



Commander-in-Chief Don Darby, right, is congratulated by former Commander-in-Chief Steve Michaels in Nashua, New Hampshire

THE BANNER

Volume 110, Number 1 • The Journal of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War • Autumn, 2005

Department News

Kentucky dedicates monument

Kentucky's only Sons of Veterans Reserve company dedicated a monument to the unit it is named for June 11th. The monument was installed at the Lesllie Morris Park on Fort Hill in Frankfort. It is the first monument to be placed at this historic site. The dedication was the culmination of two years of planning and fund-raising led by Company Commander Captain Timothy Downey. Company A, Frankfort Battalion, 1st Regiment Capital Guards was joined by SUVCW Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Jim Pahl, Frankfort Mayor Pro Tem Kathy Carter and Tom Fugate of the Kentucky Heritage Council.

The company was formed in early 2000. Within the first five years of its existence, it grew in strength to over 40 members. Members are drawn from all over the Department of Kentucky as well as other Departments. Members of the Company have participated in numerous parades, memorial programs, Memorial Day services, and monument dedications. The Company is named for A Company of the Frankfort Battalion, 1st Regiment Capital Guards. After much discussion, this unit was arrived at in order to reflect the diverse nature of uniforms and arms which members owned when the unit was being formed. The major combat action which the Battalion was engaged in was conducted by various units and even civilians. Soldiers representing a variety of service branches thus joined the "Kentucky Scouts" who are listed as a cavalry regiment in the Official Records, in the defense of Frankfort. When A Company is present at activities, it is not out of place for men uniformed and armed as cavalry, infantry and artillery to muster together.

The Capital Guard Regiment, Kentucky State Troops, was raised under sanction of the War Department dated July 11, 1863, and consisted of three battalions - one stationed in the neighborhood of Frankfort, one at or near Paducah in western Kentucky, and one in the Sandy Valley in the east. The Frankfort battalion protected the capital from the frequent incursions of guerilla forces. Frankfort was attacked June 10, 1864 by a detachment of general

John H. Morgan's raiding command. Federal forces including elements of the Frankfort Battalion held artillery positions at Ft. Hill. The fort overlooks the city and provided an excellent field of fire into the enemy positions. Fighting continued throughout the rest of the day and into the 11th when the secessionist forces withdrew, having suffered yet another defeat on Kentucky soil.

The monument reads, "In memory of the officers and men of the Kentucky Scouts, Frankfort Battalion, First Regiment Capital Guards who helped defend the city of Frankfort from an attack by Confederate forces June 10-11, 1864 KY Sons of Veterans Reserve, Dedicated 2005."

Department of Missouri

With the temperatures in the 90s and a heat index almost 103, ten members of the Department of Missouri, SUVCW, fathered at a deserted small family cemetery, called Inks Cemetery in Eureka, Missouri to dedicate a plaque which noted the service of Major William C. Inks, commander of the Pacific Battalion Home guard during the Civil War.

Inks Battalion, as the Pacific Battalion Home Guard was commonly known, was formed in June, 1861 under order of Maj. Gen. John C. Fremont. Inks Battalion served for three months guarding the railroads in Franklin and St. Louis counties. Maj. Inks was to drill his battalion in fields in the Allentown, MI. It finished its three months service in September, 1861. Many of its members went on to serve in other regiments after their three months in Inks Battalion.

Inks Cemetery has been adopted by the U.S. Government Camp 68. The camp will make sure the grass is green and that Maj. Inks' grave site will be one that will be an honor to his memory.

Department of Massachusetts

Several Civil War enthusiasts gathered Nov. 5, 2005 to honor Gen. Benjamin Franklin Butler at a private cemetery in Lowell, MA. Organized by PCC member Benjamin Emerick of Uxbridge, MA, a member of the Sherman Camp 18, special permission was obtained to enter the private cemetery and honor Butler and Gen. Adelbert Ames, Butler's son-in-law who is

(Please turn to P...