



THE DISPATCH

SPRING 2018

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

SUVCW

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

Brothers,

We are just finishing up a slow winter with little activity. Our busy season is fast approaching. All brothers should attend a Memorial Day ceremony somewhere to keep alive the memory of the boys in blue. Also the dedications and Civil War events will start soon. Participate in these and spread the word about the SUVCW to the others you meet there. These are recruiting opportunities. The Iron Brigade highway marker is fact. Camp #15 took possession of it in February and reports are it looks great. Camp #15 will install it when the frost goes out hold a commemoration ceremony in early summer.



The 135th annual department encampment will be held on June 2, 2018 at the Wisconsin Veteran's Home at King, near Waupaca, WI Registration is at 8:00.

Business starts at 9:00 with a break at 11:45 for lunch. We will finish up by 4:00.

Our guest for the encampment will be National SVC-in -Chief Donald Shaw. If anyone has an item for the agenda please contact me by phone or email. A reminder to the camp secretaries. All brothers attending the annual encampment need an encampment credentials card, issued by their respective camp secretaries.

In F., C., & L.,
Alan O. Petit
DC, Dept. of Wisc.

Mid Winter Meeting



CinC Mark Day and National Auxiliary President Ramona Greenwalt traveled from Virginia and Ohio, respectively, to be part of the Department Mid-Winter meeting in February.



The Auxiliary brings Wisconsin gifts to CinC Mark Day at the Department Mid-Winter meeting.



At the Patriotic Luncheon following the Mid-Winter Meeting, National Chaplain Jerry Kowalski gave a stirring rendition of Gen. George Thomas and his relationship and non-relationship with Lincoln.



Camp 1 SVC Billy Cole, a professional musician, kicks off the Patriotic Luncheon with an a-cappella rendition of the National Anthem.

Photos by PDC Kent Peterson and PCC Tom Mueller.



Camp News

Camp 1

Camp 1 will be dedicating its historical marker at Calvary Cemetery in Milwaukee on Sunday, July 1.

That is the anniversary of the start of the Battle of Gettysburg, and a few of the Civil War veterans buried at Calvary were wounded or captured there, according to several decades of work by various members of Camp 1 and the Woman's Relief Corps. The information was put into the SUCVW graves registration database.

The historical marker currently is awaiting production at Sewah Studios in Ohio, which made Camp 1's previous two plaques in Milwaukee. The Camp received a grant from the national SUCVW memorials fund for the marker, along with donations from its own members, Auxiliary 4, MOLLUS and the American Legion Milwaukee Police Post 415. Delivery is expected in May.

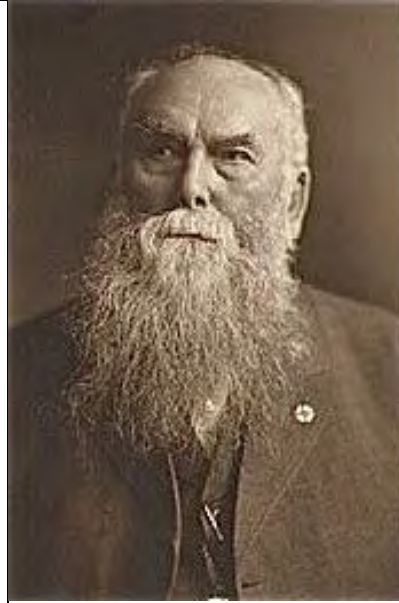
Camp Chaplain Dean Collins spearheaded the many details and worked with the Milwaukee Archdiocese to obtain a prime site, just inside the fence at the east side of the historic gatehouse on West Bluemound Road.

The history sign will note there are about 300 Civil War veterans buried at Calvary – including two Medal of Honor recipients – and that Camp 1 has held Memorial Day observances there since 1927.

The MOH recipients are Navy Boatswain's Mate John Breen, honored for heroism aboard the USS Commodore Perry when under fire by Confederates on the Blackwater River at Franklin, Va., in 1862; and 1st Lt. Edward McGinn of the 54th Ohio Infantry, honored for heroism at Vicksburg in 1863.

