

Sheridan's Dispatch

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

Volume 5, Issue 3

San José, California

June-July 2004

Memorial Day Events

This year the Camp's efforts were once again divided among two worthy events.

On Saturday and Sunday, May 29-30, members of the SUVCW and Auxiliary No. 52 staffed an information and recruitment booth at the American Civil War Association reenactment at Roaring Camp in Felton. They were also joined by Brothers from Santa Cruz's Lincoln Camp 10. Two Union Generals stopped by for a brief chat on Saturday. Major General George H. Thomas (alias **THOMAS BROWN**, Lincoln Camp 10) escorted Major General Phil Sheridan (alias **JAY DOLIN**, ACWA) on a visit to the booth.



Attendance at our information booth at this year's ACWA event, to learn about the Grand Army of the Republic and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW), was low this year. The multitude of middle and high school students, with their long list of historical questions, was missing as well. Apparently the attendance at the National Civil War Association event in Fremont was also down this year. Those participating at Roaring Camp included the following:

CAMP 4: FRANK AVILA, VINCENT BARTNING, DANIEL BUNNELL PDC, TAD CAMPBELL PCC, DANIEL EARL, ROBERT KADLEC, RICK LAROSA, PAUL LAVRISCHEFF, BRIAN PERRY, DAVID SCHLEETER, ROBERT SORIA, JAMES WELCH, STEVEN WELCH

AUXILIARY 52: RACHELLE CAMPBELL, KAREN LAVRISCHEFF, ANN SCHLEETER

CAMP 10: THOMAS BROWN, JAMES KRUEGER, ROBERT NELSON, TIM REESE, DAVID WEAR

CAMP 24: MARK WILSON

On Monday, May 31st, the effort was moved to Oak Hill Memorial Park in San José, where members participated in the 86th Annual Memorial Day Service, coordinated by the United Veterans Council. Taking part were representative of every war, from the Civil War forward. Each group's color guard posted their colors at the beginning of the ceremony. The Phil Sheridan Camp 4 had the honor of being second only to the Gold

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Star Mothers in the procession. Camp Commander **ROBERT KADLEC** and Auxiliary President **RACHELLE CAMPBELL** then placed a wreath in honor of Civil War veterans. Those that participated in the Oak Hill observances included:

CAMP 4: CRITTENDEN BELL, TAD CAMPBELL PCC, DANIEL EARL, ROBERT KADLEC, RICK LAROSA, PAUL LAVRISCHEFF, WILLIAM POPE, DONALD PRAY, DAVID SCHLEETER, REV. CLARK SEUM

AUXILIARY 52: RACHELLE CAMPBELL, KAREN LAVRISCHEFF, SHARON POPE, ANN SCHLEETER

Several individual members also participated in other observances in Monterey, San Mateo and San Francisco Counties. Thanks go to everyone that helped make this year's efforts a huge success!

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

With the passing of the Memorial Day weekend, we now enter summer activities and family vacations. As always, your Camp had a busy weekend over the Memorial Day Holiday with our annual participation with the American Civil War Association (ACWA) at Roaring Camp and the United Veterans Council (UVC) Wreath Laying Ceremony at Oak Hill. Surprisingly the number of visitors stopping by our Roaring Camp Information Booth was light this year. This might have been because of the many other events in the Bay Area. There were two large air shows (Watsonville and Moffett Field in Mountain View) plus the World War II Memorial Dedication Simulcast Ceremony at the San José Convention Center.

On Monday your Camp, the Dr. Mary Walker Auxiliary, along with Company C of the 8th California SVR Volunteer Infantry Regiment, represented the Union Veterans of the Civil War at the UVC's 86th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Oak Hill Cemetery. This is the second year that we have had the honor to recognize the Grand Army of the Republic, and all Union Veterans of the Civil War, by leading all other veterans groups participating in the posting of colors and wreath laying at this annual UVC ceremony. It also marks the first official ceremony participated in by the Dr. Mary Walker Auxiliary.

