

SPRING 2016

PUBLISHED BY THE SUVCW DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

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Comments from Your Wisconsin Department Commander



Brothers,

I would like to thank all the brothers at the Department Encampment that elected me as your new Department Commander. I will endeavor to assure you that that trust was not misplaced. For the listings of your new officers, please check the department website. The list of elected officers posted by Kent Petersen is correct. I also reappointed the entire slate of staff officers, also listed on the department website, with two exceptions. Alan Hembel has resigned as ROTC Award Coordinator and Dan Chroninger has resigned as the GAR Highway Officer. Thank you to both of these brothers for their years of service. Volunteers are needed to fill these

positions. If anyone is interested, please contact me. If anyone else on the appointed staff list wishes to move on, again, contact me. If anyone desires an appointment to any of the staff positions, again, please contact me.

Congratulations to Department GRO Tom Mueller. Within the last two months he has recorded the 30,000 thousandth CW veteran's grave on the SUVCW graves registration site for the Dept. of Wisconsin. Only a short while ago, about five years, he was recording the 20,000 thousandth.

This is one of the SUVCW's chief missions. Tom can only record the names he receives from the members, so if everyone supports us as they have in the past, we can hit 40,000 in about another five years. Most of northern Wisconsin is virgin territory.

I will be at the National Encampment again, my fourth year, along with an estimated six other Wisconsin delegates. The more that come, the more votes we will have and we will have a voice.

We have never voted our full potential due to low numbers of Wisconsin attending National. We are allowed about twenty votes, if enough of us attend. Last year we had five. National is in Michigan next year.

Please consider attending. It's close enough.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty, Alan O. Petit, DC

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War SIUTECW

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2016 Encampment



A camp of Sons of Veterans was organized at the G.A.R. Post hall last Thursday evening. The members chose the name of "Chippewa Falls Camp," and their number is fifty-nine. They start in with eighteen charter members, and there are a number of others who have already made application to join.

The following are the officers who were mustered by A. F. Ellison: Captain—L.J. Rusk; First Lieutenant — H. F. Robinson; Second Lieutenant—Crandall.

The Captain appointed the following officers: First Sergeant—M.M. Boyd; Quartermaster Sergeant—C.W. Cronk; Chaplain—E.H. Rogers. The following were elected Camp Council: C.W. Cronk, three years; J. E. Jones, two years; M.M. Boyd, one year.

September 30, 1889 The Herald (Chippewa Falls, WI)



Ceremonies at Spring Encampment honoring Col. Hans Heg, Host camp's namesake





Brothers pose for a group photo at the statute of Col. Hans C. Heg. — with Virgil O. Matz, Kent Peterson, Bruce Laine, Patrick Lynch, Dave Daley, Jeff Graf, William Parker, Ronald Aronis, Steve Michaels, Andrew Bollen, Brian McManus and Kirby Scott.

Camp News

Camp 1

The Sons, Auxiliary and Allied Orders help the Susan Fallon family dedicate the grave of Pvt. Ludwig Marks in Manitowoc County, 127 years after his death. The event was held in May. Ludwig Marks, g-g grandfather of Sister Fallon, was drafted and served in the 18th Wisconsin Infantry, Co. I, from Sept. 30, 1864, to June 2, 1865. He died in April 1889 at the age of 65. "He was never honored as a Civil War veteran until today," Fallon said. She is shown with her husband Patrick, commander of C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1; their son Joe, and extended family







Hundreds of people attended the Camp 1 Memorial Day commemoration, featuring a Roman Catholic mass and keynote speech by retired Army Maj. Alex Kaleta of Wauwatosa. The event has been held at Calvary Cemetery in Milwaukee since the 1890s, before the formation of Camp 1.



Tom Ludka, Marge Berres and Camp 1 PCC Tom Mueller, emcee of the event, celebrate the unveiling the historical marker.

Two other Camps, the Woman's Relief Corps and another history group helped C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 and Auxiliary 4 dedicate their historical marker at Forest Home Cemetery in Milwaukee in June

Camp 15, Camp 4 and Company F, 29th Colored Troops, made up the eight-man honor guard along with Camp 1. Some ladies of the 29th also attended, as did Don Shaw of Michigan, a member of the SUVCW Council of Administration. Grants from the national SUVCW memorials committee and Charitable Foundation assisted the project along with other fund-raising.

