

# SHERIDAN'S DISPATCH

*Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4*

*Department of California & Pacific*

*Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

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

*Recipient of the Marshall Hope Award for Best Camp Newsletter in the Nation!*

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Volume 10, Issue 3

San José, California

July-September 2009

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## West Coast Shines at National Encampment!



### **Brothers and Sisters from the Department of California and Pacific at Louisville, Kentucky**

*Standing L-R: Braden Schall, Glen Roosevelt, Frank Avila, Christopher Schall, Tom Helmantoler, Charlie Mabie, Jerry Sayre, Bob Kadlec (seated), Phil Caines, D. Brad Schall, Tom Graham, Tad Campbell, Tim Reese, Floyd Farrar.*

*Seated L-R: Bev Graham, Bob Kadlec, Emelia Campbell, Rachele Campbell, Melinie Caines. Not pictured: Linn Malaznik*

Members of the Allied Orders from the West Coast made an excellent showing at the Annual National Encampments of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and its Auxiliary, which were held at Louisville, Kentucky on August 14-15, 2009.

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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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Brothers of the Department were officially recognized for their service in a number of ways. Past Department Commander **D. BRAD SCHALL** received the Meritorious Service Award from Commander-in-Chief **DAVID V. MEDERT** in recognition of his efforts as Chief-of-Staff. **LORAN BURES** (Camp 2) and **TOM GRAHAM** (Camp 4) were designated as National Aides in recognition of their successful recruiting activities. This newsletter (*SHERIDAN'S DISPATCH*) received the Marshall Hope Award for Best Camp Newsletter in the Nation. **WILLIAM B. KEITH CAMP NO. 12** of Las Vegas, Nevada was the recipient of the Abraham Lincoln Award as Best Camp in the Nation. For their consistent good works, the additional honor of being commissioned by the Governor of Kentucky as "Kentucky Colonels" was bestowed upon the following Brothers: **TAD CAMPBELL PDC & DAN EARL PCC** (Camp 4), **JERRY SAYRE PDC** (Camp 21), and **D. BRAD SCHALL PDC** (Camp 24).

National President **JANICE HARDING** presented department President **RACHELLE CAMPBELL** with a "Salute for Patriotic Works" for her promotion of the Auxiliary in the state of California. The Auxiliary's Department was also recognized for having the largest increase in membership in the Order and the **GEN. W. S. ROSECRANS AUXILIARY NO. 2** of Los Angeles, California was recognized for being the individual Auxiliary with the largest increase in membership.

The Sons and Auxiliary Departments continued to receive the support of the Brothers and Sisters of other Departments when it came to the elections. **BROTHER D. BRAD SCHALL PDC** was unanimously elected to the position of Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, having run for the office unopposed. The race for the National Council of Administration proved livelier, with five Brothers vying for the three open positions. Our own Brother **TAD D. CAMPBELL PDC** was overwhelmingly elected in the first round to a three-year term. The second round was taken by **KEN L. FRESHLEY PDC** of Ohio and third was **WILLIAM C. VIEIRA PDC** of Rhode Island, who will complete the remaining year of Brother Schall's term. **JERRY R. SAYRE PDC** was appointed National Color Bearer. **TAD D. CAMPBELL PDC** was re-appointed Chair of the National Fraternal Relations Committee. **DANIEL R. EARL PCC** was re-appointed Chair of the National Legislation Committee. Sister **RACHELLE M. CAMPBELL** was unanimously elected as National Press Correspondent and was also appointed Chair of the National Publicity Committee.

The newly elected Commander-in-Chief is Brother **LEO F. KENNEDY** of Rhode Island, while the new National President of the Auxiliary is Sister **NANCY HILTON** of Virginia.

The next National Encampment will be held on August 12-15, 2010 at the Marriott Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas.



Commander-in-Chief David V. Medert presents *Sheridan's Dispatch* Editor Tad Campbell with the Marshall Hope Award for Best Camp Newsletter

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## New Members

We would like to welcome the Reynolds family of Patterson, California to the Allied Orders! **MATTHEW C. REYNOLDS** is a descendant of Joseph A. Amy of Co. F, 81<sup>st</sup> Indiana Infantry. Matthew's father **KEVIN** joined the Camp as an Associate and his mother **YVONNE** and sister **KELSEY** have both joined the Auxiliary.

