

# SHERIDAN'S DISPATCH

*Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4*

*Department of California & Pacific*

*Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*

*Abraham Lincoln Award (Best Camp in the Nation) • Marshall Hope Award (Best Camp Newsletter in the Nation)*

Volume 25, Issue 1

San José, California

January-February 2024

## CHANGE OF COMMAND



**Outgoing Commander RICK T. LAROSA** receives a plaque from the Camp in recognition of his years of service.



**Incoming Commander DONALD E. MENZIES** proudly accepts the mantle of command for the coming year.

The 2024 Camp officers were installed by Department Commander STEVEN E. DOYLE at a joint ceremony with Gen. Alfred Pleasonton Camp No. 24 in Fremont, California on January 13, 2024.

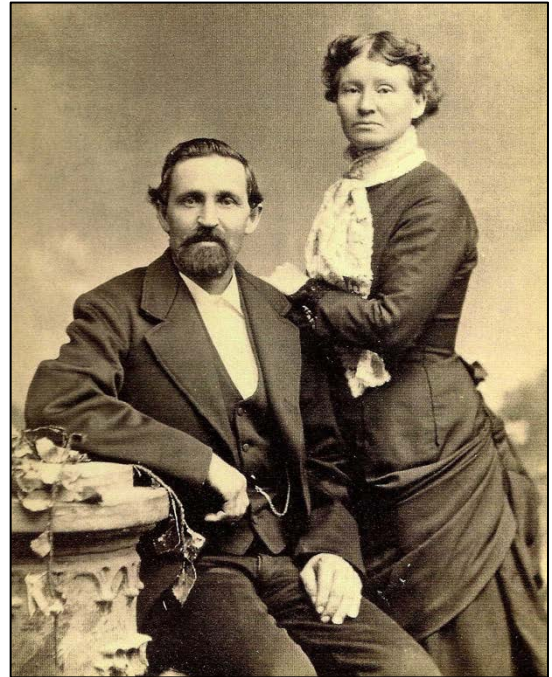
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# MY UNION ANCESTOR

## Richard R. Lander

Company D, 33<sup>rd</sup> Wisconsin Infantry

Great-grandfather of newly installed  
Camp Commander DONALD E. MENZIES



Richard R. Lander was born August 28, 1842 near Cassville, Wisconsin Territory. He enlisted and was mustered in August 13, 1862 as a Private in Company D of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Wisconsin Infantry. The regiment participated in the Vicksburg Campaign, the Battle of Nashville, the Red River Campaign, and the Mobile Campaign. During the latter, Private Lander was wounded at the Battle of Spanish Fort, Alabama on March 27, 1865. He was mustered out with the rest of the regiment on August 9, 1865. He learned the trade of tinsmith and in the early 1870s he moved to California.

He lived variously in the Central Valley, Los Angeles County, and finally died in Healdsburg, California on January 16, 1892 at the age of 49 years. He was buried in Turlock Memorial Park in Turlock, California, with his funeral conducted by members of the Grand Army of the Republic. His headstone is flanked by flag holders for both the G.A.R. and the Woman's Relief Corps.



Brother Menzies also has a great-great-granduncle who served. Isaac N. Lander was a brother of Richard R. Lander. Isaac enlisted and mustered in December 2, 1861 as a Private in Company C, 2nd Wisconsin Cavalry. He died in the hospital at Keokuk, Iowa on October 28, 1862, presumably of disease. His burial location is unknown.

# Attention to Orders!

Camp Orders — <https://suvpac.org/camp4orders>

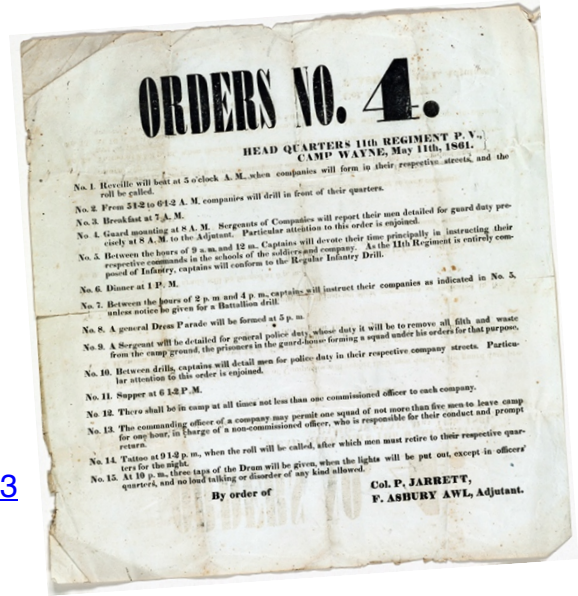
NO NEW ORDERS SINCE LAST ISSUE.

