



# THE DISPATCH

SUMMER 2018

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Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

# SUVCW

## COMMANDER'S COLUMN



Brothers,

On June 2nd, I had the distinct honor of being elected Commander of the Department of Wisconsin.

The goals and expectations for me, the Department and Camp Officers, as well as the Brothers, were spelled out in Department Order # 1.

Please take the time to review them.

I am here to help each Officer and Brother, and commit to making us one of the best Departments in the SUVCW.

I have reached out to the Sisters in the Allied Orders and expect us to be working together on upcoming projects and events.

Please keep your Camp calendars up to date, and let Signals Officer, PDC Kent Peterson, know if there are any changes.

The Camp and Department Officer lists were updated on the Department website with links to the Camps.

Thank you all for your efforts, and have a great summer.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty

*Commander McManus*

DC, Dept. of Wisc.

## SUVCW Department of Wisconsin Department Orders

#1 [Commander expectations 5 June 2018](#)

#2 [Passing of PDC Fred Murphy](#)

#3 [Dr. Mary Edwards Walker medal award to DUVCW Sister, Patricia Blackmer.](#)

To view these orders, click on the link on top of the webpage

### Lincoln Day Ceremonies



*Front row David Daley, Kim Heltemes, Mark Day, Steve Michaels.  
Back row Brian McManus, Jeff Graf, Bob Koenecke*



## PDC Fred Murphy: Profile in Patriotic and Public Service

By PCinC Steve Michaels

My best memory of Fred is when he stood up at the 2001 National Encampment, held in Springfield, Illinois, and delivered an enthusiastic and moving speech, nominating me for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. That speech changed my life for the next three years and beyond. I was elected by a wide margin and eventually ascended to the Order's highest office.

Br. Fred Murphy was born in Janesville, Wisconsin. His father was the city Fire Chief and his mother was a teacher. His great grandfather, William Wollenzien, served as a private in Co. F, 3rd Wis. Inf. during the Civil War.

In school, Fred enjoyed acting and singing, taking part in numerous plays, musicals and choral presentations. He also lettered in track and served as team captain in his senior year. Two years were spent in the service, most of that time in the European Theater with the Third Army. Upon his return to the States,



Br. Fred Murphy (far right) at one of his first Camp 1 meetings.

Fred entered Milton College and married Gloria Huston, his high school sweetheart. This month, Fred and Gloria had been married 72 years! He graduated with honors and a B.A. degree with majors in chemistry and biology. He again lettered in track at the college level this time.

The next three years were spent at Duke University, where he received a Master's degree in human physiology from the School of Medicine. During this time, Fred did research for the USAF in the "Edge of Space" program and also taught General Physiology in the School of Nursing. After graduation, he returned to Wisconsin, picked up some teaching credits and accepted a job at Cudahy High School, where he remained for 42 years. During this period, he introduced and coached the sport of cross country for 10 years, coached track for 15 years, officiated high school sports for 22 years, headed the science department for 39 years, was the advisor to the Cudahy High School Honor Society for 19 years, was in charge of the Cudahy Recreation Dept. Summer Playground Program for 10 years and taught various evening science courses at the Cudahy Vocational School and the Milwaukee Area Technical College.

Retiring in June 1993, Fred managed to fill his time with gardening, genealogical research, his two grandsons, Civil war research, living history presentations, and THE SONS.

He joined C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 in March 1997 and became a regular attendee at meetings and activities. He served as Camp Commander for two years (1999-00) and as Wisconsin Dept. Commander for 2000-01.

During his term as Camp Commander, quarterly staff meetings began. At one of these, ideas about acclimating new members were discussed and the Member Orientation was born, now destined to become a national program. Fred traveled around the state, as



Installed as Wis. Dept. Commander by PCinC Ed Krieser at the 2000 Dept. Encampment, held in Fond du Lac.



Presenting MG John Gibbon Camp #4s charter to Camp Commander Eric Peterson at Carroll University.

part of the orientation's teaching team. Five years later, a Department Leadership Conference was added for those aspiring to or holding staff positions in the Allied Orders.

In 2003, Fred began a series of annual U.S. Flag retirement ceremonies. Most of these were held at the Cudahy Public Library. Later, ceremonies were also held at the Soldiers Home and in Wauwatosa.

During my term as Commander-in-Chief (2004-05), Fred served on the National Scholarship Committee, helping select two recipients of the SUVCW's educational grants.

