

Sheridan's Dispatch

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

Volume 2, Issue 5

San José, California

November-December 2001

Camp Members March in Veterans Day Parade



*Front Row L-R: Dept. Comdr. Bob Lowe, Rosemary Lowe PDP, Camp Comdr. Tad Campbell
Back Row L-R: Dan Bunnell PDC, Dave Schleeter, Dan Earl, Bob Kadlec*

Several Brothers represented our Camp and the SUVCW by marching in the annual Veterans Day Parade in San José. The Camp Color Guard was comprised of Brothers **DAN BUNNELL PDC**, **DAVE SCHLEETER**, **DAN EARL**, and **BOB KADLEC**, who together carried the National Flag, Camp Flag, and two Springfield rifles.

The Camp was honored to have Department Commander **BOB LOWE** and his wife **ROSEMARY**, PDP of the ASUVCW, who was appropriately dressed in period attire, accompanying the Color Guard. Commander Lowe was also joined by Camp Commander **TAD CAMPBELL**. Both Bob and Tad shouldered swords and the Color Guard

remained in formation throughout the one-mile march. The Commanders offered a sword salute as they passed the reviewing stand. The Camp won the First Place trophy in its category and Public attendance was estimated at 30,000!

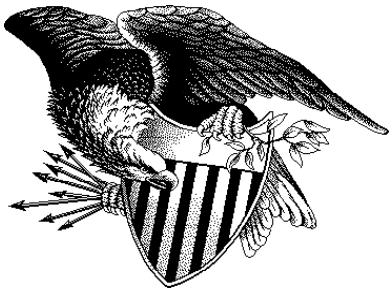
This was a wonderful way to honor all of our county's veterans and bring public notice to our Order. The Camp hopes to make this an annual event.

DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT REMINDER

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The 116th Annual Department Encampment will be held Sat., March 16, 2002 at the San Luis Obispo Grange Hall, 2880 Broad Street in Luis Obispo, California. Commander-in-Chief George Powell will be our honored guest.

From the Commander's Desk



On January 12, 2002, in my capacity as Department Signals Officer and as a member of the Department Council, I will be attending the **WILLIAM B. KEITH CAMP 12's** installation meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Keith Camp's Charter will also be officially delivered at that time. Camp Secretary-Treasurer **DAN EARL** plans to attend this meeting as well.

Unfortunately, this is the same date previously scheduled for our regular Camp meeting. Due to the fact that two of the main Camp Officers will be unable to attend, and in accordance with our Camp Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 5, I am hereby postponing our January Camp meeting until the following Saturday, January 19, 2002 at 10 am.

At the invitation of Brother **DON PRAY**, and after consultation with the Camp Council and other Camp Officers, we will be holding the meeting at Brother Pray's home on the 19th. Don would like to welcome all Brother's and their families into his home. This will be an open meeting and wives, etc. will be welcome. Refreshments will be served.

I pray that this newsletter finds all Brothers and their families enjoying good health. Best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year!

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Due\$ are Due

As Camp Secretary-Treasurer I would like to thank you all for your continued membership in the Phil Sheridan Camp. I hope more of you will have time to become active with your fellow Brothers in the upcoming year. Well, it's once again that again – dues renewal time. The annual dues amount for our Camp remains at \$25 per year. This amount is payable now, and is considered late after 15 January 2002 (so please mail early to avoid those late fees or potential suspension).

The bulk of our Camp funds have been used to pay Department and National per capita dues. The remainder has been used to pay for postage, charitable contributions, memorials, etc. Although the final books have not been closed as of the time this article is being written, it appears we *may* have a slight surplus. I should have the final quarterly financial statements prepared by our January meeting.

Although dues are not deductible on your federal income taxes, other contributions you may have made to the Camp generally are deductible. If you have made any such contributions and would like a letter documenting such, please email me at <danearl@inreach.com> or send your request to the Camp post office box: P. O. Box 664, Gilroy, CA 95021-0664 as soon as possible and no later than 15 January 2002.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Daniel R. Earl
Camp Secretary-Treasurer

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Woman's Relief Corps Home of San José

Submitted by Camp Historian Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC

The Woman's Relief Corps Home of San José, California had the proud distinction of being the first Home of its kind to be established in the United States.

The Home had its origin in the associating together of a group of women of the Woman's Relief Corps for the purpose of providing a Home for certain dependants of the Veterans of the Union Army who served in the Civil War.



The Woman's Relief Corps Home of California was incorporated May 11, 1887, for fifty years, under the provisions of Title XII, Part IV, Division First of the Civil Code of the State of California. Later, on April 1, 1897, the articles of incorporation were amended. In 1907, the Act of April 1, 1897, was codified:

"Section 2210 (of the Political Code) OBJECT: The object of the Woman's Relief Corps Home of California, Santa Clara County, is for the support of ex-Army nurses, and of the wives, widows, mothers, and dependent destitute, unmarried daughters and sisters of the Union Veterans who served honorably in the Civil War. No person is entitled to aid under this chapter except by reason of her services as an Army nurse, or by reason of the military or naval services of her husband, father, brother, or son, nor unless she has been continuously a resident of this State for one year next prior to her admission to the Home."

Through the influence of the Woman's Relief Corps of the Department of California and Nevada, the State Legislature, in 1887, appropriated money for the erection of buildings on grounds at Evergreen, eight miles from San Jose, donated by a generous friend of the Woman's Relief Corps and the Grand Army of the Republic. For many years the Home was known as the "Evergreen Home." There were five acres of land and twenty-three residents in 1920.

On October 10, 1920, the home was destroyed by fire. In 1921 the Corps purchased from Dr. A. E. Osborne the buildings and land of the Feeble-Minded Home, near Winchester, on Saratoga Road. The Home was re-located there and in 1945 had twenty-five residents.

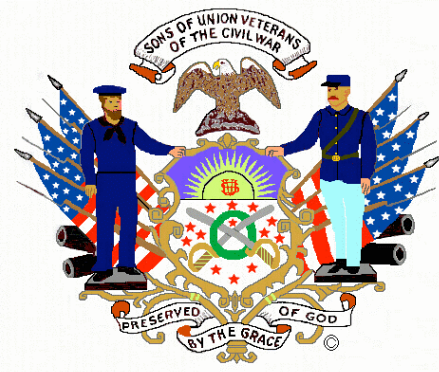
Fact: The engine room of a Union warship with steam up could reach a temperature of 150°—hot enough to crack lantern glass and make metal machinery too hot for unprotected hands to touch.

Camp Officers 2001-2002:

- *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
Position #3 is Vacant
- *Patriotic Instructor* David C. Schleeter
mustang@peopleweb.com
- *Chaplain* Rev. Clark D. Seum
iaic@minister.com
- *Historian* Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC
dbunnell@pacbell.net
- *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: Sat., Jan. 19, 2002, 10 am

Home of Bro. Pray, 10852 Alderbrook Lane, Cupertino, CA



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 (6 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: What distinction does the Union ship *Fanny* hold in naval history?

A: On August 3, 1861, balloonist John La Mountain observed Confederate batteries on Sewell's Point, Virginia, from a hot-air balloon launched from the *Fanny*—the U.S. Navy's first aircraft carrier.