

CARLIN CAMP DISPATCH

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GENERAL WILLIAM PASSMORE CARLIN CAMP 25, ORGANIZED 2003
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Volume 6, No. 6

November 2008

Website: <http://www.suvpac.org/camp25.html>
Mailing address: General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25
5200 Cedarwood Drive, Reno, NV 89511-9025
E-mail: patsworcester@earthlink.net

HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND MERRY CHRISTMAS

THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held 1 pm, Sunday, December 7, 2008 (Pearl Harbor Day), at the VFW Post 9211 Hall at 255 Burris Lane near its intersection with Baker Lane next to Moana Park. The meeting will probably last about an hour and will include the election of officers.

MESSAGE FROM THE CAMP COMMANDER

David A. Davis, Camp Commander

The election of officers will be held at the December meeting. The by-laws prevent me from running for a third consecutive term, though I can run again in the future. To date, Brian Worcestor has said he is willing to remain as Secretary-Treasurer. I am willing to remain as Historian and Memorials Officer, and will consider Signals Officer, which are appointed positions. I will also consider either Senior or Junior Vice Commander. We need someone to step up for Commander. I also e-mailed Department Commander Jerry Sayre about getting us sworn in, though I have not heard back yet. Commander Sayre had e-mailed all Camps earlier about getting officers sworn in by the end of January.

I finally sent in the forms and documentation to the Veterans Administration to get replacements for the weathered and damaged grave markers at Lone Mountain including the badly broken marker of Mexican War veteran Samuel Fulton, which is the one located under a bush. I also sent in the form and service record to get a marker for the grave of Harvey Fowler, which only had a small broken family marker. See the Historian and Memorials Report below for all of the veterans' names. To date, they rejected the claim for Sam Fowler and said we need to treat his grave as a new request and send in documentation of his service record.

A public meeting and workshop were held Thanksgiving week about the fate of the cemeteries at the Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services in Sparks. According to several members of the Friends of Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services Cemetery, the Administrator of the Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services Harold Cook wanted to take control and be the only authority over the cemeteries with the power to arbitrarily move the graves

and even possibly cremate the remains. However, Nevada Public Works has control of the grounds, and they apparently think otherwise. I have heard second hand that the cemetery may now be preserved, fenced in, and renovated. We will see how this goes. The Friends of Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services Cemetery would like to eventually put up a monument listing those buried there, and I think we should also consider memorial stones for Civil War veterans as they are identified. So far, the only certain Civil War veteran is Robert Hope.

I helped for several hours Carson City historian Cindy Southerland and Nevada State Genealogical Society member Yvonne Prettyman with a survey of the old Washoe City cemetery in Washoe Valley. The cemetery is overgrown, and many of the graves markers are gone. The death dates on the existing markers run from 1863 through 1976. One Spanish-American War veteran has a government marker. Should we ever be able to document burials of Civil War veterans there in the future, we should look into getting markers for them.

I handed out the first Eagle Scout certificate since Paul Washeleski was first Camp Commander. Tyler Mattson, 16, of Troop 88 in Lemmon Valley had his Court Honor, and I attended and issued the certificate. My son Tyrone belongs to Troop 88.

I will be preparing an agenda for the December meeting, which is several weeks away. If anyone has something they want put on the agenda, please let me know. As usual, I put notices in the events sections of the local newspapers and television station websites.

NEVADA DAY AND VETERANS DAY

Commander David A. Davis, Senior Vice Commander Frank Wood, Secretary-Treasurer Brian Worcester, Chaplain Don Guidici, and Tyrone Davis represented Camp 25 in the Nevada Day parade in Carson City on November 1. As in previous parades, we used Don's pick-up truck and borrowed chairs from the VFW Hall. We flew the U. S. and Camp flags from the back of the bed of the truck and put the signs on the sides. Don drove, and the rest of us sat in the back. We were well received by the crowd. It rained lightly the whole time we were in the parade, and the rain quit the instant we exited the parade route.

