

# CARLIN CAMP DISPATCH

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GENERAL WILLIAM PASSMORE CARLIN CAMP 25, ORGANIZED 2003  
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Volume 14, No. 3    *Compiled and Edited by J M "Brew" Brewster*    March 2016

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## THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 1300 hours, Sunday, 12 June, at the VFW Post 9211 Hall at 255 Veterans Historic Drive near its intersection with Baker Lane next to Moana Park.

## QUILT PRESENTATION to the NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Carlin Camp (SUVCW) and the Shine Tent (DUVCW) presented the quilt to the Nevada Historical Society on Saturday, 16 April 2016. About 20 people attended.



*(Photo Credit: Don Huffman)*

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **BOWERS MANSION**

**21 May 2016**

Bowers Mansion Regional Park in Washoe Valley will reopen Saturday, 21 May 2016, at 10 am by hosting a living history event, which will include tours of the mansion and a Civil War encampment manned by the Nevada Civil War Volunteers (NCWV). Members of Carlin Camp 25 will also be present. For more information regarding Bowers Mansion, please go to:

[https://www.washoecounty.us/parks/specialty\\_facilities/bowers\\_mansion.php](https://www.washoecounty.us/parks/specialty_facilities/bowers_mansion.php).

The NCWV also holds other events through the year, more information available at:

<http://www.nevadacivilwar.org/>

### **MEMORIAL DAY**

**28 - 30 May 2016**

Two events:

Virginia City Memorial Day Parade, Saturday, 28 May 2016 at noon, check-in at 10.30.

Memorial Day Service, Grand Army of the Republic Cemetery, Reno. Monday, 30 May 2016 at 0900 hours, please arrive by 0830.

### **FLAG DAY**

**14 June 2016**

Idlewild Park, Reno. 1800 hours, tentative start time. More details at our 12 June meeting.

### **INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**4 July 2016**

Two events:

Grand Army of the Republic Cemetery, Reno at 0900 hours, please arrive by 0830.

Virginia City Independence Day Parade, Monday, 4 July 2016 at noon, check-in at 10.30.

### **2016 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT**

**11 - 14 August 2016**

The 135<sup>th</sup> National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 130<sup>th</sup> National Encampment of the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and the 129<sup>th</sup> National Encampment of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held on August 11-14, 2016, in Springfield, Illinois. **Registration and forms have been updated!** Please go to: [http://www.suvcw.org/?page\\_id=20](http://www.suvcw.org/?page_id=20)

### **NEVADA DAY PARADE**

**29 October 2016**

Nevada Day Parade, Carson City. Parade starts at 1000 hours, line-up by 0900 hours.

### **VETERANS DAY**

**11 November 2016**

Reno Veteran's day Parade. Details to follow.

# Meeting Notes of 14 February 2016

## I. Opening

- A. The meeting was called to order by Commander Carson at 1321 hours.
- B. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brother Roger Linscott.
- C. The Invocation, given by Brother David Hess
- D. Members in attendance include: Ray Ahrenholz, J M Brewster, Rob Burr, Col. Edward Carson, David Davis, Jim Ferrigan, David Hess, Roger Linscott, Frank Whitman, Brian Worcester and Francis Wood. Excused members are: Wayne Eder and Vincent Vitali.

## II. Council Report

- A. The Camp Council, consisting of Brothers Ahrenholz, Wood and Worcester met for the purpose of filling the vacancy caused by the unexpected passing of Camp 25 Commander John Riggs. As provided for in the Bylaws, the Council members voted unanimously to elect Brother Edward Carson, Senior Vice Commander to the position of Commander. Furthermore, they voted Brother David Davis to fill the position of Senior Vice Commander.
- B. Brother Worcester reported that he is in contact with John Riggs' family for the purpose of enlisting their assistance in recovering any items found among John's belongings that properly belong to Camp 25.

## III. Commander's Report – Brother Edward Carson

- A. 2016 Calendar of events.
  - 1. This year, Camp 25 is planning to participate in the following parades in which we have traditionally participated:
    - a. Memorial Day parade
    - b. Independence Day parade
    - c. Nevada Day parade
    - d. Veterans Day parade
  - 2. Camp 25 is also planning to participate in the following events:
    - a. Dept. of California & The Pacific Encampment – March
    - b. 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary quilt presentation at the History Society – April
    - c. GAR Cemetery memorial service – Memorial Day.

