

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 18, No. 2 Compiled and Edited by David A. Davis, PCC

March 2020

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THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 1:00 pm on Sunday, April 19 at the VFW Post 9211 Hall at 255 Veterans Historic Drive near its intersection with Baker Lane next to Moana Park.

AN EPIDEMIC IN THE PAST

With the present COVID-19 pandemic in full swing, I thought it would be interesting how a now forgotten small pox epidemic was locally handled shortly after the Civil War. Small pox is a highly contagious disease caused by a virus with a 12-14 day incubation period, followed by flu-like symptoms and then a rash and lesions. The main form has a death rate of 30% and a minor form of 1%. During the late 1860s, an epidemic went through the western United States and killed thousands. In 2004, I was editor of The Nevada Desert, the former newsletter of the Nevada State Genealogical Society, and I compiled the following into the March 2004 issue. It should be noted that the Dr. McMeans mentioned below was a noted Copperhead in Virginia City during the Civil War and was hauled off to Fort Churchill on occasion.

SMALL POX OR VARIOLA IN VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA, 1868-69

Compiled by David A. David

The members of the NSGS are all old enough to have had small pox vaccines. Today, the disease is considered eradicated, and it is debated as to whether or not the last stores of the virus, which are held in the United States and Russia, should be destroyed. Also, children are no longer vaccinated, and the dangers from the potential side effects of the vaccine seem more feared than the disease itself. However, our ancestors did not have this luxury. Following are several short articles from the Daily Territorial Enterprise showing how Virginia City, Nevada, dealt with an outbreak of the disease by quarantining people in the "pest house" or in their houses marked with yellow flags and by burning their beds and bedding. The epidemic apparently started in the fall of 1868 and ended in the spring of 1869. Fortunately, most of the people of that time in Virginia City had taken the primitive vaccine that was available, and the epidemic, though serious enough, was not catastrophic. For later reference, the word "confluent" means the sores have formed into a rash.

(Vol. XVII, no. 56, p. 3, col. 1., Sunday, October 4, 1868)

SMALL-POX MATTERS—Two new cases of unmistakable small-pox were yesterday reported in this city. One is that of a little Mexican girl, now at a house near the old Central Mill, and the other Mr. O. C. Green a furniture dealer, on B. street. As the disease appears to be in a fair way to spread, the city and county authorities have begun to move in the matter. The Board of Aldermen met yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock to consider what ought to be done under the circumstances, but arrived at no conclusion. They adjourned till 7 o'clock last evening, when they were to meet at the City Hall with the County Commissioners and some half a dozen physicians, who were summoned to appear and give their opinion upon various medical points. At the appointed time the majority of the members of the Board of Aldermen and two of the County Commissioners, Messrs. Balch and Merrill, appeared, but only two physicians, McMeans and Knapp. Dr. McMeans was shortly called away and no more Commissioners or Doctors appearing, an informal meeting

was held at which it was agreed that the upper story of a building standing north of the County Hospital would be given up to be used as a pest-house. The county is to furnish the room with medicines, medical attendance, etc., and Virginia and Gold Hill are to pay other expenses of such patients as they may send to the place named. The Mexican child will probably be removed to the new hospital to-day. Parties living in the First Ward—the ward in which the child lies sick—yesterday warned the county authorities that unless arrangements were immediately made for the removal of the child they would bring her and put her in the house of one of the officers, tear down and burn the infected house, and, we believe, draw and quarter the Board of Aldermen and otherwise celebrate the occasion; but it is unlikely that they would have exposed them selves to a disease they so much fear by even carrying out the first part of their programme. The principal cause of their wrath was that the child was taken into their ward from the Second Ward. It appears that the mother is a widow who has several other children, and not wishing the rest of the family to take the disease, she allowed an acquaintance to take it to his house in the First Ward—the building standing at some distance from any other. Let those who are afraid of the disease go to the physician and get vaccinated; if the vaccine matter takes, all right, for one upon whom vaccine matter will not operate will not take the small-pox.

(Vol. XVII, no. 99, p. 3, col. 1., Tuesday, November 24, 1868)

SMALL-POX SYMPTOMS—In order that persons who are about to be taken down with the small-pox may be spared the necessity of running about town to find out what is the matter with them, it may be in order to state that the disease commences with chills and followed by fever, with (particularly, during the fever), pains in the back and loins; the patient is also subject to nausea and vomiting. The disease generally manifests itself in the initiatory fever about 14 days (more or less) after exposure to the contagion; the eruption begins to show itself on the third day of the fever—first, on the face, neck, and wrists, then on the body—is complete on the fifth day, and the eighth day of the eruption or the eleventh day of the disease is commonly the most fatal day. More patients die in the second week than earlier or later. Let those who imagine themselves about to be attacked with chills and fever remember that that disease is not common in this regions, and that small-pox is just now rather prevalent; yet let no one go to imagining chills and cultivating fevers, just because they have heard they are the premonitory symptoms of small-pox.

