

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.4, August, 2021

Avoid Conscription, Volunteers Wanted,

for possible Veterans Day Service. See particulars on page 4

Attention Company!

A message from the Camp Commander

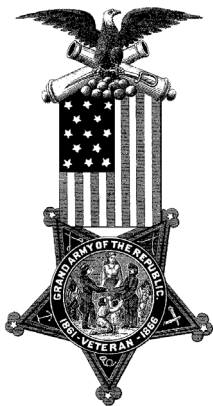
Brothers,

I am grateful we were able to return to in person meetings on June 19th and enjoyed sharing coffee and doughnuts with everyone. Thank you, Brother Doyle! And our meeting hosts at American Legion Post 216. It was a pleasure to conduct the initiation of one of our newest Brother Thomas Chapin. Please join me in welcoming him to our Camp.

I would like to thank Camp 18 Junior Vice Commander John Morris and Camp Secretary Rudy Velasco for their efforts in planning the Camp 18 Memorial Day remembrance at the Evergreen Memorial Historic Cemetery - Civil War Veterans Circle on May 29th. Thank you to all those participating and attending, including our hosts from the Cemetery Board of Directors who produced a video of the ceremony.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our October 16th meeting and sharing more coffee and doughnuts, along with reports of our summer activities and plans for our first Veterans Day event in November. . Our mission of preserving the history of Union Veterans through education and the legacy of the Grand

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Tentative Camp Calendar

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 at the American Legion Hall, 1024 B S. Main St. Corona. 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, Nov. 6 – Veterans Day Flag detail at Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery, Riverside. 8:00 start time.

Thursday, Nov. 11 – Possible Camp 18 Veterans Day Service at EMH Cemetery, Riverside. See page 4 for possible details.

Sat. Dec. 11 – Camp meeting, American Legion Hall, Corona, 10:00 a.m.

Sat. Dec. 18 – Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Evergreen Cemetery. More details as we get closer to the date.

Interesting Date in History

June 23, 1888: Frederick Douglas received one vote at the Republican convention in Chicago, effectively making him the first Black candidate to have his name placed in nomination for President of the United States. (The nomination went to Benjamin Harrison.)



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



Message, continued from page 1,

Army of the Republic is now more important than ever, so I hope you can join us.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Brian Stephens



Photo above; Camp Commander Stephens (left) initiates Brother Thomas Chapin (right) during the June 19th Camp meeting at the American Legion Hall in Corona.

August 2, 1956 Last Union Soldier

Born February 11, 1850(?), Albert Henry Woolson was the last surviving member of the Union Army who served in the American Civil War.

Woolson enlisted as a Drummer Boy in Company C, 1st Minnesota Heavy Artillery Regiment on October 10th, 1864, a few years after his father Willard died of wounds received at the Battle of Shiloh. Company C never saw action and Woolson was discharged on September 7th, 1865.

In the photo at right, circa 1950, shows Comrade Woolson with his GAR membership medal and drum.



Before Woolson passed away on August 2nd, 1956 in Duluth, Minnesota, he became the Senior Vice Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic in 1953. He was buried with full military honors by the National Guard at Park Hill Cemetery, Duluth.

Following his death, President Dwight D. Eisenhower said; *The American people have lost the last personal link with the Union Army. His passing brings sorrow to the hearts of all of us who cherished the memory of the brave men on both sides of the War Between the States.*

Please take a moment on August 2nd the remember Albert Woolson, his Comrades of the G.A.R and the Union Soldiers who sacrificed to maintain the Union.

General Orders

from

Brian C. Pierson,

Commander-in-Chief

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

General Order #19 – 7 July, 2021

1. It is my sad duty to report the death of ASUVCW Past National President Janice Lee Harding, aged 84 years, on 2 July 2021 at Parkville, Maryland.

2. PNP Harding was a Life Member of the James A. Garfield Auxiliary#1, Department of Chesapeake. She served as the Department of the Chesapeake (formerly Department of Maryland) President on several occasions and was the National President of the Auxiliary in 2009.

3. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War extends our sincere condolences to the Auxiliary.

