



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. 3

Compiled and Edited by David A. Davis, PCC

May 2026

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The next meeting will be held at 2:00 pm on Sunday, June 7, 2026

Commander Perdue's domicile at 8495 Opal Station Drive, Golden Valley, NV 89506

CAMP 25 COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Brothers, it has finally warmed up, and we can commence our outdoor activities. Memorial Day at the GAR cemetery was especially good. We had a good crowd, maybe the best in years, including Congressman Amodei, a Reno City Council person, and a large number from the American Legion. Congressman Amodei has served for 15 years in the House and before that in the Nevada Senate and Assembly, after leaving the Army. It was my honor to shake his hand and thank him and for his service to Nevada and America. The ceremony went very smoothly and was most professional. We later fired volleys at Hillside and the Knights of Pythias Cemeteries. The cannon made its first public appearance at Memorial Day, and was admired by all, but like many first outings there were a few problems. One the way home one of the 50-year-old tires gave out. We knew that they were pretty bad and that they needed to be replaced for any long trips but were surprised that they didn't make a 20-mile round trip. We have replaced the tires and also the tongue jack. In keeping with the outdoor theme, I'm proposing that we have our next meeting at my house. The meeting will only be an hour, and then at 3 pm, we will BBQ. Please bring your families for our 1st annual BBQ. I'm also working on finding fencing for the Smoke Creek Cemetery and on flyers for the Genoa Cemetery. I encourage you to all support Brother Hess in his two Independence Day events in July, and then about the same time, Donn will have an outing to Smoke Creek to put some more time into honoring the 4 Soldiers buried there.

David Perdue

Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

MEMORIAL DAY

May 25, 2026

Commander Perdue has provided a good synopsis of the Camp's annual Memorial Day service which commenced at 9 am at the G.A.R. General O.M. Mitchel Post 69 cemetery at Hillside. The following are some photos of the event and some extras.



Camp 25
Commander
David Perdue



Dunkle Post 1
Commander
Chris Harvey



Camp 25 SVC Donn Dalton
and Commander Perdue at
grave of George Warren, last
G.A.R. Post 69 member.



Fran Tryon,
President W.R.C.,
Hillside Cemetery
Preservation
Foundation



Bret Banks, President
Hillside Cemetery
Preservation
Foundation



Camp 25 cannon. L-R: Bernie Hamm, Cody Ehlers,
Congressman Mark Amodei, David Perdue, Donn
Dalton, and David A. Davis



Camp 25 Councilman
Richard Dalton led
prayers at service



Firing salute. L-R: Art Salt, Roger Linscott, Cody Ehlers, Bernie Hamm, and Donn Dalton



Donn Dalton and nephew Heath Victor. Heath will be including this in a high school English report.



Flagpole, G.A.R. General O.M. Mitchel Post 69 Cemetery.



L-R: JVC/Patriotic Instructor Cody Ehlers, Roger Linscott, Spanish Springs High School English teacher Dr. Ray, Councilman Richard Dalton, Heath Victor, Art Salt, SVC/Chaplain Donn Dalton, Historian/Memorials Officer/Editor David A. Davis PCC.



Camp 25 Past Commander
John Riggs, Our Mother of
Sorrows Cemetery, Reno, NV



James Mitchell (bottom left), Cos. F, M, 8th OH Cavalry,
Our Mother of Sorrows Cemetery, Reno, NV.
G.A.R. Mitchel Post 69 member who died in 1917 when his
cabin near Verdi caught fire. Included here so as not to be
forgotten. David A. Davis has told the cemetery personnel he
was a veteran a dozen times and were shown proof. They keep
forgetting to put a flag on his grave like they do with all the other
veterans.



Founding Camp 25 member Don Guidici, Vinton Cem., Vinton, CA

Veterans' section,
Mountain View
Cemetery, Reno, NV



CAMP 25 CO-HOSTS LUNCHEON EVENT FEATURING KIM HARRIS AS ELIZABETH VAN LEW, “THE SOUTHERN BELLE WHO TOOK DOWN THE CONFEDERACY”

February 28, 2026



Kim Harris performing.



Elizabeth Van Lew
1818-1900

On February 28th, SUVCW Carlin Camp 25 was pleased to co-host a fun luncheon event at the J Resort in downtown Reno. Featured was noted Chautauquan Kim Harris who gave a riveting performance as Elizabeth Van Lew. The event attracted over 80 attendees who also enjoyed a very nice 3-course plated lunch.

Elizabeth Van Lew was a true southern belle and a staunch supporter of the Union Army. A high society woman living in Richmond, VA, she became one of the Union’s most gifted and dedicated spies and routinely put herself in harm’s way. She became the leader of an extensive spy ring for the Union Army and helped free scores of Union prisoners from the

infamous Libby Prison. She was honored by General Grant as one of the greatest spies of the Civil War.

Among our honored guests were representatives of the Hillside Cemetery Preservation Foundation, a non-profit organization that also maintains the Grand Army of the Republic General O.M. Mitchel Post 69 cemetery in Reno, where many Civil War veterans are buried. SUVCW brother Jay Dickey presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Fran Tryon (in Civil War garb), who leads the Foundation’s effort to preserve the GAR cemetery and to honor the memory of these veterans who fought for the Union cause.

SUVCW also wishes to thank our co-host, American Heritage Partners, a Nevada non-profit which regularly hosts educational programs on various subjects related to American history. Camp 25 looks forward to future collaborations with AHP.



Fran receiving Certificate of Appreciation from Jay Dickey

JVC CODY EHLERS COMPLETES ELECTRICIAN’S PROGRAM

Two months ago, Camp Junior Vice Commander and Patriotic Instructor Brother Cody Ehlers received his diploma for completion of his 5-year electrician apprenticeship and is now officially a licensed Journeyman electrician. On May 22nd, he received the top award for “Outstanding Apprentice” in his Class of 2026 out of a field of 60 other worthy candidates who also received their Journeyman licenses. The event was held in the Grand Ballroom at the Atlantis, and Cody received an extended round of applause.