## III. Secretary/Treasurer's Report – Brother David Hess

- A. Brother Hess reported cash in the bank of \$933.24 as of 1/29/16., and a copy of the current financial statement is incorporated in these minutes as EXHIBIT 1.
- B. MOTION: Brother Worcester made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of December 20 and the Treasurer's Report. SECOND: The motion was seconded by Brother Brew Brewster. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C. Brother Hess reported that an updated Form 22 was timely filed with the Department on January 15, 2016.

## IV. Senior Vice Commander's Report and Historian's Report – Brother David A. Davis

- A. Brother Davis reported that he submitted notice of our meeting date, time and place to the Reno Gazette Journal and to The Nevada Appeal.

**V. Junior Vice Commander's Report – Brother Roger Linscott**

A. Nothing to report.

**VI. History and Memorials Report**

A. The Unionville Remains (see EXHIBIT 2).

B. Women and Girl Workers of The Civil War 1861-65 (see EXHIBIT 2)

**VII. Patriotic Instructor's Report**

A. Brother Tyrone Davis was absent but his report was submitted for our consideration by Brother David Davis (see EXHIBIT 3).

**VIII. New Business and Old Business**

A. Brother Brian Worcester presented a discussion to organize and expedition to Camp Winfield Scott and the nearby battle field (date to be determined) as part of our ongoing research into how Pvt. Reid (Read) was the Congressional Medal of Honor. MOTION: It was MOVED by Brother Brewster and SECONDED by Brother Whitman to organize the expedition. PASSED unanimously.

B. As previously reported, there will be a presentation of a Daughters and Sons Quilt along with a ceremony at the Nevada Historical Society's upcoming meeting.

C. Brother David Hess gave a presentation about the SAR Whiskey Drawing to be held on March 12. Tickets are for sale at \$20 for one and \$50 for three. Brother Hess also invited all members to attend this year's George Washington Birthday luncheon. It will be held this year on February 20 at 11:30a.m. at the Tamarack Junction.

D. This year's Department Encampment will be held on March 4-5 in Sacramento.

E. All members were reminded to "Like" the Camp 25 Facebook page.

**IX. The next meeting is scheduled for April 10 and the VFW Hall**

**X. Commander Edward Carson offered the Benediction in memory of John Riggs.**

**XI. The meeting adjourned at 1450 hours.**

Respectfully submitted,

David Fredric Hess, Secretary/Treasurer  
General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25  
Department of California and The Pacific  
Sons of The Union Veterans of The Civil War

## Battery A, 1<sup>st</sup> United States Artillery, SVR 2016 Update

Camp 25's SVR Unit, Battery A, 1<sup>st</sup> United States Artillery is alive and well. No one person makes up this unit, nor does the location of the field pieces affect the organization. Camp 25 members are ALL members of this unit, based on the organization being established at the Camp in 2012. The following is a summary of activities, however additional events can be updated by members as they participate.

The required SVR Annual Reporting is complete and dues were paid on behalf of the Camp by Captain Wayne Eder. This permits the Battery to function for 2016 as a recognized unit of the 6<sup>th</sup> Military District SVR.

With the relocation of the guns to Southern Nevada, the participation in reenactments obviously changes. Reenactors and units must affiliate with a recognized group in order to be covered under event and organization insurance. The guns, owned by Captain Eder of Battery B, 1<sup>st</sup> New Jersey Light Artillery are now under the American Civil War Society (ACWS), a Southern California Group for insurance and other coverages. A member of PACWR, a safety based organization, this membership permits operation of the artillery at any PACWR related/approved event. This is critical to any participation by members staffing the guns, either SVR members or other reenactors. With ACWS membership, the Battery may continue to function in Nevada, California, Oregon, and Arizona in a similar fashion as our prior membership in the Nevada Civil War Volunteers (NCWV) in the Reno area.

The following activities are scheduled for or have been attended in Southern Nevada and California:

**12-14 February 2016    Calico, CA        Civil War Reenactment**

Chaplain Wayne Eder participated as both a dismounted US Cavalry Trooper and as Camp 25's Chaplain at Sunday Church Call. For more details, see:  
<http://www.vvdailypress.com/article/20160213/NEWS/160219867/0/>

**7 May 2016                    Las Vegas, NV    Old Mormon Fort Living History Day**

Wayne Eder has been asked to participate as a first person living historian portraying Major General John G. Foster at this event.

