

CARLIN CAMP DISPATCH

The Official Newsletter of the General William Passmore Carlin - Camp No. 25
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Volume 3 Number 1

January 2005

Camp No. 25 Members to Attend 2005 Department Encampment

On March 11 and 12, 2005, the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War* - Department of California and the Pacific will meet for their 119th Annual Encampment in San Luis Obispo, California.

Attending this event will be numerous National and Department Officers, officers and delegates from the 14 Camps of the Department, and numerous friends, guests, VIPs and family members.

Additionally, in attendance will be Camp No. 25 Commander Gary Parrott and Past Camp Commander Paul Washeleski.

The activities will begin on Friday afternoon with a memorial service to be held at the Cemetery. Upon conclusion of the services a "Camp Fire" social gathering will be held at the Elks Club, followed by a No Host Dinner.

Saturday's agenda will begin at 7:30 AM with registration, table setup, coffee and donuts. The Opening Ceremonies will take place at 9:00 AM followed by a full morning of Department and Camp reports.

As per past practice, a noon lunch break will occur. During

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New Camp Officers



As per SUVCW general policy, the General William Passmore Carlin - Camp No. 25 of Gardnerville, Nevada, recently held its annual election of officers for the upcoming year (for additional information refer to the article on Page 2). Shown above are the 2005 Camp Officers (l-r: Camp Historian-David Davis, Camp Color Bearer-Jerry Griffith, Camp Chaplin-Don Guidici, Camp Jr. Vice Commander-Frank Wood, Camp Commander-Gary Parrott, Camp Sr. Vice Commander and PCC-Paul Washeleski and Camp Secretary/Treasurer-Brian Worcester).

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Gen. Carlin Camp Receives Local "Air Time"

As a direct result of its attendance and participation at the Second Annual Northern Nevada Lineage Societies Luncheon, the General William Passmore Carlin Camp and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War received "Air Time" on several local television stations over the past several weeks.

This was due in part to the efforts of Janice Frost (of the Thomas Holcomb Chapter of the Society of Colonial Dames of the XVII Century) and Paul Washeleski (of the SUVCW-Gen. William Passmore Carlin Camp).

Ms. Frost organized and MCed the event, which included various special guests, VIPs and members of the local media.

Subsequently, a video tape was made of the event and excerpts of which were shown on several local television stations (KNPB, KOLO and KRNV) throughout the northern Nevada area.

Representing the SUVCW (in uniform !!) was Camp Commander Paul Washeleski. His presentation covered the history, mission and goals of the SUVCW and concluded with a tribute to special guest and VIP - Ruben W. Law (see accompanying articles).

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The **CARLIN CAMP DISPATCH** is the official newsletter of the *General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25*, SUVCW-Department of California and the Pacific.

It is published six times a year (January, March, May, July, September and November) by the authority of the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW)* and all material contained herein is the intellectual property of the same.

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The opinions expressed by the authors of *Letters to the Editor* or any story or news article are the personal views of the writer(s) and are not necessarily the opinion or policy of the SUVCW.

Material (photographs, letters to the editor, articles, etc.) for consideration for publication should be sent to Paul Washeleski, PCC, 1305 Wheeler Way, Gardnerville, Nevada, 89460 or Gary Parrott, Publisher and Editor, Post Office Box 1181, Mammoth Lakes, California 93546.

Any material sent for inclusion in the **CARLIN CAMP DISPATCH** may be edited for content by the newsletter staff.

Delivery problems and change of address should be directed to the *General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25*.

Dept. Encampment - cont.

which the Auxiliary of the SUVCW (Dr. Mary E. Walker No. 25) will conduct a fund raiser and Department Raffle.

Upon completion of the lunch break, the business meeting will reconvene. During which the remaining reports, by-law proposals and other business will be conducted. Followed by the nomination, election and installation of department officers.

Highlights of the December Camp Meeting

On December 5, 2004, the General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25 held its final meeting of the year.

The gathering was held at the home of Camp Commander Paul Washeleski, in Gardnerville, Nevada.

Many items of interest were discussed during the course of the afternoon. In addition to the normal business items (the commander's report, the secretary-treasurer's report, various committee reports, etc.), the major portion of the meeting was devoted to the nomination, election and installation of new Camp officers.