Brother Tom Ludka and Marge Berres of the WRC led years of research to determine that Forest Home has 1,000 Civil War veterans, more than in any other private cemetery in Wisconsin. Many in the Camp and Auxiliary helped along the way, via walkthroughs, work with records and submitting the names to the Sons graves registration database.

Pvt. William Reed of Company F, 29th Colored, died in 1895 but had no gravestone until this project located him, so one was obtained and dedicated on Memorial Day. Camp 1 also

capped a busy and successful period by reaching the top tier of donors for a project in downtown to Milwaukee to refurbish the Victorious Charge monument along with two other historical statues. A memorials grant from the national SUVCW helped put Camp 1 and Auxiliary 4 to the Founding Father level of donors (\$2,500 or more). The Camp was the only history group at that level, which is populated mostly by institutions and businesses. The drive was conducted by the Westown Association, a business group on the west side of downtown.

Camp 8



Weyauwega after the war.

William returned disability.

When the Civil War broke out William enlisted 4 different times only to be discharged become of his disability. He never made it to a regiment.

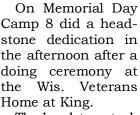
After the dedication Camp 8 dedicated the headstone of Ludwig Lange, the ancestor of Luann

Williams. Then the Camp had a cookout in the cemetery with the old veterans. This had been a customary way for the Camp to spend Memorial Day.

Alan Petit is standing guard at the grave during the ceremony.



Line up before the Memorial Day Ceremonies at Wis. Veteran's Home at King



The headstone took Kim Heltemes 7 years to get but finally the VA was satisfied and a new marker was issued.

The headstone is for William Teal. He and brother George served in the Mexican War and returned to



Luann Williams at her ancestors grave, Ludwig Lange.

Brian Peters and Jim Schumann doing a shot volley for a dedication of





Lucy Peters, Jim Schumann, Brian Peters, Vince Barker, Luann Williams, Jim Waid, Camp Commander Bill Parker, and Kim J. Heltemes



Camp 15

In May, Camp #15 launched a campaign to force the city of Muskego, Wis., to clean up a weed-infested, overgrown cemetery where two Wisconsin Civil War soldiers are buried.

Led by Camp Commander Jeff Graf, the campaign has prompted Muskego to mow tall grass and trim sixfoot high brush around the graves of the two soldiers. But Graf, who has made the clean-up a personal project, vows that he and Camp #15 will not stop until the city of Muskego cleans up the entire cemetery.

Graf called the condition of Luther Parker Cemetery a "desecration" in a letter to Muskego officials where he pointed out that the city, under state law, has a duty to provide "proper and decent care" for the graves and tombstones of all veterans buried in its cemeteries.

The past year has been an active one for Camp #15. Events include:

•Supporting Camp #1 in dedicating a historical marker June 12th at Forest Home Cemetery in Milwaukee honoring the one thousand Civil War soldiers buried there.

•Hosting the Wisconsin Department's summer encampment on June 11th at the Norway Town Hall in Wind Lake, Wis., where Camp #15 holds its monthly meetings in the town hall meeting room, appropriately named Col. Heg Hall.

•Following the meeting, Camp #15 held an honor guard ceremony and musket salute at the grave of Col. Hans C. Heg, buried at the nearby Norway Lutheran Cemetery. Heg, the namesake of Camp #15, died leading his troops in battle at Chickamauga during the Civil War.

•Honoring Civil War soldiers Lt. Homer H. Clark and Private Jonathan Smiley with a ceremony and musket salute May 29th at their graves in Luther Parker Cemetery in Muskego, Wis.

Memorial Day parade. Wind Lake is the community in which the Norway Town Hall is located where Camp #15 holds its monthly meetings.

- Providing an honor guard in support of Camp #4 in a ceremony May 1 at Pioneer Cemetery in Brookfield, Wis., commemorating the 150th anniversary of the founding the Grand Army of the Republic, the veterans organization founded after the Civil War by Union soldiers.
- Participating in an honor ceremony April 16th in Springfield, Ill., for the annual re-dedication of Abraham Lincoln's tomb on the anniversary of his assassination.
- Performing honor guard duties Feb. 14th as the City of Burlington, Wis., re-dedicated a statue of Abraham Lincoln toppled by vandals and restored by the city.
 - Marching May 29th in the Wind Lake, Wis.,

• Helping Camp #15 member Pat Kulas in August 2015 remember his great-grandfather, Franz Wozniak with an honor guard ceremony in Poniatowski, Wis., in Marathon County where a headstone was placed to mark the grave. During the same trip, Camp #15 honored the great-great grandfather of Camp Commander Jeff Graf with an honor guard ceremony at the grave of Lewis Sippy in Sextonville, Wis.,



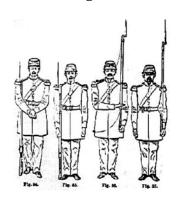
L-R Dave Daley, CC Jeff Graf, SVC Bob Koenecke.

and in the great-great-grandfather of Camp #15 Senior Vice-Comander Robert Koenecke with a musket salute at the grave of Paul Townsend Reedsburg, Wis.