General Order #20 – 13 July, 2021

1. It is my sad duty to report the death of ASUVCW Past National President Cynthia Brown, 11 July 2021 at Methuen, MA, at the age of 84 years.

2. PNP Brown was a Life Member of the Gilman E. Sleeper Auxiliary # 60, Department of New Hampshire. A three-term PDP from Massachusetts, she was elected National President of the Auxiliary in 2002 in Springfield, Illinois. She was also a member of the Woman's Relief Corp, Daughters of Union Veterans of Civil War 1861-1865, Ladies of the Grand Army of the

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Republic and the American Legion Auxiliary and was commissioned as a Kentucky Colonel. PNP Brown's integrity was evident to all who knew her. Her legacy of dedicated service is a credit to the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic.

3. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War extends our sincere condolences to the Auxiliary.

4. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War's social media platforms, and the Charters of all Departments and Camps will be draped in black. All Brothers will attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badges in remembrance of PNP Brown.

5. This order shall remain in effect for 30 days from this date.

Ordered this 13th Day of July, 2021

All General Orders can be viewed in their entirety at;
www.suvcw.org/?page_id=513



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

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



Edgar C. Greene
“Information Technology Specialist”
during the Civil War

by
Steve Doyle, PCC
Camp 18 Patriotic Instructor

The first telegraph message was sent in May, 1844, and by the onset of the Civil War, both Union and Confederate Commands knew the importance of this new, “Information Technology”. Transmitting vital military information quickly to and from Command Headquarters could determine whether or not a battle would be won or lost.

“Information Technology Specialists”, also known as, “Telegraphers”, were, ironically, always Civilians. This, despite the fact that, like fighting soldiers, they were close to enemy lines and were exposed to being wounded, captured, or killed.

In 1863, at the ripe old age of 15, Edgar C. Greene went to Sturgis, Michigan and quickly mastered Morse Code along with the ins and outs of operating a telegraph under all sorts of conditions. He served with the Union Army of the Cumberland that fought in Alabama and Tennessee in the later part of the war. In the months following the war, Greene was even hired by Gen. George A. Custer to assist him with his troops in Houston, Texas. They were sent there to deal with the Southern soldiers who had refused to lay down their arms.

Because they were not classified as, “soldiers, sailors, or marines”, the civilian telegrapher veterans were not given any recognition for their services after the Civil War. This would finally

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change in 1898 when Congress authorized issuing certificates of honorable service to these men, enabling those wounded or disabled to receive pensions.

As an interesting side note, Andrew Carnegie had been a Telegrapher before the Civil War. So when he died in 1919, he stipulated in his will that, “any Union Telegrapher still alive” receive a \$12 a month private pension. This would be equivalent to \$188 in today’s dollars.

Finally, in 1928 (63 years after the war), Edgar Greene was able to receive a regular government pension for his efforts as a military telegrapher.

Greene came to California in 1904, and finally settled in Ontario in 1922, where he managed the city’s Postal Telegraph Company until he died in 1937 at the age of 87. Edgar C. Greene is buried at Bellevue Cemetery in Ontario, California.

Upcoming Dates for “Displaying the Flag”

July 27, 2021: National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day.

August 4, 2021: Coast Guard Day.

Sept. 6, 2021: Labor Day.

Sept. 9, 2021: California Admission Day.

Sept, 11, 2021: Patriots’ Day. (Half Staff all Day).

Sept. 17, 2021: Constitution Day and Citizenship Day & National POW-MIA Recognition Day.

Sept. 18, 2021: Air Force Birthday.

Sept. 26, 2021: Gold Star Mothers’ Day.

Oct. 3, 2021: Fire Fighters Memorial Day. (October 9th or the Sunday before, Half Staff all day).

Oct. 11, 2021: Columbus Day. (aka “Indigenous Peoples’ Day”).

Oct. 13, 2021: Navy Birthday.

Oct. 27, 2021: Navy Day.

Nov. 10, 2021: Marine Corps. Birthday

Nov. 11, 2021: Veterans Day.

Thank You Brother Patriotic Instructor Doyle.

Volunteers Wanted, Avoid Conscription!

