



Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 NEWSLETTER

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.



Commander Warren

From Commander Warren

Hello All:

Well, it looks like the Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 - S.U.V.C.W. and Louisa Volker Auxiliary #215 - A.S.U.V.C.W. are off to a great year! It seems like it has been a while since we were all together at the Christmas Banquet in December, and it was sure good to see everyone.

Well, we had our first meeting of 2023 on Monday, February 13th, at the Redeemer Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall in De Soto, Missouri (remember we are meeting on the 2nd Mondays monthly now) and covered a lot of stuff. It looks like we are off to a great start with many March, April, and May activities fast approaching.

Continued on page 8

BROTHERS!
RE-UP FOR ANOTHER YEAR!

\$38 for Regular Members ANNUAL DUES + SVR
 National \$33
 Department \$6
 Camp \$6, SVR \$3
The Camp is subsidizing your dues by \$10.

—

\$9 for Life Members ANNUAL DUES + SVR
 Camp \$6, SVR \$3

It's just a piece of land,

isn't it?
See page 2.

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The Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary on the Move!

JANUARY 16, CITY COUNCIL MEETING, DE SOTO

Brothers Arbuthnot, Doug Roussin, and Alan Trodus appeared before the De Soto city council last month to discuss the possible destruction of Camp Goodwin in De Soto.

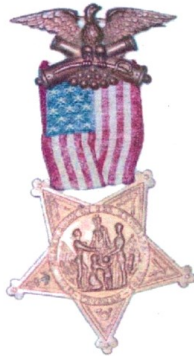
After the destruction of Mooney’s Bridge in town, it was decided move troops to De Soto in order to defend the Iron Mountain Railroad. An earthen fort was created and manned by the 138th Illinois Infantry during October 1864. The regiment was commanded by Col. John W. Goodwin, hence the name.



The current land owner is encroaching on the location of the fort to make a parking lot.

At the February 13 Camp meeting, a letter was signed by Brothers Hunnewell, Doug Roussin, Trodus, and Warren urging the preservation of Camp Goodwin (see next page). Members are requested to contact the De Soto city council to protect the area.





General Thomas C. Fletcher

Camp 47

DeSoto, Mo.

Department of Missouri

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



To the City of DeSoto,

February 13, 2023

The General Thomas C. Fletcher, Camp 47, Department of Missouri, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, wish to give support in the preservation of the historic ruins at the north end of DeSoto known as Fort Goodwin. These long neglected fortifications which are an important legacy in the history of DeSoto should be preserved as a monument to the dedication of the soldiers of the Civil War who guarded the Iron Mountain Railroad during the War.

These fortifications are now under attack to make a "parking lot"! How much of the City's history has already been lost? With the construction of the new sidewalks at the north end of town, a restored fort would be of importance.

The General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 would be willing to take a lead in the restoration of Fort Goodwin with the help of the City of DeSoto and other local organizations which are now in support. A coalition of these groups could get the job done. We are asking that the City of DeSoto make a greater effort to find a way to preserve this piece of DeSoto's past. Please give greater effort in persuading the present owner that he can be a great hero who preserved DeSoto History or the one who will be remembered as part of its destruction.

Yours in Fraternity, Loyalty & Charity

Christopher Warren, Camp Commander	<i>D. Christopher Warren</i>
Douglas Roussin, Past Camp Commander	<i>Douglas Roussin</i>
Alan Trodus, Camp Treasurer	<i>Alan A. Trodus</i>
Sumner Hunnewell, Camp Secretary	<i>Sumner G. Hunnewell</i>

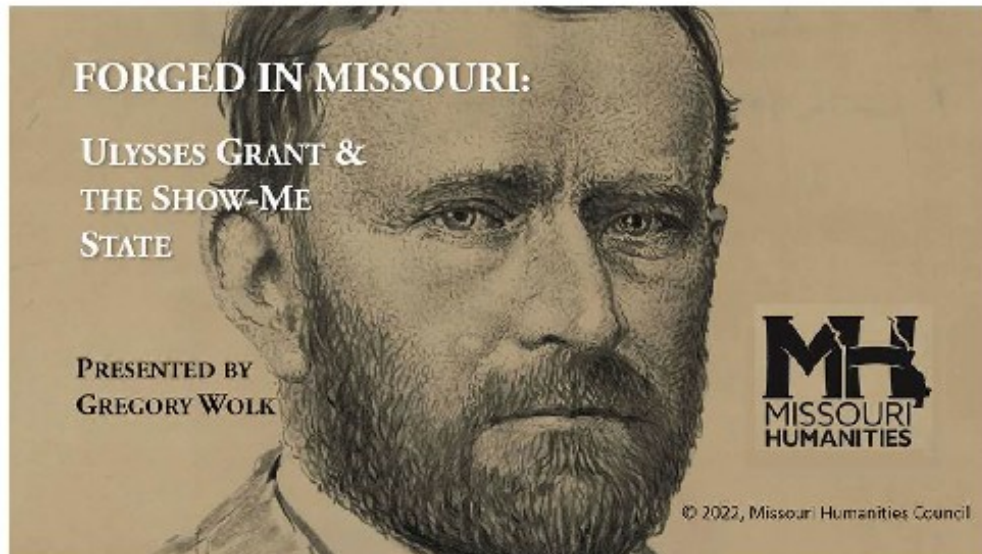
FEBRUARY 4, AUXILIARY AND TENT TEAM UP, ST. LOUIS

The Volker Auxiliary was invited to help the Julia Dent Grant Tent #16, DUVCW 1861-1865 create Valentine's Day cards. The cards will be given to veterans in the area.

The Auxiliary plans on inviting the Tent to create Easter cards for people at a local area nursing home.

WELL DONE LADIES!





SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023

1:30 P.M.

at The Sappington House Library of Americana

**1015 South Sappington Road
Crestwood, MO 63126**

WITH WORDS AND PICTURES, AUTHOR AND MISSOURI HUMANITIES STAFFER GREG WOLK PRESENTS A VIVID PORTRAIT OF THE EARLY DAYS OF THE CIVIL WAR, AND EXPLAINS HOW GRANT'S EXPERIENCES IN MISSOURI IMPACTED HIS RISE TO IMMORTAL FAME AS A SOLDIER

Space is strictly limited. To reserve your seat, go to mohumanities.org/us-grant-bicentennial/, then scroll down to "US Grant Speaker Event" or use the code below

FREE



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023

This is an Official Program of the Ulysses Grant Bicentennial in Missouri



NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

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

13 February A. D. 2023, Redeemer Lutheran Church, De Soto, Missouri

Attendees: Sons: Mark Arbuthnot (JVC, Council, PI), Bob AuBuchon (Council), Billy Hickman, Izaiah Hickman, Ted Howell, Sumner Hunnewell (Secretary), Don Lillicrap, Don Roussin (Council), Alan Trodus (Treasurer), Chris Warren (CC)

Auxiliary: Colissa Alexander (President), Nancy Howell (Chaplain), Patti McClellan (PI), Kelly Noack (Council), Kathie Roussin (VP), Abbie Warren (Guide), Twyla Warren (Secretary/Treasurer)

The Commander called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Brother Arbuthnot led the pledge of allegiance.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the last minutes. Passed.

The Commander passed out member rosters. Corrections were made.

Brother Trodus gave his treasurer's report.

Sister Twyla Warren gave her treasurer's report. They have \$1018.80 in their checking account plus \$35 in cash. Their 990N has not been submitted to the IRS.

Separate motions were made and seconded to accept the treasurers' reports. Both passed.

President Alexander gave her report. She and other auxiliary presidents met via Zoom with NP Pollitt. She reminded everyone of the ASUVCW website (asuvcw.org). There is a members-only section (please see Colissa for the pwd). The National ASUVCW is looking for a new Patriotic Instructor, whose job would be fundraising for wreaths to be used across the country. The officers is needed by August, if possible. Thousands of dollars would need to be raised for the wreaths. National is asking auxiliaries for donations. Our auxiliary will discuss that further. We are asked to drape our badges in black due to the death of PNP Betty J. Baker. The NP said there is an auxiliary at large in Tennessee. Newsletter articles should be sent to newsletter@asuvcw.org. The ASUVCW will participate during the Lincoln Tomb ceremony in Springfield, Ill., on April 15. The next online meeting will be on 4/29. If you are going to Nashua, N. H., for the national encampment, sign up through the ASUVCW. Our auxiliary was praised by the NP for all of our activities and Facebook page (thanks to Kelly, Chris, and Twyla). Our auxiliary has a website but it is having issues. We were invited by the Julia Dent Tent (DUVCW 1861-1865) to make Valentine's Day cards to send to veterans. Sisters Alexander, Noack, McClelland, and both Warrens participated. There are plans to make Easter cards for a nursing home (making at the Noack's lake house) and the DUVCW will be invited.

Sister McClelland said that Jefferson Barracks will be having a 100th anniversary celebration at the old barracks building. There will be a car show, food trucks, and they want people in Civil War period dress. It will be on Saturday, May 20, 10 a.m.—2 p.m. An answer about our participation is needed **soon**.

Commander Warren passed around a survey, which he wants to members to return to him anonymously. This will give him a good idea of what the camp and auxiliary are interested in doing.

The Louisa Volker Monument committee has not met since the fall. Brother John Robinson is now an Washington County government executive, who might be able to assist us.

Commander Warren noted the SUVCW G.O.'s and ASUVCW S.O.'s which were issued to note the passing of two past C-in-C's and one NP.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

We received complements on our Christmas banquet. Those that did bell-ringing for the De Soto food pantry raised \$495.

Brother Doug Roussin gave a report on the possible destruction of Camp Goodwin in De Soto. The fort was created after the destruction and rebuilding of Mooney's bridge. It was named after Col. Goodwin of the 138th Illinois Infantry. It is where Main St. "T's" into Rt. 110 in De Soto. Mr. Caldwell is the owner and wants to make a parking lot there. He is filling in a gully. Doug and Brothers Arbuthnot and Trodus went before the city council in January to explain the situation. Brother Arbuthnot said that after the meeting, his discussion with some councilors showed they were interested in preserving history. Doug has contacted the De Soto and Jefferson County Historical Societies. He will be sending the news of this to the local newspaper in Festus. In the winter, the earthen works of the fort are clearly seen. He penned a letter in support of preservation, which was signed by himself and Brothers Warren, Trodus, and Hunnewell.

A motion was made and seconded to present the letter to the De Soto city council. Passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Brother Hunnewell brought up "[Springboard to Learning](#)," which brings storytelling and living history into St. Louis city and county schools. Anyone interested in being one of those interpreters should contact them.

Brother Warren brought up the following items:

- March 4, Military Swap Meet at Jefferson Barracks (9 a.m.—3 p.m.). Mark will get a table as will Kelly. Another will be reserved for the camp/auxiliary to share.
- March 11, Sherman Day at Calvary Cemetery, St. Louis. This is sponsored by the Grant Camp. If you are going to go, let the Commander know. We will then visit the graves of Fletcher and Volker and put flags and flowers out.
- March 18, Dept. Meeting, Jefferson City.
- March 19, Washington Co. History Expo. Held in Cadet, Mo. We will not be participating.
- April 15, Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, Springfield, Ill.
- April 15, American Battlefield Trust's Park Day at Fort D (Cape Girardeau). General clean-up. If you are interested, let the Commander know.

- April 15, American Battlefield Trust's Day at Pilot Knob and Turner Brigade Spring Drill. General clean-up. There might be a get-together at the Noack's lake house afterwards.
- April 22, Dedication of five Union Soldiers' graves, Hargari Cemetery, Manchester. This is a community event. [John Avery](#) (Grant Camp) is the SUVCW liaison.
- A future camp out / living history weekend at Pilot Knob. There was interest but a date will need to be set.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Brother Doug Roussin said that the Perry V. Fletcher tombstone should arrive by March or April.

Brother Hunnewell noted that four camp members were shown in the last issue of the *Banner*. He also thanked the brothers and sisters for their kind cards and notes on the death of his mother. He also wanted to remind people that he was the Department Eagle Scout Coordinator. Anyone who had notice of a Court of Honor should request that they fill out the proper form and submit it to Sumner, who has a stock of certificates, folders, patches, and challenge coins.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. Snacks were provided by the Warrens.

Our program was given by the Commander. He would like to have programs after meetings called "Who's Your Grand-daddy," which is a story about your Civil War ancestor(s). His program was about his ancestor Pvt. William S. Reed (1843-1914). Reed joined because his younger brother enlisted as a 15-year-old drummer and he thought he should be looked after. They both served with the 25th Missouri Infantry. This regiment was folded into the 1st Missouri Engineers. Pvt. Reed traveled with Gen. Sherman on his March to the Sea. He was mustered out in 1865 in Kentucky.

The Commander then showed a film click showing reënactors starting the creation of a pontoon bridge. The Union engineers were able to create easily carried structures that could be unfolded and assembled on site, which were canvas wrapped.

Continued from page 1

One thing that I did bring up, and I hope that you will all assist me with, is a survey about our activities, meetings, and simply seeking your input – after all, we all have a voice in what our group does. I sincerely want your opinions, and so I asked for everyone at the meeting to either submit the surveys anonymously or by mail without a return address or feel free to return them at the next meeting.

Something else that was new to our meeting was a segment called "Who's Your Grand-Daddy?" I did a short presentation on my Civil War ancestor, William S. Reed (25th Missouri Infantry and later 1st Missouri Engineers) by covering a little of his life, but mostly an overview of what he did in the Civil War. If anyone is interested in presenting for the next meeting, please contact me – as the laptop & projector are available, if needed, or you are welcome to simply talk about your soldier / sailor (photos are encouraged, but not required).

We also wanted to think about the possibility of having a weekend "living history camp" at Battle of Pilot Knob SHS (where those who want to camp, can, and those who want to come for the day, can drive in). This is still in the planning phase, and we will get more information out as it becomes available.

In closing, I look forward to a great year and hope to see you all again soon. Take care and I'll catch you next time.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty, D. Christopher (Chris) Warren, P.D.C.

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer's Report for JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2023

Balance from last report (December 2022)	3196.71
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Christmas Banquet-De Soto Community Center #1302	380.00
Christmas Banquet-Door Prizes #1303	62.81
Christmas Banquet-Door Prizes (Walmart gift card)	47.05
National Quartermaster (Camp Commander's Badge #1304)	38.00
<u>Income</u>	
2023 Dues Don Roussin	38.00
2023 Dues Bernard Laiben	38.00
Donation Bernard Laiben	10.00
2023 Dues John Robinson III	38.00
Donation John Robinson III	10.00
Donation Bob Aubuchon	10.00
Donation Bob Amsler	20.00
2023 Dues Jeff & Dwain Asberry	76.00
Donation Jeff Asberry	4.00
2023 Dues Sumner Hunnewell	9.00
2023 Dues Mark Arbuthnot	38.00
2023 Dues Don Lillicrap	38.00
Christmas Banquet fees collected	330.00
Current Balance (8 February 2023)	3327.85
Checking Account	2483.80
Cash	844.05
Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
Gift cards	0.00
<u>End Balance</u>	3327.85

Sword Raffle status: Anita Otte, 2022 winner, received the sword at Sandy Creek Covered Bridge in Goldman, MO on 11 January 2023. An article and photo was submitted to 2nd Lt. Kim Heltemes for inclusion in the SVR upcoming newsletter.

On 20 Dec 2022 an order and check for \$38.00 was sent to the National Quartermaster for a Camp Commander's badge. On 29 Dec 2022 the National Quartermaster suddenly died. Order has not been received. Check has not cleared bank. An interim Quartermaster has been assigned. An email has been sent to the interim Quartermaster, Brother James Lyon, asking if he has received the order and our check. He was also asked if he cannot find our order and check, should we reorder and send another check. No response from the interim Quartermaster as of this date.

IRS form 990N for both Camp and SVR has been filed and accepted by the IRS on 5 February 2023. Copy has been sent to Department Treasurer on 5 February 2023.

SVR Form 3, Annual Unit Application for 47th Missouri Infantry, Co E was submitted to Capt. Kent Peterson on 13 January 2023.

YOUR CAMP OFFICERS

**Commander, Chaplain, Eagle Scout
Coordinator, Counselor (ASUVCW):**

David Christopher Warren
the_civilwar_guy@yahoo.com

Senior Vice Commander:

Steve Alexander
stevewonderful@sbcglobal.net

**JVC, Council Member, Patriotic
Instructor:**

Mark Elmo Arbuthnot
markelmoarbuthnot@gmail.com

Council Member, Historian:

Donald Lee Roussin, Jr.
gastbeer1954@yahoo.com

Council Member:

Douglas Wayne Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Secretary, GRO, CW Memorials Officer:

Sumner Gary Hunnewell
HildifonsTook@prodigy.net

Treasurer:

Alan Richard Trodus bigalastro@yahoo.com

YOUR AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President

Colissa Alexander lissasong@sbcglobal.net

Vice President:

Kathie Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Council No. 1:

Colleen D. Warren

Council No. 2, Patriotic Instructor:

Susan Breland brelandsusan@yahoo.com

Council No. 3

Kelly Noack kdn417@msn.com

Chaplain:

Nancy Howell tedhowell@charter.net

Secretary, Treasurer, Press Correspondent

Twyla D. Warren clementine_clc@yahoo.com

Patriotic Instructor:

Patti McClelland pattimcclelland55@gmail.com

Guide:

Abigail Warren

CALENDAR

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

NOTE WE NOW MEET ON SECOND MONDAYS!

Swap Meet, Jefferson Barracks, March 4

Sherman Day (Grant Camp), Calvary Cemetery, St.
Louis, March 11

Department Meeting, Jefferson City, March 22

Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, March 13

Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, April 10

Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, Springfield, Ill., April 15

Camp/Auxiliary Meetings

March 13

April 10

May 8

June 12

February birthdays

24-Feb Duncan Noack

March birthdays

3-Mar Douglas Roussin

6-Mar Mark Arbuthnot

19-Mar Ted Howell

25-Mar Jeffrey Asberry



Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 NEWSLETTER

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Commander Warren

From Commander Warren

Greetings All!

Well, as the weather warms, we are starting to see some events and activities being planned. It won't be long before we get busy with our Civil War activities. We have the annual Park Day cleanup at Battle of Pilot Knob SHS, the DeSoto Farmers Market / Tractor Parade, and Memorial Day, just to name a few. I also represented us at the March Department of Missouri's Business Meeting in Jefferson City and on April 6th I will be speaking to the Ozark Trailblazers District of Scouts BSA about the SUVCW Eagle Scout award and our availability for Civil War Educational Programs. In closing, I encourage you all to be as involved with our group as much as you can! Remember, it's your group and we all belong! Hope to see you at the next meeting or event!

-Chris Warren

In newsletter terms, this is called "white space" because I cannot think of anything witty to write here.

Why don't you write something about your Union ancestor and send it in?

Is he playing "The Devil Went Down to Georgia?"
See page 3.



I guess it depends on whether you wear blue or gray.

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The Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary on the Move!

FEBRUARY 19, GRANT'S 250 ANNIVERSARY, ST. LOUIS

The Missouri Department of Humanities has had a traveling exhibit celebrating the life of U. S. Grant. At the tail end of the celebration, the exhibit was set up in the library building on the site of the historic Sappington House. Brother Greg Wolk, Esq., who is a lecturer with the Department of Humanities and a member of the U. S. Grant Camp, gave a slide show talk about the life of Grant, providential occurrences, his opponents, and various fits and starts early in his Missouri career that brought him up through ranks in the U. S. Army.

Many members of the Grant Camp attended as well as Fletcher Camp's Sumner Hunnewell and his bride, Sylvia.



Brother Wolk

Shortly after my promotion I was ordered to Ironton, Missouri

Ironton is a county seat in southeast Missouri. In 1861, it occupied a strategic position at the end of another railroad, the St. Louis-Iron Mountain line. In August, the State Guard as well as regular Confederate armed forces were threatening this position. By an order on August 6, 1861, that designated him "in Command of the Ironton Force," Grant went by rail with his regiment to Ironton. He arrived there within 48 hours after the director from Army headquarters reached him in Mexico. At his headquarters in Ironton, he received his commission which officially made him "General Grant."

Did you know?
Charles and Alexander Mason investigated from Scotland and found that they had been awarded a commission as a lieutenant colonel in the Missouri State Guard. The Missouri State Guard was organized in Ironton on the Missouri River. They had to travel to St. Louis to receive their commissions. In St. Louis, they met with the State Guard's headquarters. They then traveled back to Ironton to take up their commissions. This was a significant event in the early days of the Missouri State Guard.

The threat to Ironton was serious soon after Grant arrived. Then, on August 18, a train arrived carrying Brigadier General Benjamin Prentiss of Illinois. Grant was promptly assigned to the command of the Ironton Force. He was to be in command of the Ironton Force, which was to be in command of the Ironton Force. He was to be in command of the Ironton Force, which was to be in command of the Ironton Force.

In 1861, John Emerson wrote a letter to the Missouri State Guard. He was a member of the Missouri State Guard. He was a member of the Missouri State Guard. He was a member of the Missouri State Guard. He was a member of the Missouri State Guard.

"This water runs into the Mississippi with unfettered freedom."
In 1862, the Missouri State Guard was in a state of confusion. The Missouri State Guard was in a state of confusion. The Missouri State Guard was in a state of confusion. The Missouri State Guard was in a state of confusion.

MISSOURI CELEBRATES ULYSSES GRANT

General Prentiss made a great mistake on the above occasion

When General Grant arrived in Cape Girardeau August 30, 1861, he lodged at the St. Charles Hotel at the corner of Main and Thermo Streets. Until he departed for Cairo on September 5, he made his headquarters at the Common Pleas Court House, a structure that still stands on the bluff near the site of the hotel.

Grant's first order of business at Cape Girardeau was to dispose of a threat looming just south of him. There was a State Guard presence in

Did you know?
As he later learned in September and October 1861, Ulysses Grant was operating in a disadvantage of his own making. When he arrived in Missouri, MO in July, he had a proper officer's uniform and a proper officer's uniform. Grant gave that uniform away.