Breen died in 1875 and had an unmarked grave for nearly 130 years until Tom Ludka of Camp 1 and Marge Berres of the WRC came across it in records during one of their projects. McGinn died in 1908.

The cemetery dates to 1857, the oldest war veterans there are from the Mexican-American War of 1846-'48.



The distinctive Gothic Revival entrance to Calvary Cemetery was the work of renowned architect Erhard Brielmaier, who died in 1917 at the age of 76 and is buried in Block 9, just north of the Romanesque Jesuit chapel that he also designed.

Brielmaier and his sons designed and built more than 1,000 Roman Catholic churches

and hospitals throughout the United States and Canada, more than any other architects.

Brielmaier's gate house, the oldest building at Calvary, was completed in 1897. It has a four-story tower and a triumphal arch on the east side of the building.



Calvary was consecrated on All Souls Day, Nov. 2, 1857, by Milwaukee Archbishop John Martin Henni. Those facts will be on the historical marker.

Henni was appointed bishop of Milwaukee in 1844, five years before Wisconsin became a state and two years before Milwaukee became a city.

Henni founded what is known as "The Old Cemetery" in 1844. It covered less than 10 acres and was in the area bounded by North 22nd and 23rd Streets, West Michigan and West Clybourn Avenues.

Camp 8

Camp 8 continued it's tradition of hosting a bingo session for the residents and friends of the WVA home at King, WI



Commander Dennis Jacobs (left) checking winning Bingo card. Brother Brian Peters (right) verifying a winning card.



Brother Kurt Kirk (right) paying out a prize for a winning card as Brother Kirby Scott (center) and Brother Kim Heltemes look on



Brother Alan Petit serving cookies after Bingo

THE DISPATCH

Camps 8 set up an informational and recruitment booth at the annual Echoes of the Past Trade Fair in Oshkosh, Feb 25th and 26th 2018



Brother Kirby Scott and Brother Alan Petit working the booth on Saturday afternoon



Brother Alan "attentively" watching over the booth on Sunday morning

Photographs by Brother Kirby Scott



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Camp 15

A plaque commemorating the Iron Brigade, one of the Civil War's most famous fighting units, is going up in the next few weeks at a veteran's memorial north of Madison,



Wisconsin.

The nearly 90-pound plaque, cast in bronze, will be erected at the memorial by the SUVCW's Camp #15, Wind Lake, Wisconsin.

Funding for the plaque was helped by a \$1,878 grant from the

national SUVCW. "We want to thank the national organization for helping make possible this fitting tribute to the men who sacrificed so much to help preserve the Union," said Camp #15's commander, Bob Koenecke.

The Wisconsin Department of the SUVCW contributed \$500 for the plaque and Wisconsin

Commander Alan Petit personally contributed \$50 in funding.

Koenecke, appointed last summer as the Iron Brigade Memorial Highway officer for the SUVCW's Wisconsin Department, was the driving force in designing and finding a location for the plaque. Brian McManus, senior vice commander for the Wisconsin Department, helped in securing funding from the national SUVCW.

Made up of the 2nd, 6th and 7th Wisconsin, the 19th Indiana, and 24th Michigan regiments, the Iron Brigade led all Union army brigades in soldiers killed during the war. The Brigade earned its nickname at the battle of South Mountain, the opening round in what became the bloody battle of Antietam, when the men "stood like iron" against attacking Rebels.

Camp #15 will erect the plaque 20 x 28 inch bronze plaque on a seven-foot tall post at a veteran's memorial along U.S. Highway 12 just north of Sauk City in south central

Wisconsin. The memorial already boasts a Vietnam-era Huey helicopter, a T-33 fighter jet, and an Army Model 60 tank.

Koenecke said the plaque dedication ceremony will take place in the spring once the ground thaws.

Do you travel around the state?

The Department is ramping up a plan to put Last Soldier markers in each county. This is part of a national project to honor the last Civil War vet in each county.

If you travel to other parts of the state for business or family or pleasure, your help in placing a marker or two this summer or fall would be greatly appreciated. This effort especially needs help in the northern half of the state.

The updated list of Last Soldiers was published in the spring 2017 issue of the Department Dispatch and the Department website. But there already have been some changes, so ask Department GRO Tom Mueller for the latest info. He is at thewisconsin3800@gmail.com.