He enjoyed attending and speaking to the public at a variety of Civil War events. He especially enjoyed manning the Camp's information booth like this one at Boscobel's "Muskets & Memories" reenactment. at the Cudahy Civil War weekend (2006-08). The Camp counted several brothers from this suburb, so Fred devised an informal "Picket Camp" to maintain these brothers' interest.

Fred and Gloria were moving into an apartment and were downsizing about the time fundraising for the 2013 National Encampment in Brookfield began (2011). Fred generously donated the uniforms and items he had used over the years. These were sold both locally and at a Gettysburg resale shop to support the Encampment.

Fred had stopped coming to meetings and most social events, but that didn't stop many of the brothers from visiting. The visits became less frequent when Fred and Gloria moved to Racine in 2015 to be closer to their daughter, Lauren. In later years, he found it increasingly difficult to get around, opting not to leave his ground floor apartment. PDC Kent Peterson and I visited him in early 2017, to quietly celebrate his 20-year membership anniversary and present him the numerals for his badge. He graciously accepted them, as we talked about times in the Camp gone by. He asked about our families and the other Camp brothers, he hoped to see just one more time. Alas, it was not to be. Fred's health began to fail and he was placed in hospice. He passed away a short time later, on June 15th, 2018. The world lost a great teacher, speaker and leader that day. While looking for photos of Fred, I came across the Wisconsin Department Dispatch, featuring him as our new Department

Commander. Inside was the biographical sketch I had interviewed him for. This sketch served as the basis for this remembrance.

However, there was one element of Fred's life, which he never mentioned in any conversation. Many of us were surprised when we attended Fred and Gloria's 60th wedding anniversary party and some family videos were shown.

There, up on the big screen, were a younger Fred and Gloria, and they were ballroom dancing competitively! We shouldn't have been surprised...Fred was as graceful on the dance floor as we had seen him in any number of social settings. God bless you and keep you, Fred. We will miss you, but we will never forget you!



**Fred enjoyed chatting up the public at our information booths, like this one at Boscobel's "Muskets & Memories" reenactment.**



**Relaxing at the Camp/Auxiliary picnic, held in 2009 at Br. Bob Koenecke's farm near Burlington.**





## Camps

### Camp 1



This marker dedication at Calvary Cemetery Milwaukee, WI, July 1, 2018, Kim Heltemes and Dean Collins. Dean was master of ceremony.



### Camp 8



Memorial Day 2018 – Brothers Brian Peters, Kirby Scott, Kim Heltemes at the lake side ceremony for King Veterans Home.

Photograph by Br Kirby Scott



Brothers Bill Parker and Kim Heltemes participated in a Civil War day for Manitowoc schools on May 15, 2018.

Photographs by Br Bill Parker



Brother Paul Johnson relates Wisconsin Civil War History to Junior High Class in Weston, Wis.

## Camp 15

### Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Cushing Park



*Pictured above at the Cushing Monument is Camp #4 members Allen Keinert and Robert Mann.*

Members of Lt. Alonzo H. Cushing Camp #5 and Major General John Gibbon Camp #4 participated in the annual ceremony held on Memorial Day at Cushing Park in Delafield Wisconsin. Also participating in the ceremony were the soldiers of Cushing's Battery, the sailors of the USS Minnesota, the Historical Timekeepers, the William Cushing Ladies Auxiliary, Deacon Dean Collins of Camp #1 and bugler Bill Seaman. This year's ceremony included a special memorial tribute to long time Delafield resident and local historian Margaret Zerwekh who passed away on May 11 at the age of 98. Margaret's grandfather was a Civil War veteran. It was through Margaret's persistent and tireless efforts which led to the awarding of the Medal of Honor to Alonzo Cushing.

This annual ceremony is a salute to the four Cushing brothers, Milton, Howard, Alonzo and William, who served in the Union Army and Navy during the Civil War. Roses and wreaths were placed on the monument for each of the brothers after which a short history of each brother was read followed by a cannon salute for each brother.

Milton was born in Columbus, Ohio on April 30, 1837. At the beginning of the war, Milton served as a non-commissioned officer and payroll clerk in the Navy Department. By early 1865 Milton was acting paymaster having been promoted 3 times for ability. He remained in the navy after the war. He died on January 1, 1886.