SMALL-POX

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ENTERPRISE

(Vol. XVII, no. 104, p. 3, col. 3., Tuesday, December 1, 1868)

For over a period of four months the above named scourge has been spreading terror and death among the populace of San Francisco. The medical profession and the appointed guardians of the health department have signally failed in adopting measures to mitigate its ravages, or in the least allay the violence of its symptoms. In fact, the officer of public health and many of the most eminent physicians in that city one week ago publicly confessed that their efforts to stay the ravages of the disease so far had not been attended with success. They affirmed that Variola was alarmingly on the increase, and in malignancy and fatal results the character of the disease has never been equaled in the United States. Twenty are being swept into eternity every week by the fell destroyer. And so virulent is the distemper, that vaccination is not an entire exemption from the dread pestilence, and even those who have once suffered and recovered from the disease have yielded up their lives to a second attack. Sacramento, Oakland, Benicia, San Juan, Nevada, Grass Valley, and many other towns throughout the State of California are at present visited by this horrible and loathsome malady. In the State of Nevada the poisonous miasm is slowly but surely securing a foothold. In Gold Hill, but more especially in Virginia City, several cases of small-pox exist, and some have recently terminated in death. That this community may avert the dire effects of the calamity which is causing sad havoc with the lives of the citizens in the metropolis of the Golden Sate, a knowledge, to what degree small-pox is infectious and means of prevention and mitigation of the evil, should be thoroughly disseminated. One ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. The poisonous infection of Variola is diffused from all the cutaneous, excreting and mucus surfaces, particularly the lungs and skin. These, with the vesicles, pustules and scabs, are poisonous and infectious. Attaching themselves to the bedding and wearing apparel, the scabs retain the power of infection for an unlimited period. The disease may also be communicated by breathing the air, containing the morbid effluvia, from the commencement of the eruptive fever. It is most

infectious when the poisonous vapor from the human body is most perceptible to the sense of smell. The dried crusts of the pustules possess a contagious quality which exists for a long time. From the time when an individual is first attacked with the disease, and several weeks after recovery, the power of infection is retained. The dead body and bedding on which the deceased has lain is powerfully infectious. And the infection may be carried through the atmosphere to a great distance from the place whence the disease formerly originated. Variola has generally proved epidemic in its character and more destructive to human life in the fall and winter. It proved so, from 1816 to 1853, in New York. Also in Rhode Island. It has in San Francisco in 1868. It did in Virginia City, in the fall and winter of 1862.

MEASURES FOR PREVENTION AND MITIGATION

Vaccination, with lymph, from a healthy person.—It is important that the lymph be fresh, and taken from a healthy child. During the prevalence of the Variola, total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors cannot be too strongly urged. The destruction of all bedding, used by persons who have been afflicted with the disease, is the best and surest preventive to stay infection. It should be burned or buried. The infected house then should be closed, and unslacked lime—quantity according to the size of the dwelling—placed in the basement and different rooms, water poured upon it, and left slowly to slack, so its fumes would be thoroughly diffused through the house. During a practice of 20 years, notwithstanding the many disinfectants brought to public notice, I have found none equal to unslacked lime. Placed in vaults and sewers once a fortnight, my experience in its use as a destroyer of poisonous miasm, compared with any other substance, is, it has not been equaled. A small piece placed in the sick department, and slowly slacked, acts like magic. Let physicians who attend private families have due regard for the public health by desisting from entering the domestic circle with the seed of death in their clothing, after visiting variola patients. To prevent contagion, their clothing should be changed after such visits. The true physician will do it. The medical speculator on the sufferings of his race will not. To this negligence of the medical profession in San Francisco is due, in part, the present increase of the small-pox.

W. H. C. Stephenson, M. D.

(Vol. XVII, no. 117, p. 3, col. 1., Wednesday, December 16, 1868)

SMALL-POX.—We were yesterday informed by Deputy Chief, Hall, that there are at the present time about eighty cases of small-pox in this city. Our citizens are a tribe of philosophers; when there was but one case of the disease in the place, (that of a colored man down on F street, somewhere,) they were all terribly excited; assailed the Board of Alderman every meeting night and demanded that all sorts of sanitary measures be adopted; but now that we have eighty cases of small-pox in the city, hardly a word is said about it, and not one man out of ten will go a single foot out of his way no matter how many yellow flags he may encounter. We think many of our people are now running away on a new extreme—the extreme of carelessness—and we would recommend that all exercise at least a decent degree of discretion. We are informed that in some instances the beds upon which small-pox patients have died are not only not destroyed, but no better means of disinfection is used than to place the same, with their furniture, out in the air for a day or two, as in the case of a death from any common disease.

(Vol. XVII, no. 118, p. 3, col. 1., Thursday, December 17, 1868)

DISINFECTING.—Last evening about sundown the Chinese of this city had a large fire burning in the center of their quarter of the town. Officer Downey, who is Charge d’Affairs Chinois, informs us that the fire was built by the Celestials for the purpose of keeping the small-pox out of their part of the town. Some sort of drugs of the stink-pot kind were added to the fire for the purpose of creating a pungent smoke.

