

Stoneman Dispatch

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Of the Inland Empire, Department of California and Pacific

Email: camp18@suvpac.org Web: www.suvpac.org/camp18.html

Volume 12, No.3, June, 2021

Memorial Day Special

Attention Company!

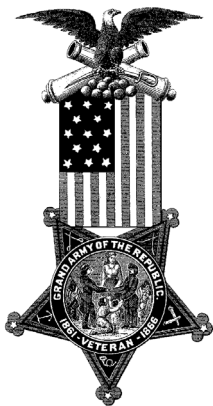
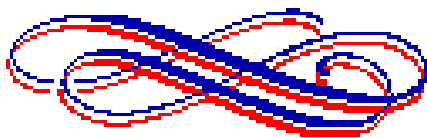
A message from the Camp Commander

Dear Brothers,

I am looking forward to our next in person meeting on Saturday June 19th at the American Legion Hall, Post 216 in Corona starting at 10:00 a.m. I hope to see you there. In the meantime, I would like to thank everyone who attended our Saturday June 29th Memorial Day Remembrance at Evergreen Memorial Historic Cemetery in downtown Riverside. Although due to the covid -19 virus this was not a public event; it was still well done and a very fitting remembrance to our fallen Brothers. I would also like to thank Brothers John Morris and Rudy Velasco for their efforts at making this event such a success. In fact, due to the success of this event, we are considering a similar type of remembrance ceremony on Veteran's Day. Please let us know your thoughts and availability to participate.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Brian



Tentative Camp Calendar

Saturday, June 19 – Camp Meeting, American Legion Hall, 1024 S. Main St. 10:00 a.m. start time.

August 4 – 9 – 140th National Encampment of the SUVCW in St Louis, Missouri. Details can be found at www.suvcw.org

Saturday, October 16 – Camp Meeting. Details to follow as we get closer to meeting date.

November – Flag posting detail for Veterans Day at Evergreen Memorial, Historical Cemetery, also possible Camp 18 Veterans Day service. Plans forming.

Saturday, December 11 – Camp Meeting. Details to follow as we get closer to meeting date.

Saturday, December 18 – Wreaths Across America ceremony at Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery.

June Meeting Details

It looks like we are turning the corner away from the Covid virus disaster and will meeting in person for the first time in more than a year.

We have been able to use the electronic means of meeting via Zoom Video Conferencing, which made it simple to meet, once we got the hang of how it worked.

Continued on page 2, see MEETING...

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



MEETING *continued from page 1,....*

The video meetings also made it easier for Brothers who could not make it to meetings because of great distances to travel, to attend and add input to the Camp meetings.

Camp 18 is working on details of how to incorporate the electronic video meetings with the in person meetings. Stay tuned as we figure out the details to benefit all.

End of the Civil War Reunification Day

Friday, 9 April 2021 marked the 156th anniversary of Confederate General Robert E. Lee's surrender of his 28,000 troops to Union General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, effectively ending the American Civil War in 1865.

General Stoneman - Camp 18 Jr. Vice Commander John Morris marked the anniversary of the end of this devastating, bloody war and reunification of North and South into the United States by placing a specifically made Wreath to Honor the day at the GAR monument in Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery, Riverside.



We should all remember the men and women who served and fought in the war 1861 - 1865, particularly those who were wounded or killed in action, those who died from disease, those who died in enemy prison camps and those who never returned home.

According to the U.S. National Park Service, during the

Civil War there was a total of 1,768,498 military casualties, North and South, including wounded or killed in action, death from disease and those who died in captivity as Prisoners of War.

When Did the Civil War Actually End? By Brother Steve Doyle PCC & DSVC

April 9, 1865, Lee Surrenders to Grant at Appomattox: Battle of Appomattox” took place earlier that day with Confederate Major General John B. Gordon mounting an attack, which was initially successful, but soon the Confederates saw that they were hopelessly outnumbered by two Corps of Union Soldiers who had marched all night to cut off the Confederate advance.