On Monday, the 14th of June, the UVC participated in the 20th Annual Santa Clara County

Flag Day Ceremony at the County Government Center Plaza in downtown San José. This is the second year that your Camp, as a delegate to the UVC, participated in the raising of a flag during this ceremony. In addition to the 50-star national colors, seven historic flags were raised in recognition of events in California history. The UVC delegates, including Phil Sheridan Camp Number 4, raised the 31-star flag that marked the entry of California into statehood in 1851.

On the Fourth of July, as representatives of other veterans organizations, your Commander and Senior Vice Commander participated in the Peninsula Celebration Association's 65th Annual Independence Day Parade in Downtown Redwood City. This was a first for me and I was totally impressed with management of the event and the extremely large appreciative attendance. I think it would be really beneficial to consider applying for participation in next year's parade. If we decide to do so, we will have to submit an entrance application by February.

Past Department Commander **BRAD SCHALL** has sent me a package on a private tour that the National Park Service will be conducting on Alcatraz in October. The Park Service, as part of the restoration efforts, is developing an interpretive program for the Civil War Fort at Alcatraz. Fund raising is underway to purchase artillery equipment and the Park Service is looking for individuals, in artillery uniform, to work as docents. Tickets for the tour are limited and your Camp has been allocated only eight. However, after each organization has received their requested tickets, additional unused

tickets may be available on a first come first serve basis. The cutoff for requesting tickets is the first of August, therefore, we will be signing up those interested at our 17 July meeting.

One final note. To date, your Camp Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator, Brother **CRIT BELL**, has presented a total of 121 SUVCW Eagle Scout Certificates since the first of the year. We owe Brother Crit our extreme gratitude for his outstanding effort.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Bob Kadlec, Commander

Welcome New Members!



BRIAN PERRY, of South San Francisco, is a descendant of Cpl. Alfred B. Perry of Co. E, 12th Iowa Infantry, who served from October 1861 to January 1866. The regiment saw action at Fort Donelson, TN; Shiloh, TN (where Perry was reported missing); Corinth, MS; Vicksburg, MS; Pleasant Hill, LA; Tupelo, MS; and Nashville, TN.

BILL POPE, of San José, is descended from Sgt. John R. Powell of Co. H, 58th Pennsylvania Militia Infantry. This unit was among the emergency troops raised by Governor Andrew G. Curtin in response to the Confederate invasion of Pennsylvania during the summer of 1863. Along with other such troops, it was organized into the Department of the Monongahela, and stationed at camps established in the vicinity of Pittsburg. It served from July 1 to August 15, and was discharged soon after the immediate danger was over.

SEBASTIAN A. NELSON, of San José, has the honor of being descended from a member of our Camp's sponsoring G.A.R. Post. His ancestor, Pvt. Thaddeus Warsaw Bradley (1837-1914), was a member of Co. B, 22nd New York Infantry; Cos. B, A, & I, 76th New York Infantry; and Co. A, 147th New York Infantry. Bradley was captured at Second Bull Run, and participated at Gettysburg, The Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg. He was a charter member of the Ketchum Post, G.A.R. in Ada, Minnesota and later became the Senior Vice Commander of the Sheridan-Dix Post No. 7, G.A.R. in San José. He is buried at Oak Hill Memorial Park in San José.

It is anticipated that these three gentlemen will be elected and initiated at the Camp meeting on July 17, 2004.

Reports of death of last Confederate widow prove premature

Associated Press – June 15, 2004

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) - News reports that the last widow of a Civil War soldier had died last month in Alabama prompted relatives of an Arkansas woman to verify her claims, kept private for decades, that her late husband also was a veteran of that conflict.

Now the United Daughters of the Confederacy recognizes Maudie Celia Hopkins as a surviving widow of a Civil War soldier - and the group says there may be others like her still alive.

