

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

March 2021

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THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 10:00 am on Saturday, April 17 at the VFW Post 9211 Hall at 255 Veterans Historic Drive near its intersection with Baker Lane next to Moana Park.

MUSINGS ON THE NEVADA G.A.R. CEMETERIES

While the Camp's latest attention has been on the General O.M. Mitchel Post 69 G.A.R. cemetery in Reno, the Camp Historian has noted on a number of occasions, that Nevada has at least two other such cemeteries, both of which contain monuments and both of which were acquired by the local G.A.R. posts and apparently not deeded to another entity. The Camp Historian wrote short histories of both, which are posted on the Camp 25 website.

One is the G.A.R. Custer Post No. 5 plot in the Lone Mountain cemetery in Carson City, which sports a 17-foot high monument containing a Union soldier at parade rest – the only one of its kind in Nevada. The plaque on it states: "NEVADA'S TRIBUTE TO UNION SOLDIERS AND SAILORS, MARCH 19, 1891". Camp 25 organizer and first Commander Paul Washeleski, now deceased, made it a priority to have this statue renovated. It is arguably the main reason Camp 25 came into existence. The history can be found at: <http://www.suvsac.org/camp25/docs/Custer%20Post%205%20Cem.pdf>. Unfortunately, the \$84,000 restoration job has NOT stood the test of time. To answer the note near the end of the article about the Camp Historian looking into getting an official historical marker: the administrator of the State Historic Preservation Office, which oversees historical markers, said that: 1) the State was broke and had no money for one; 2) there were already "too many" historic markers in the Carson City area; and 3) however, if we paid for it, they'd put it up for us.

The other is the G.A.R. McDermit Post No. 87 plot in what was once the Old Pioneer Cemetery in Winnemucca. This one is more problematic in that its exact location is uncertain. The Old Pioneer Cemetery is now Pioneer Park with a small part still existing as an unkempt plot just off US 95. This small plot may have been the G.A.R. plot, but that has not been confirmed to date. Several simple monuments were erected and dedicated in 1968. The plaque on one states: "IN MEMORY OF ALL CIVIL WAR VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF McDERMIT POST 87 GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, MAY 1968." The history can be found at: <http://www.suvsac.org/camp25/docs/WinnemuccaCWMon.pdf>.

DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on meetings in California, the annual Department of California and Pacific encampment was again held via Zoom. Camp Commander Kurt Dietrich and Senior Vice Commander/Historian David A. Davis, PCC, attended the Zoom meeting from Commander Kurt's office. The new Department Commander is Frank C. Avila, PCC, and the Department Order listing all of the officers is reprinted later in this newsletter. David A. Davis, PCC, will continue as Department Historian and G.A.R. Records Officer.

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.

LAS VEGAS CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

April 27, 2021

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 meeting will be held on April 27, 2021. 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>.

2021 JOHANA SHINE TENT 96 MEETINGS

The Johana Shine Tent 96 of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War holds quarterly meetings via Zoom. The 2021 meetings are scheduled for 1:30 pm Sundays, May 26, August 15, and November 21. For more information contact johanashineducvw@gmail.com.

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

August 4-9, 2021

The 2021 National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (140th), the Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and Daughters of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is being hosted by the Department of Missouri and will be held August 4-9, 2021, at the Frontenac Hilton Hotel, 1335 South Lindbergh Blvd, St. Louis, Missouri, 63131. Information is posted at <https://www.suvcwmo.org/2021-national-encampment.html>.

SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

The Sacramento Civil War Round Table has cancelled all meetings until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. 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

All meetings of the Elk Grove Civil War Round Table have been cancelled until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Elk Grove Civil War Round Table normally 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. See the website at <http://www.elkgrovecwrt.org> for when meetings may restart.

NATIONAL WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS, LOGAN'S BRIGADE, AND GRANT'S GUARDS

The National Woman's Relief Corps (WRC) served as the official ladies auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, and still exists as one of the five allied orders. The WRC has started an adult Men's Associate to the National Woman's Relief Corps called the Logan's Brigade and a Cadet Corps to the Logan's Brigade called the Grant's Guard for young men between 8 and 16 years old. One can apply as a charter member between April 1, 2020, and February 28, 2021. The application fee is \$15, and the annual dues are \$35. For background information and the on-line application, see <https://logansbrigade.org>. Senior Vice Commander/Camp Historian David A. Davis, PCC, is a member.

MEETING – February 28, 2021

Minutes of the camp meeting
Sunday, February 28, 2021, at 1300 Hours,
VFW Hall, 255 Veterans Historic Way, Reno, NV
And Via teleconference from homes
General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25
Department of California and Pacific

I). Opening

- A). The meeting was called to order by Commander Dietrich at 1303 hours.
- B). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SVC David Davis.
- C). Invocation was led by Chaplain Frank Whitman.
- D). **Members present in person:** David Davis, Jay Dickey, Kurt Dietrich, David Hess, Roger Linscott, Randall C. Lorenz, Robert Stoecklin, Frank Wood.

Members present remotely: Rick Stanfield, Frank Whitman; Rudy Velasco, Commander, Dept. of California and Pacific.

Guests: Donn Dalton, applying for membership by right of descent from Civil War Veteran William Wirt Wickham.

II). Camp Commander's Report-- Camp Commander Kurt Dietrich

- A). The virtual Departmental Encampment is scheduled for March 20, 2021, with registration closing on March 7. Camp Commander Dietrich asked for a show of hands on who planned to attend. Several members indicated an interest and mentioned they would decide soon.
- B). Special Message No. 2 regarding the U.S. Air Force's reauthorization of the SUVCW ROTC Medal was read. A question was asked from the membership if Camp 25 actively awards KRPTC medals. Commander Dietrich stated that the Camp has not awarded medals within the last couple of years, and if anyone would be interested in taking on the program to let him know.
- C). Commander Dietrich read General Order No. 9, regarding the passing Helen Jackson, the last known widow of a Union Soldier.

