

SHERIDAN'S DISPATCH

Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4

Department of California & Pacific

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

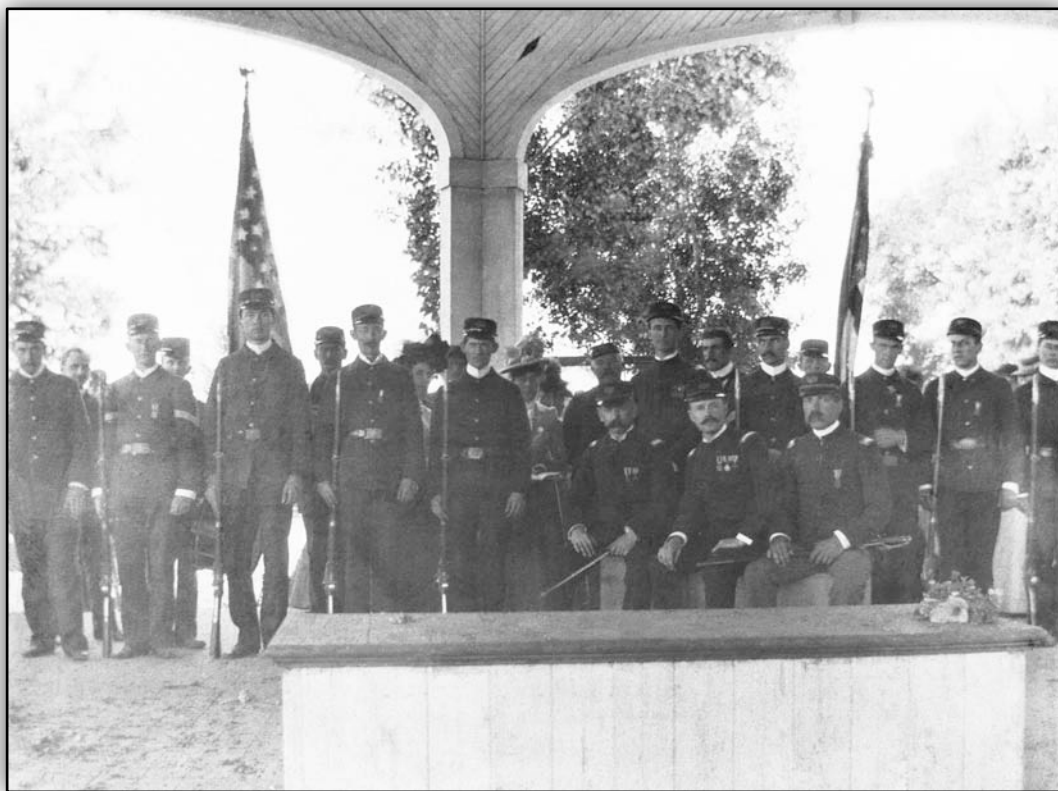
Recipient of the Abraham Lincoln Award for Best Camp in the Nation!

Volume 9, Issue 4

San José, California

August-October 2008

Piece of Camp History Found Online!



The above photograph was found and purchased on an internet auction site by Past Camp Commander **TAD D. CAMPBELL, PDC**. It shows Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 Brothers on Memorial Day 1900, somewhere in San José, California.

The Camp Commander (called a Captain at that time) was **ROBERT JOHN BUTLER** (1868-1923) and is among the seated officers in the image. He was the son of Franklin Sylvester Butler (1837-1917), who enlisted August 12, 1861 as a Private in Company A, 8th Iowa Infantry. Private Butler was promoted to Corporal in January 1862, taken prisoner at the Battle of Shiloh on April 6, 1862, promoted to Sergeant on February 10, 1864, and mustered out September 24, 1864.

This long lost image gives an intriguing glimpse into the early history of the Camp, showing Brothers doing their patriotic duty when the Camp was only about two and a half years old.