Howard, born in Milwaukee in 1838, enlisted as a private in Battery B, 1st Illinois Light Artillery and served with Grant's army in the west. In November 1863, he was promoted to second lieutenant in the regular artillery and transferred to Battery A, 4th U.S. Artillery. After the war he decided to remain in the military. In September 1867, he transferred to the 3rd U.S. Cavalry and was promoted to first lieutenant.

Howard and the reconnaissance party he was leading, was attacked and wiped out by the Apache followers of Cochise in the Whetstone Mountains, southeast of Tucson Arizona. Howard Cushing was initially buried at Fort Lowell, northwest of Tucson. He was later re-interred at San Francisco National Cemetery in the Presidio of San Francisco.

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He served with distinction on the Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona frontiers where his reputation for bravery and leadership became well known. On May 5, 1871,

Alonzo was born on January 19, 1841 in Delafield and was appointed to West Point in 1857. Upon his graduation in June of 1861, he was commissioned a 1st Lieutenant in the 4th U.S. Artillery. After his participation in the battle of the First Bull Run he was transferred to the position of a staff officer for General Sumner, commander of the 2nd Corps., Army of the Potomac, where he served with distinction participating in the battles of Fair Oaks, Second Bull Run and Fredericksburg. For his actions at Fredericksburg, he was awarded the brevet rank of Captain. At the Battle of Antietam he commanded a section of two guns. In May 1863, just prior to the Battle of Chancellorsville he was given command of Battery A, 4th U.S. Artillery. For his gallant actions in command of his battery at the Battle of Chancellorsville, he was awarded the brevet rank of Major. He accompanied General Hancock on Hancock's ride to Gettysburg to help establish the Union lines. On July 3rd, 1863 Alonzo Cushing, although seriously wounded and with his battery decimated, maintained his position on Cemetery Ridge and helped repel "Picket's Charge". It was at the height of this attack that Lt. Cushing was fatally shot through the mouth. After the battle, Milton accompanied Alonzo's body to West Point where he was buried. A stone marker recognizing Cushing's heroics was placed on the battlefield in 1887. For his actions at Gettysburg, Alonzo Cushing was awarded the brevet rank of lieutenant-colonel and on November 6, 2014, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

On November 4, 1842, William Barker Cushing was born in Delafield. Appointed to Annapolis in 1857, Will was forced to resign from the Academy in 1861. After the firing on Fort Sumter, Will appealed to the Secretary of the Navy and was granted a commission. In 1862 he was promoted to Lieutenant. He served on and commanded several smaller ships of the Union Blockading Squadron in the east and was known for his daring reconnaissance raids along the coast.

He became a national hero for his bold attack and sinking of one of the last Confederate ironclad ships, the Albemarle. For this he received a Congressional commendation and the thanks of the President. His subsequent promotion to Lieutenant Commander was the youngest of that rank in the navy. He continued in the command of various ships to the end of the war. Will continued to serve and command in the navy after the war, including assignments in the Far East and the Pacific. In 1872 was promoted to Commander. Will Cushing died on December 17, 1874 of illness and is buried at the Naval Academy Cemetery.

The ceremony ended with the sounding of Taps and a blessing by Dean Collins.

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## Camp 5 Last Soldier



On a chilly morning in Ozaukee County, Wisconsin, four brothers of Lt. Alonzo H. Cushing Camp #5 Department of Wisconsin Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, members of Cedarburg American Legion Peter Wollner Post 288 Honor Guard, members of a Cedarburg Boy Scout Troop and an assortment of interested citizens of the Village of Cedarburg gathered in Hilgen Cemetery.

The Date was April 14, 2018 at 10:00 am. The temperature was in the low 30s. The wind was gusting between 30 and 40 miles an hour. A cold drizzle pelted the attendees. The drizzle later turned to freezing rain and snow. The reason for the gathering of these citizens was The Last Soldier Ceremony of Ozaukee County in honor of Pvt. William Lehmann. Lehmann was born March 25, 1840 in Germany and came to this country with his parents in 1854. William Lehmann enlisted in Co. C of the 34<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry Regiment. After he completed his military obligation, he spent the rest of his life in

Cedarburg; where he was an active member of Hancock Post of the G.A.R. When the Hancock Post was disbanded, he joined the E. B Wolcott Post of Milwaukee. He passed away on March 31, 1933.