Southwest Missouri, in the person of Brigadier General Meriwether Jefferson Thompson. Thompson had taken his infantry and cavalry closer and closer to Cape Girardeau, and he reached a point even closer to Cape Girardeau than he had been. This was why Ulysses Grant was sent south.

The few days General Grant was in Cape Girardeau were not without controversy. Benjamin Prentiss, the new general from Quincy, Missouri, was sent to report to Grant at a location. Even though Major General Prentiss was Grant's senior officer, Grant was in command of the Ironton Force. Grant was in command of the Ironton Force. Grant was in command of the Ironton Force.

Prentiss violated orders when he did not follow Grant's orders. Grant was in command of the Ironton Force. Grant was in command of the Ironton Force. Grant was in command of the Ironton Force.

Prentiss's actions caused the loss of the opportunity to conduct the planned campaign. Grant was in command of the Ironton Force. Grant was in command of the Ironton Force. Grant was in command of the Ironton Force.

MISSOURI CELEBRATES ULYSSES GRANT

We had cut our way in and could cut our way out as well

General Grant returned to Cairo on the same day he had landed in Paducah. Then he went to work to build a powerful offensive force. In October 1861, Missouri State Cavalry in Jefferson County. His attack was close enough to St. Louis to cause a panic there, and he established a critical bridge. Grant sent regiments from Ironton and Cape Girardeau into the Missouri interior to trap Thompson before he could return to his lines. General Thompson's cavalry escaped Grant's converging forces, but his infantry and artillery joined Thompson south of Fredericktown. Thompson then turned his army around and moved on the town. As a result, a force battle joined in a field just south of town. This was October 21, 1861. Union forces narrowly won the battle. Fredericktown was Ulysses Grant's first major battle commanding forces under his immediate control, although he commanded from Cairo.

Grant's first battle commanding troops in the field was only weeks away. If 500 would be fought on the soil of Missouri. On November 1, 1861, still operating from Cairo, General Grant was ordered to conduct a "demonstration" against a strong Confederate position on the Missouri above Columbus, Kentucky. Overnight on November 6-7, 1861, General Grant transported about 3,500 men and officers, south from Cairo to a landing in Missouri's Mississippi County known as Butler's Farm. This was about 10 miles due south of Cairo, near an unfortified railroad crossing at the hamlet of Belmont.

Confederate troops involving Columbus established an outpost near Belmont called Camp Johnson. Grant's mission to create a diversion turned into an all-out

Did you know?
The Missouri State Guard was in a state of confusion. The Missouri State Guard was in a state of confusion. The Missouri State Guard was in a state of confusion. The Missouri State Guard was in a state of confusion.

MISSOURI CELEBRATES ULYSSES GRANT

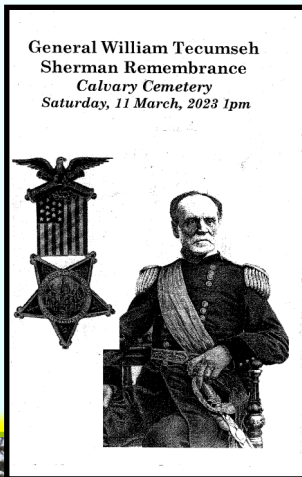
MARCH 4, SWAP MEET, ST. LOUIS COUNTY

Our Camp and Auxiliary attend the annual swap meet at Jefferson Barracks again this year. We publicize our Orders, take the opportunity to raise a little money, and maybe pick up a bargain or two. The indefatigable Brother Trodus and Sister Noack manned the table with others that were present: Duncan Noack, Mark Arbuthnot, Izaiah Hickman, and Billy Hickman.



The meet was not well publicized, which kept the numbers down.

MARCH 11, GEN. WILLIAM TECUMSEH SHERMAN REMEMBRANCE, ST. LOUIS



The U. S. Grant Camp has continued the efforts of the Sherman / Billy Yank Camp (now dissolved) to honor Gen. Sherman at his Calvary Cemetery gravesite every year. Members of the Camp and Auxiliary participated in various ways

Brothers Bob AuBuchon and Sumner Hunnewell were the flag



bearers. Brothers Chris Warren and Duncan Noack were in the color guard, Duncan playing the drum. Later, Brother Noack provided two musical interludes on his violin, “While We Were Marching through Georgia” and “God Bless Our Native Land.” Brothers Doug Roussin and Sumner Hunnewell laid a wreath at the gravesite of Sherman. Sisters Twyla and Abbie Warren laid a wreath on behalf of the Auxiliary.

Members of the Grant, Fletcher, Hecker (Illinois), St. James, and Wilhelmi Camps participated.



After the ceremonies at the Sherman family gravesite, many Camp and Auxiliary members traveled to nearby Bellefontaine Ceremony to lay flowers at the graves of the Volker / Macklind and Fletcher families (our Auxiliary and Camp namesakes).

MARCH MEETING MINUTES

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

13 March A. D. 2023, Redeemer Lutheran Church, De Soto, Missouri

Attendees: Sons: Mark Arbuthnot (JVC, Council, PI), Bob AuBuchon (Council), Billy Hickman, Izaiah Hickman, Ted Howell, Sumner Hunnewell (Secretary), Don Roussin (Council), Doug Roussin (Council), Alan Trodus (Treasurer), Chris Warren (CC)

Auxiliary: Susan Breland (Council, PI), Nancy Howell (Chaplain), Kelley Noack, Kathie Roussin (VP), Abbie Warren (Guide), Twyla Warren (Secretary/Treasurer)

The Commander called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Brother Arbuthnot led the pledge of allegiance.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the last minutes. Passed.

Brother Trodus gave his treasurer's report (see below). Noted that Colton Noack and Steve Alexander have resigned. He said that he would work on giving Colton and Steve honorable discharges.

Sister Twyla Warren spent money for a half-table at the swap meet and flowers for post-Sherman Day event. \$958.76 plus \$60 in cash. She made a little box for the Chaplain, which contains cards, stamps, pens, &c.

Motion made to accept both treasurer's reports subject to financial review. Passed.

150 Easter cards were made for nursing or veterans' homes. Sister Noack was thanked for opening up her place. Sister Alexander wants a book started to track what the Auxiliary does. Thanks to everyone who continue to bring in canned goods. She took 120 food items & \$55 cash for the De Soto food pantry. The Auxiliary sold a few things at the swap meet. They have 80 dolls and 29 buzzsaws remaining for sale. Participated in the Sherman Day event with a side trip to Bellefontaine Cemetery (Macklin/Volker and Fletcher gravesites).

Sister Roussin said that she and her husband went to a Civil War show. She won an award for her display of 400 clay pipes.

The Commander gave his remarks. He found out that Brothers Alexander and Noack will not be resigning. They will be given honorable discharges so they can reenter the Camp, if they desire.

There is a potential member (aged 17), but he won't be able to make the monthly meetings. He lives about two hours away. He is known by Camp members. He might consider joining the St. James Camp since they have a \$100 scholarship. Chris suggested that we have some incentives (scholarships, living history) for younger members.

Since Brothers Colton Noack and Alexander have resigned, it will affect our SVR officer status. We have 19 SVR members (allows us a 2nd LT, a 1st SGT, two corporals). Brother Doug Roussin will be retiring as SVR Unit Commander and Department Quartermaster. Doug suggests that Chris take over the 47th, Co. E SVR unit. A letter needs to be written (Chris: request commission and reactivation; Doug: resignation). Chris said that we can make Doug an inactive reserve in the SVR, since he has been Commander since 2016. A roster must be completed by March 31 (Alan to send in). Chris, Doug and Alan will meet.

Motion made to make Chris the SVR commander. Passed.

Motion made to make Mark the corporal to replace Colton Noack. Passed.

The Louisa Volker Monument committee has not met since the fall. The committee will meet again after Park Day Clean-up at Pilot Knob with a meeting at Sister Noack's lake house (April 22). She suggests that sides be brought. The Camp and Auxiliary will reimburse for the non-potluck food cost. The Pilot Knob building is in need of a deep cleaning.

Brother Doug Roussin said that the cemetery I waiting for some time in the spring to put the stone up. The stone is finished.

The swap meet did not go very well due to lack of advertising.

We had good representation at the Sherman Day event. We went to Volker / Macklin and Fletcher's gravesites afterwards. The only complaint that was that the roads were not blocked off.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Brother Doug Roussin gave a report on the possible destruction of Camp Goodwin in De Soto. The fort was created after the destruction and rebuilding of Mooney's bridge. It was named after Col. Goodwin of the 138th Illinois Infantry. It is where Main St. "T's" into Rt. 110 in De Soto. Mr. Caldwell is the owner and wants to make a parking lot there. He is filling in a gully. Doug and Brothers Arbuthnot and Trodus went before the city council in January to explain the situation. Brother Arbuthnot said that after the meeting, his discussion with some councilors showed they were interested in preserving history. Doug has contacted the De Soto and Jefferson County Historical Societies. He will be sending the news of this to the local newspaper in Festus. In the winter, the earthen works of the fort are clearly seen. He penned a letter in support of preservation, which was signed by himself and Brothers Warren, Trodus, and Hunnewell.

A motion was made and seconded to present the letter to the De Soto city council. Passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Brother Hunnewell brought up "[Springboard to Learning](#)," which brings storytelling and living history into St. Louis city and county schools. Anyone interested in being one of those interpreters should contact them.

Brother Warren brought up the following items:

- March 18, Dept. Meeting, Jefferson City.
- March 19, Washington Co. History Expo. Held in Cadet, Mo. We will not be participating.
- April 6, Scout District Roundtable – Brother Warren will talk about our SUVCW Eagle Scout program.
- April 15, Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, Springfield, Ill.
- April 15, American Battlefield Trust's Park Day at Fort D (Cape Girardeau). General clean-up. If you are interested, let the Commander know.
- April 22, American Battlefield Trust's Day at Pilot Knob and Turner Brigade Spring Drill. General clean-up. There will be a get-together at the Noack's lake house afterwards.
- April 22, Dedication of five Union Soldiers' graves, Hargari Cemetery, Manchester. This is a community event. [John Avery](#) (Grant Camp) is the SUVCW liaison.
- April 29, De Soto Tractor Parade. We will participate.
- Memorial Day (29th or 30th) plans TBD. Someone asked about Jefferson Barracks and Bob AuBuchon explained issues with the administrators there. Suggestion is that we see what Grant Camp is doing and perhaps partner with them.
- June 2-3 Department Encampment, Springfield.
- June 3-4 Lincoln Days Reenactment, Pittsfield, Ill.
- June 24 NCWAA Artillery School, Beaufort, Mo. It is recommended that you are certified if you plan on participating in reenactments.
- July 22 Grant Remembrance, Whitehaven. (U S Grant Camp)
- August 26 (10a-3p) Civil War Living History & Courthouse Occupation, Ste. Genevieve. (St. James Camp)

- A future camp out / living history weekend at Pilot Knob. There was interest but a date will need to be set.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Brother AuBuchon: Pilot Knob—April 21 there will be a school day. Set up by 8:30 a.m.

We have not heard anything from the JROTC people.

Request for prayers for Brother Warren’s mother.

Brother Trodus reminded people of the sword raffle.

Motion made to fill the SVC vacancy (Alexander) with JVC Arbuthnot.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m Snacks were provided by Brother Doug and Sister Kathie Roussin and Brother Hunnewell.

Our program was given by President Warren on Louisa (Volker) Macklind. She described Macklind’s participation as a telegraph operator during the Battle of Pilot Knob. Macklind Avenue in St. Louis is named after the family.

TREASURER’S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer’s Report for MARCH 2023

Balance from last report (February 2023)	3327.85
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Christmas Parade Candy #1306	16.12
24 Kepi’s (for sales), 2023 Christmas Banquet-Door Prizes + shipping #1308	190.25
National Quartermaster (Camp Commander’s Badge #1305)	38.00
½ table at Jefferson Barracks swap meet #1307	7.50
Replica CSA Sword for Raffle (cash)	50.00
<u>Income</u>	
2023 Dues Chris Warren	38.00
2023 SVR dues Martin Aubuchon	3.00
2023 Dues Doug Roussin	38.00
Donation Doug Roussin	2.00
2023 Dues Billy & Izaiah Hickman	76.00
2023 Dues John Griffith	38.00
2023 Dues Duncan Noack	38.00
2023 Dues Randal Burd Jr	9.00
<u>Current Balance</u> (11 March 2023)	3267.98
Checking Account	2345.93
Cash	913.05
Checks (not yet deposited)	9.00
Gift cards	0.00
<u>End Balance</u>	3267.98

Note: Camp Commander’s Badge received from National Quartermaster.

Colton Noack and Steve Alexander have resigned from the Camp and SVR.

— Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

YOUR CAMP OFFICERS

**Commander, Chaplain, Eagle Scout
Coordinator, Counselor (ASUVCW):**

David Christopher Warren
the_civilwar_guy@yahoo.com

Senior Vice Commander:

Steve Alexander
stevewonderful@sbcglobal.net

**JVC, Council Member, Patriotic
Instructor:**

Mark Elmo Arbuthnot
markelmoarbuthnot@gmail.com

Council Member, Historian:

Donald Lee Roussin, Jr.
gastbeer1954@yahoo.com

Council Member:

Douglas Wayne Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Secretary, GRO, CW Memorials Officer:

Sumner Gary Hunnewell
HildifonsTook@prodigy.net

Treasurer:

Alan Richard Trodus bigalastro@yahoo.com

YOUR AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President

Colissa Alexander lissasong@sbcglobal.net

Vice President:

Kathie Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Council No. 1:

Colleen D. Warren

Council No. 2, Patriotic Instructor:

Susan Breland brelandsusan@yahoo.com

Council No. 3

Kelly Noack kdn417@msn.com

Chaplain:

Nancy Howell tedhowell@charter.net

Secretary, Treasurer, Press Correspondent

Twyla D. Warren clementine_clc@yahoo.com

Patriotic Instructor:

Patti McClelland pattimcclelland55@gmail.com

Guide:

Abigail Warren

CALENDAR

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

NOTE WE NOW MEET ON SECOND MONDAYS!

- Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, April 10
- Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, Springfield, Ill., April 15
- American Battlefield Trust's Park Day at Fort D, April 15
- American Battlefield Trust's Park Day at Pilot Knob (get-together at Noack's afterwards), April 22
- Hargari Cemetery Union soldier grave marking, Manchester (Grant Camp), April 22
- De Soto Tractor Parade, April 29
- Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, May 8
- Memorial Day—TBD
- Department Encampment, Springfield, Mo., June 2-3
- Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, June 12

Camp/Auxiliary Meetings

- April 10
- May 8
- June 12

April birthdays

- 9 Sumner Hunnewell**
- 11 Alan Richard Trodus**
- 25 Izaiah Hickman**



Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 NEWSLETTER

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.



From Commander Warren

Hey Everybody:

It has been quite busy since our last newsletter. It has been my privilege to represent Fletcher Camp #47 and honor our "Boys in Blue" at several events. Recently, I was able to promote the SUVCW's Eagle Scout Award at a Scouts BSA District Roundtable for the Ozark Trailblazers and also give information on the historical programs we can present. Then, I was asked to attend St. James Camp #326's meeting & special program on "Civil War Forts of Cape Girardeau, MO." I also presented an AFJROTC Award to a cadet in Farmington. In addition, I was able to assist with two different school days / field trips at the Battle of Pilot Knob State Historic Site. Furthermore, a group of us assisted the historic site for the American Battlefield Trust's Park Day (some by spring cleaning the visitor's center museum and others by participating in a living history). We also marched & had a float in the DeSoto Farmers Market Tractor Parade. So as you can see, we have a lot going on, and more planned to come! I hope that our members will continue to be active, and those that have not been able to participate, will be able to join us very soon for an event / activity. Remember, it's your group and we want you to be a part of us. Until next time!

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty,
Chris Warren, PDC, Camp Commander & Chaplain

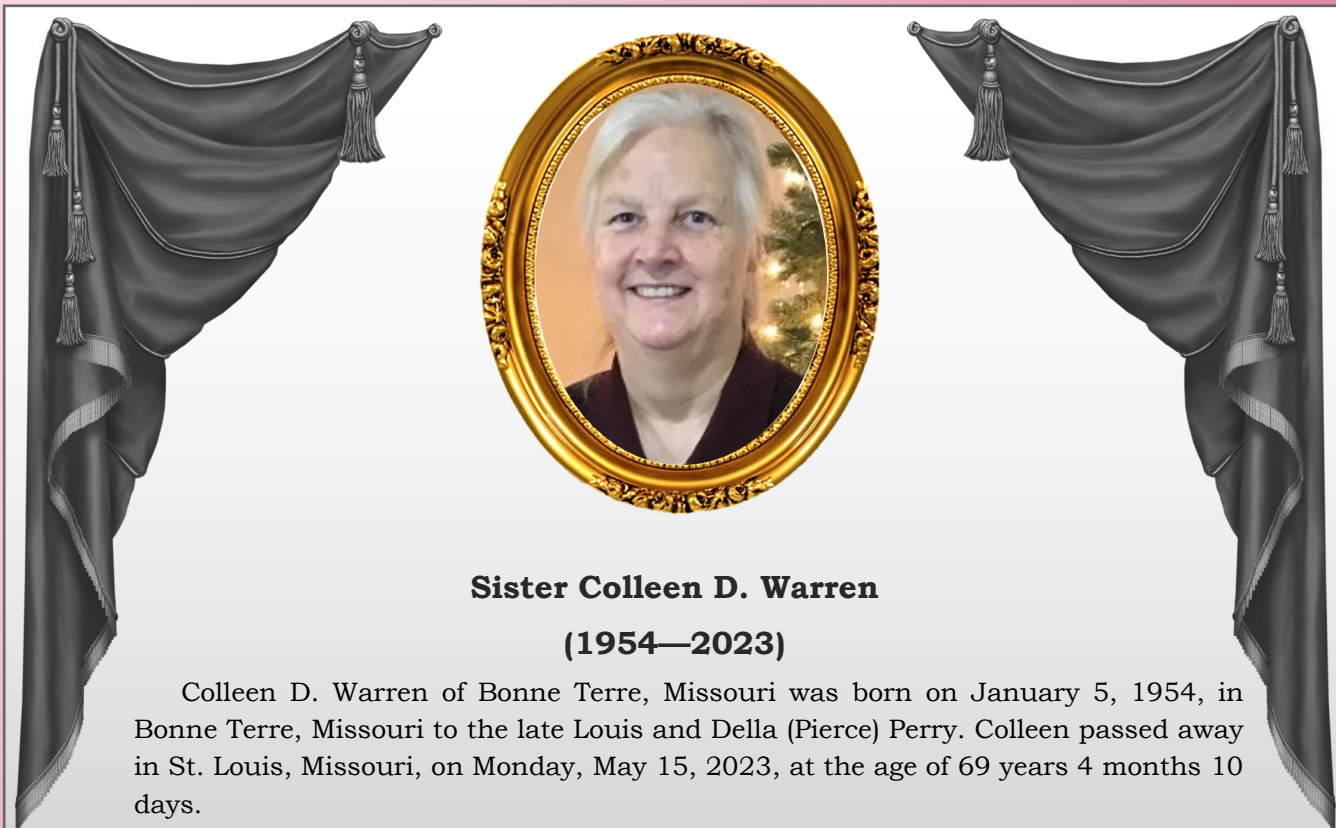
Commander Warren

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**No time for sergeants in the Auxiliary?
See page 8.**





Sister Colleen D. Warren
(1954—2023)

Colleen D. Warren of Bonne Terre, Missouri was born on January 5, 1954, in Bonne Terre, Missouri to the late Louis and Della (Pierce) Perry. Colleen passed away in St. Louis, Missouri, on Monday, May 15, 2023, at the age of 69 years 4 months 10 days.

Colleen loved taking care of other people. She enjoyed genealogy, and spending time with grandchildren, Colleen was a member of the Louisa Volker Auxiliary #215, the Leadbelt Pentecostal Church, and she enjoyed being with family and friends. Colleen was preceded in death by her parents, her husband David Sim Warren, sisters Sandra Brewer, Becky Merritt, and Wanda Jenkins.

Melissa “Missy” M. Schaughnessy
(1970—2023)

Melissa “Missy” M. Schaughnessy, of O’Fallon, MO, passed away Saturday, April 15, 2023, at the age of 52. Beloved daughter of Kathy (Alan) Trodus and the late Michael J. Schaughnessy; cherished stepdaughter of Mary Lou Schaughnessy; devoted mother and best friend of Chyna Schaughnessy; treasured granddaughter of Nick and Virginia Zwilling, Michael and Brenetta Schaughnessy and Jerry and Mildred DeSherlia; dear cousin, niece, and friend to many.

Melissa proudly worked in the medical field for 17 years. She had a vivacious personality and presence when she walked into a room, people would gravitate towards her. Melissa loved to spend time with her friends and family, she had an eclectic sense of humor and loved to make another laugh or smile but could also be mean as a rattlesnake. In her free time, she enjoyed spending time at the pool and traveling, but most of all spending time with her daughter, Chyna. You could often find her playing music or going for a joy ride in her convertible. Melissa will always be remembered as having loved her family above everything else. She will be dearly missed.

Book Review: *Between Home and the Front*

Lynn Heidelbaugh and Thomas J. Paone, eds., *Between Home and the Front: Civil War Letters of the Walters Family* (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2022), 212 pages.

