

The

MISSOURI UNIONIST

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Newsletter of the Department of Missouri—Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



SIX
CIVIL WAR VETERANS
WHO
BECAME PRESIDENT
OF THE
UNITED STATES
CAN YOU NAME THEM?
In Honor of Presidents Day.



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From The Commander

Department Commander Rod Price

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Department Order #6

Brothers,

In keeping with the observance of the Sesquicentennial, I have created and asked several brothers, members of several camps across the State, to form a Sesquicentennial committee. These brothers would serve though the remainder of the year and preferable the next four years, as it pleases the future commanders. All the members seem to have some unique abilities or knowledge to do a very fine job of planning our Department Sesquicentennial Schedule.

I do not wish to interfere with plans of the camps but I do wish all camps to coordinate their activities with the Sesquicentennial committee. Again, I asking that all camps send me their upcoming schedules so as to be placed on our Department Web site.

The Brothers are listed below and will communicate with each other by phone, letter, email, or personal contact. They will pick a working chairman who will apprise the Dept. Commander and Promotional office of all plans before contacting the Missouri State Sesquicentennial Committee or the Missouri Dept. of Tourism, other organizations or publications.

Chris Warren Dept Sr. Vice Commander McCormick Camp
Larry Dietzel Camp Commander Tiger Camp
Jim Beckner SUV Member Westport Camp
Matthew G. Cople SUV Member Westport Camp

Ordered this 24th day of January 2011.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty

Rodney D. Price, Commander
Department of Missouri
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest to: Walter E. Busch,
PDC, Secretary
Department of Missouri
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Phelps Camp # 66

Springfield

- 1) Camp elections were held, with the 2010 officers unanimously elected for 2011.
- 2) Members agreed to perform the SUV initiation ritual at the February meeting.
- 3) Jeff Patrick announced that the Carthage monument proposal has been approved by the Carthage City Council. Once the selected artist/designer has finished a few other projects, he will submit a preliminary design of the proposed monument to the camp.
- 4) Jeff Patrick agreed to contact a monument restoration company re: the Mountain Grove, Missouri soldier's monument. The monument is in need of cleaning/restoration. Jeff will ask the company about any travel fees they may charge in order to examine the monument and furnish an estimate for the restoration.
- 5) Members agreed that the camp should host a "Zagonyi's Charge" event at Zagonyi Park in Springfield on Saturday, October 22, to mark the 150th anniversary of the charge and the recapture of Springfield.
- 6) Member Bob Drake alerted members to the new Civil War 150th day-by-day site maintained by the New York Times (<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/category/disunion>).

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 27: Sherman Day ceremony, Calvary Cemetery, St. Louis, 2 p.m.

March 5: Battle of Pea Ridge Anniversary Ceremony, Pea Ridge National Military Park, 9 a.m.

March 19 or 20 (to be determined): Special ceremony in Isabella, Missouri to honor John Hutchison, last surviving Missouri Civil War veteran. More details to follow.

General Alexander Asboth Camp #5 Wentzville



On 11 December 2010, the Gen. Alexander S. Asboth Camp along with Co. C, 5th Regt. MO Vol. Cavalry, SVR held it's annual Regimental Christmas Dinner in Ste. Genevieve, MO. New Camp officers for 2011 were elected and installed. Don Palmer, National Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief and PDC and Department Commander Rod Price were there as guests and participated in the installation. Wayne Sampson was elected to a second term as Camp Commander. Gary and Mary Scheel did a beautiful job coordinating this event.

We take this opportunity to invite you to our next annual Regimental Christmas Dinner on 10 December 2011 in Ste. Genevieve. Please make plans to participate. We would like to make this a regional SVR event.

On February 27, 2011, The Asboth Camp and 5 MO Cav will participate in the annual Sherman Day Ceremony hosted by the Sherman Camp. Emmett Taylor, PDC will be featured speaker, giving a brief interesting talk of Gen. Sherman's horse. Our Camp and SVR unit have participated regularly in this event over the years.



SHERMAN DAY CEREMONY.

Cavalry Cemetery in St. Louis, MO

February 27, 2011

SVR Assembly 1:30 p.m.

Ceremony at grave site 2 p.m.

All SVR Units and SUVCW Camps are invited to attend. Those not in an SVR unit please meet at the grave site of General Sherman and his family.