There are three interesting modern connections with the 1933 burial of Pvt. Lehmann. The original obituary of William Lehmann was reported in the same local newspaper 85 years ago as the current story on the ceremony honoring him as the Last Soldier from Ozaukee

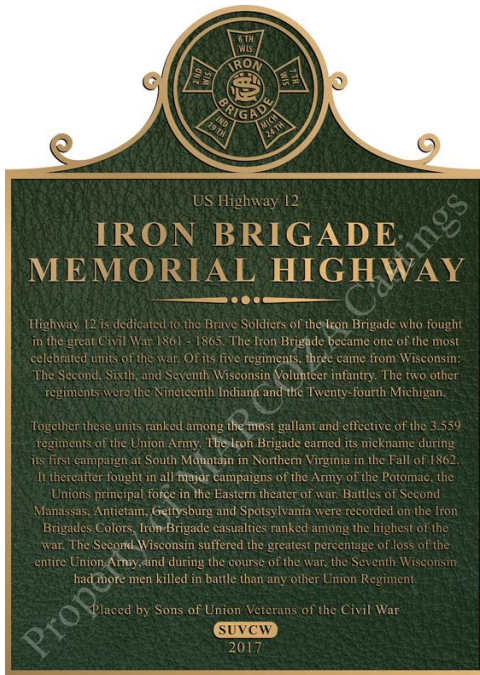
County. According to his obituary, "Members of the Wolcott Post G.A.R. attended in a body." The four current members of Camp #5 SUVCW represented those original G.A.R. Members. The obituary also stated that the "American Legion served as a guard of honor and conducted the ritual of salute and farewell over the grave." The same American Legion Post Honor Guard and Bugler that fired the salute and taps on this chilly morning was the same Legion Post 85 as years ago. Even though it was an uncomfortable cold morning, a majority of the local citizens stayed after the conclusion of the ceremony to ask questions.

We, Brothers Ronald Aronis, Andrew Bollen, Ronald Miswald and Richard Rohan, of Lt. Alonzo H. Cushing Camp #5 were honored to be the presenters of this Ceremony on a cold but heart-warming morning in mid-April, 2018.





## PLAQUE HONORING CIVIL WAR'S IRON BRIGADE



its nickname when it “stood like iron” in 1862 against heavy Confederate forces in the opening round in what became the battle of Antietam, the bloodiest day in U.S. history.

Iron Brigade casualties ranked among the highest of the war. The Second Wisconsin suffered the greatest percentage loss of the entire Union Army, and during the course of the war, the Seventh Wisconsin had more men killed in battle than any other Union regiment.

Invited guests to the dedication include noted Civil War author Lance J. Herdegen who has written half a dozen books on the Iron Brigade, the Sauk County Historical Society, and Curt Mueller and David Landsverk of Mueller Sports Medicine. Mueller is the founder of Mueller Sports Medicine in nearby Prairie du Sac and furnished the Wisconsin Veterans Memorial with a Vietnam-era Huey helicopter, an Air Force fighter jet, and a Model 60 Army tank.

Following the 10 a.m. dedication of the Iron Brigade plaque, Camp #15 will then dedicate a Last Soldier marker placed at the grave of Henry Alexander, the last Civil War soldier to be buried in Sauk County, Wis.



*Ed note: the center letters stand for US Volunteers ~ Plaque image used with permission*

A plaque honoring the famed Iron Brigade, one of the most lauded units in the Civil War, is to be dedicated Sat., July 14, at a wayside veteran's memorial just off U.S. Highway 12 north of Sauk City, Wis.

The Iron Brigade was made up of the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Wisc. Infantry the 19<sup>th</sup> Indiana and 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan. The Brigade earned



Hillside Cemetery in Whitewater, Wisconsin.

A native of New York state, Sedgwick enlisted in Co. B, 36<sup>th</sup> Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment, when the Civil War broke out. The one-thousand soldier regiment took part in the biggest battles of the war – Chickamauga, Atlanta, Franklin and Nashville - and lost 332 men fighting for the Union.

Sedgwick was 97 when he died and living in Manchester, Iowa, west of Dubuque. He was the last living Union veteran in Delaware County, Iowa. Earlier, Sedgwick and his wife, Emma, lived in Whitewater, Wisconsin, and Emma was buried there after her death. Toward the end of his life, Sedgwick, in poor health with injuries that included an old gunshot wound to his leg, was in and out of the soldiers' homes that provided for Union veterans with little means.