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

The Minutes of the December meeting were previously reported to all members of Camp 25 via the Camp newsletter. Brother Hess asked if there were any additions or corrections. **Being none, it was MOVED (Linscott) and SECONDED (Wood) to approve the Minutes of the December meeting as submitted. The motion PASSED unanimously.**

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

- 1). Brother Hess presented the Financial Statement for Camp 25 for the period ended January 31. Hess asked if there were any questions/additions/corrections. **It was MOVED (Linscott) and SECONDED (Davis) to accept the Financial Statement for the period ending January 31, 2021 as submitted. The motion PASSED unanimously. [See EXHIBIT 1]**
- 2). Brother Hess reported that he has been handed a letter that was addressed to the Regent of the Nevada Sagebrush Chapter DAR by Michael Widmer, a volunteer with the Charters of Freedom Project. Hess reminded the members that we had pledged \$500 toward their goal. After having their first site application rejected it seems like they have a firm commitment to install the project at the Sparks Marina. [SEE EXHIBIT 2]

V). Senior Vice Commander's Report—Brother David Davis

[SEE CAMP CARLIN DISPATCH ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT 3].

VI). Historian's & Memorials Report—Brother David Davis.

The Historian's Report was handed out to members and is attached to these Minutes. [See EXHIBIT 4].

VII). Junior Vice Commander's Report—Brother Frank Wood

Nothing to report. Brother Wood asked why Brian Worcester's passing was not included in the last issue of The Banner. Brother Hess said that he belatedly discovered that a form needed to be filed to assure the notice be included in The Banner. Hess said he has filed the requisite Form 30 and the notice should appear in the next issue.

VIII). Patriotic Instructor's Report—Brother Tyrone Davis (submitted by David Davis)

Although absent, Brother Tyrone Davis prepared a report on the "Lincoln's Letter To The King Of Siam" [See Exhibit 5].

IX). Grave Registration Officer Report—Brother Donald Huffman

Nothing to report

X). Other Officers Reports—Nothing to report.

XI). New Business--All.

A). The review committee (which included: Kurt Dietrich, Roger Linscott, Rob Stoecklin and David Hess) reported on their review of the application of Donn Michael Dalton. They found the application to be complete and in order and recommended to the membership that he be accepted as a Regular Member of Camp 25.

Motion: It was MOVED (Linscott) and SECONDED (Stoecklin) to approve the application for membership of Donn Michael Dalton. PASSED unanimously.

B). Brother Randall Lorenz reported on the Veterans History Project. The Veterans History Project is a project of the American Folklife Center to collect, preserve, and make accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war. Brother Lorenz is also working with the Library of Congress on including the histories of Union Civil War veterans. Story Corps is similar to the Veterans History Project, it's mission is to preserve and share humanity's stories in order to build connections between people and create a more just and compassionate world. All interviews are preserved at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. Presently Brother Lorenz is looking for a place to record the interviews. To schedule a session please contact Randall Lorenz at 775-622-7305, or randallclorenz@yahoo.com. Brother Lorenz also added that **Fold3** is the best place on the Civil War, Revolutionary War, WWII and Vietnam War collections. Free access to Fold3 is through the Rowan Library. Getting a digital library card is free. The link is <https://www.rowancountynv.gov/1498/Library-Card>.

C). Knights of Pythias Stone Dedication Brother Donn Dalton said there will be an installation of a stone monument at the Knight's of Pythias Cemetery Reno Nevada for Union Civil War Veteran John Swindells. The exact date is still to be determined. Brother Dalton relayed a request from Mr. Bill Mardon, (sexton for the cemetery), for members of Camp 25 to officially participate, as a Color Guard or otherwise, in the ceremonial dedication. More on this at our next meeting.

D). Brother Hess suggested that we consider either changing the format of our regular meetings or the venue or both. Hess suggested that altering the format or venue would make the meetings more interesting. Hess noted that much of the meeting was devoted to agenda items that are included because "That's the way we always do it." Perhaps meeting under different conditions and with a trimmed down format we could focus on carrying out our mission in a setting that members would look forward to. Hess asked the brothers to give it some thought and bring some ideas to the next meeting.

XII). Old Business--All.

1). Pursuant to a motion passed at our last meeting that authorized Donn Dalton to contact Congressman Amodei's office regarding matters of concern about the GAR Cemetery which were documented in the Camp 25 meeting of December 20, 2020. Donn reported that he is still trying to set an appointment. Further to addressing the GAR Cemetery project it was proposed to create a GAR Cemetery Committee. Volunteers who agreed to serve on the committee are Donn Dalton, David Davis, Jay Dickey, Kurt Dietrich (ex officio), David Hess and Roger Linscott.

Motion: It was MOVED (Linscott) and SECONDED (Dickey) to authorize the formation of the GAR Cemetery Committee. PASSED unanimously.

2). Brother Stoecklin was justifiably applauded (as led by Brother Linscott) for putting together a very successful Wreaths Across America ceremony. Brother Stoecklin reported that we are already 80% subscribed for next year.

3). Commander Dietrich reported that the Carson City Library project (see Minutes of August Camp meeting) is back on track and our display is anticipated to be installed in May. We will work on getting items to place in the exhibit.

4). Brother Dickey proposed that we consider taking part in organizing a celebration on or around Independence Day to take place in Genoa. Dickey has spoken with the owner of a restaurant who said she would welcome being a part of a celebration. Dickey suggested we contact other Lineage Societies to solicit their interest in participating. No decision was made but the idea received positive support. More on this at our next meeting.

5). Brother Davis gave a status report on the current status of human remains found on BLM land that may be the remains of a 19th century U.S. soldier. Davis reported that an official report concluded that the remains were that of a Caucasian man. That would support our position. It was suggested that we put this on our agenda with Congressman Amodei, but it was felt that it would be better left to another meeting so as not to detract from the GAR Cemetery project.

XIII). Closing Prayer.

The closing prayer was offered by Chaplain Frank Whitman.

XIV). The meeting was adjourned at 1512 hours. The date of the next meeting was set for Saturday, April 17th at 1000 at the VFW Hall.

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: The Treasurer's report (Exhibit 1) was not included here because of account numbers. Being the last issue of the Carlin Camp Dispatch, Exhibit 3 was not included here because of redundancy. Exhibits 2, 4, and 5 printed next.

