

THE BANNER

Volume 112, Number 3 • The Journal of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War • Spring, 2008



HONOR TO THE BRAVE

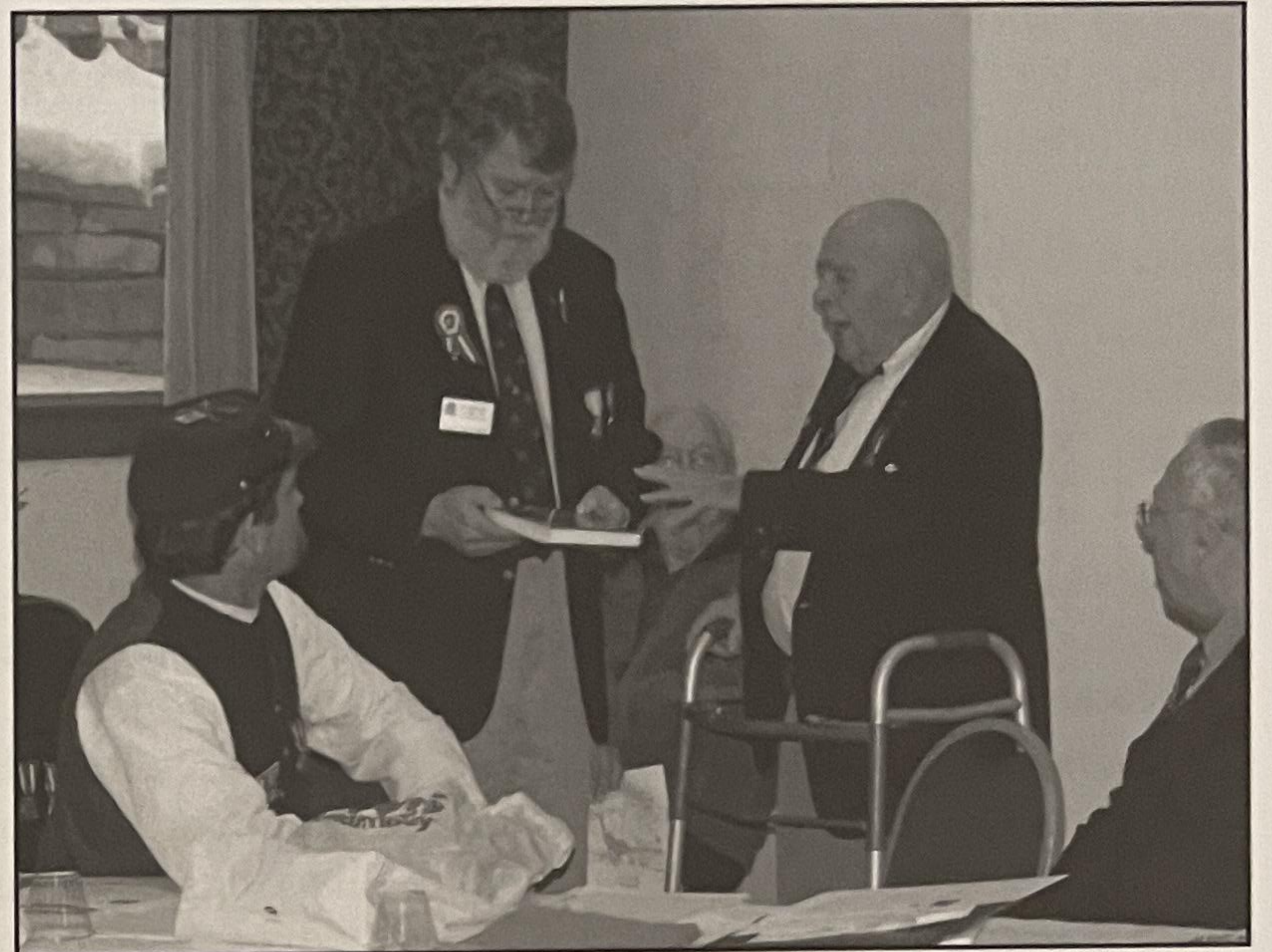
THE HERITAGE LIVES ON

The living offspring of Union veterans is our link to that great conflict. Their relationships, their life experience, their memories are to be treasured. Most are in their 90s now and only occasionally make an appearance at a special event. We are fortunate to report two such occasions here. A complete list of the 67 Real Sons and Daughters appears at <http://suvcw.org/kids/CWkids.pdf>



Real Son George Williams celebrated his 96th birthday with family and members of U.S. Grant Camp 68 (Dept. of Missouri). PDC Mark Coplin organized the event. Among the nearly forty family and friends in attendance were DC Walt Busch, Council Member PDC Bob Petrovic, Sr. Cher Petrovic. Chaplain PCC John Avery, and Gary Scheel. Brothers Avery, Coplin and Scheel gave presentations on Civil War artifacts that they brought with them.

