

Sheridan's Dispatch

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

Volume 2, Issue 1

San José, California

January-February 2001

Services Planned for Josephine Pray

Josephine Pray, the wife of Camp Brother **Donald Pray**, passed away early on the morning of Sunday, January 21, 2001, at the age of seventy-three.

Her death was not altogether unexpected. Josephine had been quite ill for about six months with a blocked vein in her liver. At one point it looked as though she might rally but in the end it proved too much for her. She fought the good fight.

Josephine was a real combat veteran of World War II. She served as a civilian intelligence courier carrying documents and weapons through the Japanese lines and as a medical aide for a unit of the Philippine Army.



She was always a smiling presence at Camp and Department functions and enjoyed her activities with the Sons very much. Last May she picked roses from her own garden and decorated the graves in the Oak Hill GAR plot for our conservation program.

There will be a Memorial Mass and wake for Josephine on Saturday, February 17th, 2001 at 10:00 AM at St.

Joseph of Cupertino Church, 10110 N. De Anza Blvd. in Cupertino, California. Brothers are especially encouraged to attend the service and Bro. Pray requests that those with uniforms wear them. Josephine was quite fond of uniforms.

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National Committee Appointments

Phil Sheridan Camp 4 is proud to announce the recent appointments by Commander-in-Chief Edward J. Krieser of two Camp Brothers to National Committees.

Bro. **Daniel R. Earl** was appointed to the National Committee on Legislation. As the current Department Counselor and with his knowledge and experience in working with elected state officials in Sacramento, Bro. Earl will be a valuable asset to this Committee.

C-in-C Krieser also appointed Bro. **Tad D. Campbell** to the National Committee on History. Bro. Campbell has had a lifelong interest in history and has spent many years researching his own genealogy. He is currently serving as the Camp Historian.

Congratulations to Brothers Earl and Campbell!

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Veterans' Flag Lowering Ceremony at Oak Hill

On Saturday, January 28, 2001, the Camp sponsored the Veterans' Flag Lowering Ceremony at Oak Hill Memorial Park for the first time. This is a monthly event coordinated by Oak Hill Memorial Park and Earl Edwards of the Santa Clara County Veterans' Council.

Because of a scheduling error on the part of Oak Hill, the date of the event, originally slated for the previous Sunday, was changed with very little notice. Apologies are extended to anyone who may have shown up on January 21st.

Over the course of the month prior to ceremony, the flag at the cemetery is lowered each day in honor of a particular veteran. The veteran does not have to be interred at Oak Hill.



Camp Color Guard Retires the Colors

D. Bunnell, Dave Schleeter (behind flags), D. Earl, S. Pelikan

The Camp Color Guard, consisting of Bros. **Dan Bunnell, Dan Earl, Steve Pelikan,** and **Dave Schleeter** posted the Camp Colors at the beginning of the ceremony. After introductions by Mr. Edwards, Camp Commander **Tad Campbell** read a few words and Acting Chaplain **Don Pray** offered a prayer. Bro. **Bob Kadlec** served as the Camp Photographer.

Mr. Edwards then read the names of the honored veterans. After recognizing the veterans,

the Color Guard lowered and folded the Oak Hill flag and presented it to Mr. Edwards.

The Color Guard then retired our Camp Colors which concluded the ceremony.

We would like to thank all of those that made this ceremony a success, especially Bro. **Steve Pelikan** for his expert guidance of the Color Guard.

The Camp is honored to also have been scheduled to sponsor the November ceremony which will be held on Sunday, November 25, 2001.

New SVR Company Formed

A new Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) unit has been formed in the San Francisco Bay Area. Brother **Charles "Corky" Reed** of Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp 24 of Castro Valley was the driving force behind the formation of Company G, First California Infantry, SVR. If you are interested in joining this new company, please contact Bro. Reed at (415) 626-5701 or at his e-mail <ltcolreed@webtv.net>.

In addition to this new company, California still has another SVR unit, Company A, Fifth California Infantry, lead by Brother **Charles Davis** of the Gen. George Wright Camp 22 of Elk Grove. For information on this company, please contact Bro. Davis at (916) 685-7428 or e-mail <ggwc22@sac.verio.net>.

DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

The 115th Annual Department Encampment of the Department of California and Pacific, SUVCW will be held on **Saturday, March 31, 2001** at the Elk's Lodge in San Luis Obispo, California. **Commander-in-Chief Edward J. Krieser** will be an honored guest. Please see the enclosed registration form for more information.

Also, please see the Department Website for details about a fundraiser to be held at the Encampment for the benefit of the 2002 Encampment!



CAMP ORDERS No. 3 Series 2000-2001

COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

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:

The following resolution is hereby promulgated in recognition of Brother Robert J. Kadlec, Senior Vice-Commander:

WHEREAS, the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, has undergone, and continues to undergo a great deal of reorganization in the direction of substantially re-vitalizing this Camp; and,

WHEREAS, a select group of Camp Brothers, including Brother Robert J. Kadlec, have selflessly dedicated their personal time and money towards this goal; and,

WHEREAS, Brother Kadlec, in recognition of his contributions to the Phil Sheridan Camp, is deserving of honors and commendations; and,

WHEREAS, In September 1999, Brother Robert J. Kadlec was initiated as a member of the Phil Sheridan Camp #4 since September 1999, joining under his great grandfather, Jacob Stauff (who enlisted on 12 August 1862 as a Private in Co. I, 26th Wisconsin Voluntary Infantry Regiment, and who was Honorably Discharged Color Corporal on 13 June 1865); and,

WHEREAS, Shortly after his initiation into the Camp, Brother Kadlec was elected Junior Vice-Commander; and,

WHEREAS, In the Spring of 2000, Brother Robert J. Kadlec successfully co-organized the Oak Hill GAR Plot Conservation Program in honor and in memory of the "Boys in Blue" who have been laid to rest at the Oak Hill Cemetery in San José, California (while having simultaneously produced a video tape of the same); and,

WHEREAS, Over recent months Brother Kadlec has graciously donated to the Phil Sheridan Camp a United States Flag and ancillary equipment, as well as bestowing upon the Camp a beautifully framed antique portrait of General Philip Henry Sheridan; and,

WHEREAS, Brother Kadlec was recently elected Camp Senior Vice-Commander; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Phil Sheridan Camp #4 takes great pleasure in honoring Brother Robert J. Kadlec on his outstanding record as a brother of this Camp, and commends, congratulates, and honors him on his distinguished record of accomplishments.

The foregoing Camp Order is proclaimed this 13th day of January in the year of our Lord 2001, 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.

(CAMP SEAL)

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

ATTEST:

Daniel R. Earl, Secretary-Treasurer

Website Updates

By *Tad D. Campbell*

Camp and Department Signals Officer

Recently I have made a number of important updates to the Camp and Department websites that I hope will be helpful and of interest to users.

CAMP WEBSITE:

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

On the Camp website I have added a "Schedule of Events" for the 2001 calendar year. This way you can check on upcoming activities at a glance. The schedule will be updated regularly.

There is also a page entitled "My Civil War Ancestor" where you can find biographies of the Union ancestors of your Camp Brothers. I encourage each of you to submit information on your own Boys in Blue to be added to the site. Biographical data can be sent to me via e-mail or regular "snail-mail".

Our recently approved Camp Bylaws have been posted and feature a "user friendly" table of contents. Additionally, I have placed the Camp Orders, Policies and Regulations online.

DEPARTMENT WEBSITE:

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

At the Department website you can find information about the upcoming Department Encampment, links to other Camp websites, and a new online form for prospective members to request more information about joining the Order.

If you have ideas for further improvement, please contact me at <tadcamp@inreach.com>.

Northern California Regional Picnic

Arrangements are being made for a picnic and tour at the Presidio and Fort Point in San Francisco on Saturday, July 28, 2001. The time and details have yet to be announced. All Camps are invited. More planning will take place at the Department Encampment in March and further information should be available at that time.



Memorial Day Activities

Over Memorial Day Weekend (May 26-28, 2001), in conjunction with the National Civil War Association (NCWA), the Camp will be participating in activities at Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont.

The NCWA is a Northern California based group of Civil War re-enactors. Camp Brother **Kermit Claytor** is Vice President of the organization and has graciously offered the Camp space at one end of the "sutler row" for an informational/recruitment booth during the three-day event.

Over the course of the weekend there will be several battle reenactments and a memorial service. The staffing of the SUVCW table will be a joint effort between Phil Sheridan Camp 4 and Pleasonton Camp 24.

The following members of the Memorial Day and Veteran's Day Ceremonies Committee will be coordinating the activities: **Dan Renfroe**, chairman; **Dan Earl**, member; and **Bob Kadlec**, member. If you are interested in participating, please contact any one of the committee members.

2nd Annual Lincoln Day Dinner

The Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp 24 of Castro Valley held it's Second Annual Lincoln Day Dinner at Carrows Restaurant in Dublin on Saturday, February 10, 2001. About fifty people were in attendance, including representatives from Pleasonton Camp 24, Sheridan Camp 4, and Ellsworth Camp 23.

There were several poems and speeches read, including one by Sheridan Camp Commander **Tad Campbell** on Gen. Phil Sheridan. The keynote speaker was **Gen. George Crook** who gave a first person account of his meeting with President Lincoln. Bro. **Lynn Owens** of Pleasonton Camp gave a very moving rendition of *O Captain! My Captain!* by Walt Whitman.

A number of interesting Civil War artifacts were on display, including an actual amputation saw!

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Summary of Last Camp Meeting

The Camp meeting was held on January 13, 2001, following brunch, at Coco's Restaurant in San José. Two prospective members were in attendance, **James Hatch** of San José and **Gene Hetzer** of Foster City. The new Camp Flag was displayed as well as the Camp's beautifully embroidered Altar Cloth.

Bro. **Dan Bunnell** was presented with his Past Camp Commander badge.

SVC **Bob Kadlec** donated a two-volume set of Gen. Phil Sheridan's Memoirs to the Camp's new lending library. A suggestion was made that Brothers who own Civil War books make a list of books they would be willing to lend out and bring said list to the next meeting.

Cmdr. **Tad Campbell** discussed the upcoming activities for this year and set the date for the rest of the meetings. A calendar of events was distributed.

SVC Kadlec was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his hard work and generosity of both time and money.

Francis George Appleton was unanimously elected as a new member of the Camp. Bro. Appleton is the maternal grandfather of Cmdr. Campbell.

Secretary-Treasurer **Dan Earl** presented financial reports, voucher forms, and Camp property inventory forms. He also advised that approximately fifty percent of the membership had renewed.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws reported that our Camp Bylaws have been approved by Dept. Commander **Bob Lowe**.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Memorial Highway Legislation reported that a letter has been drafted to be sent to State Senator Vasconcellos seeking a meeting to discuss our proposed resolution honoring Gen. Phil Sheridan.

In response to the upcoming Memorial Day event at Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont, Cmdr. Campbell appointed the following Brothers to the Memorial Day and Veteran's Day Ceremonies Committee: **Dan Renfro**, chairman; **Bob Kadlec** and **Dan Earl**, members.

Cmdr. Campbell reported on the declining health of Josephine Pray, wife of Bro. **Don Pray**, and informed the Camp that Kathy Campbell has been diagnosed with lung cancer. Kathy is closely related to four Camp Brothers, being Cmdr. Campbell's mother, wife of Bro. **Don Campbell**, daughter of Bro. **Francis Appleton**, and aunt of Bro. **Gray Appleton**.

Welcome Newest Member George Appleton

by
Secretary-Treasurer **Dan Earl**

The Phil Sheridan Camp takes pleasure in welcoming its newest member, **BROTHER FRANCIS GEORGE APPLETON**. "George," as he is known to family and friends, was admitted to the Camp at the January 13th meeting. He is not only a Civil War descendant, but George is the Grandfather of our Camp Commander and father-in-law of Brother Don Campbell. George is descended from his great grandfather, John Henderson Appleton. Private Appleton was mustered into service on September 3, 1862 in Company E of the 17th Indiana Vol. Infantry, and discharged at the end of the war. He served under Col. John T. Wilder in the famed Lightning Brigade.

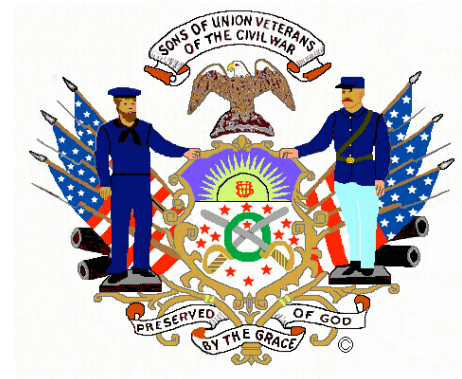
We should all be proud that George has also done his own to serve his country. In World War II he served as a sergeant. He was an army cook with the 119th National Guard Unit out of Lansing, MI and enlisted in 1940. The unit landed on Omaha Beach in Normandy only days after the invasion. During the war he served Thanksgiving dinner to General Eisenhower in a French chateau and was allowed to sit at his table. His unit saw action during the Battle of the Bulge and at the surrender of the Germans it was firing upon Berlin. After the war George became a carpenter until his retirement. He currently lives in San José where he enjoys the company of his wife, Frances (or "Frankie" as she is known) and other nearby family and friends.

It is with pleasure that the entire Camp welcomes you with Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty!

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
danearl@inreach.com
- *Camp Council* Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC
dbunnell@pacbell.net
Donald W. Pray
prayd@pacbell.net
Daniel F. Renfro
Renfroed@home.com
- *Patriotic Instructor* David C. Schleeter
mustang@peopleweb.com
- *Chaplain* Rev. Clark D. Seum
faithmedia@juno.com
- *Historian* Tad D. Campbell
tadcamp@inreach.com
- *Counselor* Daniel R. Earl
danearl@inreach.com
- *Guard* Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC
dbunnell@pacbell.net
- *Eagle Scout Cert. Coordinator* David C. Schleeter
mustang@peopleweb.com
- *Signals Officer* Tad D. Campbell
tadcamp@inreach.com
- *Newsletter Editor* Tad D. Campbell
tadcamp@inreach.com

Next Meeting: March 10, 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: How long did it normally take the U.S. government to forward the pay of slain soldiers to their next-of-kin?

A: Sixteen months.