New Camp member **GARY V. NELSON** of San Leandro, California, is a descendant of Richard P. Dobbs of Co. D, 80<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry. An invitation to join the Auxiliary has been extended to Gary's wife **KRISTIN**.

**DONALD W. PRAY**, long-time resident of Cupertino, died on June 7, 2009 at age 82 after a short illness. He is survived by his daughter Jane Pray-Silver, two sisters, and six grandchildren. Don was raised in the Boston area and he traced his family history in the United States back to the 17th century. Don completed a 22-year career in the Navy, aboard the *USS Coral Sea*, as a Chief Petty Officer. During a tour of duty in the Philippines, he met, courted, and then later married his wife Josephine. After retiring from the Navy, Don completed his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at San Jose State University. He completed an M.B.A. at Santa Clara University while at Underwriters Laboratory, where he worked for 19 years, retiring from his position as Associate Managing Engineer in 1989. After retirement, Don continued his many pursuits. He maintained his vintage VW Beetles. He was certified as a small airplane pilot, and loved to fly his single-engine Cessna. He was an avid bicyclist and military historian. He is preceded in death by his wife and their son Joseph. A memorial service for Donald Pray was held at St Joseph's Church, 10110 N. DeAnza Blvd., Cupertino, on Sunday, June 28th at 1 p.m.

Source: MercuryNew.com (<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/mercurynews/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=128683930>)



## CAMP ORDER NO. 6 SERIES 2009

### PASSING OF BROTHER DONALD W. PRAY

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 hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: It is my sad duty to report the passing of Phil Sheridan Camp Number 4 Brother Donald W. Pray on June 7, 2009 at the age of 82.

Section 2: Brother Don Pray joined Phil Sheridan Camp Number 4 in San Jose, California on October 3, 1994 and had faithfully served the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War as an active member of both the Department and Camp Councils and held several appointed offices, including Camp Eagle Scout Coordinator as well as Department Encampment Delegate. Brother Don received his membership through Private L. Edward Pray of Company F, 7th Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment.

Section 3: Brother Don Pray was a retired Navy Veteran having served his country during World War II, the Korean War and the War in Vietnam. Brother Don met and married his wife Josephine in the Philippines, where she served as a civilian intelligence courier during World War II. Josephine preceded her husband in death on January 21, 2001.

Section 4: Until this year, Brother Don participated in almost every parade that the award winning Phil Sheridan Camp Number 4 formation was entered and he was a key supporter of the establishment of the Camp's Dr. Mary E. Walker Auxiliary Number 52.

Section 5: Brother Don Pray's loss will be deeply felt throughout the Camp. Therefore, the Camp Charter shall be draped in black and all Camp Brothers are respectfully directed to attach a black mourning ribbon to their membership badge (pursuant to C&R, Article III, Sec. 9) for a period of thirty (30) days.

Section 6: Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 extends its sincere condolences to the Pray family, as well as all of his many friends.

The foregoing Camp Order is proclaimed this 16th day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-third, in the City of San José, County of Santa Clara, State of California by Frank C. Avila, Commander of the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

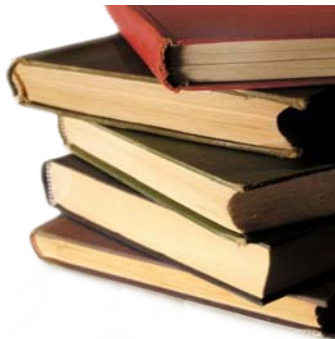
(CAMP SEAL)

By Order of: /s/Frank C. Avila  
Camp Commander  
Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4

ATTEST:

By: /s/ Robert J. Kadlec, PCC  
Camp Secretary-Treasurer

## County Histories Being Indexed



Camp Historian **JOHN E. STOLP** has been hard at work transcribing and indexing Civil War biographies from several county histories and other resources. These works include J. P. Munro-Fraser's 1881 *History of Santa Clara County*, Eugene T. Sawyer's 1922 *History of Santa Clara County*, and William H. Ward's 1886 *Records of Members of the Grand Army of the Republic with a Complete Account of the Twentieth National Encampment*. This will undoubtedly prove to be a valuable resource for researching local veterans and G.A.R. Posts.

John has also been assisting the Auxiliary in researching several burial plots of the Women's Relief Corps, which will help ensure that the ladies of that organization are not forgotten.