(Vol. XVII, no. 118, p. 3, col. 1., Thursday, December 17, 1868)

SMALL-POX.—There were two or three deaths from small-pox in this city yesterday and several new cases were reported. Yellow flags were put up in five places. Most of our citizens have been vaccinated, and the majority have only the varioloid and are able to be out in a few days after contracting the disease.

(Vol. XVII, no. 127, p. 3, col. 2., Sunday, December 27, 1868)

A SMALL-POX ORDINANCE.—The Board of Trustees of Gold Hill have passed a Small-Pox Ordinance containing provisions for the prevention of the spread of the disease in that town. Yellow flags are to be placed upon all buildings in which the disease is known to exist; nurses of small-pox patients are not to leave the house in which they are engaged, and there are sections providing for the destroying of bedding, the

purifying of rooms, etc.—all very good if they are enforced. We have a Small-Pox Ordinance in this city, but nobody pays much attention to any of its provisions.

(Vol. XVII, no. 127, p. 3, col. 2., Tuesday, December 29, 1868)

SMALL-POX.—Since last Saturday we have heard of three new cases of small-pox in this city. Two deaths from the disease were reported yesterday. One of these was of a man named Gillig, near the Summit Mill, and the other was that of a woman whose name or place of residence we did not learn. John A. Shaw, a teamster, died of the disease yesterday morning, at Madden’s Station, on the Geiger Grade. He leaves a wife and two children in Sacramento City, California, to which place his remains were forwarded, in a metallic burial case, for internment.

(Vol. XVII, no. 128, p. 3, col. 2., Wednesday, December 30, 1868)

A SMALL-POX EXCITEMENT AT RENO.—Our readers will remember that we yesterday published an item in regard to the death, from small-pox, of John A. Shaw, a teamster, belonging to Sacramento, at Madden’s Station on the Geiger Grade, also stating that his body would be placed in a burial casket and sent to California. The body was sent to Reno, where a considerable excitement was manifested when it was ascertained that the man had died of small-pox, and the remains were not allowed on the cars. The body was at last taken out beyond the race course and buried.

(Vol. XVII, no. 132, p. 3, col. 2., Tuesday, January 5, 1869)

SMALL-POX.—This disease is fearfully on the increase in this city. Nine cases were reported before yesterday (Sunday), and twelve yellow flags were yesterday put up. There were reports of two or three other cases last evening, but the Chief of Police he had not yet ascertained whether these reports were founded in truth. Let our citizens use such sanitary precautions as their common sense and prudence may suggest. The disease appears now to have spread beyond the control of our authorities, and our people must do what they can in their own way to guard themselves against it.

(Vol. XVII, no. 140, p. 3, col. 1., Thursday, January 14, 1869)

HOW TO GUARD AGAINST SMALL-POX—The *Pacific Medical and Surgical Journal* says of small-pox and exposure thereto: Physicians exposed to the disease should adopt some means to their own protection, and also to avoid carrying the infection in their clothing. The following rules, which are applicable to others as well as physicians, should be observed: 1. Avoid exposure when the stomach is empty, or the strength exhausted. 2. Do not enter a room in a perspiration and remain there till cold. 3. Avoid uncomfortable exposure to cold on leaving the room. 4. Do not swallow the saliva in the room, or immediately after leaving it. It is possible that the germs of disease enter the blood partly through the stomach. 5. After leaving a patient with small-pox, avoid entering another dwelling without free ventilation in the open air—say for a quarter of an hour. 6. Do not, under any circumstances, practice midwifery or visit families where there are children or others unvaccinated, whilst in attendance on small-pox patients. No other precautions than these have been adopted in general by physicians in San Francisco. Indeed, it may be safely said that few have adopted all of these measures. Yet we have not heard of one who has contracted the disease, nor of a single case of the epidemic occurring in the family of a medical man.

Small-Pox Statistics

(Vol. XVII, no. 142, p. 3, col. 1., Saturday, January 16, 1869)

Through the kindness of Dr. Downer, who is the physician in charge of the County Hospital, we have been furnished with the following full and perfect list of the patients received at the pest-house. Those not put down as dead or discharged cured are still in the hospital. The report is up to date:

Received	Died or Disch’ged
Oct. 5 Delphin Garcia, confluent, cured	Oct. 11
“ 5 O. C. Green, cured	“ 9
“ 10 James J. Gray, cured	“ 20
“ 11 David Haig, confluent; cured	“ 26
Nov. 9----Rudolpho, cured	Nov. 12
“ 15 William Woodliffe (attended by Dr. Bronson),	