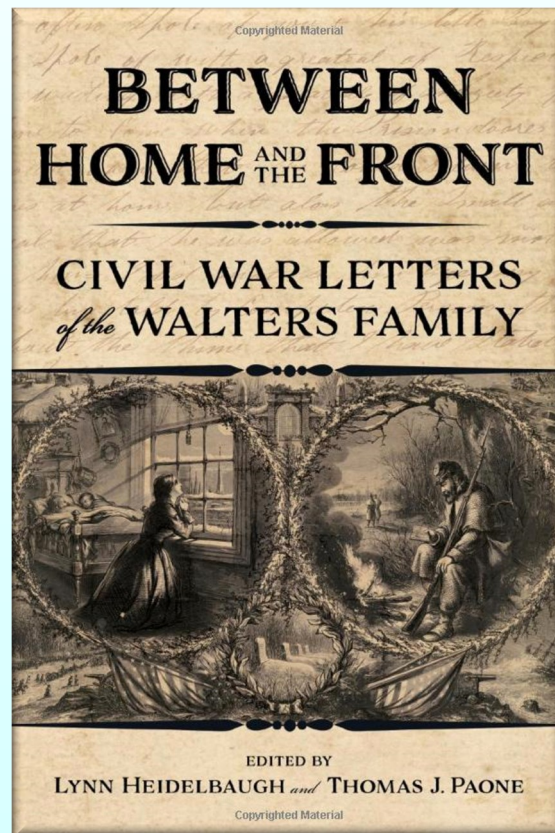
Family letters covering the years of the Civil War were donated to the Smithsonian National Postal Museum and these provide the corpus of the book, *Between Home and the Front*. The main actors are the married couple, David W. and Rachel Jane (Ward) Walters, who lived in Indiana. David joined the 5th Indiana Cavalry. His brothers, who also wrote to Rachel, were Isaac (20th Indiana Infantry) and John Wesley (46th Indiana Infantry). Any letters written by the eldest brother, Eli (20th Indiana Infantry), do not survive.

As one can imagine soldiering life is described in the earlier letters, but far less as time wears on. Later, more time is spent on the weather, where they have been, and where they are going. There are no long accounts of battles in which these men participated. The theme that runs throughout the men's letters is that they despise those who succeeded from the Union, which drew them into such a position, and that they were performing their duties as citizen soldiers.

Many of Rachel's letters survive as well. Her husband left home and farm when their son was a newborn. When writing to her husband, the letters are full of longing for his company, stories about how their son is growing, and the news of the town, neighbors, and family. Many letters between the family members never reached their destination, which always led to some trepidation, or did not survive to the present day.

There are other themes that run through the letters and sometimes it is surprising at the lack of some material that we would love to have. Here are some themes, including quotes and comments.

Death. Man's mortality is front and center in letters. "I have no more to write at present but remain you affectionate Brother until Death."¹ "Rachel I think the war will Soon be over then we can all return home feeling Setesfied & contended knowing that we have done our duty with reference to our Country our fellow man & our Selves I think we ought to die contented & happy."² Rachel was always concerned for the eternal souls of



her husband and brothers-in-law. “it would rejoice my poor heart O David remember that now is the time to serve the lord for we know not what day or hour that we may be called away to another world and let us be prepared to go whenever we are called for.”³ And, later when she wrote to David, “I hardly knew how to contain my feelings. I try feel thankful to the god of heaven in that he has heard and answered my prayers and I hope that he will continue to do so O David try in to live faithful and grow in grace and in the knowledge of the truth as it is christ Jesus our lord that we may meet our dear mother and friends. Friends that’s gone before in a better world above...”⁴

Love. Rachel and David’s love and longing for each other is evident in every letter between them. David wrote “trew I would have no objections to your being on picket with me to se & learn some what of their ways & to be company for me but that is all as this is no place for a woman & espeshely as good a one as I have got= (pleas excuse me & don’t think me flattering at all).”⁵ And Rachel’s reply “David I can never go to bed with out thinking of you and wondering if you are on guard and wishing that I could be with you at your post and be company for you in your lonely hours.”⁶

The Rebellion. This is the clearest motivation for these brothers to join the fight. Isaac was a less forgiving, which comes out in his early letters. “our Company was Standing picket guard when they brought him [a rebel] in & they had to come right by our pickets...& I would have given fifty dollars to have had one Shot at him with my riffle” and later calling them “damned rascals.”⁷ David regrets that he has left his wife to manage the farm and their baby. “I am sorry that you ar put to so much trouble with our thing but it cant be helped now & I feel that I am doing my duty in helping to maintain the laws of our country & put down this wicked rebellion.”⁸ John Welsey writing to Rachel described “the dan cecesh [secessionists] retreated back to their wholes.”⁹

NAME OF SOLDIER: Walters, David W				
NAME OF DEPENDENT: Widow, Walters, Rachel J		Minor,		
SERVICE: 9 5 Ind. low				
DATE OF FILING:	CLASS:	APPLICATION NO.	CERTIFICATE NO.	STATE FROM WHICH FILED.
10 5 June 8	Invalid, Widow, Minor,	97, 189	109, 113	
ATTORNEY:				

Cowards and Copperheads. When the confederate Gen. Morgan entered parts of Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, raiding, plundering, and disrupting towns, where the War was distant thing, David wrote “I am verry glad the rebbles is tearing the free states let the Cowards suffer a little as well as us mebbly this will convince them.”¹⁰ And not everyone in the Indiana supported the North. This was shown by wearing butternut colors. Rachel wrote “Last sunday there was a young lady by the name of Humes wore a butter nut on her shawl to the Presbyterian church and Sarah Campbell tried to take it off of her but she would not let her but Virginia Mean Snatched it off her shawl and kept it and would not let her have it I say bully for her.”¹¹

Doctoring. Evidently, the army was ill-prepared for mass casualties early on as Isaac describes an event post-battle when he was separated from his regiment. "I Saw as much as a hundred wounded men lying on the ground without having their wounds dressed or cared for in any way. . .I have Seen a great many thers that had been wounded for a month & never had their wounds dressed only as they done it themselves. . .Some of them had blankets & Some had none. . .If it Should be my lot to get wounded in battle & treated in this way I would choose death in preferance to living in any Such a way."¹² Two years later his opinion had not changed as he was recuperating from severe cough. "I never go near the Doctor until I am obliged to I am very much opposed to taking medacine any where & all the more So here in the Army."¹³

Kentuckians. "I some thimes wish you could be here to here they Kuntuckeyins talk & obserr they old fashioned women with their strate legs (excuse) say strate dresses= I dot suppose that those back woods Kentucyens ever saw a book or herd of anything of they kind if they did they perhaps thot that it was some in provement in hooping tobacco or whiskey barrels as they seam to be King & Queen of some of they part of this State where I have bin="14

Privates vs. Officers. "there is one thing certain if there is any fighting to be done they soldier has it to do & privates in many respects deserve more credit than many of their superiors="15

What will the neighbors think? Every so often money would be sent from David to Rachel. One time she bought a new dress and hat but felt that the neighbors would think the money 'squandered' on niceties. In no uncertain terms, David gave his strong thoughts on the subject, "if I had a holt of some of them [neighbors] they would wish they never saw a soldier id slap the verry pis out of some of them id let them know how the poor soldier gets his money the Courdly pupps stay at home and pester the ones that are fiting now Rachel I wasn't you to Clothe your self well and not listen to every shit ass."¹⁶ This was the only place where blue language is found in all of the letters.

Southern Prisons. Isaac wrote his sister-in-law, "I will never be taken Prisoner while I can fight or run. & I don't propose to run unless I am overpowered"¹⁷ and later "many have breathed their last. . .in their horrible Prisons in the South which I think is the worst of all Deaths I would ten times rather be killed in battle than die there in Filth & dirt with Starvation."¹⁸

Slavery. There is only one reference in this stack of correspondence. While in Kentucky, David wrote, "the poor man is no better than a darky you see them along the pike hammering stone with the slave you see the effects of slvry."¹⁹ The abolition of slavery does not seem to ever rise up in their thoughts at all.

Of all of the four brothers, only two survived. Eli became ill and was mustered out early on. Isaac was mustered out after the war. John Wesley returned to Indiana but died there in 1864. David, husband of Rachel, was taken prisoner at the Battle of Resaca in

northwest Georgia in May 1864. He died later that month in a prisoner of war camp.

Rachel survived her husband for a few years but their son, Willard, was orphaned at age seven. His mother's family brought him up. He moved to Lamar, Missouri, and held many law enforcement positions.

There are more military matters and opinions found in the letters, which I have not touched upon. The editors do a very good job by dividing the chapters for each year of the war and prefacing the letters with historical context as well as following each of the family members and their whereabouts.

Recommended heartily!

Sumner Hunnewell

Endnotes

- ¹ Isaac to Rachel and David (17 October 1861)
- ² Isaac to Rachel (10 January 1865)
- ³ Rachel to David (8 June 1863)
- ⁴ Rachel to David (14 June 1863)
- ⁵ David to Rachel (7 May 1863)
- ⁶ Rachel to David (31 May 1863)
- ⁷ Isaac to Rachel (27 January 1862)
- ⁸ David to Rachel (1 October 1862)
- ⁹ John Wesley to Rachel (16 May 1862)
- ¹⁰ David to Rachel (15 July 1863)
- ¹¹ Rachel to David (23 June 1863)
- ¹² Isaac to Rachel (8 July 1862)
- ¹³ Isaac to Rachel (4 November 1864)
- ¹⁴ David to Rachel (7 May 1863)
- ¹⁵ David to Rachel (7 May 1863)
- ¹⁶ David to Rachel (26 April 1864)
- ¹⁷ Isaac to Rachel (19 February 1865)
- ¹⁸ Isaac to Rachel (17 April 1865)
- ¹⁹ David to Rachel (17 April 1864)

Poem of Willard Oscar Walters, son of David W. and Rachel Walters. He never knew his father. From the Lamar [Mo.] Republican, 2 September 1920.

Memories of Mother

x x

When I muse on days of childhood,
As I think of bygone years,
And that dear home in the wildwood,
When I knew no cares nor fears,
When I played with my dear brother,
O! so happy, he and I,
'Neath the loving care of mother,
In those happy days gone by.

When we children played together,
Where the brook flowed from the spring,
In the balmy summer weather,
When we heard the song birds sing,
Where we rambled through the meadows,
Gathering the fragrant flowers,
'Till the stretching of the shadows,
Pointed toward the twilight hours.

Then with happy thoughts of mother,
We would soon be homeward bound,
And I've never found another,
Half so glad to have us 'round.
For she said: My soul rejoices,
And to me 'tis music sweet,
Just to hear your childish voices,
And the patter of your feet.

When I sit in deep reflection,
As I pass the hours alone,
There's a happy recollection,
Of the friends that I have known,
But I'll never find another,
Though I live for years to come,
That can take the place of mother,
And my childhood's happy home.

Vividly I see the pictures,
As they hang on memories wall,
But the fairest of the fixtures,
Is my mother, best of all,
And I see the sunlight beaming,
On her kind, sweet, patient face,
'Till my eyes with tears are streaming,
As I long for her embrace.

O! those memories of mother,
At her name my pulses start,
And on earth there is no other,
Clings so closely to the heart,
I shall never cease to love her,
May I go as she has trod,
'Till I meet my sainted mother,
In the home she's won with God.

WILLARD OSCAR WALTERS

The Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary on the Move!

APRIL 8, DELIVERY OF EASTER CARDS

After the success of the Auxiliary and DUVCW Dent Tent's creation of Christmas cards, the Auxiliary decided to create Easter cards on their own. They delivered well over 200 cards to four different organizations. These were the Hillcrest Care Center (De Soto), My Place Too-(De Soto), the Stone Bridge Senior Living (De Soto), and Shared Blessings (Bonne Terre).



APRIL 10, NEW AUXILIARY MEMBER

President Alexander swears in MaryEllen Roussin as the latest member of the Auxiliary. MaryEllen is the wife of SUVCW member Donald Roussin, Jr.



APRIL 13, AFJROTC AWARD, FARMINGTON

Commander Warren and Guide Warren present AFJROTC Cadet/Master Sergeant Christian Monrotus the SUVCW JROTC Award.

APRIL 22, FORT DAVIDSON STATE PARK CLEAN-UP, PILOT KNOB

As an overall nationwide clean-up day for state and national parks, the Camp and Auxiliary descended upon Fort Davidson to clean the state park inside and out. From all accounts the site was in dire need of some “deep cleaning.”



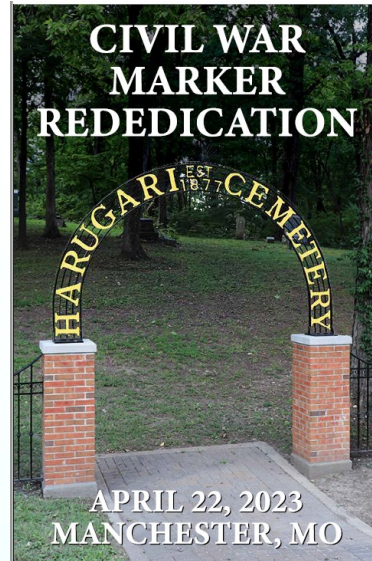
Billy and Izaiah Hickman, Kelly and Duncan Noack, Kathie and Doug Roussin, Colissa Alexander, Susan Breland, & Twyla, Chris, and Abbie Warren helped out.



After the event, the Noacks invited everyone over to their lake house for some well-deserved R&R.

APRIL 22, HARUGARI CEMETERY, MANCHESTER

While half the Camp and Auxiliary with in Pilot Knob, other members were joining with the U. S. Grant Camp’s organized remembrance of those six Union soldiers (Herman K. Sontag, Martin Zimmerman, William Oberbeck, Anton Kern, Frederick Sanders, and Henry Seibel) buried in the Harugari Cemetery. Brother Bob AuBuchon was in the firing squad while Sumner Hunnewell delivered a talk on the Harugari (see below). Sisters Susan Breland and Patti McClelland of the Auxiliary supported the effort. Some Manchester town officials were present along with a JRTOC unit and members of the public.



As can be seen by a placard placed in the cemetery, the Harugari Cemetery was created in 1877. Buried here is one of the men we are honoring today, Private Heinrich (or Henry) Seibel of the 4th Missouri Cavalry. After the war, Henry was married to Anna Umbach by John F. Buenger, pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church in the city. A dozen years later, they sold this land for a cemetery for the members of the

Deutschen Ordens Harugari or (in English) the German Order of Harugari. They had at least nine children and Mr. Seibel made his living as a carpenter.

The odd name of Harugari was “chosen in honor of the old Teutons who were called Harugaris by virtue of their meeting in the forests.” The fraternal order, however, met in lodges. Although the Order was founded in 1847 in New York, it seems that lodges in the St. Louis area did not start until after the Civil War.

I am sure that the Order appealed to members of the



Grand Army of the Republic, whose motto "Friendship, Charity, and Loyalty" closely allied itself with the German Order of Harugari, whose motto was "Friendship, Love, and Humanity." Like the Grand Army of the Republic, the order grew quickly. The Order was large enough to have its own hall at Carr and 10th Street downtown, not far from today's America's Center convention area.

The Order's ritual stated that "It is the purpose of our order to preserve and foster the use of the German language wherever it may be, to give to German speaking citizens an opportunity to promote their spiritual and their material welfare, and to uplift and elevate their social conditions. This is accomplished by joining into individual bodies, called lodges, which are united by a common bond, so that each member of the order may feel and know himself to be a brother of every other member, and one of a great whole. Individually and together, we walk by the side of the suffering and needy that we may carry into our daily life and practice, through charity and benevolence, the spirit of our order."

I am sure that there was much caring friendship, German Gemütlichkeit, and singing among the Harugari. The lodge must have strong brotherly bonds enough to feel the need to purchase a cemetery for their members and their families.



APRIL 29, TRACTOR PARADE, DE SOTO

The Camp and Auxiliary turned out again to march and ride in the annual De Soto tractor parade, which marks the opening of the town’s farmer’s market. Colissa Alexander, Izaiah Hickman, Don Roussin, Jr., Doug and Kathie Roussin, charioteer Alan Trodus, and Abbie, Twyla and Chris Warren took part.



MAY 29, MEMORIAL DAY, JEFFERSON BARRACKS, ST. LOUIS COUNTY

Members of the Camp participated in the annual Memorial Day event at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. After the hour-long event held for multiple civic and patriotic organizations, the U. S. Grant Camp was in charge of a Civil War remembrance in the (mostly) Civil War section of the cemetery.

Other than a long walk for participants and observers to get to the area, the event came off very well. Bob AuBuchon was in the firing detail. Sumner Hunnewell stood in as Chaplain for the invocation and benediction since Msgr.

Michael Witt was not feeling well. Alan Trodus used our magic bugle to sound “Taps” at the end of the event.

Members of the DUVCW 1861-1865, the WRC, and Turner’s Brigade were also in attendance.

HONORING OUR UNION SOLDIERS & SAILORS ON THIS 155th ANNIVERSARY OF MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 29, 2023 11:00 AM
Civil War Section, Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, Lemay, MO 63122



Program
Posting of the Colors
Invocation
Pledge of Allegiance
Welcome Statement & Recognition of Special Guests
By Craig Mathews, Sr. Commander - US Grant Camp 68
Speaker: Robert Amadio, Jr. Missouri SUVCW Commander
Keynote Speech
By Monsignor Michael Witt - Kenrick Summary - "Carrying on the Legacy"
Presentation of Wreaths
Military Salute
Taps
Benediction
Conclusion

Event sponsored by U.S. Grant Camp 686, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, St. Louis, MO. www.usgv.com



Chaplain Duties



Our Bugler



APRIL MEETING MINUTES

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

10 April A. D. 2023, Redeemer Lutheran Church, De Soto, Missouri

Attendees: Sons: Mark Arbuthnot (JVC, Council, PI), Bob AuBuchon (Council), Billy Hickman, Izaiah Hickman, Ted Howell, Don Roussin (Council), Doug Roussin (Council), Alan Trodus (Treasurer), Chris Warren (CC)

Auxiliary: Colissa Alexander (President), Nancy Howell (Chaplain), Patti McClelland (XXX), Kelley Noack, Kathie Roussin (VP), Mary Ellen Roussin, Abbie Warren (Guide), Twyla Warren (Secretary/Treasurer)

Treasurer Report was read by Alan Trodus and approved.

Sword Raffle – Billy Hickman \$36.00.

AUXILIARY REPORT

Colissa Alexander said they have made 238 food donations. 229 cards were made and given to East Hills and Stone Bridge Nursing Homes plus three Baskets. There will be a 29 April meeting with National President. They received two Thank You notes for 120 food items and \$55 from De Soto Food Pantry and Shared Blessings.

CAMP REPORT

Commanders Report – Chris passed Teacher Certification Test. Chris received Teacher of the Month award. SVR Co E Adjutant Alan Trodus received call from Lt Col Brown , 4th Military District Commander. Chris Warren is inactive 1st LT of SVR and cannot be Co. E commander until he submits Form 3 Application with a request to return to Active Duty. Form 19 must be submitted now with Strength Report signed by Doug Roussin. Both have been done. Co. E has five new PVT's Dan Busch, Walt Busch, Mark Coplin, Gary Scheel and John Avery. Promotions in Co E. are Mark Arbuthnot PVT to SGT, Sumner Hunnewell, PVT to CORP, Don L Roussin Jr., PVT to CORP, Izaiah Hickman, PVT to CORP. Duncan Noack remains as CORP Musician. Congratulations!!

Chris expects to induct new member of Camp at next meeting. Chris would like to see Camp have a \$100 camp sponsored scholarship for high school students. Future action.

Doug discussed about talking to music director about getting a drummer for future parades since Duncan is so far away.

Mary Ellen Roussin was inducted into the Auxiliary.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Planning meeting for Volker monument after Park Days at Pilot Knob at Kelly's Lake property.

Perry V. Fletcher grave marker awaiting word from Jake before planning dedication.

NEW BUSINESS

National and Department dues must be submitted by 30 April. Form 27 due. May need form 30 for Izaiah going from Junior Associate to Associate.

Approved/Purchased \$25 ad for Get Healthy DeSoto Christmas book. Check written.
 Camp to buy 20 Blue folders. Doug to get check before next Department encampment.
 Plan to participate: 29 April DeSoto Tractor parade. Alan Trodus submitted entry form.

Upcoming events:

- 3-4 June Pittsfield
- 4 July Parade DeSoto, MO
- Pilot Knob camp-out—Chris to get date /permission.

Next Meeting Monday, 8 May.

The meeting was Adjourned at 8:03 p.m.
 Mark Arbuthnot talked about his grandpa in “Who’s my Grandpa”?
 Snacks were provided by Billy Hickman

TREASURER’S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer’s Report for APRIL 2023

Balance from last report (March 2023)	3267.98
<u>Expenditure</u>	
SVR Dues #1309	58.00
SVR Commission fee (Chris) #1310	3.00
SVR additional Dues #1311	16.00
<u>Income</u>	
Commission Fee (Chris Warren)	3.00
<u>Current Balance (10 April 2023)</u>	3193.98
Checking Account	2277.93
Cash	866.05
IOU to fund Sword cash box	50.00
Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
Gift cards	0.00
<u>End Balance</u>	3193.98

— Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

MAY MEETING MINUTES

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

8 May A. D. 2023, Redeemer Lutheran Church, De Soto, Missouri

Attendees: Sons: Mark Arbuthnot (JVC, Council, PI), Billy Hickman, Izaiah Hickman, Ted Howell, Sumner Hunnewell (Secretary), Don Roussin (Council), Doug Roussin (Council), Alan Trodus (Treasurer), Chris Warren (CC)

Auxiliary: Colissa Alexander (President), Susan Breland (Council, PI), Nancy Howell (Chaplain), Kathie Roussin (VP), MaryEllen Roussin, Abbie Warren (Guide), Twyla Warren (Secretary/Treasurer)

The Commander called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. Brother Arbuthnot led the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the last meeting were not distributed. They will be in the next (this) newsletter.

Brother Trodus gave his treasurer's report (see below).

Sister Twyla Warren explained income and expenditures. Their bank balance is \$816.11.

Motion made to accept the camp's treasurer's report subject to financial review. Passed.