The original image is small and lacks contrast. The Camp is indebted to Past Camp Commander **ROBERT J. KADLEC** for scanning and adjusting the image to bring out the most detail.

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.

Welcome New Brothers!

PATRICK J. BOURSIER and his son **JOHN E. BOURSIER** of Morgan Hill, California are our newest members. Their direct ancestor was Theophilus Boursier (1836-1905), a native of Québec. Boursier enlisted and was mustered on December 3, 1861 as a Private in Company E, 18th Wisconsin Infantry. The regiment was engaged at Shiloh, Tennessee; in Mississippi at Corinth, Jackson, Champion's Mill, and Vicksburg; and in Georgia at Acworth and Allatoona. At the last battle Private Bourcier was among those taken prisoner. He was mustered out July 18, 1865 at Louisville, Kentucky.

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New Auxiliary Instituted During Huntington Beach Reenactment

Camp No. 4 Brother **TAD D. CAMPBELL PDC** and Auxiliary No. 52 Sister **RACHELLE M. CAMPBELL PAP** once again traveled to Huntington Beach, California to assist our Southern California Brothers and Sisters with an information booth at that city's annual Civil War reenactment. Excellent weather favored the event, which took place on August 30-31, 2008, garnering a good turnout from both the public and reenactors.



L-R: PDC Tad Campbell (Camp 4), Dept. Sec. Treas. Phil Caines (Camp 2), and DC Jerry Sayre (Camp 21)

While at Huntington Beach, **RACHELLE CAMPBELL**, as Auxiliary Department President, was proud to present the Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Auxiliary No. 2 with its official Charter. It is the official Auxiliary to the Camp of the same name and number. During the well-attended ceremony, President Campbell initiated new members, instituted the new Auxiliary, and installed its first slate of officers. **MELINIE CAINES** of El Segundo, California (wife of Department Secretary-Treasurer **PHIL CAINES**) was elected as the first Auxiliary President.



DP Rachele Campbell signs Auxiliary No. 2's Charter in front of new Auxiliary President Melinie Caines

A second new Auxiliary, based in the northern San Francisco Bay Area and associated with the Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp No. 23 will receive its Charter in November.

National Encampment Held in New England



The 127th Annual National Encampment took place in Peabody, Massachusetts on August 7-20, 2008. Attendees from Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, acting as Delegates for the Department of California and Pacific, were **DAN BUNNELL PDC**, **TAD CAMPBELL PDC**, and **CAMP COMMANDER FRANK AVILA**, who was attending his first National Encampment. As usual much camaraderie was enjoyed with members of our Order from across North America.

A number of important and contentious decisions were made by the Encampment, including rulings that each Camp must meet at least twice per year, and that a Brother cannot hold the office of Camp Commander simultaneously in two Camps.

Another heavily debated issue was references to Jesus Christ in the Ritual of the Order. The National Counselor presented his official opinion that the references should be removed, and although the Constitution and Regulations clearly state that the Order is to be "*strictly non-sectarian and non-partisan*" (Article IV), the Encampment voted not to remove the sectarian references. Several enthusiastic proponents even managed to pass a motion that the very mention of the issue be removed entirely from the official proceedings of the Encampment. Thus, there will be no official record of the discussion and the Encampment's rulings. Fortunately, the Rituals themselves clearly state that "*Prayers, memorial ceremonies and services contained in the Ritual and Ceremonials book may be modified as needed in deference to religious faiths of persons and/or groups.*" (General Instructions #16).

The following National Officers were elected for the 2008-2009 term: Commander-in-Chief **DAVID V. MEDERT** (Chillicothe, Ohio); Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief **LEO F. KENNEDY** (Greenville, Rhode Island); and Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief **JAMES R. HANBY** (Claymont, Delaware).

