

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 IS DEC. 31 Under Camp bylaws, a late fee of \$5 is required as of Jan. 31.

Name: _____	\$ 40 _____	Annual Camp dues
Phone: _____	+ _____	Memorial Day 2021
Email: _____	+ _____	Veterans relief
Address: _____		
_____	= _____	Total amount enclosed

The Camp again is a designated fundraising group to help provide wreaths at Wood National Cemetery on National Wreaths Across America Day.

Consider sponsoring a wreath for the event, which is Saturday, Dec. 19. Part of the \$15 comes back to the Camp.

But do it quickly – the deadline is Nov. 30.

Donate at <http://www.suvcw-wi.org/camp1/waa>

C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP #1

SUVCW



C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SERIES 2020

CAMP ORDERS

NOVEMBER 2020

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

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR LUDKA, BERRES

Brother Tom Ludka, a member of the Camp, has received a national award, one of the highest in the Sons: the Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star.

And Marge Berres of the Woman's Relief Corps, a long-time friend and ally of our Camp, has received a national Doctor Mary Edwards Walker Award, the highest award of the Sons for a woman.

These honors were bestowed last month by outgoing Commander-in-Chief Ed Norris.

Ludka and Berres have worked together for two decades on various massive Civil War projects in Milwaukee.

"The announcement came as a complete surprise," Berres says. "I am overwhelmed with gratitude to the Sons at the local, state and national levels."

Ludka said: "Of course, we never would have started this had it not been for an invitation from the Camp 1 to help identify graves" at Forest Home Cemetery. "Who would have known where this would lead?"

DC Brian D. McManus nominated Ludka and Berres for the awards after Ludka received a department award last summer, nominated by Camp 1.

Norris cited how they "canvassed the entirety of Forest Home. Over 1,000 Union veterans were found through their 10-year process. Each grave was researched for accuracy and authenticity to ensure that the grave held the remains of a Union veteran.

"Several hundred graves had damaged or illegible



Tom Ludka and Marge Berres have worked for many years on massive projects at Forest Home Cemetery, Calvary Cemetery and more.



Continued on page 4

We will close out 2020 at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, on Zoom once again because of the coronavirus crisis. Brother Peter Keepman will have the patriotic presentation.

IN MEMORIAM: BROTHER ANDREW BOLLEN

Andrew Bollen, a member of our Camp for the past few months and former Department junior vice commander, has died at the age of 82.



Andrew Bollen

Bollen, of West Bend, had a stroke a year ago and died on Nov. 3. The death did not become known in the Sons until two days before Thanksgiving.

“Andy joined the Sons in 2006 and, soon after, became a Life Member,” PCinC Steve Michaels said. “He served in numerous capacities before stepping up to serve as commander of Lt. Alonzo Cushing Camp #5 and as Department JVC. He was also a member of Cushing’s Battery. After Camp 5 disbanded last year, he transferred to Camp 1.

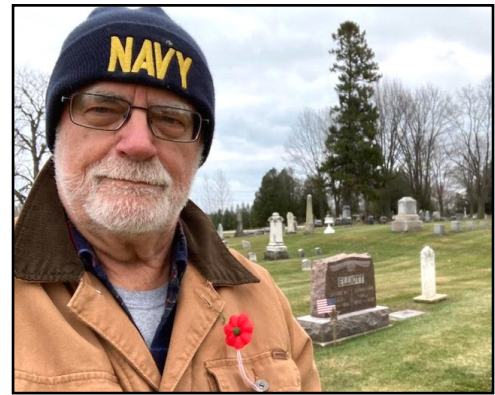
“He was comfortable talking to just about anyone and could often be found at our recruiting tables,” and eagerly served as a teacher at membership orientations.

Bollen was from the St. Louis area and served in the Missouri National Guard for eight years.

He worked for Sherwin Williams Co. in St. Louis and next for Krause Milling in Milwaukee, then owned and operated Ram and Associates until retirement. Among many other interests, he was a member of the Kettle Moraine Ballast Scorchers Model Railroad Club.

Bollen is survived by his wife of 60 years, Adeline; three children; 11 grandchildren, and four greats.

The full obit is at <https://www.washingtoncountyinsider.com/andrew-andy-bud-bollen/>



Brother Bruce Nason placed a Last Soldier marker this month at Algoma in Kewaunee County for Cpl. Irving W. Elliott, who died in 1941 at age 95. He was in the 32nd Wisconsin Infantry, Company I, from Aug. 15, 1862, to June 12, 1865.

