

SHERIDAN'S DISPATCH

Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4

Department of California & Pacific

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Recipient of the Abraham Lincoln Award for Best Camp in the Nation!

Volume 9, Issue 2

San José, California

March-April 2008

Camp Brother Receives Officer of the Year Award at Department Encampment

At the 122nd Annual Encampment of the Department of California and Pacific, held in San Luis Obispo, California on March 14-15, 2008, Department Commander **JERRY R. SAYRE** presented the Department Officer of the Year Award to Camp Brother **TAD D. CAMPBELL PDC** for "superlative dedication and service in his capacity as Signals Officer". Brother Campbell was honored to share the award with Department Graves Registration Officer **DONALD L. HOTCHKISS, JR.** (Camp 12) and Department Civil War Memorials Officer **KIRBY R. MORGAN** (Camp 9) for their exceptional work in their respective offices. Certificates of



Camp Brothers lend a hand with the Dept. Color Guard during the memorial ceremony at the Dept. Encampment
L-R: CC Frank Avila, Dave Schleeter PCC, Tad Campbell PDC



Brother **Bob Kadlec PCC**, sporting his "new" G.A.R. outfit, featuring authentic G.A.R. and Society of the Army of the Potomac membership medals and a Civil War service medal.

Appreciation were also presented to Camp Brothers **PAUL E. LAVRISCHEFF** (Department Patriotic Instructor), **DAVID C. SCHLEETER PCC** (Department Color Bearer), **DANIEL R. EARL PCC** (Department Newsletter Editor), and **TAD D. CAMPBELL PDC** (Department Council).

The slate of officers remained the same, with the exception of Secretary-Treasurer and Department Guard. Brother **J. THOMAS SMITH** (Camp 22) was presented with an award in appreciation of his several years of service as Department Secretary-Treasurer and Brother **PHILLIP L. CAINES PCC** (Camp 2) was elected to the positions. Brother Caines' election necessitated replacing him in his capacity as Department Guard. Brother **TIMOTHY P. REESE PCC** (Camp 10) was appointed to serve in that position.

The Department's guests-of-honor were Commander-in-Chief **CHARLES E. KUHN, JR.** and his wife **JOANNE**, of East Berlin, Pennsylvania. An enjoyable evening of camaraderie was had on Friday night, with several Camps providing displays of their activities and G.A.R. related collectables. The business session was held on Saturday, including a meeting of the Auxiliary's Department of California and Pacific, followed by a brief memorial service at the G.A.R. plot, and the annual Commander-in-Chief's Dinner in the evening. Three excellent meals were served by a local caterer and kudos are extended to Department Senior Vice Commander **CHARLES W. MABIE PCC** (Camp 24) for his hard work in organizing such an exceptional Encampment!

Any letters, articles, etc., published in *Sheridan's Dispatch* do not necessarily represent the views and/or opinions of the SUVCW Inc., the Dept. of CA & Pacific, camp officers, membership, guests, or the editor/publisher.

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Bro. Paul Lavrischeff looks on during the memorial ceremony

122ND ANNUAL DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

The newly installed Department Officers pose for a picture with the Commander-in-Chief

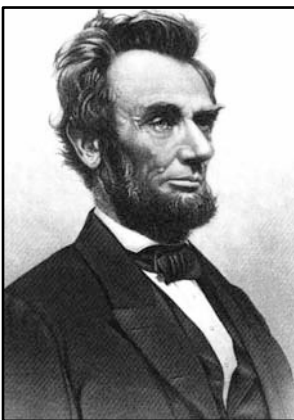


Changes to Department and Camp Web Sites

At the recent Department Encampment, Signals Officer **TAD D. CAMPBELL PDC** announced major improvements to the Department and Camp web sites. A new domain name was registered, giving all SUVCW web sites within the Department the base of WWW.SUVPAC.ORG. This greatly simplifies the web addresses and makes them much easier to remember. The design of the various pages was completely re-worked, making navigation much easier and giving the sites a more professional appearance. Several areas of the web sites were expanded and a number of totally new pages were added. Brother Campbell also updated the web site for the Dr. Mary E. Walker Auxiliary No. 52 and established a web site for the Auxiliary's Department of California and Pacific, which did not previously have a web presence. Please be sure to visit the new sites and check out all the changes. Important web addresses include:

SUVCW's Department of California and Pacific www.suvmac.org
 Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, SUVCW www.suvmac.org/camp4.html

ASUVCW's Department of California and Pacific www.suvmac.org/aux/dept.html
 Dr. Mary E. Walker Auxiliary No. 52, ASUVCW www.suvmac.org/aux/aux52.html



Lincoln Day Dinner

The annual Lincoln Day Dinner, celebrating the birthday of President Abraham Lincoln, took place on Saturday, February 9th, 2008 at the Cattlemens Restaurant in Newark, California. The event, hosted by the Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp No. 24, was very well attended by both the host Camp and the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4. Brother Charles W. Mabie, Past Commander of Camp 24, gave an interesting talk on mid to late 19th century handguns, displaying a number of interesting examples from his extensive collection.

Welcome Little Miss Marti!



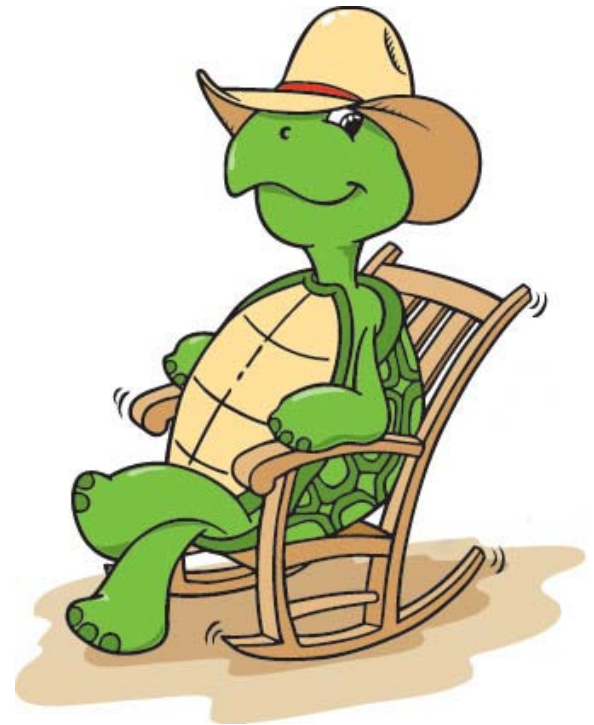
Camp Brother Joe Marti and his wife, Katie, a member of Auxiliary No. 52, welcomed their first child into the world on March 3, 2008. Anna Elaine Marti was born at 11:43 am, weighing 8.5 pounds and being 21 inches long.

The editor has it on good authority that the Auxiliary's Department President already has an application for Junior Membership completed for Miss Marti, awaiting her 8th birthday in 2016!

From the *Reno Evening Gazette* of September 20, 1947 comes this interesting Civil War tidbit:

Turtle Honored As Civil War Vet

WORCESTER, Mass., Sept. 20. (AP)—Willie Grout post, Sons of Union Veterans, will observe a moment of solemn silence Monday in honor of Myrtle, a turtle, who died Wednesday in New Brunswick, N. J. Myrtle was credited with being a veteran of the Civil War because of the words "Vicksburg, 1865" engraved on its shell.



MY CIVIL WAR ANCESTOR

DANIEL ENOCH TALBOTT

Co. G, 8th Iowa Infantry

Great-great granduncle of Linn W. Malaznik

Daniel Enoch Talbott was born about 1839 in Jackson County, Indiana, the son of Edward Talbott and Mary Merritt Laning. About 1851 the family moved to Iowa County, Iowa.

At Marengo, Iowa on September 3, 1861, Daniel E. Talbott enlisted in the Union Army for a period of three years. He was mustered in as a Private in Company G, 8th Iowa Infantry at Davenport, Iowa on September 20, 1861. The descriptive list states that he was aged 22 years, about 5 feet 9 inches tall, with light complexion, blue eyes and brown hair. His occupation was that of a farmer.

Soon after its organization, the regiment went to St. Louis, Missouri, and thence to Syracuse, where it joined Gen. John C. Fremont's army in pursuit of Confederate Gen. Sterling Price's forces and operated in southwestern Missouri, losing heavily through sickness. Private Talbott was soon detailed as company teamster. In November 1861 the regiment went to Sedalia, Missouri, where it remained until ordered to join Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's forces in Tennessee the following spring.