	cured	“	23
“	15 Wm. E. Fritz, confluent; died	“	20
“	19 Mary Ramshart, cured	“	24
“	20 Robert Stillwell, confluent, with delirium tremens; walked off the gallery at night; found dead	“	22
“	20 George H. Holt, cured	“	29
“	20 Louis Foote, confluent; died	Dec.	1
“	24 Jack Cabbott, cured	“	29
“	27 Charles Howard, cured	“	26
Dec. 5	Charles Hesse, cured	“	17
“	7 Leopold Goldsmith, confluent, died	“	24
“	9 Mary Cleary, cured	“	17
“	11 Henry Matthews, cured	“	17
“	12 Michael Whalen, cured	“	28
“	13 George Mensing		
“	14 Francis Juan, confluent		
“	15 Chas. Kibbe, confluent (brought from Chinese doctors in a dying state); died	“	19
“	16 Edward J. West, confluent; cured	Jan.	5
“	17 William Kinney, cured	“	12
“	17 Miss Alice (attended by Dr. Bronson); died	Dec.	26
“	26 J. Z. Tompkins, cured	Jan.	8
“	26 Patrick Keyes, cured	Dec.	31
“	27 Carl Seevers, confluent		
“	28 Elizabeth McAllister, confluent; cured	Jan	11
“	30 Mary Hagar, cured	“	8
“	31 Dutch Nick, confluent; died (lived 4 hours—never spoke)	Dec.	31
Jan	1 Charles Ducker		
“	1 John Fife (attended by Dr. Aitchison), died	Jan.	4
“	2 L. H. Toro, cured	“	5
“	2 Seth Travers, cured	“	14
“	3 Frank Kelly (attended by Dr. Green), died	“	4
“	7 Richard Carnell, confluent		
“	7 G. W. Chaffer, confluent (attended by Bryarly and Downer), died	“	12
“	9 James Dyer, confluent		

By the above report it will be seen that Dr. Downer has had particularly good success in his treatment of the small-pox, few of those patients dying who were under regular hospital treatment. We have heard it asserted by parties, who most assuredly spoke very much at random, that the small-pox patients at the Hospital were very badly treated, were starved and frozen, etc., all of which we are satisfied are stories utterly without foundation. Dr. Holt, a printer employed in this office (his name appears in the list of those discharged cured), and formerly a practicing physician in the West, informs us that the treatment at the hospital is excellent in every respect perfect. He says that while he was there he heard persons clamoring for this and that article of food—things which would have been very hurtful to them—and because what they wanted was withheld they talked about being starved. These fellows who were not allowed to stuff themselves to death are doubtless the ones who came out and talked about being starved. The report above given shows that Dr. Downer has had excellent, even remarkable success with the patients entrusted to his care.

A voice from the Pest-House

VIRGINIA, January 16, 1869

(Vol. XVII, no. 144, p. 3, col. 1., Tuesday, January 19, 1869)

EDITORS ENTERPRISE:--Will you be so kind as to publish the following from one who has been treated for the small-pox in the County Pest-house? I asked it because many have been misinformed in regard to the treatment given patients in that institution. I was taken with that horrible disease, the small-pox, November 16, my symptoms commencing on the 13th. I had a raging fever and a pain in my back and left side; the second day the pain ceased, and the third day the small-pox broke out on me. Knowing then that I had the disease, and not wishing to communicate it to others, I went to the County Pest-house, where Dr. Downer took charge of me, and thank God, I am now well enough to write these lines. I was placed in a comfortable hard-finished room, warmed by a stove, and provided with every comfort. My case was a bad one; the second night I was out of my head and remained so for three days and nights. The Doctor was in my room six times per day and the nurse paid me the strictest attention as he did to all the patients. When I came to my senses I saw with my own eyes how handsomely I was treated, and not myself alone, but all others, and I think they will say the same. After 15 days' confinement I was allowed the privilege of walking out in the fresh air, and at the end of 21 days I was discharged as cured. Many a friend of mine said I would die, but through the excellent care of Dr. Downer I am alive and well, and I must say that I am proud that Storey County has so excellent an institution as its small-pox hospital, as conducted by Dr. Downer.

Yours, Edward J. West

P. S.—I believe in vaccination, and believe it calculated much to ameliorate the severity of this terrible disease, the small-pox. E. J. W.

SMALL-POX

(Vol. XVII, no. 146, p. 4, col. 4., Thursday, January 21, 1869)

To the thinking public I would only say as regards vaccination, that in 1517 the small-pox broke out in Mexico and in a very short time 3,500,000 human beings died. (See Robertson's History of America, vo. 4.) Of course, they knew nothing of the beneficent action of vaccination—any more than our American Indians, in whom the disease destroyed its thousands. In the most terrible epidemic of small-pox that has taken in Europe since the discovery of vaccination—that of Marseilles, in 1828—more than 10,000 persons were attacked. Of these only 2000 had been vaccinated. Of these only 45 died, whereas 1,500 of the 8,000 who had not been vaccinated were carried off by the pestilence. As I have pure matter from the cow, I will treat all that I vaccinate for small-pox for nothing—Price, \$2.50. Parties from a distance should state whether they want the pure cow-pox or that which has been used in a healthy child. H. J. UNDERHILL, M. D., Office, 102 South C street.

(Vol. XVIII, no. 52, p. 3, col. 1., Friday, April 2, 1869)

SMALL-POX.—Three new cases of small-pox were reported yesterday. Two of the patients were sent to the pest-house, and the third is being taken care of in private rooms. Deputy Chief Hall yesterday took the furniture from a room in which a small-pox patient had been confined, and destroyed it by burning. Although we have had two to four new cases per day of small-pox, there is no excitement about the disease at present, and one hardly hears it mentioned.