L-R CC Graf, SVC Koenecke, Sec./Treas. McManus, JVC Daley

• Throughout the past year, Camp #15 members have served as docents at Heg Park Museum in Wind Lake, Wis., where the story of Col. Hans C. Heg, the highest-ranking officer from Wisconsin killed during the Civil War, is told through museum displays.



Camp 56



On May 30th, 2016, Colonel William Covill Camp 56 conducted a wreath laying ceremony at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Saint Paul, Minnesota, between the Minnesota State Capitol and the Cathedral of Saint Paul. The monument was commissioned by the allied orders of the Grand Army of the Republic and erected in 1903. It is a 53-foot-tall column topped with a statue of a Civil War soldier. The statue represents Josias King, the first Minnesotan to volunteer to serve in the Union Army, but the monument was also intended to honor all Minnesota veterans. The ceremony, coordinated by Camp Chaplain Matt Heffron, was also supported by the Fort Snelling Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars, the Minnesota Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Park High School Air Force JROTC, and the Father Tim Vakoc Assembly of the Knights of Columbus. This is the second year in a row the Camp has conducted a ceremony at this monument on May 30th.









Camp Namesakes Major General John Gibbon Camp 4 Waukesha



John Gibbon was born April 20, 1827 in Philadelphia, Penn.

When he was ten, his father accepted a position as chief assayer at the U.S. Mint in Charlotte, North Carolina and relocated the entire family south.

In 1842, Gibbon received an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy.

His first year was marred by disciplinary problems, and he was forced to repeat it, but his tenure at West Point was thereafter defined by a rigid discipline he would carry through his entire Army career. He graduated in the middle of his class in 1847, the same year as Ambrose

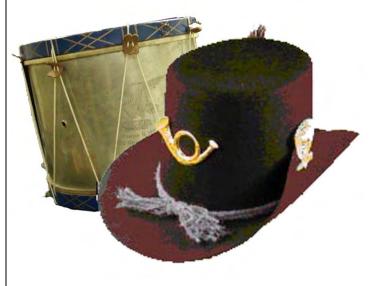
Burnside and Ambrose Powell Hill, and was made a second lieutenant of artillery. He served in Mexico (though he did not see combat), in Florida against the Seminole Indians and in Texas before returning to West Point in 1854 to teach artillery tactics. In 1855, he married Francis Moale, and the couple had four children. Gibbon published The Artillerist's Manual in 1859. The text was used at the U.S. Military Academy to train officers for the civil war.

Following the bombardment of Fort Sumter in April 1861, Gibbon, in spite of the fact that his father was a slaveholder and three of his brothers and his cousin [J. Johnston Pettigrew] went on to fight for the Confederacy, upheld his oath to the United States and reported to Washington for assignment. He was made chief of artillery for Maj. Gen. Irvin McDowell, and a year later was promoted to brigadier general of Volunteers and placed in command of the "Iron Brigade" of Westerners – Wisconsinites, Michiganders and Indianans. Gibbon made his mark on this illustrious unit, instilling rigid discipline and drilling them into the most tenacious fighters in the Army of the Potomac. He led them at Brawner's Farm at the Battle of Second Manassas, one of the most intense firefights of entire war, and at Turner's Gap at the Battle of South Mountain, where Gen. Joseph Hooker gave them their famous nickname.

The Iron Brigade suffered heavy losses fighting in the bloody cornfield at Antietam, where Gibbon himself personally manned an artillery piece. Late in 1862, Gibbon was promoted to command of the 2nd division, I Corps, which he led at Fredericksburg and was wounded. Returning to duty several months later, Gibbon commanded the 2nd Division of the Hancock's II Corps at Gettysburg, and even directed the corps itself for brief periods during the battle. On July 3, Gibbon's men, stationed along Cemetery Ridge, played a significant role in the repulse of Pickett's Charge, and Gibbon was wounded for a second time. During his convalescence, Gibbon attended the dedication of the new national cemetery on November 19 and heard Abraham Lincoln deliver the Gettysburg Address.