### Installation Banquet Saturday, January 23, 2010

Details to follow!

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**In Honor of**  
**Julius Morey**  
**Company G, 18<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry**

*Ancestor of Bro. Richard Whittington of Cupertino, CA*

☆ ☆

## OAK HILL VETERANS' FLAG LOWERING CEREMONY

The Camp's participation in the United Veterans Council of Santa Clara County (UVC) Flag Lowering Ceremony at Oak Hill Memorial Park in San José, originally scheduled for June 28<sup>th</sup>, was postponed due the memorial service for Brother Don Pray. The Camp's participation has been rescheduled for September 27<sup>th</sup>. The flag in front of the Administration Building at the cemetery is flown each month in honor of the memory of deceased veterans. On the last Sunday of the month a formal ceremony is conducted by one of the member organizations of the UVC. Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 will conduct the June ceremony. At least six Brothers, in uniform, will be needed to conduct the ceremony, which will begin at 2:30 pm and will last about 15 minutes. You will need to arrive at Oak Hill no later than 1:30 pm to receive your assignment and perform a "dry run." Please notify Camp Commander Frank Avila if you will be able to assist with this worthy event.

# Independence Day Parade

Article by Bro. Daniel R. Earl, PCC

Photo by Sis. Debra L. Earl

Brothers and Sisters from three Bay Area Camps, two Auxiliaries, and one Tent joined together this past July 4th to march in the seventieth annual Independence Day Parade sponsored by the Peninsula Celebration Association of Redwood City, California. In all there were thirty marchers in this year's Civil War formation.

Commanding the parade company was **JOSEPH C. MARTI**, 1st Lieutenant of Company C, 8th California Volunteer Infantry, 6th Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve. Brothers of the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4, Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp No. 23 and Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp No. 24, along with Sisters of the Dr. Mary E. Walker Auxiliary No. 52, Ivy Stiers Auxiliary No. 23 and Kate B. Sherwood Tent No. 89 of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War were joined by the 3rd U.S. Artillery Regiment, SVR and members of the American Civil War Association (ACWA). Carrying flags this year were **TAD D. CAMPBELL, PDC** – US Flag, **CHARLIE MABIE, DC** – Department Flag, **DANIEL R. EARL, PCC** – Camp 4 Flag, Auxiliary President **KAREN L. LAVRISCHEFF** – Auxiliary 52 Flag, and **STEVEN J. WELCH, PCC** – Company C, 8th CVI, SVR Flag. Members of the ACWA represented Union soldiers from the 114th Pennsylvania, 20th Maine, 2nd U.S. Artillery, and 79th New York.

This event, which is the largest Independence Day parade in Northern California, mustered several thousand spectators to watch participants march the 1.25 miles of the parade route. At the conclusion of the parade, all were pleased to know the SUVCW had won four awards: first place for Senior Color Guard, second place for Senior Drill Team, third place for Drum Corps, and finally the theme award for Our American Heritage. Do all those “senior” awards mean we’re getting old or just good at what we do?



## Duncans Mills Reenactment

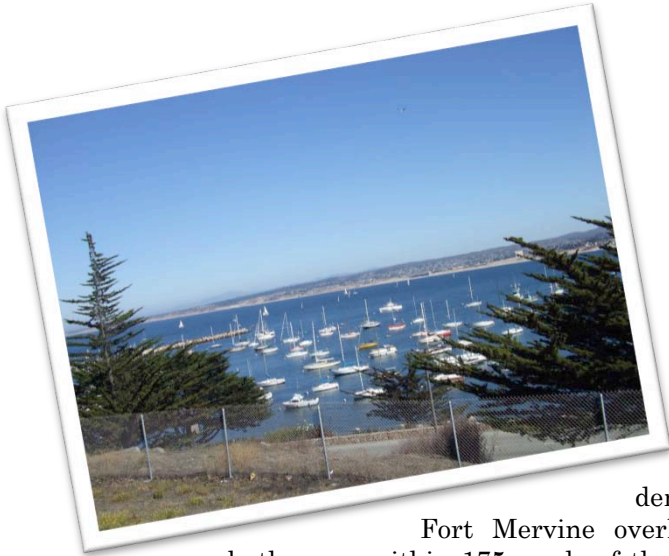
On July 18-19, 2009, the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 and Dr. Mary E. Walker Auxiliary No. 52 once again lent a hand to the Col. Elmer Ellsworth Camp No. 23 and Ivy Stiers Auxiliary No. 23 at the annual Civil War reenactment at Duncans Mills in Sonoma County. The following summary of the event was provided by Camp 23 Commander **DEAN ENDERLIN**:

Our tent and tables were in an ideal location, just inside the entrance gate. So, we saw lots of foot traffic and contacted several potential new members. **TAD** and **RACHELLE CAMPBELL**, assisted by their daughter **EMELIA**, set up the display and tent. What

would we have done without them?! Joining them on Saturday were **CHARLES CHRISTIAN, ELAINE CHRISTIAN** and daughter **CALI**, **CINDY EDDY, DEAN ENDERLIN, KEVIN MOWREY, ANN SCHLEETER, DAVE SCHLEETER, RON** and **KATHERINE CANNON** with their son and daughter **JOSEPH** and **KEZIAH**. Cindy Eddy, Dean Enderlin, Kevin Mowrey and Dave Schleeter returned on Sunday to help. Camp 4 Commander **FRANK AVILA** and Brothers **MACE** and **JAMIN GJERMAN** also took time out from the heat of battle to spend some time at the tent. To sum it up, we had a terrific turnout of members! Thanks everyone!

Phil Sheridan Camp 4, Department of California and Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Established December 4, 1897 in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.



## HISTORY

### FEST MONTEREY

#### OCTOBER 9-11, 2009

For the third year in a row the Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 will lend support to Lincoln Camp No. 10 at a living history presentation at Fort Mervine in Monterey, California. The event will take place on October 9-11, 2009, from 10:00am to 4:30pm on the turf at Building 113 (the Presidio Museum), at the base of the Commodore J. D. Sloat Monument. The Civil War encampment is part of the City of Monterey's larger "History Fest Monterey". All Civil War organizations are welcome to participate. There will not be any battles, but firing demonstrations will take place at 11:00am and 2:00pm each day.

Fort Mervine overlooks beautiful Monterey Bay. There is ample parking and bathrooms within 175 yards of the encampment area. Attractions within walking distance include Fisherman's Wharf, Customs House Plaza, and the downtown and cannery row areas. To get to Fort Mervine, simply take Pacific Street all the way to the west end and veer left when it begins to fork. The next left will be Artillery Road, which will lead directly to the encampment.

## Dr. Walker's Remedies

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

The Crest used by the Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is ornate, colorful and beautifully detailed in its execution. But why does it look as it does – what do the various parts symbolize? And they surely must stand for something, given the era it was designed in, and the culture of the Sisters in that time period. As with so many things from earlier centuries, there was a common understanding of what various items symbolized and meant, that today's society does not remember or understand. One would think that a simple explanation of what each item on the Crest represented could be found within some record of the Auxiliary, preserved for each successive generation of Sisters. In searching for such an explanation, it has yet to be found. Queries made of those members of both the Auxiliary and of Brothers within the Sons have yielded nothing concrete for the most part as well. So, based upon what little has been found in print, culled from the memories of older Sisters and Brothers, and commonly understood customs and symbolisms of that era, here is my "best guess" as to what this beautiful design represents.



- The Latin phrase "veneramur et succurimus" loosely translates to "honor and give aid".
- 1883 is the year the Auxiliary was founded.
- Crossed swords or sabers likely symbolize the military connection.
- The branches can mean different things, depending on what it is actually made of. If of fir, then it would symbolize a remembrance of the dead; if of cedar, then it would stand for strength and healing; an evergreen wreath symbolizes undying love for comrades.
- There are thirteen stars symbolizing the original United States.
- A rising sun symbolizes the rebirth of the Union, whole again.
- Olive or Laurel wreath behind the crossed sabers is a not-so-subtle comment on who the Victor was in the rebirth process.

Again, this is a combined "best guess" effort. If anyone has any sort of actual, historical record of the symbolism of the parts of the Crest, please share that information! The above definitions support the aims and efforts of the Auxiliary, to support the Brothers in their efforts to remember and honor those who paid the price for their support of our country and all that it stands for. Bless them all.

