

Sheridan's Dispatch

*Phil Sheridan Camp 4
Department of California & Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

Volume 1, Issue 6

San José, California

November-December 2000

Successful Election Meeting held at Coco's Restaurant

The Camp meeting held on November 18, 2000 was a great success! Our new location (Coco's Restaurant, 370 S. Kiely Blvd., San José) worked out very well.

Camp Brothers gathered between 10:30 and 11:00 for an informal brunch. Bro. Bob Kadlec provided everyone with "edible" samples of hard tack, which he ordered over the internet from the original manufacturer.

After our meal, the tables were rearranged into the format prescribed by the Ritual and Ceremonials, which were followed for the remainder of the meeting. This is the first time in recent memory that our Camp has held a meeting in accordance with the Ritual and Ceremonials and it made for a most impressive experience.

The Bible placed upon the Altar was published in 1855 and belonged to Moses Foster whose three sons served in the Union Army. Foster was the great-great-grandfather of newly elected Camp



Back: Dan Earl, Clark Seum, Bob Kadlec, Crit Bell, Dave Schleeter; Front: Dan Renfroe, Tad Campbell, Dan Bunnell

Commander Tad Campbell. Displayed alongside the Altar were a beautifully framed picture of General Sheridan, donated to the Camp by newly elected SVC Bob Kadlec, and our Camp Charter, draped in black in recognition of the fallen sailors of the USS Cole.

The Camp Bylaws were passed unanimously and will now be sent to Department

Commander Bob Lowe for final approval.

The GAR Plot Conservation Program at Oak Hill Memorial Park was discussed. Bro. Dan Bunnell, PDC volunteered to chair the Special Committee on the GAR Plot Conservation. The objective of the Committee is to coordinate with other patriotic and veterans' organizations in order to facilitate the clean up and

memorial at the Oak Hill GAR Plot. A date for this event has yet to be announced.

Elections

Nominations, elections and the installation of new Camp Officers for 2000-2001 were held. The following are the newly elected and appointed Camp Officers:

Commander	Tad D. Campbell
Senior Vice Commander	Robert J. Kadlec
Junior Vice Commander	David C. Schleeter
Secretary-Treasurer	Daniel R. Earl
Council	Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC Donald W. Pray Daniel F. Renfroe
Patriotic Instructor	David C. Schleeter
Chaplain	Rev. Clark D. Seum
Historian	Tad D. Campbell
Counselor	Daniel R. Earl
Guide	<i>vacant</i>
Color Bearer	<i>vacant</i>
Guard	Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC
Graves Registration Officer	<i>vacant</i>
Civil War Memorials Officer	<i>vacant</i>
Eagle Scout Cert. Coordinator	David C. Schleeter
Recruiting Officer	<i>vacant</i>
Signals Officer	Tad D. Campbell

Please notify Commander Tad Campbell if you are interested in any of the vacant offices.

Encampment Delegates

The following Brothers were elected as Delegates to the Department Encampment in March: Crittenden Bell, Bob Kadlec, Dan Renfroe, Dave Schleeter, and Rev. Clark Seum.

Pursuant to National Regulations, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 1, the following Officers are automatic Delegates to the Department Encampment: Camp Commander Tad Campbell, Dept. Counselor Dan Earl, and Dan Bunnell, PDC.

Our Camp is also entitled to one additional Delegate and six alternate Delegates. All Brothers are encouraged to attend the Encampment, but being a Delegate allows one to vote on important issues and to help direct the future of our organization.

If you are interested in serving as a Delegate to the Department Encampment, please contact Commander Tad Campbell.



Tad Campbell & Dan Bunnell with Don Cheney Memorial Flag

Camp Flags

A 4' x 6' American flag was donated to the Camp by Bro. Donald Pray. This flag was flown over the Capitol Building in Washington, DC in honor of PDC Don Cheney, late member of our Camp. A certificate of authenticity accompanied the flag.

SVC Bob Kadlec donated a 3' x 5' American flag to our Camp to be used for our future Camp Color Guard. Thank you Don and Bob!