Charter of Freedom:

February 11, 2021

Dear Sharal Linscott,


We wish to update you on the progress of the Charters of Freedom setting proposed at the Old Washoe County Courthouse. This courthouse is listed on the City of Reno Historical Resources register. Even though the Washoe County Commission approved this project, we still needed to get permission from the City of Reno. Unfortunately, the project was denied. Although we had the opportunity to appeal before the Reno City Council, without some political clout behind us and given the county was not inclined to get involved at this time, Chuck Slavin and I decided that the appeal would be in vain.

Fortunately, we believe the Charters of Freedom has found a new home. Perhaps a better home at that. We have an agreement in principle to be part of the Nevada Veterans Memorial Plaza, in Sparks. You may view the Memorial project at the website www.nvmp.info. The mission of Nevada Veterans Memorial is "to preserve and honor the legacy of our fallen service men and women since 1864 by building a memorial plaza for the entire state located at the Sparks Marina".

Phase 2 construction is scheduled to begin in June of this year. As part of the plaza, the NVMP will include an educational walkway dedicated to late Mayor Ron Smith. As we understand it, the walkway will include a number of stations that will discuss important military history milestones in the state. The Charters of Freedom setting will be the first display on the walkway, after a bio of the late Mayor.

Financially, we have received 30% of the necessary funds for the setting. The permitting issues with Reno and the COVID 19 pandemic had halted our funding campaign. Today though, we are back "in the saddle" and believe that we can soon raise the total amount. If for any reason you no longer wish to participate, please email me so that we can refund your previous donation. There are a number of details to be worked out including how we recognize donors. We will let you know when the details are finalized.

Thank you again for your support. We look forward to making the Charters of Freedom a first class setting for our community.



Michael Widmer, volunteer
Charters of Freedom
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HISTORY AND MEMORIALS REPORT

February 28, 2021

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

PART ONE, The Pre-War Years: The Life and Times of Ormsby MacKnight Mitchel, Namesake of the G.A.R. General O.M. Mitchel Post 69 of Reno

By David A. Davis, PCC

Ormsby MacKnight (or McKnight) Mitchel was an American astronomer and major general in the War of the Rebellion. A Renaissance man, he was also an attorney, surveyor, professor, and publisher.

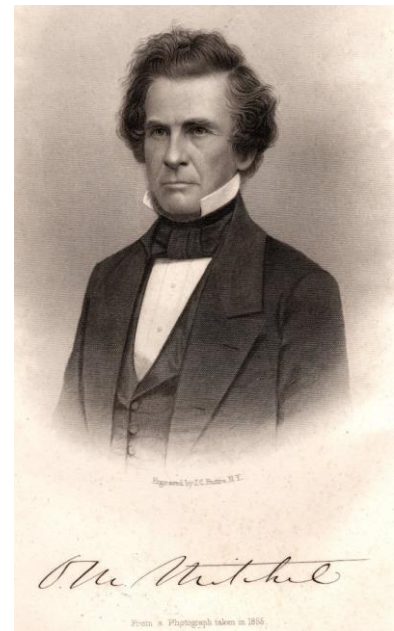
Ormsby McKnight Mitchel was born in a log cabin on top of a high hill about one-fourth of a mile north of the hamlet of Gum Grove (Gumgrove), Kentucky, on August 28, 1809. Some sources have his birth year as 1810, but his tombstone says 1809. Also, most sources state he was born in or near Morganfield, Union County. However, Union County was only established January 12, 1811, from the western part of Henderson County, and Morganfield was only established January 6, 1812. Gum Grove is not on present day topographic maps, but 19th century maps show it over a mile south of Center Grove. Modern topographic maps show the Dyer Hills to the east and north of the site. Center Grove is about six miles south-southwest of Morganfield. Almost 2 miles southwest of Center Grove on top of one of the Chapel Hills is the tiny Mitchell (with two l's) Cemetery.

Ormsby was the son of Virginia native John Mitchel (sometimes spelled with two l's) and Elizabeth McAllister. The two married in 1782 in Frankfort, Kentucky, and had at least three children – Daniel M., born 1784, Ormsby M., and a daughter. The 1810 Census for Henderson County counted a John Mitchel (one l) with one male and two females under age 10, one female between age 10 and 16, and two males between age 16 and 26. Elizabeth, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1764, had two sisters – Mary who married John McKnight and Jane who married John Ormsby.

John Mitchel was well off at one time with property at one time. However, a series of reverses impoverished him, which caused him to bring his family from Virginia back to Kentucky in 1804. He served as a Colonel of Militia and Surveyor of Hampshire County, now West Virginia. He had a genius for mathematics and at one point studied astronomy. Elizabeth was noted as being attractive, cultivated, refined, and pious. The site John picked for his homestead proved unhealthy, and he died when Ormsby was three years old. Several other family members died in quick succession afterwards.

In 1814, Elizabeth took her family by horseback to Ohio. Ormsby rode behind his older brother. They passed through Cincinnati and settled first in Miami about 10 miles further to the northeast. A short time later, they settled in Lebanon, Ohio, about 25 miles northeast of Cincinnati. The 1820 Census for Lebanon counted an E. Mitchel with one female under age 10, one male between age 10 and 15, one male and one female between age 16 and 25, one female between age 26 and 44, and one female age 45 and over.

As one of the younger children in the family, Ormsby attended school until he was old enough help support the family. By nine, he had read Virgil and learned some Greek. At age twelve (about 1821), he left school and took a job as a clerk for a storeowner in Lebanon selling merchandise by day, sweeping out the store at night, and serving his employer's family evenings and mornings for 25 cents per week. At home he cut wood, made the fires, and scrubbed the cook ware among other chores. His clothes were poor, and he was barefoot much of the time. After a couple of years, he finished work early, but his mother accused him of shirking and called him a liar when he protested. He stormed out of the house, but fortunately was able to talk a teamster into hiring him on.



Elizabeth happened to be related to local resident John McLean. John McLean had been appointed Postmaster General of the United States by President James Monroe on June 26, 1823, and served as such until March 9, 1829. He had also served as a Congressman, Commissioner of the General Land Office, and Associate Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, and hence, was very well connected. Distraught, Elizabeth discussed her "problem child" with John who then procured an appointment to West Point for Ormsby. Ormsby likely jumped at the chance for a real education and to leave being a teamster far behind.