The changes will be in his report that will be issued at the Department Encampment in June.

Camp 15 created the markers. The Department Encampment in June will discuss support for this project and other details.

So far, the markers have been placed in Racine and Milwaukee Counties, with several more planned soon.

For info on the markers and the emerging plans for deployment, contact Department SVC Brian McManus at bmcmanus1@wi.rr.com or Camp 15 CC Bob Koenecke at koenecke@yahoo.com.

Trivia items from Tom Mueller

Q: What unit did the 2nd Wisconsin Infantry lose after Bull Run?

A: The 2nd Wisconsin had fought at Bull Run, Va., on July 21, 1861. The Wisconsin roster says Co. K was detached from the regiment in August 1861, and assigned to duty as Heavy Artillery at Forts Corcoran, Marcy and Ethan Allen in the defenses of Washington, D.C., until October. It rejoined the regiment Oct. 10. then was permanently detached as Battery A, 1st Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, on Dec. 9, 1861. A new Co. K was organized on Dec. 20, 1861. Batteries B, C, etc., of the 1st Wisconsin HA were organized in later years.

Q: When and where did the Navy begin using hospital ships?

A: The USS Red Rover was commissioned on Dec. 26, 1862, as the first Navy hospital ship. It had been built in 1859 as a commercial wooden side-wheel river steamer and purchased in 1861 by the Confederate States of America. In 1862, it was bombarded and captured at Island No. 10 on the Mississippi River by a Union gunboat and then refurbished as a floating summer hospital. At the beginning of the war, the Army used steamers and transports as makeshift hospitals to carry casualties upriver, but sanitation and hygiene conditions were very poor. In the rebuilding of the Red Rover, an operating room was installed, along with an open cabin aft for better air circulation, and gauze blinds were placed over windows to reduce cinder and smoke. More at <http://civilwarrrx.blogspot.com/2016/01/the-unique-journey-of-uss-red-rover.html>

Patriotic Instruction

Civil War Army Organization

To the non-military buff, the organization and terminology used for Civil War armies can be very confusing. The "Army of the Potomac" was the main Union army in the eastern theater of the war and the "Army of Northern Virginia" was the main Confederate force. Remarkably, both of the armies that fought the Battle of Gettysburg were organized in a similar fashion including a structure of corps, divisions, and brigades. But what were these different organizations and how did they all fit in to one huge force?

The Federal government and the Confederate government both had war departments, which oversaw the organization, supply, and movements of their respective armies. Civil War-era armies were organized according to military manuals including those adopted by the Federal War Department prior to 1861. Because the war had to be fought over a large area of the South, the Union and the Confederacy both had several armies, each fighting in different "theaters" or sections of the country. Each army was a structured organization that included a general headquarters, infantry, artillery, cavalry, signalmen, engineers, quartermaster, and commissary departments. The largest single organization of an army was a corps (pronounced "core"). The Union Army at Gettysburg had seven infantry corps and a cavalry corps, each commanded by a Major General. The Confederate Army had three infantry corps, each commanded by a Lieutenant General. Typically, a Confederate corps was much larger than a Union corps. A corps included three infantry divisions and an artillery brigade in the Union army or an artillery battalion in the Confederate Army.

The Army of the Potomac had distinguishing symbols called corps badges to signify one corps from another. The badges were actually small cloth cut-outs shaped like crosses, spheres, stars, and quarter moons, and made in three different colors- red, white, and blue, each color specific to a division of the corps. Confederates had no corps badges or particular symbols for their organizations.

The infantry division was commanded by a Major or a Brigadier General and composed of two to four infantry brigades. The brigade, commanded by a Brigadier General, was composed of four to six regiments, and was the primary organization used by commanders in battle. A brigade with good officers and good training was a formidable fighting force and often advanced or defended positions in cooperation with fellow brigades. It was common practice for a brigade commander to send forward most of his regiments and hold one in reserve. The Confederate War Department made attempts to have brigades composed of regiments from one singular state or state affiliation, such as General Joseph Kershaw's brigade which was all South Carolina regiments. The Union Army did not always make such conscious choices, though there

were some brigades which acquired interesting nick names due to their ethnic origin or locality from which they hailed.