Department Orders — <https://suvpac.org/orders>

NO NEW ORDERS SINCE LAST ISSUE.

General Orders — [http://www.suvcw.org/?page\\_id=513](http://www.suvcw.org/?page_id=513)

NO NEW ORDERS SINCE LAST ISSUE.



## Did you know?

Both before and during the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln pushed to send freed Blacks abroad.

The policy, called colonization, had been supported by Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay—a hero of Lincoln's—and even Harriet Beecher Stowe, whose protagonists in "Uncle Tom's Cabin" ultimately emigrated from the United States to Africa. In August 1862, Lincoln brought five Black ministers to the White House and told them that slavery and the war had demonstrated that it would be "better for us both, therefore, to be separated." He wanted to send freed Blacks to Central America, even calling for a constitutional amendment authorizing Congress to pay for colonization. But prominent abolitionists such as Frederick Douglass and William Lloyd Garrison were appalled by the idea. Lincoln never succeeded at gathering support for the policy, and after he signed the Emancipation Proclamation he never mentioned it publicly again.



Source: <https://www.history.com/news/10-surprising-civil-war-facts>

## Was your Union ancestor an officer?



The **Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS)** is the first and oldest Civil War fraternal organization in the United States. It was founded on April 20, 1865, by current and former Union officers. Male descendants of Civil War officers who honorably served in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Revenue Cutter Service may be eligible for membership as Hereditary or Associate Companions.

Camp Brother **TAD CAMPBELL** is the current Commander of the California Commandery. Contact Brother Campbell or visit the MOLLUS website for more information: <https://loyallegion.org>

## Event Schedule

**January 13, 2024**

Camp Installation Luncheon  
Fremont, California

**March 23, 2024**

Camp Meeting  
Location TBA

**April 4-5, 2024**

138<sup>th</sup> Department Encampment  
Laughlin, Nevada

**May 18, 2024**

Camp Meeting  
Location TBA

**August 1-4, 2024**

143<sup>rd</sup> National Encampment  
Lexington, Kentucky

**September 14, 2024**

Camp Meeting  
Location TBA

**November 16, 2024**

Camp Election Meeting  
Location TBA

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

<https://suvpac.org/camp4schedule>

## Department Encampment Returns to Nevada!

For only the third time in the history of the Department of California and Pacific, the Department Encampment will be held in Nevada!

The 1913 Encampment was held in Reno and in 2006 it took place in Las Vegas.

The 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Department Encampment will be held at the Tropicana in Laughlin, Nevada on **April 5-6, 2024**.

Let's show support for our Brethren in Nevada and give them a great attendance!

Room rates of \$65 on Friday and \$85 on Saturday (plus a resort fee of \$12.99, plus tax) have been secured for both nights.

Visit the Department website for more information: <https://suvpac.org/encampment/>



# 160 Years Ago

## Civil War Anniversaries

### February 1864

- **February 9** — Escape from Libby Prison, Richmond. After weeks of digging, 109 United States officers made their escape from the notorious Libby Prison, the largest and most sensational escape of the war. Though 48 of the escapees were later captured and two drowned, 59 were able to make their way into US lines.
- **February 27** — In Georgia, Camp Sumter Prison Camp opens. Universally referred to as Andersonville Prison Camp, it will become notorious for overcrowded conditions and a high death rate among its inmates.
- **February 14-20** — Federal capture and occupation of Meridian, Mississippi. Federal forces under William T. Sherman enter the city of Meridian, Mississippi after a successful month of campaigning through the central part of the state. The capture of this important Southern town, well known for its industry and storage capabilities, severely hampers the efforts of Confederate commanders to sustain their armies in the Deep South, Georgia and west of the Mississippi River.
- **February 17** — First successful submarine attack of the Civil War. The CSS *H.L. Hunley*, a seven-man submergible craft, attacked the USS *Housatonic* outside of Charleston, South Carolina. Struck by the submarine's torpedo, the *Housatonic* broke apart and sank, taking all but five of her crew with her. Likewise, the *Hunley* was also lost and never heard from again until discovered in 1995 at the spot where it sank after the attack.