He started out for West Point on foot with a knapsack to carrying his belongings in. At times he caught horseback and canal boat rides and arrived with 25 cents in his pocket. He easily passed the entrance exam. Now Cadet Mitchel entered West Point on June 23, 1825, by special favor waiving the age requirement. He was just shy of 15 and a year younger than the law allowed. Actually three others a few months younger than him also entered West Point at the same time. Letters to his mother and brother during his years at West Point indicate he was an eager student and ambitious in his aims. He graduated with honors in the class of 1829. The class of 1829 contained 46 cadets and he graduated 15th. The class also included Robert E. Lee, who ranked second and Joseph E. Johnston, who ranked 13th. Jefferson Davis, who was a year ahead of Ormsby apparently took a liking to him, and they became companions.

Cadet Michel was appointed second lieutenant in the Second Artillery. However, his work during his studies had made a favorable impression on his superiors, and a short time later, he was appointed Assistant Professor of Mathematics at West Point. He would seek new solutions to old problems, discover new methods, and speculate and theorize on new phases to mathematical subjects. He taught through 1831 and was then reassigned and stationed for a short time to garrison duty at St. Augustine, Florida. Not happy with his assignment, and seeing military life would not provide a suitable outlet for his interests, he resigned his commission on September 30, 1832.

During his military tenure, 2nd Lt. Mitchel married Louisa Clark Trask at Cornwall, New York, on September 22, 1831, with the Reverend M. Thomas of the same town presiding. Louisa Clark was a widow and the daughter of Hon. William A. Clark and Sally Selleck. William Clark was a signer of the Revolutionary Pledge in 1775 and later served as Justice of the Peace in Cornwall and for Orange County, New York, as Sheriff, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and State Assemblyman. Louisa was born November 9, 1805. She married 2nd Lt. Thomas S. Trask, who graduated from West Point in 1827 and during Cadet Mitchel's sophomore year. 2nd Lt. Trask died of illness in 1828 while on duty at Memphis, Tennessee. Louisa already had a son by 2nd Lt. Trask, who may have been the Thomas L. Trask, age 21, listed with them in the 1850 census. The children of Ormsby and Louis were: Harriet, b. 1833; Virginia, b.; Edwin William, b. 1838; Frederick A., b. 1841; Louise, b. 1843; Ormsby M, b. 1845. Harriet and Virginia were born in New York and the others in Ohio. Birthdates are approximate and are according to the 1850 and 1860 Census, which have Louise female in 1860 but Louis (male) in 1850; Virginia as 15 in 1850 but only 18 in 1860; and Francis A. in 1850 as Frederick A. 1860. The couple also had Stella who was born August 26, 1850, but died of inflammation of the brain on April 3, 1851.

After leaving the service, and possibly at times during it, he studied law. He passed the bar and opened an office as counselor-at-law in Cincinnati in 1833 with Edward D. Mansfield as his partner. Edward would eventually go on to edit several newspapers and write a number of historical books and biographies. Clients were few and fees small. The two lawyers probably together made no more than \$50. To gain attention, Mr. Mitchel, Esquire, began public lectures on astronomy with announcement in the newspaper. Sixteen people attended his first lecture. In 1834, after practicing less than a year as lawyer, he began teaching at the newly established Cincinnati College, and in 1836, he was appointed assistant professor of mathematics, philosophy, and professor of astronomy. He was also instrumental in establishing the college's law school. He continued his public lectures on astronomy and gained in confidence and refined his skills in public speaking. He spoke without notes or manuscript, and the lecture venues were by then always crowded.

As to his nature, in 1851, the Buffalo Daily Republic described him as, "He is very small in stature, but he is all energy, and there is no such thing as tire in him. He can sleep anywhere, eat anything, work night and day, write, lecture and be always as fresh and lively as any mortal we may meet. Take him off a heavy day's survey, muddy, wet, (only give him time to brush up,) and he will discourse, at night, on Astronomy, with a stirring eloquence." He was considered an admiral teacher who thoroughly understood and was enthusiastic about his subject matter. His teaching style was clear, and he inspired his pupils who had the

same interests. He was also a devout Christian. During his short law career, he joined Dr. Lyman Beecher's church, and became somewhat prominent for his fervid zeal in prayer-meetings. He remained an active member of the Second (New School) Presbyterian Congregation of Cincinnati until his death. Lyman Beecher was Presbyterian minister, co-founder of the American Temperance Society, and father of Harriett Beecher Stowe, who wrote "Uncle Tom's Cabin".

Interestingly, in 1847, the Baptists and Presbyterians held their general convention in Cincinnati. As chewing tobacco was common, the proprietors of the Second Presbyterian Church thought long and hard before allowing its use for the convention and risking it being "bemeared" by tobacco juice. Professor Mitchel invited the Baptist convention to visit his new observatory but the delegates were to "leave their tobacco at the foot of the hill".

In 1892, an article in the Seattle Post Intelligencer recalling his life said this about Louisa, "During his observatory life Professor Mitchel found his wife a valuable asset – at telescope as well as the family circle. She was a hearty sympathy with him in his astronomical labors, and cheerfully aided him in every possible way. She was the first woman in America who looked upon the planet Neptune." Neptune was discovered in 1846.

During the 1830s, railroad construction was well underway as a cheaper means of transportation than canals and animal drawn wagons. On March 11, 1836, the Little Miami Railroad was incorporated and would eventually connect Cincinnati and Springfield, Ohio. The first train ran on its tracks in 1841, which then extended 20 miles between Cincinnati and Milford. While in the Army, Professor Mitchel acquired some experience in railroad engineering. He served as the Little Miami Railroad's Chief Engineer between 1836 and 1837, and during college vacations from teaching, he surveyed and recommended the route. He then estimated the construction costs. Then he and George Neff, who would briefly serve as the railroad's first president, convinced the Cincinnati City Council to provide a \$200,000 loan for the project.