For the infantryman, his regiment was the most important unit. Led by a Colonel, Lt. Colonel and Major, a full strength regiment numbered over 1,000 officers and men. Attrition due to disease and battle losses meant considerably lower personnel in each regiment by the time of the Battle of Gettysburg, where some regiments mustered only about two-hundred.

A regiment was divided into ten companies of 100 men each at full strength. One company was divided in half as two platoons. One company was led by a Captain with two Lieutenants who each commanded a platoon. Platoons were divided into squads, led by a Sergeant or Corporal. Regiments fought in a "battle line" or in some cases a "skirmish line", which was a general open rank tactic used to feel out the strength of an enemy force.

Army Organization Comparison Chart:

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC ARMY OF
NORTHERN VIRGINIA

1 Corps = 3 Divisions 1 Corps = 3 Divisions

1 Division = 3 Brigades 1 Division = 4 to 5
Brigades

1 Brigade = 4 to 5 Regiments 1 Brigade = 4 to 6
Regiments

1 Regiment = 10 Companies (1,100 officers and
men) 1 Regiment = 10 Companies (1,100 officers
and men)

1 Company = 2 to 3 Platoons* (100 officers and
men)

(* depending on military organization manual)

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1 Platoon = 5 Squads (1 officer & 50 men) 1

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At the outbreak of the Civil War, there was a standing force of "regular" units in the United States Army. State militias were called into service, but there was a need to Federalize these units so that they could muster pay from the United States government and serve outside of state borders. Each state was given a quota of "volunteer regiments" to be raised for service lasting from three months to three years. The South faced a similar dilemma. Southern states raised and supplied the Confederate armies with volunteer regiments. By 1863, many of the regiments in both armies had been in service since 1861 and were still composed of mostly volunteer soldiers, though the first "conscripts" or men required by state law to serve in the military defense of a state, had begun to appear in Southern units. A regiment's flag, or "regimental colors", were painted with the regiment's number and state affiliation, usually followed by "VOLUNTEER INFANTRY". The term volunteer was a symbol of pride for soldiers on both sides.

The most widely used manual for small units (regiments) was *Rifle and Light Infantry Tactics for the Exercise and Maneuvers of Troops When Acting as Light Infantry or Riflemen*, written by William J. Hardee. The manual specified the proper placement of officers, the rank and file, the manual of arms, basic marching orders, and other requirements. His manual was re-written for Confederate use in 1861 when Hardee resigned his commission from the United States Army and joined the Confederacy. Other manuals of organization and drill were used, but "Hardee's Tactics" continued to be the most popular and widely used manual throughout the war.

The artillery was usually organized by regiments as well, except that each company was called a battery. A battery consisted of over 100 soldiers, armed with six cannon per battery.

Confederate batteries were smaller, some having only four cannon. Batteries were assigned independently from their regiments to specific artillery brigades (Union) or battalions (Confederate) or to the artillery reserve of an army. Both of the armies had an artillery reserve which was an organization of extra batteries to be placed where needed. The Union army had one large artillery reserve force. The Confederate army had one reserve group per corps, but the number of guns was still smaller than the number of Union cannon.

A cavalry regiment was organized in a similar fashion to the infantry and artillery. Ten to twelve companies or "troops", made up one regiment. The regiment was divided into three battalions, each composed of four companies. A company was divided into "squadrons" for easy maneuvering on the field. The cavalry regiment was much more expensive to sustain while in service due to the amount of equipment carried by each cavalryman (carbine, saber, pistol, belt set, and equipment for the soldier's mount) and the requirement for horses and their care.

Both armies also had a compliment of quartermaster, engineer, and signal units as well as supply wagons organized as "trains". An army on the march was usually followed by miles and miles of wagons loaded with the equipments of war including food, ammunition, and medical supplies. At the top of the organizational list was the Army Headquarters. The commanding general required a personal staff to dictate orders and keep records of army movement. There were also clerks and assistants. The commanders of armies also had the privilege of a headquarters cook. Every army headquarters usually had a large compliment of staff officers, couriers, and a headquarters guard, which included an infantry battalion and a cavalry escort.





