



CARLIN CAMP 25 DISPATCH

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GENERAL WILLIAM PASSMORE CARLIN CAMP 25
 ~ CHARTERED 2003 ~

PRESERVED BY THE GRACE OF GOD

Volume 24, No. 1

Compiled and Edited by David A. Davis, PCC

January 2025

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The next meeting will be held at 1:00 pm on Sunday, February 22, 2026
 Raley's One Market Place at 18144 Wedge Parkway, Reno NV 89511

FEB. 12 -HAPPY 217TH BIRTHDAY, PRESIDENT LINCOLN

CAMP DUES - \$50 BY MARCH 1

CAMP 25 OFFICERS FOR 2026

Please see Camp Order No. 1 at the end of the newsletter.

ELECTED OFFICERS

1. Camp Commander: David J. Perdue
2. Senior Vice Commander: Donn M. Dalton
3. Junior Vice Commander: Cody S. Ehlers
4. Secretary: William J. Newman, Jr.
5. Treasurer: Kurt Dietrich, PCC
6. 1st Councilman: Richard L. Dalton
7. 2nd Councilman: Jonathan C. Dickey
8. 3rd Councilman: David F. Hess

APPOINTED OFFICERS

1. Chaplain: Donn M. Dalton
2. Graves Registration Officer Donald J. Huffman
3. Historian David A. Davis, PCC

4. Memorials Officer: David A. Davis, PCC
5. Counselor: David F. Hess
6. Patriotic Instructor: Cody S. Ehlers
7. Color Bearer: vacant
8. Guide: Bernard L. Hamm
9. Guard: Cody S. Ehlers
10. Signals Officer: David A. Davis, PCC
11. GAR Highway Officer: David J. Perdue
12. Newsletter Editor: David A. Davis, PCC
13. Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator:
Bernard L. Hamm
14. ROTC/JROTC/NDCC Cert. Coordinator:
Kurt Dietrich, PCC

PROPOSED CHANGE TO BYLAWS

At the December meeting, a motion was made and passed to draft a bylaw amendment that would extend all officers' terms from 1 year to 2 years. All officers, except for the Commander, would be eligible for election to an unlimited number of consecutive 2-year terms. The Commander would only be eligible for election to two consecutive 2-year terms. However, a past Commander would again be eligible for reelection as Commander in the future. Camp Counselor: David F. Hess will draft the amendment.

WAYNE EDER, CANDIDATE FOR DEPT. OF CALIFORNIA AND PACIFIC COMMANDER

Wayne Eder PCC is running for Commander of the Department of California and Pacific with elections to be held at the Encampment on March 7. At the December meeting, Camp 25 voted to endorse and vote for Wayne. Wayne is a plural member of Camps 25, 21, and 31. Starting as a member of Camp 25 in 2011, Wayne held several positions in our camp, including Councilman and Chaplain. While a member, he formed our Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) unit, Battery A, 3rd US Artillery as he owns two cannons. Wayne has moved through the ranks of the SVR and has served as Commander of the 6th Military District, SVR since 2020. He has served as Councilman, JVC, and SVC for the Department of California and the Pacific. In 2025, Wayne was appointed by Commander-in-Chief Kevin Tucker to the National Military Affairs Committee, which oversees the National SVR. Wayne's wife, Suzette, is also a descendant of a Union veteran. Together, they have a son, Wayne L. Eder II, who is a Junior Member of Camps 31 and 21. Their family currently resides in Hemet, CA.

SVR NOTICE

Unless stated otherwise, all Camp 25 members are also members by default of Battery A, 3rd US Artillery, Sons of Veteran Reserve (SVR), thanks to Wayne Eder for footing the dues. If you do not want to belong to the SVR, please let Camp Secretary Bill Newman know so he can indicate it on the Camp 25 roster.

IN MEMORIAM – JOHN RIGGS



January 12, 2026 (the day this photograph was taken by the editor) marked the tenth anniversary of the passing of Camp 25 Commander John Arthur Riggs. John was a Vietnam War veteran, UNR graduate, and retired Nevada Parole and Probation Officer among many other things. Riggs Ridge east of Carson City was just named in his honor. John had just been re-elected to a fifth term as Camp Commander literally making him Commander-for-life. Requiescat in Pace, John

UPCOMING EVENTS

LETTERS FROM HOME: NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND WOMEN AND THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

February 11, 2026

Free Virtual Lecture conducted via Zoom at 7 pm, February 11, 2026. See the website <https://events.humanitix.com/free-virtual-lecture-letters-from-home-northern-new-england-women-and-the-american-civil-war> for more information and advance registration which is required.

SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

February 11, March 11, 2026

The Sacramento Civil War Round Table, which meets on the second Wednesday of each month, will hold its next two meetings on the dates noted, at the R Vida Cantina Restaurant, 7040 Sunrise Boulevard, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. 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.

JOHANA SHINE TENT 96 MEETINGS

February 15, 2026

The Johana Shine Tent 96 of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War holds quarterly meetings via Zoom. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday February 15, 2026. For more information contact Suzanne Malek at smalek@tmcc.edu.

GEORGE WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY LUNCH

February 28, 2026

The Battleborn Patriots Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will hold their annual George Washington Birthday Lunch at Red Hawk at 11 am, February 28, 2026.

CIVIL WAR SPY: THE SOUTHERN BELLE WHO TOOK DOWN THE CONFEDERACY

February 28, 2026

Between 11 am and 1:30 pm on Saturday, February 28, 2026, Camp 25 is co-sponsoring with American Heritage Partners a Chautauqua performance called “Civil War Spy: The Southern Belle Who Took Down the Confederacy”. The performance will involve Kim Harris’ portrayal of Elizabeth Van Lew. The event will be held at J Resort Hotel, Reno, NV, and include a three-course plated lunch. The cost is \$30 per person. See the website at <https://americanheritagepartners.net/event/civil-war-spy-the-southern-belle-who-took-down-the-confederacy/> for more information.

DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

March 6-7, 2026

The 140th Department of California and Pacific Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will be held Friday March 6th through Saturday March 7th at the Four Points by Sheraton, at 5101 California Avenue in Bakersfield, CA, 93309. See the website at <https://suvpac.org/encampment> for registration and other information.

70th ANNUAL LINCOLN TOMB CEREMONY

April 11, 2026

The 70th Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony commemorating the 160th Anniversary of President Lincoln’s death will be held at the Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL at 10 AM on Saturday, April 11, 2026. The event is sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. Headquarters will be the Ramada by Wyndham Springfield North, 3281 Northfield Dr., Springfield, IL 62702. For registration and other event information, go to the National website at <https://suvvw.org> or contact Nick Kaup at: nick.kaup@gmail.com or 847-910-0164.

3rd CENTRAL COAST CONFERENCE

May 1-3, 2026

The 3rd Central Coast Conference, Seldom Heard History of the Civil War, will be held Friday May 1st through Sunday May 3rd at the Stanton Center on Custom House Plaza near Old Fisherman’s Wharf, Monterey, CA. The event is hosted by the Monterey History and Art Association. It is billed as “A Full Weekend of Presentations by Leading Historians of the American Civil War.” See the website at <https://www.montereyhistory.org/event/3rd-central-coast-conference-seldom-heard-history-of-the-civil-war-era/> for more information.

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

May 25, 2026

Camp 25 will hold its annual Memorial Day Service at 9 am on Monday, May 25, 2026, at the G.A.R. General O.M. Mitchel Post 69 cemetery at the Hillside Cemetery Complex, Angel Street, Reno, NV.

RINGING OF THE LIBERTY BELL

July 4, 2026

The Battleborn Patriots Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will do their annual reading of the Declaration of Independence and ringing of the Liberty Bell at the Nevada State Museum, Carson City, NV, at 9:30 am on Independence Day.

GRAEAGLE CIVIL WAR DAYS

July 3-5, 2026

Reenactors of the American Civil War (RACW) will hold their annual Graeagle Civil War Days at Graeagle, CA, from Friday July 3rd through Sunday July 5th. The event is free to the public and will involve several skirmishes, a fireworks display, and a parade. See the website <https://www.racw.org/calendar-of-events/> for more information.

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

July 30-August 2, 2026

The 145th National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Allied Orders will be held Thursday July 30th through Sunday August 2nd in Gettysburg, PA. More information will be posted soon at the National website <https://suvcw.org>.

MEETING – December 14, 2025

Minutes of the camp meeting

Sunday, December 14, 2025, at 1329 Hours,

Raley's One Market Place, Wedge Parkway, Reno NV

And Via ZOOM

General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25

Department of California and Pacific

I). Opening

- A). Meeting call to order at 1329 hours
- B). Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commander Davis.
- C). Invocation – Chaplain Donn Dalton
- D). Roll Call: Members present were: David Davis, David Perdue, Donn Dalton, Bill Newman, Cody Ehlers, Bernie Hamm, Rob Stoecklin and David Hess. Jay Dickey and Kurt Dietrich joined via ZOOM.
- E). Introduction of guests-- Heath (Donn's great grandnephew) and Jenny Davis.