By the time of the opening of the Overland Campaign of 1864, Gibbon was back in command of his division and led his men at the Wilderness, Spotsylvania Courthouse, Cold Harbor and the investment of Petersburg. In June, 1864, Gibbon was promoted to Major General and in January of the following year was given command of the XXIV Corps in the Army of the James. Rufus Dawes of the Iron Brigade, on learning of Gibbon's promotion, wrote "His honors are fairly won. He is one of the bravest of men. He was with us on every battle field." At the conclusion of the Appomattox campaign that spring, Gibbon served as one of the surrender commissioners when the Army of Northern Virginia finally succumbed to defeat.

Gibbon remained in the Army until 1891, having served nearly fifty years. In his post-war career, Gibbon, like most regular army men, was primarily engaged with the Indians on the frontier. It was Gibbon's column who came upon the remains of Custer and his men after Little Big Horn, and Gibbon who led a successful campaign against Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce the following year. He retired in 1891 and moved to Baltimore, where he died on February 6, 1896. Gibbon, who was at the center of many of the most intense fights of the Civil War, is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.



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Wisconsin Department Pioneers

Benjamin F. Armstrong By PCinC Steve Michaels

The 1908 Wisconsin Dept. Encampment was held June 16-18 in Racine. A 23-year old Racine clerk, Benjamin Franklin Armstrong, was elected commander. He was past camp commander of Racine's Charles Filer Camp 31 and was more recently, the Department Inspector.

The principal business of the encampment was the support of the Sons of Veterans Memorial University at Mason City, Iowa, and its endowment.

Department membership had reached a plateau. As of June 30, 1908, there were 541 brothers in 19 camps.

Camps were mustered at: Amherst (A.J. Smith Camp #3) on December 3rd with 29 members; Platteville (James A. Garfield Camp #9) on January 11, 1910, with 21 members; Plainfield (R.H. Ruscom Camp #4) on March 25th with 36 members; and Clinton (Lincoln Camp #6) on April 29th with 19 members.

Br. Armstrong was born August 24, 1884, in Racine. He was the grandson of John and Susan R. McNellis Armstrong, both Irish immigrants who had come to the U.S. in 1853. Benjamin's father, Samuel R., was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1854. Two years later, the family came to Racine. During the Civil War, he served in Co. K. 33rd Wis. Inf. (19 Aug 1862 – 9 Aug 1865). After the war, John worked as a tinsmith, associating with the J.I. Case Threshing Company for 25 years. He was a member of Racine's Governor Harvey GAR Post 17.

Benjamin's father, Samuel R. (1854-1935), was a painter. On June 29, 1876, he married Jennie (Fannie Jane) Hanson (1859 – 8 Aug 1895). Her father was a Racine alderman for four terms. Together, they had six children, three who lived past infancy. Benjamin was the youngest surviving child

After his term, PDC Armstrong continued to serve in Racine's Charles Filer Camp #31. In 1915, he was listed as the Camp Patriotic Instructor, while working as a cashier at automobile manufacturer Mitchell Motor Company, one of the city's largest employers. Early that year (16 Feb 1915), he married the former Cora Emily Dusenberry (13 Sep 1883 – 4 Jul 1963) in Provo Utah. Her father was the mayor and her uncle was a senator. Her parents moved to Salt Lake City in 1920. Meanwhile, Benjamin and Cora moved to Promontory, Box Elder County, Utah, where Ben tried his hand as an electrical engineer at a potash plant.

Benjamin Junior was born in Provo (22 Jun 1919 – 13 June 2006).

Uncertain economic times along with difficulties in the potash business, necessitated Benjamin Sr. moving back to Racine, where he took a job as an accountant at a manufacturing company and then became a private broker. Cora remained in Salt Lake City with her family and both mother and grandmother raised Ben Junior.

PDC Benjamin F. Armstrong died in Racine on May 12, 1971 at the age of 86 and was buried at Racine's Mound Cemetery.



Sources
Deseret News Obits
Find-a-Grave.com
History of Racine & Kenosha Counties; Chicago 1879, pgs 565-618



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NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT COMES TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S HOME TOWN!!

2016 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT
OF THE
ALLIED ORDERS
OF THE
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
AUGUST 11TH THROUGH 14th 2016

President Abraham Lincoln Hilton Hotel

Hilton Hotels National Reservation number is 866-788-1860

Our National Encampment will take place at President Abraham Lincoln Springfield, a DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, in the heart of historic downtown, within walking distance of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum and Library, Lincoln Home National Historic Site, Herndon Law office, the Old State Capitol, and more.