George's father, Henry Williams, was a private in Co. I, 37th KY Inf. (Mtd.) and later, Co. K, 4th KY Inf. (Mtd.)



CinC Kuhn receives a gift from Real Son William H. Upham, Jr.

Real Son William H. Upham, Jr., visited the Wisconsin Department Mid-Winter Meeting, held February 2nd. During the gathering, he autographed a gift to CinC Kuhn, a book detailing his and his brother Frederick's service in the Army during WWII and the life of their father. Wm. Upham Sr. served in Co. F, 2nd WI Inf. and met President Lincoln, who gave him an appointment to West Point. He later served in the 5th US Art. at Fortress Monroe, where he met the imprisoned Confederate chief.

Br. Bill later dined with over 110 members of the Sons, Auxiliary and various hereditary, patriotic and public service organizations at the 38th Patriotic Luncheon, hosted by C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1 and Auxiliary 4. He is a MOLLUS PCinC (1985-89) and a member of the SAR.

Learn more about Br. Bill and his father at <http://www.suvcw-wi.org/index2.html>

WV MOLLUS FORMING

An attempt to reactivate the West Virginia Commandery of MOLLUS is being undertaken. If you are a lineal or collateral descendant of a Union Commissioned Officer and reside in West Virginia, Southwestern Pennsylvania or South Eastern Ohio and wish to be a charter member of this Commandery, please contact Richard Orr, PCinC (suvcworr@aol.com) 153 Connie Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15214 for further information.

CAMPS CELEBRATE 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Buoyed by interest in the SUVCW's 1981 Centennial Anniversary, our Order's national membership hovered at 2,680 the following year. The lean years before and after the Sons Centennial were not kind to our membership. It was a struggle to retain previous membership levels, and to organize and retain new Camps. Yet three Camps...one in Indiana one in Missouri and the other in New Jersey...were chartered in 1982, bringing our total to 153.

Now, 25 years later, two of the three Camps celebrate their achievements...and their survival...with an eye to the future.

William T. Sherman Billy Yank Camp 65 (Dept. of MO) celebrated its 25th anniversary with a fellowship dinner at a St. Louis restaurant.



Shown are (back row, left to right): Camp organizer and charter member PCC Jack G. Grothe, Br. William S. Cureton, William L. Groth, CC Paul Leistriz, PCC Paul F. Winslow and Wilfred J. Sikorski. (Front row, left to right): PDC Charles Ed Funck III, PCC Thomas Rung and PCC Vernon W. von der Heydt.

In 1979, seven men formed the Camp and a year later, the National Order approved a Provisional charter. In those days, 15 brothers were required to form a Camp. The Camp had grown to 22 when CinC Harry E. Gibbons, Sr. issued a Camp-at-Large charter. Four of the charter members are still active.

Camp Organizer PCC Jack Grothe remembers, "The Camp was basically founded by SVR members, many of whom were re-enactors." This was before SVR members were required to belong to the SUVCW, although he and another member belonged to the Kansas City Camp. "William T. Sherman" was chosen as the Camp's namesake because of his ties to St. Louis and most had ancestors who served under him. 'Billy Yank' was chosen to represent those who filled the ranks of the GAR and '65' was chosen to represent 1865, covering the service of everyone's ancestor."

The Camp initiated the Sherman Birthday ceremony, was the first in modern times to march in the St. Louis Veterans Day Parade and participate in the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony in Springfield, IL, participate in the Jefferson Barracks Nat. Cemetery's Memorial Day service and become a member of the Inter-Vet Memorial Day Committee. Two of the Camp's brothers are serving in Southwest Asia.

Orlando A. Somers Camp 1 (Dept. of IN) met at a Kokomo restaurant for its annual "Show & Tell" meeting and to commemorate its 25th anniversary.

Camp organizer PCinC Allen Moore was a member of the Indianapolis Camp and a high school teacher when he formed Camp 1. "During a snowstorm, my school was closed for four days. I began calling colleagues, including the school principal, and members of a defunct round table." The Camp was named for a Kokomo public figure, who became Commander-in-Chief of the GAR in 1916. He was the ancestor of one Moore's neighbors, who eventually joined the Camp along with two other relatives.

PCinC Moore describes the Camp as "a vibrant group. There are students and doctors, ranging in age from 16 to 80. The present Camp Commander is a lawyer." Each month the Camp pays for an educational program given by a guest speaker.

During the meeting, PCinC Moore presented a gift to CC Matt Elkin in appreciation for his service during the year and initiated Todd Dwigans. The 2008 officers were installed by PDC J. Alan Teller. The 16 enjoyed an anniversary cake after the noon meal. The Camp is working on its third Last Soldier project and cleans the cannon in the city park monthly.