Hopkins married 86-year-old William M. Cantrell on Feb. 2, 1934, after he hired the 19-year-old to clean his house. But she says she never talked about it much. "I thought people would gossip about it and say, 'Oh, she married an old man, she married an old man.' I thought that if I didn't talk about it, people would keep their mouths shut," Hopkins, 89, of Lexa, told The Associated Press in a telephone interview on Monday.

Last month, Alberta Martin of Elba, Ala., died at age 97 [May 31, 2004]. News reports, including those of the AP, described her as the last widow of a Civil War veteran.

Dr. Kenneth Chancey, an Alabama dentist who was Alberta Martin's caretaker, said Tuesday he was unaware of Hopkins' claim until Sunday, when he received an e-mail from a friend. He said a



number of Confederate heritage groups all believed Martin was the last surviving widow based on research and the lack of similar claims from anyone else.

"It was really a shocker to me, but a delightful shock that there's another one," Chancey said.

When Hopkins' relatives heard the reports, they talked to Confederate historians, who researched Hopkins' story through the UDC research library, Arkansas pension records and U.S. Census Bureau data.

"It was an easy thing to prove. The only thing was proving the links by finding her marriage licenses and other records," said Glenn Railsback, president of the Arkansas Society of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars.

Patsy Limpus, president general of the Richmond, Va. based UDC, said her organization is processing paperwork to make Hopkins a member and possibly qualify her for survivor's benefits.

"The proof is there that she was a Confederate widow," she said.

Hopkins told the AP she married Cantrell to escape poverty.

"My mother and daddy had a bunch of kids and it was hard times back then. My daddy couldn't make a living for us and I didn't have no shoes," she said.

She said Cantrell supported her with his Confederate pension of "\$25 every two or three months" and that Cantrell left her his home when he died in 1937.

"After Mr. Cantrell died I took a little old mule he had and plowed me a vegetable garden and had plenty of vegetables to eat. It was hard times; you had to work to eat," she said.

The pension benefits ended at Cantrell's death, according to Baxter County records filed with the state Pension Board.

Railsback said it wasn't uncommon for young women in Arkansas to marry Confederate veterans with military pensions - until the state Legislature passed laws restricting and then prohibiting delivery of pension benefits to young women who quickly became widows.

Railsback traced Cantrell's military service to Company A, French's Battalion, of the Virginia Infantry. Cantrell enlisted at age 16 in Pikeville, Ky., and was captured at Piketon, Ky., in 1863, and sent to Ohio where he was later exchanged for a Northern prisoner.

Hopkins said she had fond memories of her first husband.

"I sure took care of him like he was a baby and he was as good to me as I was him. He was lonely and that's the reason he wanted to get married," she said.

My Civil War Ancestor

HOPE CARPENTER, CO. E, 3RD MICHIGAN CAVALRY
3 x great-granduncle of Tad D. Campbell, PCC

Hope Carpenter was born November 17, 1837 in Lenawee County, Michigan, the son of Joseph H. and Susan Carpenter. He was named for his paternal grandfather, Hope Carpenter (1757-1840), who served with the New Jersey militia during the American Revolution. The younger Hope's childhood was spent in

his native county, on his parents' farm in Cambridge Township.

On September 16, 1861 he enlisted in the army, being mustered into Company E, 3rd Michigan Cavalry as a Private on October 3rd. He was described as being six feet tall, with light complexion, brown hair, and blue eyes.

The regiment left Grand Rapids, Michigan on November 28, 1861 for St. Louis, Missouri. In March 1862, the regiment was under the command of General Pope and participated in the operations against New Madrid and Island No. 10 in the Mississippi River, being



**Tad D. Campbell, PCC at grave of Hope Carpenter
Lebanon Cemetery, Langdon, Cavalier Co., ND**

constantly under fire for several days. The water at this place was extremely bad, and more sickness was contracted here than at any other point in the regiment's four and a half years of service.

After the evacuation of New Madrid and the surrender of Island No. 10, the regiment was sent up the Tennessee River to the battlefield of Shiloh and took part in the siege of Corinth, Mississippi, which lasted until the end of May 1862. Private Carpenter experienced more than his share of disease while in the army, and during the latter siege he contracted chronic diarrhea.

