

# Stoneman Dispatch

## Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Of the Inland Empire, Department of California and Pacific

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Volume 10, No.1, January, 2019

### A message from the Camp Commander

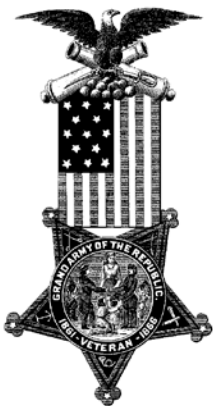
Greetings Brethren and friends, and HAPPY NEW YEAR! I trust that you and yours all had a festive holiday season.

First and foremost, I would like to thank our outgoing Camp Commander for his service and dedication to our camp. We are a bigger and better camp, thanks to all the hard work of Commander Doyle. Additionally, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you that have taken on a new position, and/or continued to serve our camp. Your support of the camp is truly appreciated.

We had a very busy day in December, as our meeting landed on the same day as the Wreaths across America event at Evergreen Cemetery in Riverside. Thank you to all who attended and participated in the Wreaths across America Day Ceremony. I was very impressed at the turn out for the Ceremony. And a special thank you, for the outstanding efforts of our own Brother John Morris. Brother Morris was not only the Master of Ceremony's but he was the organizer and driving force that has brought Wreaths across America to Evergreen Cemetery.

This brings us to the meeting. I was pleased to see that Commander Doyle awarded Brother Morris, the "Camp Commander's Stoneman Award". To quote Commander Doyle, when considering who should receive the award, "He (Br. Morris) truly exemplifies what it means to be a SUVCW with his annual activities with putting flags on Veterans' graves, and now, this year, especially with his

*Continued on page 2, see Message,...*



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*Dedicated to Preserving the Memory  
of the Grand Army of the Republic  
And the soldiers who Fought to Save the Union 1861 - 1865*

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### Tentative Camp Calendar

**Saturday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>** – Lincoln Memorial Shrine Open House and Camp Display. 125 W. Vine St. Redlands. 11:00 am. – 3:00 pm. More information on page 2.

**Saturday, March 23** - Southwest Civil War Symposium. ESRI Café, Redlands. 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Contact information below.

**Fri & Sat March 22-23** – 133<sup>rd</sup> annual SUVCW Department Encampment, Bakersfield, CA. Details to be emailed very shortly.

### Southwest Civil War Symposium 2019

Support Camp 18 Brother Bodie Crowder and his accomplished effort by attending his Symposium on March 23, 2019.

This will be an American Civil War Symposium that will bring together great speakers, great topics and a wonderful learning experience. The Symposium will be held at the ESRI Café in Redlands, California.

[www.southwestcivilwar.com](http://www.southwestcivilwar.com)

more information at:

[southwestcivilwar@gmail.com](mailto:southwestcivilwar@gmail.com) (909)307-4532

Register online today

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*January 1, 1863*

President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring that slaves in rebel states shall be "forever free."



**MESSAGE continued,**

Wreaths Across America project.” Thank you again Brother Morris, well deserved.

We also had our annual elections, and with the new officers that have stepped up to serve, I am very excited about the years to come.

Brother Burns reported on the rededication service, scheduled for April 20, 2019, for M.O.H. recipient William Powers Morris at San Gorgonio Memorial Park in Banning. Since the meeting, Brother Burns has kept me apprised as to multiple issues he has been working on.

**Brother Burns has requested that we put the ceremony on hold** until he hears from Congressman Takano who will be the Chairperson of the Congressional Committee for Veterans Affairs. I concur. It was great to see Brother Burns and to know that he is recovering so well from his surgery.

Brother Bodie Crowder reported on the Civil War Symposium, scheduled for Saturday, March 23, 2019 at the ESRI Café, in Redlands, between 8:00 am and 6:00 pm. Brother Bodie will be giving his keynote speech on the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, in the afternoon session. . Brother Bodie is one of the organizers of this event and I highly recommend attending if you are available. Additionally, Brother Bodie along with his father Matt Crowder, have both stepped up to assume officer positions in the camp. Thank you for your service and support of our camp gentlemen!

Since our meeting was postponed, due to the Wreaths across America Ceremony, Commander Doyle was gracious enough to provide the camp with pizza, for a pre meeting lunch. Thank you again, Commander Doyle, for your generosity.

We have one event before our next meeting. Saturday Feb. 9, is the Lincoln Shrine Open House and Camp Display, in Redlands. From 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. Hope to see you there.



*Photo above; Commander Steve Doyle (left) presents Brother John Morris with this year’s “Stoneman Award” for outstanding service for the veterans interred at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside.*

Our next meeting will held on Saturday Feb. 17, at the Corona American Legion Hall, 10:00 am., As is our custom we will have a pre-meeting breakfast at 09:00.