The Department of California and Pacific was again honored with several elected and appointed positions, including:

TAD D. CAMPBELL, PDC

- Chairman, National Committee on Fraternal Relations

JERRY R. SAYRE, PCC

- National Patriotic Instructor
- Chairman, National Committee on Americanization and Education
- National Aide to Membership Committee

KIRBY R. MORGAN

- National Aide to Committee on Civil War Memorials

D. BRAD SCHALL, PDC

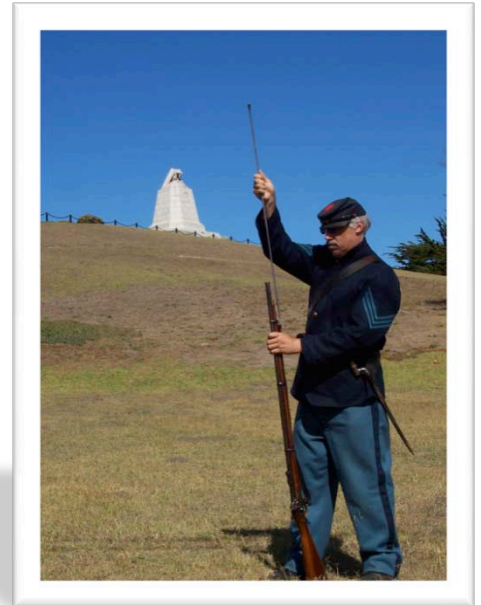
- National Chief of Staff
- Chairman, National Committee on Civil War Memorial Grant Fund
- Member, National Council of Administration
- Member, National Committee on Constitution and Regulations
- Member, Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee

Auxiliary Department President **RACHELLE M. CAMPBELL, PAP** was elected to the Auxiliary's three-member National Council.

The 128th Annual National Encampment will take place in Louisville, Kentucky on August 14-16, 2009. **MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND!**

UNION ARMY MOBILIZES AT FORT MERVINE!

On October 3-5, 2008 Lincoln Camp No. 10 hosted the second annual Civil War encampment and living history event, in conjunction with the two-week long *History Fest Monterey*. The event takes place at the historic Fort Mervine at the Monterey Presidio. Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 again assisted with an information booth and personnel. Participants from Camp 4 included Camp Commander **FRANK AVILA**, **TAD CAMPBELL PDC**, **ROBERT KADLEC PCC**, and **PAUL LAVRISCHEFF**. Department President **RACHELLE CAMPBELL** provided information about the Auxiliary and Dr. Mary E. Walker. Brothers **TIM REESE PCC** and **DON FUSILIER** from Camp 10 put on excellent displays of G.A.R. memorabilia and period medical equipment and techniques. A mounted cavalryman (**DAN BURTZ**) rounded out the presentation, which was a big hit with both the participants and the attending public. On Sunday, those present were entertained by members of the Fort Point Band, including Camp 10's **DOUG THOMPSON**. A special treat was the daily visit of the 1st New York Legion of Mexican War reenactors and band, who marched in formation from the Monterey Custom House to the Civil War encampment.



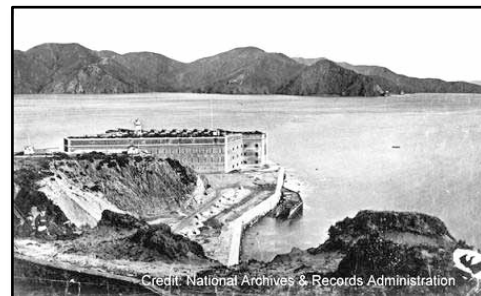
Camp Commander Frank Avila gives a firing demonstration for the public during the Fort Mervine event.

Camp Provides Color Guard for Genealogy Conference



On Saturday, October 11th the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 was honored to provide a color guard for the opening ceremony of the 2008 Central Coast Genealogy Conference. The annual event, sponsored by the Monterey County Genealogy Society, took place at the Seaside Family History Center in Seaside, California. Brothers participating in the ceremony were Camp Commander **FRANK C. AVILA**, **TAD D. CAMPBELL PDC**, and **PAUL E. LAVRISCHEFF**. After Frank and Tad posted the colors, Paul led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Brothers then stood at attention as the National Anthem was sung. The organizers of the event were very grateful for the SUVCW's assistance and look forward to possible participation in more events in the future.