Your elected officers for 2021 are:

Commander: Brian Craig

SVC Tom Brown, PDC

JVC: Grant Johnson

Council: Steve Michaels; PCinC,
Grant Johnson and Dean Collins

Treasurer: Kent Peterson, PDC

Secretary: Tom Mueller, PCC

REMEMBERING COL. PIER: MOVING AT PETERSBURG

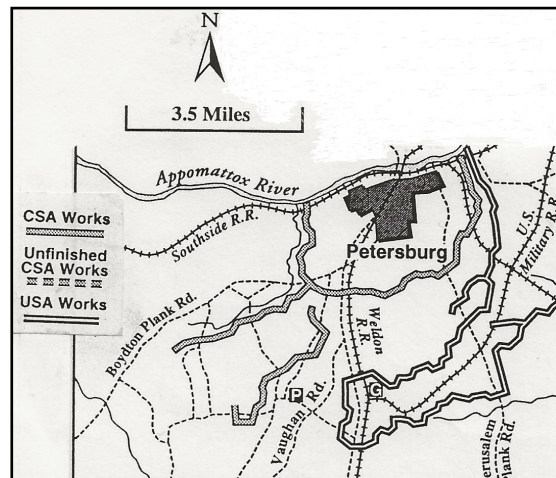
These monthly articles about our Camp namesake are written by PCinC Steve Michaels. This item first was published in the November 2000 Camp Orders.

In November 1864, Lt. Col. C.K. Pier of the 38th Wisconsin Infantry accompanied his regiment on the march from the extreme left to the extreme right of the giant line before Petersburg. They marched nine miles to the right and occupied a position in the front line of works opposite “the crater.”

Pier later said of the move, “When Grant sent us in November for the South Side railroad, we had not gone far before we decided we did not want it so much as we thought we did, and some of the boys are there yet ...”

The 38th Wisconsin remained in rifle pits, engaged in picket and fatigue duty, and in drilling under a heavy fire of the enemy, until the spring campaign opened.

From Wisconsin in the War of the Rebellion by Wm. DeVoss Love, Church & Goodman, Publishers, 1866; Soldiers & Citizens Album, Brown & Brown 1888





**SPOOKY TALE ABOUT BODY
OF JOHN WILKES BOOTH**



At the November meeting of the Camp, PDC Kent Peterson presented this Halloween-focused piece from <https://emergingcivilwar.com/2017/10/31/the-mummy-currently-known-as-john-or-how-john-wilkes-booth-went-on-to-a-second-career/>

Most people agree on an established set of facts about John Wilkes Booth:

- He was killed in Garrett’s barn in Virginia on April 26, 1865, twelve days after he assassinated Lincoln.

- His body was wrapped in a blanket and carried in a farm wagon to Belle Plain, then aboard the ironclad USS Montauk and brought to the Washington Navy Yard for identification and an autopsy. Ten people identified the remains as being those of Booth.

- The body then was buried in a storage room at the Old Penitentiary, and later moved to a warehouse at the Washington Arsenal on Oct. 1, 1867.

- In 1869 the War Department turned the body over to the Booth family and he was buried in the Booth plot at the Green Mount Cemetery in Baltimore. The body was identified by members of the family and by a dentist’s report.

It turns out that some folks believe the story above is fake news, and claim that government agents killed the wrong man in Garrett’s barn. Rumors of his escape from the barn began to circulate even before Booth’s body was cold. Some claim the body was hastily buried to cover up the government’s mistake and that Booth actually escaped capture and lived until 1903. This comes from “The Escape and Suicide of John Wilkes Booth,” a book written by Finis L. Bates and published in 1907. It is on Amazon and other sites today.

Finis claimed that Booth escaped and made his way to Texas, where he lived under the alias John St. Helens. St. Helens fell ill and thought he was approaching his end. His friend, Finis Bates, heard his bedside confession; “I am dying. My name is John Wilkes Booth and I am the assassin of President Lincoln.” He told Bates that Vice President Johnson had masterminded the entire assassination plot, and that an innocent man now lay in Booth’s grave in Baltimore.