II). Commander's Report—Commander David Davis.

- A). Unionville remains - Burial of the Unionville remains has been given the green light but not at GAR despite precedence. I forwarded Debbie Balsinger's e-mail to the Camp membership a few days ago. We have until Dec. 19 to outline our ceremony. We can discuss it more under Old Business.
- B). SVR Member Policy was discussed. Commander Davis said all Camp 25 brothers are members of the SVR unless they opt out. Commander Davis urged those members wishing to opt out to do so immediately.

III). Secretary's Report

- A). Minutes are in Carlin Dispatch, November 2025 issue.

B). MOTION to accept the Secretary's Report. M/S-Perdue/Dalton. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

IV). Treasurer's Report—Rob Stoecklin

- A). Fund Balances.
 - 1). General Fund \$2207.06
 - 2). Cannon Fund \$230.
- B). Payable to American Heritage Partners for sponsorship \$250.

C). MOTION to accept Treasurer's Report M/S Perdue/Hess. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

V). Senior Vice Commander's Report—David Perdue

- A). Cannon report. The Woodchuck Club is assisting with some of the repairs with an estimated completion date in March 2026. In return they have asked for a donation to their Christmas toy drive. SVC Perdue suggested we donate \$100 to \$200 with the funds coming from the Camp members, but no commitment was made.
- B). GAR Cemetery Flags. Currently the 5ft. x 8ft. flag needs to be replaced every 6 months. Replacement funds in the past have come from the American Legion and other sources. SVC Perdue proposed that Camp 25 commit to one replacement flag per year at a price not to exceed \$90.
- C). MOTION: Purchase one 5ft. X 8ft. USA flag per year for the GAR cemetery at a cost of around \$90. M/S Perdue/Hess. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- D). Brother Dickey suggested that we display a banner or Camp flag when we are officially present at the GAR cemetery. Brother Dickey indicated a willingness to donate funds for the purpose of acquiring a banner or flag. The Camp committed to look into acquiring something suitable for our purposes and report at the next meeting.
- E). Brother Purdue said he was ordering a 250 year commemorative medal at a cost of \$20 and asked other Camp Brothers to let him know if they are interested in making a purchase.
- F). SVC Perdue proposed we lock in our meeting dates with Raley's for the year.
- G). SVC Perdue proposed we extend officer terms from 1 year to 2 or 3 years. A decision on this matter would require a bylaw amendment.
- H). MOTION: It was M/S (Hess/Stoecklin) to draft a bylaw amendment that would extend all officers terms from 1 year to 2 years. All officers, with the exception of the Commander, may be elected to an unlimited number of 2-year terms. The Commander may only be re-elected to one additional 2-year term. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Hess will draft the proposed bylaw amendments.**

VI). Junior Vice Commander's Report—Donn Dalton

- A). Wreath Across America. JVD Dalton reported that we have received all the wreaths in preparation for Saturday's event. Brother Stoecklin reported on the distribution of wreaths at Mountain View Cemetery.
- B). JVC Dalton provided a detailed report on the Wreaths Across America event and preparations for it.

VII). Historian, Memorials, and GAR Highway Officer's Report—David Davis

Nothing to report

VIII). Graves Registration Officer's Report—Don Huffman

Nothing to report

IX). ROTC Report—Kurt Dietrich

Nothing to report

X). Eagle Scout Coordinator's Report—Bernie Hamm

Nothing to report.

XI). Patriotic Instructor's Report—Cody Ehlers

Nothing to report.

XII). Other Officers' Reports—Nothing to report.

XIII). Old Business

A). Unionville Remains

- 1). The text of Debbie Balsinger's e-mail:

I was able to touch bases with my new liaison, and we had a very comprehensive discussion of your casework with our office. He was quite familiar with our case after he had time to digest all the correspondence in the file.

While I have sent numerous requests to the U.S. Army through various liaisons for the Unionville Soldier to be interred at GAR, the Army has already made significant headway into the matter and have considered the GAR request. I regret that they did not choose GAR for the burial location.

The bullet items below are intended to simply outline the progress to date.

- **Actions Accomplished:**
 - Reinterment location selected by the U.S. Army is the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley, NV
 - The Army preference for the type of transfer agreement was determined and the BLM agreed. There is a MOU and MOA in place between the U.S. Army and the BLM.
 - The Nevada State Museum has been notified of the intent to transfer and has been asked to prepare the remains for legal and physical transfer.