Secretary-Treasurer Dan Earl is in the process of procuring a Camp Flag from Given Camp 51, Dept. of Ohio. We should have this flag in time for the next meeting.

Meeting Program

Patriotic Instructor Dave Schleeter gave a thoroughly fascinating one-hour discussion on his ten-week visit to Civil War battlefields to the enthralled membership. He shared many interesting anecdotes and selected pictures. Our sincere appreciation is extended to Bro. Schleeter. He drove the last leg of his trip from Las Vegas to the Bay Area non-stop in order to arrive in time for the meeting.

Due to elections and installation of Camp Officers and Delegates, and the very interesting talk by Bro. Dave Schleeter, this meeting ran over four hours in

Q: What Civil War Weapon was called "Old Wristbreaker"?

A: The heavy Model 1840 cavalry saber was dubbed "Old Wristbreaker" by the soldiers forced to use it.

duration. This was very unusual, as most meetings will generally run about three hours, including the brunch.

Next Meeting

The next Camp Meeting has been scheduled for 10:00 AM on Saturday, January 13, 2001 at Coco's Restaurant, 370 S. Kiely Blvd. in San José. A program has yet to be established. Come join us for an enjoyable brunch and get to know your fellow Brothers!

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New Department Appointments

Dept. Commander Bob Lowe has appointed two new Department Officers, both of whom are active members of this Camp.

Camp Secretary-Treasurer Dan Earl was appointed Department Counselor. Bro. Earl's duties will include advising the Dept. Commander and the Department on such legal issues as may come before them, and providing advice and interpretation of the Department's Bylaws, the Order's Constitution and Regulations, and on parliamentary questions.

Camp Commander Tad Campbell was appointed Department Signals Officer. Brother Campbell's duties will include providing the Dept. Commander and the Council with advice and assistance relative to matters involving communication and technology. He will also need to be familiar with and comply with the National Communication Technology policy and maintain the Department website.

As Dept. Signals Officer, Bro. Campbell has already established websites for the Department of California and Pacific; Co. A, 5th California Infantry, SVR; and for any Camp within the Department that did not already have a website. All can be found at the following:

Dept. of CA & Pacific Website

<http://home.inreach.com/tadcamp/deptca.html>

Congratulations to both Dan and Tad on their appointments! We wish them well!

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Sheridan Camp Welcomes New Brothers

By Secretary-Treasurer Dan Earl

At the Camp meeting on October 7th two new members were admitted to the Camp. The first was Ronald H. Thomassin. Ron's great-great grandfather Henry Allen Kent served the Union in Co. B of the OH 91st Infantry. Ron is employed by the City of San José where he makes his home. The other new member admitted was Gray David Appleton. Gray is the first cousin of our Camp Commander and is descended from John Henderson Appleton, his great-great-great grandfather, who served in Co. E of the 17th Indiana Infantry, Wilder's Lightning Brigade. Gray recently moved to California from Charleston, South Carolina, the home of Fort Sumter. He now lives in Napa, Calif., and builds high performance racing motorcycles.

During the following Camp meeting, held on November 18th, three more new members were admitted to the Camp. The first at this meeting was Donald D. Campbell, father of our very own Camp Commander, Tad Campbell. His Civil War ancestor is his great-great grandfather Alexander Oakes, who served in Co. F, 1st AR Cavalry, USA. Don, a retired heavy equipment operator, and his wife, Kathy, recently moved from Gilroy, Calif. to the small town of Grizzly Flats in the California "Gold Country." Our next new member is Robert F. Earl, father of our Camp Secretary-Treasurer Dan Earl. He is descended from Thomas Creech, who served in Co. K of the 48th IL Infantry. Bob, a retired electrician, and his wife, Phyllis, live in the Monterey County town of Salinas, Calif. The final brother admitted to the Camp at this meeting was Steven D. Roberts. Steve's Civil War ancestor is his Great-Great Grandfather Moses S. Roberts, having served in Co. B. of the 29th Regiment, Maine Infantry. Steve, a dispatcher for the San José Police Department, and his wife Christine, live in the small coastal community of Moss Beach, Calif.