During his time at the Cincinnati College, Professor Mitchel developed a keen interest in acquiring a large telescope. The fact that the big eastern cities such as New York and Boston had no observatories, let alone trying to get a small frontier town like Cincinnati to put up for one did not faze his interest in trying. To that end and to test whether or not the public interest in astronomy could be enough to support an observatory, he commenced a series of lectures in the spring of 1842 in the hall of the Cincinnati College. As usual, the lectures were unwritten and were simplified enough for the general public to understand. The effect on his lectures was particularly enhanced by what a short biography stated as "a mechanical contrivance...the aid of which the beautiful telescopic views in the heavens were presented to the audience, with a brilliancy and power scarcely inferior to that displayed by the most powerful telescopes." While not mentioned elsewhere, he was probably using a device known as a "magic lantern", which projected images onto a wall or screen and were already in use in his time to illustrate lectures on astronomy as well as other subjects and for entertainment.

The last of this series of lectures attracted special attention and he was asked to repeat it at one of the main local churches where he drew an enraptured audience of at least 2,000. Requests came would continue to come in for him to repeat his lectures at other venues. Encouraged by the large audiences, he developed a plan for the building of an observatory, and presented the idea to audiences at the close of lectures when appropriate. He resolved to dedicate five years of his life to getting the observatory funded and built and organized the Cincinnati Astronomical Society, joint stock company, with 300 members and each share being \$25 (about \$800 today). Each shareholder would be entitled to the privileges of the observatory, which would be under the management of a board of control elected by the shareholders.

On June 16, 1842, he sailed out of New York for Liverpool on a trip that would last 100 days. He visited many of the best observatories in the England and on the Continent and was well treated but struck out in most places in his search for suitable telescope. He then made a point to travel to Munich and visit the optical institute started by the celebrated optical instruments maker Joseph von Fraunhofer and passed on to Merz und Mahler. Mr. Mertz already had a very high quality nearly 12-inch achromatic object lens in a cabinet that had already passed muster in a telescope at the Munich Observatory. Only about a half dozen such achromatic lenses existed in the world at the time, so it was a must have. A telescope to Professor Mitchel's agreed to specs would be \$10,000 and take two years to build. Despite being considerably more expensive than anticipated, the order was placed. The telescope was to be a refractor and the tube would be constructed

of brass and mahogany. He returned to Greenwich, England, at the invitation of Astronomer Royal George Biddell Airy for a few weeks to study new methods of observation. He then returned to Cincinnati and gave a full report to the Cincinnati Astronomical Society and interested members of the public. With some difficulty he was then able to collect \$3,000 as a down payment to have work on the telescope started.

The place most suitable for the observatory was a hill (now called Lookout Mountain) rising 400 feet above the city with unobstructed views in all directions. A prominent local eccentric citizen Nicholas Longworth, Esq., owned 25 acres on the hill. Mr. Longworth had Professor Mitchel select four acres, which were donated with some conditions (including completing the observatory in two years) and deeded to the Cincinnati Astronomical Society. An access road was built and the foundation trenches were dug. On November 13, 1843, John Quincy Adams laid the corner stone and made his "last great oration". Winter set in and construction was delayed until May 1844. With "incredible difficulty" the entire amount of \$10,000 was collected and remitted to acquire the telescope, which was delivered in February 1845. This left the Cincinnati Astronomical Society flat broke and \$7000 to \$8000 more was required to finish the building.

When finished, the building was 80 feet long by 30 feet wide with two stories and an additional story centered over the telescope. Professor Mitchel taught five hours a day from eight until one. Each Saturday, he exhausted his funds and on Monday he had to begin collecting again. 1842 was near the end of a 5-year depression that started with a financial collapse in 1837. The times were still hard, and the subscriptions came in so slowly that he determined to collect them in person. Where money was short, he took provisions or anything in the world that had negotiable value, which marketed and turned into cash as best he could. He also bought all the materials, hired all the men and superintended all the work. Sometimes he secured subscriptions from the laborers that were paid for by their work. Since, the ascent to the construction site was steep, he built a kiln and burned the lime. He also purchased a sand pit and often shoveled its contents into the wagon with his own hands.

Then on January 19, 1845, the Cincinnati College Hall caught fire. The second floor, roof, and cupola were destroyed, though the holdings of the Dispensary, Sons of Temperance, Library of the Mercantile Association, and various literary societies, works of art including a full length portrait of William Henry Harrison, and other books and papers were saved. Fortunately, the telescope had been delayed or it might have been lost. Unfortunately, Professor Mitchel's teaching job including his salary also went up in smoke.

The telescope was shipped via New Orleans and up the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers to Cincinnati. After all of the hard and despite setback caused by the fire, in March 1845, the building was completed, and the telescope was hoisted into place. Professor Alexander Bache, Superintendent of the U.S. Coastal Survey, donated a transit instrument and sidereal clock, and the telescope saw "first light" on April 14, 1845. Other instruments were needed, but had to wait for funds to become available. At the time it was the third largest telescope in the world. It is still in use today and is the oldest professional observatory in the country. Professor Mitchel served as the first director and agreed to serve, in that prestigious position came with no salary. Unfortunately, he made that agreement BEFORE the fire.

He returned to lecturing to support himself. He traveled afar in that endeavor including to Boston, New York, New Haven, and New Orleans. The first lecture in his tours was in Boston, but the hall was barely half full. Ever the optimist, he told a friend, those attending would another the next night. The next night, the hall was full. As his reputation grew, filling lecture venues would no longer be an issue.

The Ohio and Mississippi Railroad was incorporated on February 14, 1848, and Professor Mitchel was hired to survey the route and was retained as Chief Engineer. The railroad was broad gauge (6 feet) and would eventually connect Cincinnati with St. Louis. After surveying a practical route, he then visited the Legislatures of the States through which the railroad would pass and secured their cooperation. He held public meetings in all the leading towns and cities and succeeded in drumming up popular support for the project. He acted as the principle agent of the Eastern Division and crossed the Atlantic three times to negotiate bonds for the railroad. During this time, company executives accused him of fiscal mismanagement and putting his own interests above that of the railroad. He denied the accusations, though there is no doubt he had profited from his position, and resigned in 1849. Interestingly, the railroad hired him back as chief engineer for 1852 to 1853. He was present at the ceremonies when ground was broken to commence construction of the railroad on February 7, 1852. In 1853, he was again sent overseas to negotiate the sale of

bonds. Through the American banker in London, George Peabody, of Peabody and Co., he sold \$2,700,000 in bonds.