Battle of Wentzville July 16 & 17, 2011

150th Anniversary of the Civil War

The Gen. Alexander S. Asboth Camp will be very busy during this first year of the Civil War Sesquicentennial. Paper work has been submitted to make the Battle of Wentzville reenactment on July 16 & 17, 2011, a SUVCW Signature Event. If approved, participants in this event will be eligible to receive the special medal that has been designed for this purpose. The Camp and SVR unit are sponsoring this event along with the City of Wentzville.



Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War

Two other events that are Planned for this year include, but are not limited to:

May 24, this is a Tuesday. Stan Busken has requested a dedication ceremony for his ancestor August E. Feltz, Pvt. 64th Reg. EMM. Pvt. Feltz is buried in the Memorial Gardens at the Asylum Cemetery, located at the Fulton State Hospital. The time has not yet been decided by Jeffery Stone who is at the hospital and in charge of such events.

June 19, as a follow-up to the Walker Lillard ceremony of 2010 we will hold a dedication for his brother, David Lillard. This ceremony is an official "Juneteenth" event sponsored by the City of Mexico, Parks & Recreation Department at the Elmwood Cemetery. The event will held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday as there are other events scheduled for this date. The Tiger Camp and the Asboth Camp, SUVCW, and the Elijah Gates Camp, SCV will be represented.

Lt. Col. J. Felix St. James Camp #326

Ste. Genevieve



On 4 December 2010 Ste. Genevieve had its annual Christmas Walk Parade. We received an invitation to participate. This is our second year that we have participated. We were also going to unveil the Civil War Plaque also on this date so we had invited other camps to participate in the parade and unveiling of the plaque. The following Camps participated in the parade.

Six members of Lt. Col. J. Felix St. James Camp # 326 and four members of their Ladies Auxiliary.

Three members of General James McCormick Camp # 273 and one member of

their Ladies Auxiliary. Two members of the U.S. Grant Camp # 68.

One member of the Major Francis Wilhelmi Camp # 17. We appreciate all the camps that participated.

The plaque did not arrive in time for the display so we were forced to assemble at the site. We had a mock up of the plaque and a large photo of the J. Felix St. James G.A.R. Post #326 taken in the late 1880's. We are talking to local citizens about the plaque and the Grand Army of the



Republic presence in Ste. Genevieve. Department Commander and his wife honored us by attending the parade. He can be seen in the photo by the stone column holding a coffee cup. Other members of our camp attending but not marching were Clarence Warfield.

← We are marching on Market Street.

This photo and the one above are courtesy of Bob Mueller.

General James McCormick Camp # 273

Bonne Terre

The General James McCormick Camp 215 has been busy with activities since the last issue of the "Missouri Unionist." On November 22, 2010, McCormick Camp members Chris and Andy Warren, as well as Auxiliary member Twyla Warren, went to meet a descendant of PVT James K. Johnson of the 62nd Illinois Infantry, at the Iron Mountain Cemetery. His gravestone had been hit by a vehicle and had been knocked off of its concrete base. The Warrens soon decided to fix this stone and went to Graniteville Monument Works and explained the situation. The company was eager to help and gave the group some gravestone repairing putty-tape that they use professionally. Within an



hour and a half, the Civil War veteran's stone was fixed.



After an enjoyable camp/auxiliary annual holiday banquet on December 2nd, some of the camp and auxiliary marched in the Ste. Genevieve Annual Christmas Parade on December 4th. Then, members of the camp and auxiliary volunteered to ring the collection bell for the St. Francois County United Way (some even in period attire). This event was held on the cold evening of December 11th with volunteering to do an entire four hour block of time

While visiting family in Ontario, Canada, Chris and Twyla Warren happened to → research the area of Leamington and found a Civil War soldier, PVT Galusha Turner of the 18th Michigan Infantry, whom was a Canadian that fought for the Union. After tromping through the cemetery in below freezing weather and several inches of snow, they found and honored this Union veteran's grave and placed a United States flag on it.



←On a final note, the day before the Volker Auxiliary's January meeting, a phone call was received and a surprise occurred. A descendant of Louisa Volker called Twyla Warren and after chatting for a while, they were able to get a photograph of their auxiliary's namesake. Volker was the first woman telegraph officer, West of the Mississippi, for the United States Military Telegraph Service, and was stationed at Mineral Point, Missouri during the famous Price's 1864 Raid.

