



# Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 NEWSLETInTER

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a fraternal organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of heroes who fought and worked to save the Union. Organized in 1881 and chartered by Congress in 1954, we are the legal successor to the Grand Army of the Republic.



Camp Commander Doug Roussin

## From Commander Roussin

Happy 4th of July. Hope everyone has a great day of BBQ. But always remember that Tyranny can raise its ugly head at any time. We must be vigilant.

Hope to see a great turnout for the 4th of July parade. See ya there.

### 4th of July Parade

Line-up at Mahn Funeral Home in De Soto between 3 to 3:30 p.m. on July 4th



**Bring Canned Food at the Next Camp and Auxiliary Meeting!**

As a thank you—a gift for the church’s food pantry.

**Consider Life Membership in the SUVCW!**

You will be exempt from National and Department dues. [Details here!](#)



See page 3

## CONTENTS

- 1 From Commander Roussin
- 2 Camp and Auxiliary News
  - Graveside Ceremony, Springfield
  - Laying Out Flags, De Soto
  - Graveside ceremony, Dripping Spring
  - Memorial Day, St. Mary
  - Memorial Day, De Soto,
- 9 We Drank from the Same Canteen
- 10 The Warrens on the Move!
- 11 Scout Court of Honor
- 11 New Book!
- 12 Meeting Minutes (17 June)
- 15 Treasurer’s Report
- 16 Officers / Calendar

**News from the Fletcher Camp  
Graveside Ceremony, Springfield, May 23**

Your Camp Secretary (and Department Commander), Sumner, was on the road in May. On the 23rd, he traveled to a graveside ceremony for Rhoda Ray Jones. As Rhoda Ray, she was enslaved to the Ray family, whose home was the center of Battle of Wilson’s Creek. After the battle, she helped tend to the wounded at the house, which was used as a field hospital.

The Mary Whitney Phelps Tent No. 22 of the DUV sponsored the event and raised money to place a tombstone where there was none before. Phelps Camp No. 66 provided the color guard and the event was attended by various dignitaries of the area. The prayers and music were provided by members of the Pitts Chapel United Methodist Church.



**DUV State Pres. Joan Koechig and Sumner**



**Rhoda Ray Jones  
Emancipated**

Mary Whitney Phelps Tent No. 22  
Daughters of Union Veterans  
of the Civil War, 1861-1865

**Rhoda Ray Jones**  
**Memorial Service**  
**and**  
**Marker Dedication**

Sunday, May 23, 2021  
2:00 p.m.

Hazelwood Cemetery  
1642 E. Seminole  
Springfield, Missouri

**Laying Out Flags, De Soto, May 29**

In preparation for the May 31st ceremony, the Camp and Auxiliary busied themselves setting out flags on Civil War Veterans at the City Cemetery. Photos courtesy of Ted Howells.