Upon the fall of Corinth, the 3rd Michigan served under Gen. W. S. Rosecrans in the campaign in Mississippi and Alabama, which was directed by Gen. U. S. Grant. It bore a conspicuous part in the battle of Iuka, September 19, 1862, and acted so gallantly that Gen. Rosecrans acknowledged its meritorious service in general orders.

One of its hardest fought battles was that of Corinth, Mississippi on October 3-4, 1862. For several days some portions of the regiment were in the saddle without intermission, day and night. On the retreat of the rebels south the 3rd Michigan was constantly on their flanks and rear, capturing many prisoners. This pursuit extended over 75 miles into the heart of Mississippi.

During the following months of that year the regiment was constantly on scouting duty in northern Mississippi and Tennessee, and its marches and engagements with the enemy were continuous and incessant. About the middle of December 1862, Private Carpenter was taken prisoner and held until June 1863. The details of his capture and confinement have yet to be discovered.

Hope Carpenter rejoined his regiment and subsequently contracted piles while serving near Rienzi, Mississippi in July 1863. In August the regiment was engaged with the enemy at Grenada, Mississippi, and destroyed an immense amount of railroad stock, including 60 locomotives and nearly 500 cars. During the following months of the year, by continuous marches and fighting, it succeeded in driving from the country the notorious bands of guerrillas that had long infested that section. It met on several occasions the forces under Generals Forest and Chalmers, and severe engagements took place at Ripley, Orizaba and Ellistown, Mississippi, and at Purdy and Jack's Creek, Tennessee. Near Memphis, Tennessee in the winter of 1863 Hope Carpenter contracted rheumatism from exposure. He was treated at the regimental hospital and at the Post Hospital at Tuscombria, Alabama.

In January 1864, the 3rd Michigan was at La Grange, Tennessee, where the regiment re-enlisted and was sent back to Michigan on a 30-day veteran furlough. It then returned to St. Louis, Missouri, where, in May 1864, it was sent to Little Rock, Arkansas, and was soon engaged in scouting and driving General Shelby and the confederates he commanded beyond the Arkansas River.

Private Carpenter's term of enlistment was soon up and he was honorably discharged at Brownsville Station, Arkansas on October 24, 1864.

After the war, Hope Carpenter worked variously as a farmer and butcher. On February 26, 1867 he married Melvina Roe at Hudson, Lenawee County, Michigan. This union produced two children, namely Berton E. Carpenter and Bertha S. Carpenter.

Hope continued to live in Michigan until 1883 when he moved to South Dakota, settling in McPherson County. In 1891 he moved north, where he lived in the North Dakota counties of Dickey, Thompson, and Williams. He and his wife were granted a divorce on January 13, 1908 and Hope Carpenter died of cancer at Munich, Cavalier County, North Dakota on November 5, 1909, at the age of nearly seventy-two years. His ex-wife later attempted to claim Hope's government pension, but was denied because of the divorce.

Flag Day Activities



HOISTING THE AMERICAN FLAG: Robert Kadlec, left, wears a captain's uniform from the Civil War as he helps hoist a 31-star U.S. flag at the 20th annual Flag Day ceremony at the Santa Clara County Government Center in San Jose. The 31-star flag was first raised on July 4, 1851, designating California as the 31st state in the union.

On Monday, June 14, 2004, Camp Commander Robert J. Kadlec represented the SUVCW at Santa Clara County's annual Flag Day ceremony. The event took place in front of the County Building on West Hedding Street in San José. Cmdr. Kadlec garnered statewide, if not national, attention for our organization when a photo of him during the ceremony (left) was picked up by the Associated Press and distributed to various newspapers. Department members spotted the picture at least as far away as Los Angeles.

Other activities surrounding Flag Day included the American Legion's Flag Retirement Ceremony in Cupertino on Sunday, June 13th, and a Vietnam Memorial Dedication Ceremony at Wilcox High School in Santa Clara on Monday, June 14th.