**20-22 May 2016            Perris, CA        Orange Empire Railway Museum**

Wayne Eder will attend this event and will participate in Church Call as Camp 25 Chaplain

**21-23 October 2016    Las Vegas, NV    Spring Mountain Ranch Reenactment**

Battery A, 1<sup>st</sup> US Artillery and Battery B, 1<sup>st</sup> New Jersey Artillery have been invited to bring guns to this event. Chaplain Eder will hold Church Call on Sunday.

*Any Camp 25 or SVR member interested in participating in any of these events, please contact Captain Eder.*

Respectfully Submitted:  
In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Wayne L. Eder  
Chaplain, SUVCW General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25  
Captain/Chief of Staff, 6<sup>th</sup> Military District SVR  
Captain, Battery A, 1<sup>st</sup> US Artillery-SVR

# HISTORY AND MEMORIALS REPORT

## UNIONVILLE REMAINS

During the February meeting, I reported on potential soldier's remains found near Unionville in 1982. I had a meeting with Bryan Hockett, Lead Archaeologist, Bureau of Land Management, Nevada State Office, and he allowed me to copy most of the file involving the remains, which included the original Pershing County Sheriff's report, several archaeological reports and analyses, a location map, and pertinent correspondence. What was not copied was some redundant e-mail correspondence. I gave a copy of the report to Ray Ahrenholz to study closely. Bryan Hockett said he would contact Gene Hatori at the Nevada State Museum about having Ray and I view the remains. It has been a couple of weeks since I last heard from him and will e-mail him tomorrow evening if I don't hear from him by then. If for some reason this does not happen, we at least got the report.

For some background, 30 years ago, a lady was walking her dog near Unionville and came across the remains under a rock ledge. She notified the Pershing County sheriff who noted it was not a recent death. The remains were on lands administered to by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and now reside at the Nevada State Museum as BLM "cultural artifacts". The remains are of a man who had been shot in the head and included brogan shoes, bits of cloth, leather including possibly saddle leather, and small buttons suggesting a soldier. Soldiers sewed whatever buttons were available onto their uniforms when torn, so "mixed" doesn't disqualify the remains from being of a soldier. Also, the rock ledge had smaller rocks pushed up in an effort to cover the entrance, which suggests the intention of later retrieval of the body.

It appears the soldier died from an apparent blow to the head, not from being shot in the head. I have been doing a little research on the Unionville area. Unionville sprang up with the discovery of gold and silver in 1861 in Buena Vista Canyon on the east side of the Humboldt Range. The Buena Vista and several other mining districts were formed and the mines were prosperous into the late 1860s before declining. The towns at best had a few hundred people each, and the Indian problems tended to be more to the north, especially in Paradise Valley north of Winnemucca.

The timing of the soldier's demise is the question. The 4th U.S. Artillery did Cavalry duty along the emigrant trails, but the emigrant trail followed the Humboldt River on the west or opposite side of the range from Unionville. If the remains were pre-1861, we would need to find a report on any activities they had on the east side of the range. The soldier's demise may have then been due to a skirmish or an accident. If they date to after the rise of mining in the area, the soldier's demise may be due to homicide. The remains were apparently found a couple of hundred yards over the line onto BLM land. They were less than half a mile out of town, which seems odd he would not have been brought into town if he died with other troops. Also, the area would have been carpeted with mining claims, not to mention a house about a quarter of a mile away and the telegraph line a half of a mile away on the 1871 public land survey map. Several prospect pits still exist apparently a few hundred yards from the site. The part of Unionville closest to the site of the remains was populated with southern sympathizers, which were said to get into occasional brawls with the more numerous pro-Union supporters on the other end of town. Also, crime was a major problem with iffy justice.

The local newspaper was the "Humboldt Register", but it did not start publication until mid-1863. It only mentions Indian problems starting in 1864. Soldiers were stationed at Dun Glen in 1863 and late 1865, and Unionville reportedly hosted soldiers in 1863 before they went on to Dun Glen. Dun Glen is 25 miles north of Unionville and had no newspaper. I haven't found records of the 1863 expedition yet, and the post records for the 1865 expedition only cover two months. A newspaper article did mention troops passing through Unionville on their way to Camp Winfield Scott in 1866. More research needs to be done, and hopefully we'll get to see the remains, which may shed light on the timing.