The entire Camp welcomes you all with Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty!

❖ Update on Josephine Pray

As many of you know, Josephine Pray, wife of Bro. Don Pray, has been ill for several months. She has a blocked vein in her liver, which caused her to lose weight to a critical level. She is now feeding through a tube and slowly gaining strength. Josephine's smiling face has always been a welcoming sight at Camp functions in the past. Please keep Don & Josephine in your thoughts and pray for her speedy recovery.

Q: What was the name of General George B. McClellan's favorite horse?

A: Daniel Webster.



Camp Committee Assignments Available

by

Secretary-Treasurer Dan Earl



With the adoption of our new Camp Bylaws, and election of a new Camp Commander, there are now many opportunities for Brothers to participate in Camp activities. Among these include serving on a Camp Committee. The responsibilities involved are very minimal, yet the rewards great! If you are interested in serving on any of the committees listed below, or just have questions about them, please contact Camp Commander Tad Campbell or Secretary-Treasurer Dan Earl.

Camp Standing Committees

- ◆ Membership Committee: proposes and implements programs for recruitment of new brothers.
- ◆ Fraternal Relations Committee: strengthens and enhances the standing and position of the SUVCW with other patriotic organizations.
- ◆ Budget and Finance Committee: assists the Treasurer in developing a budget and financial affairs of the Camp.
- ◆ Programs and Publicity Committee: arranges special programs, speakers, etc. for Camp meetings.
- ◆ Civil War Memorials Committee: identifies monuments and memorials dedicated to Civil War veterans and the G.A.R.
- ◆ Graves Registration Committee: identifies and records graves and memorials to Union Civil War Soldiers and secures veteran headstones from the Federal government.
- ◆ Legislation Committee: keeps the Camp informed of legislation of such a nature to effect the interest of the Camp or the patriotic interest of the public.
- ◆ Bylaws Committee: periodically reviews Camp Bylaws.
- ◆ History Committee: identifies and preserves historical and biographical material pertaining to the G.A.R. and SUVCW.
- ◆ Memorial Day and Veteran's Day Ceremonies Committee: recommends and coordinates arrangements necessary for the appropriate observance of Memorial and Veteran's Days by the Camp.
- ◆ Communications and Technology: advises officers and committees about the latest computer and related technologies.
- ◆ Patriotic Instruction Committee: prepares standardized patriotic presentations for junior and high school-aged children.
- ◆ Military Affairs Committee: advises the Camp on all matters relating to military affairs of the Camp and the SVR.
- ◆ Visitations Committee: identifies and reports on sick, injured, or bereaved Camp brothers and their families.

Q: What cabinet post did Abraham Lincoln's son Robert hold after the war?

A: He became Secretary of War in the Garfield administration.

2002 Department Encampment Fundraiser

The Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (ASUVCW) has graciously offered to organize and provide the prizes for a fundraiser to benefit our 2002 Department Encampment.

For a donation of five dollars (\$5.00) you will receive seven (7) tickets for chances to win one or more of the following seven (7) prizes:

- Handmade cross stitch by Rosemary Lowe. The design features a bald eagle with outstretched wings, grasping the Union Shield in its talons and flanked by the words "In God We Trust".
- One (1) Union or one (1) Confederate teddy bear with enlistment papers.
- Two (2) baseball caps featuring the SUVCW Emblem.
- A 2000 SUVCW National Encampment Badge.
- A patriotic lithograph of two girls holding American flags (20" x 22").

You may obtain as many sets of tickets as you like and each ticket is good for all seven prizes. The drawing will be held at our next Department Encampment at San Luis Obispo, CA on March 31, 2001. The winner need not be present to win as long as their name and phone number is on the back of the ticket. Ticket sales are not restricted to SUVCW members.

For tickets or further information please contact Camp Commander Tad Campbell or Dept. Commander Bob Lowe. Commander Lowe can be reached at his e-mail <cavalry21@aol.com>.