Eagle Scout Certificate Program Moving Forward at Full Steam!

By Bro. Crit Bell, Camp Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinator



Our camp is doing well in the recognition of new Eagle Scouts in the Santa Clara County Council, BSA. Thus far for 2004, 101 certificates have been prepared and presented through the local BSA office.

We are receiving Eagle Scout advancement information each month directly from the council office. Within a day or two the certificates are prepared and returned to the council office for inclusion in the Eagle Scout presentation packet that is then picked up at the council office by a designated member of the new Eagle Scout's troop.

It appears that the Santa Clara Council does not send out the Eagle Scout packets by mail. Their procedure may be based on security reasons, or it could simply be a cost savings measure. At times the council office has advised me that a certain Eagle Scout packet has already gone out. In such cases I have packaged the SUVCW Eagle Scout Certificate and mailed it directly to the recipient.

The following is a breakdown of our 2004 Eagle Scout Certificate activity:

January 2004	22	April 2004	20
February 2004	11	May 2004	31
March 2004	17	June 2004	(to be announced)
<i>1st Quarter 2004</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>2nd Quarter 2004</i>	<i>51 (to be updated)</i>

It appears that our Camp is on track to report slightly more than 200 new Eagle Scouts in 2004. Incidentally, our numbers reflect four certificates that have been prepared this year for Eagle Scouts that attained their Eagles in 2003. Those were special instances in which persons who work at the council office requested that we recognize a scout who received his rank before our working arrangement with the council was in effect.



Dr. Walker's Remedies

News from Dr. Mary E. Walker Auxiliary No. 52

Don't forget our next Auxiliary meeting, which will be held on Sat., July 17, 2004 at 10:00 AM at the American Legion Hall, 2120 Walsh Ave., Santa Clara, CA. This will be in conjunction with a meeting of the Phil Sheridan Camp 4.

Our Auxiliary made an excellent showing over the Memorial Day weekend. On Saturday and Sunday we were able to assist Phil Sheridan Camp 4 and Lincoln Camp 10 in the staffing of their information booth at the Civil War reenactment at Roaring Camp in Felton, CA. Those participating included: **RACHELLE CAMPBELL**, **KAREN LAVRISCHEFF**, and **ANN SCHLEETER**.

Of particular interest at Roaring Camp was the presence of the American Civil War Association's **SHARON KAY DAUGHERTY**, who was conducting a first person portrayal of our own Dr. Mary E. Walker. During each of the two daily battles, Dr. Walker manned her operating table at the edge of the battlefield, tending to the wounded soldiers as they were brought to her aid.

On Monday, May 31st, I accompanied Camp 4 Commander **ROBERT KADLEC** in the presentation of a wreath in honor of Civil War dead during the 86th Annual Memorial Day Services at Oak Hill Memorial Park in San José, CA. Also participating were: **KAREN LAVRISCHEFF**, **SHARON POPE**, and **ANN SCHLEETER**.

Due to time, distance, or other commitments, a number of our Auxiliary Sisters were unable to participate in the observances in the southern San Francisco Bay Area. However, several Sisters were able to assist with efforts in their local areas, as follows:

PAT EVERETTE, of Concord, CA, participated in Memorial Day observances and a Flag Day ceremony in Concord, as well as the 4th of July Parade in nearby Clayton. Pat has also been very active in the Veterans History Project, which involves interviewing World War II veterans and submitting the written results to the National Archives.

PHYLLIS EARL, of Salinas, CA, and her husband **BOB**, a member of Camp 4, placed flags on the Union graves at the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Salinas, CA for Memorial Day.

LORI PARROTT, of Mammoth Lakes, CA, assisted her husband **GARY** and the Gen. Wm. Passmore Carlin Camp 25 in their Memorial Day services at Lone Mountain Cemetery in Carson City, NV. It may be recalled that Lone Mountain contains an impressive, but badly deteriorated, G.A.R. Civil War Monument. Auxiliary No. 52 had plans for fundraising efforts to assist with the restoration, however, Camp 25 has since been successful in obtaining funds from the government for the statue's repair. The project is slated to begin this summer.