Motion made to accept the auxiliary's treasurer's report subject to financial review. Passed.

AUXILIARY REPORT

President Alexander was present at a Zoom meeting with the National Officers and auxiliary. They still do not have a Patriotic Instructor. National is asking for financial donation or something to raffle off at National. Sumner said he would bring something to raffle. If you have anything to put in the national newsletter, send it to Allison Pollitt. There is a password for the member's only section of the ASUVCW website (ask Colissa if you need it). There is a \$1000 scholarship for a senior H. S., who is accepted to a college. The Volker Auxiliary will have its own scholarship offering next year. If anyone is interested in running for a national office, please contact the national organization.

Doug said that Kathie won an award for her display of 400 clay pipes and it might make a good article for the national newsletter.

Kathie asked if there might be something that the auxiliary could raffle. Doug said he has some Confederate statues.

Twyla reported that ladies should be recording hours, donations, mileage, and efforts in order to report to National.

Susan said that the event for the Harugari Cemetery could be used in the national newsletter as well.

CAMP REPORT

Commander Warren updated our blue book of Camp activities. The SVR update: efforts are underway to make sure that our company is correctly reported. We may have a new member, Andrew, and his grandmother (auxiliary). They live about 2½ hours from De Soto.

On Saturday, April 21, the committee for the Volker Monument met. Doug said that he talked to someone at the Potosi funeral home. Discussed a polished gray granite stone placed in concrete. It would have laser cut black lettering (20 cents per letter). The home could make a simple drawing of a telegraph sender/receiver to use on the stone. The lead time is 24 weeks.

There would be no additional cost to set the stone in place. DUVCW 1861-65 Dent Tent knows of this, but wants to wait (per Chris) till we get further along. There is a wide variety of grant / donation opportunities. Doug will make a request for money from the Department, National uses Form 62 for new monument requests.

Doug is still waiting on the Perry V. Fletcher monument. "It is on the truck." We will set a date for a dedication/ceremony at the next Camp meeting.

Doug invited an acquaintance to the meeting and will invite him over the next couple of months.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Past events.

April 11 – Members attended the St. James Camp meeting and program on Forts of Cape Girardeau.

April 13 – JROTC award ceremony at Farmington High School. Chris presented. We decided to buy some JROTC medals just-in-case. We will purchase six, two will go to the Grant Camp.

April 21 – School Days. 400 school kids at Pilot Knob. Colton, Chris, and Abbie attended.

April 22 – Park Day and Turner Brigade Spring Drill. Billy, Izaiah, Duncan, Kathie, Doug, Colissa, Susan, Twyla, Chris, and Abbie were in attendance.

April 22 – Harugari Cemetery ceremony (Grant Camp sponsored). Patti, Susan, Bob, and Sumner attended.

April 26 – JROTC award ceremony at Fredericktown. Presented by Doug.

April 29 – Farmer's Market / De Soto Tractor Parade. Doug, Don Roussin, Alan, Chris, and Izaiah participated.

April 29 – Flag retirement. Chris and Abbie attended.

May 4 – School Day at Pilot Knob. The Warrens attended.

May 5 – Pioneer Day Civil War. 400 children. The Noacks attended.

NEW BUSINESS

Our Camp has nothing in particular planned but is asking members to do something to honor our Union relatives.

These are Camp/Auxiliary events.

June 2-3 – Department Encampment

June 24 – SVR, NCWAA Artillery School, St. John's Lutheran Church, Beaufort, MO

July 4 – 4th of July parade, De Soto. Alan will drive the float.

July 22 – U. S. Grant Remembrance Ceremony (Grant Camp), Whitehaven

August 26 – Civil War Courthouse Occupation (St. James Camp), Ste. Genevieve

These are events of interest.

May 27-29 – Fort D living history, Cape Girardeau

June 3-4 Reenactment, Pittsfield, IL

June 7 – Summer School Program, Leadwood, MO

June 20 – Stars & Stripes Museum Day Camp, Bloomfield, MO

July 18-20 – Scouts Day Camp (Civil War camp July 18)

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Alan said that Franklin Co. Hist. Soc. is looking for a talk on 6/11, 7/9, 7/16. Would like someone to talk about Franklin County and the Civil War in Union, Missouri? Doug could talk about equipment. Chris suggested Gary Scheel (Alan will contact).

Sumner will extend an invitation to the Grant, Wilhelmi, and St. James Camps for the July 4 parade.

Doug said that other camps are watching our camp and are envious.

Sumner has songbooks from the Order of the Indian Wars of the United States to give away.

Sumner said he had a good experience with gopherrecords.com. He requested four pension records and received them in full color in about 10 days. They are cheaper and faster than the NARA.

Ted said that we ought to make paper dolls for girls. Ted would be willing to use his photos for the effort. Everyone thought it was an excellent idea.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer's Report for MAY 2023

Balance from last report (April 2023)	3193.98
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Ad Get Healthy DeSoto #1312	25.00
Americana order #1314	672.00
Nat'L/Dept Dues 2023 Dues #1313	546.00
Mail tubes for Honorable Discharges (cash)	5.18
Mailing Honorable Discharges (cash)	9.50
<u>Income</u>	
SVR Dues (5 new people) (Chris Warren)	15.00
SVR Officer Dues (Doug Roussin)	1.00
<u>Current Balance (6 May 2023)</u>	
Checking Account	1034.93
Cash	867.37
IOU to fund Sword cash box	50.00
Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
Gift cards	0.00
<u>End Balance</u>	1952.30

— Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

YOUR CAMP OFFICERS

**Commander, Chaplain, Eagle Scout
Coordinator, Counselor (ASUVCW):**

David Christopher Warren
the_civilwar_guy@yahoo.com

Senior Vice Commander:

Steve Alexander
stevewonderful@sbcglobal.net

**JVC, Council Member, Patriotic
Instructor:**

Mark Elmo Arbuthnot
markelmoarbuthnot@gmail.com

Council Member, Historian:

Donald Lee Roussin, Jr.
gastbeer1954@yahoo.com

Council Member:

Douglas Wayne Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Secretary, GRO, CW Memorials Officer:

Sumner Gary Hunnewell
HildifonsTook@prodigy.net

Treasurer:

Alan Richard Trodus bigalastro@yahoo.com

YOUR AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President

Colissa Alexander lissasong@sbcglobal.net

Vice President:

Kathie Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Council No. 1:

Colleen D. Warren

Council No. 2, Patriotic Instructor:

Susan Breland brelandsusan@yahoo.com

Council No. 3

Kelly Noack kdn417@msn.com

Chaplain:

Nancy Howell tedhowell@charter.net

Secretary, Treasurer, Press Correspondent

Twyla D. Warren clementine_clc@yahoo.com

Patriotic Instructor:

Patti McClelland pattimcclelland55@gmail.com

Guide:

Abigail Warren

CALENDAR

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

NOTE WE NOW MEET ON SECOND MONDAYS!

Department Encampment, Springfield, Mo., June 2-3
Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, June 12
SVR, NCWAA Artillery School, St. John's Lutheran
Church, Beaufort, June 24
4th of July parade, De Soto, July 4
Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, July 10
U. S. Grant Remembrance Ceremony (Grant Camp),
Whitehaven, July 22
Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, August 14
Civil War Courthouse Occupation (St. James Camp), Ste.
Genevieve, August 26

Camp/Auxiliary Meetings

June 12
July 10
August 14

April birthdays

9 Sumner Hunnewell
11 Alan Richard Trodus
25 Izaiah Hickman

June birthdays

4 Patti McClelland



Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 NEWSLETTER

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.



From Commander Warren

Greetings All,

It has been a busy time these past several weeks, with a hectic Civil War history schedule. I have been out and about representing us and our boys in blue with Civil War educational programs at two historical forts; two Civil War Summer School programs; a Civil War Living History; practice for an upcoming training program for historical interpreters; a Civil War Day Camp at a museum; and preparing for the upcoming SVR artillery school; the interpreter training program; a 4th of July parade; and another Civil War Day Camp for BSA - all of this plus our meetings and assisting the Volker Auxiliary with annual paperwork. This is keeping your Camp Commander extremely busy. It looks as though I may have an Eagle Scout Court of Honor and a couple of historical society first-person history programs in the foreseeable future. We have been adding members to the camp, auxiliary, and SVR unit as well. Take care, be cautious as summer approaches with the heat, and I will see you all soon.

-Chris Warren

Commander Warren

CONTENTS

- 1 From Commander Warren
- 2 Camp and Auxiliary on the Move!
- June 3-4—Civil War Reenactment, Pittsfield, Ill.
- June 16, Living History, Potosi
- 4 From Mexican War to the 20th Maine: The Life of Capt. Elisha Besse, Jr.
- 9 Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Report, June
- 12 Officers / Calendar

**Is this secessionist lost
on his way back to Dixie?
See page 2.**



Don't be shy!



**Your Brothers and
Sisters of the Allied
Orders want to see you
at a Camp and
Auxiliary meeting!**



NO JULY MEETING



The Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary on the Move!**JUNE 3-4, CIVIL WAR REENACTMENT, PITTSFIELD, ILL.**

Several members of the General Fletcher Camp and Louisa Volker Auxiliary attended Lincoln Days in Pittsfield, Illinois. It was a 2-day reenactment filled with fun and history. Brothers Mark Arbuthnot, Billy Hickman, Duncan Noack, and Izaiah Hickman as well as Sister Kelly Noack participated.



It is important to note that some of our Brothers are Sons Of Both, which explains why they might be dressed out in a drab shade of gray.

JUNE 16, LIVING HISTORY, POTOSI

The 34th Moses Austin Heritage Festival was held in Potosi to celebrate an early settler, whose 1795 house still exists in town. Our Camp and Auxiliary were asked by the organizers to set up a living history exhibit.



The Ladies of the Auxiliary were in fine style during the "Austin Fest."

To the left is Sister Kathie Roussin.

Below are Sisters Susan Breland, Twyla Warren, Kathie Roussin, Kelly Noack, Abbie Warren, and (soon to be Sister) Belinda Link.



MY 4TH GREAT UNCLE CAPT. ELISHA BESSE

FROM MEXICAN WAR TO THE 20TH MAINE:

THE LIFE OF CAPT. ELISHA BESSE, JR.

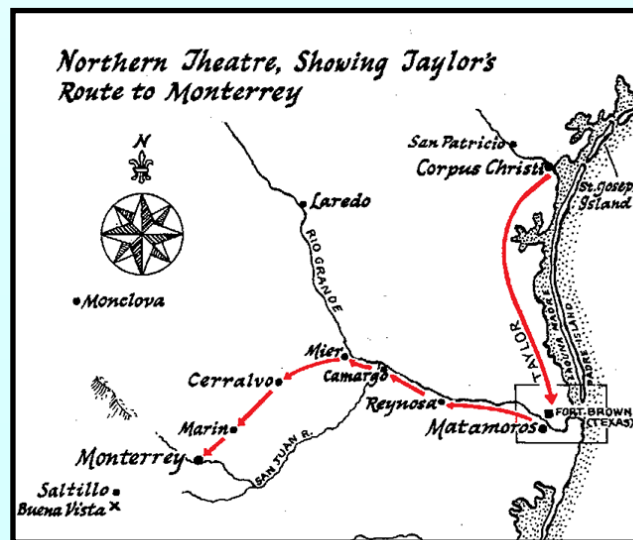
The Besse family came over from England to Massachusetts in 1635. The progenitor of the family was Anthony Besse, and one thing about the Besses: they never met a war they didn't like. From Anthony Besse, we have his son

- Nehemiah, who was in King Philip's War, whose son
- Robert was in the French and Indian War, whose son
- Jabez, somehow had no war to fight in and whose son
- Ebenezer was in the Revolutionary War, whose son
- Elisha was in the War of 1812, who had four sons, three of which were Union soldiers:
 - Pvt. Constantine D. Besse [see my article on him in the March 2022 issue]
 - Capt. Elisha Besse, Jr., the subject of this paper, and
 - Sgt. Samuel Besse, 2nd Maine Cavalry, died while on service in Florida in 1864.

Elisha Besse, Jr., who was born in 1822, grew up as a farmer in Winthrop, Maine. (One family notice said that he attended Bowdoin College, but I have searched the school catalogs of students and cannot find that he enrolled.) At 19 or so in Lowell, Massachusetts, he enlisted in the 1st U. S. Infantry Regiment as a sergeant. Where he went and what he did while serving his five year term is hard to determine. It is known that in 1843 he was sick at Fort Crawford (near Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin).

Toward the end of five year his hitch, war was declared on Mexico (May 12, 1846). General Zachery Taylor took 6600 men (about half U. S. regulars) into Mexico. He objective was Monterey. As can be seen by the map, the trip was a long one—about 400 miles from their starting point to their objective.

They reached Monterey in September. At this point, the 1st U. S. Infantry Regiment was under the command of Col. John Garland. It was on September 21, that Taylor decided to make a diversionary attack on eastern Monterey.



He was hospitalized through October in Monterey and honorably discharged on the 15th of that month. *So what do you do when have marched about 400 miles into the heart of Mexico, you are 24, wounded in the leg, and in a Mexican hospital?* Well, you are sort of invincible, so you sign on for another five years.

He spent time in hospitals in Villa Grande, Vera Cruz, and then the Sick Camp Washington near Vera Cruz. Not getting any better, the Army made him a recruiter and sent her all over the country: Newport, Kentucky (1848), Cleveland (?), and St. Louis (1851). During this time (1848), he married Catherine (née Sullivan) McIntyre in Beaver County, Pennsylvania. While he was in St. Louis, he was mustered out on October 15, his five year obligation now complete.

So, what do you do when you are 29, wounded in the leg, and aren't useful in the field any more for the U. S. Army? Well, you go back home.

For a good while, he lived in Winthrop and worked as a journeyman shoemaker and farmer as much as his infirmities would allow him. If he wanted to get away from it all, he make the right decision by moving to Aroostook County, Maine, first to Linnaeus in 1860 and then a year later to nearby Oakland. Aroostook County isn't the end of the world, but you can see if from there.

And then the Civil War started.

Seeing an opportunity for regular work, he enlisted in the 20th Maine Infantry. When the regiment was started, he was the commissary sergeant and then was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant. He was under Capt. Henry C. Merriam, who would later be awarded the Medal of Honor.

By May 1863, he had been promoted to 1st Lieutenant, but during that time the 20th Maine was not idle. They were held in reserve in Antietam, but were involved in the first battle of Fredericksburg and the disastrous charge on "Mary's Heights." Next was Chancellorsville, but they did not participate because they were quarantined due to a suspect smallpox inoculation. However, it was during that time rushing through Virginia that Besse developed rheumatism. He was also involved in a small battle in Aldie, Virginia, which did not help his health.

The next battle that the 20th Maine participated in was Gettysburg in July. There is no reason to retell the story, but Besse must have been the model soldier at the time as will be seen. The chasing of Lee's troops south was too much for Besse's frail condition to take. By July 15, he became sick and he was relieved of active duty by August 19.

Obviously, Joshua Chamberlain believed that Besse would recover fully. Writing from Brunswick, Maine, to the Governor of Maine on August 7, 1863, Chamberlain requested:

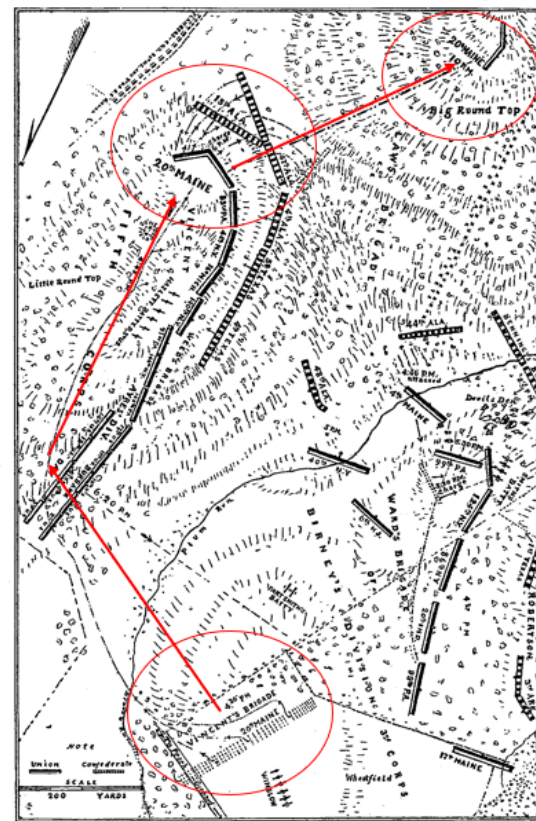


Diagram showing Little Round Top and Devil's Den, with positions of Twentieth and Fourth Maine regiments.
Also a portion of the Wheatfield where Vincent's brigade entered, and Seventeenth regiment engaged.

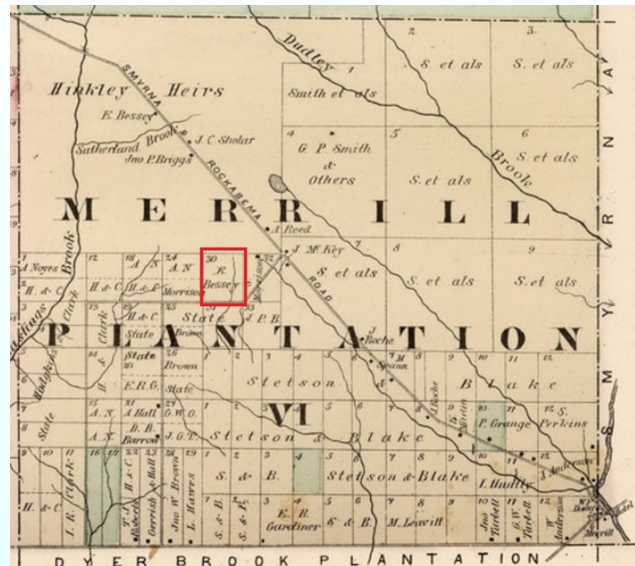
I have only to name at present Lieut. Elisha Besse of Company "I" as Captain of Company "A". Lieut. Lewis now in command of "A" forfeited all claim to promotion by overstaying a leave of absence a few months ago...Lt. Besse has had charge of that company a good deal, & he would be just the man to make up for the deficiencies of Mr. Lewis. The company needs a captain & I hope Mr. Besse may receive the appointment.

The request was granted.

Besse spent the fall of 1863 at a hospital in Washington, D. C. To keep him busy, he sat on five month's worth of courts marshal. But his condition was getting no better, so he was discharged in February 1864. Because he was never reunited with his regiment, his captain's commission was never presented.

By this time, Besse was 42 years old. He had served his country well but, like many of his fellow soldiers, he would bare the toil that the war took upon his body. He moved to Merrill Plantation in Aroostook County (the red square denotes his land). When he moved there, the town had 100 souls and 150 years later it has just twice that. He was a Methodist.

One thing was certain, life was not easy in this remote area of Maine. Of the eight children the couple had, only two survived. He would move to the nearby towns of Bridgewater and then finally to Smyrna Mills.



Besse was unusual in that he received two pensions and, as his health failed, he continued to request additional money. His monthly payments:

- 11 Feb. 1860 \$3
- 7 Feb. 1864 \$8.62 ½
- 8 June 1880 \$12.37 ½
- 29 Apr. 1884 increase rejected
- 21 Oct. 1885 \$15
- 10 Nov. 1887 \$24
- 5 June 1889 \$30

ECHORS OF THE STATE.

Man Who Draws Two Pensions from Government.

Elisha Besse of Bridgewater is one of the few men that draws two pensions from the United States government—one for serving two years in the Mexican war, from 19 to 21 years of age, and one for serving one year and ten months in the war of the rebellion. He entered the Union army when 30 years old, and rendered important service by being an old soldier in an army with so many undrilled and inexperienced troops. He is now 72, and has suffered nearly all his life from a wound received in the Mexican army.

This 1897 article about Besse's two pensions makes interesting reading even if most of the facts in it are incorrect.

Of the 12000+ soldiers in the Mexican American War database maintained by the U. S. Park Service, there are fewer than 500 that were born in Maine.

Elisha's health continued to slide as he grew older.

Part of the issue was the distance to a doctor in order to be reevaluated for additional pension benefits. His advocate wrote that to make it Bangor, Maine, Elisha "will need to travel by stage twenty miles or more and then by rail one hundred and seventy five." Requests were made to have a doctor visit him at home.

At 65, he could not dress himself and his right hand was worthless. Two years before, he could not raise his arms high enough to touch the top of his head.

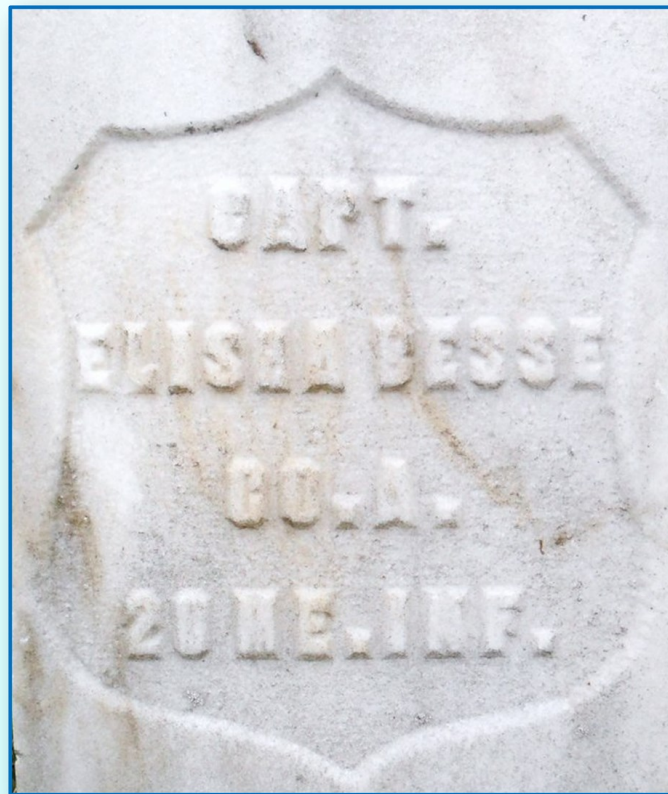
At 78, he was in need of a helper and spent most of his time in bed. He requested \$50 / month pension money and the doctor concurred, however, no increase was granted.