This hotel is connected to the Prairie Capital Convention Center and situated just a few blocks from St. John's Hospital and Memorial Medical Center. Hotel guests ride the complimentary shuttle to and from nearby AMTRAK and the Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport.

All of the guest rooms at this hotel feature a flat-screen TV, premium bedding, and complimentary WiFi access.

Hotel amenities include 24-hour business center, 24-hour fitness center, and an indoor pool. Restaurants on the premises include Lindsay's Restaurant, with a daily buffet breakfast, and the Globe Tavern sports bar.

Rooms for Members of the Allied Orders are available at \$106 per night for three days prior and three days following the Encampment. Reservation deadline for a guaranteed room is July 20th, 2016.

The 2016 National Encampment will include a Campfire event on Friday, August 12th, and the Allied Orders Banquet on August 13th. In addition, there will be a souvenir commemorative medal, program book and "goodie bag" for each attendee.

Look for additional information on the 2016 National Encampment of the Allied Orders one Communications page of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War National web site at suvcw.org.



Woman's Relief Corps



Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic



Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War.



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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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 Meetings @ 7 P.M. 1st Wednesday of month except Aug. Kent Peterson kapeterson@wi.rr.com C.K. Pier Badger Auxiliary 4

Henry Harnden Camp 2 - Madison Henry Harnden Auxiliary 2 Meetings @ 7 P.M. 4th Thursday, monthly Alan Hemple agh@tds.net

Major General John Gibbon Camp 4 - Waukesha Meetings @ 7 P.M. 2nd Wednesday, monthly Patrick Lynch Patrick lynch13@hotmail.com
Ammo Hawks Auxiliary 5

<u>Lt. Alonzo H. Cushing Camp 5</u> – Saukville Meeting @ 7 P.M. last Tuesday of month Andrew Bollen andbit@att.net

Old Abe Camp 8 - Fox Cities Face Book Page Meeting @7 P.M. 3rd Monday of odd months Kirby Scott cowkissing@gmail.com
Edward S. Bragg Auxiliary 6

Hans Heg Camp 15

Meeting @ 7 P.M. 1st Thursday, monthly Brian McManus <u>bmcmanus1@wi.rr.com</u>

L.G. Armstrong 49 – Boscobel Meetings @ 7 P.M. 3rd Thursday, monthly Gary Young gnuoy@centurytel.net

William Colville Camp 56 - Minneapolis/St. Paul Meeting held Quarterly, time, date place TBA Randy Nelson LN4243@msn.com

SONS OF THE SOUND WARE *	
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Sr. Vice Commander	Brian McManus, PCC svc@suvcw-wi.org
Jr. Vice Commander	Andrew Bollen III, PCC jvc@suvcw-wi.org
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Council 2	Tom Brown, PDC council2@suvcw-wi.org
Council 3	Kent Peterson, PDC council3@suvcw-wi.org
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Treasurer	Alan Hembel, PCC treasurer@suvcw-wi.org
Patriotic Instructor	Ronald Miswald
Graves Registration Officer	Tom Mueller gro@suvcw-wi.org
Eagle Scout Coordinator	Ron Knaus, CC scouts@suvcw-wi.org
ROTC Award Coordinator GAR Highway Officer	Open Open
Civil War Memorials	Craig Wheeler, PCC memorials@suvcw-wi.org
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Historian	Bruce Laine, PDC historian@suvcw-wi.org
Camp Organizer	Kim Heltemes organizer@suvcw-wi.org
Guide	Ronald Knaus, CC guide@suvcw-wi.org
Color Guard	Bob Mann, PCC guard@suvcw-wi.org
Signals Officer Officers were elected at the 11	Kent Peterson, PDC webmaster@suvcw-wi

Officers were elected at the 11 June 2016 Department Encampment at Wind Lake, Wis. and will serve until the 2017 Department Encampment. THE DISPATCH PAGE 11



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:
johhnson@newnorth.net
Editorial deadlines are March, July, October & December
Visit us on the Web at
http://www.suvcw-wi.org

Fall Published October 7, 2016
Deadline September 30, 2016
Winter Published, January 6, 2017
Deadline December 30, 24, 2016
Spring Published April 7, 2017
Deadline March 31, 2017
Summer Published July 7, 2017
Deadline July 1, 2017