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CAMP ORDERS No. 1 Series 1999-2000

COMMENDATIONS

By the authority vested in me as Commander of the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, by the Camp Bylaws, Department of California and Pacific Bylaws, the National Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: In memory of the fallen sailors of the USS Cole (DDG67), the Camp Charter will be draped in black for the next Camp meeting, which will be held November 18, 2000.

Section 2: I urge all members, if at all possible, to attend our next Camp meeting, Saturday, November 18, 2000 at 10:00 a.m., at Coco's Restaurant, 370 S. Kiely Blvd., cross of Saratoga Ave., in San José. There will be an election and installment of Officers and Delegates, ratification of our new Bylaws, and other important business. This meeting will define the future direction of our Camp, and we need you there!

Section 3: If our Camp is to grow and accomplish the goals of our Order, we need your participation. If you are interested in serving as an Officer or on one of the committees, please contact Tad Campbell at <tadcamp@inreach.com>.

Section 4: Speaking of service to our Order, I would like to commend some brothers for their meritorious service during the last year:

- a) Tad Campbell, who not only faithfully fulfilled his duties as SVC, but created our Camp website and documented the GAR veterans at Oak Hill. Tad has also done great work as editor of our camp newsletter, *Sheridan's Dispatch*.
- b) Dan Earl, who not only took on the huge task of Secretary/Treasurer, but also the Camp Counselor position

- and headed the Committee on Camp Bylaws. (Congratulations on your appointment as Department Counselor!)
- c) Bob Kadlec served as JVC and also organized the successful Oak Hill GAR Cemetery event. This helped bring Civil War Roundtable, National Guard, NCWA, and the Sons together for a mutual goal. I would also like to commend Brother Kermit Claytor who helped make the event possible.
 - d) Dave Schleeter, who brought patriotic content to our meetings and certificates to Eagle Scouts.
 - e) Rev. Seum for his spiritual guidance.
 - f) Donald Pray for his guidance on the Bylaws Committee, Camp council, and other matters.

The foregoing Camp Order is proclaimed this 16th day of October in the year of our Lord 2000, in the City of San José, County of Santa Clara, State of California by Daniel M. Bunnell, Commander of the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

By Order of:
Daniel M. Bunnell, Commander (PDC)
Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4

ATTEST: Daniel R. Earl, Secretary-Treasurer
Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4

CAMP ORDER No. 1 Series 2000-2001

ELECTIONS, APPOINTED OFFICERS, & CAMP HEADQUARTERS



By the authority vested in me as Commander of the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, by the Camp Bylaws, Department of California and Pacific Bylaws, the National Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: Having been duly elected Camp Commander, it is with the sincerest appreciation for your confidence and support that I assume command of the Phil Sheridan Camp #4, for 2000-2001 term. I can assure all of you that my fellow Camp Officers and I, will work tirelessly to ensure that the Camp does all that it can to

Q: What battle took the life of Union General Philip Kearny?

A: Kearny was killed at the Battle of Chantilly, during the Second Manassas Campaign, when he accidentally rode into enemy lines on Sept. 1, 1862.

bring honor to our forefathers who fought to preserve the Union, and to uphold the great traditions of our Organization. My tenure will be guided by the principles of our Order: Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

Although the principal place of business for our Camp shall remain in San José, in accordance with Camp Bylaws, I hereby establish my residence in the City of Gilroy, County of Santa Clara, State of California as the Camp Headquarters. Correspondence on any matters are most welcomed and encouraged at my email address, <tadcamp@inreach.com>, or at the Camp post office box, P.O. Box 664, Gilroy, CA 95021-0664.

