



PDC Tom Brown proudly wears this rank on his parade and event uniform – infantry first sergeant. Our other uniform ranks include artillery ordnance sergeant, infantry corporal, staff captain and more.



C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP # 1

SERIES 2018

CAMP ORDERS

SEPTEMBER 2018

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

TOMBSTONE DEDICATIONS AND A WHOLE LOT MORE

Hello Brothers and Friends,
There's much news to share with you as we move into the last quarter of 2018.

First, after almost four years of meeting at the Machinists Union Hall at 38th and Mitchell, we'll be moving to a new location because the hall is being sold as the union reorganizes its facilities in the state. We hope to meet at the Lions Clubhouse in Wauwatosa beginning in November. More details in next month's newsletter.

Second, your Camp's level of quality and meaningful activity is as strong as ever, so if you've been

sitting on the sidelines, now would be an excellent time to step up. Here's what I'm talking about:

– This Saturday, we'll support the St. Francis Historical Society's efforts to honor two Union soldiers, buried in a neighborhood cemetery at East Norwich and South Barland Avenues.

One never had a tombstone, and the other has a family stone that is eroded. Our headstone dedication begins at 2 p.m.

– We'll again march in the annual Milwaukee Veterans Day Parade, on Saturday, Nov. 10. Step-off is at 11 a.m. near North 3rd Street and West Kilbourn Avenue.

– Our Christmas party and reception for Auxiliary National President Denise Oman of Auxiliary 4 will be held at noon Sunday, Dec. 2, at Alioto's restaurant in Wauwatosa. Join us for fine fellowship, frivolity and music!!!

– Two weeks later, we'll be laying wreaths on veterans' graves at Wood National Cemetery. Wreaths Across America will be Saturday, Dec. 15, at 11 a.m. Afterwards, Brothers and Auxiliary Sisters will be visiting vets in the Zablocki VA Medical Center's Palliative Care unit, handing out blankets and holiday treats.

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**FROM THE
COMMANDER –
PCINC STEVE
MICHAELS**

The next Camp meeting will be Wednesday, Oct . 3, at the Machinists Union hall at 1650 S. 38th St., Milwaukee. Patriotic Instructor Bruce Nason will have the presentation.

C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP #1

SUVCW



It did rain on our parade, but nothing could dampen our spirits in the St. Francis Days parade on Sept. 1. PCinC Steve Michaels had only a sword as any kind of umbrella, while Auxiliary President Lisa Avila used a more conventional one and Bill Seaman played on.



Marchin' in the St. Francis rain; showin' in West Allis

At West Allis Settlers Weekend on Aug. 25-26, Dean Collins (right) discussed the ins and outs of an 1863 Remington New Model Army revolver (in .44 caliber). Department SVC Kirby Scott traveled from Oshkosh to post guard at our table.



Photos by Kent Peterson and Tom Mueller



REMEMBERING COL. PIER: NEW UNITS NOT WANTED – FOR A TIME

These monthly articles about our Camp namesake are written by PCinC Steve Michaels. This item first was published in the September 1998 Camp orders.

On Oct. 1, 1863, Colwert Kendall Pier was elected colonel by the commissioned officers of the 2nd Regiment Wisconsin State Militia at Oshkosh. The promotion would be a bittersweet personal victory for the 23-year-old patriot.

Since returning home one year earlier from his service in the 1st Wisconsin Infantry (3 months), Pier had taken an interest in the formation of every new company. He even organized a company himself under state law and was elected captain. His political opponents bitterly fought to have his commission withheld, but to no avail.

Undaunted, Capt. Pier organized another nine companies into a regiment. The governor lost no time in sending Pier a colonel's commission. Col. Pier offered his regiment to the General Government, but was declined. The war supposedly was almost over.

Another year passed before the government decided the war was not over and called on Wisconsin for three more regiments. By then, the idea of re-entering the service had been pretty much abandoned by Pier and many of the men in his regiment. That was now changed.

From The History of Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, Western Historical Co., Chicago 1880



ALL ABOUT DESERTIONS

BY PDC TOM BROWN



In “The Red Badge of Courage,” Henry Fleming asks a fellow soldier on the eve of battle: “How do you know you won’t run when the time comes?”

“Run – of course not,” the soldier, named Wilson, replies with a laugh.

“Well, lots of good-a-‘nough men have thought they were going to do great things before the fight, but when the time come, they skedaddled,” replies Henry, drawing another protest from his comrade:

“I’m not going to skedaddle. The man that bets on my running will lose his money, that’s all,” Wilson says.

This is a quandary that has tormented warriors across time: Once combat begins, what makes someone break and run rather than fight? The total number of desertions for the Union Army was between 197,000 and 300,000, according to various tallies. Total desertions in the Confederate Army were around 103,000 to 185,000.

New York, for example, recorded 44,913 deserters, the most in the Union. On the Confederate side, North Carolina units recorded 23,694, the highest for any state.

There were many reasons for running off.

Not all soldiers deserted for cowardice. Many deserters were “bounty jumpers” who re-enlisted repeatedly under various names to collect money. Others fled due to lack of food, clothing and shelter. Abuse of sick leave or furlough privilege was one of the main means of desertion on the Union side.

Other methods were slipping to the rear during battle, inviting capture by the enemy (a method by which honorable service could be claimed), taking French Leave when on picket duty (a departure from a location or event without informing others or seeking approval), or pretending to be engaged in repairing a telephone line.