- **Affecting Timeline:**
 - The U.S. Army engagement with the physical transfer is estimated to be no less than 3 months out. (I am told it will be very swift from that point forward. The process will be measured in days from the physical transfer to ceremony and burial.)
- **Actions in Process:**
 - The BLM is coordinating meetings to draft deaccession and transfer ownership documents.
 - I have requested meeting(s) with U.S. Army, Tribal Liaison, BLM, NVSM, NNVMC Congressional Office to discuss your needs regarding ceremony
 - The BLM will facilitate the NVSM Deaccession and transfer of custody.
 - NVSM deaccessions and prepares the remains for transfer of custody and travel.
 - BLM supplies documentation to facilitate transfer of property with the U.S. Army.
- **Actions Planned / TBD:**
 - Potential to request of NVSM, should the transfer on paper occur ahead of the possibility to make a physical transfer of the remains, that they continue to hold the burial until Army is ready to take physical possession.
 - Meetings with U.S. Army, Tribal Liaison, BLM, NVSM, NNVMC
 - BLM prepares internally for participation in transfer and ceremony
 - Army takes physical possession and makes last preparations for ceremony
 - The Army will reach out to you regarding ceremony plans.

At this time, I will request an outline of your needs for the ceremony please. Once it is submitted, it cannot be added to or changed in any way, so please make sure your requests are all detailed specifically. I would like to please receive that before December 19th from you in writing please. It will be passed on directly to the U.S. Army.

Once I submit your requests for the ceremony, I will be checking in with the NVSM to check on progress with preparation and looking for an estimated timeline. I am also planning discussions with NVSM, Dr. Trimble, U.S. Army, the Tribal liaison, BLM, and NNVMC following your submission.

- 2). We have until December 19th to submit an outline of our proposed ceremony. Things to include:
 - a). Base it on one of the rituals in the SUVCW manual.
 - b). I talked to Mike Creager of the 1st NV Cav. They wish to participate and have done so in other similar events – riderless horse?
 - c). Ray Ahrenholtz needs to be recognized as this was one of his pet projects before he got sick, and he and I went to Nevada Museum facility to view the remains.
 - d). Include our SVR unit. All Camp 25 brothers are also members of Battery A, 3rd US Artillery SVR thanks to Wayne Eder for footing our dues.
 - e). Include Fran to represent the Women’s Relief Corps.
 - f). Musket salute
 - g). Keep it solemn, free of fanfare, and of reasonable length
- B). GAR Cemetery – Fran Styron– Nothing to report.
- C). Upcoming activities.
 - 1). 2/21/2026: George Washington Birthday Lunch at Red Hawk at 11:00a.m.
 - 2). 2/28/2026: Event involving Kim Harris’ portrayal of Elizabeth Van Lew.
 - 3). 5/25/2026: GAR Cemetery Memorial Day service, 9 am.
 - 4). 6/14/2026: Dave Perdue proposed a Flag Day activity at GAR Cemetery. SAR Flag Day event at Carson City
 - 5). 7/4/2026: Reading of the DOI and ringing of the Liberty Bell.
 - 6). 7/8/2026: Reading of the DOI at Sparks Marina (proposed)
- D). Older Old Business
 - 1). Suggestion was made for a monument to the four guys buried at Smoke Creek. Donn Dalton said he was going to order the standard VA headstone for each of the 4 soldiers buried there.

E). Really old business on back burner – may never be off the back burner, but included here as not forgotten

- 1). James Reid MOH
- 2). Kane/Keenan MOH

XIV). New Business

A). Proposal to amend the by-laws [see item V.H. above]

B). Election of officers: The following Brothers were elected and sworn in

- 1). Commander – David Perdue
- 2). Senior Vice Commander – Donn Dalton
- 3). Junior Vice Commander – Cody Ehlers
- 4). Secretary - Bill Newman
- 5). Treasurer – Kurt Dietrich
- 6). Councilmen (3) – Richard Dalton, Jay Dickey, David Hess.

C). MOTION to approve slate of officers M/S (Stoecklin/Dalton) PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

D). Dept. Commander Owen Stiles gave David Davis permission as Dept. Historian to swear in the new officers and they were duly sworn in.

E). MOTION to endorse Wayne Eder for Department Commander in the ad we place in the Department Encampment Program. M/S (Perdue/Hess). PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

F). All 2025 appointed positions will carry forward to 2026.