Commander David A. Davis, Secretary-Treasurer Brian Worcester, John Riggs, and Tyrone Davis represented Camp 25 in the Veterans Day parade in Reno on November 11. We put the signs on the sides of Brian's SUV and rode in that. At 3 pm, we assembled at the Custer Post 5 Cemetery plot and Civil War monument in the Lone Mountain Cemetery in Carson City and had a short wreath laying service. Interestingly, ours was the only Veterans Day service activity in Carson City as parades and services were being held nearby in Reno and Virginia City. About 30 people attended including a reporter. We were mentioned in the Nevada Appeal, which included a picture of Brian.

The Commander's Veterans Day presentation was as follows:

I am not much of a speechmeister, but I would like to make a few if somewhat disjointed comments about today. Veterans Day is the day we honor all veterans, both the living and the dead. Veterans Day is a 1954 renaming of Armistice Day, which marked the anniversary of the end of World War I and a Federal holiday since 1938. World War I was known as the Great War and the War to End all Wars. I had a grandfather in World War I.

I will digress briefly with a history of this site.

After the Civil War, the Union veterans started a fraternal organization called the Grand Army of the Republic or GAR. This lasted from its founding in 1866 until its last

member died in 1956. We, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, are the heir organization to the GAR.

Carson City had the Custer Post 5 of the GAR which lasted from 1878 until the death of its last member in 1935. In 1889 and 1890, the Custer Post 5 acquired the lots that make up this 140' by 140' square that contains veterans of the Mexican War, Civil War, and Spanish-American War. In 1891, they acquired and dedicated this fine statue to honor Nevada's Union soldiers and sailors.

In 1868, through the efforts of the GAR, Memorial Day was established to honor those who died in battle. During the decades of its existence, the Custer Post 5 hosted Memorial Day parades up Roop Street to this site where they held a service consisting of dirges, speeches, and the decoration of the graves with flowers and flags.

Later, many of the men who marched off to World War I were the grandsons and great-grandsons of these Civil War veterans, and a large but dwindling fraction of these Civil War veterans lived long enough to see them go. These veterans were likely reminded of their own war experiences when they heard some of the World War I jargon. Civil War infantry men were also commonly called "doughboys" and trench warfare was in use near the end of the Civil War during the Battles of Petersburg and Richmond. A few also knew a little about aerial reconnaissance, since balloons had been used for that purpose during the Civil War. Hand grenades, land mines, and exploding shells were in use, and a primitive machine gun called the Gatling gun first saw action.

Out of about 5 million or so Union and Confederate soldiers, maybe a hundred or so lived long enough to see World War II, and maybe a dozen saw the Korean War. One Union and several Confederate veterans lived long enough past 100 to see the first Veterans Day.

In life, these Civil War veterans missed out on the honor and recognition due all veterans on this special day. The day they were familiar with, Memorial Day, was specifically meant to honor those who died in battle, although those who died afterwards were also usually remembered that day. However, except for Lieutenant Colonel McDermit over there, who died from an Indian attack, most of these men died long after the Civil War was over. So while Veterans Day does honor them in death, I believe it would have also meant as much to them in life as it does to today's veterans.

We will now show that honor with the laying of this wreath.

53RD ANNUAL LINCOLN TOMB CEREMONY

April 18, 2009

The 53rd Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS), will be observed on Saturday, April 18, 2009 at the Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois. The ceremony will be held at 10:00 AM CDT and will be followed by a luncheon at 12:00 noon. The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Ball will be held from 7:00 until 11:30 PM that evening at the Springfield Hilton. A ceremony commemorating the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic, sponsored by the Department of Illinois, SUVCW, will be held near Petersburg, Illinois at 3:00 pm. For more information please visit <http://www.suvcw.org> or contact Alan Loomis at arlsuvcw@aol.com, or 219-464-1332

RECENTLY ACQUIRED BOOKS

David A. Davis, Camp Commander

For any brother interested, I just acquired the following books for my personal library from www.abebooks.com. Since I am also Department Historian, I probably should know something about the Civil War history of California and other parts of the West.