**Top to bottom: Camp and Auxiliary, Patti McClelland, Randal Burd, Jr., Steve Alexander, Kathie Roussin**

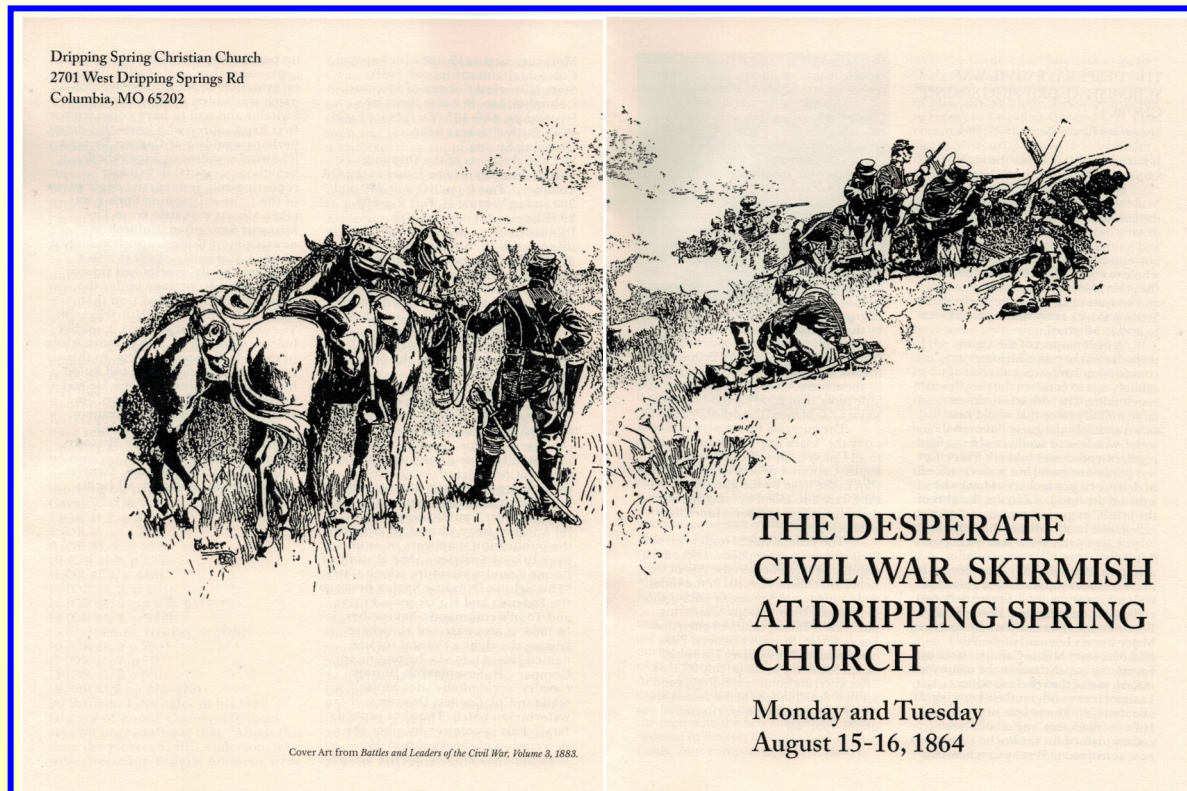
### Graveside ceremony, Dripping Spring, May 29

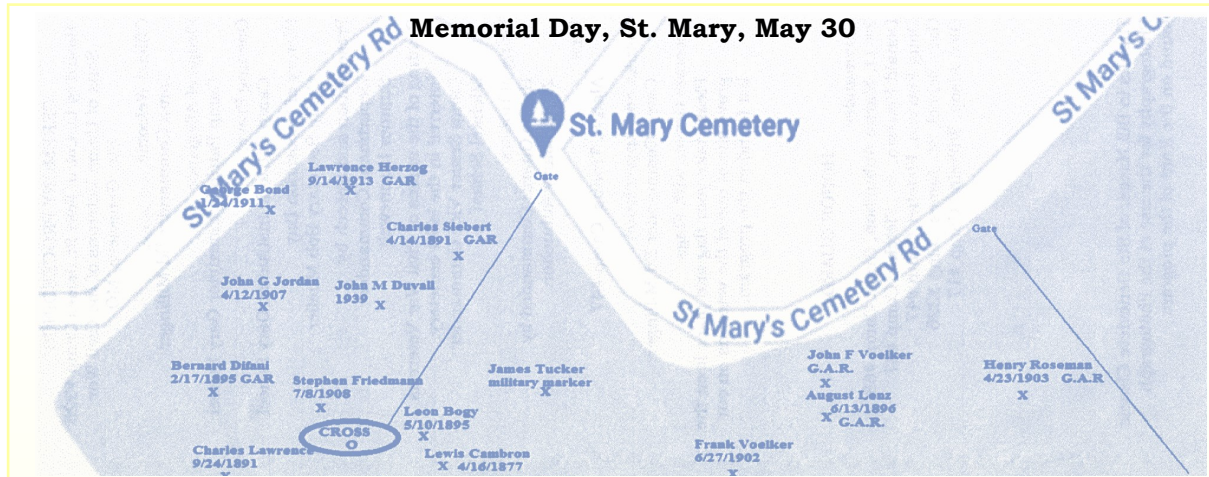
While the Camp and Auxiliary were placing flags, your intrepid Camp Secretary, Sumner, was in Dripping Spring (north of Columbia), attending another gravestone laying ceremony. PCC James Dixon from the Tiger Camp attended with his family.