Some of the deserters lived in a wild state on the frontier, some turned outlaw or went to Canada, and some boldly appeared back at home.

As for desertion in the Confederates, a study of causes revealed that backwoodsmen and crackers (the insane) were drawn into the rebel army but they had no sympathy or interest in a struggle that they did not understand. The conscript net gathered those whose tendency to desert was natural enough. Many desert-

ers were boys. Poor food and clothing, lack of shoes and overcoats, and insufficient pay produced disaffection. Sometimes pay was 14 months behind; often a soldier on leave could not pay for the transportation to return to his command.

On both sides, unsanitary camp conditions had a debilitating effect. And soldiers kept in unwholesome inaction commonly felt homesickness and depression. Often the alternative was abandonment and a neglect of wife and children, or departure from the army – in other words, a choice between two kinds of desertion. Men felt that their services were needed more at home than in the army.

Union and Confederate Articles of War specified that all officers and soldiers convicted of desertion via court martial could be “shot to death with musketry,” but also permitted “other such punishment” the court-martial might direct, including hard labor, branding with the letter “D” or wearing a placard reading “deserter.”

In fact, the death penalty was rarely used by either side. Out of hundreds of thousands of Union and Confederate deserters, only a little more than 300 were executed. Those unfortunates were typically executed publicly in front of massed troop formations, as bloody examples to “maintain discipline” by dissuading others from deserting.

That was the reason Stonewall Jackson gave when on Aug. 19, 1862, he ordered five soldiers executed, the first in the Army of Northern Virginia. Jackson’s aide said “discipline could not be had if desertions were allowed to go unpunished.”

By the end of the war, massive desertions forced Robert E. Lee to forgo lesser punishments because leniency “encourages others to hope for like impunity.”

A major reason why only 147 Union deserters were executed was given by President Abraham Lincoln: “You can’t order men shot by dozens or twenties. People won’t stand for it.”

Sources for this article include “Badge of Shame,” by Thomas M. Grace and Allen F. Richardson, an article in America’s Civil War magazine of January 2016; and Desertion in the American Civil War Armies, from Shotgun’s Home of the American Civil War, <http://civilwarhome.com/desertion.htm>

Commander –

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In other projects, restoring the final resting-place of our Camp namesake in Fond du Lac continues. The tiny Pier Cemetery had suffered from neglect for years, particularly the stone wall that surrounds it. Recently, funding was made available to support the Fond du Lac County Historical Society's five-year plan to restore the stone wall and clean up the grounds. Our PDC Tom Brown has helped lead the way.

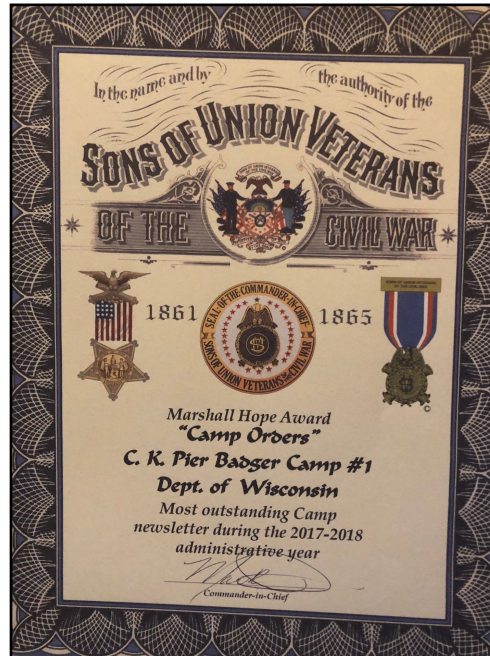
Marking the grave of Oneida County's Last Soldier is expected to take place next month with the help of our Camp's Brother Bill Liebert, who lives in Rhinelander.

And planning has begun for the Patriotic Luncheon, honoring our beloved 16th president on Saturday, Feb. 2.

My dear Brothers, we still have much work ahead of us. Can I count on you? Your active support will determine our success.

Yours in fraternity, charity & loyalty,

PCinC Steve Michaels



This award greeted Camp members who attended the National Encampment in Framingham, Mass., in August. It is the third time the Camp Orders has won the national award, and first since PCC Tom Mueller became editor in 2012. Huzzah to all who assist our newsletter!!!

Service anniversaries in 2018

Joel Schanning, 40 years
Steve Michaels, 25
Bruce Nason, 20
Glen Grippen, 15
Ron Washburn, 10
Brian Craig, 10
Steven Wortman, 5

Congratulations, Brothers!!!

Thank you for your loyalty and patriotism

CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

Q: What was a shebang?

A: This was the crude shelter that prisoners of war built to protect themselves from the sun and rain, according to <https://www.battlefields.org/glossary-civil-war-terms>

OCTOBER

BIRTHDAYS

With the recent passing of Carl Liebert, the Camp does not have any birthdays for October.



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.

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<https://www.facebook.com/CKPierBadger>
<http://www.suvcw-wi.org>

CAMP CALENDAR

This Saturday: Dedication of two tombstones with St. Francis Historical Society. 2 p.m. at Lake Cemetery, at Norwich and South Barland Avenues.

2 December: Camp and Auxiliary 4 Christmas party at Alioto's, 3041 N. Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa. Plus reception for Auxiliary National President Denise Oman of Auxiliary 4.

15 December: Wreaths Across America, Wood National Cemetery.