XV). Good of the Order

A). Since we now have a canon, and we are all members of Battery A, 3rd US Artillery SVR, Wayne Eder, Commander of the unit, sent a spreadsheet with potential ranks. Once the Camp roster is updated early next year, Wayne’s spreadsheet will be updated.

Rank	Last	First
Captain (Cmdr)	Eder	Wayne
2nd Lieutenant	Davis	David
Private	Wood	Francis
Private	Frady	Steve
Private	Dalton	Don
Private	Bertea	Alexander
Private	Frady	Michael
Private	Davis	Tyrone
Private	Huffman	Donald
Private	Linscott	Roger
Sergeant	Hess	David
Private	Whitman	Frank
Private	Dietrich	Kurt
Private	Dickey	Jonathan
Private	Ehlers	Cody
Private	Jucket	Michael
Private	Lorenz	Randall
Private	Perdue	David
Private	Stanfield	Walter
Private	Stoecklin	Robert
Private	Carson	Edward
Private	Carson	Daniel
Private	Dalton	Richard
Private	Ehlers	Cody
Private	Fitch	Alan
Private	Smith	Courtney

B). Next meeting – February 22, 2026.

C). Future meetings – April 12, June 7, August 16, October 18, December 13.

XVI). Closing

A). Prayer – Chaplain Donn Dalton

Respectfully submitted,
David Fredric Hess, Acting Secretary

General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25
Department of California and Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

RECENT CAMP ORDERS

See Camp Order No. 1 at the end of this newsletter. For a complete list, see the Camp website: <https://suvpac.org/camp25orders/>.

RECENT DEPARTMENT ORDERS

Department Order No. 4 issued December 20, 2025, was only order issued since last August. It appoints Dean R. Smith of Rosecrans Camp 2 as Department ROTC/JROTC Coordinator. For a complete list, see the Department website: <https://suvpac.org/orders/>.

RECENT GENERAL ORDERS

One new General Order by Commander-in-Chief Kevin P. Tucker have been announced since the last issue of the Carlin Camp Dispatch was posted. General Order No. 10 establishes the Spirit of Fraternity Award. For a complete list of General Orders back to 1994, please see the National website: <https://suvcw.org/general-orders-of-the-commander-in-chief>.

SHORT BIOGRAPHIES OF OFFICERS OF THE FIRST NEVADA VOLUNTEERS

By David A. Davis PCC, Carlin Camp 25 Historian, and Memorials Officer

In the May 2025 issue of the Carlin Camp Dispatch, a list of officers in the First Nevada Cavalry and Infantry was given. From time to time, short biographies of some of these officers will also be presented. Following is one for Andrew J. Close.

ANDREW JACKSON CLOSE

Company A, 1st Nevada Infantry

There is little to go on about the early life of Andrew Jackson Close. He was born in Pennsylvania about 1825. His father was also born in Pennsylvania, and his mother was born in Maryland. While it may only be a coincidence, the 1850 Census for Flint River Twp., Iowa, shows a Jacob Close, age 50 and born in Pennsylvania, and his wife Mary, age 43 born in Maryland. Jacob was a farmer with \$200 in real estate. They had Henry, Mary Ann and Catherine, ages 16, 12, and 10 respectively, all born in Ohio. They also had Sarah and Amanda, ages 8 and 6 respectively, both born in Iowa.

In a letter in his service records, he said he was one of the oldest residents in California, which hints that he may have come during the Gold Rush. He also stated knowing a number of prominent people in San Francisco, which indicated he lived in or near that city. While it is not certain to be the same man, an A.J. Close lived in the Petaluma area in 1858 and 1859. In early 1858, this Close discovered deposits “a short distance” from Petaluma reportedly containing at least 40% copper as well as either platinum or tellurium “whichever it may prove to be”. By June 1860, he was working as a laborer in Point Reyes, California. According to his enlistment record, his occupation was a mason, and he was 5 feet, 9 inches tall with a fair complexion, brown hair, and blue eyes.

The War of the Rebellion started when Confederate forces commenced firing upon Fort Sumpter on April 12, 1861. Through the overland telegraph and Pony Express, the news reached Fort Churchill on the 24th. Fort Churchill was manned by units of the U.S. 3rd Artillery, 6th Infantry, and 1st Dragoons. In July 1861, California was called upon to begin supplying troops to guard the overland mail routes and later to patrol the West. The US troops were relieved at Fort Churchill by the 2nd California Cavalry in late 1861. On April 2, 1863, Nevada Territory was called upon to supply troops to supplement the California troops, which were being stretched thin.