Dripping Spring was the scene of an attack of bushwhackers on the 17th Illinois Cavalry. The only Union death was by accidental gunshot. The casualty was described in the press as "James Canada." Through research by local historian, Dickson Stauffer, it was determined that the horseman's name was "James Kennedy." He was buried in an unmarked grave behind the church in 1864.

Some church members worked with the Veterans Administration to order and install James Kennedy's tombstone. The Holmes Brigade (reënactors) were the honor guard at the ceremony, marching to the site. The pastor of the Dripping Spring Christian Church welcomed everyone and introduced Dickson Stauffer, who told the story of the event. Plans are to have an interpretive sign placed on the site describing the battle. An old wooden sign on the front of the building describing the events is obscured by an over-grown bush.

A 16-page booklet was created for the event by Mr. Stauffer. Hopefully, it will find its way into *The Unionist*.





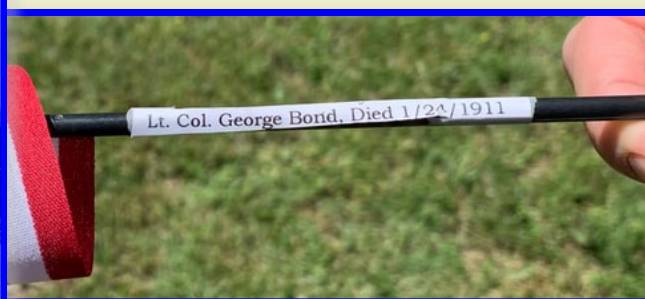
The St. James Camp had their Memorial Day on May 30 at St. Mary's Cemetery. Camps from the area were invited. Camp members PDC Randall Burd, Jr., DC Sumner Hunnewell, Don Roussin, and Commander Doug Roussin, and Alan Trodus participated. Members of the Grant and Wilhelmi Camps took part as well. [The event was recorded here.](#)

The St. James Camp presented a terrific program and about 20 people from the community drove up the narrow road to the cemetery's high ground. The St. James Camp provided a map of Civil War soldier graves (above) and marked flags with the soldier's name (see below). It was then a hunt to find the gravesite of the soldier.

The Roussins and Alan Trodus were in the honor guard. As a part of the program, Sumner gave a talk on Gen. Logan and his General Order #11. Everyone placed flags at gravesites in perfect weather.

Messrs. Aubuchon, AuBuchon, Burd, Busch, and Hunnewell enjoyed post-event fare and libations at Cozy's in Bloomdale.

Photos from PDC Walt Busch.



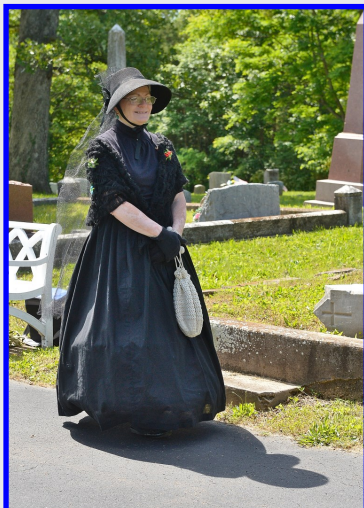
**Above: Flags with soldier names**  
**Left: One of three salutes**

**Memorial Day, De Soto, May 31**

The Camp and Auxiliary held a Memorial Day ceremony at the De Soto City Cemetery on May 31. The ceremony was adapted from the G. A. R. service. Camp members Steve Alexander, Mark Arbothnot, Sumner Hunnewell, Don Roussin, Jr., Doug Roussin, Alan Troudus, and Chris Warren as well as Grant Camp members Bob AuBuchon and Marty Aubuchon attended. The ladies of the Auxiliary who participated were Colissa Alexander, Susan Breland, Patti McClelland, Kathie Roussin, and Abby & Twyla Warren.

There were about 15 other citizens who were present. Photos courtesy of Ted Howells.