Brethren, I personally went to thank you for all your attendance, efforts and support. It is all of you that make our camp what it is. It’s been great seeing new members initiated in the last couple of years and watching our camp grow. I love seeing those new faces attending our meetings. If you haven’t been to a meeting in a while, come on down, we would love to see more of you. Our camp is what we make it. Your thoughts, Ideas and participation is not only welcomed, but appreciated.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Mike Bullard, Camp Commander



*Photo above; Incoming Camp Commander Mike Bullard (right) presents outgoing Camp Commander Steve Doyle a plaque of Appreciation for his three years of service as Camp Commander.*

**Lincoln Memorial Shrine Open House**

On Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, Camp 18 will once again set up a display of Civil War and G.A.R items at the Lincoln Memorial Shrine Open House in Redlands.

Our display will be one of many related to President Lincoln and the civil war. Other displays of

*Continued on page 3, see Shrine,*

**SHRINE continued,**

interest may be civil war surgery, artillery and maybe mounted cavalry to help escort the 16<sup>th</sup> president where ever he may need to travel to.

The Auxiliary to the SUVCW and the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War typically have displays at the Open House as well as Cub and Boy Scouts.

Besides these great displays outside on the lawn at the Shrine, there are the fantastic items inside.

The "Reflections of the Face of Lincoln" attraction's visit has been extended until the end of March 2019. This innovative show draws people of all ages to learn about the significance of the Civil War in the nation's history.

This Lincoln show runs every 20 minutes while the Shrine is open. Tickets cost \$5.00 and can be purchased at the door. I saw the show and really enjoyed it.

There will be cookies to enjoy inside and food trucks outside for lunch.

We will be arriving at the Shrine about 8:00 am to set up our display, come out and join us and enjoy the day in Redlands.



**General George Stoneman Jr.  
Camp 18 Officers**

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Camp Commander, | Michael Bullard    |
| Sr. Vice Cmdr,  | Brian Stephens     |
| Jr. Vice Cmdr,  | Matt Crowder       |
| Sec/Treas,      | Rudy Velasco III   |
| Camp Council #1 | Michael Emmett     |
| Camp Council #2 | Rudolph Velasco IV |
| Camp Council #3 | John Morris        |

**Appointed**

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Camp Chaplain                       | Bill Daley PCC                          |
| Camp Historian                      | Burt Hogue                              |
| Camp Guard                          | Bodie Crowder                           |
| Camp Guide                          | Steve Doyle PCC                         |
| Graves Registration                 | Michael Emmett                          |
| Newsletter Editor                   | Rudy Velasco III                        |
| Patriotic Instructor                | Richard Burns PCC                       |
| Eagle Scout &<br>JROTC Coordinators | Rudy Velasco III &<br>Richard Burns PCC |

**Graves Registration Report 2018  
from Graves Registration Officer Michael Emmett**

13 new graves submitted and accepted  
111 graves in Montana; 55 grave in New Mexico (Santa Fe National),  
29 graves in California with 18 scattered among the various states.

Among the graves were 31 soldiers who were "galvanized Yankees" 30 who were buried at Little Big Horn National Cemetery; 17 Confederates soldiers; 4 US Colored Troops.

Notables included: Adolph Metzger, bugler of the Fetterman Massacre; the only soldier who was not mutilated -- Captain George Nicholas Bascom; killed at Val Verde NM; known as the individual who set off the war with Cochise and the Apaches in Arizona circa 1860 -- William C. Minor, surgeon, committed to Broadmoor Insane Asylum for murder who was instrumental in contributing to the compiling of the Oxford Dictionary while committed.

It is with regret that I submit this substandard report for the year.

*Continued on page 4, see REPORT,.....*

*If* you have something of interest that you would like to add to this newsletter, something that our **Brothers** might enjoy like an article, a photo or a Civil War event, contact the Editor, Rudy Velasco for placement. [rev03@dc.rr.com](mailto:rev03@dc.rr.com)



**REPORT, continued,**

Computer/internet problems greatly contributed to my failure to achieve my normal production.

In other news for the brethren, I am proud to report that my son, Michael Edward Emmett is presently pursuing his Doctorate at the University of South Carolina, Columbia, in history. His focus continues to be on the role of Civil War Treasury Agents in the South, including James Seymor Severance whose papers we currently own. His Master's Thesis is published and can be accessed online. "Or this whole affair is a failure: a Special Treasury Agent's observations of the Port Royal Experiment South Carolina April to May 1862". Graduate College of Marshall University, West Virginia.

Submitted 1 January 2019.

F, C, and L

Michael S. Emmett  
Grave Registration Officer

Thank you Brother, we always enjoy reading these reports. Keep up the good work and keep the reports coming.