Fort Point National Historic Site Welcomes the SUVCW Once Again



Fort Point in San Francisco, California held an open house on Saturday, August 16, 2008. Threatening weather cleared and, although the reenactor turnout was small, the public turnout was excellent. Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 once again provided an information table, staffed by **FRANK AVILA**, **TAD CAMPBELL PDC**, and **PAUL LAVRISCHEFF**, with assistance from **CHUCK GARDALI** of Gen. U. S. Grant Camp No. 9.

Department Returns to Annual Fresno Event

On October 18-19, 2008, *The Civil War Revisited* reenactment and living history event returned to Kearney Park in Fresno, California, as did the SUVCW's Department of California and Pacific. As in past years, the Department hosted an information booth. This year Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 and Sgt. William Pittenger Camp No. 21 erected their own booths and wall tent, thus greatly increasing the amount of display area. Participants included **PHIL CAINES** (Camp 2); **FRANK AVILA**, **TAD CAMPBELL**, **DAN EARL**, **PAUL LAVRISCHEFF**, and **RICHARD STALEY** (Camp 4); **KIRBY MORGAN** and **CHUCK GARDALI** (Camp 9); **JERRY SAYRE** (Camp 21); **MACE GJERMAN** (Camp 23); and **CHARLIE MABIE** (Camp 24).



Department Brothers pose for an image by collodion artist Wayne Pierce

L-R: Tad Campbell, Richard Staley, Paul Lavrischeff, Dan Earl, Charlie Mabie, Jerry Sayre, Phil Caines, Chuck Gardali, Frank Avila, Kirby Morgan

The Civil War Revisited Fresno, California October 18-19, 2008

Camp Commander
Frank Avila at right.

Tad Campbell PDC at left.



Holiday Social Event

An informal holiday social will be held at the home of Tad and Rachele Campbell in Gilroy, California on Saturday, December 6, 2008 at noon. Members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War are invited. The event will be potluck style, with the Campbells providing the main course and soft drinks. Attendees are asked to bring one side dish or desert of their choice. Please RSVP by December 29th if you plan to attend. The address is 9110 Avezan Way, Gilroy, CA 95020. Phone: 408-842-7368. E-mail: brach41650@aol.com



Dr. Walker's Remedies

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

Sorry I've been so silent, but I've been preoccupied with several family functions, the latest being a trip with my husband, father, and brother to North Carolina for the 61st reunion of my father's World War II combat infantry group. Paul and I are now members of the "Progeny of the Century", children, grandchildren and other family of members of the 100th Division. As I sat in a meeting of the Progeny, I was struck by how the Sons, Daughters, and Auxiliary must have felt as the GAR members were aging. The discussion was about what was going to happen when the 100th did not feel they were able to continue their reunions. They had thought this would be their last but were happy to see over one hundred 100th Division veterans (out of the 4,000 original) attend with their families. Next year they will meet in Louisville, Kentucky, and possibly Washington, D.C. after that. But at this moment, 2010 is looking like the last year. The Progeny are trying to decide how to proceed after the last reunion. Should they put on the reunions for the surviving "Century Men" or just let it go. This must be *exactly* what the Sons and Daughters felt as they watched the GAR fading. As I sat there listening, I couldn't imagine what it would be like if people forgot what WWII veterans (and my father) had done for this country and the world. And at that moment I think I really understood why it is so important for the Sons, Daughters, and Auxiliary to continue to remember "The Boys in Blue" and make sure the rest of the country does too. And I am going to be just as rabid about remembering the veterans of WWII and all the other wars that have been fought by members of the United States military.