## **We Drank from the Same Canteen**

by Brevet Brigadier-General Charles G. Halpine

**There are bonds of all sorts in this world of ours,  
Fetters of friendship and ties of flowers,  
And true lovers' knots, I ween ;  
The girl and the boy are bound by a kiss,  
But there's never a bond, old friend, like this --  
We have drunk from the same canteen !**

**It was sometimes water, and sometimes milk,  
And sometimes apple-jack, fine as silk ;  
But, whatever the tippie has been,  
We shared it together, in bane or bliss,  
And I warm to you, friend, when I think of this --  
We have drunk from the same canteen !**

**The rich and great sit down to dine,  
And they quaff to each other in sparkling wine  
From glasses of crystal and green ;  
But I guess in their golden potations they miss  
The warmth of regard to be found in this --  
We have drunk from the same canteen !**

**We have shared our blankets and tents together,  
We have marched and fought in all kinds of weather,  
And hungry and full we have been ;  
Had days of battle and days of rest,  
But this memory I cling to and love the best --  
We have drunk from the same canteen ;**

**For, when wounded I lay on the outer slope,  
With my blood flowing fast, and with but little hope  
Upon which my faint spirit could lean,  
Oh, then, I remember, you crawled to my side,  
And, bleeding so fast it seemed both must have died,  
We drank from the same canteen !**

*This was taken from Song-Book of the Commandery of the State of Pennsylvania (MOLLUS, 1890).*

**The Warrens on the Move!**

The Warren family (Abby, Chris, and Twyla) was busy the week of June 7th.

First, they presented a Civil War program for the Desloge, Missouri Public Library on Monday, June 7.

Later that week, they presented a Civil War history program for incoming 5th graders at North St. Francois County School District's Summer School in Bonne Terre.



**Eagle Scout Court of Honor, June 18**

Past Department Commander / Eagle Scout Coordinator, Chris Warren, presents a certificate and challenge coin at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor held on Friday, June 18.

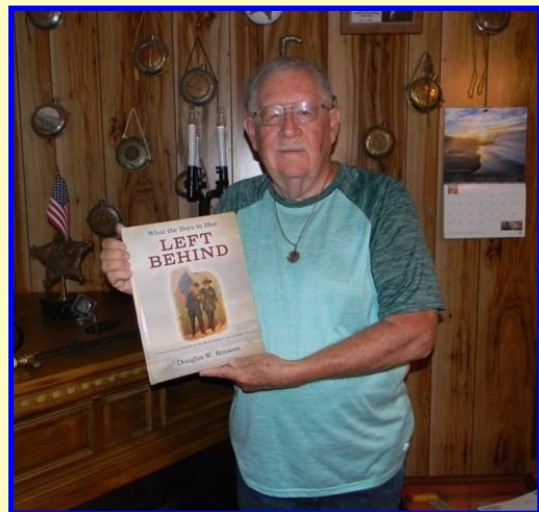


**If you know of any scout that has an Eagle Scout Court of Honor planned, please contact Sumner, who is the Department's Eagle Scout Coordinator.**

**Camp Commander Doug Roussin's New Book!**

My new book, *Left Behind*, is a collector's guide to the many facets of collecting items that the Civil War veterans left to us.

This book has many common as well as one-of-a-kind items. Over 600 pictures. The book retails for \$35.95 but to SUVCW members, the cost is \$30.00 and free shipping.



## JUNE MEETING MINUTES

### Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 meeting minutes (unapproved)

17 June A. D. 2021, Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1620 Boyd St., De Soto, Missouri

**Attendees: Sons:** PCC Sumner G. Hunnewell (Secretary), Don Roussin, PCC Doug Roussin (Commander), Alan Trodus (Treasurer)

**Auxiliary:** Susan Breland (Council), Patti McClelland, Kelly Noack (Secretary/Treasurer), Kathie Roussin (Vice President), Kathy Trodus

**Guests:** Nancy and Ted Howell, Bob AuBuchon

The meeting was called to order at 6:48 p.m. by Commander Roussin, who also led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.

Two books were offered from Chris Warren for a raffle. The books were about the battles of Belmont and Carthage, Mo.

Commander Roussin gave his report where he talked about the Department Encampment. Brother Gary Scheel is the new Department Commander. He said that people should sign up for volunteer activities during the National Encampment. He said that the camp won the Eads Award for Outstanding Camps. This is the fourth year straight that we have won. For our fundraiser, he has been working on wooden guns to sell at various events.