Close was commissioned captain of Co. A 1st Nevada Infantry on June 1, 1863, by acting Governor Orion Clemens. His examination was reported as satisfactory, though the documents appear to be missing from his files. He set up a recruitment office in Silver City. Officers had to foot the bill, and Close found recruitment for an infantry company was a bust. He spent \$200 by June 28th without any enlistments. At that time, he complained that a number of prospects would be interested in enlisting into a cavalry unit, and he

could raise a cavalry company in 30 days. He claimed to be well liked in the community, and men would either give up or transfer to other parties "good claims" to join a cavalry unit he would be captain of. Acting Governor Clemens concurred, and Close had his commission changed to Captain of Co. C 1st Nevada Cavalry on July 8.

Close apparently again had trouble recruiting enough men even for a cavalry company and by late September only had 32 recruits a number of whom went to other companies. His efforts were compared to those of Captain Elias Zabriskie, who recruited cavalry Co. A, and Captain Noyes Baldwin, who recruited cavalry Co. B. Both men filled their companies in what was considered a more timely manner. It was noted that Zabriskie and Baldwin had recruited enough men to have 1st and 2nd lieutenants commissioned to help with their recruitment, while Close refused help. Also, a man named Johnson had been commissioned a lieutenant for Co. C before Close was commissioned for Co. C, but Close refused his help. Governor James Nye noted that Close had not recruited enough men to justify having a 2nd lieutenant, though Close disputed this. Governor Nye revoked Close's commission on September 18th.

W. Hayden, Probate Judge of Lyon County, sent a letter dated September 29th to General George Wright, Commander of the Department of the Pacific. Hayden said he had known Close for almost two years in California and vouched for his "high moral character as a gentleman and a soldier". He said there was a "misrepresentation of the facts". He did not think the time allotted to Close to recruit enough men for Co. C was too long compared to the time taken by Zabriskie or Baldwin, and that Close should have his commission reinstated.

Close's commission as captain was reinstated by Governor Nye by March 6, 1864, but again for Co. A 1st Nevada Infantry. Close reopened a recruiting station in Silver City, and by April, 27 men had enlisted. Also, Close had spent \$1300 in gold out of his own pocket and wanted to be reimbursed. The existing records do not say if he ever was reimbursed.

On June 27th, Governor Nye sent a notice to Close. Unfortunately, it stated that on May 19th, the Adjutant General's Office at the War Department in Washington, DC, issued Special Order 181 discontinuing recruitment for a Nevada Infantry Regiment, and those recruited up to that point were to be consolidated into as many companies of maximum strength as the numbers would allow. Therefore, Governor Nye revoked Close's commission as captain of Co. A.

As this was playing out, Malachai R. Hassett had passed his officer's examination on October 9, 1863, for a commission as captain for Co. C 1st Nevada Infantry. He commenced recruitment starting in December 1863 in Virginia City and expanded into Gold Hill and Carson City. As of March 23rd, he had recruited 52 men. The details are not clear after this point, but as per Special Order 181, the men recruited for the 1st Nevada Infantry were consolidated into three companies. Co. A was completed in June with Hassett as captain, likely much to Close's chagrin. Co. A would ultimately total 123 men (37 would eventually desert).

On June 28, 1864, in Carson City, Close enlisted in Co. A 1st Nevada Infantry as a 1st lieutenant for three years. He was mustered in the same day at Fort Churchill. An infantry lieutenant's monthly pay was \$50 with a \$25 monthly bonus from the state. The average Comstock miner earned about \$104 per month. Close was present at Fort Churchill until August 8th when Hassett and Co. A went on detached service to the Smoke Creek area and was stationed at Camp Susan near Susanville.

On August 24th, 30 men under Close were sent on scout in Surprise Valley in northeastern California. Trouble with Close ensued. 2nd Lieutenant Daniel Vanderhoof later reported to Major Charles McDermit, Commander of Fort Churchill, that starting the 25th, "Close became very abusive and tyrannical to his officers and men" including to Vanderhoof himself. Some of the men who otherwise had no trouble doing their duties came to Vanderhoof and threatened to desert. Vanderhoof was barely able to keep them from doing so although two men did desert. On September 15th Vanderhoof went on detached service to Susanville. While he was away, the entire detachment almost mutinied against Close when he put them on short rations and refused to weigh out beef to them. Also, Close left without reason for three days and was drunk while away according to local "prominent citizens". On December 8th, Vanderhoof was at the blacksmith shop in Susanville having chains put on some prisoners. Close came in, drew his revolver on a prisoner named Barrett who was chained, and threatened to "blow his brains out". He put a gag in Barrett's mouth and twisted it so violently, it ripped two teeth out. Vanderhoof also stated that while in camp, he did all the company duty, scouting, and marching.

Hassett was more than aware of Close's behavior, which included insults to him and putting up obstacles to his commanding of the company. Also, when Close was among civilians, he spread false rumors about Hassett. His behavior was demoralizing the company and ruining Hassett's reputation. Hassett apparently had much more tolerance than most superior officers as he had hoped Close would "reform and try and do his duty as an officer and a gentleman". His hope failed, and he was finally forced to press charges. Close returned to Fort Churchill at the end of December and was placed under arrest on January 1,

1865. He was court-martialed and ordered to pay \$60 per month for four calendar months. Apparently, the damage was done. Hassett resigned his commission on January 6 due to rumors partly from civilians questioning his loyalty.

At Fort Churchill, Battalion Order No. 18 of March 18 attached Close to Co. C 1st Nevada Infantry as Acting Assistant Quartermaster and Assistant Commissary of Subsistence. Co. C was under the command of Captain John G. Kelley. Kelley received orders in January to move Co. C from Fort Churchill to Fort Independence in the Owens River Valley, California. The post had been abandoned since October 1863, but recent trouble with the Indians in the area required immediate attention. Co. C arrived at Fort Independence on April 1st. Apparently, Close was sent separately to Fort Independence around the beginning of April.

Pacific Department Special Order 82 dated April 12th required Kelley to report to the Department in San Francisco and be gone 15 days. He returned, but Pacific Department Special Order 82 dated May 2nd appointed him Assistant Commissary of Musters for the troops stationed in the Owens River Valley and required him to meet with Colonel Washington Seawell, Department Commissary of Musters, for instructions. During his absences, Close was placed in command of the post, but as commander, was not entitled to commutation for fuel and quarters.

A civilian physician, Dr. H.M. Cronkhite, was appointed assistant surgeon to Fort Churchill on December 29th and was sent to Fort Independence with Co. C. Close took a dislike to Cronkhite. Close refused to look at the hospital book when sent to him by Cronkhite for inspection. Close also swore at Cronkhite calling him a crazy fool, damned fool, and quack among other things as well as claiming he had no diploma. The remarks were made in front of enlisted men. Close refused to issue some of the rations to sick men in the post hospital despite the rations having been previously requisitioned. Close threatened to have Cronkhite arrested and driven off the post. Finally, Close did have him arrested and placed in the guardhouse. A laundress was very sick in the post hospital and needed to see a doctor. Close would not let Cronkhite out to see her, and she died.

Kelly returned, and due largely to reports of Close's behavior towards Dr. Cronkhite, an investigation was conducted at Fort Independence on May 26th and 27th. Close denied the accusations and claimed Cronkhite was derelict in his duties. The findings went against Close. Kelley had him arrested on June 8th and ordered him back to Fort Churchill. The charges were: 1) Refusal to issue the full amount of rations due the sick in the hospital; 2) Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman; and 3) Usurpation of illegal and tyrannical authority. To avoid another court-martial, Close resigned June 12th. In Special Order No. 125 from the Department of the Pacific Headquarters dated the same day, Close's resignation was accepted.

During Close's time in the service, Utah Territory and Nevada Territory (State after October 31, 1864) made up the Military District of Utah which was in the Department of the Pacific. The headquarters were at Camp Douglas in Salt Lake City, and the commander was Colonel, later Brigadier General, Patrick Conner. On February 17, 1865, the District of Utah was moved into the Department of Missouri.

After his stint in the First Nevada Infantry, Close returned to the Owens River Valley. By August 16, 1866, he was a mason residing in the town of Independence (1870 population: 400). In June 1870, he was working there as a stone and brick mason and owned \$1000 in real estate. In September 1870, he advertised the Kearsarge Lime Works. Kearsarge is about 4.5 miles east of Independence. He was prepared to furnish Owens Valley residents "a first rate article of lime". However, all requests needed to be sent immediately as it was impossible to burn in the winter. In 1870 and 1871, he was a member of the Independence Engine Co. No.1 and was elected its secretary. His membership apparently lapsed after 1872.