A big "thank you" is extended to all the Sisters that have worked so hard to make this Auxiliary a success!

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Rachelle M. Campbell, President
Dr. Mary E. Walker Auxiliary No. 52

Taps is Played for New York Brother with Local Ties

The Phil Sheridan Camp #4, SUVCW and the Dr. Mary E. Walker Auxiliary #52, ASUVCW extend their condolences to Camp 4 Bros. **STEVEN** and **JAMES WELCH** over the recent passing of their cousin, **CARLTON COVELL**, a resident of the Empire State. Mr. Covell was also a member of the SUVCW, and was a Past Camp Commander of the George L. Willard Camp #154, having been instrumental in building it from only four members to the active Camp that it is today. Bro. Covell was a grandson of Wallace William Covell of Battery H, 3rd New York Light Artillery. Steve and James Welch are descended from Walter K. Covell, the brother of Wallace William Covell, who served in the same regiment.



Phil Sheridan Camp Officers 2004:

• <i>Commander</i>	Robert J. Kadlec philsheridan4@aol.com	• <i>Graves Reg. & Memorials Ofcr.</i>	Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC philsheridan4@msn.com
• <i>Sr. Vice Commander</i>	David C. Schleeter KnifeGuy@aol.com	• <i>Counselor</i>	Daniel R. Earl danearl64@earthlink.net
• <i>Jr. Vice Commander</i>	Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC philsheridan4@msn.com	• <i>Guard</i>	Rick T. LaRosa
• <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Daniel R. Earl danearl64@earthlink.net	• <i>Color Bearer</i>	David C. Schleeter KnifeGuy@aol.com
• <i>Camp Council</i>	Tad D. Campbell, PCC tadcamp@earthlink.net Steven J. Welch stevenlr@rcn.com Rick T. LaRosa	• <i>Guide</i>	Steven J. Welch stevenlr@rcn.com
• <i>Historian & Patriotic Instructor</i>	Tad D. Campbell, PCC tadcamp@earthlink.net	• <i>Eagle Scout Cert. Coordinator</i>	Crittenden Bell critbell@aol.com
• <i>Chaplain</i>	Rev. Clark D. Seum	• <i>Signals Officer & Newsletter Editor</i>	Tad D. Campbell, PCC tadcamp@earthlink.net
• <i>Assistant Chaplain</i>	Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC philsheridan4@msn.com	• <i>Musician</i>	James Welch

Next Meeting: Saturday, July 17, 2004, 10 AM
American Legion Hall, 2120 Walsh Ave., Santa Clara, CA

Phil Sheridan Camp 4 Web Site
<http://home.earthlink.net/~suvcw/sheridan4.html>

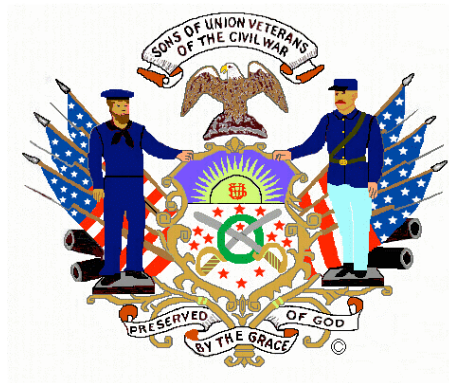
Department of California & Pacific Web Site
<http://home.earthlink.net/~suvcw/deptca.html>

National SUVCW Web Site
<http://www.suvcw.org>

Dr. Mary E. Walker Auxiliary, No. 52 Web Site
<http://home.earthlink.net/~asuvcw/walker52.html>

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Telephone Number: 408-267-3249



Membership Eligibility:

A male descendant, whether through lineal (direct ancestor) or collateral line (uncle) and not less than 14 years of age (6 to 14 years for Juniors), who: (1) is a blood relative (descendant or nephew) 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.