## **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 16, No. 6 Compiled and Edited by David A. Davis, PCC

November 2018

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#### THE NEXT MEETING

# DECEMBER MEETING: ELECTION OF OFFICERS! PLEASE ATTEND!

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#### G.A.R. MITCHEL POST 69 FLAG

Senior Vice Commander/Historian David A. Davis met with Jan Loverin at the Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textile Research Center in Carson City on October 29. Jan is the curator, and the Grand Army of the Republic General Ormsby McKnight Mitchel Post 69 flag had recently been brought to the center from storage. Post 69 was the second attempt at a G.A.R. post in Reno. It was organized September 27, 1884, and acquired the 1/3-acre plot for G.A.R. members at the Hillside Cemetery on Angel Street from undertaker Wilshire Sanders in 1890. General O.M. Mitchel

(spelled with one "l") was a West **Point** graduate, lawyer, mathematician, and a well known astronomer. He was commissioned as a brigadier general early in the Civil War. He was involved in several battles, but died of yellow fever in South Carolina. A crater on Mars is named after him. During the time of Post 69, Memorial Day parades started near the courthouse, where in later years a wreath was tossed into the Truckee River from the Virginia Street bridge to commemorate the sailors. The parade would proceed to the G.A.R. plot at Hillside where the graves were decorated. The Post's last member, George Warren, age 93, died March 10, 1936, and the Post records were closed. Post 69 was officially dissolved on February 12 Lincoln's (President Birthday), 1937. A ceremony was held in the State Assembly chamber, whereby



Post 69 flag (Reproduction Courtesy Nevada State Museum, Carson City)

the Thomas H. Barry Camp of the United Spanish War Veterans surrendered the charter and colors to representatives of the G.A.R. Department of California and Nevada. The Barry Camp held onto the flag, gavel, Bible, and sword for later donation to the State. The flag was donated by Nathaniel Wright in 1953. N.D. (Nat) Wright was a charter member of the Barry Camp in 1917 and served as Camp quartermaster in 1953. The flag has 45 stars and is in good shape. It has some minor tears in one corner. The flag is attached to a two piece staff that screws together. The lower part is tapered near the end and a ring worn in the wood suggests it may have been inserted in a third now missing section. Permission was given for photographs of the flag to be included in this newsletter and the newsletter with the image of the flag can be posted on the Camp website. However, the image is not to be reproduced beyond that.



Lower flag staff

(Reproduction Courtesy Nevada State Museum, Carson City)



Screw joint in upper flag staff.



Screw joint in lower flag staff.

### SOME THOUGHTS ON WORLD WAR I AND THE CIVIL WAR VETERANS

Veterans' Day 2018 marked the 100th anniversary of the cessation of fighting in World War I, a.k.a the War to End All Wars and the Great War. Not counting those who had been child flag bearers, powder monkeys, messengers, etc., the dwindling number of Civil War veterans were generally in their 60s and 70s by then. Many of the men who marched off to World War I were the grandsons and great-grandsons of these veterans. Interestingly, these veterans were likely reminded of their own war experiences when they heard some of the World War I jargon. Civil War infantry men had also been called "doughboys" and trench warfare was in use near the end of the Civil War during the Battles of Petersburg and Richmond. A few also knew a little about aerial reconnaissance, since balloons had been used for that purpose during the Civil War. Hand grenades, land mines, and exploding shells were in use, and a primitive machine gun called the Gatling gun came into use. Similar to World War I, the Civil War was an industrial war with factories (mainly in the North) in full production of everything necessary for fighting and rail transportation to move the goods. Only by World War I, horse drawn wagons were giving way to motorized trucks. The Civil War also saw the rise in the use of electrical communications. Telegraphs were in use down to the field level. Telegraphy was still in widespread use during World War I though it was being surpassed by telephones and radio. The term "shell shock" was coined during World War I to describe what today is known as post-traumatic stress disorder. However, Civil War era doctors had recognized the symptoms and deduced the causes. Their terms for it were "nervous asthenia" and "soldier's heart".

#### RECENT EVENTS

Camp 25 was present at several recent events. Bower's Mansion was closing for the season. On October 13, the Civil War re-enactors set up camp and held several re-enactments. Camp 25 set up map and other displays in the library. Senior Vice Commander/Historian David A. Davis and Councilman Brian I. Worcester were present. Camp 25 also had entries in the Nevada Day parade in Carson City on October 27 and the Reno Veterans' Day parade on November 11.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT**

March 22-23, 2019

The 134th Department of California and Pacific Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, will tentatively be held March 22-23, 2019 in Bakersfield, California - details to be announced.

#### NORTHERN NEVADA CELTIC CELEBRATION

May 18-19, 2019

The 28th annual Northern Nevada (formerly Reno) Celtic Celebration will be held May 18-19, 2019. It was last held at Bartley Park in 2017 and included the Battleborn Civil War Reenactors. See the website at https://www.renoceltic.org for event information.

#### **NEVADA STATE FAIR**

June 6-9, 2019

The Nevada State Fair featuring the Rendezvous will be held June 6-9, 2019, at Mills Park in Carson City. See the website at http://www.nevadastatefair.org for event information.

#### NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

August 8-11, 2019

The 138th National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will be held August 8-11, 2019, in Independence, Ohio. Information will be posted at http://www.suvcw.org/?page\_id=2791 as it becomes available.

#### MEETING - October 28, 2018

Minutes of the camp meeting Sunday, October 28, 2018, at 1300 Hours, VFW Hall, 255 Veterans Historic Way, Reno, NV General William Passmore Carlin--Camp 25 Department of California and Pacific

#### I. Opening

- A). The meeting was called to order by Commander Carson at 1309 hours.
- B). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commander Edward Carson.
- C). Invocation was led by Commander Edward Carson.

Camp Commander

- D). Members in attendance were: Col. Edward Carson, Kurt Dietrich, David Hess, Roger Linscott, Frank Wood, and Brian Worcester.
- E). No guests were in attendance.

#### II. Camp Commanders Report-- Camp Commander Edward Carson

A). Commander Carson reported the following nominees for Camp 25 elected Officer positions for 2019. They include:

Kurt Dietrich

camp commander	
Senior Vice Commander	David Davis
Junior Vice Commander	Frank Wood
Secretary/Treasurer	David Hess
Councilman 1	
Councilman 2	Roger Linscott
Councilman 3	Brian Worcester

B). Nominees for Camp 25 Appointed Officer positions for 2019. They include:

Chaplain	Ray Ahrenholz
Patriotic Instructor	
Historian	David Davis
Guide	Frank Wood
Color Bearer	Tyrone Davis
Guard	Brian Worcester
Eagle Scout Coordinator	Tyrone Davis
ROTC/JROTC Coordinator	Steve Frady
Graves Registration Officer	Don Huffman
Civil War Memorials Officer	David Davis
GAR Highway Officer	David Davis
Newsletter Editor & Signals Officer	David Davis

- C. There was a long discussion of the topic of ROTC awards. The issues focused on the practice of some schools applying directly to the national organization for medals, thus, circumventing the Camp and our own efforts. There was no resolution to the discussion but the matter will need to be addressed by whoever is the next ROTC/JROTC Coordinator
- D. Commander Carson also discussed Camp 25's participation in upcoming events including the Veteran's Day Parade in Reno on November 11.

#### III. Treasurer's Report--Treasurer David Hess

A). Brother Hess presented the financial statements as of October 1, (attached to these Minutes as EXHIBIT 1). Hess asked if there were any questions. Being none it was MOVED (Worcester) and SECONDED (Dietrich) that the financial statements be accepted as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

#### IV. Secretary's Report--Secretary David Hess

- A). Approval of Minutes. Secretary Hess referred to the minutes of the August meeting, which were previously printed in the last issue of the Carlin Dispatch (Attached to these Minutes as EXHIBIT 2). Hess asked for any additions or corrections. Being none, it was MOVED (Worcester) and SECONDED (Linscott) that the Minutes of the April meeting be accepted as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- B). Secretary Hess reported that the Camp 25 Bylaw amendments had been submitted to the Department and have been accepted and certified.

#### V. Senior Vice Commander and Historian Report--Brother David Davis

A). Brother Davis was on an excused absence.

#### VI. Historians Report--Brother David Davis.

- A). Brother Davis presented the History and Memorials Report by email. The report was an update on the grave markers being installed at the Our Mother Of Sorrows Cemetery.:
- $B). \label{eq:B}$  The full report is attached to these Minutes as EXHIBIT 3

#### VII. Junior Vice Commander's Report--Brother Kurt Dietrich.

A). GAR Tree Status. Brother Dietrich shared a copy of a letter addressed by him to the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office.

#### B). A copy of the letter is attached to these Minutes as EXHIBIT 4.

#### VIII. Patriotic Instructor's Report-- Brother Tyrone Davis

A). Brother Tyrone Davis submitted his report by email on the topic of the Battle of Tom's Brook. (Attached to these Minutes as EXHIBIT 5).

#### VIII. Grave Registration Officer Report. None.

IX. Chaplains Report--None.

#### X. New Business--ALL.

A). Authorization was given to purchase a new flag pole.

B). There followed a discussion on our relationship with the Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR). Wayne Eder has been paying the annual dues (\$3 per capita) for the entire Camp. We offset the payment by giving him and Vince Vitale a comp for their annual dues. This was done because the SVR per capita equaled the dues for him and Vincent (\$72). This practice will need to be altered as our dues and our membership have increased. Brother Hess will discuss this with Brother Eder.

#### XI. Old Business--ALL.

A). Those members who participated, reported on this year's participation in the annual Nevada Day Parade in Carson City.

#### XII. The closing prayer was offered by JVC Kurt Dietrich.

### XIII. The meeting was adjourned at 1447 hours. The next meeting will be DECEMBER 16, AT 13:00 HOURS AT THE USUAL PLACE.

Respectfully submitted,

David Fredric Hess, Secretary/Treasurer

General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25

Department of California and Pacific

Sons of The Union Veterans of The Civil War

NOTE: Treasurer's Report (Exhibit 1) not included because of account numbers. To save space and redundancy, see Minutes of previous meeting (Exhibit 2) in last issue of Carlin Camp Dispatch. See Exhibits 3 through 5 below.

#### HISTORY AND MEMORIALS REPORT

October 28, 2018

David A. Davis, Gen. William Passmore Carlin Camp 25 Camp Historian/Civil War Memorials Officer.

#### **OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS CEMETERY**

I checked with Christine Luna at Our Mother of Sorrows Cemetery, and to date, the markers moved from the Grand Army of the Republic General O.M. Mitchel Post 69 Cemetery have not been placed. On another note, I found the unmarked grave of John Gordon in the same cemetery. Mr. Gordon was the bridge tender at Verdi and died October 29, 1886. He was born in 1819 in Ballindine, Ireland. He had a wife, Mary K., and two young children. He was interred in the old St. Thomas Catholic Cemetery and his remains were removed to Our Mother of Sorrows on August 13, 1962. During the Mexican War, he had served in Co. H (a.k.a. Bauford's Co.), 8th U.S. Infantry and attained the rank of Corporal. During the Rebellion, he served as a private in both Co. C, 103rd Ohio Infantry and Co. H, 3rd Veterans Reserve Corps. Using the pension indexes and other free records from Ancestry.com and Fold3, I sent to the Veterans Administration for a marker, and it was approved.

#### LETTER CONCERNING G.A.R. TREE

Friday, October 26, 2018 Rebecca L. Palmer State Historic Preservation Officer Nevada State Historic Preservation Office 901 South Stewart, Suite 5004 Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Ms. Palmer,

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) is a fraternal organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of heroes who fought and worked to save the union. Organized in 1881 and chartered by Congress in 1954, we are the legal successor to the Grand Amy of The Republic (GAR). As legal heir to the GAR, Preservation of GAR memorials is one of the most important purposes of the SUVCW.

Our American tradition of Memorial Day, being founded by the GAR in 1868, has been celebrated each year with many communities focusing part of their ceremonies at or near a GAR monument. With proper care, the monuments will continue to stand in tribute to those who saved the Union from the conflict of 1861to 1865.

At the comer of Center Street & Ninth Street in Reno, exists a spruce tree that was planted in soil from Civil War battlefields, and dedicated to the memory of the GAR. This tree was originally dedicated in 1913 by the GAR National Commander-in-Chief and rededicated in 1969 by the SUVCW Isaac Crist Camp No. 28. This tree currently exists under Nevada State Historic Marker No. 81.

In light of University of Nevada expansion plans south of Ninth Street, along the Center Street corridor, has SHPO taken any action to ensure this historic resource is properly preserved through the redevelopment process? Any information and assistance you could provide would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

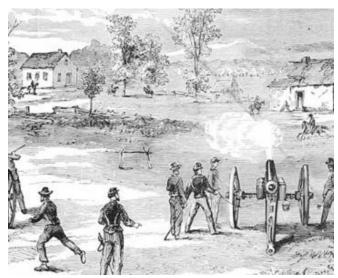
Kurt M. Dietrich Junior Vice Commander

Cc: Col. Edward G. Carson, USA, Ret., Camp Commander David A. Davis, PCC, Senior Vice Commander

#### **Patriotic Instructors Report**

By Tyrone W Davis Battle of Tom's Brook 10/28/2018

The Battle of Tom's Brook occurred in the Shenandoah Valley near Staunton, Virginia on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 1864. After a major victory at Fisher's Hill, Union General Phillip Sheridan pursued Confederate General Jubel Early's the Shenandoah which came to a standstill, outnumbered Sheridan started to retreat until re-enforcements and he routed Early's cavalry. The 6300 Union troops and 3500 Confederates, the North sustained 57 casualties while the south lost 350 troops and it ended in a Union victory.



Union Artillery at the Battle of Tom's Brook 1864.

#### References

- ~https://www.battlefields.org/learn/civil-war/battles/toms-brook
- ~http://www.shenandoahatwar.org/history/battle-of-toms-brook/
- ~https://www.nps.gov/abpp/battles/va121.htm

#### RECENT CAMP ORDERS

No recent Camp Orders have been issued. For a complete list, see the Camp website: http://www.suvpac.org/camp25/rules/ordersindex.html.

#### RECENT DEPARTMENT ORDERS

No recent Department Orders have been issued since the September issue of the <u>Carlin Camp Dispatch</u> was posted. For a complete list, see the Department website: http://www.suvpac.org/rules/ordersindex.html.

#### RECENT GENERAL ORDERS

Since the last issue of the <u>Carlin Camp Dispatch</u> was posted, one new General Order by Commander-in-Chief Donald Shaw have been have been issued. For a complete list of General Orders back to 1994, please see the National website: http://www.suvcw.org/?page\_id=513. In summary, General Order No. 5 reports the passing of Barbara Anne Mayberry, age 94, on September 30, 2018, in East Longmeadow, Massachusetts. She was a Past National President of the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in 2007. For a period of 30 days, all Department and Camp charters were ordered draped, and all brothers were ordered to wear a black mourning ribbon to their membership badges in her honor.