Between lecturing and railroading, Professor Mitchel continued his astronomical activities. In 1846, he commenced a publication "Sidereal Messenger" devoted to astronomy. However, too few people subscribed to it, and it was discontinued after struggling for a couple of years. Interestingly, one issue contained drawings of the planet Mars. In 1873, a crater near the Martian south pole was named after him. However, in his day, the best telescopes only showed Mars as a mottled disk. However, the largest features and the ice caps were visible and drawings of the time correspond to the same on modern maps of the planet. Also, the length of the Martian day was accurately determined in his day. However, craters were too small to be seen until Mariner 4 flew by the planet in 1965.

In 1848, he published his book, "The Planetary and Stellar Worlds", which proved very popular especially in Europe. A number of his lectures correlated astronomy with the Scriptures. In 1849, he revised, corrected, and enlarged Elijah Burritt's "Geography of the Heavens", which contained a celestial atlas. Elijah Burritt was an astronomer who originally published his atlas in 1833 but died in 1838. Seven of the lectures were compiled into "The Astronomy of the Bible" first published in 1854. While he generally took Scripture literally, when it came to science, he stepped outside of the dogmatic box. He embraced the nebular hypothesis that the solar system formed from gases and dust, and took the view of the "days" in the Creation story to represent indefinite periods of time. He was also dubious of the account of Joshua making the sun stand still. His final book, "Popular Astronomy, Or the Sun, Planets, Satellites, and Comets", was published in 1860.

Over his career, Professor Mitchel discovered and recorded 50,000 stars. In July 1845, Professor Mitchel discovered the star Antares was a double star, which he reported after repeated measurements in 1846 in issue No. 4 of the "Sidereal Messenger". In June 1847, he discovered a new cluster of about 1,000 stars which he named Bechoide.

He developed a number of astronomical instruments. One was a declinometer, which was a device that assisted in positioning the telescope. Another was an improvement upon a "magnetic clock" which would telegraphically record the pendulum beats of the observatory clock and allow the observer to instantly record any phase of an astronomical phenomenon. Up through the 1840s, determining the exact right ascension and declination of an object in the sky (similar to latitude and longitude on the ground) was tedious at best. In 1850, Professor Mitchel's development of these apparatuses and a method for their use resulted in accurately measuring right ascension and declination in a very short time. A year's worth of work could be done in a single night. When first demonstrated it recorded the position of 103 stars in one hour and measured the diameter of the Sun five times. In Europe, this became known as the "American Method".

In the winters of 1855 and 1856, he lectured at the Smithsonian Institute. In 1858, he studied Donati's Comet. The comet was discovered in June of that year and last seen in March 1859 and was a brilliant naked eye comet with a scimitar like dust tail and prominent gas tail. He compared and contrasted it with Halley's Comet which appeared in 1836.

In 1859, Professor Mitchel met a man who spent 40 years deciphering hieroglyphics in Egypt. He had recently deciphered inscriptions on the coffin of a mummy in the British Museum. He found the zodiac with the exact position of the moon and planets were inscribed on the coffin and indicated the autumnal equinox for 1722 BC. Professor Mitchel without explanation had his assistants research the position of the planets and moon for that time. The results showed that the alignments noted on the coffin corresponded exactly to October 7, 1722 BC. Taking precession of the equinoxes into account, that date was correct for the autumnal equinox.

In 1852, General Van Rensselaer, Mrs. Blandina Dudley, and others, began the construction of an observatory on a hill in North Albany, New York, on the plan of Cincinnati Observatory. Professor Mitchel's advice was taken as to the plan of the building, the equipment, and the organization. The observatory had been chartered by an act of the New York State Legislature in March of that year. Its initial funding came from citizens of Albany, New York, but the largest contribution came from Mrs. Dudley. It was therefore named in honor of her late husband Senator Charles E. Dudley, an Albany merchant and political leader. Construction was completed in 1856 with a major dedication ceremony on August 28 attended by many prominent figures in U.S. science and politics. The Observatory's trustees established a Scientific Council

and an alliance with the U.S. government's Coast Survey aimed at making the Dudley Observatory a major contributor to astronomical research. The effort was to be led by noted American astronomer Dr. Benjamin Gould. Unfortunately, a controversy between the trustees and the Scientific Council led to the firing of Gould and the dismissal of the Scientific Council by the Observatory's trustees in 1858-1859. At one point, Mrs. Dudley threatened to withdraw her endowment. Professor Mitchel was considered to be the only man under whose management harmony could be restored and he was urged to take over as Director. He announced his acceptance to do so on March 7, 1859, but also remain as Director of the Cincinnati Observatory. He and his family then moved to Albany in June. From then on until his involvement in the War of the Rebellion, he spent most of his time there, dealing with the feuds among the friends of the new institution, and trying to get it in good working order. While he did acquire the services of Dr. Francis Brubbow of Ann Arbor, Michigan, to serve as Associate Director, he was never able to acquire sufficient funds and staffing for the institution to conduct significant astronomical work.

One of the many challenges Professor Mitchel faced was the telescope was mounted too high in the observatory, which interfered with the movement of the dome. Given that dismantling and remounting the telescope was probably out of the question without dismantling the dome, he went about removing two lateral blocks weighing a combined four tons from the base and then lowering the pier holding up the telescope. The trick worked and the dome and telescope could then be moved around ease.

Despite all, Professor Mitchel was able to continue his pioneering work on the development of telegraphic determination of right ascension and declination from there and publish his last book as noted earlier. He also observed the Great Comet of 1861 which was visible for three months. It was discovered on May 13 in Australia but was not visible in the northern hemisphere until June 29. On June 30, it came closest to the Earth at 12,330,000 miles, shined between magnitudes 0 and -2, had a tail of over 90 angular degrees, and cast shadows at night. He compared and contrasted it with Halley's Comet and Donati's Comet and suggested it was a long term comet.

Between his West Point years and the start of the War of the Rebellion, Professor Mitchel was involved in a couple of positions, which served to keep up his familiarity with military matters. He served as commander of a volunteer company in Cincinnati for ten years as commander. He reportedly also served as Adjutant-General of the State of Ohio in 1847 and 1848, though he is not on the roster of those who served in that position.

When the news of Fort Sumter came in April 1861, Professor Mitchel was asked to speak at a public meeting in Union Park, New York. He delivered a passionate address and the cheering drowned out his words. On August 8, 1861, Professor Mitchel was appointed a Brigadier-General of Volunteers due in part to this speech and his old West Point record. He was assigned to the command of the Department of Ohio, with headquarters at Cincinnati. Unfortunately, just twelve days later, Louisa died Aug. 20, 1861. She was laid to rest in Green-Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn, New York.

In the future Part Two of this biography will discuss his Civil War experiences.

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Lincoln Rejects offer of Elephants from the King of Siam
Patriotic Instructor Report
By Tyrone Davis
02/28/2021

In one of the US Civil war's more humorous moments, President Abraham Lincoln politely rejected an offer of elephants to combat the Confederacy from the King of Siam (Thailand). While the letter from Rama IV (aka Mongut) was addressed to former President James Buchanan, it was up to Lincoln and Secretary of State William Seward to politely decline this offer from afar. As Lincoln points out in his rebuttal, steam power had overtaken the need for heavy animal power of this kind.

This friendly exchange has brought up many fanciful "what-ifs." What if the Union or Confederate army had use of battalions of war elephants during the Civil War? Could there have been herds of angry pachyderms at Pickett's Charge or emerging from the forest lines at Shiloh?

LINCOLN'S LETTER TO THE KING OF SIAM

To the King of Siam

February 3, 1862

Abraham Lincoln,

President of the United States of America.

To His Majesty Somdetch Phra Paramendr Maha Mongut,
King of Siam,

Great and Good Friend: I have received Your Majesty's two letters of the date of February 14th., 1861.

I have also received in good condition the royal gifts which accompanied those letters,---namely, a sword of costly materials and exquisite workmanship; a photographic likeness of Your Majesty and of Your Majesty's beloved daughter; and also two elephants' tusks of length and magnitude such as indicate that they could have belonged only to an animal which was a native of Siam.

Your Majesty's letters show an understanding that our laws forbid the President from receiving these rich presents as personal treasures. They are therefore accepted in accordance with Your Majesty's desire as tokens of your good will and friendship for the American People. Congress being now in session at this

capital, I have had great pleasure in making known to them this manifestation of Your Majesty's munificence and kind consideration.

Under their directions the gifts will be placed among the archives of the Government, where they will remain perpetually as tokens of mutual esteem and pacific dispositions more honorable to both nations than any trophies of conquest could be.

I appreciate most highly Your Majesty's tender of good offices in forwarding to this Government a stock from which a supply of elephants might be raised on our own soil. This Government would not hesitate to avail itself of so generous an offer if the object were one which could be made practically useful in the present condition of the United States.

Our political jurisdiction, however, does not reach a latitude so low as to favor the multiplication of the elephant, and steam on land, as well as on water, has been our best and most efficient agent of transportation in internal commerce.

I shall have occasion at no distant day to transmit to Your Majesty some token of indication of the high sense which this Government entertains of Your Majesty's friendship.

Meantime, wishing for Your Majesty a long and happy life, and for the generous and emulous People of Siam the highest possible prosperity, I commend both to the blessing of Almighty God.

Your Good Friend, ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Washington, February 3, 1862.

By the President: WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State. Annotation

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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

One Department Order and one Special Department Order have been issued by outgoing Department Commander Rudy E. Velasco, PCC, and one Department Order has been issued by the new Department Commander Frank C. Avila since the last issue of the Carlin Camp Dispatch was posted. For a complete list, see the Department website: <http://www.suvpac.org/rules/ordersindex.html>.

Department Order No. 2

Series 2020-2021

Department of California and Pacific

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War of the Civil War

Department Awards

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

The following awards were prepared for the virtual meeting of the 135th Encampment of the Department of California and Pacific being held on 20 March 2021 via Zoom Electronic Communications. Department Officer Appreciation Certificates and the Award Certificates listed below were mailed to recipients.

Major General William "Bull" Nelson Growth Award for recruiting: none met the criteria this year.

Major General Montgomery C. Meigs Graves Registration Award (3 recipients):

Michael S. Ematt – General Stoneman Camp 18.

Charles L. Beal PCC – Generals Sedgwick-Granger Camp 17.

Kyle R. Jones – Henry C. Veatch Camp 30.

Department Commander's Award (perpetual award for Camp growth, 2 this year.):

General W.S. Rosecrans Camp 2 – added 9 new Brothers this year. Sgt. Pittenger Camp 21 – added 9 new Brothers this year.

President Abraham Lincoln Exemplary Dedication Award (2 this year):

Ron Black – W.S. Rosecrans Camp 2. Jerry R. Sayre PDC – Sgt. Pittenger Camp 21.

John G. Nicolay Best Camp Newsletter Award:

The Rosecrans Report, Rosecrans Camp 2, Los Angeles. • Kirby R. Morgan Award: no recommendations this year.

Department Officer of the Year Award: no recommendations this year.

Dr. Mary Edwards Walker Award: no recommendations this year.

Department Commander Commendations: (4 this year)

Charles L. Beal PCC, Generals Sedgwick – Granger Camp 17; in recognition of obtaining and facilitating the installation of 7 VA Markers, 4 of them previously unmarked Civil War Soldiers in Orange County, California cemeteries.

Rick T. LaRosa – Phil Sheridan Camp 4; in recognition of his foresight and creation of the Camp 4 Memorial Day, Public Relations and Recruitment video.

Daniel R. Earl, PCC – Phil Sheridan Camp 4; in recognition of the vision and production of the Camp 4 Memorial Day, Public Relations and Recruitment video.

Kimberly Sayre, Assistant - Sgt Pittenger Camp 21 – in recognition of her assistance in organizing and documenting Camp 21 events, ceremonies and promoting public relations resulting in favorable publicity for our Order.

