

CARLIN CAMP 25 REPORT

Camp Activities for March 2007 to March 2008

By David A. David, Camp Commander, Historian, and Memorials Officer

STATISTICS

MEMBERSHIP

We presently have 10 members, and meeting attendance has consistently been 4. Over the past year, we gained 1 and lost 5. The one gained was a referral from the Department. Of the five loses, one attended a couple of meetings and one function, but quit because of his business schedule. Of the other four, I may have met one once, but they never attended any of the meetings, volunteered for any of the positions, or even answered e-mails involving issues important to the order. Over a month ago we did have a man inquire, and we sent him the papers.

VETERANS DOCUMENTED

Our Graves Registration Officer Don Huffman eliminated 112 duplicate names of veterans buried within the area covered by our Camp. He also made 10 updates or corrections and added 23 names to the Graves Registration Database. He has estimated to have spent over 300 hours on investigations and still has 76 more veterans to investigate and list from Nevada and 8 more from California. To help, I have been providing some obituaries from Nevada sources, and I also compiled a list of Civil War Veterans buried in the Comstock area.

CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS

I as Camp Civil War Memorials Officer finished the paperwork and documentation on the Civil War memorial in the Old Pioneer Cemetery in Winnemucca, Nevada.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACITIVITIES

BY-LAW CHANGES

We amended our by-laws to officially include a newsletter. A newsletter is a record of our camp's activities to the outside world, and a copy is placed with the Nevada Historical Society. Putting it in the by-laws is meant to make sure future camp members keep it up. I also had our by-laws put on our website.

CAMP BOUNDARIES

We made agreements with the Keith Camp 12 in Las Vegas and Wright Camp 22 in Sacramento on our respective Camp boundaries. Until that time when more camps are organized in northern Nevada, Camp 25 will approximately take in all of Nevada north of the GAR Highway and part California around Lake Tahoe. We did this exercise, to prevent possible future duplication of efforts such as in documenting graves and the occasional memorial in peripheral areas and to be more certain as to what Camp future members are in.

PUBLICITY

OPEN HOUSE

We recently held an open house for the general public. I included my display of GAR and SUVCW memorabilia and a slide show. Only five or six people showed up, but we had one person express an interest in joining.

MEDIA

Since it is free through the internet, I have been advertising our meetings through several area newspapers. I have also been advertising our functions through the area newspapers and television websites. For our recent Open House, the Winnemucca "Humboldt Sun" and Lovelock "Review-Miner" ran an article about the SUCVW and the GAR.

SLIDE SHOW

I put together a slide show about the history of the GAR and SUVCW in Nevada. I will make it available if I get a request for it. I have given it at a meeting of the DAR, a meeting of the Nevada State Genealogical Society, and at our recent Camp Open House.

NEVADA DAY ACTIVITIES

Four of us participated in the Nevada Day parade on October 27, 2007 in Carson City. We had reusable magnetic signs made and a member donated the use of his pick-up truck. The signs were placed on the sides of the truck, and the United States and Camp flags were placed in the back holes on top of the sides of the bed. One drove, and the rest of us rode, seated on chairs from the VFW in the truck bed. A large number of the spectators shouted and applauded when they read the signs or heard the announcement at the various reviewing stands. We only had one Confederate heckler.

MEMORIAL AND VETERANS DAYS ACTIVITIES

MEMORIAL DAY

Secretary-Treasurer Brian Worcester and I attended the Carson City Memorial Day service at 1 pm at Lone Mountain. We wore our uniforms and stood behind a Sea Cadet as he gave a presentation on the origins of Memorial Day. After the main event, we had a short wreath-laying service at the Civil War monument in the GAR Custer Post 5 Plot. I read a short history of the GAR in Carson City, and Brian read the words to "Taps." Several people stayed, and we gave them a short tour around that part of the cemetery.

VETERANS DAY ACTIVITIES

Three of us rode with the Veterans of Foreign Wars in the Veterans Day parade which went up Virginia Street in Reno in the morning. That afternoon, Secretary-Treasurer Brian Worcester and I held a short wreath-laying service at the Civil War monument in the GAR Custer Post 5 Plot in Lone Mountain Cemetery in Carson City. At least 30 people including some members of the DAR, the Vietnam Vets/Legacy Vets Motorcycle club, and reporters from the "Nevada Appeal" attended. I gave a short speech, and Brian said the words to the fourth stanza of "The Star Spangled Banner" and talked about the cemetery. Afterwards, we gave a short tour of the cemetery to those remained behind.

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY

The Lt. Dixon-CSS Hunley Camp 2016 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in Sparks held its annual Confederate Memorial Day service at 11 am, Saturday, April 21, 2007, at the Masonic Chapel at Mountain View Cemetery in Reno. Camp 25 received an official invitation, and I attended. They had a nice program, collected roses, and then decorated the graves of the then three known Confederate veterans in Reno with them. They gave me the extra roses, and they were distributed upon the graves of Union veterans buried at the O. M. Mitchel Post 69 Cemetery in Reno. A week after the service, I found a fourth Confederate grave for them.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

COMSTOCK CEMETERY FOUNDATION

I attended a meeting of the Comstock Cemetery Foundation and told them about us and our interest in locating the graves of Union veterans. The Comstock Cemetery Foundation oversees the two dozen or so cemeteries in the Virginia City, Gold Hill, and Silver City areas. One of our members, Steve Frady, is on the board for the Fireman's Cemetery there. Through various sources, I eventually compiled a tentative list of Civil War soldiers buried in those cemeteries. I passed the list onto the Comstock Cemetery Foundation for their use and verification. As noted earlier, I also passed the list on to our Graves Registration Officer for verification and eventual inclusion in the Graves Registration Database.

EAGLE SCOUTS

We looked into reviving our Eagle Scout program. Northern Nevada turns out about 150 Eagle Scouts a year and averages 9 to 16 a month. We concluded it would deplete our treasury in a couple of years, and we would need a member dedicated to it. We decided to limit ourselves to sending out certificates when asked.

GAR MEMBER LISTS

As time permits, from newspaper articles, obituaries, and the few remaining records, I have been compiling lists of officers and members to the GAR Post and WRC Corps for Nevada. I have also been updating as time permits the statistics to these Posts and Corps.

Submitted March 15, 2008, by:



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