Sumner gave a secretary's report, echoing much of what Doug had said. People who want to volunteer should give the times they think they will be available and email [Bob Petrovic](#).

Alan give his treasurer's report. We bought flags for the Mooney Bridge monument and for Memorial Day. We used two \$50 gift cards given to us by Wal-Mart. Sumner asked if we wrote Wal-Mart thank you letters. Doug said he verbally thanked them. Sumner said he'd be happy to write a thank you note.

Kelly gave the Auxiliary report. She said there was no change in the bank account. Kathy Trodus finished a quilt, which will be raffled off as an Auxiliary fundraiser. After discussion, it was decided to offer raffle tickets at the various venues we will be at this year.

Alan then gave a bugle demonstration on our electronic bugle [see [elsewhere](#) in this newsletter].

### OLD BUSINESS

We discussed the Memorial Day ceremony at the De Soto city cemetery. Doug felt that the crowd was light, even though he had advertised it. Nancy said there was a lot competition with other ceremonies in the city. Doug said that it would be nice to have a battery-driven microphone system that we could use to amplify our voices outside. Sumner passed around the Memorial Day program provided by the St. James Camp. He liked the way the Camp involved the public by providing a map of soldier graves and flags with a soldier's name on them.

The weather will cooperate so we can start staining the wooden rifles / pistols that we will use as a fundraiser. In order to be ready for Train Days (July 17), we will meet at Alan's (9711 Woodland Rd., Hillsboro) on July 11 at 2 p.m. **Bring some food to share and your swimming suit.** We have over 100 pistols and a few rifles / shotguns to stain. **Bring gloves!**

Alan said that he had sent money off for our Christmas ad for Eat Healthy De Soto.

We haven't done anything for our Fletcher Camp ad for the National Encampment. Sumner said he would mock something up and send to Doug.

Train Days will be on July 17. Set-up at 8 a.m. We will be in the center of town, across from the quilt shop, under trees. We will need two or three tables with merchandise / raffle / displays. We also need canopies. Rifles will be needed for military drills for children. We will have a sign-up sheet for recruitment.

Since the 4th of July is on a Sunday this year, the parade line-up is at 3 p.m. with a start of 4 p.m. The Chamber of Commerce this year charged us \$15 to march. Kathie showed up all of the new decorations that we can use in our float, which Alan will pull with his truck.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ted Howells has provided a new password protected website for camp and auxiliary photos: [tedsphotos.wordpress.com](https://tedsphotos.wordpress.com). Doug has the password. This will have past and current photos. We can use these photos any way we want but should not share the website / password out side of the camp.

Doug was wearing a polo shirt from Pete Oetting of the Lillie Camp. They have the Department Seal and our camp name embroidered directly on the shirt. These are made by prisoners at the state penitentiary. The cost was around \$27. Doug passed around a sign-up sheet for those people interested. Do we want to wear these outfits during our public events. Sumner said that if we did, it would keep people from thinking that we were a reenacting group. Nancy said that if we wore these in a parade, we would be hard to differentiate from other groups. Doug felt that we should continue to wear uniforms for outside events.

A list was sent around for people to sign-up for bringing snacks for after the meeting. Susan and Sumner provided food after the meeting.

Doug passed around a Military History Timeline flier for an event that will be at Ste. Genevieve on July 3.

Doug noticed that the limestone tombstones of Perry V. Fletcher (and his parents) at the De Soto City Cemetery was broken. Randal Burd did some research and found that Fletcher was the first person in his regiment to be killed (accidently at the St. Louis Arsenal), so his regiment named the GAR Post after him. Doug would like a replacement headstone (not VA) with the same verbiage as the original. Bob said that the Department has money for things like this (example, the replacement of the flagpole at Sherman's grave). Who owns the cemetery? The city does. Jake Dietrich is the caretaker and there is a board that manages it. Doug will do more research to see what we can do.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Alan thanked Bob for his donation to the Camp.

Sumner said that he had invited Tim Ogle to the meeting but he had a D. A. R. presentation to make. There are two Civil War soldier stones that we need to repair / replace (the James Foxton stone was featured in a past newsletter). Tim has details and will be invited to a future meeting.