The California Gold Rush and the Coming of the Civil War, by Leonard L. Richards, 2007, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, NY, 292 p.

California, the Civil War, and the Indian Problem, an Account of California's Participation in the Great Conflict; by Leo P. Kibby, 1967, Journal of the West, Lorrin L. Morrison and Carroll Spear Morrison Publishers, 68 p.

The California Column: It's Campaigns and Services in New Mexico, Arizona and Texas During the Civil War; by George Henry Pettis, 1908, Historical Society of New Mexico, reprint, 45 p.

The Civil War in Apacheland, Sergeant George Hand's Diary, California, Arizona, West Texas, New Mexico, 1861-1864; edited by Neil B. Carmony, 1996, High-Lonesome Books, Silver City, NM, 218 p.

The Civil War in Arizona, the Story of the California Volunteers, 1861-1865; by Andrew E. Marsh, 2006, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK, 368 p.

The Civil War in the Western Territories, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah; by Ray C. Colton, 1959, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK, 230 p.

Colorado Volunteers in the Civil War, the New Mexico Campaign in 1862, by William Clarke Whitford, 1906, The State Historical Society of Colorado, reprinted 1963, Pruett Press, Inc., Boulder, CO, 174 p.

OCTOBER 19, 2008, MEETING MINUTES

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of California and the Pacific. General William Passmore Carlin, Camp-25. Camp mailing address: 5200 Cedarwood Dr. Reno, NV. 89511-9025.

1. Time: 1310 Hrs.
2. Call to Order and opening Prayer by Camp Chaplain Don.
3. All brothers recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.
4. Roll Call: David A. Davis, Frank Wood, Don Guidici, John Riggs, Brian Worcester and guest speaker of the Nevada State Library and Archives Mr. Jeff Kintop.
5. Secretary/ Treasurer Report: Submitted by Brother Brian, Minutes of previous meeting accepted and the Camp bank balance stands at \$ 587.53.
6. Commanders Report (attachment) submitted by Commander Davis contains the following topics: By Law Change, Labor Day and Dayton Valley Days, Remembrance Day, 53rd Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony and New Business.
7. The Commander also submitted the History and Memorials Report (attachment) that contains the following topics: History Page, Lone Mountain Markers and Potential Civil War Flags Officer.

8. Old Business contained the following topics: Clampers, Nevada Day, (it should be noted the Camp will be in the Parade and information will be sent to Camp Brothers by the Commander), Veterans Day, SAR Event, and Remembrance Day.

9. New Business: The election of new Camp Officers will be at the December meeting.

10. The next Camp meeting will be held at the VFW Hall, 255 Burris Lane at 1300 Hrs. on December 7, 2008. The Camp meeting closed with a moment of silence offered by the Chaplain at 1412 Hrs.

Mr. Jeff Kintop spoke on the topic of Civil War and GAR holdings at the Nevada State Library and Archives.

Submitted in F, C & L, Brian I. Worcester

COMMANDER'S REPORT

October 19, 2008

David A. Davis, SUVCW Gen. William Passmore Carlin Camp 25 Camp Commander.

The following is a summary of recent activities:

BYLAW CHANGE

Department Commander Jerry Sayre has officially signed off on our by-laws change. I contacted Department Signals Officer and Past Department Commander Tad Campbell to have the revised by-laws put on our website, and he has done that.

LABOR DAY AND DAYTON VALLEY DAYS

The Comstock Civil War Reenactors invited us to have a booth at their camp in Virginia City over the Labor Day weekend. They held several reenactments involving the steam train, and my son Tyrone participated as a Union flag bearer. Four of us spent a day there, and we set up shop in a shed on the edge of the Union camp behind the saloon and between the brothel and a sutler.

