

# Stoneman Dispatch

## Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Of the Inland Empire, Department of California and Pacific

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Volume 11, No.2, June, 2020

### From the Editor...



Like most groups or businesses, around the country, General George Stoneman Camp 18 has, for the most part, been shut down. Because of the Local “stay at home” orders due to the COVID-19 virus there haven’t been Camp functions to participate in and so no news to report in a newsletter. Let’s see if we can catch up with what has happened for the Camp since the last edition of the *Stoneman Dispatch* in January.

We have been able to continue Camp meetings through a computer video method, particularly using Zoom Video Communications and to date have two meetings under our belt.

As others, I am looking forward to a more normal time when we can get back to in person meetings and group activities.

### Tentative Camp Calendar

**Saturday, Oct.17** – Camp 18 meeting. We’re not sure if we will be able to meet in person or have a video meeting. Stay tuned,...

**Saturday, Dec. 12** – Camp 18 meeting.

**Saturday, Dec. 19** – possible Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery, Riverside. Plans are on hold for this ceremony, depending on how virus infections slow or stay at home orders are lifted.

### Did you know?

**June 16, 1858** – Accepting the Illinois Republican Party’s nomination for the U.S. Senate, Abraham Lincoln said the slavery issue had to be resolved, declaring, “A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

**June 19, 1865** – Union Troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War was over and that all remaining slaves in Texas were free – an event celebrated to this day as “Juneteenth.”

### JROTC Report

Way back in February of this year, Camp 18 received JROTC award applications from two local high schools.

Carter High School in Rialto and Kaiser High School in Fontana, both with Army JROTC units, were looking to have Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War representatives at the school’s to present awards to their Cadets. Brother Steve Doyle PCC

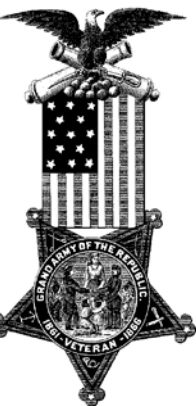
(continued on page 2, see JROTC)



### Trivia

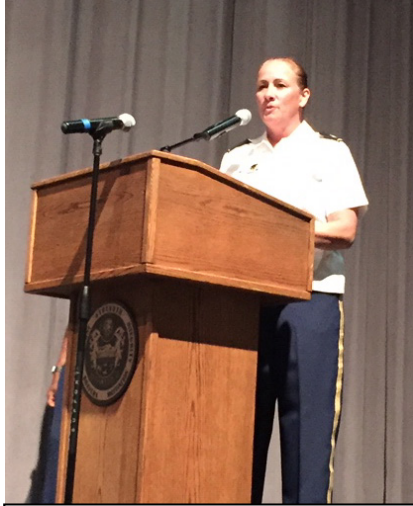
Which presidents served in the Civil War?

(answer on page 5)



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



**JROTC continued,**

*Above; AJROTC Instructor LTC (Ret.) Melissa Gardner opening the Awards ceremony at Carter High School on March 6<sup>th</sup>.*

volunteered to represent the Camp at the Awards Ceremony for Kaiser High School scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup> and Brother Rudy Velasco PCC agreed to make the presentation at Carter High School scheduled for March 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Carter High ceremony presentation was delivered without any issues and then the COVID-19 virus struck and the *Stay at Home* Orders followed. The other school's JROTC Award ceremonies have

been cancelled with no rescheduled dates announced.

The award package for Kaiser High School was put in the mail and delivered, to be given to Cadet Major Bryan Martinez at a date later this summer.

Army JROTC Cadet Private Aneli Cachu received the SUVCW award at Carter High School.

Since March, Camp 18 has received three more JROTC award applications and the award packages have been mailed to the schools with no ceremony date scheduled. The Cadets of these schools are listed below;

Cadet Joshua Whitaker, MJROTC, Murrieta Valley H/S.  
Cadet Melissa Reed, AFJROTC, Vista Murrieta H/S and a Cadet still to be named at the AFJROTC unit at Moreno Valley High School.

**Lincoln Shrine Open House**

The Lincoln Memorial Shrine in Redlands held their annual Open House on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> and Camp 18 was there with the annual GAR and Civil War items display.

