

Sheridan's Dispatch

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

Volume 2, Issue 4

San José, California

September-October 2001

Oak Hill GAR Plot Rededication Ceremony



L-R: Bob Kadlec, Dave Schleeter,
Dan Earl, Tad Campbell,
Rev. Clark Seum, Brad Schall

The Oak Hill GAR Plot Rededication Ceremony held in San José on Saturday, September 9, 2001 was a great success! We had quite a number of attendees and participants from several different groups helped make this a memorable event.

As well as commemorating our "Boys in Blue", we also gave homage to the 84 veterans of the Spanish-American War, buried in a plot adjoining that of the GAR.

The Phil Sheridan Camp was presented proclamations by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors and by **THE HONORABLE RON GONZALES**, Mayor of San José. We were honored

to have Mayor Gonzales in attendance to present his proclamation in person.

In addition to the Mayor, other distinguished guests included:

- **THE HONORABLE FORREST WILLIAMS**, San José City Councilman.
- **BROTHER BRAD SCHALL**, Department Senior Vice Commander and Commander of Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp 24 of Castro Valley.
- **BROTHER ROBERT NELSON**, Department Historian and Commander of Lincoln Camp 10 of Santa Cruz.
- **BROTHER KERMIT CLAYTOR**, National Civil War Association (NCWA) and member of Phil Sheridan Camp 4.
- **KEVIN COLLINS**, Commander of the Stainless Banner Camp 1440 of San José, Sons of Confederate Veterans.
- **TONY CORBELLETTA**, President of the South Bay Civil War Roundtable.
- **CURT MONROE**, Spanish-American War 1898, Inc.
- **ERNEST A. GLAVE** and other dignitaries representing the California National Guard.

Our own Camp Color Guard and those of the NCWA, the Spanish-American War 1898, Inc. and the Andrew Hill High School Junior ROTC marched during the ceremonies. Members of the NCWA's "California 100" provided a gun salute and taps

A hearty thanks goes out to all of those that helped make this event a success, and especially to

Brother **BOB KADLEC** for his tireless efforts to see this project through to its completion.

The following is a transcript of the speech delivered by **COMMANDER TAD CAMPBELL** during the ceremony.



Mayor Ron Gonzales presenting the proclamation to Camp Commander Tad Campbell

Mayor Gonzales, honored veterans and families, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

On April 11, 1865, in President Abraham Lincoln's last speech, he said, "Unlike the case of a war between independent nations, there is no authorized organ for us to treat with. No one man has authority to give up the rebellion for any other man. We simply must begin with, and mold from, disorganized and discordant elements." We are gathered here today to recognize the unforgettable meaning and indelible memory of the thousands of American soldiers who stood together almost a century and a half ago in defense of the principle of freedom and who worked to rebuild this nation.

Over 600,000 men fell on the fields of battle and lost their lives in the American Civil War. Many of those that survived went on to fight in the none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the

Spanish-American War three decades later. Veterans of both conflicts lie before us here Oak Hill.

There remain too many soldiers whose graves are unknown or unrecorded, but never forgotten. Indeed today, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War continue to search for every missing warrior who fought to preserve the freedom we cherish, and ensure their final resting place is appropriately marked. We seek and demand the fullest possible accounting of these fallen American heroes. We will never forget nor forsake them.

Those soldiers who survived returned home to help reshape this nation and the world. While some returned to parades and fanfare, many went quietly without public recognition and thanks, and unfortunately in some cases, to ridicule and social isolation. Still, every veteran has helped define a new America of greater opportunity for all.

With the special help of our friends in the National Guard and Army Reserve, we pause today to recall with gratitude the sacrifices of these soldiers and all veterans who have served the causes of democracy and freedom. To the late veterans of the Civil War (both Union and Confederate) and their current day descendants, we especially offer our thanks.

Yet, as I stand here this afternoon, representing the descendants of servicemen of the American Civil War, the best honor that we can pay the American people and her veterans, is to demonstrate that we follow their example, and share the same commitment to our Nation as they did over one hundred and thirty years ago.

Today, those of you with family in the military service have given your trust and faith; you have provided significant amounts of hard-earned resources so that the military can accomplish its mission. Most importantly, many of you have entrusted your military leaders with your most precious possessions – your sons and daughters.

In his second inaugural address to America, President Abraham Lincoln said, "With malice toward

nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a

Q: Who said, "Really, Mr. Lincoln, I have had enough of this show business"?

A: Ulysses S. Grant so declined to attend a White House party in his honor in order to return to the front.

just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations.”

Ladies and gentlemen, today we can say that we are fortunate to live in the fruits of that new peace. From the American Revolution to the Civil War, to the Persian Gulf, let us not forget the sacrifices our men and women in uniform, and indeed their families, have made on behalf of this great country.

God bless the memory of our Civil War soldiers, our veterans and their families, and God bless America!

2001 National Encampment

The 120th Annual National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was held at Springfield, Missouri on August 9-12, 2001.

Eleven delegates from the Department of California and Pacific were present, making this the largest delegation from the west in perhaps fifty years or more! The size of our group certainly left a positive impression on our eastern Brethren.



Cmdr. Tad Campbell at grave of his 3 x great grandfather, Alexander Oaks of Company F, 1st Arkansas Cavalry, USA Dug Hill Cemetery, Benton County, Arkansas

Attending from the Phil Sheridan Camp 4 were **CMDR. TAD CAMPBELL**, **SVC BOB KADLEC**, **JVC DAVE SCHLEETER**, **SEC.-TREAS. DAN EARL**, and **DAN BUNNELL PDC**.

Those present enjoyed meeting and getting to know Brothers from all across the country. There was a guided tour of nearby Wilson's Creek Battlefield and a visit to the fascinating General Sweeney's Museum.

Brothers **TAD CAMPBELL** and **DAN EARL** also took side trips to Pea Ridge Battlefield in northwestern Arkansas and the site of the Battle of Carthage, Missouri.

Hopefully even more Brothers from our Department will be able to attend the 121st Annual National Encampment at Springfield, Illinois next year!



COMPANY C, 8TH CALIFORNIA INFANTRY

A new company of the Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR), the uniformed branch of our Order, has recently been formed in California. Company C, 8th California Infantry is the third SVR company in our Department and is made up primarily of members of our own Phil Sheridan Camp.

This SVR unit was named in honor the original company of the same name which was recruited and mustered into service at San José during the Civil War.

Brother **DAVE SCHLEETER** has been elected Company Commander and is actively looking for new recruits. Please contact Bro. Schleeter if you're interested in joining.

Q: When was the Battle of Missionary Ridge?

A: November 25, 1863.

Civil War Era School to Close

Along busy Highway 152 in rural Gilroy, California, sits the tiny San Ysidro Elementary School. This school, having been in continuous use since it was opened during the height of the Civil War in 1863, is the oldest school site in Santa Clara County.

Unfortunately, the 2001-2002 school year will mark the end of San Ysidro's long career. In a unanimous vote, the Gilroy School Board voted on July 19th to close the 138 year old school after the current session.

Emotional parents tried unsuccessfully to persuade the board to reconsider their decision. The board cited safety concerns and increasing traffic along the congested roadway as their main reason for closing the school. San Ysidro's 230 students and staff will be relocated to an undetermined location. The fate of the current school site has not yet been decided.

Sadly, with the closing of this school, another tangible link to the Civil War in Santa Clara County will disappear.

Veterans Day Parade

On November 11th, our Camp Color Guard will be marching in the annual Veterans Day Parade in downtown San José. The parade will begin at noon and should be over by 1 p.m.

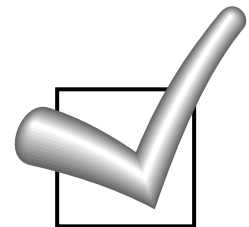
The one-mile route will follow Santa Clara Street from Delmas Avenue to Market Street, thence south on Market Street to San Carlos Street.

The reviewing stand will be on Market Street at Park Avenue.

The Stainless Banner Camp 1440, Sons of Confederate Veterans is planning to march as well and we are hoping our two Camps will be placed near each other.

If you are interested in participating, please contact one of your Camp Officers as soon as possible. Whether or not you are able to march, please bring the whole family out for this patriotic event and show your support for all of America's veterans, past and present!

Camp Elections



Nominations and elections of Camp Officers for the 2001-2002 term took place at our last meeting on Saturday, October 13, 2001. Here are the results:

Commander	TAD D. CAMPBELL
Senior Vice Commander	ROBERT J. KADLEC
Junior Vice Commander	DAVID C. SCHLEETER
Secretary-Treasurer	DANIEL R. EARL
Council (3)	DANIEL BUNNELL PDC
	[vacant]
	[vacant]

Delegates to Department Encampment:

DANIEL BUNNELL PDC, TAD CAMPBELL, DANIEL EARL, ROBERT KADLEC, DAVID SCHLEETER.

If you are interested in being a Councilman or a Delegate to the Department Encampment, please contact Cmdr. Campbell as soon as possible.

Appointed Officer positions will be filled at our installation meeting on Saturday, November 10, 2001.

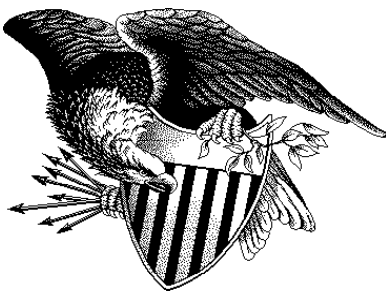
Department Commander to Serve as Installing Officer

The Installation Ceremony for our newly elected and appointed Camp Officers will take place at 5 p.m. on Saturday, November 10, 2001. It will be held in the Black Forest Room at the George Shirakawa Community Center, 2072 Lucretia Avenue in San José.

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER BOB LOWE of El Cajon, California will be our honored guest and he has graciously agreed to serve as our Installing Officer for the ceremony.

Immediately following the ceremony there will be a no-host dinner at the nearby Bold Knight Restaurant, 1600 Monterey Highway. Neither the community center nor the restaurant is far from Oak Hill Memorial Park.

Family and friends are encouraged to attend both the ceremony and the dinner. Please come out and show your support for YOUR new Camp Officers!



SPECIAL CAMP ORDER No. 2 SERIES 2000-2001

ATTACK ON AMERICA

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 ordered as follows:

Section 1: Yesterday the United States was faced with a catastrophe having a worldwide impact - a terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York and an assault on the Pentagon, involving three commercial airliners. In addition, a fourth plane was downed in rural Pennsylvania.

Section 2: I strongly condemn these premeditated atrocities against the United States and those responsible. Nevertheless, justice must be allowed to take its course, and when these perpetrators are captured, swift action must be administered.

Section 3: Please join me in offering my sincere condolences to those who have lost family and friends in this tragedy.

Section 4: In honor of, and remembrance of these fellow citizens I am ordering that the Camp Charter of the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 be draped in black for the remainder of this year. I am also requesting all Brothers who can, to fly the Flag of the United States of America at half-staff.

The foregoing Special Camp Order is proclaimed this 12th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred twenty-fifth, in the City of San José, County of Santa Clara, State of California by Tad D. Campbell, Commander of the Phil Sheridan Camp 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

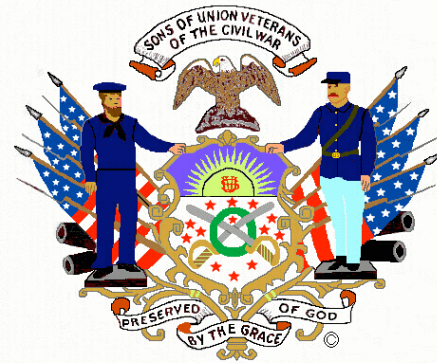
ATTEST:

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

Camp Officers 2000-2001:

- *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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Daniel F. Renfroe
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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
tadcamp@inreach.com
- *Counselor* Daniel R. Earl
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- *Guard* Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC
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- *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: Sat., Nov. 10, 2001, 5:00 p.m.
Shirakawa Community Ctr., 2072 Lucretia Ave., San José



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: Hoping to receive a wartime officer's commission, a retired army officer waited for two days in the Cincinnati office of George B. McClellan, but McClellan did not have time to see him. Who was the officer McClellan ignored?

A: Ulysses S. Grant.