(Vol. XVIII, no. 64, p. 3, col. 2., Friday, April 16, 1869)

SMALL-POX.—Two new cases of small-pox were reported yesterday. Ex-City Jailer Kern is out, and looks as pretty as a speckled pup. The small-pox has been the making of him, but will be the breaking of every man he starts to board with. He has been grunting around for the last three years complaining of a pain in his liver, another in his stomach, and two or three in his back, and about half a dozen in the kidneys, but now the small-pox has made a new man of him, and he is getting so fat that he can't open his eyes without first taking off his hat. Beats a China pig! Frank Henderson, who went all the way to Austin to get the small-pox, is back in this city prettier than ever—highly decorated. He came near dying, and was in fact reported dead at one time in this city, which would have served him right for going over to Austin to get himself speckled when he could have stayed here and patronized house institutions. Mark Lovely is also out and presents a "lovely" appearance. He was very cunning about it—went and got married to a lady who had had the disease about three months before he broke out. Nothing like strategy, and nothing like a good nurse.

(Vol. XVIII, no. 64, p. 3, col. 2., Friday, April 16, 1869)

DIED OF SMALL-POX.—William Gunn, aged about 32, nativity unknown, died of the small-pox at the hospital yesterday. Deceased was formerly connected with General Bidwell, at Chico, California, and previous to encountering the disease of which he died, was employed by Mr. Crosby as a teamster. In speaking of the patients at the Small-pox Hospital last evening, the Gold Hill News says: “One of the patients now nearly recovered was so sick a few days ago that his coffin was ordered. The order was filled but the coffin wasn’t. This patient took half a dozen eggs, some ham, a steak, a few hot rolls, and two or three cups of coffee for breakfast this morning, so the Doctor thinks he will manage to rub through all right yet.” Gunn was the man, but he “rubbed through” the wrong way. As to the eggs, he only ate three. Those recovering from the small-pox cannot be too careful about their eating at first or until they take the proper exercise. All upon recovering have ravenous appetites and are liable to over eat.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Federal, state, and local recommendations and restrictions on gatherings, events are being rescheduled or cancelled outright. Please check the latest schedule of a particular event.

SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

The Sacramento Civil War Round Table has cancelled all meetings until further notice. The Sacramento Civil War Round Table normally holds its meetings on the second Wednesday of each month. The meetings are open to the public. Dinner and informal discussions start at 6:00 pm, a short business meeting is held starting at 7 pm and a featured talk begins about 7:20 pm and lasts between 45 minutes and an hour. See the website at <http://www.sacramentocwrt.com> for more information.

ELK GROVE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

April 15 and May 20, 2020

The Elk Grove Civil War Round Table holds its meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at Denny’s Restaurant at 8707 Elk Grove Road in Elk Grove south of Sacramento. The meeting is open to the public. A no host dinner starts at 5:30 pm, and Grand Review-Guest Speakers-Program starts at 6:45 pm. The next meeting will be held April 15, 2020, and the featured talk will be “Simon and August Hansmeyer” by member John Tyler. The following meeting will be held May 20, 2020, and the featured talk will be “Civil War Births a State” by Kathleen Robinson. See the website at <http://www.elkgrovecwrt.org> for more information.

LAS VEGAS CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

April 28 and May 26, 2020

The Las Vegas Civil War Round Table holds its meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Charlie’s Lakeside at the corner of Durano and Sahara in Las Vegas at 7 pm. The meeting is open to the public. A presentation or other type of activity on some aspect of the Civil War is conducted, and a raffle for history-related books are held with the money going to the Civil War Trust to help preserve sites associated with the Civil War. The next two meetings will be held on April 28 and May 26, 2020. For more information, call Kay Moore 702-645-5209 or email at lavenderlady@hotmail.com. Meetings times are also posted at <https://www.meetup.com/LVCWRT>.

SEASONAL OPENING OF BOWERS MANSION

May 9, 2020

The seasonal opening of Bowers Mansion at Bowers Mansion Regional Park will be held 10 am to 3 pm, Saturday May 9, 2020, and will include Civil War Reenactments. Bowers Mansion will be undergoing renovation during this time. The County Commissioners recently approved and awarded a \$511,000 contract to Reno-based Sullivan Structures, LLC for some restoration work. Work is set to begin March 9th, 2020 and last about 120 days. Opening day for mansion tours may be delayed depending upon restoration progress. Brothers of Carlin Camp 25 are invited to participate. In the past, we have garrisoned the library though we may be outside depending upon restoration progress. For more event information, see the website at https://www.washoecounty.us/parks/specialty_facilities/bowers_mansion.php.

NORTHERN NEVADA CELTIC CELEBRATION

May 16, 2020

The 29th annual Northern Nevada (formerly Reno) Celtic Celebration will be held May 18-19, 2019, at Bartley Park. See the website at <https://www.renoceltic.org> for event information.

NEVADA STATE FAIR

June 4-7, 2020

The Nevada State Fair featuring the Rendezvous will be held June 4-7, 2020, at Mills Park in Carson City. See the website at <http://www.nevadastatefair.org> for event information.

DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

Summer 2020

The 135th Department of California and Pacific Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the 109th Department Encampment of Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, were postponed at least until summer due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please see Department Order No. 5 below.