You can see President Lincoln in the photo at right making his annual visit to the Shrine, taking questions from a guest.

The Lincoln Shrine had a record number of visitors this year attend the Open House with a total of 1,424 people



visiting the museum.

Brother Larry Duncan aka Dr. Malarkey had his Civil War Field Hospital display set up at the Open House which always draws a group of spectators.

Brothers Steve Doyle PCC and Rudy Velasco PCC attended the camp display and spoke with many interested people who became a bit distracted from our display items when the artillery demonstration fired the cannons.

The Open House and Camp display were visited by Camp 18 Brothers Matt and Bodie Crowder, Benny White and Past Department Commander Glen Roosevelt.

We are looking forward to the 49<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Memorial Shrine Open House in Redlands next February. Keep your fingers crossed.

**Southwest Civil War Symposium**

by  
DJVC Steve Doyle PCC

On February 1st, several of Camp 18 Brothers joined Brother Bodie Crowder who was the Master of Ceremonies at his 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Southwest Civil War Symposium held at ESRI Cafe in Redlands. The program was well organized and had five very interesting guest speakers.

The first speaker was David Dixon, who spoke about, "Emotions and Allegiance: Loyalty and Dissent in the Confederacy." He explained that Loyalty, like Love, needs to be reciprocal and that the government must reciprocate the loyalty of the soldier. He also explained that, "Emotion is the opposite of Reason" and that both sides of the Civil War conflict accused the other of, "infidelity".

The second speaker was Bruce Smith, who talked about, "Life in the saddle and how the Union Cavalrymen lived and fought from the back of a horse." His perspective was especially poignant since he is a retired policeman who rode a horse.

The third speaker, Larry Burgess, discussed "The Civil War's Diverse Parts, and explained the 13th and 14th Amendments. He discussed the Articles of Secession and how the issue of Slavery was the core issue that led to the start of the Civil War.

Mark McGuire was the fourth speaker

**(continued on page 3, see Symposium)**



Photo above left; Brother Bodie Crowder welcomes everyone to the 2020 Southwest Civil War Symposium and announces the list of guest speakers. Photo above right; Guest speaker David Dixon answers questions from the audience.

**Symposium continued,...**

and gave an interesting discussion about “The Limits of Executive Discretion in Times of Crisis”. He discussed how Lincoln directed his Attorney General to suspend “Habeas Corpus” (can’t be held without due process of law and evidence) and that he also limited Freedom of the Press by shutting down newspapers that supported the South’s views. He explained that such actions were allowed “to save the Union” and not for political advantage.

The last speaker was Eric Wittenberg, who spoke about “Sherman’s Carolinas Campaign of 1865”. He explained that Sherman’s Army invaded Georgia and South Carolina with very little supplies and lived off the land of the civilian population. He also explained how important it was for Sherman’s engineers to build roads over the swamps that they often encountered.

For those of you who were not able to attend this year’s Symposium, I would encourage you to consider going next year. The \$50 (\$40 if prepaid) admission fee included a tasty lunch and made for a very interesting and enjoyable Saturday afternoon.

A hearty “Congratulations” to Brother Bodie is in order for organizing and presenting this wonderful program. We will be looking forward to next year’s presentation as this youngest of our Brothers continues to impress us with his interest and knowledge of the Civil War well beyond his years.

**HUZZAH, HUZZAH, HUZZAH!**

**The Passing of Real Daughter Irene Triplett**

It is sad to report the passing of Real Daughter Irene Triplett on May 31, 2020 in Wilkesboro, North Carolina at the age of 90.

Sister Triplett was the last federally pensioned dependent of a

(continued on page 4, see Triplett)



**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 Guide                         | Bodie Crowder    |
| Camp Guard                         | Steve Doyle PCC  |
| Graves Registration                | Michael Emmett   |
| Newsletter Editor                  | Rudy Velasco III |
| Patriotic Instructor               | Steve Doyle PCC  |
| Eagle Scout &<br>JROTC Coordinator | Rudy Velasco III |

*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)



**Triplett continued,..**

Civil War veteran.