The new Camp officers are: Commander-Gary Parrott, Sr. Vice Commander-Paul Washeleski, Camp Secretary/Treasurer-Brian Worcester, Camp Chaplain-Donald Guidici, Camp Historian-David Davis, Camp Color Bearer-Jerry Griffith, Camp Guard-Curtis Thomas, Camp Patriotic Instructor-Brian Worcester, Civil War Memorial Officer-David Davis and Camp Guide-Curtis Thomas (for a complete list of all Camp Officers refer *Camp No. 25* column on Page 6).

Due to "bad" winter weather a Departmental Installation Officer was unavailable, subsequently, Brother Gary Parrott presided over the installation ceremony and all newly elected officer were duly installed.

Members present at the meeting were: Donald Guidici, Jeffrey Vaillant, Paul Washeleski, Gary Parrott, Jerry Griffith, Frank Woods, David Davis and Brian Worcester. All others were excused for valid reasons.

With all business completed the meeting was adjourned after the setting of the date and time for the next Camp meeting (refer to next Camp meeting (refer to *Upcoming Events* on Page 3).

Final Muster For Oldest Member of Camp No. 25

Reuben Walter Law, the oldest member of the SUVCW - General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25, passed away on January 1, 2005, in Carson City, Nevada, after suffering complications during a hospital stay. He was 106 years old.

Reuben W. Law was born, August 14, 1898, one of 5 children of Walter T. and Victoria A. (Bowler) Law. He was born, raised and spent most of his life in Minnesota.

During World War I, he enlisted in the US Army and served in the European Theater. After the War he returned home and resumed his career as a landscape engineer.

At the start of World War II, he tried to re-enlist in the Army however he was considered too old. Determined to serve his country, once again, he joined the US Coast Guard Auxiliary and was assigned as a pilot of a patrol boat on the Mississippi River.

After the War he returned to Minnesota, got married and raised a family. He was widowed twice and was the father of 4 children (Margaret, Walter, James and Edward).

In 1993, Reuben Law moved to Carson City, Nevada, where he maintained an active life style (which included hot air balloon and sailplane rides !!). He drove his own car until he was 101.

Recently, he rode in the Nevada Day Parade (on October 31, 2004) and was the guest of honor at the Northern Nevada Lineage Societies Luncheon (refer to the article in the November issue of the *Carlin Camp Dispatch*).

The Latest *SUVCW* National News

Upcoming Camp Events

- The next meeting of the General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25 will be on February 27, 2004 at 1:00 PM, at 1305 Wheeler Way, Gardnerville, Nevada. All Camp members, associates and perspective members are encouraged to attend.

- Plans are being made for members of the SUVCW General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25 to participate in the Memorial Day Services at the Lone Mountain Cemetery, Carson City, Nevada. Further details will be announced. All members and associates are encouraged to attend.

For additional information contact PCC/SVC Paul Washeleski (775) 265-2950 or via e-mail: paulww@charter.net.

*For additional information go to Web Page at: www.suvcw.org

Final Muster – cont.

Reuben Law's grandfather, James M. Bowler (on his mother's side) enlisted in the Union Army on November 8, 1861. He served with honor and distinction, rising to the rank of Major (on May 19, 1865), in the 113th USCT Infantry Regiment.

It should be noted that Reuben was Nevada's last surviving veteran of World War I. Out of over 4.7 million soldiers, sailors and mariners who served during that War, less than 200 US Veterans survive today.

Reuben became a member of the SUVCW – General William Passmore Carlin Camp No. 25, in December 2004 when all of his paperwork and supporting documents were approved.

The following is the latest information and General Orders from the National Organization of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War:

GENERAL ORDERS SERIES 2004 – 2005

GENERAL ORDERS No. 4

Stephen A. Michaels
Commander-in-Chief

It has been my great pleasure to sign Charters for the following new Camps within our Order:

- Corporal James Tanner Camp 134, Dept. of New York, located at Cobleskill, NY, with date of rank from 15 October 2004. A Certificate of Merit will be issued to Br. Floyd J. DeWitt, Camp Organizer.
- Col. Edward D. Baker Camp 6, Department-at-Large, located at Eugene, Oregon, with rank from 20 November 2004. A Certificate of Merit will be issued to Br. Harold J. Slavik, Jr., Camp Organizer.
- Colonel James D. Brady Camp 63, Department of Maryland, located at Petersburg, Virginia, with rank from 21 November 2004. A Certificate of Merit will be issued to Br. Bill Rose, Camp Organizer.
- Almeron J. Patchin Camp 26, Department of California & Pacific, located at Los Molinos, California, with rank from 21 November 2004. A Certificate of Merit will be issued to Br. John P. Patchin, Camp Organizer.