Sedgwick was a member of Iowa GAR Union Post #190. The Iowa Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War asked Camp #15, based in Wind Lake, Wis., and the nearest SUVCW camp to Whitewater, Wis., to install the grave marker for Sedgwick. On June 11th, seven brothers from Camp #15 placed the marker and honored Sedgwick with a remembrance service that included a three-volley musket salute.

Nicole Johansen, the great-great-great granddaughter of Sedgwick's commanding officer, Col. Nicholas Greusel, offered her own tribute to Private Sedgwick. “Although I only know through history about this fine gentleman who served our country, I'd like for him to know that by giving his time to serve our country, he in fact served me so many years later,” Johansen wrote.

“I am honored that I can say on behalf of Private Sedgwick's Commanding Officer, Col. Nicholas Greusel, Private Sedgwick is hereby relieved of his post,” Johansen added. Camp #15's remembrance service concluded with the reading of those words.

Ron Rittel, past commander of the Iowa SUVCW, saluted Camp #15's work installing the long overdue marker. “Thank you for doing this,” Brother Rittel wrote. “Please share my gratitude to all that helped...God bless the Wisconsin SUVCW.”

We assemble here to pay our tribute of love and respect to Private Thomas N. Sedgwick, and within these sacred bonds to pledge anew our dedication to his memory and the principles for which he fought.”

With those solemn words, Camp #15 dedicated a newly-installed tombstone for Private Sedgwick, a Civil War soldier buried in 1938 without a grave marker in



## WITH OUR SISTERS DEDICATING A LAST SOLDIER MARKER



Under an overcast sky in mid-May, Camp #15 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War dedicated a marker honoring the last Civil War soldier buried in Walworth County, Wisconsin. A musket salute was fired over the grave of Isaiah Ryan May 12th at Oak Hill Cemetery in Lake Geneva, Wis., and "Taps" blown as three Wisconsin SUVCW camps and members of the Allied orders honored Ryan's service.

A native of Fowler, New York, Ryan served as a dispatch rider in the 193rd New York Infantry in the last year of the Civil War, serving in the Army of the Shenandoah. After the war, Ryan moved to Wisconsin where he worked as a mason and engaged in farming. Ryan died on April 10, 1941 at age 93 at his home in Elkhorn, Wis. With his burial, Ryan became the last soldier of the Civil War buried in Walworth County.

Laying wreaths on Ryan's grave during the ceremony were our sisters from the Allied Orders: Daughters of Union Veterans, Mary Chesebro Lee Tent #23, the Women's Relief Corps #71-W.H. Bennett, and the Ladies Auxiliary 4 of the Sons of Union Veterans. Our brothers from Camp #1 in Milwaukee and Camp #4 in Waukesha, Wis., also took part in the Last Soldier ceremonies. Also attending the event were descendants of Ryan, including two great-granddaughters, a great-grandson and a granddaughter.

The Last Soldier project was begun by the SUVCW to locate and mark the grave of the last Union soldier to die in each county of each state in the U.S. Camp #15 and Camp #1 kicked off the campaign in Wisconsin last year by installing Last Soldier Markers at graves in Racine and Milwaukee counties. Camp #15, which designed and is marketing a Last Soldier marker, has a goal of installing, with the help of other Wisconsin camps, a Last Soldier Marker in each of the state's 72 counties

## AFTER 150 YEARS, A CIVIL WAR SOLDIER FINALLY GETS A TOMBSTONE FOR HIS GRAVE



It took more than 150 years, but a Civil War soldier who fought in the famous battle of Shiloh finally saw a marker placed on his grave in a cemetery in Roscoe, Illinois.

Camp #15, along with brothers from Camp #26 in Rockford, Illinois, dedicated a tombstone May 12th on the grave Sergeant John Valentine Artlip who died in 1867, two years

after the Civil War, from maladies suffered during the war. Buried in an unmarked pauper's grave, Artlip laid in obscurity until last year when his great-great grandson, Camp #15 member Ken Artlip, located the grave with the help of Roscoe Cemetery officials.

Artlip, Camp #15's graves registration officer, found on the grave only a small stone inscribed with the letters "B.S.P." – Buried State Pauper. Although his unmarked grave was lost, in 1890 John's widow, Mary Mead Artlip, obtained a tombstone as a memorial to John. With the help of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), Mary placed the marker in the Civil War section of Oakwood Cemetery in Beloit, Wis., the city where she was living at the time.