Section 2: Camp Brothers who were duly elected and installed at the Camp meeting of 18 November 2000 are as follows:

- ⇒ Commander — Br. Tad D. Campbell
- ⇒ Sr. Vice-Commander — Br. Robert J. Kadlec
- ⇒ Jr. Vice-Commander — Br. David C. Schleeter
- ⇒ Secretary-Treasurer — Br. Daniel R. Earl
- ⇒ Council — Br. Daniel M. Bunnell
- ⇒ Council — Br. Donald W. Pray
- ⇒ Council — Br. Daniel F. Renfroe



Section 3: Camp Brothers are appointed as follows:

- ⇒ Chaplain — Rev. Clark Seum
- ⇒ Patriotic Instructor — Br. David Schleeter
- ⇒ Counselor — Br. Daniel R. Earl
- ⇒ Historian — Br. Tad D. Campbell
- ⇒ Guard — Br. Daniel M. Bunnell
- ⇒ Signals Officer — Br. Tad D. Campbell
- ⇒ *Sheridan's Dispatch* Editor — Br. Tad D. Campbell

The foregoing Camp Order is proclaimed this 18th day of November in the year of our Lord 2000, in the City of San José, County of Santa Clara, State of California by Tad D. Campbell, Commander of the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

By Order of:
Tad D. Campbell, Commander
Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4

ATTEST: Daniel R. Earl, Secretary-Treasurer
Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4

Q: Why was Union General Philip H. Sheridan known as "Little Phil"?

A: A veteran commander at Perryville, Stone's River, Chickamauga, and Missionary Ridge, and named commander of Grant's Cavalry in 1864, Sheridan was 5'5" tall and weighed 115 pounds.

CAMP ORDER No. 2 Series 2000-2001

CAMP MEETING PLACE & TIME



By the authority vested in me as Commander of the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, by the Camp Bylaws, Department of California and Pacific Bylaws, the National Constitution and Regulations, and National Policies, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: After consultation with the Camp Council and other officers, I have determined that the location for our meetings will forthwith be at the Coco's Restaurant, located at 370 S. Kiely Boulevard, San José, California 95129, effective immediately. Brothers so choosing will participate in a no-host brunch that will begin at approximately 10:00, with the meeting following.

Relocating our meetings to a more public venue will facilitate not only a more spacious area for rituals, flags, the altar, and other supplies, while being less intrusive on any one individual Brother's home and family. At the same time this will promote the principle of Fraternity by providing Brothers (and guests) the opportunity to enjoy a full meal together.

I am optimistic that by having our meetings at Coco's Restaurant we will also increase the potential to recruit new members.

The foregoing Camp Order is proclaimed this 20th day of November in the year of our Lord 2000, in the City of San José, County of Santa Clara, State of California by Tad D. Campbell, Commander of the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

By Order of:
Tad D. Campbell, Commander
Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4

ATTEST: Daniel R. Earl, Secretary-Treasurer
Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4



Veterans Flag Lowering Ceremony at Oak Hill



On Sunday, January 21, 2001, our Camp will be sponsoring and participating in a flag lowering ceremony at Oak Hill Memorial Park to honor veterans.

We have organized a uniformed color guard for the ceremony and will have our new Camp Colors prominently displayed.

The ceremony, which takes place at the main flag pole as you enter the cemetery, will begin at 3:30 PM and is to last approximately twenty minutes.

Oak Hill Memorial Park is located in San José, Calif., at 300 Curtner Avenue, between Monterey Road and Highway 87. This is the same cemetery in which our GAR Plot is located.

Please note this event on your calendars and plan on attending. We'd like to see everyone there!

Civil War Reenactment in Fremont

The National Civil War Association (NCWA) has invited our Camp to attend their annual Civil War reenactment and memorial service at Ardenwood Park in Fremont, Calif. This will take place on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday of Memorial Day weekend, 2001.

We will be setting up an informational/recruiting booth for the weekend and participating in the memorial ceremony on Memorial Day.

Brother Kermit Claytor of our Camp is also the Vice President of the NCWA.

More information will appear in future issues of the *Dispatch*. If you are interested in participating please contact Commander Tad Campbell.

This poem was written by an anonymous Marine stationed in Okinawa, Japan. Submitted by Brother Bob Earl of Salinas.

TWAS THE NIGHT before Christmas,

He lived all alone, in a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone.

I had come down the chimney with presents to give, and to see just who in this home did live.

I looked all about, a strange sight I did see, no tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.

No stocking by mantle, just boots filled with sand, on the wall hung pictures of far distant lands.