William T. Sherman/Billy Yank Camp #65

St. Louis

Civil War anniversary website - The state of Illinois has launched a website-

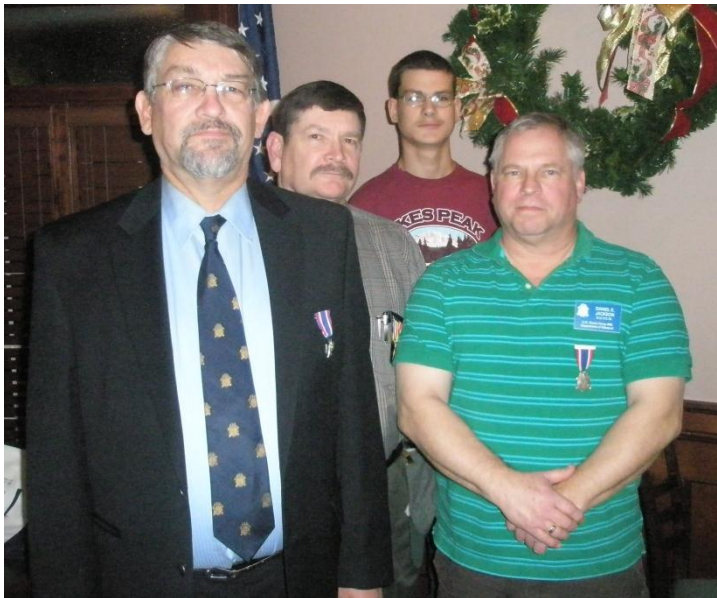
www.illinoiscivilwar150.org - listing statewide events commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The website will also have a timeline of the state's participation in the Civil War, with illustrations, images, documents, downloadable PDF's of articles, curriculum materials for teachers, suggestions for further reading and a monthly feature highlighting a particular historic event or person. The calendar will end with the 150th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's internment in Springfield's Oak Ridge Cemetery in May 2015. The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency developed the online calendar in cooperation with Save Illinois history. www.illinois-history.gov

Camp Commander,

Joe Difani

U.S. Grant Camp # 68

St. Louis



On Monday, December 13th US Grant Camp #68 installed officers for 2011.

From left are Past Camp Commander Marty Aubuchon, Senior Vice Commander Robert Aubuchon. Junior Vice Commander James Egbert and Camp Commander Dan Jackson.

Walter Busch, not pictured, is Secretary-Treasurer.

Answer to President's Photo

Identified like a number on a clock.

12:00 Major-General James A. Garfield

2:00 Brigadier-General Rutherford B. Hayes. Wounded four times during the war.

4:00 Brigadier-General Benjamin Harrison

6:00 Lieutenant-General Ulysses Simpson Grant

8:00 Brigadier-General Chester A. Arthur

10:00 Major William McKinley

Last Soldier Project Report

Brother Bob Schmidt

At the March 13, 2010 Sons of Union Veterans Department Meeting, Walt Busch brought the group up to date on the Last Soldier Project meant to identify the last Union soldier in each of Missouri's Counties. In his discussion, he identified thirty-five counties left unsearched. In May, 2010, I contacted Walt offering my help on these remaining counties, such work I began the next month. Always interested in finding and providing service on civil war veterans, I had the challenge to search out soldiers from counties I had never researched before.

It proved to be a rewarding effort, as the unsearched counties were in literally all regions of the State leaving open the likelihood of some great finds. In my search, which was all online, I used some basic finding aids that included the 1930 Census (ancestry.com), Death and Military Records from the Missouri State Archives (sos.mo.gov), cemetery records (findagrave.com), Compiled Service Records and the Union Pension Index (footnote.com).

Genealogists will agree that the Census Enumerators accounted for Civil War veterans in three decades being, 1890, 1910 and 1930. The 1930 Census is the best source to start the search, with the other two used in a minimal fashion. I began the search by reviewing the 1930 Census for each county and making a note of each civil war veteran proved invaluable were matched with death certificates for the same county, with the goal of finding some half-dozen or so potential candidates. Next came the task of proving service. Here the Soldier's Records on line with the Missouri State Archives were used with great success. Men not found with service in Missouri, were checked against Rosters from the State in which they were born, using the Soldiers and Sailors website. In some cases, Compiled Service Records were consulted along with the Union Pension Index. The Pension Index will not only confirm the regiment in which the soldier served but often will reveal date and place of death, confirming the identity of the soldier. Lastly, death certificate data showing place of burial, was matched against cemetery records so as to determine if a stone was present.