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## Wreaths Across America Ceremony

With

Camp 18 Brother Master of Ceremonies  
*Colonel John Morris (USAF Retired)*  
15 December 2018

*In the photo below, Brother John Morris prepares to place wreaths at the end of the Wreaths Across America Ceremony at the G.A.R. circle at Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery, Riverside.*



## A Brief History,

*information compiled by Justin Ruff  
Evergreen Memorial Park Board of Directors.*

Morrill Worcester, owner of Worcester Wreath Company of Harrington, Maine, was a 12 year old paper boy for the Bangor Daily News when he won a trip to Washington D.C. His first trip to the Nation's Capital was one he would never forget and Arlington National Cemetery made an especially indelible impression on him. This experience followed him throughout his life and successful career, reminding him that his good fortune was due, in large part, to the values of this nation and the veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

In 1992, Worcester Wreath Company found themselves with a surplus of wreaths nearing the end of the holiday season. Remembering his boyhood experience at Arlington, Worcester realized he had an opportunity to honor our country's veterans. With the aid of Maine Senator Olympia Snowe, arrangements were made for the wreaths to be placed at Arlington in one of the older sections of the cemetery that had been receiving fewer visitors with each passing year.

As plans were under way, a number of other individuals and organizations stepped up to help. James Prout, owner of a local trucking company, "Blue Bird Ranch Inc., generously provided transportation all the way to Virginia. Volunteers from the local American Legion and VFW Posts gathered with members of the community to decorate each wreath with traditional red, hand tied bows. Members of the Maine State Society of

Washington, D.C. helped to organize the wreath laying, which included a special ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The annual tribute went on quietly for several years, until 2005 when a photo of the stones at Arlington adorned with wreaths and covered in snow circulated around the internet. Suddenly the project received national attention. Thousands of requests poured in from all

*continued on page 5,...*

over the country from people wanting to help with Arlington, to emulate the Arlington project at their National and State cemeteries or to simply share their stories and thank Morrill Worcester for honoring our nation's heroes.

**The Ceremony**

This year's Wreaths Across America ceremony began at precisely 9:00 am which matched with the 12:00 pm East coast ceremonies start time. Across the nation, all Wreath ceremonies were scheduled to start at the exact same moment.

The ceremony took place at the Grand Army of the Republic circle where Civil War Veterans are buried.

Some of the Distinguished Guests attending were; Riverside Mayor Rusty Bailey, Council Member Mike Gardner, USAF Col. Kelly Hosey, USAF Col (retired) Jim Hosey along with the Board of Directors of Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery and representatives of the Riverside Cemetery Association Board of Directors.

The service opened with introductions by Brother John Morris followed by a moment of silence in memory of our departed veterans. After the Presentation of the Colors, Mr. Tim Apple sang the National Anthem and what a treat that was.

Brother Morris continued with a few opening remarks followed by Etienne Caroline, President of the Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery Board of Directors. Mr. Caroline commented about the significance

of having the Wreaths ceremony at the G.A.R. Circle and all of the history of the veterans interred at Evergreen, Riverside's oldest cemetery.

Evergreen Memorial Park Director Justin Ruff was the next speaker and he briefly spoke about the courage and sacrifices endured by the United States combat men and women and by this county's veterans.

CMSgt. Steve Simpson USAF was the final speaker of service and he also complemented the modern day American military and remarked of how appropriate the Wreaths Ceremonies are.

CMSgt. Simpson announced the names of the military personal who were to present wreaths to the American Military Service Branch flags that line the south portion of the G.A.R. Circle. These Wreath presenters were escorted to their respective flag poles by Camp 18's musket team made up of Brother Rudy Velasco PCC, Brother Steve Doyle PCC, and Camp Commander Mike Bullard.



*Camp 18 friend bugler Kasey Borders sounded TAPS to close the Wreaths Across America ceremony.*

Master of Ceremonies Brother John Morris made a few closing re-

marks before signaling the Camp 18 musket team to begin their 3 volley musket salute which was followed by the playing of TAPS by Camp 18 friend Bugler Kasey Borders to end the ceremony.

Near the entry gate there were many volunteers of military personal, civilians and I believe I saw JROTC groups, to place the remaining wreaths on the headstones of the veteran's graves.

***Thank You to all of the wreath sponsors!***

There were approximately 350 wreaths that were donated for this ceremony and approximately 1100 veterans interred at Evergreen Memorial Historical cemetery. The 350 wreaths were a bit short of the numbers needed so we will need a few more sponsors to volunteer donations for next year's Ceremony. If you can help, please do.

*Photos below; Camp Cmdr. Mike Bullard (left) escorts Navy Yeoman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Mary Yosinao and Brother Steve Doyle PCC (right) escorts Marine Lance Corporal Laura Friel to present wreaths to the U.S. Service Branch flags.*





*General George Stoneman Jr. Camp 18  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
Newsletter  
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Cathedral City, CA. 92234*