With medals and badges, awards of all kinds, a sober thought came through my mind.

For this house was different, it was dark and dreary, I found the home of a soldier, once I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone, curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home.

The face was so gentle, the room in such disorder, not how I pictured a united states soldier.

Was this the hero of whom I'd just read? Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?

I realized the families that I saw this night, owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.

Soon round the world, the children would play, and grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas day.

They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year, because of the soldiers, like the one lying here.

I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone, on a cold Christmas eve in a land far from home.

The very thought brought a tear to my eye, I dropped to my knees and started to cry.

The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice, Santa don't cry, this life is my choice;

I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more, my life is my god, my country, my corps.

The soldier rolled over and drifted to sleep, I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.

I kept watch for hours, so silent and still and we both shivered from the cold night's chill.

I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark, night, this guardian of honor so willing to fight.

Then the soldier rolled over, with a voice soft and pure, whispered, "carry on Santa, it's Christmas day, all is secure."

One look at my watch, and I knew he was right. "merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night."

May each of you enjoy a happy holiday season!

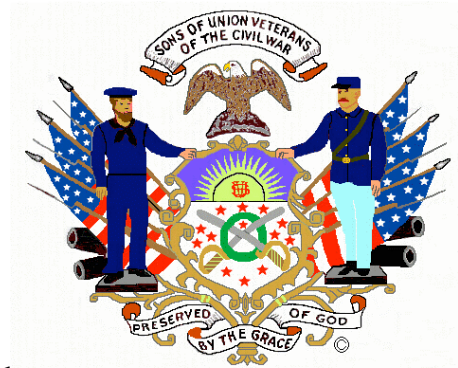
Q: How much money did the Civil War cost the U.S. government each day?

A: According to a report released by the U.S. Congress in 1863, the financial cost of fighting the war was \$2.5 million a day.

Camp Officers:

- *Commander* Tad D. Campbell
tadcamp@inreach.com
- *Sr. Vice Commander* Robert J. Kadlec
bobkvp@aol.com
- *Jr. Vice Commander* David C. Schleeter
mustang@peopleweb.com
- *Secretary-Treasurer* Daniel R. Earl
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- *Camp Council* Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC
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Donald W. Pray
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Daniel F. Renfro
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- *Patriotic Instructor* David C. Schleeter
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- *Chaplain* Rev. Clark D. Seum
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- *Historian* Tad D. Campbell
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- *Guard* Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC
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- *Eagle Scout Cert. Coordinator* David C. Schleeter
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- *Signals Officer* Tad D. Campbell
tadcamp@inreach.com
- *Newsletter Editor* Tad D. Campbell
tadcamp@inreach.com

Next Meeting: January 13, 2001, 10AM
Coco's Restaurant, 370 S. Kiely Blvd., San José, Calif.



Camp Web Site:

<http://home.inreach.com/tadcamp/sheridan4.html>

Department Web Site:

<http://home.inreach.com/tadcamp/deptca.html>

National Web Site:

<http://www.suvcw.org>

Mailing Address:

Phil Sheridan Camp 4
P.O. Box 664
Gilroy, CA 95021-0664

Membership Eligibility:

A male descendant, whether through lineal or collateral line and not less than 14 years of age (8 to 14 years for Juniors), who: (1) is a blood relative of a Soldier, Sailor, Marine or member of the Revenue Cutter Service, who was regularly mustered and served honorably in, was honorably discharged from or died in the service of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States of America or in such state regiments called to active service and was subject to orders of United States general officers, between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865; (2) has never been convicted of any infamous or heinous crime and (3) has, or whose ancestor through whom membership is claimed has, never voluntarily borne arms against the government of the United States. Associate memberships are available for those supporters who are not of lineal descent.

Q: Where was the longest pontoon bridge of the war and how long was it?

A: Erected across the James River during the Petersburg Campaign in 1864, the James River Bridge was the war's longest pontoon structure. It was 2,200 feet long, used 101 pontoons, and required 450 Union engineers for its construction.