CC Matt Elkin (third from left) joins five of the Camp's charter members: Gary L. Sipes, Jonathan E. Ellers, (Elkin), organizer PCinC Allen W. Moore, R. Collin Craig, and Gayle A. Eikenberry.

Sadly, **Peter Vredenburg Camp 6** (Dept. of NJ) lost its membership and Camp Charter after 15 years.



THIRD SALUTES LINCOLN'S HOOSIER ROOTS

On February 10th, members of the 3rd Military District participated in the annual Lincoln Day program at the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial in Lincoln City, IN. Lincoln lived on a farmstead there from age of 7 to 21.

During the ceremony, which included period music, the Sons provided a color guard and laid wreaths at the grave of Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, who died a couple of years after the family moved to Indiana from Kentucky.



Gathering at Memorial Hall - photo by Sr. L.A. Teller

The Symposium, Reception and evening program the following day was a great success. 3rd MD COS Cpt. Krieser presented several of the ALBC Commissioners with the Charitable Foundation's medallions (coins). Both he and PCinC Al Loomis discussed the SUVCW's work and the role of the Charitable Foundation.

The bicentennial of Lincoln's birth began that week in Louisville and will run into 2009

ARTILLERY SAFETY SCHOOL SLATED

The 4th Military District will host an Artillery Safety School on 17-18 May 2008, at the Sportsman's Club in Boscobel, Wisconsin. NCWAA qualifiers will provide instruction. Crews and guns from all muzzle-loading periods (Civil War and earlier) and under all flags are welcome and encouraged to attend. The safety qualification, which each student receives upon successful completion of the course, is valid for two years. Onsite camping and hotel billeting are available. Registration fee is \$15 per person, payable to "HQ 4th Military District SVR." Fees and registration need to be sent by Unit Commander before April 30th to Cpt. Steve Michaels at:

6623 S. North Cape Rd.
Franklin, WI 53132-1227

If you need further information, please don't hesitate to call (414) 425-4648 or email banner@suvcw.org.

SVR PERSONNEL ACTIONS

The following are commissioned and appointed as indicated:

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Col. Henry E. Shaw, Jr. | Deputy Commander |
| Col. David R. Medert | Chief of Staff |
| Col. Elmer F. Atkinson | Inspector General |
| Col. Andrew M. Johnson | Washington, D.C. Liaison |
| Lt. Col. Donald E. Darby | Adjutant General |
| Lt. Col. Larry D. Freed | National SVR Chaplain |
| Maj. Charles E. Kuhn, Jr. | Provost Marshal |
| Maj. James B. Pahl | Judge Advocate General |
| Cpt. Leo F. Kennedy | Public Information Officer |
| Maj. Peter N. Rotando | 1st Mil. Dist. Co. |
| Maj. Todd A. Shillington | 2nd Mil. Dist. Co. |
| Maj. Donald E. Darby | 3rd Mil. Dist. Co. |
| Maj. Jack G. Grothe | 4th Mil. Dist. Co. |
| Maj. David E. Allyn | 6th Mil. Dist. Co. |
| Cpt. Kenneth V. Early | 7th Mil. Dist. Co. |
| Sgt. Maj. Ivan E. Frantz | Musician |

The following are promoted to:

1st Military District

2Lt. Richard P. Lufkin, Public Information Officer is re-commissioned.

2nd Military District

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| 1st Lieutenant Sean W. Shillington | Chief of Staff |
| 1st Lieutenant Bruce N. Glaser | Dist. Adjutant |
| 1st Lieutenant James R. Hanby, Sr. | Public Info Officer |
| 1st Lieutenant William S. Poulton, Jr. | Inspector General |
| 1st Lieutenant Michael A. Paquette | Chaplain |

3rd Military District

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|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Captain Edward J. Krieser | Chief of Staff |
| Captain Martin W. Lowery, Jr. | Dist. Ad.t/PIO |
| 2nd Lieutenant Timothy H. Downey | Chaplain |

4th Military District

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|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Captain Stephen A. Michaels | Chief of Staff |
| Captain Robert D. Champlin | Dist. Adjutant |
| Captain Emmett P. Taylor, III | Inspector General |
| 2nd Lieutenant Randel O. Baehr | Public Info Officer |
| 2nd Lieutenant Jerome W. Kowalski | Chaplain |

6th Military District

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|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Captain Bob Lowe | Dist. Adj./Chief of Staff |
| 2nd Lieutenant Carl M. Taylor | Chaplain |
| 2nd Lieutenant William E. Tisch | Public Info Officer |

7th Military District

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|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 1st Lieutenant Eric B. Peterson | Chaplain |
| 2nd Lieutenant Phillip B. Hinman | Dist. Adjutant |