That stone was moved to John's grave in the Roscoe Cemetery and was dedicated in mid-May with the help of brothers from the John A. Logan Camp #26 in Rockford, Illinois.

A farmer, John Valentine Artlip enlisted in 1861 at Cortland, Illinois in Co. G, 58th Illinois Infantry Regiment. At the bloody battle of Shiloh in

Tennessee in 1862, he was wounded in both legs by an exploding artillery shell.

Given a disability discharge, John returned home to recover and a year-and-a-half later, was well enough to re-join the Union Army, this time as a

Sergeant in Co. M, 12th Illinois Cavalry.

In May 1864, while deployed in Louisiana, John came down with tuberculosis – the so-called "wasting disease" – and returned home, too sick to work, and lost his farm. In 1867, John died in Shirland Township, Winnebago County, Illinois, and was buried in the nearby Roscoe Cemetery. He was only 30 years old and left behind a young wife and eight-year-old son.

After the tombstone dedication ceremony, Ken Artlip expressed his appreciation to his SUVCW brothers for helping finally give the honors due his great-great grandfather for the sacrifices he made 150 years ago to help preserve the Union.

# Federal Military on the Eve of War

Paul Johnson

## Camp 8 Patriot Instructor

By December 1860, the Army's authorized strength totaled about 18,000 officers and men, but only 16,367 were on the rolls.

Of these, 1,108 were commissioned officers, four were general officers (one major general who served as the commanding general and three brigadier generals), and the rest were either line officers assigned to the regiments or staff officers serving in the War Department. There were 361 staff officers assigned to the nine bureaus and departments, all of which were headed by colonels, although several held staff brevets of brigadier general. The bureau chiefs were men of long service, averaging sixty-four years of age, with six over seventy. The 743 line officers served in the regiments: 351 in the infantry, 210 in the artillery, and 182 in the mounted units. As with the bureau chiefs in the War Department, the nineteen regimental colonels were mostly old men set in their ways. They ranged in age from forty-two to eighty, the average being sixty-three.

The officers in each regimental headquarters consisted of a colonel, a lieutenant colonel, two majors, an adjutant, and a quartermaster. The adjutant and quartermaster were lieutenants detailed from the line companies except in the mounted regiments which were authorized additional lieutenants for the headquarters. The enlisted staff included a sergeant major, a quartermaster sergeant, and a chief musician. Infantry and artillery regiments were each authorized twenty musicians while mounted regiments had two chief buglers. Because Congress in 1850 had authorized units in the West to receive more men than those in the East, regimental strength could vary significantly. Theoretically a regiment in the West could have as many as nine hundred soldiers, but no regiment ever reached that size. With recruitment and desertion being perennial problems, a typical regiment averaged 300 to 400 enlisted men with 1 or 2 officers and 30 to 40 men in each company. With ten infantry and five mounted regiments of ten companies each (the 8th Infantry had only nine) and four artillery regiments of twelve companies each, there were a total of 197 line, or combat, companies in the United States Army on the eve of the Civil War. Of these, only eighteen, all artillery, were stationed east of the Mississippi River.

*Regular Army Before the Civil War* by Clayton R. Newell,  
Center of Military History

*United States Army Washington, D.C., 2014*

With the outbreak of War. Lincoln was face with raising a much larger force. President Lincoln issued an official proclamation declaring that the Confederate states were in rebellion against the U.S. Lincoln asked for 75,000 volunteers to join their state militias to help put down the rebellion, and he called for a special session of Congress to assemble on July 4.

However, Lincoln's proclamation sparked intense outrage in the states still considering secession: Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, most of Tennessee, Kentucky, and Missouri. Three of these six would ultimately secede in defiance of Lincoln's call.

Lincoln never actually asked congress to call up the militia. Under the Militia Act of 1792, Congressional action would only allow only 90 days of involvement. Rather he asked that states send "volunteers for Federal service.

The Union Army was made up of the permanent regular army of the United States, but further fortified, augmented, and strengthened by the many temporary units of dedicated volunteers as well as including those who were drafted in to service as conscripts. To this end, the Union Army fought and ultimately triumphed over the efforts of the Confederate Army in the American Civil War.