OTHER NEWS

CHANGE OF MEETING TIME

Camp 25 will start its future meetings 1 hour later, at 2 pm. After comments at the last Camp meeting, it has been decided that starting the meeting later will allow those that attend church a little more time to finish their morning services and get to our meeting without overdue rush. It will also add another hour to do Sunday chores or just enjoy the day before the Camp meeting. We know that not all will be overjoyed with this change, and if desired we can go back.

JUNE MEETING AT COMMANDER PERDUE'S HOUSE

Commander Perdue has suggested several times that the Camp occasionally hold a meeting in conjunction with an outing. So, since he will be batching it for two weeks in June, he has decided that we will hold our June 7th meeting at his place, followed by a BBQ.

PARTICIPATION IN FALLON EVENT CANCELLED

Camp 25's potential participation in the Fallon De Golyer Horse and Bull Bash has been called off. The event will be held in Fallon on June 7th. Camp Junior Vice Commander and Patriotic Instructor Cody Ehlers was the Camp's point of contact. Despite his efforts, we would have been placed near the Civil War reenactors but in a less-than-ideal spot for visibility. Therefore, after months of discussing participating, it was deemed not worth the effort to field.

DAVID A. DAVIS PCC AND THE SONS OF SPANISH AMERICAN WAR VETERANS

Camp 25 Historian/Memorials Officer/Signals Officer/Editor David A. Davis PCC reinstated his membership in the Sons of Spanish American War Veterans and joined the Buckey O'Neill Camp No. 175 in AZ. The SSAWV contains about 400 members, and active Camps are few and far between. The United Spanish War Veterans organized in 1904 and the SSAWV was founded in 1927. Nevada had its own USWV Department and about 10 camps, all of which were defunct by 1971. The last deed to the GAR Post 69 Cemetery at Hillside was to the USWV Barry Camp 7. Unfortunately, the USWV did not deed their properties to the SSAWV. Davis's ancestor is his father's mother's father, Clarence Oakerson, 1878-1951, who served in the occupation forces in Cuba in Co. L, 2nd US Cavalry and Co. 19, US Coast Artillery. In the past, the SSAWV had liaison officers with the SUCVW.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

June 10, 2026

The Sacramento Civil War Round Table, which meets on the second Wednesday of each month, will hold its next two meetings on June 10th, 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. The presentation for June was yet to be determined at the time of this writing. See the website at <http://www.sacramentocwrt.com> for more information.

ALCATRAZ LIVING HISTORY DAY

June 20, 2026

Friends of the Civil War on Alcatraz will hold a living history on Alcatraz Island starting at 9 am on June 20th. The event is free, but to attend, a day tour ticket must be booked in advance at <https://www.AlcatrazCityCruises.com>. During the Rebellion and long before the Federal penitentiary built there was even thought of, Alcatraz contained heavily fortified Fort Alcatraz and was the main defense for San Francisco Bay. For general information about Alcatraz Island see the National Park Service at <https://www.nps.gov/alca/index.htm> and Friends of the Civil War on Alcatraz at www.friendsofcivilwaralcatraz.org.

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.

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. Camp 25 will be supporting this event.

READING OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

July 8, 2026

David Hess and Nevada 250th Commission will host, America 250th Reading of The Declaration of Independence which will coincide with the nationwide 250th Anniversary observation. This will include reading of the Declaration of Independence and other attractions. The Battleborn Patriots Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard will attend. The event will be held between 3 and 5 pm on July 8th at the Veterans Memorial Plaza, Sparks Marina, 300 Howard Drive, Sparks, NV. See the website <https://www.battleborn-sar.com/event/america-250th-reading-of-the-declaration-of-independence/> 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>.

VIRGINIA CITY LABOR DAY PARADE

September 7, 2026

Virginia City will hold its Labor Day parade between noon and 1 pm on C Street on September 7th. Camp 25 will have an entry in it. See the website <https://visitvirginiacitynv.com/event/labor-day-parade/> for more information.

JOHANA SHINE TENT 96 MEETINGS

August 17, and November 15, 2026

The Johana Shine Tent 96 of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War holds quarterly meetings via Zoom. The next meetings are at 1:30 PM on Sunday August 17, and November 15, 2026. For more information contact Suzanne Malek at smalek@tmcc.edu.

NEVADA DAY

October 31, 2026

The Nevada Day parade will be held Saturday, October 31, 2026, in Carson City. The theme is "Pumpkin, Pioneers, and Tall Tales". Camp 25 will have an entry in it. See the website https://www.nevadaday.com/?srsltid=AfmBOor8I8mPkZxdL1hErDR1mdXNQ_scd21t-NaVE-EkeJoXuO4a6XKT for more information.

MAHON RANCH CIVIL WAR DAYS

November 6-8, 2026

Reenactors of the American Civil War (RACW) will hold their annual Mahon Ranch Civil War Days near Elk Grove (about 10 miles SE of Sacramento), CA, from Friday November 6th through Sunday November 8th. The event is free to the public and will involve several skirmishes with a school day on Friday. See the website <https://www.racw.org/calendar-of-events/> for more information.

MEETING – APRIL 12, 2026

SONS of UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
GENERAL WILLIAM PASSMORE
CARLIN CAMP 25
DEPARTMENT of CALIFORNIA AND PACIFIC

Sunday, April 12, 2026
Raley's Super Market Community Room
18144 Wedge Pkwy, Reno, Nevada

I). Opening

- 1). Zoom link established
- 2). Called the Roll of Officers and Men and established a quorum. Secretary – Roll Call - David A. Davis, Donn Dalton, Bill Newman, David Hess, Bernie Hamm, David Perdue and by Zoom Don Huffman and Cody Ehlers
- 3). Meeting called to order by Commander Perdue at 1306 hours
- 4). Reviewed the Principles of the Organizations
 - a). FRATERNITY- Color Blue of the flag; denoting Fraternity and Faithfulness.
 - b). CHARITY- White of the flag; denoting Charity and Purity.
 - c). LOYALTY - Red of the flag; denoting Patriotism, Strength and Courage.
- 5). Invocation – Chaplain Donn Dalton
- 6). Pledge of Allegiance
- 7). Introduction of guests – Jenny Davis

II). Commander's Introduction and Report

- 1). Goals
 - a). Keep the meetings down to 1.5 hours
 - b). Determine if Sunday is still the best day of the week or would a weeknight be better? Discussion: Brother Davis said to keep it as is. Weekday evenings mean driving at night in winter; Brother Dickey wanted to change day and time; Brother Ehlers works during weekend days and requested no evenings; Brother Hess is used to weekends but wanted to start an hour earlier though that may affect those going to church; Brother Newman was good for Sundays because he other meetings during the week.
 - c). Implement two ongoing projects a year, one in active progress and one in planning/prep. Smoke Creek and Genoa in planning. The Brothers agreed to start a go-fund-me account for Genoa with a \$5000 goal to cover the monument, a plaque naming corporate and large amount donors, and concrete.
 - d). Define and support one or more outside charities that the members would like to support with time or money. Proposed:
 - i). Northern Nevada Veterans Alliance - <https://nnveteranalliance.org/>
 - ii). Veterans Guest House - veteransguesthouse.org
 - iii). Eddy House - <https://eddyhouse.org/>
 - iv). Commander Perdue asked if members have something with a passion for
 - e). Discussed support to the GAR Cemetery and Commander Perdue will call a work day to coincide with an upcoming Hillside workday.
- 2). Commander Perdue discussed the Department Encampment
- 3). Cannon report – A workday was held on March 21st. Later Brothers Perdue and Donn Dalton stabilized the wheels with shims, the metal parts were cleaned and primed and a custom blended green paint was applied to the carriage. The wheels and changes still need work. Brother Davis is compiling a binder with safety guides, historical records and training materials. The Camp will self-organize training with help from Dept. Commander Eder and musket instructor Brandon from SUVCW. A minimum of four trained members is required for operation. We need to search of NRA and NPS for certified training and safety standards before it can be fired in public. Brother Hess wants it to be ready for the 250th anniversary of the reading of the Declaration of Independence at the Sparks Marina

III). Secretary's Report – Brother Newman

- 1). The February Minutes are in March Carlin Dispatch. Motion to approve made by Jay Dickey. 2nd by David Hess. All approved.

IV). Treasurer's Report

- 1). Reported on the Status of Dues Payments
- 2). Treasury Report: general \$3,057.06, Cannon Fund \$400.00, Total: \$3,457.06
- 3). Motion to approve by Dave Hess. 2nd Jay Dickey. All approved.
- 4). Other business – Form 27 needs to be filed by treasurer by April 15th. David Hess filled 990N tax form. New camp roster needs to be updated.

V). Senior Vice Commander's Report Brother Donn Dalton

- 1). Discussed Wreath Across America funds for the wreaths and what to do with any leftover wreaths. We have exceeded the amount required for GAR and Hillside cemeteries.
- 2). Smoke Creek Project - discussion of placement of a metal fence and placing of US headstones on fallen soldier's graves. Brother Perdue said that he would fund the metal fence and invited other to help. Brother D. Dalton will continue to look into headstones with the VA. He also suggested using a drone to find the camp.

VI). Junior Vice Commander's Report (Brother Ehlers) – working out the camp not being reenactors but rather a genealogy organization. Commander Perdue will call the event organizers. Brother Ehlers would like to see the Camp enter the Nevada Day parade. Motion to enter by D. Davis. 2nd by Bernie Hamm. All approved

VII). Historian, Memorials, and GAR Highway Officer's Report (Brother Davis)

VIII). Graves Registration Officer's Report (Brother Huffman) – Brother Huffman gave a verbal report of his current efforts.

IX). ROTC Report (Brother Dietrich) – Brother Dietrich was not present, but Commander Perdue read an email that he had received from Brother Dietrich, which stated only two schools had responded and that UNR was the only one to submit the form needed to date. Also, awards had yet to be received from the Department.

X). Eagle Scout Coordinator's Report (Brother Hamm) had Eagle Scout award dinner for award of Eagle Scout projects. Patriotic award for Eagle Scout of GAR Cemetery

XI). Patriotic Instructor's Report (Brother Ehlers) – Nothing to Report

XII). Other Officers' Reports

- 1). Discussed Unionville Soldier - Brother Davis – No word received from the Army Cemeteries but will keep following up.
- 2). Discussed Riggs Ridge – Brother Davis reported word had not been received from the Feds, but in examining the most recent map the new name has been applied. Commander Perdue suggests a victory article in the newsletter and Brother Davis assured that it would be done.

XIII). Old/Continuing Business

- 1). Amendment of the by-laws, David Hess - Brother Hess is working on the amendments and will try to get the new wording out by May 30th for the next meeting.
- 2). GAR Cemetery - Donn Dalton - An Eagle Scout project by Troop 1 has installed three new benches and repaired the old ones. They will be back for Memorial Day.

XIV). Upcoming activities

- 1). Projects
 - a). Smoke Creek - Brother Donn Dalton
 - b). Genoa Marker - Brother Ehlers
- 2). Activities

- a). 5/23/2026: Bowers Mansion Museum Opening, but it is undetermined if they will have a public event.
- b). 5/25/2026: GAR Cemetery Memorial Day service, 9 am. (Brothers Perdue and Donn Dalton)
- c). 6/7/2026: Fallon De Golyer Horse and Bull Bash (Brother Ehlers) will have displays and the cannon
- d). 7/4/2026: Ringing of the Liberty Bell (Brother Hess)
- e). 7/8/2026: SAR Reading of the Declaration of Independence (Brother Hess)
- f). 10/31/2026: Nevada Day Parade

XV). New Business

- 1). No new applications to approve

XVI). Good of the Order

- 1). Perdue promoted Donn Dalton to Sergeant and Cody Elder to Corporal in the local section of the Sons of Veterans Reserve. Donn was given a certificate of promotion
- 2). Commager Perdue presented PCC Davis a certificate award from the Department Encampment.
- 3). The next meeting will be June 7, 2026

XVII). Closing

- 1). Prayer – Chaplain Donn Dalton
- 2). Dismissed at 1441 (Meeting duration: 1 hour and 35 minutes)

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Newman, Secretary

General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25

Department of California and Pacific

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

HISTORY AND MEMORIALS REPORT

April 12, 2026

David A. Davis, PCC General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25

Camp Historian/Civil War Memorials Officer.

UNIONVILLE REMAINS UPDATE

In e-mailed Debbie Balsinger, aid to Congressman Amodei, concerning the status of the Unionville remains. In previous e-mail correspondence, she said the Army approved burial at the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley, and that we would be contacted about participating in the service. I have not been contacted. Her response of April 7, 2026, was:

Good afternoon, David!

I reached out on 3/13/2026 for an update, but have not received any response yet.

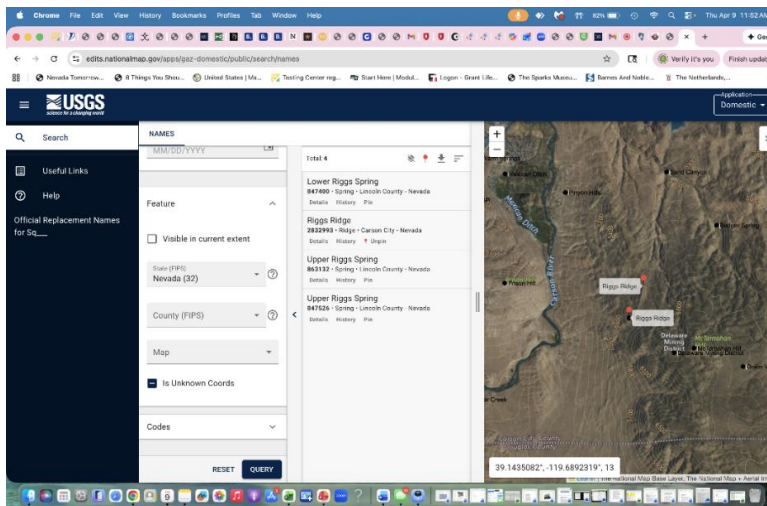
Sincerely,

Debbie

RIGGS RIDGE UPDATE

As noted in previous reports, the proposed name of Riggs Ridge for the low ridge east of Carson City was passed by the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names and sent to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names for final approval. I e-mailed Christine Johnson who shepherded the name through about the name's status. Her response of April 9, 2026 was:

I didn't get an official notice, apparently you didn't either? Thank you for poking me on this - I just checked and what I can tell you is - it is in the Geographic Names Information System:




Feature Details

Feature ID	2832993	
Name	Riggs Ridge	
Class	Ridge	
Feature Code	Ridge	
Location	Carson City - Nevada	
Citation	Source Type	Text
	Reference	US
	Originator	U.S. Board on Geographic Names
	Notes	Board decisions referenced after Phase I data compilation or staff researched non-controversial names.
	Distribution Date	September 11, 2025
	Title	Geographic Names Post Phase I Board/Staff Revisions
	Edition	
	Original Citation	
Entry Date	September 12, 2025	
*Elevation	1800 meters / 5906 feet	
Designations		
History	Named for John Arthur Riggs (1946–2016), decorated veteran, researcher for Nevada Place Names, prison educator and administrator, and Nevada Junior Chamber of Commerce member.	
Description	Trends NNW-SSE E of the Carson River and W of Brunswick Canyon and Sand Canyon S to a point NW of McTarnahan Hill	

Census Code	Class Code	GSA Code	OPM Code
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Variant Names

Name Asc

Name	In Part	Originator	Reference	Series Name	Publication Date	Source URL	Title	Edition	Notes	Add Info
										

Decisions

Name	Date	Authority	Type
Riggs Ridge	September 11, 2025	Board Decision	Official

Decision Cards

Filename

Coordinates

Sequence	Coordinates	Map	State
1	39.1175120, -119.6792200 / 39° 7' 3.04" N, 119° 40' 45.19" W	McTarnahan Hill	NV
2	39.1257570, -119.6744160 / 39° 7' 32.73" N, 119° 40' 27.90" W	New Empire	NV

Government Units

Sequence	State or Equivalent	County or Equivalent
1	Nevada	Carson City

Map



RECENT CAMP ORDERS

No new Camp orders have recently been issued. For a complete list, see the Camp website: <https://suvpac.org/camp25orders/>.

RECENT DEPARTMENT ORDERS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

One Dept. Communique and one new Dept. Order has recently been issued. Dept. Communique No. 2 contains a flyer about the 179th Anniversary commemorating the first July 4th raising of the American flag in Los Angeles. The event will be held 10-11 am, July 4, 2026, at the Fort Moore Pioneer Memorial in Los Angeles. For details and a complete list of Dept. Orders back to 2001, see the Department website: <https://suvpac.org/orders/>.

RECENT GENERAL ORDERS

Five General Orders (GO) and three Special Orders (SO) have recently been issued. GO No. 11 dated March 23rd allowed for the replacement of Chapman-Compliment Camp 2's original charter which was damaged during a botched move. GO No. 12 dated March 23rd allowed for the replacement of Francis E. Warren Camp 4's original charter which was lost when a former brother left the Order and took the charter with him to another state. GO No. 13 dated April 25th revoked the charter of Satuit Camp 3188 in the Dept. of MA. The Camp held a meeting a voted to disband. GO No. 14 dated April 27th recommended tightening administrative access to Department and Camp digital assets. GO No. 14 dated May 8th was in recognition of the rights and privileges of honorary Past Commander-in-Chief Robert J. Wolz. SO No. 1 dated February 14th corrected a article in "The Banner" wrongly attributing a Camp with a grave dedication that was marked in violation of VA rules. SO No. 2 dated March 30th announced the resignation of the National ROTC Coordinator National Assistant Quartermaster Ken Jacobsen. SO No. 3 dated March 30th announced the appointment of Roger Laturno in Ken Jcaobsen's place. 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 John Henry Dalton.

JOHN HENRY DALTON

Company B, 1st Nevada Cavalry

John Henry Dalton was born on June 9, 1837, in New Orleans, LA, to Joseph Henry Dalton and Catherine "Kate", nee Gernon, Dalton. Joseph Henry was born about 1810 in Liverpool, England, and Catherine was born August 1837 in Dundalk, County Louth, Ireland. They lived in the French Quarter of New Orleans. They had at least two other children born in New Orleans: Elinore "Nelly" and Marie. Elinore was born January 20, 1846, married photographer Benjamin Swazey in San Francisco in 1873, had three children, died December 20, 1920, and is buried Mt. View Cemetery in Oakland. Marie was born about 1849 and married a man surnamed Rollins. She was widowed young and had no children.

Joseph served as cargo master on Captain Edgar Robbin's ship. He died at sea during a yellow fever epidemic. After his death, Catherine apprenticed John to a brick mason in Texas. She also married Captain Robbins, born February 20, 1810, Fairfield, CT. They decided take advantage of the "Gold Rush" and move to California where it was more prosperous. Catherine did not want to leave John behind, but the brick mason refused to release him. She then kidnapped him and smuggled him onto their ship. Considered a "runaway", soldiers came looking for him. She covered him with her shawl and said, "Go away! Smallpox!" They believed her and left, probably rather quickly.

The family sailed to California in 1849 by going "around the Horn". In San Francisco, all of the sailors deserted the ship for the gold fields, a common occurrence to most ships arriving there. Robbins had to abandon his ship, which apparently became one more among the many derelicts choking the harbor. The Robbins' made their home in Benicia and had one daughter, Emily M. "Kate", born in 1854. Robbins became a teamster hauling supplies from the port to the gold mines in the Sierra Nevada. He also worked as a drayman at times. By July 1860, he as a teamster with \$1000 worth of real estate and \$500 worth of personal

estate. They later moved from Benicia to Vallejo where he worked in the Mare Island navy yard. They moved to Shasta County around 1880. Edgar died November 12, 1891, in Redding, California and is buried in the Redding Memorial Park. Catherine apparently moved to Oakland shortly thereafter. She died at 817 Oak Street on August 7, 1892. Her body was shipped to Redding and buried next to Edgar.

In July 1860, John Dalton was working as a telegraph operator in Benicia Twp. He was apparently living in the same dwelling, which included a restaurant, with ten other men. These men included Max Burkardt, 33, of Wurtemberg. He may have been the owner as he had \$5000 in real estate and \$1000 in personal estate. The others were N.P. Quinn, 35, of MA, saloonkeeper; John E. Labert, 36, of France, cook; Alex Bergand, 15, of France, cook; Ernest Deiplaw, 20, of France, steward; Thomas Hoskaker, 30, of England, stone mason; John F. Denny, 54, of Germany, laborer; William Brightman, 30, of NY, carpenter; Arturs Marco, 43, of France, carpenter; and William B. Nurse, 33, of NY, jeweler. The cooks and steward and maybe Quinn were likely restaurant workers.

Towards the end of 1860, Dalton apparently married Frances McCann, born 1843, Boston, MA. In July 1860, she was still single and living in the household of Samuel C. Hastings and his family. Hastings, born 1814 in NY, was a lawyer with both real and personal estates of \$100,000 each. He had several people living on his estate as servants and laborers, and Frances was probably a maid. Frances, unfortunately, died February 19, 1862, in San Francisco County. The Daltons had a son, William J., born August 28, 1861, but died May 10, 1862. Both are buried in the Mission Dolores Cemetery in San Francisco. A somewhat illegible tombstone apparently is inscribed: Erected by J.H. Dalton In memory of his beloved wife Frances who died Feb. 19th 1862 Aged 19 years; His Aunt Mary Gernon Who died July 16, 1851 aged 26 years; William J. only child of J. H. and Frances Dalton Born Aug 28th, 1861 Died May 10, 1862 Aged 8 months and 13 days.

After their deaths, Dalton travelled to Virginia City, NV Territory. On May 28, 1863, Dalton married Josephine Therese Duralde in Dayton "according to the rites and usages of the Protestant Episcopal Church". The nuptials were performed by St. Paul Rector Franklin S. Rising and witnessed by Jessie(?) Vandewater and E.B. Zabriskie. A record of the marriage is in both Lyon County Courthouse and St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Virginia City. At the time of his marriage, Dalton was residing at Fort Churchill. They would go on to have eight, possibly nine, children. Josephine generally went by her middle name Therese.

Josephine Therese Duralde was born June 11, 1842, in New Orleans to Joseph Martin Adrien Mariano and Marie, nee Many, Duralde. Interestingly, John and Josephine both lived on the same block in the French Quarter but never met until after they were grown and living in Virginia City.

