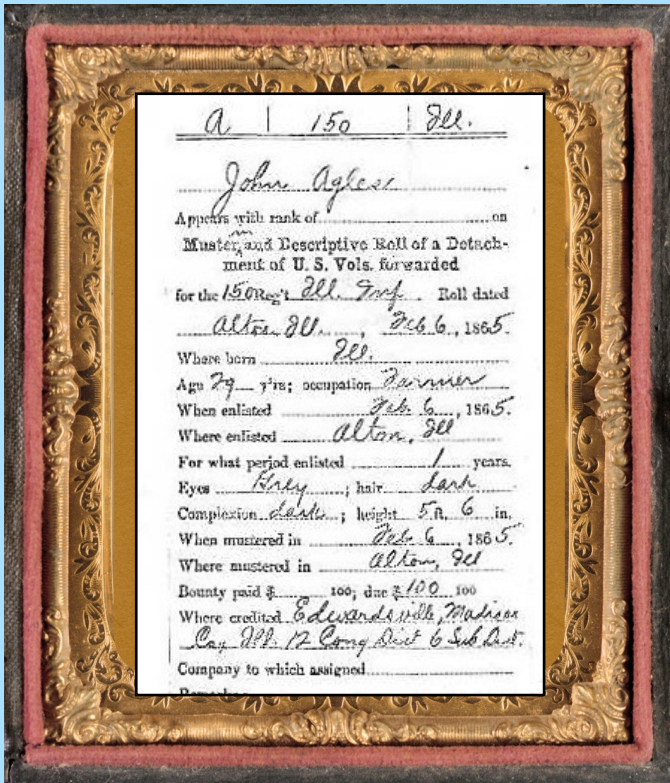
**May 28:** Help the Milwaukee County War Memorial Center plant a field of 12,301 flags to honor the Wisconsin lives lost in the Civil War. We have the honor of placing the final flags at 11 a.m.

**May 29:** Rededication of the Col. Hans Heg statue, 1 p.m. in Madison.

**May 30:** The Camp and Auxiliary’s solemn Memorial Day commemoration, 10 a.m. at Calvary Cemetery.

# WHERE WE SERVED AND FOUGHT

— A SERIES SALUTING THE ANCESTORS OF CAMP 1 BROTHERS



Franklin, Ga., where Pvt. John Agles' Company H was based for a time, is in Heard County, which is on the border with Alabama.

See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Franklin,\\_Georgia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Franklin,_Georgia)

And <https://www.exploregeorgia.org/city/franklin>

## BROTHER JIM COOK'S ANCESTOR: JOHN AGLES

Was a private in the 150th Illinois Infantry, Company H.

Was from Edwardsville, Ill., and enlisted on Feb. 6, 1865, at Alton, Ill.

Mustered out on Jan. 16, 1866, at Atlanta, Ga.

The 150th was organized at Camp Butler, Ill., and mustered in for one year's service on Feb. 14, 1865. It quickly was moved to Bridgeport, Ala., for garrison duty at Forts 3 and 4 and Block Houses on the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad from Bridgeport to Chattanooga, Tenn., until March 24. Then it was stationed in northwestern Georgia at Dalton, Griffin and near Allatoona, with various companies at various sites in various counties. Agles' Company H was at Franklin, Ga.

See <http://civilwararchive.com/Unreght/unlif11.htm#150th>

Born Jan. 18, 1832.

Died May 30, 1912.

Buried at College Hill Cemetery at Lebanon in St. Clair County in the St. Louis area.



**Sons of Union Veterans  
of the Civil War and Auxiliary**

**Memorial Day Service**

**Monday, May 30, 2022 at 10 a.m.**

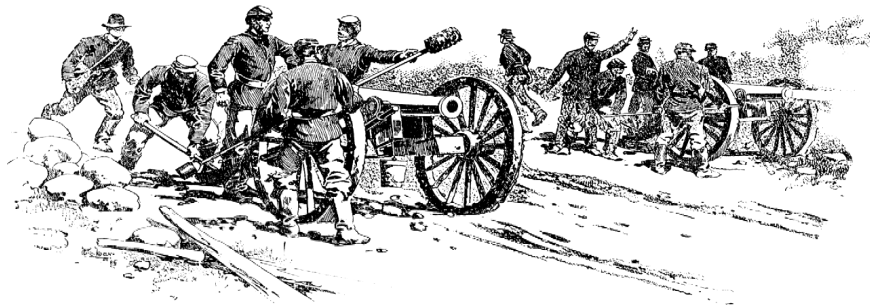
**at Milwaukee's Historic**

**CALVARY CEMETERY**

**5503 W. Bluemound Road**

**Outdoor Mass followed by a Patriotic Program:**

- Main Concelebrant Most Rev. James T. Schuerman, Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee
- Keynote Speaker Daniel Buttery, President and CEO of the War Memorial Center
- Cannon firing by Cushing's Battery A, 4th U.S. Artillery
- Civil War Music by the First Brigade Band playing original instruments
- Address by Pres. Abraham Lincoln (Nic Bur)
- Procession to graves of Union Soldiers
- Decoration of soldiers' graves
- Rifle salute and Taps by American Legion Milwaukee Police Post #415



For more information, call (262) 782-0535 or [dcollins2809@gmail.com](mailto:dcollins2809@gmail.com)

*In case of inclement weather, ceremonies will be held in  
St. Vincent Pallotti Church at 5502 W. Bluemound Rd.*