On the weekend of September 20 and 21, the Dayton Valley Days festival was held along Pike Street in Dayton, which across from the old Union Hotel. Frank and I manned our Camp tent next to the old firehouse. We were nestled in between the regular vendors, and we had quite a few people stop by, ask questions, and view our displays. We probably gave away at least a couple of dozen flyers and took some donations for the Lone Mountain historical marker.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and Sons of Veterans Reserve will hold their 52nd observance of Remembrance Day at Gettysburg this year on November 22. They will have a brief service at the GAR Memorial there, a parade, and other activities. Please see the SUVCW National website for more details.

53RD ANNUAL LINCOLN TOMB CEREMONY

The 53rd Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS), will be observed on Saturday, April 18, 2009 at the Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois. The ceremony will be held at 10:00 AM CDT and will be followed by a luncheon at 12:00 noon. The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Ball will be held from 7:00 until 11:30 PM that evening at the Springfield Hilton. A ceremony commemorating the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic, sponsored by the Department of Illinois, SUVCW, will be held near Petersburg, Illinois at 3:00 pm. For more information please visit <http://www.suvcw.org> or contact Alan Loomis at arlsuvcw@aol.com, or 219-464-1332

SPEAKER

Mr. Jeff Kintop of the Nevada State Library and Archives (NSLA) will tell us about the Civil War and GAR related holdings at the NSLA after the meeting. Eric and Jeff were the easy ones. I will have to research potential speakers for future meetings.

HISTORY AND MEMORIALS REPORT

October 19, 2008

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

The following is a summary of recent activities:

HISTORY PAGE

Several months ago, I contacted the Department Signals Officer and Past Department Commander Tad Campbell and sent him two of my historical reports and an image of the 1913 GAR Department of California and Nevada Reno encampment ribbon. He created a "History Page" on the Carlin Camp 25 website and placed on it. Since then, I have sent him several more reports, which he recently added to the site. I am rewriting one of the other reports for the site, and I still plan to eventually put my list of GAR/SOV/SUVCW/Allied Orders and maybe the list of potential Fort Churchill burials on the "History Page," though that may not happen until after the first of the year. The Department website also has a "History Page," and I have requested that our Camp "History Page" be linked to it. Our "History Page" does have a link to the Department "History Page."

LONE MOUNTAIN MARKERS

I filled out the Veterans Administration forms for grave markers at Lone Mountain. Five were for replacements for existing damaged markers at Civil War veterans' graves (Alfred Cross, John Haines, William Smith, Jr., Charles Vogt, and a Fort Churchill U. S. Soldier). One is for a broken marker for a Mexican War veteran's grave (Samuel Fulton), though it is not clear yet that his marker was originally a government marker. One other was to replace a broken private marker at a Civil War veteran's grave (Harvey Fowler). I got his record from NARA. I personally handed the filled out documents to sexton Tim Glancy, and he is eager to do his part in getting replacement markers. We will see how successful this exercise is.

POTENTIAL CIVIL WAR FLAGS OFFICER

A National committee has been set up to look at the possibility of creating a Civil War Flags Officer position along the lines of the Civil War Memorials Officer. Several past General Orders have been issued dealing with flags with varying results or lack thereof. If this idea is successful, then the thought is that Civil War Flags Officer positions would be created at the National, Department, and Camp levels. As with Civil War memorials, Civil War, GAR, and SUVCW flags would be located and documented using an official form. The condition would be noted, and money would be made available through a grant for preservation efforts. A database of these flags would be set up, hopefully including pictures of the flags. Ed Norris, Commander of the Willie Grout Camp 25 in Worcester, Massachusetts, will head the committee, which will include six members. I was invited to serve on it, and I agreed to do so.

NO GENERAL ORDERS HAVE BEEN ISSUED SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF THE CARLIN CAMP DISPATCH