Ordered this 21st day of November 2004.
By Order of:

Stephen A. Michaels
Commander-in-Chief

Attest:
Michael S. Bennett, PDC
National Secretary

GENERAL ORDERS No. 5

Stephen A. Michaels
Commander-in-Chief

Sincere thanks go to all Brothers, who actively observed Veterans Day this year. We owe so much to the more than 48 million Americans, who have served in our Armed Forces over the last 228 years. As we enjoy the holiday season, let us be mindful of the sacrifices being made by our Nation's military in harm's way.

I am pleased to announce that our Council of Administration has voted unanimously to again waive the national per capita for any Brother serving in an active combat zone as of January 1, 2005.

To request a waiver of national per capita, a Camp must indicate on a sheet of paper that names, rank and unit of each Brother being exempted. Please note that the Brother must be in an active combat area/zone to qualify for the exemption. For purposes of implementation, any Brother deployed in Iraq or Afghanistan shall be deemed to be in an active combat zone.

All Departments and Camps are encouraged to likewise waive Department and Camp dues for these Brothers for the year 2005.

Ordered this 24th day of November 2004.

By Order of:
Stephen A. Michaels
Commander-in-Chief

The S. U. V. C. W.

The *Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War* (SUVCW) was formed in 1881 as the potential successor to the *Grand Army of the Republic* (GAR). Its purpose was to ensure the continuance of the mission and goals started by the GAR. It was originally called: *The Sons of Union Veterans*. The name was changed in 1925 to further identify its heritage.

Prior to the disbanding of the GAR (when the last surviving members died), the SUVCW was officially designated the legal heir to the GAR on August 20, 1954.

Currently, the SUVCW is composed of 26 Departments (each contain Camps located within one of more states in a geographical region), 5 Camp-at-Large organizations (for the states of AZ, GA, NC, OR and WA) and a National Membership-at-Large organization (for those states which do not have Camp or Department status). Total membership is approximately 6,000 Brothers in good standing.

In addition, the SUVCW is associated with several Allied Orders. These include: *Sons of Veterans Reserve*, the *Auxiliary to the SUVCW*, *Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War*, *Women's Relief Corps* and the *Ladies of the GAR*.

For additional information go to:

www.suvcw.org

"Air Time"

- cont.

One of the major goals of the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War* is to utilize the media (press, radio and television) whenever possible to "get the message out" that the SUVCW is more than just "a bunch of Civil War Re-enactors."

Throughout the coming year, the General William Passmore Carlin Camp will attempt to get more "Air Time" and more "Press Coverage" to ensure the attainment of the SUVCW mission, goals and special projects.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 6

Stephen A. Michaels
Commander-in-Chief

The observance of "Union Defenders Day" was established by the Sons in 1890. All Brothers are encouraged to observe President Lincoln's birthday on February 12, 2005. The Lincoln Tomb Ceremony will again be held at 11 a.m., April 15th at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, Illinois. The GAR Founder's Day Ceremony, honoring the Dr. Benjamin Franklin Stephenson, will be held Saturday, April 16th, at 2 p.m., at Rosehill Cemetery in nearby Petersburg, Illinois. All brothers are encouraged to attend these events.

The National Council of Administration will conduct its Spring meeting on Saturday, April 16th, at 8 a.m., in the basement of the Grace Lutheran Church, 714 E. Capitol Ave., Springfield, Illinois. Our thanks to PDC Ronald Clark and Gen. John A. McClernand Camp 4 for their assistance with the arrangements for the Lincoln Tomb and GAR Founder Ceremonies, and Council meeting.

The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial will be held in 2009. PCinC Alan R. Loomis is hereby appointed liaison and point of contact for this project. Many states, in particular Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky, where Lincoln lived, have already formed task forces to begin preparations. Wherever practical, Camps and Departments should offer their assistance, coordinating their inquiries and other communications with PCinC Loomis by emailing him at ARLSUVCW@aol.com.

Ordered this 2nd day of December 2004.

By Order of:
Stephen A. Michaels
Commander-in-Chief

Attest:
Michael S. Bennett
National Secretary

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 7

Stephen A. Michaels
Commander-in-Chief

Many Camps are completing their dues collection and finalizing their annual membership report. All Department Commanders should urge and assist their Camps in retaining the Brothers on the rolls and in following up with potential non-renewals.