We are looking for volunteers to participate in, or input ideas for a Veterans Day Ceremony to be held at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside on Thursday, 11 November this year. With the exception of 2020, the COVID 19 restrictions year,

Camp 18 has held a Memorial Day Service at Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery in Riverside every year since 2010. The Camp has participated in several of the annual 4th of July celebrations at the cemetery and we have held a Wreaths Across America Ceremony there in 2018, 2019. We planned a ceremony for 2020, but COVID stopped that from happening. Camp 18 is planning another Wreaths Ceremony for December of this year.

As a Camp we have spent a lot of time at Evergreen Cemetery helping to celebrate or commemorate American holiday events. What we have not done as a Camp is honor our nation’s Veterans on Veterans Day with a ceremony or service.

If you have ideas for a service or are available and interested in participating this November, email Camp Secretary Rudy at rev03@dc.rr.com or Jr. Vice Commander John Morris at; john.morris.6@us.af.mil

Civil War uniforms not necessary to participate.

**ALSO**

The *Lincoln Memorial Shrine* reopened in April and is hosting their first in-person event next month, and would like to know if we, as the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, would like to participate. A generous local donor purchased a beautiful brass reproduction cannon for the museum (see attached photo below), which will be dedicated at this event, with the help of the 1st Pennsylvania Light Artillery. The program is scheduled for Saturday, August 14th from 10am to 12pm. Who would like to join in the fun? We could set up an information booth and a small display if we have the man power.





Photo above; from the left are Camp Chaplain Bill Daley PCC, Eagle Scouts Julian Cleary, Aidan Hernandez, Nicholas Oppen & Garrett Heil. Far right is Scout Master Joe Cleary.

A. Daley photo.

Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Scout Master Cleary first inquired about Eagle Scout Commendation certificates from the SUVCW in August 2020 for one of his Troop's Eagle Scouts. Virus restrictions kept the troop from scheduling an Eagle Court of Honor that would include an in-person gathering with parents and friends. As months past the virus cases declined and three other Scouts passed the requirements to become Eagles, the Scout Master set the date and location for the Court of Honor.

In the photo above, you see Camp Chaplain Bill Daley PCC, and the four Eagle Scouts at the Court of Honor held July 17th at the Riverside Elks.

Thank you Brother Daley.

Did You Know?

Interesting dates in July from years ago,...

July 1, 1863 – The pivotal three day Civil War Battle of Gettysburg, resulting in a Union victory, began in Pennsylvania.

July 3, 1863 – The three day Battle of Gettysburg ended in a major victory for the North as Confederate troops failed to breach Union positions during an assault known as Pickett's Charge.

July 7, 1865 – Four people were hanged in Washington, D.C. for conspiring with John Wilkes Booth to assassinate President Abraham Lincoln: Lewis Powell (aka Lewis Payne), David Herold, George Atzerodt and Mary Surratt, the first woman to be executed by the federal government.

July 12, 1862 – During the Civil War, President Lincoln signed a bill authorizing the Army Medal of Honor.

July 13, 1863 – Deadly rioting against the Civil War military draft erupted in New York City. The insurrection was put down three days later.

July 15, 1870 – Georgia became the last Confederate state to be readmitted to the Union.

July 18, 1863 – Union troops spearheaded by the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, made up of Black soldiers, charged Confederate held Fort Wagner on Morris Island, S.C. The Confederates were able to repel the Northerners, who suffered heavy losses. The 54th's commander, Col. Robert Gould Shaw, was among those killed.

July 22, 1862 – President Lincoln presented a preliminary draft of the Emancipation Proclamation to his Cabinet.

July 22, 1875 – The House of Representatives joined the Senate in voting to restore the American citizenship of Confederate General Robert E. Lee.

July 25, 1866 – Ulysses S. Grant was named General of the Army of the United States, the first officer to hold that rank.



The Naughty Boy Gotham, Who Would Not Take the Draft

from

Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, August 29, 1863.

To quell the disturbances and enforce the draft, the War Department sent troops to arrest and imprison hundreds of men, mostly Democrats in cities like New York City in 1863.



*General George Stoneman Jr. Camp 18
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Newsletter
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