With provisions and support cut off, Lee declared, “there is nothing left for him to do but to go and see Gen. Grant, and he would rather die a thousand deaths”

Grant's terms of surrender were generous: All officers and men were to be pardoned, with the men being allowed to take their horses, which would be used for a late Spring planting. Officers would keep their side arms, and Lee's 28,000 starving men would be given Union rations.

When the band started to play in celebration, Grant silences them, saying, “The war is over. The Rebels are our countrymen again.”

April 26, 1865: Confederate General Joseph Johnston's Army of Tennessee Surrenders to Union General William T. Sherman. Even though Johnston had heard of Lee's surrender on April 12th, he resisted Sherman's pressure to surrender. Finally, on April 26th, he signed a surrender agreement, along the same lines as Grant and Lee. This would be the biggest surrender of the war, as Johnston gave up nearly 90,000 troops in all.

Several Days Later; Nathan Bedford Forrest gave up his Cavalry Corps at Gainesville, Alabama, telling his Men that they were beaten and that was a self-evident fact, and any further resistance on their part would justly be regarded as the very height of folly and rashness.

May 12, 1865: Near Brownsville, Texas, Confederate Colonel John “Rip” Ford's 350 troops defeated Union Colonel Theodore Barrett's 800 Union Troops in the Battle of Palmito Ranch considered the Last Significant Fight of the Civil War.

Continued of page 3, see End of the War,...

End of the War, continued,

June 23, 1865, the First Native American Brigadier General, Stand Watie, surrendered his unit of Confederate Cherokee, Creek, Seminole, and Osage Native troops near Fort Towson, Oklahoma. He was the Last Confederate General to give up his command.

August, 1865: the CSS Shenandoah finally got word that the war had definitively ended and chose to “escape” to Liverpool, England.

May 1, 1865: Inland in South Carolina—on the opposite side of the state from where the Civil War opened at Fort Sumter four years before, a skirmish broke out between Union and Confederate fighters in Anderson County. A famous General we all know was leading his cavalry, searching for Confederate President Jefferson Davis in the Saluda River Valley. The exact location of the battle is unknown, but it is thought to have been the last exchange of gunfire east of the Mississippi River during the Civil War. Does anyone know the name of this famous General,...? Major General George Stoneman.

April 2, 1866: President Johnson issued a proclamation that the Insurrection was over in all of the former Confederate States, except Texas. This was due to the fact that the state had not established a new state government yet. This issue was resolved on August 9, 1866, when James Webb Throckmorton was inaugurated as governor.

Finally, on August 20,1866: President Johnson declared the formal end of the conflict and said that the Insurrection is at an end and that peace, order, tranquility, and civil authority now exist in and throughout the whole United States of America.



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

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

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 &
JROTC Coordinator | Rudy Velasco III |

Memorial Day Service 2021



Photo Above, Camp 18 Brothers - left to right, Camp JVC Brother John Morris, Camp 18 friend and Bugler Kasey Borders, Brothers Rudy Velasco PDC, Larry Duncan, Benny White, Burt Hogue, Rudy Velasco IV, Bob Nye, Steve Doyle PCC, Bill Daley PCC, Michael Emmett, Gene Justin and Camp Commander Brian Stephens.

S. Velasco photo

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





Above; Tuck's Decoration Day postcard circa 1910

How Sleep the Brave

A poem used for Decoration Day
by William Collins (1721 – 1759)

How sleep the brave, who sink to rest
By all their country's wishes blest!
When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,
Returns to deck their hallow'd mould,
She there shall dress a sweeter sod
Than Fancy's feet have ever trod.

Memorial Service at Evergreen

On Saturday, May 29th, Camp 18 held a Memorial Day Service in Honor of All of America's fallen Service men and women. The ceremony took place at the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) monument which is surrounded by the graves of Civil War and Spanish American War Veterans.

