



Gen. W. S. Rosecrans

*Newsletter of Gen. William S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2, SUVCW –  
Los Angeles & Ventura Counties.*

# *Rosecrans Report*

*Volume 2020, No. 4 – December & January*

*Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War celebrating 138 years*



*Preserving the Memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and our Ancestors who Fought to Preserve the Union 1861 - 1865*

## **November Camp Meeting**

The November 14 Camp meeting was held virtually attended by fourteen Brothers.

Commander Smith gave a report covering: our membership prospects, the donation of unused camp tables to the Drum Barracks, Veterans Day celebrations, Camp projects for 2021, the Rosecrans Report, Patriotic Activities, and patriotic activities.

Gregory Wright is completing his application, and that Lucas Villardi (son of Brother Brandon) may soon join as a Junior Member.

Cdr. Smith announced that he is looking to expand the Camp's ROTC/JROTC Recognition Program as well as the Eagle Scout Certificate Program, and that he hopes that either or both graves registration and monument survey projects might be conducted in the coming year.

## **Camp Order No. 5 - Passing of brother William Elmer Nelson**

Brother William Elmer Nelson, PCC, passed away on his 83rd birthday, 1 November 2020. According to his wife, Ruth, Bill went to be with God, as he had wished, peacefully in his sleep.

Brother Nelson joined the Gen. W.S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2 in 2002, and was elected to be its second Camp Commander, for the years 2003 and 2004. He was absent from the Camp for some years, returning on 16 March 2017, after finally retiring from full-time employment as a Security Guard, at the age of 80. He brought with him the Camp's missing Charter, which he said he had rescued from someone's trash. For the past two years, Brother Bill hosted our Camp meetings, and served our Camp as its Chaplain's Aide, as well as Camp

Counselor, and a member of the Camp Council. Brother Nelson's uplifting presence, and his devotion to the Camp and the Order, will be sorely missed.

Brother Bill was a proud veteran of the United States Navy, serving after the Korean War. He attended classes at Pierce Community College, and learned the printing business at L.A. Trade Tech. He owned his own printing company for many years, employing as many as 31 people.

Brother Nelson was a good, and deeply devout, man. He and his wife of 31 years, Ruth, lived at the Solheim Senior Community, in Eagle Rock, where he proudly performed the duties of the Resident Chaplain, publishing a Christian newsletter for all of the residents, to support their faith and lift their spirits.

A private memorial service will be held at the Solheim Senior Community; but, due to the COVID19 virus, no visitors are allowed. The Camp may conduct its own virtual memorial ceremony, in the near future.

The Camp extends sincere condolences to Brother Nelson's wife, Ruth, and the entire family. Sympathy cards may be sent to Brother Nelson's wife, Ruth Nelson, at: 2336 Merton Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90041.

The Camp Charter will be draped in black for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this order; and, all Camp 2 Brothers are respectfully directed to attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badge (pursuant to C&R, Article III, Sec. 9) for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this Order.

# *Rosecrans Report*

## Camp Officers for 2021

The election of officers for 2021 was conducted at the November 14, 2020 meeting as required.

### ELECTED OFFICERS

CAMP COMMANDER—Dean Smith  
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER—Lowell Harris  
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER—Hal Cardwell  
SECRETARY—Gordon Seyffert  
TREASURER—Stephen Magoffin  
COUNCIL MEMBER 1—William Gallagher  
COUNCIL MEMBER 2—Bob Goble  
COUNCIL MEMBER 3—Stephen Yoss (Nominee)

### APPOINTED OFFICERS

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR—David Kidd  
CHAPLAIN--Rev. Gary Dickey  
ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN—John Richardson, Jr.  
CHAPLAIN 's AIDE—Steve Magoffin  
GUIDE—Paul Nichols  
CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS OFFICER—Nick Smith, PCC  
HISTORIAN—John Richardson, Jr.  
GENEALOGICAL OFFICER—Gordon Seyffert  
ASSISTATN GENEALOGICAL OFFICER—John Richardson, Jr.  
GUARD—Kristen Anderson  
COUNSELOR—Bill Hurley  
COLOR BEARER—Brando Villardi  
GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER—Nick Smith, PCC  
GAR HIGHWAY OFFICER--Ronald Black  
EAGLE SCOUT CERTIFICATE COORDINATOR—Ken Walker  
ROTC/JROTC RECOGNITION COORDINATOR--Dean Smith  
SIGNALS OFFICER--James Gill  
QUARTERMASTER--Bob Goble  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR—Jared Nathan

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## **Camp Order No. 9 - Passing of Union Soldier Widow Helen Jackson**

Helen Viola Jackson, the last documented widow of a Civil War soldier, died on 16 December 2020, at the age of 101 years. She had been a resident of Webco Manor Nursing Home in Marshfield, Missouri for many years.

Helen Jackson married Private James Bolin, Company F, 14th Missouri Cavalry, on 4 September 1936. He was 93 years old; she was 17. Her father had volunteered her to stop by his house each day and assist him with chores as she headed home from school. Bolin did not believe in accepting charity and, after a period of time, asked Helen for her hand in marriage in order to provide for her future by leaving her his Union pension. She accepted and Bolin recorded the wedding in his personal Bible. Bolin died in June 1939 and Helen never remarried; she never applied for the pension.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War's social media platforms, and the Charters of all Departments and Camps will be draped in black. All Brothers will attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badges in remembrance of her.

## **Upcoming Events**

**Our next Camp meeting, is scheduled for March 13, 2021 at 10:00 AM, via Zoom**

2021 Department Encampment--Saturday, March 20, at 9:00 AM, via Zoom

## **Camp Website**

Be sure to check our Camp website, at: <http://www.suvpac.org/camp2.html>. Also, look at our Facebook page for recent photos, and other information.

## **Future "Rosecrans Reports"**

If you have a report on an event you attended, or a talk you gave, or a Civil War story you would like to share, please send it to: [jarednathan6@hotmail.com](mailto:jarednathan6@hotmail.com)

## **New Members**

On December 23, 2020, the Camps' Membership Committee voted unanimously to accept the applications of Gregory Wright, and Lucas Villardi. Gregory Wright's Union ancestor was William Easter, who served in the 148th Indiana Infantry. Lucas Villardi is the son of Br. Brandon Villardi, and our only Junior Member. Lucas' Union ancestor was John Wesley French, who served in the 91st Ohio Infantry. Like his Dad, Lucas is a member of the Harbor Chapter of the S.A.R., and a part of their uniformed Color Guard. It is expected that the acceptance of Brothers Gregory and Lucas will be confirmed by the Camp at its January 9, 2021 meeting.

Also at the January 9, 2021 Camp meeting, the Brothers will be voting to accept the application of James Bellows, whose Union ancestor was Eugene Bellows, who served in the 13th Vermont Infantry. James is also a member of the Harbor Chapter of the S.A.R.

We are hopeful that at least four more applications will be received from excellent candidates in the near future. Huzzah!