The forgoing Department Order is proclaimed this 18th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty one and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty fourth, 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

Commander Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST: By: /s/ Owen R. Stiles, PCC

Department Secretary-Treasurer

Department Special Order No. 7

Series 2020-2021

Department of California and Pacific

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Passing of Brother Richard D. Raver

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: It is my very sad duty to report that, at the age of 90 years, Brother Richard D. Raver of Hemet, CA. passed away from complications of dementia on Friday, 29 January 2021.

Section 2: Brother Raver was a long time member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, transferring his membership from Generals Sedgwick – Granger Camp 17 and becoming a Charter member of Stoneman Camp 18 in 2010. He truly valued his membership in the SUVCW honoring the service of his Civil War ancestor John A. Greiner, private in Company E, 12th Michigan Volunteer Infantry. He also enjoyed drumming on his civil war drum, in uniform for Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies.

Section 3: Brother Raver was born on 2 November 1930 and was a ROTC Cadet in school. He served in the U.S. Army as a 2nd Lieutenant in the early 1950's, stationed in Germany. After returning to the states, he completed his military service in the National Guard.

Section 4: Brother Raver will be interred at Riverside National Cemetery. No services are planned at this time. Section

5: The Department extends sincere condolences to entire Raver family. Sympathy cards may be sent to Richard's wife, Marianne Raver – 1777 Skyview Dr. Hemet, CA. 92545. Section

6: The Department and all Camp Charters are to be draped in black for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this order.

Section 7: All Department Brothers are respectfully directed to attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badge (pursuant to C&R, Article III, Sec. 9) for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this Order.

The forgoing Department Order is proclaimed this 1st day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty one and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty fourth, 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

Commander Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST: By: /s/ Owen R. Stiles, PCC

Department Secretary-Treasurer

Department Order No. 1

Series 2021-2022

Department of California and Pacific

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War of the Civil War

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

Section 1: COMMAND. Having been duly elected Department Commander, it is with the sincerest appreciation for your confidence and support that I assume command of the Department of California and Pacific, for the 2021-2022 term. I can assure all of you that my fellow Department Officers and I, will work tirelessly to ensure that the Department does all that it can to bring honor to our forefathers who fought to preserve the Union, and to uphold the great traditions of our Organization. My tenure will be guided by the principles of our Order: Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. I hereby establish my residence in the City of San José, County of Santa Clara, State of California as the Department Headquarters. Correspondence should be sent to me at me via email at commander@suvpac.org.

Section 2: ELECTED OFFICERS. Department Brothers who were duly elected and installed by Commander in Chief Brian C. Pierson at the "virtual teleconference" 135th Annual Department Encampment of 20 March 2021 are as follows:

Commander – Bro. Frank C. Avila (PCC)

Sr. Vice-Commander – Bro. Stephen E. Doyle (PCC)

Jr. Vice-Commander – Bro. Wayne L. Eder

Secretary – Bro. Owen R. Stiles (PCC)

Treasurer – Bro. Owen R. Stiles (PCC)

Council – Bro. Daniel R. Earl (PCC)

Council – Bro. Kurtis F. Dunphy

Council – Bro. Robert J. Mayer

Section 3: APPOINTED OFFICERS. Department Brothers are appointed as follows:

Chaplain – Bro. Rudy E. Velasco III (PDC)

Counselor – Bro. Daniel R. Earl (PCC)

Graves Registration Officer – Bro. Kenneth G. Felton (PCC)

Historian – Bro. David A. Davis (PCC)

Patriotic Instructor – Bro. Will Tish
GAR Records Officer – David A. Davis (PCC)
GAR Highway Officer – Bro. Charles L. Beal (PCC)
Civil War Memorials Officer – Bro. Dean A. Enderlin (PDC)
Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator – Bro. Randall W. Hawkinson (PCC)
Guide – Bro. Jerry R. Sayre (PDC)
Color Bearer – Bro. Kurtis F. Dunphy
Guard – Bro. Paul E. Lavrischeff (PCC)
Camp Organizing – Owen R. Stiles (PCC)
The California Column Newsletter Editor – Bro. Owen R. Stiles (PCC)
Signals Officer/Webmaster – Bro. Tad D. Campbell (PCinC)

Section 4: ASSISTANT TO THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER – CHIEF OF STAFF. (a) After careful consideration and consultation with several Past Department Commanders, I have determined that my extensive full-time employment schedule and desire to commit my steadfast attention to the activities of our Department will require assistance to successfully execute my duties. Therefore, pursuant to §2 of Art. VII of the Department Bylaws, I am creating the appointed position of “Assistant to the Department Commander – Chief of Staff” to support me with my responsibilities. (b) The duties of the Chief of Staff shall be as follows: “The Assistant to the Department Commander (Chief of Staff) shall assist the Department Commander with administrative and executive duties. At the direction of, and on behalf of the Department Commander, the Chief of Staff shall oversee the productivity of, monitor the progress of, and assist where necessary all appointed Department Officers and Department Committees.” (c) Therefore, I hereby appoint Bro. Daniel R. Earl (PCC) to serve as my Chief of Staff during my 2021-2022 term as Department Commander.

The foregoing Department Order is proclaimed this 20th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty fifth, in the City of San José, County of Santa Clara, State of California by Frank C. Avila, Commander of the Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

By Order of: /s/ Frank C. Avila, PCC
Commander Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

ATTEST: By: /s/ Owen R. Stiles, PCC
Department Secretary-Treasurer

RECENT GENERAL ORDERS

Three new General Orders by Commander-in-Chief Brian C. Pierson 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. 10 notes the passing of Woman’s Relief Corps Past President Lucille “Peaches” Streeter on January 16, 2021. She served as President in 2018.

General Order No. 11 appoints of Past Commander-in-Chief Mark Day as National Counselor.

General Order No. 12 adds the name “Sons Union Veterans” and the acronym “S.U.V.” to the official list of badges, emblems, seals, coat-of-arms and/or other symbols of our Order that must be authorized or licensed for use or reproduction per the Constitution and Regulations.