In 1902 when Elisha was 80, his wife Catherine was desperate "It is an urgent Case for my husband is 82. feeble and is unconscious of everything and knows nobody memory gone and needs more Care and attendance than I can git for him with the means at my Disposal at present." No addition funds were paid.

Catherine was to die first on May 28, 1904, at Merrill Plantation. Capt. Elisha Besse died two month later at his son's home in Smyrna.

And so passed a brave and noteworthy soldier.

— Sumner G. Hunnewell, PDC



JUNE MEETING MINUTES

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

12 June A. D. 2023, Redeemer Lutheran Church, De Soto, Missouri

Attendees: Sons: Bob AuBuchon, Billy Hickman, Izaiah Hickman, Ted Howell, Sumner Hunnewell (Secretary), Doug Roussin (Council), Alan Trodus (Treasurer), Chris Warren (CC)

Auxiliary: Colissa Alexander (President), Susan Breland (Council, PI), Nancy Howell (Chaplain), Patti McClelland, Kelly Noack (Council), Kathie Roussin (VP), Abbie Warren (Guide), Twyla Warren (Secretary/Treasurer)

Guests: Belinda Link, Ed Link, Andrew Porter, Sheila Porter

Before the meeting started, members of the Orders introduced themselves to our guests.

The Commander called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. The assembly said the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the last two meetings were approved.

Guest Linda was asked to play Civil War tunes on her dulcimer, which she did.

Brother Warren gave a slideshow about the history of the SUVCW, our Camp and Auxiliary.

It was announced that our Camp won the Eads Award at the Department Encampment.

Bob AuBuchon, who is the Department Award chair, brought awards issued at the Department Encampment. The first award, the G. A. R. Award, was presented to the Volker Auxiliary. The second award, the Meritorious Service Award, was presented to Alan Trodus for his long service to our Department.

Brother Trodus gave his treasurer's report (see below).

Motion made to accept the camp's treasurer's report subject to financial review. Passed.

Sister Twyla Warren stated that the bank balance remains at \$816.11. They ordered a portfolio for the charter and will be ordering other toys to resell. XX will be joining tonight and has given an initiation fee. They have 80 dolls + 29 buzzsaw spinner things.

Motion made to accept the auxiliary's treasurer's report subject to financial review. Passed.

AUXILIARY REPORT

President Alexander said that she must fill the Counsel position on the passing of Colleen Warren. Kathie Roussin was nominated and elected to the position. There needs to be a "ladies paperwork meeting." This will happen on June 23 at Grace Lutheran Church (121 W. Kelley, De Soto) at 5 p.m. Next month, Colissa will not be available to take food from the next meetings to a food pantry. (No volunteers jumped at the opportunity.) They would like to go back to Ft. Davidson State Park to clean, since it is obvious that it needs it done on a regular basis. Doug suggested that his metal detecting club might coordinate with the effort. The form for Colleen Warren's death was completed. 990N was filed. Charitable activities forms should be passed in

CAMP REPORT

Commander Warren thanked every for notes of sympathy and attendance at his mother's funeral. She was a past president of the Auxiliary.

SVR update. Chris said he was taken off of the inactive list and made a 1LT.

INITIATION OF NEW MEMBERS

XXX was sworn in as a member of the Volker Auxiliary.

Andrew Porter was sworn in as a member of the Fletcher Camp.

CAMP REPORT (con't)

At the Department meeting, Doug requested \$500 for the Volker Monument, which was approved at the meeting. with the proviso that grant paperwork needs to be sent to the national SUVCW. Doug will ask national for \$1000 and Walt Busch will help with the paperwork. The total cost of monument will be about \$2000. The funeral home (our stone's supplier) will place the stone free. Doug made the motion that we match the Department's donation of up to \$500. Motion passed. The motion was made that the Volker Auxiliary will commit to \$150. Motion passed. Colissa said that she will ask the national ASUVCW if money is available. Sumner asked if the DUVCW was brought on board. Patti said she would pull together a list of contacts to pass on to Twyla.

Doug described the background Perry V. Fletcher and a replacement headstone. "It is on the truck somewhere." Doug is still waiting on a call.

A report was given by Bob and Sumner about the Department Encampment. Sumner said that the Department will be drafting two resolutions XXX. The only offices that have changed are those of Mark Coplin is the JVC and Dale Crandall is the Secretary.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

May still be doing a living history event at Fort Davidson State Park.

NEW BUSINESS

Ted Howell said that the Moody Bridge shrubs are looking dreadful. He suggests pruning them back and fertilizing them. Suggests replacing them with yellow knock-out roses. Doug and Ted will be on a beautification committee.

This weekend (June 17) we are asked to be participate as a Civil War Camp at the Moses Austin Festival in Potosi. Set-up at 8 a.m. on Jefferson past the court house down by the creek. Tents and flies will be set up. People should be in period outfits or uniforms. The Camp & Auxiliary will be able to sell items. Doug and Alan will go down the night before to set up. Lunch on your own.

These are Camp/Auxiliary events.

June 24 – SVR, NCWAA Artillery School, St. John's Lutheran Church, Beaufort, MO

June 24 – Old Mines 300th anniversary. Asking for a Civil War Camp set-up. It will be busy. We would be in a specific spot (two or three tents). Drill kids. Alan, Susan, Doug and Kathie will be there.

July 4 – 4th of July parade, De Soto. Alan will drive the float. Arrive at 9 a.m.

July 22 – U. S. Grant Remembrance Ceremony (Grant Camp), Whitehaven. Bob AuBuchon will be checking on a firing squad.

August 26 – Civil War Courthouse Occupation (St. James Camp), Ste. Genevieve

September 16 & 17 – Kirkwood Folklife Festival. Camp and Auxiliary should each have a 'table.' Alan will be making lead bullets. Doug and Kathie will have a table. Alan will get us a spot for the Camp.

These are events of interest.

June 20 – Stars & Stripes Museum Day Camp, Bloomfield, MO

July 18-20 – Scouts Day Camp (Civil War camp July 18)

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

THE JULY 10TH MEETING WILL BE CANCELED. Everyone will be contacted via email/text.

Keith & Norma Coplin (former members) have offered the use of their Boone Terre cabin for meetings/bonfires.

Patti passed around two cards to sign for someone going on an honor flight.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer's Report for JUNE 2023

Balance from last report (May 2023)	1952.30
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Parade Candy (Twyla) #1315	20.00
2024 Raffle sword (Doug) #1316	85.00
De Soto Chamber of Commerce 4 th of July parade fee #1317	15.00
<u>Income</u>	
Weapons Sales, Pittsfield Illinois Reenactment (cash)	351.00
Sword cash box IOU paid back (cash)	50.00
<u>Current Balance (12 June 2023)</u>	2233.30
Checking Account	1864.93
Cash	368.37
Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
Gift cards	0.00
<u>End Balance</u>	2233.30

— Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

We hope you are doing well, Mary Ellen,
and we are looking forward to your
return (bring your husband, too)!

YOUR CAMP OFFICERS

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Patriotic Instructor:

Patti McClelland pattimcclelland55@gmail.com

Guide:

Abigail Warren

CALENDAR

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

NOTE WE NOW MEET ON SECOND MONDAYS!

SVR, NCWAA Artillery School, St. John's Lutheran
Church, Beaufort, June 24

4th of July parade, De Soto, July 4

U. S. Grant Remembrance Ceremony (Grant Camp),
Whitehaven, July 22

Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, August 14

Civil War Courthouse Occupation (St. James Camp), Ste.
Genevieve, August 26

Camp/Auxiliary Meetings

-NO JULY MEETING-

August 14

June birthdays

4 Patti McClelland

July birthdays

26 Donald Lee Roussin



Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 NEWSLETTER

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.



Commander Warren

From Commander Warren

Hey Everyone:

Well, the weather has been warm, and we have been very busy over the last month. First off, I attended the National Civil War Artillery Association & 4th Military District S.V.R.'s "School of the Piece" (artillery school) on June 24th, and requalified on positions 1 - 6 as well as gunner. Then, on July 28th, my family and I were honored to be asked to help train the interpreters from 15 different Missouri State Parks & Historic Sites on Civil War programming. This took place at the Battle of Pilot Knob State Historic Site, where we presented two different first-person Civil War programs ("Letters Home" a skit about women on the home-front after the Battle of Pilot Knob, written by yours truly, and "Will the Real General Ewing Please Stand Up" a sort of program and audience participation game where the spectators get to ask questions and try to figure out the real Gen. Ewing). Next, Abbie and I participated with the group in the De Soto 4th of July Parade and Twyla & myself (along with a few friends from Turner Brigade) presented a Civil War Day (Civil War camp & kids boot camp) for the Ozark Trailblazers District - Scouts BSA - Day Camp on July 18th. In addition, we had a good group from Fletcher (and Twyla & Abbie from Volker) attend the U.S. Grant Remembrance Day ceremony at the Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site (White Haven) on July 22nd. Well, the Summer time is drawing to a fast close - school will be starting soon, couple of Civil War events in August, and having our meetings again. I wish you all well and, until we meet again, take care my friends!

Yours, Chris Warren

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- July 5, Funeral of MOLLUS Past C-in-C Douglas Reed Niermeyer, Eureka
- July 21, Lincoln Boyhood Home, Lincoln City, Ind.
- July 22, Grant Remembrance Day, St. Louis
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☆☆☆
Don't be shy!
 ☆☆☆
Your Brothers and Sisters of the Allied Orders want to see you at a Camp and Auxiliary meeting!
 ☆☆☆

Sumner traipsing around in Lincoln's footsteps. See page 8.

**Robbie Joel Howell****(1964—2023)****ROBBIE LIVED A CHALLENGING, MEANINGFUL LIFE****BY PEGGY BASS**

Reprinted with permission from the *Jefferson County Leader* (July 6, 2023)

When Robert Joel Howell left this life on April 19, dying of pneumonia at the age of 59 years and 25 days, some might have privately wondered whether he ever really lived at all.

After all, he never spoke a word, never took a step, couldn't feed himself or use a bathroom. He never even had the ability to change the channel on a TV.

But those who were closest to Robbie know the world was better because he was in it, and they grieve his loss.

"He loved and he was loved," said his mother, Nancy Howell of De Soto.

"He taught a lot of patience and humility and acceptance," said Ted Howell, Robbie's dad and Nancy's husband.

"He gave joy," said his nurse, Lisa Adams of Pony Bird, the facility where Robbie lived for the last 25 years, first at a residential home for the profoundly disabled in Mapaville and then in De Soto, closer to his parents.

Robbie was born March 23, 1964, in a U.S. Navy hospital in San Diego (Ted was in the service). The birth had been "difficult" and when Robbie failed to hit developmental milestones, the medical community cited brain damage.

"He was responsive in many ways," Nancy recalls. "He could smile and laugh, but he also cried a lot and had a failure to develop."

There were numerous meetings with doctors over the years, searching for treatments to give Robbie a better quality of life, but nothing helpful or even hopeful came of them, Nancy said.

“Every time you’d go to the doctor, you would come away just smashed. You hold out hope for that individual. You want to believe that there is something you can do. You never want to face the reality.”

The Howells couldn’t make Robbie better, but they could love him like he was – so that’s what they did.

For 34 years, Nancy, Ted and their firstborn son, four years older than Robbie, nurtured Robbie at home, with Nancy providing most of the hands-on care while Ted worked at McDonnell Douglas in electrical maintenance, driving an hour-and-a-half to and from his job.

Family, friends and fellow church members “pitched in,” Nancy said, since Robbie required 24/7 supervision and care.

She walks a fine line in explaining how cherished Robbie always was while still acknowledging how difficult it was to meet his needs as he aged into adulthood. Not only was it physically challenging, she worried about keeping him engaged with life.

“Ted and I did our best, but for Robbie, it must have been boring,” Nancy said.

Enter Pony Bird.

In 1998, a spot opened up there, just eight weeks after the Howells made the decision to ask for one.

Nancy remembers it as a wrenching time.

“I cried all the way home,” she said. “Ted felt it, too, of course, but he had to prop me up.”

She remembers waking up in the middle of the night, panic-stricken about the need to check on Robbie and once being in a grocery store, imagining she had left Robbie home alone.

“It was all I could do to keep from running to the car,” Nancy says.

But she and Ted knew they had made the right decision.

At Pony Bird, Robbie had medical care, opportunities to experience life more fully, and a community.

Ted and Nancy visited every Sunday after church and dropped in at other times.

At first, Robbie lost weight in his new environment, but gradually adjusted. In time, a poignant change took place.

“Ted and I began to notice that he didn’t seem to take note of who we were,” Nancy says. “He was willing to spend time with us and let us love him.

“But I could see that the staff at Pony Bird had become his family and we were the nice visitors. It was hard for a while, but you want him to be safe, secure and content.

“Pony Bird was a haven for Robbie, and we’re so grateful.”

Robbie’s nurse, Lisa, ironically also born in 1964, said Robbie oozed personality and she felt privileged to care for him.

“He loved to hold things in his hands and make noises (notably a rubber chicken and a tambourine) – he was a one-man band. He made us laugh. He was very social and very loved, and he lived a fulfilled life.”

Nancy said she was asked once if she would have had an abortion had she known the trials Robbie would face.

“Absolutely not,” she declares. “Life is a precious gift, no matter the infirmity. Every life has a purpose, a plan and a reason.”

Nancy imagines Robbie in heaven, free from his damaged body, but not doing jumping jacks or changing TV channels.

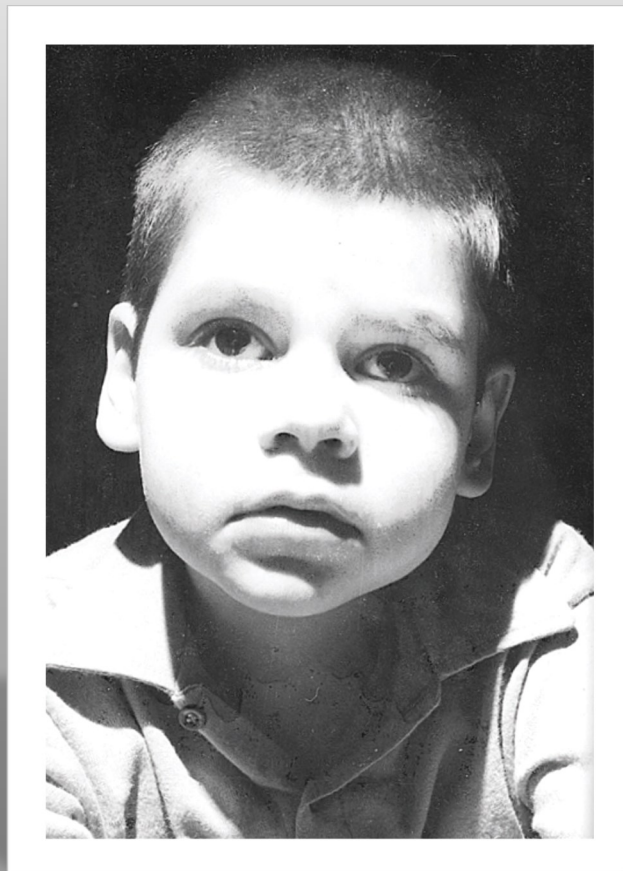
“I see him in my mind’s eye as more of a spirit – we will all be changed. I don’t see him doing earthly things in heaven.

“I was so torn to lose him, but he is a spirit in the presence of God, and how wonderful that must be and how good that must be for him.”

Ted is an artistic soul. As Leader readers know, he is a gifted photographer whose work has appeared in our pages hundreds of times. He also paints and felt moved to write a poem about Robbie, then about 6 years old, after a doctor likened his son’s brain to a piece of “gray dead driftwood.”

There was always more to see, Ted believes, if only you looked closely. Here’s an excerpt from “Child in Gray:”

*“Within his dark eyes,
A spark do I see,
A glimmer through gray fog,
A smile just for me.
He knows my voice,
But not his own name,
Yet, trusting is he,
No sorrow, no shame.
For who could withhold,
Any love for one day,
My son, my son,
My child in gray.”*



The Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary on the Move!

JUNE 24, LIVING HISTORY, OLD MINES

“Hot! Hot! Hot!” the text message said!

Members of the Camp helped celebrate the 300th anniversary of the village of Old Mines. The area was settled by the French, who mined in the area for lead, some 300 years ago. Our Camp set up a living history exhibit in the blistering heat as a part of the event.



*The French
come in two-by-
two, hurrah,
hurrah!*

*(The color of the
grass belies the
heat.)*

*Brothers Trodus,
Hickman, and
Roussin brave
the blazing
temperatures.*



The Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary on the Move!

JULY 4, INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE, DE SOTO

Both the Camp and Auxiliary once again participated in the local Fourth of July parade. There's nothing as nice as when people salute when the colors go by and nothing more disconcerting when they say to non-military members, "Thank you for your service!"

Our float is getting more extensive and shadier thanks to Alan. Quite a few brothers and sisters either marched or handed out flags. Ted Howell took some excellent photos.





This is a cropped photograph taken at the Fourth of July parade by professional photographer, Cody Lawson. It is printed with permission.



JULY 5, FUNERAL OF MOLLUS PAST C-IN-C DOUGLAS REED NIERMEYER, EUREKA

Sumner was asked to talk about Brother Niermeyer's life in the hereditary world during his funeral. He gave the following eulogy.

I am not sure when and where I first met Doug. By the time I did, his participation in hereditary societies was a bit thin. "Life got in the way," as they say. But I would come to learn that he was very active in leadership before I came onto the scene.



Sumner and Doug at a Washington's Birthday DAR event. He and his wife, Irene, became the King and Queen of Ste. Genevieve during the Twelfth Night Celebration.

Doug had some impressive ancestors that he could hang his hat on. Like many of us in the hereditary world, his genealogical information will, more and more as time goes by, be gathered up, digitized and made available for future generations. Just as we rely on many of those printed genealogies from a hundred years ago, the body of knowledge coming from our various applications, like Doug's, and mine, and yours will be invaluable.

When Doug joined the Society of Colonial Wars, he used his ancestor Governor John Anderson of New Jersey. Anderson was a Scot. (Doug would have known and appreciated that.) He was a ship's captain, who rescued other Scots who survived a failed colonization effort in Panama. He became a colonel in the militia and became acting governor of the state for a short 18 days before his death.

Doug became very active with the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of Missouri. He was its governor from 2001-2007. Six years is a long time to be the leader of any state organization and Doug was certainly an outsider to the tightly-knit group. He kept things moving along (although the records I have of the Society are skimpy during this period). He had meetings and outings to plan as well as events at the St. Louis Country Club. In 2002,

he published a newsletter which told about his trip to the General Court in Philadelphia. He really enjoyed the impressive national events. He and Irene traveled to Palm Beach in 2019 and then earlier this Spring to Delaware to attend the court. He was honored in Delaware as our state's representative during the flag ceremony. You are front and center here as your name and your state's society is called amid a fanfare. You march in alongside a flag bearer. I am glad that Doug had the opportunity to be honored that way.

I cannot say when Doug was the President of the Missouri Society, Sons of the Revolution, but I know that it was before the split with the General Society in 2011. When the Missouri Society essentially picked up its ball and said *auf wiedersehen* to the General Society and became the Missouri Society, Sons of the Revolution 1776, Doug maintained his ties there, serving as Historian and then on the Board of Managers. When the breakaway group fizzled, Doug joined the newly reconstituted Missouri Society and became its Captain of the Color Guard.

Doug was proud to be a member of the Society of the Cincinnati as well. He was very active to try to get "one Society of Friends" together here in the hinterlands. (The East Coast is usually where all of the action is.) I expect others will carry that desire further. One legacy that he leaves to you, Irene, is those same cordial affections that every member of the Cincinnati share. When the Society was formed at Major General Baron de Steuben's Quarters in 1783, provisions were made for the care of widows and orphans. Don't forget that.

Although Doug was an SOB, a Son of Both Union and Confederate ancestry, he rose to lead the Missouri Commander of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (or MOLLUS). As the 55th Commander-in-Chief from 2003-2005, he would have administrative and travel duties to perform. He was an expert on the Revolutionary War cannons that MOLLUS purchased in 1897 and placed in Lafayette Square. When the Daughters of the American Revolution hold their Washington Birthday ceremonies at Lafayette Square, as MOLLUS's representative, he would often be called on to explain the history of the cannons. Doug was also a member of the Wilhelmi Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. He was a busy guy.

Doug appreciated the company of fellow genealogists, historians, and people in general. He was a clearinghouse of information of local events, which he shared with us on every occasion.

One thing that was refreshing about Doug was that he never "pulled rank." After his day in the sun, I never heard him tell his successor how to do his job or complain about how things were happening or not happening. He was there to help when called upon. Those are qualities that are not always common in the world of hereditary societies.

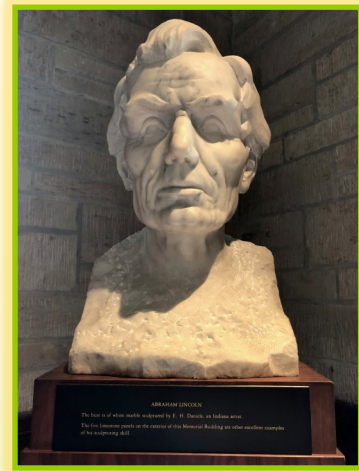
But above all these temporal laurels, what was important for him and for us is trust in the work of Jesus Christ – to win us salvation and eternal life. It will be good to see him again.

JULY 21, HITTING THE ROAD, LINCOLN CITY, IND.