Joseph went by Martin and was a "Jr." He was born March 6, 1785, "Allakapas", LA. Parts of an Attakapas Parish were later incorporated into St. Martin's Parish. He first married Susan Hart Clay, born February 14, 1805, Lexington, KY. They had two sons born in New Orleans, Martin Clay, born March 29, 1823, died September 17, 1846, Philadelphia, PA, and Henry Clay, born September 30, 1824, died September 7, 1850, Sacramento, CA. Susan died September 18, 1825, in New Orleans and is buried in the St. Louis Cemetery No. 2 in that City.

Duralde then married Marie Many, born about 1812. The 1850 Census notes she was born in Louisiana, but the 1860 Census notes she was born in Cuba. Joseph and Marie had at least five other children in addition to Therese, all born in New Orleans. They were Marie Mathilde, born October 1832; Arthur, born 1833; Antonia, born 1835, died 1885 in San Francisco; Augusta, born 1844, died 1900; and Martin. Duralde died in New Orleans on September 13, 1848. He has a simple marble tombstone and is buried in the St. Louis Cemetery No. 2.

In 1850, Marie was still living in New Orleans. She was using her maiden name, but the children still went by Duralde. By June 1860, she (now using her married name), Arthur, Therese, and Augusta were living in Rough and Ready, Nevada County, CA. Arthur was working as a miner. The family lived three houses from the Chinatown. Martin was also a miner in California, but his location is not given. As noted before, John was a telegraph operator in Benicia. Rough and Ready was a prosperous placer and lode gold mining camp and town of about 1750 people in 1860 about five miles west of Grass Valley, CA.

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, NV Territory was called upon to supply troops to supplement the California troops, which were being stretched thin.

At the time of his marriage to Therese, Dalton was residing at Fort Churchill. He had been recruited in Carson City and was enjoined for duty and enrolled at the fort on May 1. Prior to his being mustered in, he was listed on the post returns as a 2nd Lieutenant into Co. B, 1st Nevada Cavalry "Casually at post". On June 22nd, he was mustered in for a three-year term by Captain D. Woodruff of the Ninth U.S. Infantry at the fort with the rank and unit noted.

Co. B had just been organized by Captain Noyes Baldwin. Baldwin had enrolled for a 3-year stint at Dayton on May 11, 1863. He had successfully completed his exams for a commission as captain, but first had to organize and recruit 100 men to fill a cavalry company, in this case Co. B. He recruited in Carson City, Dayton, Gold Hill, and Virginia City. Over the course of its existence, 135 men would join Co. B with 44 deserting. Baldwin was also mustered in on June 22nd by Woodruff.

Dalton was immediately under 1st Lieutenant, later Captain, Joseph H. Mathewson, who himself had also been mustered in by Woodruff five days before to fill an original vacancy. A cavalry lieutenant's monthly pay was \$53.33 with a \$25 monthly bonus from the state and 40c per diem for bringing his own horse. The average Comstock miner earned about \$104 per month.

In the latter half of August, Dalton was made the post adjutant of Fort Churchill. Post Order No. 108 was issued on September 8th ordering Cos. A and B, 1st Nevada Cavalry to garrison Camp Douglas in UT Territory. The two companies left on the morning of October 10th. Dalton remained on detached service at Fort Churchill continuing as post adjutant.

Co. C, 1st Nevada Cavalry had just been organized by Captain Henry C. Johnson. Johnson recruited men for Co. C in Carson City, Dayton, Gold Hill, Silver City, and Virginia City. Johnson had enrolled for a 3-year stint at Fort Churchill. No examination documents are in his file, but he was commissioned by the Governor of Nevada Territory. Co. C was mustered in at Fort Churchill on December 24th by Lieutenant E.D. Waite, Ninth U.S. Infantry. A special telegraphic order from the Department of the Pacific promoted Dalton to 1st Lieutenant and transferred him to Co. C, 1st Nevada Cavalry, also on December 24th. Apparently, Co. B at Camp Douglas kept listing him as a 2nd Lieutenant there but on detached service to Fort Churchill while Co. C listed him as their 1st Lieutenant. The discrepancy was not corrected until May 1864. He did not get paid double.

Dalton remained post adjutant through early January 1864 when he was placed on detached service to escort the paymaster, Major H.C. Bull. In late January, he was absent with leave. On his return in February, Dalton was again appointed post adjutant.

February was a pivotal month for Dalton. Captain Johnson went on leave on January 19th. However, he failed to return and was deemed AWOL from February 25th onwards. He would later be dismissed from the service. On a happier note, on February 29, 1864, Therese gave birth to a son, Charles Churchill Dalton, at Fort Churchill. He was after the fort's commanding officer Major Charles McDermit and Fort Churchill. Dalton was on leave through part of March.

By Special Order 72 dated April 4th, Johnson was dishonorably discharged and dismissed from the service without pay. On April 8th, Dalton was commissioned a captain by the Governor. A cavalry captain's monthly pay was \$70. With a \$35 monthly stipend from the Territory, the pay was on par with that of a Comstock miner. In late May and June, Dalton was on detached service to San Francisco. Special Order No. 119 dated May 30 officially discharged Dalton as 1st Lieutenant and mustered him back in for a three-year term as captain of Co. C. He was back at Fort Churchill in June where he and Co. C remained through September.

The whole time at Fort Churchill was not all boring military work. A Grand Military and Civic Ball was held on May 20th at the Theatre Hall in Gold Hill for the benefit of the "First Regiment N.T. Inf., No. 6". Tickets were \$5 and included. In early May, Dalton was on the Gold Hill Invitation Committee.

Co. C under Dalton and Co. F under Captain Joseph Calder were ordered to Camp Douglas at Salt Lake City, UT Territory. The companies left Fort Churchill on September 10th. The column consisted of about 200 men in total, including teamsters and herders, and six baggage and commissary wagons each drawn by six mules. They arrived in Austin on September 22nd and were escorted by the Austin Brass Band.