### **WOMEN AND GIRL WORKERS OF THE CIVIL WAR, '61-'65**

Recently, I was researching the Grand Army of the Republic on Newspapers.Com and came across an organization called the "Women and Girl Workers of the Civil War, '61-'65". They are mentioned in the Oakland Tribune between 1918 and 1940 (so far) and took part in Memorial Day and other patriotic services. They were organized May 8, 1918, during the G.A.R. Department of California and Nevada encampment in Oakland, and were presented with their own flag. Mrs. Sarah Wilson, originally of New York, started the organization, which consisted of the wives, daughters, and girlfriends the Union soldiers left behind when they marched off to war. Most of the members were rather elderly by 1918. They followed their men to the war zone and volunteered to help however they could on the battlefield. Our Camp Graves Registration Officer Don Huffman found the picture included below on line. It's probably from the 1918 (or later) Encampment as a G.A.R. member with a compliment of large ribbons is visible in the left background. Don also found they filed as a California Domestic Corporation filed on November 18, 1918, with a File Number is C0087267. The company's filing status is now listed as Suspended. The group was as also referred to as the California No. 1 and was apparently hoping to become a nation-wide organization and an auxiliary to the G.A.R. However, it appears the 1921 Encampment rejected that idea. Although an obvious local California phenomenon, it's possible some of the ladies may have had Nevada ties. As a side note, Don found that in 1922, the ladies in Oakland had given a carving of an upright Cinnamon Bear to President Warren G Harding, who had accepted the gift and had written to them expressing his pleasure. They claimed that it had been carved with a penknife by none other than James Marshall in 1848. President Harding was a member of the Sons of Veterans (Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil after 1926).



## **MARKERS AT MITCHELL POST 69 CEMETERY FOR VETERANS BURIED AT OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS**

Three Civil War veterans – Patrick Keating, d. 9/3/1901; Martin Kennedy, d. 5/29/1912; and Patrick Reynolds, d. 12/15/1892 - have Civil War veterans' markers in the GAR O. M. Mitchell Post 69 Cemetery at Hillside. However, lists show that they were originally buried in the old Saint Thomas Catholic Cemetery, which was along Virginia Street across from Lincoln Hall at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). By 1965, the cemetery was full and sold to UNR. Several dormitories now sit on the site. The remains were moved mostly to Our Mother of Sorrows Cemetery. The Mitchell Post Cemetery was renovated by the Johanna Shine Tent No. 82 of the DUVCW and Isaac Crist Camp No. 28 of the SUVCW in the 1960s, which included acquiring 39 new markers. The markers for the three Civil War veterans mentioned do not contain the words "In Memory Of", which would have indicated the remains are elsewhere. Several years ago, the late Commander John Riggs and I recently visited the office to Our Mother of Sorrows. Records there show that Keating, Kennedy, and Reynolds were disinterred from Saint Thomas and reinterred in the Old Saint Thomas Section of Our Mother of Sorrows. Records note about where they are buried in the section, though it might still not be easy to find them exactly. Also, I just recently found a newspaper article mentioning a Confederate veteran buried at Saint Thomas, but have not had time to follow up with our Grave Registration Officer Don Huffman and Our Mother Sorrows.

Several weeks ago, I was at Our Mother of Sorrows, and mentioned it to the Operations Manager. She said that if we could get markers, she would waive the fees if we set the stones, which would require a little shovel work. They could also get markers at their cost, but I assume they'd be expensive. Sorrows only takes flat markers now, and the ones at GAR are standard Government issued uprights. Also, it's probably not likely the VA will send new flat ones if they know other ones already exist elsewhere. Brew suggested moving the existing ones to Our Mother of Sorrows and laying them flat, which I have seen done at some other cemeteries. The next time I go to our Mother of Sorrows, I'll enquire about that. Also, American Legion Post 1 looks after the Mitchell Post 69, and it would likely take their okay, too, to move any of the markers.

## **ANOTHER DEAD SOLDIER**

On August 4, 1860, the "Territorial Enterprise" reported Mr. Roberts and Mr. Ruffin of the Pony Express Service arrived in Carson City with the mail. Part of the time, they had travelled from Robert's Creek Station about 300 miles away. For a few days they happily travelled with soldiers under the command of Lieutenants Perkins and Weed who were also travelling with their surgeon Dr. Perkins. The article mentioned a soldier named Miller died from an apoplectic attack at Smith's Creek. Smith Creek was apparently a Pony Express Home Station in western Lander County. I passed the information on to our Graves Registration Officer Don Huffman. Don found him listed on Findagrave and as well as in other records. Private Joseph Miller, Co. B, 4th U.S. Artillery died July 15, 1860. He has a marker in the Camp Floyd/Crittenden Cemetery in Utah, where the 4th Artillery was based. The caveat is whether or not he is really there or still out near Smith Creek, which is now a ranch. The cemetery had 84 original markers, but there were no records to say for certain who was buried where, and these markers were removed and destroyed and replaced with the Government markers there now. However, ground penetrating radar found only 37 burials. For more information, see <http://campfloydcmemetery.blogspot.com/>.