Bob said that Jefferson Barracks has a Flag Fund for their avenue of flags. The cost for a flag is \$150. He and the Grant Camp have purchased flags. Susan suggested that we get one in honor of Ollie Pechmann. We decided to table the discussion until the next meeting when we hope to have more people to discuss.

Sumner won the book raffle and will be giving them away at a National Encampment tour.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

**Bugle Demonstration / Directions**

Insert the cone into the bell of the bugle.

There are three controls on the cone:

- ◇ Volume (Low-Medium-High)
- ◇ On/Off Switch (red LED on = power on)
- ◇ Play (green LED = five second delay then playing starts)

The cone runs off of two 9-volt batteries.

There are three modes, which are controlled from a micro-switch inside of the battery compartment. They are changed with a pointed object (say, a pencil).

- ◇ Taps—always sound Taps.
- ◇ Last Call—always Last Call.
- ◇ Multi-function—Once the batteries are inserted, an LED number display (1-9) will be on the outside of the cone. A list of nine bugle calls (numbers) is outside of the cone. You can cycle through the numbers by pushing a button on the bottom of the cone.

Care: After you have used the bugle, wipe off fingerprints with a cloth and put it back into the case.

**New Camp Fundraiser**

5 tickets for \$4.

10 tickets for \$7.

Drawing to be held after Veterans Day parade this year.



**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer's Report for JUNE 2021**

Balance from last report (Apr 2021)	1475.98
<u>Expenditure</u>	
SUVCW dues - ck#1279	406.00
Supplies for Leonard's memorial (cash)	9.23
Printing for Leonard's memorial (cash)	14.78
6 bales of straw for parade float (cash)	36.02
101 finished wooden pistols for resale (cash)	75.00
<u>Income</u>	
Donation for boards (Patti)	10.00
<u>Current Balance (17 June 2021)</u>	944.95
Checking Account	765.11
Cash	179.84
Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
<u>End Balance</u>	944.95
Sword Raffle status: 72 chances - \$54 donations	

Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

## YOUR CAMP OFFICERS

**Commander, Historian:**

Douglas Wayne Roussin  
2roussins@att.net

**Senior Vice Commander:**

Steve Alexander  
stevewonderful@sbcglobal.net

**JVC, Chaplain, Eagle Scout Coordinator:**

David Christopher Warren  
the\_civilwar\_guy@yahoo.com

**Council Member, Historian:**

Donald Lee Roussin, Jr.  
gastbeer1954@yahoo.com

**Council Member, Patriotic Instructor:**

Mark Elmo Arbuthnot  
markelmoarbuthnot@gmail.com

**Council Member:**

John R. Griffith, Jr.,  
jhngriffith@yahoo.com

**Secretary, GRO, CW Memorials Officer:**

Sumner Gary Hunnewell  
HildifonsTook@prodigy.net

**Treasurer:**

Alan Richard Trodus  
bigalastro@yahoo.com

## YOUR AUXILIARY OFFICERS

**President, Press Correspondent:**

Twyla D. Johnson Warren  
clementine\_clc@yahoo.com

**Vice President:**

Katherine (Kathie) Roussin  
2roussins@att.net

**Council No. 1:**

Colleen D. Warren

**Council No. 2, Patriotic Instructor:**

Susan Breland  
brelandsusan@yahoo.com

**Council No. 3, Chaplain:**

Colissa Alexander  
lissasong@sbcglobal.net

**Secretary, Treasurer**

Kelly Noack kdn417@msn.com

## CALENDAR

*Camp meetings (6:30 p.m.) at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1620 Boyd St., De Soto, unless otherwise noted.*

- 4 July—Parade, De Soto (line-up, 3-3:30 p.m.), 4 p.m.
- 11 July—Staining guns at chez Trodus, Hillsboro, 2 p.m.
- 15 July—Camp Meeting
- 17 July—"Train Days," De Soto
- 5-8 August—National Encampment, St. Louis
- 19 August—Camp Meeting
- 16 September—Camp Meeting
- 18 September—De Soto Fall Festival

### Camp/Auxiliary Meetings

15 July, 19 August, 16 September

### June birthdays

**4-Jun Patti McClelland**

**27-Jun Colton Dale Noack**

### July birthdays

**26-Jul Donald Lee Roussin**