Much of what our Order is able to accomplish is directly attributable to the gen-erosity of its membership. I invite you to consider supporting and including one or more of these worthy funds in your will:

- Honor Roll — Donation to the Permanent Fund in the name of a Union soldier/sailor or departed Brother.
- GAR Fund — supports scholarships and tributes made to several patriotic observances.
- Civil War Memorial Preservation Fund — supports grants for preservation work on Civil War memorials.
- Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Fund — supports membership recruitment advertising and promotion of our Order.
- National Headquarters Fund — supports the operation of our office in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.
- General Fund — support general operating expenses of our Order.
- Permanent Fund — strengthens restricted sum, which generates investment interest, supporting operation of our Order.
- Civil War Heritage Defense Fund — supports legal action, preventing theft and/or desecration of monuments and historical property.

Contributions are tax deductible and may be made payable to "National Organizations SUVCW," and sent to the National Treasurer. Applications for the SUVCW's two annual \$1000 scholarships will be accepted through March 31, 2005. The application, as well as the standards of selection, can be found online. Requests for reimbursements from pre-2001 Life Member programs should be submitted between January 1 and 31 March 2005. Camp Secretaries should request reimbursement in writing to the National Treasurer.

All Brothers should note that the 2005 National Encampment will be held 4-7 August at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Nashua, New Hampshire. This marks a departure from recent years, when this event was scheduled on the second weekend of the month.

Ordered this 5th day of December 2004.

By Order of:
Stephen A. Michaels
Commander-in-Chief

Attest:
Michael S. Bennett, PDC
National Secretary

A Message From the Editor

Dear Brothers,

Well, we have made it through another year. We can be proud that our little Camp has gotten so much done in such a short time !!

Our counterparts – The Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) are not doing so well. They are going through a very rough time.

If by chance you are unaware of their “problems” (other than the usual problems levied at them by the ACLU, NAACP, the “politically correct” and other groups determined to erase all signs and symbols of the Confederacy) I will try to recap it for you.

The SCV is a large organization with over 35,000 members and Camps in almost every State. As such they have a very large and influential national organizational structure that controls a lot of money.

Within its national organization there is a “good old boy group” that does not like change or any perceived loss of influence, power or money !! It should be noted, many of the national officers are compensated for their time and efforts !!

This group staged a “*coup d’etat*” and fired/removed from office several elected officers and staff. They even went so far as to obtain a restraining order from a State District Court to ensure their control over the organization.

This is a very sad situation. Not to just their order but to all lineage societies and specifically to all Civil War related groups. The media and public have a tendency to lump similar groups together.

Why did this happen ? Simply, they have forgotten the “*raison d’etre*” (the whole purpose why their organization exists !!).

However, this situation eventually plays-out, we must never forget why our group (the SUVCW) exists !! It is not for us but for the memory of our ancestors who gave their lives to “*Preserve the Union*”.

Let us never forget and keep this an honorable and “fun” organization !!

F, C & L,

Gary E. Parrott
Publisher and Editor

The following is the latest information from the SUVCW – Department of California and the Pacific:

Department Officers 2004 - 2005

Commander

- *Tad D. Campbell* (Gilroy, CA)

Senior Vice-Commander

- *Jerry R. Sayre* (Fallbrook, CA)

Junior Vice-Commander

- *vacant*

Secretary-Treasurer (term expires 2007)

- *Daniel R. Earl* (Gilroy, CA)

Department Council

- *D. Brad Schall*, PDC (Lincoln, CA),
 Chairman (term expires 2006)

- *Alan E. Peterson*, PDC (Las Vegas, NV)
 Member (term expires 2005)

Patriotic Instructor

- *Charlie Mabie* (Newark, CA)

Chaplin

- *Ernest L. Powell* (Fallbrook, CA)

Historian

- *Robert L. Nelson* (Santa Cruz, CA)

Counselor

- *James C. Brazelton* (Modesto, CA)

Guide

- *Gregory R. Tracey* (Sacramento, CA)

Color Bearer

- *Glen L. Roosevelt* (Anaheim Hills, CA)

Graves Registration Officer

- *Bob Lowe*, PDC (El Cajon, CA)

Civil War Memorials Officer

- *Kirby R. Morgan* (Coarsegold, CA)

Signals Officer

- *Tad D. Campbell*, (Gilroy, CA)

Grand Army of the Republic Highway Officer

- *Gary E. Parrott* (Mammoth Lakes, CA)

Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator

- *Al Peterson*, PDC (Las Vegas, NV)

Department Newsletter (*The California Column*) Editor

- *Daniel R. Earl* (Gilroy, CA)

2005 Department Encampment

The SUVCW – Department of California and the Pacific will hold its 119th Annual Department Encampment on March 11-12, 2005, at the Elks Lodge No. 322, in San Luis Obispo, California. All members and associates are encouraged to attend this annual event.