The column camped at Simpson's Park and moved on the next day. Unfortunately, the Fort Ruby returns are missing for this period as the column would probably have passed through. The column arrived at Camp Douglas on October 25th. Co. C spent its time in Utah on garrison duty as the fort returns show no detached service. Dalton remained at Camp Douglas until his discharge from the service. Therese followed her husband, and on October 16, 1865, gave birth to a son, William Henry Dalton, at Camp Douglas.

Dalton owned a new California manufactured No. 1 eight-passenger "Concord Coach" and advertised selling it "at a bargain" in early December. Such coaches new ran between \$1500 and \$2500 (\$31,000 to \$52,000 in 2026 dollars). The ad noted to apply either to him or N.S. Ransohoff and Co. in Salt Lake City. N.S. Ransohoff and Co. operated a general store. Lieutenant "Bob" Miller purchased the coach with the idea of running an express between Camp Douglas and Salt Lake City.

During Dalton's time in the service, UT Territory and NV 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. Special Order 10 dated May 10th made Dalton Sub District Inspector and Sub Chief of Cavalry for the West Sub District of the Plains. The Quarter Master's Dept. was ordered to provide Dalton with the necessary transportation when travelling in his official capacity. His service record for September 1865, notes he was "attached AAA Genl (Acting Assistant Adjutant General) and Asst Inspector Genl of District". The "AAA Genl" part was dropped in October, and he was relieved of being the Inspector General on November 14th by General Order 4.

Dalton's record is generally clean. However, in November, Private J.J. Briggs of Co. C complained that Dalton had collected \$59 from the enlisted men due to Briggs but failed or refused to give him the money. Briggs requested the District Commanding General secure the funds. A letter dated November 29th was sent by Acting Adjutant General C.G. Saurant apparently to Dalton outlining the complaint. Dalton sent a letter the next day saying he complied and would meet with the General personally.

In January 1866, Co. C was sent to Camp George near Fort Ephraim in the San Pete Valley of UT Territory. There, he commanded both Co. C and the Camp. He and Co. C returned to Camp Douglas on April 8th. During his sojourn in Utah, the bean counters informed him he was "Not entitled to commutation for Fuel and Quarters, Commanding Company." Dalton was mustered out of the service at Camp Douglas on July 12, 1866.

Dalton apparently moved on to San Francisco. He left Camp Douglas on July 13th and travelled by way of the Overland Route. He travelled alone which suggests his family had moved some time before. He spent the night at the International Hotel in Austin. While asleep, he was robbed of \$100 in gold and \$175 in "greenbacks" (about \$6000 in 2026 dollars). He arrived on the Comstock on July 18th and departed on the Placerville Route the following day. On November 3, 1866, Therese gave birth to another son, John Edgar Dalton, in San Francisco. The boy was named after his father and his grandmother's second husband. Also in San Francisco, on November 8, 1868, Therese gave birth to twins, Martin Duralde and Nellie Antonia Dalton. Unfortunately, Nellie was blind. Martin was named after his mother's father. Nellie Antonia was named after two aunts (father's sister Elinore "Nelly" and mother's sister Antonia).

By December 1869, the Daltons were living in Vallejo, CA, and by July 1870, he was working again as a telegrapher. He had a personal estate valued at \$200. Their residence was on the corner of Butte and Florida. They were living next door to his mother and stepfather. On April 25, 1870, Therese gave birth to a daughter, Frances Mary Dalton. She was apparently named after Dalton's first wife Frances and his sister Marie. By 1873, Dalton was a member of the San Pablo Lodge No. 43 of the Independent Order of the Oddfellows (IOOF) and served as the lodge's recording secretary. Therese was a member of the local Myrtle Rebekah Degree Lodge No. 15 and served as conductor. Vallejo had the Grand Army of the Republic Farragut Post 4, but apparently Dalton never joined.

The 1875 delinquent tax list shows Dalton owned lot 7, block 367 in the City of Vallejo. His tax was \$14.10. In February 1877, he was also listed as being delinquent in paying his poll tax. In May 1878, the sheriff sold his lot to the Vallejo Land and Improvement Company for \$987.88. On February 1, 1877, Therese gave birth to another daughter, Ida Rebecca Dalton. In September 1879, she gave birth to a stillborn baby boy.

In June 1880, Dalton was now working as a machinist in Vallejo. Sadly, their son Martin passed away on January 3, 1883, after a two-month long illness. The funeral took place two days later from the Baptist church. A short time later, Dalton's sister Mrs. Mary Rollins, died at his home on January 13th. The funeral took place the following day from the Baptist church. On April 28, 1877, she was committed from San Francisco to the Napa Insane Asylum in Napa. Her husband had died a few months before, and it was thought she went insane from grief. She had become very vulgar and sometimes violent and claimed to be Daniel O'Connell. O'Connell was an Irish Nationalist leader who died in 1847. She was still in the asylum in 1880.

John H. Dalton was in Vallejo at least until 1887. It is unclear where he moved as the newspaper reported he was leaving for a job in Oregon in May, and then said he was preparing to move to San Francisco in October. However, by 1889, he was living in Ilwaco, Pacific County, WA Territory, at the mouth of the Columbia River. Washington became a state in November 1889. Ilwaco grew rapidly between 1880 and 1890, when it was officially incorporated and reached a population of 517. Its main industry was logging and timber rafting.

As time went by, Dalton's children grew into adulthood and started moving on. Dalton's oldest son Charles became a lawyer. He was living in Pacific County by 1886. He married Ida Edgar, born 1867 in IA, in Astoria, OR, on July 20, 1886. The nuptials were performed by Presbyterian Bishop E.W. Garner. They had no children, and she died before 1898 in Ilwaco. On November 22, 1898, Charles remarried Harriett Newton Brady, born 1850 in IA. They lived in Ilwaco in 1900 and then moved on to Kent, WA. They had at least four children, Edgar B. born May 1887; Edna Geraldine born October 16, 1888; Bernard J. born November 23, 1889; and Mary born April 2, 1902.