What does Abraham Lincoln and *Star Trek* have in common? NO, not Episode 22 “The Savage Curtain.” Read on.

Your secretary and his wife visited the site of Lincoln’s boyhood home at the Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home and National Museum. If you have a few hours to spare while you are in the Southern Indiana neighborhood, it is well worth the trip to the state’s first national park.

There is a courtyard of friezes that commemorate Lincoln’s life, each capped with a quote. The friezes make the front of the Lincoln museum, which includes a church-like theatre. There you can watch a film about Lincoln’s life in Southern Indiana. It is narrated by Leonard Nimoy, Mr. Spock of *Star Trek*.



***And having thus
chosen our course,
without guile, and
with pure purpose,
let us renew our
trust in God
1809-1816 frieze***

***Labor is the great
source from which
nearly all if not all
human comforts
and necessities are
drawn
1816-1830 frieze***





It will have been proved that among free men there can be no successful appeal from the ballot to the bullet

1830-1861 frieze

I hope that in contemplation of universal law and of these constitution the union of these states is perpetual

1861-1865 frieze



The land had been cleared and the cabin is gone but a recreated farm setting is on the site. Vegetable gardens and farm animals



are near the recreated cabin, smokehouse, and workshop. A local volunteer interpreter was there to answer our questions.

MORE PHOTOS OF THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN BOYHOOD HOME AND NATIONAL MUSEUM



22 JULY, GRANT REMEMBRANCE DAY, ST. LOUIS

The U. S. Grant Camp #68 and the Julia Dent Grant Tent #16 (DUVCW 1861-1865) remembered the 138th anniversary of the death of General and President U. S. Grant at the Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site. Many members of the Camp and Auxiliary participated along with the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS), the Sons of the American Revolution, and The Society of the Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge (Grant's grandfather, Moses, was a private in the Revolutionary War).



Sumner with PDC Crandell



Men in blue at ease



Brother Billy Hickman places the Camp wreath



Sisters Abigail and Twyla Warren place the Auxiliary's wreath



Brother Noack with fife

Brother Hunnewell was the Master of Ceremonies. Brother Noack played appropriate musical selections on the fife and later the violin. Quoting Grant, he said that Grant “liked ‘Yankee Doodle’ and the other one” (without saying what the tune actually was). Brothers Warren and AuBuchon were in the event’s color guard.



The color guard in formation



Duncan Noack, Sumner Hunnewell, Izaiah Hickman, Chris Warren, Billy Hickman, Twyla Warren, Abigail Warren, and Bob AuBuchon

YOUR CAMP OFFICERS

**Commander, Chaplain, Eagle Scout
Coordinator, Counselor (ASUVCW):**

David Christopher Warren
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Secretary, Treasurer, Press Correspondent

Twyla D. Warren clementine_clc@yahoo.com

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Patti McClelland pattimcclelland55@gmail.com

Guide:

Abigail Warren

CALENDAR

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

NOTE WE NOW MEET ON SECOND MONDAYS!

National Encampment, August 3-6, Nashua, N. H.
Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, August 14
Civil War Courthouse Occupation (St. James Camp), Ste.
Genevieve, August 26
Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, September 11
Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, October 20, bonfire at the
Roussin's in De Soto <<< **note date and place**
Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, November 13

Camp/Auxiliary Meetings

August 14
September 11
October 20—Bonfire
November 13

July birthdays

26 Donald Lee Roussin

August birthdays

7 John McClure Robinson III

30 Dwain E. Asberry



Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 NEWSLETTER

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.



Commander Warren

From Commander Warren

Hello Everyone,
Well, August has started to get busy, and it looks like we have many activities coming up for the Fall 2023 season. This month, your commander has been on the road quite a bit and I have been honored to participate/attend several events. First, there was a special presentation of a Women in the Civil War exhibit and reception at the Battle of Pilot Knob State Historic. Next, our monthly meeting in De Soto (as we had decided to take a break and not have a July meeting this year). Following this, my family was honored to present a first-person program titled "Missouri's Forgotten Civil War Couple: Capt. Thomas H. Macklind & Louisa Volker Macklind" for the Farmington, Historical society. We had around 30 people in attendance and got some nice compliments and were invited to participate in another event. Finally, we assisted with the Civil War Living History & Reenactment in Ste. Genevieve with our brothers from the St. James Camp #326. Well, school has started back, and I am staying quite busy with this as well. I left my former public school position this year and began to teach at a Christian/Church School and have a combination of a classroom with 4th, 5th, & 7th graders (all subjects) and also 2nd & 3rd grades for Social Studies. My daughter is attending there as well, and we are enjoying it very much. I look forward to seeing all of our group at the next meeting - the Past National Auxiliary President, Allison Politte, will be attending to present my wife, Twyla Warren, with the National ASUVCW's Laura Miller award, so we hope to see you all there! We also have lots of upcoming events to discuss, and need each of your help to make these happen. Take care and see you soon!

Chris Warren, Fletcher Camp Commander

☆☆☆
Don't be shy!
☆☆☆
Your Brothers and Sisters of the Allied Orders want to see you at a Camp and Auxiliary meeting!
☆☆☆

Can you identify the people in this photo?

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**Ted William
Howell**

(1960—2023)

Ted William Howell was born September 16, 1960 in San Diego, California. He was the son of Ted R. and Nancy (née Love) Howell of De Soto, MO. He died on July 26, 2023, at his residence in De Soto, Missouri, at the age of 62 years. He is survived by his parents; one son, Trevor W. Howell, Park Hills, Missouri. He is preceded in death by his brother, Robert Joel Howell. Ted served in the U.S. Air Force and was a member of the Amvets Post #48.

The Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary on the Move!

AUGUST 26, LIVING HISTORY, STE. GENEVIEVE

On Saturday, August 26th, members Chris Warren, Izaiah Hickman, Billy Hickman, Abbie Warren, & Twyla Warren attended and participated in the St. James Camp #326's Civil War Living History and reenactment of the Union troops declaring martial law. We began around 10:00 a.m. with speaking to spectators, mingling with the public, and explaining why we had a city block near the Ste. Genevieve County courthouse blocked off. Abbie was busily demonstrating her Civil War era toys to the guests as they eagerly asked questions.



A little before 11:00 am, we began to prepare for the reenactment portion of the event. A group of us as enlisted soldiers filed past the crowd and took a place at the corner. Bob Mueller of St. James Camp was the Provost Marshall. Marty Aubuchon of St. James Camp acted as the officer in charge. As they began to discuss the action of declaring martial law, the troops (Gray Scheel, Ed Millinger, Chris Warren, & Izaiah Hickman) were marched in to control the "disloyal citizens." A few reenactors and friendly spectators, as southern sympathizers, were placed in the crowd to heckle the soldiers. After having to place some of these "under arrest" the sky grew dark, and it began to rain upon us. With the recent extreme heat, the rain was not unwelcomed. We finished out the vignette and went to dry off. The rain soon cleared with cooler temperatures and we sat back in the makeshift camp for a couple of hours visiting with spectators as they came by. By around 1:30 p.m., the crowds had disappeared and we decided it was time to close up the camp for the day just before 2:00 p.m.

AUGUST 18, HITTING THE ROAD, BRAZIL, IND., TERRE HAUTE, IND. AND EFFINGHAM, ILL.

With the new SUVCW.org website, National Officer Walt Busch has been updating the [National Monuments and Memorials Project](#)'s database and website. Having some free time traveling back from Indianapolis, Sumner, the Camp's monument officer, decided to stop on the way home and record some monuments on [Form 61](#). After he was done, he passed them on to Walt to clean-up and enhance.



Just futzing around old newspapers during the Second World War finds that a lot of Civil War cannons were scrapped for the war effort.

Brazil in Clay County, Indiana, two Civil War cannons have survived and are on the courthouse lawn. More details can be found [here](#). These are M1857 12-pound Napoleans. There isn't much to be found about who installed them originally, but the American Legion Post #2 restored them in 1998.

Terre Haute's Civil War memorial is truly impressive. It was dedicated on May 25, 1910, during the state's annual G. A. R. encampment in Indiana. At one time, the Indiana G. A. R. was a part of the Illinois Department until it reached critical mass and could be organized separately.

Feature of First Day.
 The feature of the opening day was the dedication of the Vigo county soldiers and sailors' monument at the courthouse. A large number of veterans came here yesterday, more than customary the day preceding an encampment, and this fact was regarded last night as evidence that the attendance this week would be unusually large. The morning trains came in sections. The Indianapolis delegation came on a special Big Four train arriving at 10 o'clock, as did also Governor Marshall, Commander Orlando Somers and other department officers. Illinois is such a close neighbor that many veterans came from over the state line. Then there were the added thousands of men and women born since the war, or since the department was organized, who were attracted to the city by the carnival week preparations. After them came the home people who wished to see the veterans and they added their thousands to the crowds in the downtown streets. Thousands also gathered in the vicinity of the courthouse, where the monument was dedicated this afternoon.





IN MEMORY
OF THE
PATRIOTISM AND VALOR
OF THE
SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF VIGO COUNTY
IN THE
WAR OF 1861—1865



Effingham in Effingham County, Illinois, has a county veteran's memorial on the old courthouse plaza. Included with other war memorials is an 1863 Parrot Rifle cannon. This was installed in 1910 and restored in 1983. Here, again, it is hard to find out who was involved with the original installation. However, there was an active Woman's Relief Corps auxiliary #145, which, evidently, was tied to the Yates Post #88 of the G. A. R. Details about the cannon monument can be found [here](#).



The WRC auxiliary, or its admirers, had their own stone monument installed at the other corner of the front of the courthouse, which now is the county's historical museum. As always, it is hard to track down details online about how these were installed and by whom. Further details about the WRC monument are found [here](#).

AUGUST MEETING MINUTES

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

14 August A. D. 2023, Redeemer Lutheran Church, De Soto, Missouri

Attendees: Sons: Bob AuBuchon, Billy Hickman, Izaiah Hickman, Ted Howell, Sumner Hunnewell (Secretary), Doug Roussin (Council), Alan Trodus (Treasurer), Chris Warren (CC), Don Roussin (Council)

Auxiliary: Nancy Howell (Chaplain), Kelly Noack (Council), Kathie Roussin (VP), Abbie Warren (Guide), Twyla Warren (Secretary/Treasurer)

The Commander called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. Brother Trodus led us in the pledge of allegiance.

Motion to accept the minutes as published in the June newsletter. **NOTE:** The June minutes had a placeholder "XX" for Sheila Porter. The Secretary apologizes for not catching this.

Brother Trodus gave his treasurer's reports for July and August (see below).

Motion made to accept the camp's treasurer's report subject to financial review. Passed.

Sister Twyla Warren stated that the auxiliary's bank balance is at \$708.34. Motion made to accept the auxiliary's treasurer's report subject to financial review. Passed.

AUXILIARY REPORT

President Alexander joined the Zoom meeting with the National President. The ASUVCW has no funding for monuments (Volker Monument). Paperwork has been submitted, including hours for charitable work. There is a display.

Sister Warren has won a national award from the ASUVCW: Laura Miller Award. The past National President wants to present this personally in the future.

CAMP REPORT

Commander Warren had no particular remarks. The Links will probably be joining.

Brother Doug has requested \$2000 from National for our Volker Monument effort. The Camp has put up \$500; the Auxiliary \$150; the Department \$500. Doug will receive something from national, but unsure what it is. He is hoping that we receive some money from the local historical society as well.

Perry V. Fletcher replacement headstone – no new news.

St. James Camp has asked for volunteers in uniform/period outfit for an August 26 event in Ste. Genevieve. The Warrens, Hickmans, and Don and Mary Ellen Roussin plan on being there. Meet at 10 a.m. by the courthouse.

The bushes at the Moody Bridge monuments were cleaned up courtesy of the Howells.

The Commander summarized the General Orders issued by C-in-C Hrisko.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bob and Sumner gave a recap of the National Encampment (see elsewhere in the newsletter).

Will do another clean-up at Pilot Knob on a Friday September 8 at 1 p.m. Sister Noack will open up her lake house for supper...lasagna on the menu.

NEW BUSINESS

These are Camp/Auxiliary events.

August 26 – Civil War Courthouse Occupation (St. James Camp), Ste. Genevieve.

September 16 & 17 – Kirkwood Folklife Festival. Camp and Auxiliary will be set-up together. The organizers are excited to have us there and we don't need to be next to Turner Brigade. Alan will be casting lead bullets (so he won't be able to sell anything). We need three tents. Kathie & Susan will be demonstrating cooking (will be selling). Friday set-up 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Need people to help man the SUVCW tent for recruit and selling things. Doug has details for the weekend.

October 14 – Caledonia's Pumpkin Festival. We have been invited but we haven't hear from the organizers at all. Saturday only.

October 20 – Bonfire at the Roussins. Potluck. 6 p.m. start time.

November 11 – Veterans Day parade, De Soto. Looks like they are charging us \$15 per parade now.

Christmas parade – December 2, De Soto.

Christmas banquet – Twyla has the contact person's name (Cindy Latham) 636 586 5227. Alan will handle. Friday Dec. 8 or 15 – tentative.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Keith & Norma Coplin (former members) have offered the use of their Boone Terre cabin for meetings/bonfires. Have our next meeting in November there with bonfire?

These are events of interest.

August 23 – Missouri's Forgotten Civil War Couple (the Maclinds), Farmington, MO

September 30 – Battle of Pilot Knob Retreat Route [to Leesburg] Auto Tour (8:30a-3:30p). RSVP to Fort Davidson State Park.

October 6-7 – Liberty Days at Stars and Stripes Museum, Bloomfield, MO

Sumner said that he had Gettysburg flag streamers to raffle. He also had Lincoln Boyhood Home NPS brochures. He presented Commander Warren with his SVR commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The post-meeting meal was provided by the Warrens (and a little something from Sumner).

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer's Report for JULY 2023

<u>Balance from last report (June 2023)</u>	2233.30
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Charter Case #1318	80.39
Andrew Porter Nat'l & Dept dues #1320	24.50
100 Camp Bank Acct checks (cash)	27.54
IOU for sword raffle cash box	50.00

Income

Andrew Porter dues	30.50
Old Mines (cash)	108.00
<u>Current Balance (20 July 2023)</u>	2189.37
Checking Account	1790.54
Cash	398.83
Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
Gift cards	0.00
<u>End Balance</u>	2189.37

Note: Sword Raffle results after "Old Mines" -- \$168.00

— Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT**General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer's Report for AUGUST 2023**

<u>Balance from last report (July 2023)</u>	2189.37
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Expenditure

None

Income

None

<u>Current Balance (13 August 2023)</u>	2189.37
---	---------

Checking Account	1790.54
------------------	---------

Cash	398.83
------	--------

Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
----------------------------	------

Gift cards	0.00
------------	------

<u>End Balance</u>	2189.37
--------------------	---------

Note: Sword Raffle results -- \$168.00

— Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

Looking for an Armchair Project?

[The Logan Brigade](#), a men's auxiliary to the [Women's Relief Corps](#), with the WRC is compiling a list of Civil War nurse gravesites. About 1,000 Civil War nurses have been identified and about half of those have a Find-a-Grave reference. This information is being gathered into a spreadsheet — a virtual cemetery.

How can you help? Contact Timothy O'Neal lb1826@yahoo.com, who (along with WRC VP Kathy Bower) is driving the project.

How do you do research? Using online newspaper archives is an easy way. For example, the Library of Congress's [Chronicling America](#) newspaper website allows you to search for terms (for example, "civil war nurse") by state and date range. Your secretary did this and found a dozen found in Maine newspapers and another seven found in Vermont newspapers, which had not been found before.

The WRC is a patriotic Order of the G. A. R. and has no hereditary requirement for membership.

YOUR CAMP OFFICERS

**Commander, Chaplain, Eagle Scout
Coordinator, Counselor (ASUVCW):**

David Christopher Warren
the_civilwar_guy@yahoo.com

Senior Vice Commander (*pro tem*):

Mark Elmo Arbuthnot
markelmoarbuthnot@gmail.com

**JVC, Council Member, Patriotic
Instructor:**

Mark Elmo Arbuthnot
markelmoarbuthnot@gmail.com

Council Member, Historian:

Donald Lee Roussin, Jr.
gastbeer1954@yahoo.com

Council Member:

Douglas Wayne Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Secretary, GRO, CW Memorials Officer:

Sumner Gary Hunnewell
HildifonsTook@prodigy.net

Treasurer:

Alan Richard Trodus bigalastro@yahoo.com

YOUR AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President

Colissa Alexander lissasong@sbcglobal.net

Vice President:

Kathie Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Council No. 1:

Kathie Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Council No. 2, Patriotic Instructor:

Susan Breland brelandsusan@yahoo.com

Council No. 3

Kelly Noack kdn417@msn.com

Chaplain:

Nancy Howell tedhowell@charter.net

Secretary, Treasurer, Press Correspondent

Twyla D. Warren clementine_clc@yahoo.com

Patriotic Instructor:

Patti McClelland pattimcclelland55@gmail.com

Guide:

Abigail Warren

CALENDAR

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

Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, September 11
Greentree Festival, September 16-17, Kirkwood
Central Region Allied Orders of the GAR, October 6-7,
Dayton, Ohio
Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, October 20, bonfire at the
Roussin's in De Soto <<< **note date and place**
Special Department Meeting, October TBD
Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, November 13

**The next issue will contain a report on the
National Encampment held in Nashua,
New Hampshire.**

Stay tuned.

Camp/Auxiliary Meetings

September 11
October 20—Bonfire
November 13

August birthdays

7 John McClure Robinson III
30 Dwain E. Asberry

September birthdays

22 Donald Steven Lillicrap, Jr.
30 Colissa Alexander



Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 NEWSLETTER

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.



Commander Warren

From Commander Warren

Everyone:

It has been very busy since our last newsletter. First, my family & I assisted the National Stars & Stripes Museum in Bloomfield with their annual Liberty Days on October 6th (with over 1,300 school kids attending). Next, we joined Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary members at Caledonia's Pumpkin Festival on October 14th with a Civil War encampment. Next, the Warrens presented a first-person program titled "Missouri's Forgotten Civil War Couple: Louisa Volker & Thomas Macklind" for the Iron County Historical Society (with some of Louisa Volker's descendants in attendance). Then, we had our annual camp/auxiliary bonfire at the Roussin's home in DeSoto. This was followed by back to back Veterans Day Parades (Farmington on November 4th and DeSoto on the 11th). In addition, I was honored at our November meeting to be re-elected to Camp Commander for the 2024 year. I am looking forward to our upcoming Christmas Parade & Annual Banquet, as well as the upcoming Bell Ringing in Civil War attire for the DeSoto Food Pantry. Well, here's to a busy rest of the year! I hope to see you all at one of our events soon.
Sincerely,
Chris Warren

☆☆☆
Let Brother Alan Trodus know by December 1 if you plan on attending the Christmas banquet.
☆☆☆

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2 Camp and Auxiliary on the Move!	November 11, Veterans Day Parade, De Soto
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The Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary on the Move!

AUGUST 3-6, NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT, NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

The National Encampment opened with the joint memorial service with the ASUVCW. This was a bad term for our past leadership. Eulogies were given for past C-in-C's Keith G. Harrison, Donald W. Shaw, and David V. Medert; past National President Betty J. Baker; and, SVR Brigadier General Henry E. Shaw, Jr. The memorial service was presided over by National Chaplains Jerry Kowalski and Rosemary Martin.

After a short recess came the officer reports and recommendations, which was the bulk of the two-day encampment. Here is a summary of some of the more important recommendations that passed during the 142nd National Encampment.

- The Kit Carson Monument in Sante Fe came up again. The SUVCW will provide a Deed of Gift for the GSA to resolve our ownership of the monument.
- There will be a committee to define lineal requirements and documentation.
- There will be a change in the percentage of associate members to be at the national vs. camp level. There can be no more than 49% associates at the camp level, however.
- There will be a creation of lifetime associate memberships.
- A camp officer can refuse to move into a vacated camp office.
- A camp charter can be maintained as long as there are FIVE brothers in good standing.



Encampment Medal

Here is a summary of some of the more important recommendations that were rejected.

- Allow associates to be counted in camp formation and have their names on the charter.
- National, Department, and Camp Patriotic Instructors be elected positions.
- Honor Roll Fund, where brothers pay \$10 to honor someone who served during the Civil War through a listing in *The Banner*.
- There was an attempt to allow a designation on the drape of the membership badge for additional proven ancestors, which was ruled out of order (get those recommendations in properly, folks!).

The Two Big Discussions during the encampment had to do with the definition of "male" and the General Orders (#24, #24A) about restriction of weapons by attendees of the national encampment.

The proposed definition of “male” was discarded and a simpler one was proffered from the floor, which was accepted by the encampment. Department Commander Amsler weighed in for the latter, simpler definition. A special Department Encampment will be required to approve this for the C&R.

C-in-C Frail explained someone threatened the national encampment with violence, which prompted his issuing of G. O. #24 and 24A. (Someone made the comment that disarming the encampment where a perpetrator might be the only armed person in the room would not make the situation any safer for attendees.) The encampment rescinded both General Orders #24 and #24A.

Elections: C-inc-C Peter Hrisko; SVC-in-C Keven Martin; JVC-in-C Kevin Tucker; QM Bob Welsh – all unopposed. There was one seat for Council of Administration and three candidates: Jeffrey French, Rodrick Fraser, Jr., and Mark Hale. Brother Fraser, Jr., from Massachusetts won.

The Campfire music was definitely the fare of some of the people there, but it missed me by about 10 years. The gift giving went on too long...no one set a time limit for each department. *Sometimes there is just not enough beer.* Both C-in-C Frail and NP Pollitt appreciated our gifts of books, coins, currency, &c.

The banquet was well attended, food fine, and staff attentive. All of us received a souvenir ‘medallion’ honoring the *USS Kearsarge*.



