



The Union Defender



The Newsletter of Phelps Camp No. 66,
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

December 2018

WHAT HAPPENED AT THE JUNE MEETING?

- 1) Members discussed a possible visit to the museums at Fort Leonard Wood and a “behind the scenes” tour of the Chemical Corps Museum collection.
- 2) Members discussed plans to install a headstone at the grave of Emery Jackson near Marionville.
- 3) Members discussed participating in the Catts-Crawford cemetery program outside Mt. Vernon in October.



NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be our holiday dinner, to be held this year at Big Whiskey’s restaurant in Republic on Tuesday, December 4 at 6:30 p.m. Members are welcome to bring “significant others” to the dinner.

HEADSTONE INSTALLED FOR EMERY JACKSON

Last fall, Phelps Camp members and Wilson’s Creek volunteers rediscovered the site of the grave of Private Emery Jackson, a veteran of the 1st West Virginia Cavalry, who died near Marionville in 1891. His headstone was shattered a few years ago.

Phelps Camp members recently installed Jackson’s new headstone and a fence to protect the gravesite. Our thanks to Kirk Singleton and the Clanton Family for their hard work. We will hold a ceremony to dedicate the stone next year.

CATT-CRAWFORD CEMETERY AND BAXTER SPRINGS PROGRAMS

Phelps Camp members were busy on October 6. Camp members Kirk Singleton, Ron McCall and Jeff Patrick represented the SUVCW at the rededication of the Catts-Crawford family cemetery outside Mount Vernon, along with the Sons of the American Revolution, United Daughters of the Confederacy, and other heritage organizations. A large crowd turned out to honor the Union and Confederate veterans of both families, buried on private property.

Other camp members traveled to Baxter Springs, Kansas, and presented living history demonstrations to mark the anniversary of William Quantrill's attack on Fort Blair and the massacre of General Blunt's command.



TOUR OF FORT LEONARD WOOD MUSEUMS

Phelps Camp member Kip Lindberg, director of the U.S. Army Chemical Corps Museum at Fort Leonard Wood, graciously provided a behind-the-scenes tour of the museum complex to Phelps Camp members on Saturday, September 8.

Kip gave a great tour of all three branch museums (Chemical Corps, Military Police and Engineers), the World War II barracks complex, and the Chemical Corps Museum storage area.

We were allowed to see a number of rare artifacts not currently on display, including the flag used by General Gouverneur K. Warren on Little Round Top at Gettysburg and General Leonard Wood's sword, used while he was in command of the "Rough Riders" at San Juan Hill. Thanks, Kip!



HISTORICAL NOTES

SHORTEST MAN IN THE ARMY—John Brown, of Lake City, Ia., who claims the distinction of being the shortest United States soldier living today, is a Scotchman who was born at Glasgow, Scotland, in 1836, and who came to New Orleans in 1850. He enlisted in the Union Army at Bloomington, Ill., in August 1862, joining the Ninety-fourth Illinois Volunteers. He remained in the service until 1865, when he was mustered out with an honorable discharge in Galveston, Tex. Mr. Brown, whose height is four feet six inches, has in his possession an affidavit which proves that he is two and one-half inches shorter than any other United States soldier who served in the Civil War, this affidavit being substantiated by records in the War Department in Washington.

Laporte (IN) Daily Herald, 1904