In April 1862, the regiment participated in the battle of Shiloh, Tennessee, fighting ten hours on

the first day. They repelled attack after attack, and, with the battery it was supporting, inflicted terrible punishment upon the enemy. They were the last to leave the advanced line of the army, being surrounded as it attempted to withdraw and compelled to surrender. Out of 650 men engaged, the regiment lost 64 killed, 100 wounded, and 47 missing. The 8th, 12th, and 14th Iowa Regiments formed four-fifths of the little force that held back ten times its number at the close of the first day at Shiloh, giving Gen. Buell time to bring up his forces and snatch victory from defeat. Entirely cut off, they fought until they could fight no longer, and threw down their arms only to see many of their number shot down in cold blood after they had surrendered as prisoners of war.

Private Talbott was among those that were obliged to surrender at Shiloh on April 6, 1862. As a prisoner of war, he was initially held at Montgomery, Alabama, but subsequently taken to Camp Oglethorpe at Macon, Georgia, where he died of disease on July 26, 1862. Records indicate that his final burial place was in Andersonville National Cemetery, where he was counted among the unknown dead.

Two of Daniel's brothers are also known to have served in the Union Army, namely: Lewis W. Talbott of Company B, 1st Iowa Infantry and Company G, 47th Iowa Infantry; and Alexander A. Talbott of Company G, 28th Iowa Infantry.

SUVCW EMBROIDERED PATCHES STILL AVAILABLE!

The Camp still has a limited supply of these one-of-a-kind patches available for purchase. The quality is exceptional and they are just the right size for baseball caps, t-shirts, jackets, bags, and a thousand other uses. They have proven to be very popular with SUVCW Brothers across the nation and are selling like hotcakes! Be sure to order yours soon before supplies run out!

SUVCW Embroidered Patches

Small 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch oval for use on any piece of clothing, back packs, athletic bags, etc.

Royal blue twill base with words and banner in white. The center emblem design, with the eagle, is made with a shiny gold thread.



**\$5.00 each plus \$1.00 S&H for first five.
\$2.00 S&H for six or more.**

Send check, or money order, payable to:
Phil Sheridan Camp 4, P.O. Box 24969,
San Jose, CA 95154

E-mail: philsheridan4@aol.com

Event Schedule

March 14-15, 2008

122nd Annual Department Encampment
San Luis Obispo, California

April 12, 2008

Regular Camp Meeting
Missing City Post No. 564, Santa Clara, California

May 23-26, 2008

Reenactment at Roaring Camp
Felton, California

May 26, 2008

Memorial Day Ceremony
Oak Hill Memorial Park, San José, California

June 14, 2008

Regular Camp Meeting
Mission City Post No. 564, Santa Clara, California

***Be sure to check the Camp website
for additional events and updates.***
www.suvpac.org/camp4/schedule.html

Did You Know?

The WOODSTOCK RACES was a cavalry clash on October 9, 1864, at Tom's Brook, Virginia, precipitated by Gen. Philip H. Sheridan's scorched-earth program in the Shenandoah Valley. Confederate forces under Thomas L. Rosser and Lunsford Lomax harassed Sheridan's army as it was withdrawing from the valley, and finally Sheridan ordered his cavalry to engage the Southerners, advising them to "either whip the enemy or get whipped yourself." Union horsemen under Wesley Merritt and George A. Custer routed the Southerners in a spirited two-hour fight near Fishers Hill. Merritt pursued Lomax twenty miles to Mount Jackson, capturing five guns. Custer drove Rosser to Columbia Furnace on the Back Road, taking six guns. The victory was not only an embarrassment to the Confederates, hence the use of the term "races," but it also resulted in the Federal cavalry attaining overall control of the valley.

Happy Birthday General Sheridan!



March 6th marks the 177th anniversary of the birth of our Camp's namesake, Major General Philip Henry Sheridan (1831-1888). Sheridan was born either in Ireland, at sea, New York, or Ohio. He later proclaimed his birthplace to be Albany, New York, but there still remains some uncertainty.



Dr. Walker's Remedies

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

Hello Sisters! For those of you who go to the Sons' meetings and attend parades, you probably already know me. For those who don't, I would like to introduce myself.