Souvenir Medal



Banquet Medallion

The encampment medal was nicely done. The souvenir medal, featuring the battle between the *USS Kearsarge* and the *CSS Alabama*, is Very Shiny Gold with an elegant design. The program book featured three articles, all unattributed. The first and longest has the history of both the *USS Kearsarge* and the *CSS Alabama*, their commanders, and their final battle. The next was on Colonel Edward Cross, commander of the 5th New Hampshire. Those who know about *Fox's 300* know that the 5th suffered more casualties (percentage-wise) than any other regiment in the Civil War. Certainly, Cross's "no retreat" policy had much to do with this. The last article was about "aeronaut" Thaddeus S. C. Lowe from New Hampshire. Lowe's balloon reconnaissance assisted in the U. S. Army during the war. If you haven't read your program book, pull it out and READ IT!



NEXT YEAR'S ENCAMPMENT: Lexington, Kentucky, August 1-4, 2024.



*Members of the Department of Missouri
 Brothers Walt Busch, Bob Petrovic, Bob Amsler, Jim Pahl, Sumner Hunnewell,
 Bob AuBuchon, Dale Crandell, Craig Mathews*

SEPTEMBER 11, AWARD PRESENTED, DE SOTO

During our September meeting Past National Auxiliary President, Allison Pollitt, traveled to De Soto to present Twyla Warren with the National Auxiliary's highest award for a sister. Twyla received Laura Miller Award for the years of outstanding contributions to the ASUVCW.

In 2019, The National Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War instituted the Laura Miller Award, presented by the National President or Department President to a Sister for exception service to the Auxiliary. The service needs to have occurred in a noteworthy manner at the National/Department level over an extended period of time for an extraordinary action by a Sister.



SEPTEMBER 16-17, GREENTREE FESTIVAL, KIRKWOOD

On Saturday & Sunday, September 16th & 17th, 2023, the Fletcher Camp and Volker Auxiliary set up historical demonstrations at the Greentree Festival in Kirkwood. Members presented soldier's equipment, bullet casting, period toys and games, Civil War music, and cooking skills of the mid-1800s. The groups also helped spearhead a brand new scavenger hunt for the event by handing out cards and prizes, and also stamping for five different spots on the cards (historic toys, Louisa Volker history, cannonballs, bullet casting, and Civil War music).



The event had thousands of visitors and the organizers were also very impressed with our groups abilities and knowledge (and begged us to return next year!).



A period photographer was in attendance and captured "likeness" (tintype photo) of Fletcher Camp Commander, Chris Warren, and his Volker Auxiliary Junior Member daughter, Abbie.

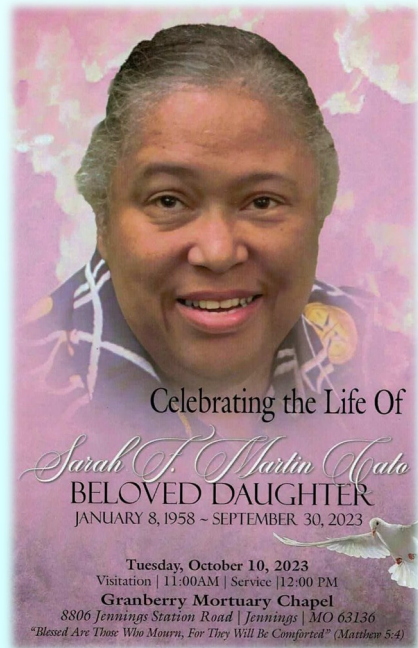


We had great representation from the Camp and the Auxiliary: Colissa Alexander, Bob AuBuchon, Billy Hickman, Izaiah Hickman, Kelly Noack, Colton Noack, Duncan Noack, Doug Roussin, Kathie Roussin, Alan Trodus, Abbie Warren, Chris Warren, and Twyla Warren.



OCTOBER 10, FUNERAL OF SARAH CATO, JENNINGS

Sarah Cato was a moving force to get recognition for the 56th USCT, who were re-interred at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis. Camp members Bob AuBuchon and Sumner Hunnewell represented the SUVCW at her funeral.



OCTOBER 20, 56TH USCT, JEFFERSON BARACKS NATIONAL CEMETERY, ST. LOUIS



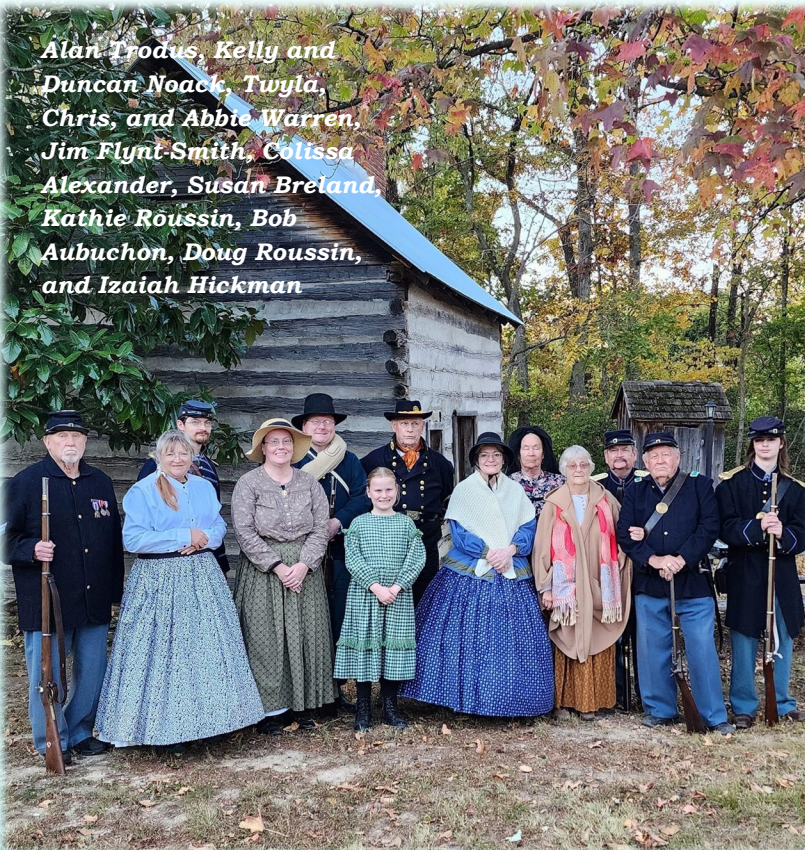
The U. S. Grant Camp No. 68 upped their game this year with their annual 56th USCT Infantry remembrance ceremony, flying in Brigadier General Byron S. Bagby for the well-attended event. Fletcher camp members participated. Dustin Noack provided musical selection, Bob AuBuchon was a liaison with the National Cemetery and managed the color guard, and Sumner Hunnewell handed out program books / souvenir ribbons.

56th United States Colored Troops (USCT) Infantry Remembrance

Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery
Friday, 20 October 2023



Two St. Louis television stations covered the event (including Mr. Noack, above).



Alan Trodus, Kelly and Duncan Noack, Twyla, Chris, and Abbie Warren, Jim Flynn-Smith, Colissa Alexander, Susan Breland, Kathie Roussin, Bob Aubuchon, Doug Roussin, and Izaiah Hickman

OCTOBER 20, FLETCHER HOUSE GHOST WALK, HILLSBORO

For many years now the Camp and Auxiliary has supported Jefferson County's civic events, including the Ghost Walk at the Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher House in Hillsboro. A small living-history site is created where our brothers and sisters can interact with the public, who come to tour the house, visiting "ghosts" of the past in each of the historic house's rooms.

**NOVEMBER 4, MARKER DEDICATION,
HARMONY CHURCH CEMETERY,
INNSBROOK**

Bob AuBuchon, Billy Hickman, and Izaiah Hickman participated in a Civil War marker dedication. The cemetery has unknown Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.



NOVEMBER 4, VETERANS DAY PARADE, FARMINGTON

Once again, brothers and sisters of our Orders turned out to honor veterans in Farmington.



1st row: Abbie Warren
2nd row: Duncan Noack, Chris Warren, Alan Trodus, Doug Roussin
3rd row: Susan Breland, Twyla Warren, Kathie Roussin, Kelly Noack

NOVEMBER 11, VETERANS DAY PARADE, DE SOTO

A week later, our Camp and Auxiliary marched or rode in the De Soto parade. It was also the day where we drew the name of our sword raffle.

**Chris Warren,
Kelly Noack,
Billy Hickman,
Colissa
Alexander,
Abbie Warren,
Kathie Roussin,
Twyla Warren,
Izaiah Hickman,
Doug Roussin,
Alan Trodus**



**The raffle winner!
Rob Coleman from
De Soto!**

**NOVEMBER 11, VETERANS DAY CEREMONY,
FARMINGTON**

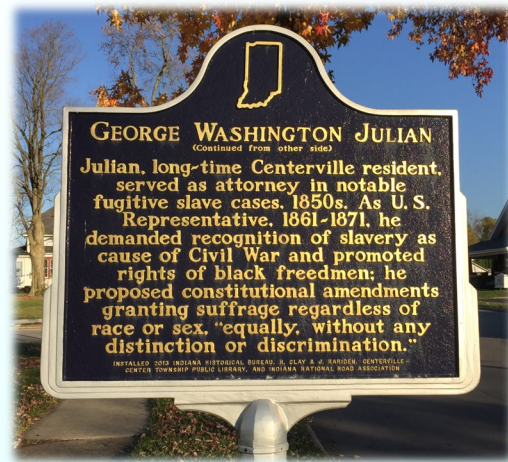
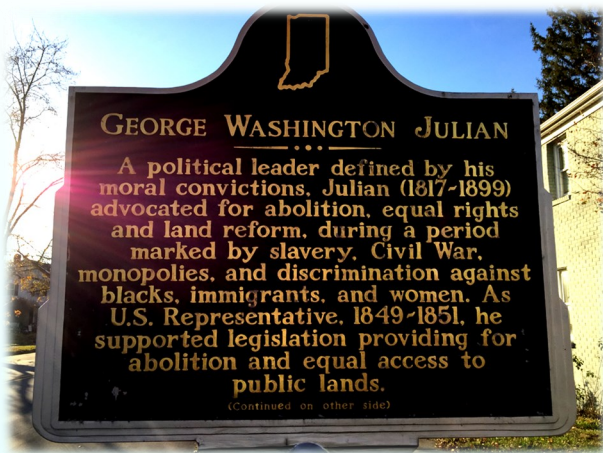
Susan Breland represented us at the wreath laying ceremony in Farmington on Veterans Day.



NOVEMBER 18, HITTING THE ROAD, CENTERVILLE, EAST GERMANTOWN, CAMBRIDGE CITY, AND RICHMOND (ALL WAYNE COUNTY), INDIANA

With the new SUVCW.org website, National Officer Walt Busch has been updating the [National Monuments and Memorials Project](#)'s database and website. Having some free time traveling to Richmond, Indiana, Sumner, the Camp's monument officer, decided to stop there and back again to record some monuments on [Form 61](#). After he was done, he passed them on to Walt to clean-up and enhance.

Most of these markers, monuments, and paintings are found as you travel U. S. 40. So, if you are not in a rush, this becomes an alternative to the faster I-70.



The first marker was found outside of someone's home (320 E. Main St.) in Centerville for abolitionist, George Washington Julian. His views (like his namesake's) was truly revolutionary. (The marker evidently does not get much attention because the home owner decided to take a walk with his dog around his house...just to see what was going on...)



"When I was a young fellow, I remember some of the old band members and had quite a few talks with them concerning the band and their experiences during the Civil War. It always seemed to me that none of them would talk very much about it or tell me very much....I came to the conclusion that what they all had gone through with, they did not care to talk about it much." (*The Palladium-Item*, 7 July 1965). The marker is at US 40 and Milton St. in East Germantown.

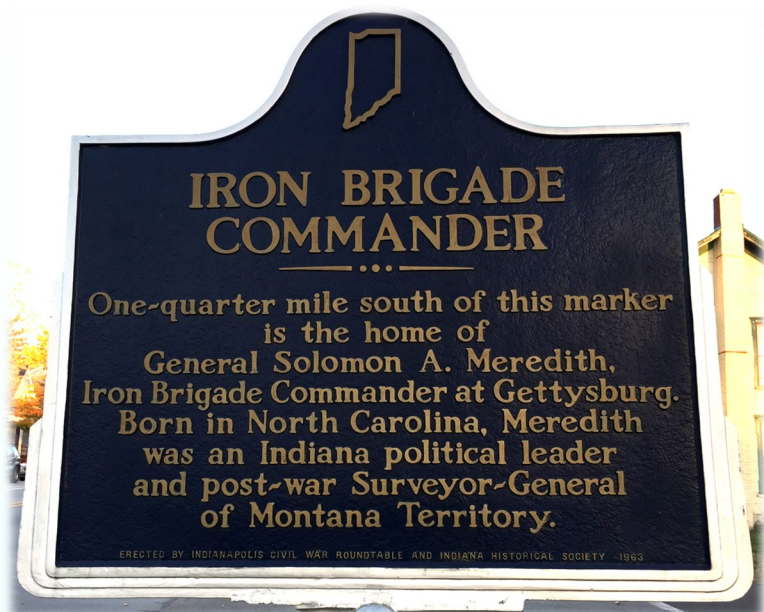
Cambridge City sports quite a few markers but what sets it apart are murals by Pamela Bliss & Carly Mattingly Dee. (You can see some of Pamela Bliss's other work at her website PamelaBliss.gallery.)



The first is a painting of Meredith Solomon, purported to be the only Quaker general for the Union. This is found at 19 W. Main St.

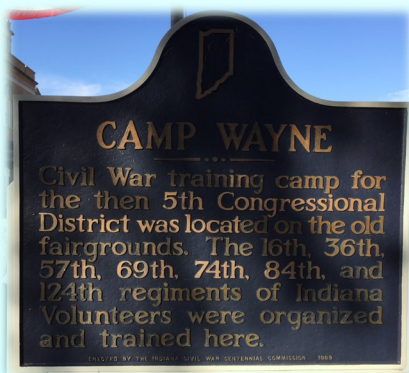


The second is a painting of Lincoln and his funeral train, which traveled through Cambridge City. The house in the background is General Solomon's. It is found in a courtyard with a flagpole at 1 W. Main St.



Cambridge City is rightly proud of Gen. Meredith, whose Iron Brigade fought admirably at Gettysburg. This marker is found at 420 E. Main St.

Richmond is the county seat, which became a mustering point for men of the area. This was known as Camp Wayne. There is a monument and a marker placed where these regiments were mustered in. The monument was placed in 1926 by the Wm. P. Benton Camp No. 28 and Wm. P. Benton Camp Auxiliary No. 43. In 2014, the monument was moved and a time capsule was found. The monument now resides at the east side of the building at 831 S. E St.



A nearby marker is found at the Intersection of South 10th St. and Park Place.



The Wayne County Veterans Memorial Park is in Richmond. It is in a rather uninspired part of town but opens into a pleasant dell. There are monuments dedicated to all wars and is a focal point for veterans events. This monument was put in place by the Wm. P. Benton Camp No. 28 in 2008 and is very impressive.



SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTES

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

11 September A. D. 2023, Redeemer Lutheran Church, De Soto, Missouri

There were nine attendees for the Auxiliary and eight attendees for the Camp.

Chris made a motion to skip reading of minutes from last meeting, since the secretary was not present.

Chris made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and seconded by Ted. Motion approved.

It was recognized that Robert AuBuchon donated new flag poles and finials.

Twyla gave her Volker treasurer's Report.

Colissa gave her Volker president's report.

Chris gave his Commanders report. He recognized Kelly, the Warrens and the Roussins for their clean up at Ft. Davidson. Patty McClland is not feeling well. Don Roussin is in the hospital.

There were no new members.

National Auxiliary President Pollitt was in attendance.

Doug reported the Fletcher stone was ready to be set, but we are waiting for a time from Jake Dietrich. He thought that spring would be better because of all the activities this fall.

Chris explained about the changes and said you need tickets to attend the Greenwood Festival. He discussed what events to attend:

- Kirkwood festival: decided to purchase fire extinguisher because of the requirements in Kirkwood.
- Fletcher House Ghost Tour: be there at dark.
- Roussin Bonfire set for Friday, October 27 at 5 p.m.
- Farmington parade: be there at 9:30 a.m. at the Civic center.
- DeSoto Vets Parade: November 11.
- DeSoto Christmas Parade: December 2 at 6 p.m.

For the good of the order, we discussed Pilot Knob Retreat & Liberty Days.

National President Pollitt presented Twyla Warren the Laura Miller Award. [see page 5].

OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

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

20 October A. D. 2023, Chez Roussin, De Soto, Missouri

No minutes were taken.

NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

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

13 November A. D. 2023, Redeemer Lutheran Church, De Soto, Missouri

Attendees: Sons: Mark Arbuthnot (SVC), Bob AuBuchon, Izaiah Hickman, Ted Howell, Sumner Hunnewell (Secretary), Craig Mathews, Doug Roussin (Council), Alan Trodus (Treasurer), Chris Warren (CC), Don Roussin (Council)

Auxiliary: Colissa Alexander (President), Susan Breeland (PI/Council), Deb Cambron, Nancy Howell (Chaplain), Andrea Mathews, Kelly Noack (Council), Mary Ellen Roussin, Kathie Roussin

(VP), Abbie Warren (Guide), Twyla Warren (Secretary/Treasurer)

Guest: Jennifer Hickman

The Commander called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. We were led in the pledge of allegiance.

Brother Trodus gave his treasurer's report. He said the sword raffle winner was a resident of De Soto, who picked his sword up after the Veterans Day parade. He bought the ticket in Caledonia [see page 10]. He passed around the Christmas banquet sign up sheet (meal is \$12/pp). He said that we have a new QM-in-C, Bobby Welsh.

Motion made to accept the camp's treasurer's report subject to financial review. Passed.

Sister Twyla Warren stated that the auxiliary's bank balance is at 956.53 + 159.00 (cash from Caledonia). Motion made to accept the auxiliary's treasurer's report subject to financial review. Passed.

AUXILIARY REPORT

It was noted that nominations for office were made at the last meeting. The Auxiliary has bookmarks to sell. They haven't hear from the new ASUVCW president. Past National President Pollitt cannot attend our banquet this year..

CAMP REPORT

Commander Warren said that we should wear our uniform at the banquet.

INSTALLATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Deb Cambron was installed as a new hereditary member of the Auxiliary. She said that she has five great-uncles from Perry County who served in the Union Army. (She also noted that she was a direct descendant of Robert E. Lee, but no one will hold that against her.)

READING OF ORDERS

Commander Warren noted the passing of PDC Eric Schmincke, Dept. of Penna. Charters and ribbons should be draped in black until December 7.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

It was noted that we had 11-12 people at the December 4 Farmington Veterans Day parade and that after the December 11 De Soto parade, Rob Coleman won the sword. He noted that Susan represented us at a Farmington Veterans Day service on November 11 [see page 10]. Also, Bob AuBuchon, Billy Hickman, and Izaiah Hickman took part in a Civil War marker dedication in Innsbrook on November 4 [see page 9].

NEW BUSINESS

These are Camp/Auxiliary events.

Christmas parade – December 2, 6 p.m., line up at Mahn Funeral Home, De Soto. Dress should be (warm) period clothing.

Christmas banquet – December 8, 6 p.m., at De Soto Community Center, 400 Boyd St.

Headcount needed by December 1.

Bell-ringing will be either December 3 or 10 at the De Soto Wal-mart. We will be at both doors.

Camp dues for 2024 were up for discussion. The Camp will subsidize the membership dues by \$10. Sumner said that we should not be using Camp funds for the membership, but we could wave the Camp dues. This was voted on during the last meeting and some people had already paid their dues, so it stands.

The Auxiliary dues will be \$5 and will subsidize the rest of their membership dues.

ELECTIONS

Camp: Chris Warren-CC; Doug Roussin-SVC; Billy Hickman-JVC; Alan Trodus-Treasurer; Sumner Hunnewell-Secretary; Camp Council-Doug Roussin, Mark Arbuthnot, Don Roussin; Mark Arbuthnot-PI; Ted Howell-Chaplain.

Auxiliary: Kelly Noack-Pres.; Colissa Alexander-VP; Sec./Treas.-Twyla Warren; Susan Breland-PI; Nancy Howell-Chaplain; Trustees-Kathie Roussin, Susan Breland, Colissa Alexander; Twyla Warren-Press Corr.; Abbie Warren-Guide; Chris Warren, PDC-Counselor

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Doug mentioned that an organizer of festivals want us to have our “name out there” - everyone was OK with that.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

The post-meeting meal was provided by the Hickmans and a little something from Sumner.

TREASURER’S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer’s Report for SEPTEMBER 2023

<u>Balance from last report (August 2023)</u>	2189.37
<u>Expenditure</u>	
None	
<u>Income</u>	
None	
<u>Current Balance (7 September 2023)</u>	2189.37
Checking Account	1790.54
Cash	398.83
Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
Gift cards	0.00
<u>End Balance</u>	2189.37

Note: Sword Raffle results -- \$168.00

A more than generous donation was made to the Camp in the form of two Wooden Flag Poles and Finials by Dual Member Robert Aubuchon. A big Thank You to Robert!!!

— Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

TREASURER’S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer’s Report for OCTOBER 2023

<u>Balance from last report (September 2023)</u>	2189.37
<u>Expenditure</u>	
De Soto Christmas Parade entry fee #1321	15.00
<u>Income</u>	
Kirkwood Green Tree Festival sales	479.00
Caledonia Pumpkin Festival sales	87.00
Donation	150.00
<u>Current Balance (25 October 2023)</u>	2890.37
Checking Account	2340.54
Cash	399.83
Checks (not yet deposited)	150.00
Gift cards	0.00
<u>End Balance</u>	2890.37

Note: Sword Raffle cash box went missing after packing up at the Caledonia Pumpkin Festival. A loss of approximately \$325.00. Exact amount is unknown since receipts had not yet been counted.