Irene Triplett received a monthly check for \$73.13 from the Department of Veterans Affairs as her father, Mose Triplett, was a Union Civil War Veteran. Mose Triplett deserted the Confederate army just before the battle of Gettysburg in 1863 and later joined the 3<sup>rd</sup> North Carolina Mounted Infantry, a Union Regiment.

Mose Triplett married Elida Hall, his second wife and Irene Triplett's mother, in 1924. Mose was nearly 50 years older than Elida, and he was weeks away from turning 84 when Irene Triplett was born in 1930.

Mose Triplett died in 1938, just a few days after returning from the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion of the Battle of Gettysburg.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Commander-in-Chief Ed Norris issued General Order #26 confirming the passing of Sister Irene Triplett and ordered that the National web site, Department and Camp Charters should be draped in black and that membership badges should be attached with a black mourning ribbon for a period of 30 days or till July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020.

*Rest in Peace.*

**Memorial Day**

Mother Nature has released some kind of virus that has kept everybody temporarily isolated and we know that Local and State Orders have kept us home bound but our Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War initiation oath to always observe the day set aside by the Grand Army of the Republic as a Memorial Day, sacred to the memory of the Union Soldiers, Sailors and Marines of 1861 to 1865 remains constant.

We are not absolved of our obligation to the honor the service of our Union Civil War Ancestors. We were prevented from observing Memorial Day in the grand ways that we have become accustomed to but we did not let our Union ancestors go unremembered. Brothers as individuals made their way to the Union Civil War graves to pay respects as circumstances have permitted.

**Decoration Day at Evergreen Memorial  
Historical Cemetery  
By DJVC Steve Doyle PCC**

Since we were unable to have our regular Memorial Day Ceremony this year due to the Corona Virus, I decided to go to Evergreen

**Welcome New Brothers**

We have had a few new members join our ranks since our last newsletter. Please help us welcome these new Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Brothers into General Stoneman Camp 18.

Welcome to Brother Mark Radeleff who honors the Civil War service of his Great, Great, Great Uncle John Radeleff, Corporal in Company E, 26<sup>th</sup> Iowa Infantry who died in service to his Country.

Welcome to Brother Eric Ramey who honors the Civil War service of his Great, Great, Great Grandfather Nicholas Sharp, Private in Company F, 6<sup>th</sup> East Tennessee Infantry Regiment.

Welcome to Brother Benny White who honors the Civil War service of his Great, Great Grandfather William H. King, Private in Company H, 116<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry Regiment.

Welcome Brothers! I pray I have not overlooked somebody!



(continued on page 5, see Memorial)

**Memorial continued,...**

Cemetery on Saturday, May 30th to, ***“Keep Green the Memory of those who fought to save our Union”***. As they did shortly at the end of the Civil War, I placed flowers at several of the graves at the G.A.R. Circle there. I was in uniform and thought that anyone seeing me there might report that, “a ghost” had been seen near the grave sites of those veterans of the Union who were buried there and had photographic proof. As far as I know I was the only one taking any pictures. The only other visitor at the cemetery was a bicyclist bringing flowers to the grave of a loved one.



While placing the flowers on each grave, (*shown in the photo above*) I felt transported back to an earlier time when there was no modern day “Memorial Day” and that the custom was called, “Decoration Day”. I had no flags to put on the graves, but that made it all the more authentic as I don’t think that flags were put on the graves of the Union Veterans in the 19th century.

I had a moment of silence and said a prayer, thanking those veterans buried there for their bravery and sacrifices that they had made to keep our Union whole, and hoping that, if the time should ever come again, that I would be willing to make the same sacrifices that they made.

Thank you Brother Doyle!

Brother Doyle was by himself, placing flowers at the headstones of the Union Veterans in the GAR circle at Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery on May 30<sup>th</sup>, the Traditional Day set aside by the Grand Army of the

Republic.

For the May 23 – 25 Memorial Day weekend, Brother John Morris recruited his two daughters, Michelle and Sarah to help place 90 American flags at the headstones around the GAR circle.



***Thank you Brother Morris and the Girls for helping Dad place the flags and honor the service of our Union Veterans***

**Trivia Answers from page 1,....**

Six future presidents served in the Union Army, none from the Confederacy. They were; Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, Chester A. Arthur, Benjamin Harrison and William McKinley.



*General George Stoneman Jr. Camp 18  
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