

SESQUICENTENNIAL SERVICE HONORING THE MAY 1863 AUTHORIZATION OF 1ST BATTALION, NEVADA CAVALRY, MAY 25, 2013

By David A. Davis, PCC, Camp Senior Vice Commander, Historian and Civil War Memorials Officer,
Department of California and Pacific Historian

During the Memorial Day weekend, General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25 of the SUVCW; Battery A, 3rd U.S. Artillery, SVR; Dept. of the Pacific, Federal Battalion; and Nevada Civil War Volunteers had a display in front of the Comstock Firemen's Museum operated by the Liberty Engine Company No. 1 in Virginia City, and held a short service commemorating the formation of the 1st Nevada Battalion in 1863. The venue was chosen because in 1863, the building housed F.J. Hammell's Original Saloon and was used briefly as the recruiting site for Co. D, 1st Nevada "Mounted Infantry" i.e. Cavalry, and through Steve Frady, Liberty Engine Company No. 1 gave us permission to set up there. Steve is a member of both Carlin Camp 25 and Liberty Engine Company No. 1.

The display involved Civil War and GAR books and memorabilia, a cannon, and a limber recently made by Ray Ahrenholz and Wayne Eder. In the afternoon, a short service was held and letters of recognition were presented by Glenna Smith on behalf of Governor Brian Sandoval and Senator Dean Heller. Copies of these documents are at the end of this report. Carlin Camp 25 Commander John Riggs handed Camp certificates to Glenna for Governor Sandoval and Senator Heller.

Commander Riggs provided Camp certificates to Ray Ahrenholz as the official Camp Bugler, to Vince Vitale, to Steve Frady for getting the Camp permission to set up in front of the museum, and to Ken Auld for the service of his men, Co. K, 81st PA Infantry of the Department of the Pacific, Federal Battalion. Commander Riggs also provided the museum with a Civil War 150th anniversary medal and other things. Camp 25 also participated in the Virginia City Memorial Day parade.



Commander John Riggs with Wayne Eder's cannon.



Carlin Camp 25 display.

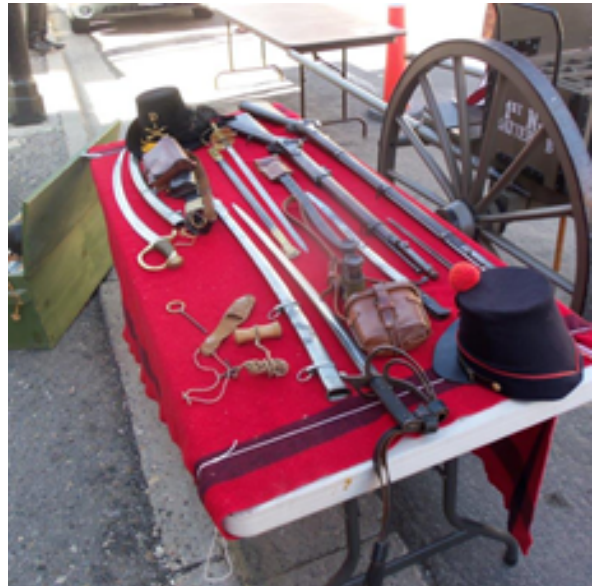
[Above pictures (c) John Riggs]



Comstock Firemen's Museum, L-R: Commander John A. Riggs, Senior Vice Commander David A. Davis, Chaplain Wayne Eder, Bugler Ray Ahrenholz, Senator Heller's Aide Glenna Smith, Secretary-Treasurer Brian Worcester [Picture (c) John Riggs].



Ray Ahrenholz with his collection and limber.



Display of Ray Ahrenholz's collection.



Commander John Riggs giving speech with Glenna Smith and SVC David A. Davis to the right.



Commander John Riggs receiving letters from Senator Dean Heller's Aide Glenna Smith.



L to R: Ray Ahrenholz, Wayne Eder, Brian Worcester, John Riggs, Glenna Smith, David A. Davis
 [Above pictures (c) John Riggs]



Ken Auld preparing the reenactors for the musket salute



L to R: Brian Worchester, Ray Ahrenholz, Wayne Eder, John Riggs

Parade vehicle



L to R: Tom Lynch, Steve Frady, Ray Ahrenholz, and Wayne Eder
[Above pictures (c) John Riggs].



Certificate of Senatorial Recognition

Presented to

1st Battalion Nevada Volunteer Cavalry

*In honor and recognition of your dedication to keep
our Nation and State's history alive for future generations
The Civil War is an instrumental piece of Nevada's history
Thank you for your commitment to protect our great Nation*

May 25, 2013
DATE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean Heller".

DEAN HELLER
UNITED STATES SENATOR

State of Nevada

Office of Governor Brian Sandoval

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

presented to

1st Battalion Nevada Volunteer Cavalry

In recognition of the 150th Anniversary of the formation of the 1st Battalion Nevada Volunteer Cavalry. As Governor of the State of Nevada, I commend you for honoring the brave men that fought to preserve the Union in the American Civil War.

Given under my hand and by the Seal of the Great State of Nevada

this 27th day of February, 2013.



Brian Sandoval

Governor of the State of Nevada



DEAN HELLER
NEVADA
(202) 224-6244

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 27, 2013

Dear Friends:

We are gathered on this solemn occasion to honor the memories, legacies, and sacrifices of the countless American patriots who gave their lives serving and defending the United States. This sacred time is set aside each year to show our appreciation for all that has been given on our behalf.

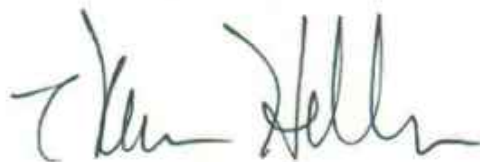
Each Memorial Day, we remember our heroes in uniform who gave the ultimate sacrifice, and we recount the stories of their courage in the face of danger. We revisit foreign battlefields like Iwo Jima, the beaches of Normandy, the jungles of Korea and Vietnam, the deserts of Iraq and Afghanistan, far-away places where American lives were lost, and where American blood was shed. We recall the names of those who gave all they had to give, and fought with unmatched determination and valor, for a country they loved.

Let us not forget that these heroes we honor today, willingly sacrificed their personal hopes and plans for the future when they laid down their lives on the altar of freedom. Let us remember that they, too, had friends, families and loved ones, their own ambitions and dreams, which they set aside so that the American dream could live on. And equally heroic are the sacrifices made by the families of those who gave their lives. Their loved one cannot be replaced, their loss can never be repaid, and we owe them our deepest gratitude as well.

On this occasion, the moving and powerful words of President Lincoln, given during a ceremony much like this one, remind us why Memorial Day is so important. "The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion - that a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

And so today, we honor and remember our fallen heroes who died so that others could live. We express our gratitude for those who fought tyranny, so that we could be free, who conquered oppression to defend liberty and our way of life. On this particular day, and every day, may we be forever grateful for their service and their sacrifice, and may we remain fervently committed to preserving their proud legacies.

May God bless and protect our troops currently in harm's way, may He be with their families, and may He continue to bless this great nation.



Dean Heller
United States Senator

STATE OF NEVADA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
CARSON CITY

June 20, 2013

Dear Commander Higgin,

Thank you very much for the Certificate of Commendation presented by the 1st Battalion, Nevada Calvary. It is very meaningful to me and I have so much respect for all of you and what you stand for. I truly will treasure the Certificate.

My best to you and your
all Nevada!

Sincere regards,
Randall