Over the course of the war, 2,128,948 men enlisted in the Union Army, including 178,895 colored troops; 25% of the white men who served were foreign-born. Of these soldiers, 596,670 were killed, wounded or went missing. The initial call-up was for just three months, after which many of these men where asked to reenlist for an additional three years.

Federal	
Infantry	19 Regular Regiments
	2,125 Volunteer Regiments
	60 Volunteer Battalions
	351 Separate Companies
Artillery	5 Regular Regiments
	61 Volunteer Regiments
	17 Volunteer Battalions
	408 Separate Batteries
Cavalry	6 Regular Regiments
	266 Volunteer Regiments
	45 Battalions
	78 Separate Companies

In 1860, Wisconsin had a population of 775,881 yet in the course of the war, it raised 91,379 soldiers (or about 11% of the population) for the Union Army, organized into 53 infantry regiments, 4 cavalry regiments, a company of Berdan's sharpshooters, 13 light artillery batteries and 1 unit of heavy artillery. Wisconsin provided the highest percentage of population to the war effort.



Most of the Wisconsin troops served in the Western Theater, although several regiments served in Eastern armies, including three regiments within the famed Iron Brigade. 3,802 were killed in action or mortally wounded, 7,464 died of disease, 604 died in PO camps, 212 from accidents and 219 from other causes. The total mortality was 12,301 men, about 13.4 percent of total enlistments.

They fought in every major battle of the Civil War. New recruits were trained in Milwaukee, Fond du Lac, Racine, and Madison. Camp Randall, Wisconsin's major training facility in Madison, also housed Confederate prisoners of war.

In the summer of 1861, after Lincoln called for volunteers, Gov. Randall issued a proclamation for Wisconsin volunteers. Although President Lincoln requested only one regiment, enough recruits came forward to fill several. By the end of October 1861, eight regiments of Wisconsin soldiers had left the state for the front.

The State supplied soldiers with weapons and accoutrements from the federal government, but the respective militia members privately selected and purchased uniforms. As far as uniforms were concerned, there was very little uniformity across militia units; they were free to choose uniform styles as they saw fit, and this resulted in an array of colors and styles. The Milwaukee Light Guard, the state's most active militia unit, wore a dress uniform consisting of a double-breasted coat, faced and piped in white, and topped with a bearskin hat.



*Militia Grey*

Others, like the Racine Zouave Cadets, made an attempt to copy the Algerian-inspired French military uniforms that were the sartorial rage among many eastern United States militia units.

Only after the state quartermaster issued uniforms to the first volunteers at the outset of the war was uniformity achieved. Gray was the traditional color of state militias in the United States, and so it was natural that Wisconsin's quartermaster initially selected that color for the state-issued uniforms. In the summer of 1861, the state provided gray frock coats or short gray jackets to the first eight infantry regiments. This proved disastrous for the 2nd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry at the First Battle of Bull Run, when it was mistaken for a Confederate unit and fired upon by the 79th New York Infantry Regiment. On September 2, 1861, the problem was addressed when Governor Randall received a letter from US Army Headquarters, ordering Wisconsin soldiers be outfitted in dark blue wool uniforms. Still, the transition from gray to blue for the first eight regiments was not complete until the end of 1861, when the 8th infantry regiment was the last to receive its initial issue of blue uniforms. Wisconsin did not maintain an extensive armory system as nearly all of the arms were in the hands of volunteer militia companies, and in any case the numbers of small arms were low. The state-issued arms were a mixture of U.S. rifled muskets; flintlock conversions, smoothbore muskets, (1815 Harper Valley .60 cal converted musket to caplock) did the quality of arms improve.



*Iron Brigade Uniform*



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. 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of odd months  
Commander: [Dennis Jacobs](#)  
Edward S. Bragg Auxiliary 6  
[Face Book Page](#)

[Hans Heg Camp 15](#)

Meeting @ 7 P.M. 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, monthly  
Commander: [Robert Koenecke](#)

[L.G. Armstrong 49](#) – Boscobel

Meetings @ 7 P.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, monthly  
Commander: [LeRoy Grunenwald](#)

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

Meeting held Quarterly, time, date place TBA  
Commander: [Douglas Urbanski](#)

	
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Officers were elected at the 2018 Department Encampment at King, Wis. and will serve until the 2019 Department Encampment.





SUVCW

#### NOTICE

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