In June 1871, Close and Fredrick (Fred) Fink of Cerro Gordo advertised as Close and Fink under Masonry in the local newspaper. Cerro Gordo (1870 population: 474) was a mining camp about 25 miles southeast of Independence. They advertised to "Build all description of houses, furnaces, etc., in Masonry. Contracts taken and estimates made". Fink was a 33-year-old miner born in Ohio. The lime and masonry businesses were apparently not that successful. In September 1872, Close was prospecting for placer gold in the gulches a few miles west of Independence. He claimed the results were favorable enough for him to propose carrying on sluice-washing in the winter. However, in May 1873, he turned in a bill for \$20 to Inyo County for planting trees in the Court House Square. In early 1875, Close, again partnered with Fred Fink, was prospecting at Cerro Gordo. Shortly afterwards, Close moved to Elko County, Nevada.

In 1875, he was a mason living in the household of A.L. Sherman. Sherman was a 62-year-old stock dealer born in Massachusetts. He and his wife G.E. and brother L.A. Sherman had a ranch about nine miles west of Elko.

In 1876, Close had a limestone quarry about five miles from Winnemucca. He produced lime and delivered it to town for 1.5 cents per pound. He apparently moved to Tuscarora later that year. Tuscarora is about 50 miles northwest of Elko and underwent a silver boom with the population exploding from about 120 in 1870 to about 1500 in 1879. In 1877, the "Progressive Lying Club" was organized in Tuscarora, and Close

was elected its Grand Marshall. However, in November 1878, Close was in Grantsville, Nevada, superintending the mason work on a new mill. Grantsville was a mining camp in northwestern Nye County. Grantsville (1880 population: about 800) was in the Union Mining District. A peak in silver mining commenced around 1872 with production remaining relatively until about 1880 resulting in a surge of development in Grantsville commencing about 1877.

In June 1880, Close was a stone and brick mason living in Columbia Twp., Elko County. He was apparently living in the same dwelling as three other men. They were H.G. McHenry, fireman, age 48, born in New York; John Kelly, fireman, age 21, born in Rhode Island; and Hugh Smith, blacksmith, age 44, born in Texas. During the census year, Close had been unemployed for 5 months and the other men for 4 months each. Columbia (1880 population: 95) was a town in the Columbia (later Aura) Mining District in the Bull Run Mountains almost 60 miles north of Elko. The town was active into the early 1900s but no longer exists.

Close was in Elko County at least through September 24, 1882, when he arrived in Elko by stage "from the north" (Columbia?) with Constable W.H. Gleason. He never married or had children and apparently never applied for a pension or membership in a G.A.R. post. Nothing for certain was found about Andrew Jackson Close after 1882 at time of this writing.

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**GENERAL WILLIAM PASSMORE CARLIN CAMP NO. 25
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA AND PACIFIC
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**

**CAMP ORDER No. 1
Series 2026**

By the authority vested in me as Commander of General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25, Department of California, and Pacific, by the Camp Bylaws, the Department Bylaws, the National Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby ordered the Camp officers for 2026 are follows:

1). As per the Camp election held December 15, 2025, the following elected Camp officers are:

Commander: David J. Perdue
Senior Vice Commander: Donn M. Dalton
Junior Vice Commander: Cody S. Ehlers
Secretary: William J. Newman Jr.
Treasurer: Kurt Dietrich, PCC
Camp Council: 1. Richard L. Dalton; 2. Jonathan C. Dickey 3. David F. Hess

2). The appointed Camp officers are:

Chaplain: Donn M. Dalton
Graves Registration Officer: Donald J. Huffman
Historian: David A. Davis, PCC
Civil War Memorials Officer: David A. Davis, PCC
Counselor: David F. Hess
Patriotic Instructor: Cody S. Ehlers
Color Bearer: Vacant
Guide: Bernie Hamm
Guard: Cody S. Ehlers
Signals Officer: David A. Davis, PCC
G.A.R. Highway Officer: David J. Perdue
Newsletter Editor: David A. Davis, PCC, PCC
Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator: Bernard Hamm
ROTC/JROTC/NDCC Award Coordinator: Kurt Dietrich, PCC

3). Unless otherwise noted, the Camp will meet at the Raley's Supermarket Community Room, 18144 Wedge Parkway, Reno, Nevada.

The foregoing Camp Order is proclaimed this 18th day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-five, in the City of Reno, County of Washoe, State of Nevada by David J. Perdue, Camp Commander of General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25, the Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

By Order of: /s/ David J. Perdue
Camp Commander
Gen. William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25

ATTEST: By: /s/ William J. Newman Jr.
Camp Secretary