Dalton's oldest daughter Nellie never married. His second daughter Fannie (Frances) married William H. Taylor on February 17, 1889, in Ilwaco. They apparently had no children, and it is not clear what happened to him. In 1893, she remarried James Dickie Murray, born 1868 in Irvine, Scotland. He was a seaman, and they had one daughter, Ida Therese born November 5, 1895, in Ilwaco. They later moved to Portland, OR, where he dealt first in real estate, and then to San Francisco and acquired a pilot's license which listed a grade of "Master of Ocean Steam Vessels on the waters of any Ocean".

Dalton's second oldest son William became a marine engineer on merchant vessels. In a private wedding, he married Laura D. Burney, born 1867 in Tyndall, SD, in Astoria on September 3, 1890. The couple lived in Cascade Rocks, OR, and another in Chinook, WA, before moving to San Francisco. They had two sons, William Douglas born June 30, 1891, in Cascade Rocks and John Henry born April 23, 1893, in Chinook. On November 3, 1893, in San Francisco, presumably while Dalton was away, Laura attempted a "criminal operation" (i.e. abortion) on herself and died from it. A few weeks later, on the 30th, John Henry also passed away in Ilwaco. Dalton then married Margaret Theresa Read, born 1866 in San Francisco, at the bride's parents' home in West Oakland, on November 2, 1895. They lived in Oakland and later moved to Los Angeles. They had at least three children born in Oakland, Harold Reed born October 4, 1896; Rameau Willmer born September 30, 1897; and M. Adele born January 9, 1899.

Dalton's third oldest son John Edgar held several jobs over time including Justice of the Peace and a steam engineer. He married Christine Tanger, born 1875 in Wallach, WA. In Astoria on September 3, 1893. The couple lived in Chinook and later in Astoria. They had at three children, two in Chinook, Mervyn Edgar born March 21, 1894 and Frank Arthur born July 16, 1895; and Dorothy Ida born December 16, 1896, in Pacific, WA.

Dalton's third daughter Ida married Albert Philander Leonard, born 1870 in New Lebanon, NY, on February 1, 1893, in South Bend, WA. He was the Deputy Pacific County Auditor. They remained in South Bend, and he became an abstractor. She also worked as an abstractor and later as a stenographer in an engineer's office. They had no children.

Politically, Dalton was a Republican. In October 1891, he was appointed postmaster of Ilwaco and continued as postmaster through early 1894. He also served two terms as mayor. He had strong support to remain postmaster, but due to some now forgotten politics, Democrat Levi O. Johnson was appointed starting February 1, 1894. Dalton remained in Ilwaco through October 1894 and was ill that month. In September, he ran as a Republican for Pacific County Clerk and won the election on November 6th. He then moved to the City of South Bend, the Pacific County seat about 40 miles north of Ilwaco. South Bend was incorporated in

1890 and had a population of 711 in 1900. Dalton was reelected County Clerk in 1896. He was elected County Auditor in 1898 and reelected in 1900. He did not run again in 1902 when he was 65 years old.

In June 1900, John, Therese, and Nellie were living on Monroe Street in South Bend. They owned their house with no mortgage. They were noted as having had nine children of which six were still living. As of this writing, only eight have been accounted for. He filed for a pension on June 8, 1904. His application no. was 1,318,038. His certificate no. was 1,090,183 in Washington.

Apparently, Dalton kept his membership in the Oddfellows current, but the history of the Oddfellows in Ilwaco or South Bend was not clear at the time of this writing. A local lodge was deeded the ground that became their cemetery in South Bend in 1897. In 1905, they were planning to build a new temple in South Bend. South Bend had the Grand Army of the Republic John C. Fremont Post 69, but apparently Dalton never joined.

Therese died September 29, 1907, in South Bend, and is buried in the Odd Fellows Cemetery in that town. She has a dark gray marble upright tombstone inscribed, DALTON JOSEPHINE THERESE Beloved wife of J. H. DALTON June 11, 1842 Sept. 29, 1907. Not lost but gone before. FRANCES DALTON MURRAY Died Nov. 3, 1928. The tombstone contains an arch and open gate. Inside the gate is Noah's ark, a mountain on the horizon, a flying dove carrying an olive branch, and storm clouds with lightning. Two five-pointed upside-down stars flank the outside of the arch. Another dove is flying over the arch.

In April 1910, Dalton and daughter Nellie were living on First Street in South Bend. He was apparently retired and owned his house with no mortgage. During Dalton's sojourn in South Bend, oyster harvesting, fishing, and timber were the main industries, and the town had a rail link as well as being a port on the Willapa River. After 1900, the town's population exploded to over 3000 by 1910 but fell off again to less than 2000 by 1920 after Dalton's death. Dalton and Leonard appear to have lived in the eastern part of the town within a couple of blocks of one another.

Dalton died of intestinal obstruction on September 1, 1917, in South Bend, and is buried in the Odd Fellows Cemetery. He has a dark gray marble upright tombstone inscribed, DALTON JOHN HENRY DALTON JUNE 9, 1837 SEPT. 1, 1917 He giveth his beloved sleep. NELLIE A. DALTON DIED OCT. 8, 1931. The tombstone contains the Oddfellow symbols of the three-link chain containing F.L.T. and a five-point star containing an upright open hand with a heart. After her father's death, Nellie went to live with Ida and Albert in South Bend. On March 3, 1921, Nellie applied for her father's pension. Her application no. was 1,171,431. Her certificate no. was 899,988. Interestingly, she applied from Nevada.

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