Respectfully Submitted,

David A. Davis

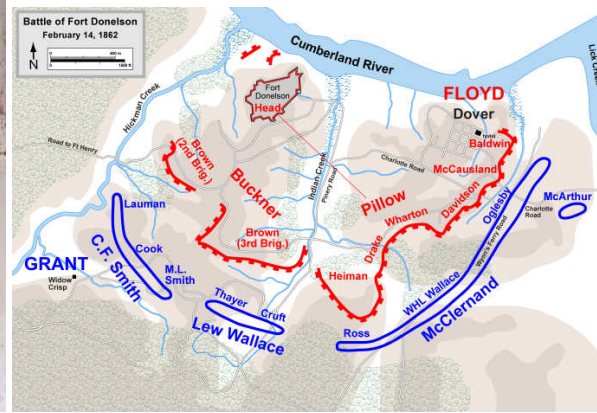
General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25 Camp Historian/Civil War Memorials Officer



## Patriotic Instructor's Report

After the successful Union victory at Fort Henry, General Ulysses S. Grant decided to move his army of 24,531 on toward Fort Donelson, Tennessee where there was a Confederate military presence of slightly over 16,000 at least, under the command of General James B. Floyd (also former United States Secretary of War under President James Buchanan). On February 11th, 1862 Grant tested the grounds on a clear day then started surrounding the Fort, on the 13th Grant attacked with no success at all so he called for reinforcements from Fort Smith under General Lew Wallace. Both armies were entrenched and the Confederates had been reinforced and restocked with weapons and later that night rain and snow fell heavily causing conditions to get even worse.

The following day General Lew Wallace arrived with additional reinforcements from Fort Smith along the Cumberland River with the USS Carondelet an Iron clad from a Union Navy Flotilla under Flag Officer William H. Foote which started firing from long distance at Fort Donelson and took out one of it's heavy artillery guns. After several days of fighting and Union gains and an attempted breakout attack Confederate General James B Floyd along with his second in command Gideon J. Pillow who escaped the battlefield relinquished their duties to General Simon Bolivar Buckner who surrendered the fort over to General Grant on February 16th. In the end the Union had 2,691 casualties and the Confederates took 13,846 casualties along with General Buckner being captured by Union troops, the significance of the battle was that the Union captured a key Confederate Fort deep in Southern territory and the Confederates lost access to Kentucky (which also gave the U.S. Navy free and quicker mobility down the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers), along with General Grant getting a promotion from Brigadier General to Major General from President Abraham Lincoln.



Respectfully Submitted,

Tyrone Davis

Patriotic Instructor's Report References:

<http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/fort-donelson.html>

<http://www.history.com/topics/american-civil-war/battle-of-fort-donelson>

<http://www.britannica.com/event/Battle-of-Fort-Donelson>

<http://www.americacivilwar.org/battle-of-fort-donelson>

<http://www.civilwarhome.com/ftdonelson.html>

[http://www.civil-war-journeys.org/fort\\_donelson\\_tn\\_overview.htm](http://www.civil-war-journeys.org/fort_donelson_tn_overview.htm)

## **RECENT CAMP ORDERS**

No recent camp orders. For a complete list, see the Camp website:  
<http://www.suvsac.org/camp25/rules/orders15.html>.

## **RECENT DEPARTMENT ORDERS**

Department Order 2016-7 #1: Election, Appointed Officers and Headquarters, 29 April 2016.

Department Order 2016-7 #2: Appointment of Standing and Special Committees, 29 April 2016.

For a complete list, see the Department website: <http://www.suvsac.org/rules/ordersindex.html>.

## **RECENT GENERAL ORDERS**

The Commander in Chief has issued the following General Orders:

General Order 14: ROTC Program (Enhancements), 5 April 2016

General Order 15: Resignation of National Secretary (Alan Russ), 4 April 2016

For a complete list, see the National website: [http://www.suvsac.org/?page\\_id=513](http://www.suvsac.org/?page_id=513).

### **Editor's Notes:**

Your photos and stories are more than welcome, always!

Email the Editor at: [signals.camp25.suvsac@gmail.com](mailto:signals.camp25.suvsac@gmail.com)

For a future project, the Editor would appreciate an email with your Ancestor's Military Unit.

The Editor has a great-grandfather and a great-granduncle that served in the Eighth New York Cavalry.