Newly elected National quartermaster is: Bobby J Welch, QM@suvvw.org, PO Box 2069, Hammond, IN 46323 (708) 414-0755

— Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

TREASURER’S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer’s Report for NOVEMBER 2023

<u>Balance from last report (October 2023)</u>	2890.37
<u>Expenditure</u>	
None	
<u>Income</u>	
Sword Raffle receipts	370.00
<u>Current Balance (12 November 2023)</u>	3260.37
Checking Account	3023.54
Cash	236.83
Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
Gift cards	0.00
<u>End Balance</u>	3260.37

Note: Sword Raffle cash box was found and contained \$370.00, which was added to the camp treasury. Sword raffle drawing was made immediately after the DeSoto Veterans Day parade and the happy winner was Rob Coleman of De Soto. Rob lives in De Soto and met us at Mahn Funeral Home and was awarded the sword within minutes of Commander calling him. Rob bought his winning raffle ticket at the Caledonia Pumpkin Festival.

Need headcount for Christmas banquet.

FWI: Newly elected National quartermaster is: Bobby J Welch, QM@suvcw.org, PO Box 2069, Hammond, IN 46323, (708) 414-0755

— Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

Looking for an Armchair Project?

[The Logan Brigade](#), a men’s auxiliary to the [Women’s Relief Corps](#), with the WRC is compiling a list of Civil War nurse gravesites. About 1,000 Civil War nurses have been identified and about half of those have a Find-a-Grave reference. This information is being gathered into a spreadsheet — a virtual cemetery.

How can you help? Contact Timothy O’Neal lb1826@yahoo.com, who (along with WRC VP Kathy Bower) is driving the project.

How do you do research? Using online newspaper archives is an easy way. For example, the Library of Congress’s [Chronicling America](#) newspaper website allows you to search for terms (for example, “civil war nurse”) by state and date range. Your secretary did this and found a dozen found in Maine newspapers and another seven found in Vermont newspapers, which had not been found before.

The WRC is a patriotic Order of the G. A. R. and has no hereditary requirement for membership.

A LOOK BACK

A BUSY 2023 FOR OUR CAMP & AUXILIARY

January 16, De Soto City Council
 February 4, Valentine’s Day Cards
 February 19, Grant’s 250 Anniversary
 March 4, Swap Meet
 March 11, Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman Remembrance
 April 8, Easter Cards
 April 10, New Auxiliary Member
 April 13, AFJROTC Award
 April 22, Ft. Davidson
 April 22, Harugari Cemetery
 April 29, Tractor Parade
 May 29, Memorial Day
 June 3-4, Civil War Reenactment, Pittsfield, Ill.
 June 16, Living History, Potosi
 June 24, Living History, Old Mines
 July 4, Independence Day Parade, De Soto
 July 5, Funeral of MOLLUS Past C-in-C Douglas Reed Niermeyer, Eureka
 July 21, Lincoln Boyhood Home, Lincoln City,

Ind.

July 22, Grant Remembrance Day, St. Louis
 August 26, Living History, Ste. Genevieve
 August 18, Monuments in Brazil, Ind., Terre Haute, Ind., and Effingham, Ill.
 August 3-6, National Encampment, Nashua, N. H.
 September 11, Award Presentation, De Soto
 September 16-17 Greentree Festival, Kirkwood
 October 10, Funeral of Sarah Cato
 October 20, 56th USCT Commemoration
 October 20, Fletcher House Ghost Tour
 November 4, Marker Dedication, Innsbrook
 November 4, Veterans Day Parade, Farmington
 November 11, Veterans Day Parade, De Soto
 November 11, Veterans Day Ceremony, Farmington
 November 18, Hitting the Road (Wayne Co., Indiana)
 December 3, De Soto Christmas Parade

And this doesn’t include our monthly meetings!

YOUR CAMP OFFICERS

**Commander, Chaplain, Eagle Scout
Coordinator, Counselor (ASUVCW):**

David Christopher Warren
the_civilwar_guy@yahoo.com

Senior Vice Commander (pro tem):

Mark Elmo Arbuthnot
markelmoarbuthnot@gmail.com

**JVC, Council Member, Patriotic
Instructor:**

Mark Elmo Arbuthnot
markelmoarbuthnot@gmail.com

Council Member, Historian:

Donald Lee Roussin, Jr.
gastbeer1954@yahoo.com

Council Member:

Douglas Wayne Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Secretary, GRO, CW Memorials Officer:

Sumner Gary Hunnewell
HildifonsTook@prodigy.net

Treasurer:

Alan Richard Trodus bigalastro@yahoo.com

YOUR AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President

Colissa Alexander lissasong@sbcglobal.net

Vice President:

Kathie Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Council No. 1:

Kathie Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Council No. 2, Patriotic Instructor:

Susan Breland brelandsusan@yahoo.com

Council No. 3

Kelly Noack kdn417@msn.com

Chaplain:

Nancy Howell tedhowell@charter.net

Secretary, Treasurer, Press Correspondent

Twyla D. Warren clementine_clc@yahoo.com

Patriotic Instructor:

Patti McClelland pattimcclelland55@gmail.com

Guide:

Abigail Warren

CALENDAR

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

De Soto Christmas Parade, December 2, 6 p.m. line-up
at Mahn Funeral Home, De Soto

Bell Ringing at Wal-Mart, De Soto, December 3 or 10

Camp & Auxiliary Christmas Party, December 8, 6 p.m.,
De Soto Community Center, 400 Boyd St.

NO MEETING IN JANUARY!

Camp/Auxiliary Meetings

December 8

October birthdays

2 Bernard Thomas Laiben

11 Andrew Jayson Porter

21 Billy Edward Hickman, Jr.

30 Dwain E. Asberry

November birthdays

14 Kelly Noack

20 Katherine Sago Wortham

26 David Christopher Warren

December birthdays

9 Twyla D. Warren

14 Abigail E. H. Warren

16 Randal A Burd, Jr.

28 Alice Marie Sago

28 Kathie Roussin

29 Mary Ellen Roussin



Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 NEWSLETTER

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.



Commander Warren

From Commander Warren

Well, things have certainly been busy this year with a lot of activities. Since last report, we had our yearly Christmas Parade in De Soto. The crowds were very large and we had lots of people cheering us on. Then, we had our Camp/Auxiliary/SVR Unit Christmas Banquet, and was it a nice one. The food was delicious, and visiting with each other most enjoyable. To top off the festivities, I had the honor of surprising our SVR Unit with the National Sons of Veterans Reserve's Unit Citation & Medals. This is something I had tried to obtain a few times over the years, but this year we were awarded this prestigious award. The evening was also accompanied by our officer installation. Next, we did bell ringing at DeSoto Walmart to raise funds for the De Soto Food Pantry. We took both doors this year for a six-hour block and raised a total of \$619. Anyway, I have been very privileged to serve you as Camp Commander & SVR Unit Commander, and feel very honored to have been allowed to serve you all again in these roles a second year. Here's wishing you all a very Merry Christmas!

Warmest regards,
Chris Warren

☆☆☆

**No meeting in
January.**

Be safe out there!

☆☆☆

Not this Major Award
See page 5.

CONTENTS

- 1 From Commander Warren
- 2 Camp and Auxiliary on the Move!
- December 2, Christmas Parade, De Soto
- December 8, Christmas Party and Swearing in of officers, De Soto
- December 10, Bell Ringing, De Soto
- 8 Hitting the Road: Newark, O.
- 9 December Treasurer Report
- 10 Officers / Calendar

The Fletcher Camp & Volker Auxiliary on the Move!

DECEMBER 2, CHRISTMAS PARADE, DE SOTO



Top: C. Alexander, A. Warren, K. Noack, T. Warren, M. Roussin Bottom: B. Hickman, S. Hunnewell, C. Warren, I. Hickman, A. Trodus, D. Roussin, B. AuBuchon

It was a pretty mild evening for December when the Camp and Auxiliary once again participated in De Soto's Christmas Parade. The mile-plus long parade was **huge** this year as was the crowd. Thanks to all of those who decorated the float and brought candy to throw to the hundreds of little urchins (and big urchins) who lined the way.



Brothers Hickman and Hickman



Brothers Trodus, Warren, and AuBuchon

DECEMBER 8, CHRISTMAS PARTY & SWEARING IN, DE SOTO



*Top: C. Warren, D. Noack, J. Asberry, B. AuBuchon, T. Howell, D. Lillicrap
 Middle: Doug Roussin, A. Trodus, S. Hunnewell, Don Roussin, I. Hickman, B. Hickman
 Bottom: K. Trodus, K. Noack, K. Roussin, S. Breland, A. Warren, M. Roussin, D. Cambron,
 N. Howell, T. Warren*

The Camp and Auxiliary turned out in great number and style at the De Soto Community Center (a converted Baptist church). We were treated to a great meal—more than a feast and good conversation...and an entertaining door-prize raffle.

Camp Commander Warren swore in the Auxiliary officers. President Colissa Alexander relinquished the gravel to new President Kelly Noack.



Commander Warren swears in President Kelly Noack and her officers, Twyla Warren, Kathie Roussin, Susan Breland, Nancy Howell, and Abbie Warren

DECEMBER 8, CHRISTMAS PARTY & SWEARING IN, DE SOTO



Commander Warren receives the gavel from Department SVC Bob AuBuchon

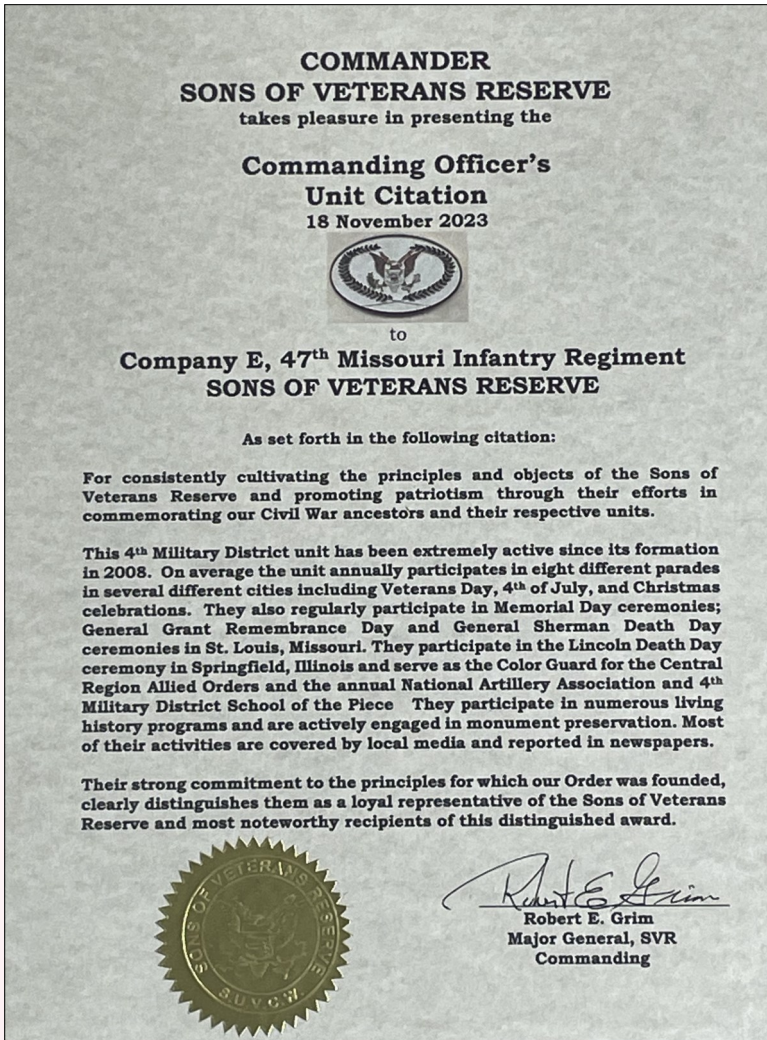


President Kelly Noack receives her President's badge



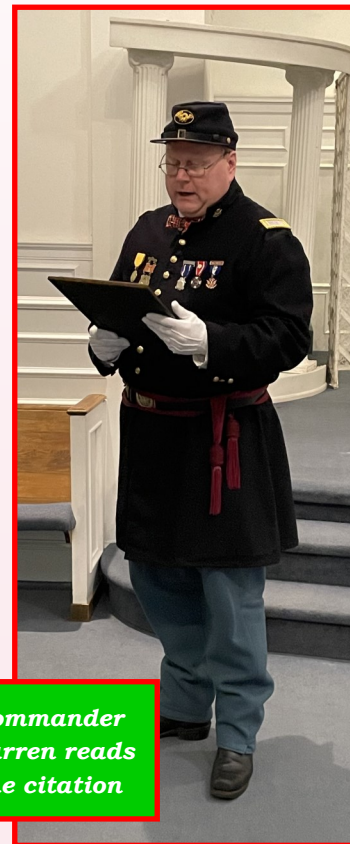
Sumner Hunnewell, Ted Howell, Alan Trodus, Don Roussin, Billy Hickman, Doug Roussin, and Chris Warren are sworn in by Department SVC Bob AuBuchon

DECEMBER 8, CHRISTMAS PARTY & SWEARING IN, DE SOTO



The big news of the night was delivered by Commander Warren. Our SVR unit received the Commander Officer's Unit Citation award. Only one SVR unit is awarded this per year. It is a cumulative award for work that our Unit has done over the years.

In addition to the recognition, each member of the SVR received (or will receive) a medal, which is placed above your camp and department badges (see below).

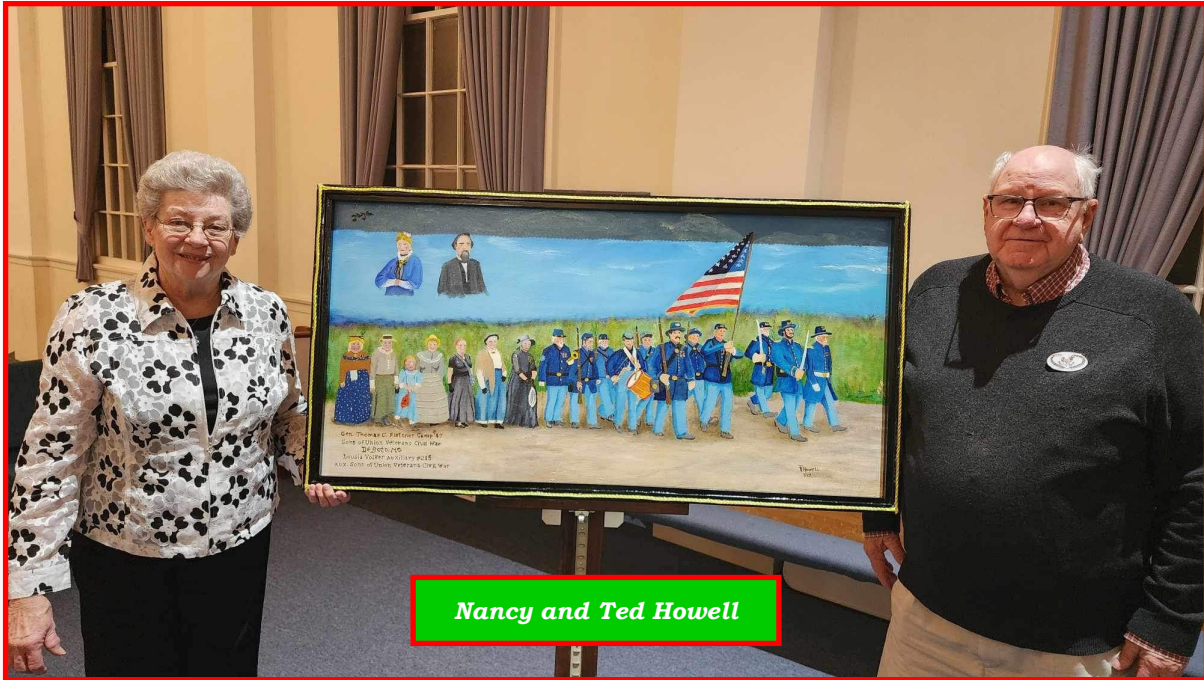


Commander Warren reads the citation



DECEMBER 2, CHRISTMAS PARTY & SWEARING IN, DE SOTO

The big surprise of the night was the artwork of our Chaplain, Ted Howell. As well as being a first-class photographer, Ted paints as a hobby. He brought along his painting of the Camp and Auxiliary.



Nancy and Ted Howell



Can you find yourself here?

DECEMBER 10, BELL RINGING FOR THE FOOD PANTRY, DE SOTO

One appreciates not only the sacrifice of our ancestors fighting for the Union, but the woolen uniforms they wore when the sun went down on December days. Brothers and sisters of our Allied Orders turned out to ring bells, collect money for the local food pantry, keep warm, and tell stories. Overall, we raised over \$600 for six hours of bell ringing and “Merry Christmas”-ing customers at the local Walmart.

Brother Ted Howell stopped by to take pictures of us.



Kelly Noack, Twyla Warren, Kathie Roussin, and Abbie Warren

Colton Noack, Chris Warren, Sumner Hunnewell, and Alan Trodus (not pictured: Doug Roussin)



OCTOBER 13, HITTING THE ROAD, NEWARK, OHIO

With the new SUVCW.org website, National Officer Walt Busch has been updating the [National Monuments and Memorials Project](#)'s database and website. On the way to the MOLLUS national meeting in Gettysburg, Sumner, the Camp's monument officer, decided to stop midway to record some monuments on [Form 61](#). After he was done, he passed them on to Walt to clean-up and enhance. More to come!

These markers are found in the Newark, Licking County, Ohio. This county seat has set aside a park for veteran memorials.



The most impressive is a monument erected by Tent 25 of the DUVCW 1861-85 in May of 1929. It has a soldier facing a plaza of monuments. The back of the monument has a 48-star flag. It was later flanked by relief sculptures of American wars from the Revolution to (probably) the Iraq war.

The G. A. R. had their state encampment in Newark during June 1933. This monument was a memorial to the event by the Department of Ohio Woman's Relief Corps.



The Col. Charles Young W. R. C. No. 354 dedicated a tree to the park in July 1937. However, it seems that the tree did not survive as long as this marker did. If anyone want to take on a project to find out *who* Col. Charles Young is...

More Newark, Ohio, monuments next time...

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer's Report for DECEMBER 2023

<u>Balance from last report (November 2023)</u>	3260.37
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Food for Kirkwood GT Festival-Kathie (cash)	15.00
Food for Kirkwood GT Festival-Susan (cash)	5.00
Food for Kirkwood GT & Calendonia-Kelly (cash)	34.45
Fire Extinguisher and parade candy-Chris #1322	61.44
Lumber for float bench-Alan (cash)	30.00
Raffle tickets-Alan cash	10.93
Door prizes for banquet-Walmart (cash)	77.36
Banquet prepay refund-Kelly (cash)	36.00
<u>Income</u>	
2024 Dues-Ted	38.00
2024 Dues-Chris	39.00
2024 Dues-Mark	38.00
2024 Dues-Bob	9.00
2024 Dues-Alan	9.00
Christmas Banquet (2) - Craig Matthews	24.00
Christmas Banquet - Deborah Cambron	12.00
Christmas Banquet - Ted	24.00
Christmas Banquet (2) - Don R	24.00
Christmas Banquet - Bob Aubuchon	12.00
2024 SVR Dues - Scheel	3.00
2024 SVR Dues - Coplin	3.00
2024 SVR Dues - W Busch	3.00
2024 SVR Dues - D Busch	3.00
2024 SVR Dues - Avery	3.00
2024 SVR Dues - M Aubuchon	3.00
Christmas Banquet (2) - Trodus	24.00
Christmas Banquet (6) - Kelly	72.00
Donation—D Roussin	1.00
<u>Current Balance (7 December 2023)</u>	3334.19
Checking Account	3012.10
Cash	322.09
Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
Gift cards	0.00
<u>End Balance</u>	3334.19

— Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

YOUR CAMP OFFICERS

**Commander, Eagle Scout Coordinator,
Counselor (ASUVCW):**

David Christopher Warren
the_civilwar_guy@yahoo.com

Senior Vice Commander/Council:

Douglas Wayne Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Junior Vice Commander:

Billy E. Hickman bsafe69@hotmail.com

Council Member, Patriotic Instructor:

Mark Elmo Arbuthnot
markelmoarbuthnot@gmail.com

Council Member, Historian:

Donald Lee Roussin, Jr.
gastbeer1954@yahoo.com

Chaplain:

Ted R. Howell tedhowell@charter.net

Secretary, GRO, CW Memorials Officer:

Sumner Gary Hunnewell
HildifonsTook@prodigy.net

Treasurer:

Alan Richard Trodus bigalastro@yahoo.com

YOUR AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President

Colissa Alexander lissasong@sbcglobal.net

Vice President:

Kathie Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Council No. 1:

Kathie Roussin 2roussins@att.net

Council No. 2, Patriotic Instructor:

Susan Breland brelandsusan@yahoo.com

Council No. 3

Kelly Noack kdn417@msn.com

Chaplain:

Nancy Howell tedhowell@charter.net

Secretary, Treasurer, Press Correspondent

Twyla D. Warren clementine_clc@yahoo.com

Patriotic Instructor:

Patti McClelland pattimcclelland55@gmail.com

Guide:

Abigail Warren

CALENDAR

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

NO MEETING IN JANUARY!

Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, February 12

Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, March 11

Camp & Auxiliary Meeting, April 8

Make plans for the [National Encampment](#) in Lexington,
Kentucky, August 1-4

Camp/Auxiliary Meetings

February 12

March 11

December birthdays

9 Twyla D. Warren

14 Abigail E. H. Warren

16 Randal A. Burd, Jr.

28 Alice Marie Sago

28 Kathie Roussin

29 Mary Ellen Roussin

January birthdays

6 Susan M. Breland

10 Donald Lee Roussin, Jr.

21 John R. Griffith

February birthdays

24 Duncan Eugene Noack