But soon thereafter, St. Helens recovered from his illness. Within a year, St. Helens had moved

to Oklahoma and assumed a new name, David E. George. He was known as a drifter who frequently quoted Shakespeare. When he died from ingesting strychnine nine months later, his last words were again, “I am not David E. George. I am the one who killed the best man that ever lived. I am John Wilkes Booth.” The undertaker embalmed the body with arsenic but did not bury the remains because there was no one to claim it.

So, the tale goes, the enterprising undertaker propped Mr. George up at Penniman’s Grocery Store & Funeral Home, with the daily newspaper in hand.

Several years later, Finis Bates comes back into the picture by showing up at Penniman’s. He identified the now-mummified remains as those of his old friend John St. Helens. Bates claimed the remains and began to display them as the corpse of Booth.

And thus began the very strange travels of the mummy known as “John.” John was leased out to circuses and sideshows throughout the South and Midwest. John was in a train wreck that killed eight people, but he was recovered intact. A group of Union veterans even tried to steal the body and hang it.

In 1930, an enterprising couple, Agnes and Joseph Harkin, purchased “John” for \$5,000. They toured the country with the mummy and a stack of affidavits that swore it was Booth. The Harkins garnered interest from Life magazine and The Saturday Evening Post for their exhibit. The Harkins claimed they were inspired not by “greed for gold but truth.”

In 1931, doctors examined the body in the hope of proving something definitive, but such was not the case. By this time, John had lost a right toe and most of his mustache to “souvenir hunters.” Nevertheless, the examination put the mummy back in the national spotlight.

Then “John” changed hands once again, going to the Jay Gould Million Dollar Show in 1937, but after that it becomes more difficult to track him.

Only rumors now exist as to its current whereabouts, although PBS has reported that the mummy was last seen in the late 1970s and may be in the hands of a private collector.



John Wilkes Booth is listed on the family stone of Junius Brutus and Mary Ann Booth in Baltimore. He was buried in an unmarked grave in the family plot, but rumors say ... Photo from <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/7377/john-wilkes-booth>

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF SALUTES MILWAUKEE WORK

Continued from page 1

headstones, or had no headstone at all. These headstones (234 at present) have all been replaced or are on order Through the cemetery foundation, they helped established the 'Adopt a Soldier' program where people can donate money toward the headstone-setting costs.

"Brother Ludka and Sister Berres each put in thousands of hours of research."

They have done much the same research at Calvary Cemetery in Milwaukee, recently raising the number to 335 Civil war veterans, including 71 unmarked.

Utilizing their work, the Camp placed large historical markers at the entrances of each cemetery in the past few years.

Ludka also has challenged the Milwaukee County War Memorial Center to include Civil War veterans. The memorial, built soon after World War II, honors men and women in that conflict and later wars. Ludka is working with the center for a suitable Civil War honor – 781 from the county died in the war, he determined.

The Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star is presented by the commander-in-chief, with the concurrence of the Council of Administration, to a Brother who has served the Order for an extended period in an outstanding and exemplary manner, or for an extraordinary action.

The national Walker Award is presented by the CinC to a female member of one of the Allied Orders in recognition of and appreciation for her outstanding service to the SUVCW. Berres received the Walker Award at the Department level in 2017.

McManus said in notifying Ludka and Berres: "This recognition is well-deserved. Please accept my thanks and gratitude for the enormous efforts that you both have done. You are both a credit to the Orders."

Ludka and Berres also have replaced a worn larger gravestone this year and plan to do more of these in their headstone program.

See <https://foreshomecemetery.com/monument-preservation-projects>

CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

Q: What were an Arkansas Toothpick and Forty Dead Men?

A: The first was a long, sharp knife, and the second was a full cartridge box, which usually held 40 rounds. This is from a private site compiled by G. M. Atwater at <http://treepages.rootsweb.com/~pointexterfamily/genealogy/CivilWar.html>

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 21 – Dean Collins
- 30 – Steven Wortman



MEDICAL CORNER

Q: What were the signs of syphilis?

A: The venereal disease consists of three phases. Primary: Characterized by a hard ulcer or sore on the genitals. Secondary: Eruptions on the skin and mucous membranes and the generalized enlargement of the lymph nodes. Tertiary: Intention and disablment of bones, muscles and nerve tissue. This from http://sites.rootsweb.com/~kylawren/LCM_CW_Diseases.htm

Camp Commander – Brian Craig
(414) 418-9776

SVC – PDC Tom Brown (414) 429-8979

<https://www.facebook.com/CKPierBadger>
and **<http://www.suvcw-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.