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

August 13-16, 2020

The 139th National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will be held August 13-16, 2020, at the Atlanta Marriot Buckhead Hotel and Convention Center, 3405 Lenox Road North East, Atlanta, Georgia, 30326. Information will be posted at http://www.suvcw.org/?page_id=2791 as it becomes available.

MEETING – February 9, 2020

Minutes of the camp meeting
Sunday, February 9, 2020, 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 Dietrich at 1304 hours by Camp Commander Kurt Dietrich.
 - B). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brother David Davis.
 - C). Invocation was led by Chaplain Frank Whitman.
 - D). **Members** in attendance were: David Davis, Kurt Dietrich, David Hess, Roger Linscott, Robert Stoecklin, Frank Whitman, Frank Wood, and Brian Worcester.
- Guests:** Richard Dalton and Jonathan Dickey.

II). Camp Commanders Report-- Camp Commander Kurt Dietrich

- A). Camp Commander Dietrich summarized the contents of General Order No. 11, revoking the charter of Camp 51, Dept. of Ohio.
- B). March 20-21 are the days set for the 134th annual Department Encampment in Bakersfield. Camp Commander Dietrich asked for a show of hands for who might attend. SVC David Davis indicated that he is considering attending.
- C). The new mailing list has been established at suvcw-25@googlegroups.com.

III). Secretary's Report—Secretary David Hess.

The Minutes of the December meeting were included in the last issue of the Carlin Dispatch. Brother Hess asked if there were any additions or corrections. **Being none, it was MOVED (Hess) and SECONDED (Worcester) to approve the Minutes of the December meeting as submitted. The motion PASSED unanimously. [See EXHIBIT 1—Camp Carlin Dispatch, Vol. 18, No. 1]**

IV). Treasurer's Report—Treasurer David Hess.

Brother Hess handed out the Financial Statement for Camp 25 for the period ended January 31, and asked if there were any questions/additions/corrections. **Being none, it was MOVED (Hess) and SECONDED**

(Worcester) to accept the Financial Statement for the period ending Nov. 30 as submitted. The motion PASSED unanimously. [See EXHIBIT 2]

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

Brother Davis said there was nothing to report.

VI). Historians Report. Historian David Davis provided an update on the status of the renaming of Jefferson Davis Peak to Doso Doiyabe Peak [See EXHIBIT 3]. Brother David also circulated a medal and patch that are presented to members of Sons of The Spanish American War.

VII). Junior Vice Commander's Report--Brother Francis Wood.

A). Brother Wood asked for a report from the ad hoc membership committee consisting of Kurt Dietrich, David Davis and David Hess. They reported that they have reviewed the application of Richard Larry Dalton whose great great grandfather, John Willett served honorably in Company A of the 112th Infantry Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. Richard gave us a recount of his ancestor's service during the Civil War and shared several photographs. **It was MOVED (Hess) and SECONDED (Stoecklin) to approve Mr. Dalton's application for membership. The MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B).The ad hoc membership committee reported that they had also reviewed the application for membership of Jonathan "Jay" Cobb Dickey. Mr. Dickey's great grandfather served honorably in Company B of the 22nd Maine Regiment. Mr. Dickey provided a detailed account of his ancestor's service that included medals, original documents and colorful excerpts from his great grandfather's journals. **It was MOVED (Hess) and SECONDED (Stoecklin/Worcester) to approve Mr. Dickey's application for membership. The MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VIII). Patriotic Instructor's Report-- Brother David Davis

A). Brother David Davis presented the report on behalf of Brother Tyrone Davis. His report covered the battle of Fort Donnellson that took place in February 1862. [See EXHIBIT 4].

IX). Grave Registration Officer Report—Brother Donald Huffman

Nothing to report.

X). Other Officers Reports—Nothing to report.

XI). New Business--All.

A). **It was MOVED (Whitman) and SECONDED (Worcester) to pay for a full-page ad in the upcoming Encampment program for an amount not to exceed \$25. The MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B). Camp Commander Dietrich asked the assembled brothers if they would be willing to have the Camp meetings shared electronically so that members who reside in remote locations can attend the Camp meetings via a web conference. The consensus was yes.

C). Brother Worcester reminded everyone of the Civil War event to be held at Bowers Mansion in May.

D). Brother Worcester told of a map that marked the location of Civil War era forts. He was looking for interest by members in travel in search of the forts. The discussion recounted past explorations, and, while no immediate plans were made, there seemed to be interest in putting together some explorational road trips.

XII). Old Business--All.

A). **Charters Of Freedom—**Members recalled that last meeting we approved \$100 to purchase a brick for the Carson City Charters Of Freedom monument. Since then brother Linscott has become aware of a similar effort to establish a monument in Reno. He recounted a presentation he was present at (as were brothers Dickey, Worcester and Hess) in which the principle volunteers who are spearheading the project gave a stirring presentation. **It was MOVED (Linscott) and SECONDED (Worcester) to donate \$100 to purchase a brick for the proposed Reno monument.** After some discussion, brother Whitman gave his enthusiastic support for the idea but thought we should give \$500 for a plaque. To show his support he made a cash donation of \$100 on the spot. That donation was followed by \$100 donations each from brothers Stoecklin, Dickey, Wood and Worcester. **The MOTION WAS AMENDED to donate \$500 for a plaque to be installed at the proposed monument. The motions PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Camp Commander Dietrich, on behalf of the entire Camp, expressed his thanks to the brothers for their generous donations.