My name is Karen Lavrischeff and I am a charter member of the Mary E. Walker Auxiliary No. 52. My husband, Paul, is the Patriotic Instructor for both the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 and the Department of California and Pacific. Although he is descended from multiple Union veterans of the Civil War, my connection is limited. My great-grandfather used to take my grandfather to "The Old Soldier's Home" in Omaha, Nebraska at the turn of the century to visit with the Civil War veterans. My first ancestor came to this country in the 1870s. But that doesn't mean I have any less interest in remembering "The Boys in Blue" than someone descended from Civil War veterans.

Don't think that if you don't have Civil War ancestors that you are precluded from joining the Auxiliary. There is no requirement to have your own ancestors. The biggest requirement is that you want to help educate the public about the Civil War, the men who fought in it, and support the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Do you have to be an "active member", meaning someone who attends meetings and marches in parades? No, you don't. We also need moral and financial support. On Memorial Day and Veterans Day, if you aren't attending any events take a moment and think about those who have served our country.

Right now it's important to increase our membership to get to a point where we can fulfill the dream of our Department President and keep our Department Charter. To do this we need three Auxiliaries, our Auxiliary #52, a new one that is being formed in Southern California, and a third, hopefully to be formed soon in the North Bay.

In F, C, & L,
Karen L. Lavrischeff, President
 E-mail: karen911@hotmail.com

Memorial Day Weekend Activities

The Camp and Auxiliary will once again be participating at the American Civil War Association's annual Civil War reenactment at Roaring Camp in Felton, California on Saturday and Sunday, May 24-25, 2008. As in past years, there will be an information booth, staffed by members of the Allied Orders, to education the public about the Civil War, the Grand Army of the Republic, and the true meaning of Memorial Day.

On Monday, May 26th, the groups will again participate in the United Veterans Council annual Memorial Day Observance at Oak Hill Memorial Park in San José, California.

Do you want to see Memorial Day returned to May 30th, the traditional day set by the Grand Army of the Republic in 1868? Visit the following website to help restore Memorial Day:

www.restorememorialday.com

PHIL SHERIDAN CAMP 4 OFFICERS FOR 2008:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| • <i>Commander</i> | Frank C. Avila
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danielbunnell@gmail.com |
| • <i>Sr. Vice Commander</i> | Tad D. Campbell, PDC
tadcamp@earthlink.net | • <i>Graves Reg. & Memorials Ofcr.</i> | Daniel R. Earl, PCC
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| • <i>Jr. Vice Commander</i> | Thomas T. Graham
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| • <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i> | Robert J. Kadlec, PCC
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critbell@earthlink.net |
| • <i>Assistant Chaplain</i> | Richard A. Staley
dblbb1@pacbell.net | • <i>Signals Officer & Newsletter Editor</i> | Tad D. Campbell, PDC
tadcamp@earthlink.net |
| | | • <i>Musicians</i> | Christopher Avila
Richard J. Ferman
James M. Welch |

NEXT MEETING: Sat., April 12, 2008 - 10 AM
American Legion Hall, Mission City Post 564
2120 Walsh Avenue, Santa Clara, California

PHIL SHERIDAN CAMP 4 WEB SITE
<http://www.suvpac.org/camp4.html>

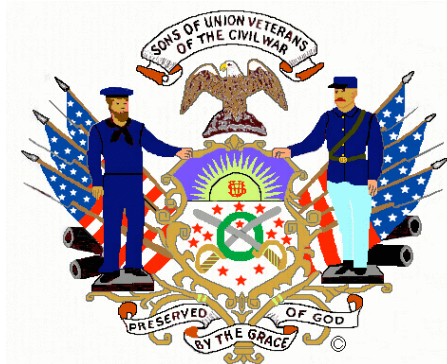
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA & PACIFIC WEB SITE
<http://www.suvpac.org>

NATIONAL SUVCW WEB SITE
<http://www.suvcw.org>

DR. MARY E. WALKER AUXILIARY NO. 52 WEB SITE
<http://www.suvpac.org/aux/aux52.html>

MAILING ADDRESS: Phil Sheridan Camp 4
P.O. Box 24969
San José, CA 95154-4969

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 408-315-5879



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.