Being ever so cautious, a second effort was made, starting with the year of death for the last probable soldier and checking each of the county's death records for all males for each following year until 1943. To speed the search, the year 1848 was used as the likely latest year of birth for most potential civil war soldiers. Using this format, it was conceded that only veteran aged 88 and up would likely have service. Only those men who died at that age and upwards, were noted. With this data in hand, service could be proven and cemetery records checked.

Finding the last soldier ultimately meant finding and proving (or disproving) service on many men, but the work was rewarding. My recent interests in researching the Enrolled Missouri Militia, Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, General Order No. 3 and General Order No. 107 troops proved invaluable for a task of this type as several of the soldiers were in these organizations. A couple notable veterans were Pvt. Joseph Briggs buried in Mississippi Co. who died in 1945. He had service in the 51st Illinois Infantry. Another was the drummer boy, Charles D. Prince of the 48th Missouri Infantry who died in Cole County in 1939.

Not on Walt's list to search was my nearby Ste. Genevieve Co. A couple potential soldiers were offered, one dying in 1934, that being Pvt. John Reeder of the 3rd Missouri State Militia Cavalry. As many other counties' last soldier died in the mid 1930's, his

candidacy for this honor would not be surprising. Too, I had registered scores of civil war graves there and had found none later. I felt another search would confirm my early findings. As usual, a couple candidates met the criteria and died after 1934—further research proved they served the South. My final choice was John Miles Duvall who died October 30, 1939 but due to the similarity in names, his identity and service could not be proven. Finally, a newspaper obituary was located on him which proved he was the soldier in Co. G 50th Missouri Infantry.

In closing, I view many persons on the Last Soldier Project Roll as **candidates**. Other research may prove that a more worthy individual should have this honor. Whether your work identifies another soldier for the List or not, you like I will have a great in the process.

Department of Missouri's Last Soldier Project Coordinator Walt Busch would like to thank Bob Schmidt for all of the hard work that he has accomplished. He also agrees with Bob that there is always the chance that the soldier listed on the web site may not be the last soldier in a county. If you happen to find one that died after the year on the web site let Walt know.

Below is the web site for a list of the Last Surviving Union Civil War Soldier.
http://suvcwmo.org/images/LAST_SOLDIER_PROJECT.pdf

Other Department of Missouri Projects

We are looking for as much information as we can get on Grand Army of the Republic Posts in your area. Also looking for information on pre-1940's Sons of Veterans/Sons of Union Veterans Camps in your area.

Below is the site for the form to fill out.

http://suvcwmo.org/forms/gar_posts.pdf

We are also looking for information on any Civil War Memorial in your area. Sometimes they can be found in a cemetery. If you find a monument e-mail Walt Busch to see if it has already been registered.

Below is the site for the form to fill out.

<http://suvcwmo.org/forms/CMW61MemorialAssessmentForm.pdf>

55th Annual Lincoln Tomb Observance Sponsored by the SUVCW and MOLLUS

OBSERVANCE WREATH PRESENTATION (please print clearly)

Organization name in full: _____

Name & title of wreath bearer: _____

e-mail address: _____

if no e-mail, home address: _____

City, State, & Zip code: _____

To insure listing in program, this notice MUST be received no later than April 1st at the address shown above.

I would like to reserve _ seats on the shuttle bus from headquarters hotel to Tomb Ceremony and return to hotel.

Note: ONLY 60 SEATS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE BUS. FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED.

OBSERVANCE LUNCHEON

Please accept ____ luncheon reservation(s). Please list name, e-mail address, home address & phone number of person responsible for picking up tickets at the door.

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

City, State & Zip

Code: _____

Herb-roasted Pork _____ Lemon-Herb Chicken _____

Include remittance of \$27.00 per person for each lunch reservation payable to **National Organization SUVCW**.
Reservations must be made by April 1st and cancellations by the same date in order to receive refund.
There will be no extra tickets sold at the door. Make a copy of this form for your records and send original with remittance.

MILITARY PARADE INFORMATION

Name of unit: _____

No. of people attending: _____

Phone: _____

Contact person name: _____

E-mail: _____

This will insure each unit receives a streamer for their flag and all participants receive ribbons.

SEND TO:

**ROBERT M. PETROVIC, PDC
6519 CHEROKEE LANE
CEDAR HILL, MO 63016-2527**