— *Patricia G. Bures, Dept. Secretary-Treasurer*

## Event Schedule

### July 4, 2009

70<sup>th</sup> Annual Independence Day Parade  
Redwood City, California

### July 18-19, 2009

Civil War Reenactment  
Duncans Mills, California

### August 13-16, 2009

128<sup>th</sup> Annual National Encampment  
Louisville, Kentucky

### September 19, 2009

Camp Meeting  
Santa Clara, California

### September 27, 2009

Veterans Flag Lowering Ceremony  
Oak Hill Memorial Park, San José, California

### October 3, 2009

1<sup>st</sup> Special Department Encampment  
Kearney Park, Fresno, California

### October 3-4, 2009

*The Civil War Revisited* Reenactment  
Kearney Park, Fresno, California

### October 10-11, 2009

History Fest Monterey  
Fort Mervine, Monterey, California

### November 7, 2009

Camp Election Meeting  
Santa Clara, California

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

[www.suvpac.org/camp4/schedule.html](http://www.suvpac.org/camp4/schedule.html)

## Did You Know?

### The Drummer Boy of Chickamauga

John Lincoln "Johnny" Clem, a nine-year-old Ohioan who persisted in his efforts to enlist until he was more or less "adopted" by the 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Infantry (the officers pooled their money to pay Clem the standard thirteen dollars a month due Union enlisted men). He first gained fame at the April 6-7, 1862 battle of Shiloh, where a Confederate round smashed his drum. Newspaper accounts dubbed him "Johnny Shiloh" and made much of the smallest drummer on the field. At the September 19-20, 1863 battle of Chickamauga he won national attention for refusing to surrender. Between the two battles, he was allowed to enlist. Although he was unable to enroll at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he never left the army, remaining in uniform until 1916, when he retired as a major general.

### The Drummer Boy of the Rappahannock

Robert H. Hendershot, a thirteen-year-old whose exploits during the December 13, 1862 battle of Fredericksburg attracted the interest of Abraham Lincoln. The boy was a drummer for Company B of the 8<sup>th</sup> Michigan and volunteered to push off the boats being used to cross the river under fire. When he came to the opposite bank, a shell shattered his drum and so Hendershot picked up a rifle. Somehow he captured a Confederate and brought him back to the Union line. The story made him a hero at a battle desperately in need of Union heroes. After Hendershot relinquished his uniform and drum, the president secured for him a job in the U.S. Treasury Department.

Source: *The Encyclopedia of Civil War Usage* by Webb Garrison

## PHIL SHERIDAN CAMP 4 OFFICERS FOR 2009:

<i>Commander</i>	Frank C. Avila equipquake@aol.com	<i>Historian</i>	John E. Stolp jake_sierra@hotmail.com
<i>Sr. Vice Commander</i>	Thomas T. Graham n6wlf@yahoo.com	<i>Graves Reg. &amp; Memorials Ofcr.</i>	Tad D. Campbell, PDC tadcamp@earthlink.net
<i>Jr. Vice Commander</i>	Joseph C. Marti itramcj@yahoo.com	<i>Counselor &amp; Legislative Officer</i>	Daniel R. Earl, PCC danearl64@earthlink.net
<i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Robert J. Kadlec, PCC philsheridan4@aol.com	<i>Guard</i>	Joseph R. Ferman jferman@sbcglobal.net
<i>Camp Council</i>	Tad D. Campbell, PDC ricklarosa@sbcglobal.net Rick T. LaRosa ricklarosa@sbcglobal.net Paul E. Lavrischeff levihensel@hotmail.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@sbcglobal.net
<i>Assistant Chaplain</i>	Richard A. Staley dblbb1@pacbell.net	<i>Signals Officer &amp; 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 7, 2009, 10:00 am

American Legion Hall, Mission City Post 564  
2120 Walsh Avenue, Santa Clara, California

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

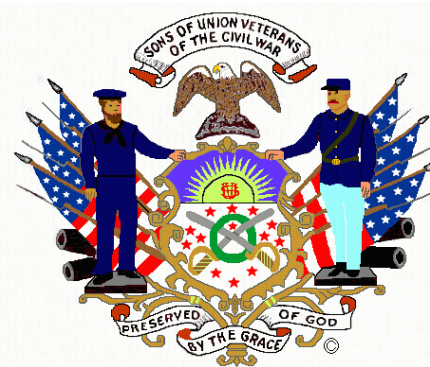
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA & PACIFIC WEB SITE  
<http://www.suvmac.org>

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

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

MAILING ADDRESS: Phil Sheridan Camp No. 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.