To reach either the Camp's page or its Face book Page, hold curser over the name, hold "Ctrl" and left click

[C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1](#) - Milwaukee

C. K. Pier Badger Camp #1 and Auxiliary #4 meet on the first Wednesday of the month (except August), at 7 p.m.,

Commander: [PCinC Steve Michaels](#)

C.K. Pier Badger Auxiliary 4

[Henry Harnden Camp 2](#) - Madison

Commander: [Fred J. Campbell](#)

Henry Harnden Auxiliary 2

[Major General John Gibbon Camp 4](#) - Waukesha

Meetings @ at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month (except August)

Commander: [Timothy Kracht](#)

[Lt. Alonzo H. Cushing Camp 5](#) – Saukville

Meeting @ 7 P.M. last Tuesday of month

Commander: [PDC Tom Brown](#)

[Old Abe Camp 8](#) - Fox Cities

Meeting @7 P.M. 3rd Monday of odd months

Commander: [Dennis Jacobs](#)

Edward S. Bragg Auxiliary 6

[Face Book Page](#)

[Hans Heg Camp 15](#)

Meeting @ 7 P.M. 1st Thursday, monthly

Commander: [Robert Koenecke](#)

[L.G. Armstrong 49](#) – Boscobel

Meetings @ 7 P.M. 3rd Thursday, monthly

Commander: [Gary Young](#)

[William Colville Camp 56](#) - Minneapolis/St. Paul

Meeting held Quarterly, time, date place TBA

Commander: [Randy Nelson](#)



Dept. Commander	Alan Petit, PCC commander@sucvw-wi.org
Sr. Vice Commander	Brian McManus, PCC svc@sucvw-wi.org
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ROTC Award Coordinator	Dave Daley rotc@sucvw-wi.org
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Guide	Tom Brown, PDC guide@sucvw-wi.org
Color Guard	Bob Mann, PCC guard@sucvw-wi.org
Signals Officer	Kent Peterson, PDC webmaster@sucvw-wi.org

Officers were elected at the 2018 Department Encampment at Wind Lake, Wis. and will serve until the 2018 Department Encampment.



SUVCW Department of Wisconsin 135th Annual Encampment

**Hosted by Old Abe Camp #8
Saturday June 2, 2018
King Veterans Home
King, Wis.**

Registration: 8 a.m.
Joint Opening: 8:45 a.m.

Registration should be received by Friday, May 25, 2018. The registration fee is \$7 per person.

This information plus a map and a list of restaurants will be available on the www.suvcw-wi.org web site or from your Camp Commander.

SUVCW Department of Wisconsin – 135th Encampment Registration

Make checks payable to “Old Abe Camp 8, SUVCW” and return no later than Friday, May 25, 2018.

Remove lower portion and mail along with payment to:

Kurt Kirk
W 2154 Cottonville Ct.
Berlin, WI 54923

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Affiliation _____

Number of registrations _____ x \$7.00 = _____

Total enclosed _____

Directions to King Veterans Home

From Madison:

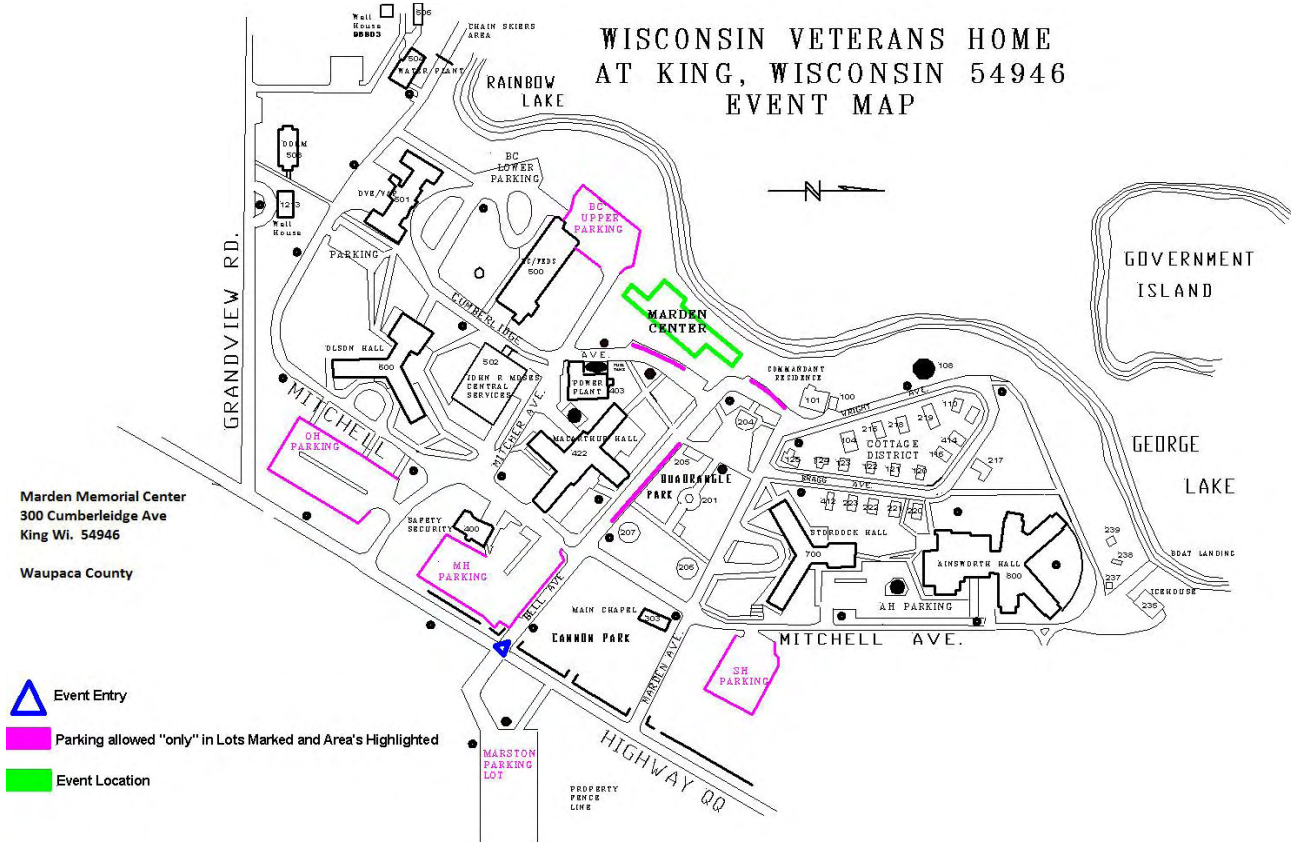
Take I-94 west to I-39/US-51 North (Wausau/Portage). Stay on I-39/US-51 until Plainfield/Wisconsin Rapids exit 136. Turn right on Hwy-73 and go through Plainfield. Once through the town, turn left on Cty Rd P. Stay on Cty Rd P until Hwy-22. Turn left on Hwy-22 North. Stay on Hwy-22 until Cty Rd QQ. Turn left on Cty Rd QQ. Take Cty Rd QQ to the Veteran's Home. Turn left on Marden Avenue.

From Milwaukee:

Take I-41/US-45 North. Stay on I-41 North at Oshkosh, Take exit 120 US-45/Algoma Blvd toward US-10 West/ New London. Kept left, follow signs for US-45 North. Take exit to US-10 West. At Waupaca, take WI-22 South/ Cty Rd K (Waupaca/Wild Rose/King Veterans Home) Turn left on WI-22 South. Stay on WI-22 South until Cty Rd QQ. Turn right on Cty Rd QQ. Take Cty Rd QQ to the Veteran's Home. Turn left on Marden Avenue.

Parking:

There is limited parking available at Marden Hall. Additional parking is available in lots around the grounds and across Cty Rd QQ near the cemetery.





SUVCW

NOTICE

Wisconsin Department Dispatch is published four times per year for members of the Wisconsin Department, SUVCW. articles, photos and news items may be submitted to:

Paul Johnson at:

johnson@newnorth.net

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Visit us on the Web at

<http://www.suvcw-wi.org>

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