Source:

<https://www.nps.gov/gett/learn/historyculture/civil-war-timeline.htm>

### ○ **REMINDER: CAMP DUES ARE DUE**

Membership dues for 2024 are now due. The cost is **\$45.00**, with check or money order make out to "SUVCW." Please send payment to Camp Treasurer Linn Malaznik at 10080 Parrish View Dr., Gilroy, CA 95020-9447.

## Longevity

Since the closure of the John A. Logan Camp No. 20 in Los Gatos, California on March 22, 2014, our Camp has been the oldest Camp in the Department of California and Pacific, having been in continuous existence since **December 4, 1897!** In fact, Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 is the most senior Camp in the Department by nearly 100 years!

Brother **TAD D. CAMPBELL** is the most senior living Past Camp Commander, having served from 2000-2002. He is also the second-most senior living Past Department Commander (2005-2007), surpassed only by D. BRAD SCHALL who was Commander from 2003-2004.



The oldest member of the Camp is **ROBERT L. "NELS" NELSON** of Santa Cruz, who will be 87 years old in March. Nels is a founding member and Past Camp Commander of Lincoln Camp No. 10 and transferred to our Camp last year when that Camp closed. He previously served a number of terms as Department Historian.

**NEXT MEETING:** Saturday, March 23, 2024 at 10:00 am  
**LOCATION:** To be announced (watch for email or check website)

## Officers for 2024-2025

### Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4 Camp Officers

- Commander ..... Donald E. Menzies
- Senior Vice Commander .. Rick T. LaRosa, PCC
- Junior Vice Commander ..... Daniel R. Earl, PCC
- Secretary ..... Tad D. Campbell, PCinC
- Treasurer..... Linn W. Malaznik
- Council ..... Daniel R. Earl, PCC
- Council ..... Frank C. Avila, PDC
- Council ..... Thomas T. Graham, PDC
  
- Patriotic Instructor ..... Dean A. Enderlin, PDC
- Chaplain ..... Paul E. Lavrischeff, PCC
- Historian ..... John E. Stolp, PCC
- Counselor ..... Daniel R. Earl, PCC
- Guide ..... Paul E. Lavrischeff, PCC
- Guard ..... Paul E. Lavrischeff, PCC
- Color Bearer ..... Frank C. Avila, PDC
- Graves Registration Officer ... Kenneth G. Felton
- Civil War Memorials Officer ... Kenneth G. Felton
- Eagle Scout Cert. Coord. ... Frank C. Avila, PDC
- ROTC Award Coord. .... Vacant
- Legislative Officer ..... Daniel R. Earl, PCC
- Newsletter Editor ..... Tad D. Campbell, PCinC
- Signals Officer ..... Tad D. Campbell, PCinC
- Musician ..... Christopher C. Avila
- Musician ..... James M. Welch

### *SUVCW 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.

### *Tax Deductible Donations*

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) recognizes the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and its subordinate organizations (Departments, Camps, and SVR Districts & Units) as tax exempt organizations under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)3 and eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions in accordance with Code section 170.



## Websites



*Phil Sheridan Camp 4*  
<https://suvpac.org/camp4>

*SUVCW Department of Calif. & Pacific*  
<https://suvpac.org>

*SUVCW National Organization*  
<https://suvcw.org>

## Contact the Camp

**MAILING ADDRESS:** Phil Sheridan Camp No. 4  
10080 Parrish View Drive, Gilroy, CA 95020-9447

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**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 408-879-9550

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** [suvcw@icloud.com](mailto:suvcw@icloud.com)