Memorial services will be held at the Sutcliff Cemetery (across the street from the Elks Lodge) 3:30 pm on Friday, March 11, 2005. Followed by a “Camp Fire” social gathering at the Elks Lodge and “no-host” dinner. Business meeting will commence at 9:00 am, Saturday, March 12, 2005. Commander’s Dinner to follow the adjournment of the meeting.

For additional information go on-line at: www.suvcw.org

Another Civil War Moment

General William P. Carlin Camp No. 25 Northern Nevada

Organized in December 2002 and officially chartered by the SUVCW – Department of California and the Pacific on August 23, 2003.

The SUVCW is a tax exempt organization pursuant to the provisions of Section 501 © (4), Internal Revenue Code and all donations are fully tax deductible as permitted by the US Internal Revenue Service (Section 170, Internal Revenue Code).

The current officers and staff of Camp No. 25 are:

Commander – Gary E. Parrott
Sr. Vice Comdr – Paul Washeleski
Jr. Vice Comdr – Frank Wood, Jr.
Secretary- Brian Worcester
Treasurer – Brian Worcester
Camp Council: Michael Curtis
David Davis
Donald Guidici
Patriotic Instructor – Brian Worcester
Chaplain – Donald Guidici
Guide – Curtis A. Thomas
Guard – Curtis A. Thomas
Historian – David A. Davis
Counselor – Gary Parrott
Graves Reg. Officer – Gary Parrott
Civil War Mem. Ofc. – David Davis
Color Bearer – Jerry Griffith
Signals Officer – Donald Huffman

The below envelopes contained letters written by **James F. Drish** to his wife and family between September 1861 and March 1862 (note: the address of “Carlinville, Illinois” the ancestral home of Camp No. 25’s namesake – General William Passmore Carlin).

James F. Drish was born in Leesburg, Virginia, in May 1833, one of 7 children of Wilson and Martha Drish. His father was a well known and respected physician. While he was still a young boy (sometime prior to 1838) the family moved from Virginia and relocated to Illinois. There he would grow up and receive the education, training and social skills that he would use later in life.

On May 13, 1856, James married Rosella C. Keller, his longtime sweetheart, in Macon County, Illinois. Over the years he became a successful businessman (hardware store owner) and family man (raise two daughters – Eleanor and Frances).

Soon after the start of the Civil War, James answered the call from President Lincoln “to preserve the Union” and on August 16, 1861, he enlisted in Company S, 32nd Illinois Infantry Regiment. This regiment organized and trained at Camp Butler, Illinois, until December 31, 1861, when it moved to Cairo, Illinois. Subsequently, it was attached to the 1st Brigade, 4th Division, Army of Tennessee.

This regiment would soon see action at: Pittsburg Landing, Tennessee (March 1, 1862), Shiloh, Tennessee (April 6-7, 1862) and Corinth, Mississippi (April 29 - May 30, 1862).

During that time, James Drish distinguished himself and was subsequently, offered a commission as a Lt. Colonel in the newly organized 122nd Illinois Infantry Regiment. On September 9, 1862, the now veteran Lt. Colonel Drish helped organize and drill these new recruits in preparation for the combat that would soon come.

Upon completion of training in October 1862, the 122nd was attached to the 16th Army Corps. As a member of that unit it would participate in several major engagements: Parker’s Cross Roads, Tennessee (December 30-31, 1862), Battle of Harrisburg, Mississippi (July 13-15, 1864), Battle of Nashville, Tennessee (December 15-16, 1864), the Siege of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely, Alabama (March 26-April 9, 1865).

Lt. Colonel Drish was mustered out with the remaining soldiers of the 122nd Illinois Infantry Regiment on July 15, 1865, at Mobile, Alabama, after loyal and honorable service to his country.

After the War, he returned home and resumed the life of family man and merchant. He was an active member of the GAR Post No. 404, Mattoon, Illinois, until his death on July 15, 1906, at the age of 73.

Civil War Letters



The above is a copy of an original Civil War envelope (note the “Patriotic Cover”).



The above envelopes were sent by James F. Drish while he was a member of the 32nd Illinois Infantry Regiment, between October and December 1861 (from the private collection of the Editor).