B). Camp Commander Dietrich raised the question for whether or not we should purchase membership in the Sons of Veterans Reserve for all the members. Brother Hess reported that at our last meeting we decided to

table that decision pending any member putting forward a compelling argument to join. He also reported that no argument to date has been presented. The decision was to continue to table this item under the same conditions.

XIII). The closing prayer was offered by Chaplain Frank Whitman.

XIV). **The meeting was adjourned at 1458 hours. The date of the next meeting was set for Sunday, April 19th at 1300 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 Union Veterans of the Civil War

Note: Exhibit 1 was the November 2019 issue of the Carlin Dispatch and because of redundancy was not reprinted here. The Treasurer's report (Exhibit 2) was not included here because of account numbers.

HISTORY AND MEMORIALS REPORT

February 9, 2020

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

RENAMING JEFF DAVIS PEAK

Several years ago, the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names received documents and held hearings on the renaming of Jeff Davis Peak in the Great Basin National Park in White Pine County. For background, please see the "Carlin Camp Dispatch" for September 2017. In June 2019, the Federal Board accepted as the official name "Doso Doiyabe", which is Shoshone for "White Mountain", a name commonly given to the peak by the local Shoshones. Warren Graham, the Duckwater Shoshone Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, researched the name and submitted it with the approval of the tribal elders. The research involved such things as going through the at least nine dialects making up the Western Shoshone language, the slight differences in pronunciation between the various Shoshone bands, and the non-standardization in the spelling of Shoshone words. The word "doso" is a shortening of "dosobithi", meaning "white" and the word commonly used by the Shoshones at Duckwater. The word "doiyabe" means "mountain" and is the word commonly used throughout the Shoshone nation. Jeff Davis Peak will remain as an alternate name. More on this can be found in "Notes and Documents, Doso Doiyabe", by Warren Graham in the Fall/Winter issue of the "Nevada Historical Society Quarterly".

Battle of Fort Donnellson

By Tyrone W Davis 2/10/2020

Early in the war, the Union had noted that control of the major rivers would be the key to success in the Western Theater. After seizing Fort Henry on the Tennessee River in February 1862, Brig. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant pushed forward 12 miles cross-country to attack Fort Donnellson on the Cumberland River. By February 13th, Grant had surrounded the fort with about 25,000 troops, and had conducted several small attacks to probe the fort's defenses. Inside and around the fort, Confederate commander Brig. Gen. John S. Floyd led a garrison of three divisions of about 16,000 infantry and cavalry combined. Union Navy gunboats attempted to reduce the fort on February 14th but were beaten back by heavier Confederate artillery from the fort. On the morning of February 15th, Confederate troops launched a surprise attack on the right flank of Grant's lines outside the fort. Grant counterattacked that afternoon and with some success, Floyd ordered his men to retreat back to the fort. The next day, Floyd and some other senior commanders and a few men escaped the fort, turning over command to Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner, a pre-war friend of Grant. Later that day, Buckner reluctantly surrendered the remaining garrison unconditionally to his old friend. The capture of Fort Donnellson was a major victory for Grant and a catastrophe for the South. It also ensured that Kentucky would stay in the Union and opened up Tennessee for Union advances up the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers. Grant received a promotion to major general for his victory and attained stature in the Western Theater, earning the nom de guerre "Unconditional Surrender."

Patriotic Instructor Report References

~http://thlueandgraytrail.com/dateITebruary_13

~<https://www.battlefields.org/learn/civil-war/battles/fort-donelson>

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

~<https://www.thoughtco.com/battle-of-fort-donelson-236091>

RECENT CAMP ORDERS

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

RECENT DEPARTMENT ORDERS

One Department Order was recently issued. Department Order No. 5 postpones the Department Encampment at least until early summer due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For a complete list, see the Department website: <http://www.suvm.org/rules/ordersindex.html>.

Department Order No. 5

Series 2019-2020

Department of California and Pacific

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

134th Encampment Postponed

By the authority vested in me as Commander of the Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, by the Department Bylaws, the National Constitution and Regulations and National Policies, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: With the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Nation growing daily and in compliance with the increasing number of guidelines being issued at the National, State and local levels related to curbing the spread of the coronavirus, the 2020 Department Encampments of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and Auxiliary to SUVCW, scheduled for 20-21 March have been indefinitely postponed.

Section 2: The health and safety of our SUVCW Brothers, Auxiliary Sisters and members of the Allied Orders, remain a top priority.

Section 3: The CDC recommends that social gatherings of 10 or more people be cancelled. In the San Francisco Bay Area, six counties have issued a "Shelter in Place" order banning nonessential gatherings and travel, stressing that the most important thing people can do is to remain home.

Section 4: Department leadership is in the process of rescheduling our Encampments for early summer. When the dates are finalized we will make an announcement. Those who have paid their registration/meal fees will have that amount credited to the new Encampment date, or refunded if unable to attend.

The foregoing Department Order is proclaimed this 16th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty third, in Cathedral City, County of Riverside, State of California by Rudy E. Velasco III, Commander of the Department of California & Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

By Order of: /s/ Rudy E. Velasco, PCC

Department Commander

Department of California & Pacific

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST:

By: /s/ Owen R. Stiles, PCC

Department Secretary-Treasurer

RECENT GENERAL ORDERS

Eight new General Orders by Commander-in-Chief Edward J. Norris have been announced since the last issue of the [Carlin Camp Dispatch](#) was posted. The General Orders are summarized below. For a

complete list of General Orders back to 1994, please see the National website: http://www.suvcw.org/?page_id=513.

General Order No. 11 revokes the Given Camp No. 51 of the Department of Ohio for failure file required annual reports and pay the required Department dues.

General Order No. 12 establishes the Real Estate Ownership Committee, a Commander-in Chief Appointed Committee. The Committee will study and suggest a course of action on the acquisition of real estate. This will include, but not limited to, standards for real estate we already own, minimum coverage in liability policies, and making sure the National Organization is named as a coinsured entity.

General Order No. 13 revokes the Private Valentin Keller Camp No. 8 of the Department of Ohio for failure file required annual reports and pay the required Department dues. The Camp brothers voted to disband Camp No. 8 in 2018.

General Order No. 14 clarifies allowing associate members to have dual membership, that is membership in more than one Camp. The restrictions on office holding and the number of associate members not exceeding 1/3 of the total of a Camp's membership will still apply.

General Order Nos. 15 and 17 deal with the COVID-19 pandemic and are reprinted below.

General Order No. 16 announces the passing of Sister Celestine M. Hollings on March 8, 2020 at the age of 100. She was Past National President (2003) of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865. Her maternal grandfather, Jacob Allen, enlisted in the Union army in Nelson County, Kentucky, on August 23, 1864, and fought for the U.S. Colored Troops, Company G, of the 107th Regiment. He was honorably discharged on November 22, 1866. She served as the organization's first black National President and was instrumental in saving the G.A.R. Memorial Hall in Detroit, Michigan. The Charters of all Departments and Camps will be draped in black. And, all Brothers will attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badges for a period of 30 days.

General Order No. 18 cancels the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, scheduled for April 18, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

General Order No. 15

Series 2019-2020

13 March 2020

1). The following is in effect until the COVID-19 pandemic has ended, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (cdc.gov), in the United States of America. Similarly for our Ensign John Davis Camp #10 in London.

2). The health of our Brothers is of utmost importance. Camps and Departments must monitor the local pandemic conditions so that informed decisions can be made.

3). A Camp or Department may cancel or postpone their meeting. This applies even if the Camp or Department by-laws state that a meeting must take place at a certain time or location.

4). The Department must obtain written permission from the Council of Administration to postpone and reschedule their Department Encampment. (Regulations, Chapter II, Article III, Section 1b) The request can be submitted even if the Department by-laws state that its Encampment must take place at a certain time or location. The rescheduled Department Encampment must take place before July 1, 2020. (Regulations, Chapter II, Article III, Section 1).

5). Please inform National Secretary Jonathan C. Davis, PDC (secretary@suvcw.org) as soon as possible if your Department Encampment is planning on postponing and the new date. If approved, every effort will be made to have a National representative at the rescheduled Encampment.

6). If meeting with other Allied Orders organizations, please coordinate with them so no group is surprised by a cancellation or postponement decision.

7). The National organization is monitoring the pandemic conditions for the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony and National Encampment. There is no change to the current schedule. Any change in schedule will be sent as soon as possible.

8). As each Brother's situation is unique, each must make attendance decisions based upon their own circumstances and situation.

Ordered this 13th Day of March, 2020.

Edward J. Norris, Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Attested: Jonathan C. Davis National
Secretary Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

General Order No. 17

Series 2019-2020

15 March 2020

1). The following five requirements are in effect until the COVID-19 pandemic has ended, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (cdc.gov), in the United States of America. a. A Department Encampment may be conducted via remote audio, video, or both conferencing. Postponement according to General Order No. 15, Series 2019-2020 may be utilized to allow the coordinating of remote participation. b. Brothers must be sent two weeks' notice via email, or the US Postal Service for those Brothers without an email account or an invalid email account, of their ability to use this option. c. The Department Commander must insure that Brothers are in good standing and if each is entitled to vote or not. d. The Department Commander must insure all remote Brothers have a chance to express his opinion. e. Votes on the remote conferencing must be by voice and if any vote is contested one way or another, the Department Secretary will call for a roll call vote. There will be no showing of hands voting.

2). Because the Constitution and Regulations is moot on remote participation, as of July 1, 2020 forward - No Brother can participate in a Department Encampment or Camp meeting remotely via electronic means.

Ordered this 15th Day of March, 2020.

Edward J. Norris, Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Attested: Jonathan C. Davis National
Secretary Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War