The twenty five minute Service was not as elaborate as in past years but it was sincere and fitting. The small audience of less than 10 enjoyed the ritual.

The Service began as usual with "Greetings" from Camp Commander



Photo above; Camp Commander Brian Stephens with the Ceremony's Opening Remarks.
B. White Jr. photo



Above; Camp 18-Color Guard Presenting the Colors.

B. White Jr. photo

After Brother Michael Emmett recited the **How Sleep the Brave** poem (shown in the left column), Brother Burt Hogue read the names of the six Camp 18 Brothers that have answered the Final Muster since the Camp was chartered in 2011. Listing our Camp Brothers' Final Muster is a new addition to our Memorial Day Ceremony, this year.

Camp Jr. Vice Commander Brother John Morris presented a wreath to the G.A.R. monument, stepped back, saluted and remarked aloud that ***"a grateful Nation Thanks You"*** then returned to his seat.

Camp Chaplain Daley began the closing of the Ceremony with the Benediction which lead to a musket Salute delivered by the Camp 18 Color Guard followed by the playing of TAPS by Bugler Kasey Borders.

The Memorial Service closed with the few family

Continued on page 5,....see Service



Photo above; Camp JVC Brother John Morris presents a wreath to the GAR monument. B. White Jr. photo

Service continued,

members and Camp Brothers in attendance leaving fresh flowers along the headstones in the G.A.R. Circle.

The Service was filmed by Tim Roche, Board member of Evergreen Historical Memorial Cemetery and has been uploaded to the SUVCW YouTube channel. It can be viewed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzwX8zEzofE5hNGhEyE157w>

Photo right; Kasey Borders plays TAPS to end the Memorial Service at Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery on May 29, 2021

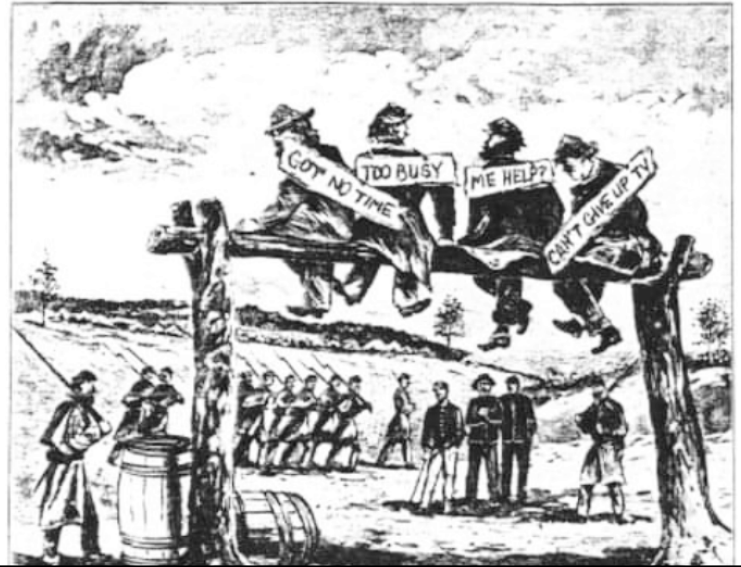
B. White Jr. photo



From the Editor...

Something I came across on social media and I thought I would pass it along.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



If we were Union soldiers, would our descendants be proud?

Make your Union ancestor proud:

- + Make the time and make an excuse to get involved.
- + Attend meetings and activities regularly.
- + Wear your Membership badge proudly.
- + Suggest ways to improving your Camp or Auxiliary.
- + Speak to others about the Civil War and Union sacrifices.
- + Survey a Civil War Memorial.
- + Help with Union Graves Registration.
- + Write an article for the newsletter.

Your time and talent is our most precious asset.

Juneteenth; short for the words *June* and *nineteenth*, marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. The troops' arrival came a full two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States and is also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Liberation Day, and Emancipation Day.





*General George Stoneman Jr. Camp 18
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Newsletter
69586 Borrego Rd.
Cathedral City, CA. 92234*