Hope to see you at the Veteran's Day Parade in downtown San José on November 11th, 2008. If you can't attend, please be thinking about the veterans and current military personnel of the United States of America!



Leonard "Len" Schlüssel
ROTC - 1943

In F, C, & L,
Karen L. Lawrischeff, President
E-mail: karenl911@hotmail.com

Event Schedule

October 4-5, 2008

Fort Mervine Living History Event
Monterey, California

October 11, 2008

Color Guard, Monterey County Genealogical Society
Seaside, California

October 18-19, 2008

The Civil War Revisited
Kearney Park, Fresno, California

November 1, 2008

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

November 11, 2008

Veterans Day Parade
Downtown San José, California

November 22, 2008

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

December 6, 2008

Informal Holiday Social
Gilroy, California

January 31, 2009

Fort Point Open House
San Francisco, California

***Be sure to check the Camp website
for additional events and updates.***

www.suvpac.org/camp4/schedule.html

Did You Know?

Ex-Union general Adalbert Ames motivated Jesse & Frank James along with the Younger Brothers, to rob the First National Bank in Northfield, Minnesota in 1876?

In *Jesse James, Last Rebel of the Civil War*, author T. J. Stiles explains how Ames as governor of Louisiana had unsuccessfully attempted social reform, with much negative press in both the North and South. After that bitter experience, Ames set out for Minnesota to work with his father and brother in their banking business. For Jesse James, Ames became a bitter reminder of the Lost Cause and a symbol of Union occupation in the South. His plan was to target Ames' family's bank to make a "political" statement against the eastern establishment; and, to steal the money.

What James thought would be the end of Ames was instead the beginning of the end for Jesse himself. In switching from robbing trains--where the "victim" was a corporation--to robbing banks, which held the hard-earned savings of working-class folk, the James Gang lost the romantic esteem they once held in the public imagination. Those in the gang who were not killed in the Northfield raid went their separate ways. Jesse spent the rest of his few remaining years living in hiding and eventually was murdered in his own home at age 34.

PHIL SHERIDAN CAMP 4 OFFICERS FOR 2008:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| • <i>Commander</i> | Frank C. Avila equipquake@aol.com | • <i>Historian</i> | Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC 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 danearl64@earthlink.net |
| • <i>Jr. Vice Commander</i> | Thomas T. Graham n6wlf@yahoo.com | • <i>Counselor</i> | Daniel R. Earl, PCC danearl64@earthlink.net |
| • <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i> | Robert J. Kadlec, PCC Philsheridan4@aol.com | • <i>Guard</i> | Donald W. Pray coralsea3@yahoo.com |
| • <i>Camp Council</i> | Rick T. LaRosa ricklarosa@sbcglobal.net William H. Pope sharbill_2@yahoo.com Joseph C. Marti itramcj@yahoo.com | • <i>Color Bearer</i> | Richard J. Ferman ferman@sbcglobal.net |
| • <i>Patriotic Instructor</i> | Paul E. Lavrischeff levihensel@hotmail.com | • <i>Guide</i> | William H. Pope sharbill_2@yahoo.com |
| • <i>Chaplain</i> | Daniel M. Bunnell, PDC danielbunnell@gmail.com | • <i>Eagle Scout Cert. Coordinator</i> | Crittenden Bell 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., November 1, 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

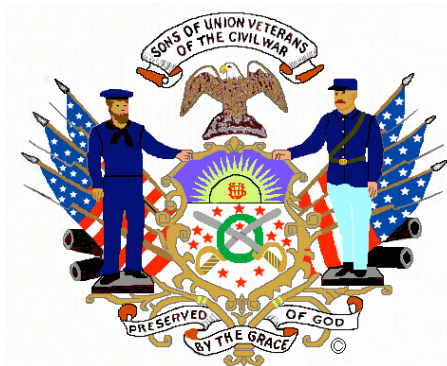
<http://www.suvcw.org>

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.