Our Civil War Ancestors

Department of Calif. & Pacific

The *Department of California and the Pacific - Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War* (SUVCW) was organized in February 1886. Its territory includes the states of California, Nevada and Hawaii.

To date, the Department is composed of 14 Camps. The oldest of which is the General Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 (San Jose, California). It was formed on December 4, 1897.

The Department held its Annual Encampments concurrently with the *GAR - Department of California and Nevada* between 1886 and 1949 (while there were still Union Veterans living in California).

From 1950 to the present, the Department has held its Annual Encampment with one or more of the Allied Orders of the SUVCW.

*For additional information go to
Web Page at: www.sucvw.org

Grave Registration Database On-line

The *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War* are pleased to announce the long awaited graves registration database is now available on-line.

To date, only a fraction of the names and locations of the final resting places of the Union soldiers, sailor and marines who fought during the Civil War have been entered into this database. However, this is a good start and it is hoped that it will encourage more members to survey the cemeteries in their areas - to locate and identify all "the Boys in Blue" !!

For additional information on this database and its contents go to the SUVCW National Web-Site at:

www.sucvw.org

James Madison Bowler (the Civil War ancestor of Camp No. 25 member - Reuben W. Law) was one of the first members of his family to "heed the call" from President Abraham Lincoln "To preserve the Union" shortly after the start of the Civil War.

Subsequently, James enlisted on November 8, 1861, in the Town of Medford, Steele County, Minnesota, as a Corporal in Company E, 3rd Minnesota Infantry Regiment. This unit was organized and trained at Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

Upon successful completion of its organization and training, the 3rd transferred to Louisville, Kentucky, where it was attached to the 16th Brigade of the Army of Ohio. There it performed picket and guard duty along the Louisville & Nashville Railroad until March 1862.

In April 1862, the 3rd was reassigned to the 23rd Brigade of the Army of Ohio and sent to reinforce the garrison at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, in anticipation of a Confederate attack on that town.

On July 13, 1862, James was taken POW when his regiment surrendered to General N. B. Forest's forces. Fortunately, he and a majority of his regiment were paroled "in the field" and sent to Benton Barracks, Missouri, until "officially" exchanged on August 27, 1862. Soon thereafter, the regiment was moved to Fort Ridgely, Minnesota, where it participated in action against the Sioux Indians.

During this time James had distinguished himself and received several field promotions. On December 1, 1862, he was promoted to Captain. For the next several months his unit would see action against Confederate guerrilla forces in Kentucky.

On May 19, 1865, the veteran Captain James M. Bowler was promoted to Major in the newly formed 113th United States Colored Infantry Regiment (the consolidation of the 11th USCT and the 112th USCT). Subsequently, this unit would be attached to the 2nd Brigade of the Army of the District of West Tennessee. From July 1865 to January 1866 it saw service as the Post and Defenses of Memphis, Tennessee.

Major James M. Bowler was mustered out with the remaining soldiers of the 113th US Colored Infantry Regiment on May 9, 1866, after a long and distinguished tour of duty.

*major battles or actions: *Murfreesboro*, Tennessee (July 13, 1862), *Battle of Wood Lake*, Minnesota (September 23, 1862), *Siege of Vicksburg*, Mississippi (June 9 - July 4, 1863), *Bayou Fourche*, Arkansas (September 10, 1863) and the *Battle of Fitzhugh's Woods*, Arkansas (April 1, 1864).

James Madison Bowler was born in January 1838, one of 5 children of Edward and Clara (Smith) Bowler. He spent the first 25 years of his life, the son of a farmer, in Penobscot County, Maine.

Shortly after 1860, James moved (along with at least one of his brothers) to Steele County, Minnesota, where he would join the Union Army after the start of the Civil War.

After the War, he returned to Minnesota, and resumed the life of a farmer, got married (to Elizabeth Calliff) and raised a family (he had 8 children !!). Over the years, he became a successful businessman and prominent citizen.

On May 17, 1916, in Ramsey County, Minnesota, James Bowler passed away at the age of 78.

Membership Information

Membership in the national society of the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War* is open to all male descendants (direct or collateral), 14 years and older who:

- are a relative of a soldier, sailor, marine or member of the Revenue Cutter Service;
- who was regularly mustered and honorably served in, was honorably discharged from, or died in the service of the United States of America or in a State regiment called to active service between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865.

* For further membership information go to the SUVCW Web Page at:

www.suvcw.org



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Gen. William P. Carlin Camp No. 25
1305 Wheeler Way
Gardnerville NV 89460

To: