

THE CALIFORNIA COLUMN

Vol XVI The Newsletter of the Department of California and Pacific Summer/Fall 2019

We Have A New Camp!!!

With many thanks to the hard work of camp organizer Brother Wayne Eder and the support of Department Commander Rudy Velasco III the Senator Edward Dickinson Baker, Camp 31, had their Charter presentation and Officer Installation meeting on Saturday, October 26, 2019, in Henderson, Nevada. The presentation and installation was performed by Department Commander Rudy Velasco III, with the help of the Department Secretary/Treasurer Owen Stiles.

Officers of Camp 31 are: Commander Don Hotchkiss, Jr.; SVC Dr. Wayne L. Eder; JVC Nathaniel Hotchkiss; Secretary/Treasurer Al Conant; Council Charles Smith, Vincent Vitale and Andrew Martin; Chaplain Dr. Wayne L. Eder.

At the installation Department Commander Rudy Velasco presented the camp with a \$300 check from the General George Stoneman Jr. Camp 18 to help get the new camp started. Another donation to Camp 31 was made by the Sons of the American Revolution through Camp Commander Hotchkiss.



Presentation of Camp Charter: L-R Owen Stiles, Rudy Velasco, Donald Hotchkiss, Wayne Eder



Camp 31 Installation of Officers: L-R Owen Stiles, Donald Hotchkiss, Vince Vitale, Wayne Eder, Andrew Martin, Rudy Velasco, Al Conant, Steve Hauk



Commander's Corner: Hello Brothers, Sisters and Friends,

It has been a busy summer and I would like to thank all involved who have helped perpetuate the Memory of the Boys in Blue.

The Department of California & Pacific had a great turn out at the 2019 Annual Encampment of the Allied Orders of the G.A.R. held at Independence, Ohio in early August.

Closer to home, our compliments go out to the multi Camp and Auxiliary efforts to work together to perform the recent Medal of Honor Marker Dedication ceremony for Civil War Sailor Matthew Arthur and the Headstone Dedication ceremony for California Native Cavalry Captain Jose Ramon Pico in the Bay area. Brother Ken Felton has devoted a lot of time to organizing these events.

I would also like to mention the cleanup and picket fence rebuilding efforts of Camp 21 at the Fallbrook Oddfellows cemetery for the family burial plot of Civil War Lt. Asa W. Heberd. They have done a great job there.

There are a couple of upcoming opportunities in October to inform the public of the existence of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and our mission. Maybe your Camp already has plans to attend the annual Fort Mervine encampment or the Fresno - Kearney Park Civil War reenactment with an information and display table. These are always great events to inform the public and maybe get a little recruiting in.

Please take a moment and bring to mind, say a prayer to keep out of harm's way, our Brothers and Sisters who are and have been affected by the roaring winds, wild fires and who have gone days without electricity, throughout the entire state of California. God bless the Firefighters and First Responders who battle every day to keep us safe. I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving.

I am sure we have all been busy, keep up the great work and I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our Department

Encampment March 20-22, 2020, in Bakersfield, CA. More information to be put on the Department web site.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Rudy Velasco
Commander,
Dept. of California & Pacific

Editor's Comments: Many thanks to the Camps and individuals who have contributed to this issue of The California Column. Without their contributions there would be no newsletter. Also please remember that editorial necessity requires your editor to condense, paraphrase and sometimes cut some of the information he has been given. I try to give a rounded picture of what the Department and individual camps have been doing, but to do so requires decision making as to content to be part of the newsletter. This is no reflection on the Camps nor the Department Officers but is only the decisions of the editor to expedite the creation of the newsletter. Credit goes to those who participate, any items not included are the editor's decisions only. Please email Camp newsletters and commentary about events participated in to editor@suvpac.org. Please send your information by January 1, 2020, for the next edition.

Department Orders: Department Order number 4 and Special Department Orders 1 and 2 have been posted on the Department web site at www.suvpac.org. Please review these orders. When additional Department Orders are issued notification will be entered in the next edition of the newsletter.

National Encampment Information:

The 138th National Encampment was held in Independence, OH, on August 8-11, 2019. The Department was represented by a delegation of 11 Brothers.



From L-R: Dan Earl PCC, Steven Doyle DJVC, Adam Gaines, Tom Graham PDC, Tad Campbell PCiC, Glen Roosevelt PDC, Rudy Velasco DC, Dean Enderlin PDC, Rick LaRosa, Frank Avila DSVC, Linn Malaznik

Camps represented were 4, 17, 18 and 23.

The Department Auxiliary members had fun at the Friday night camp fire.



Present were Cindy Eddy PDP, Rebecca Thomas Dept. VP, Rachelle Campbell PNP, Bev Graham PDP and Emelia Campbell.

Highlights Around the Department:

Camp 2: At the Huntington Beach Civil War Days, on August 31 and September 1, Katherine Harris, daughter of Brother Tom

Chumley, returned Camp2’s Charter, which she rescued after her Dad passed away.



Camp2’s GAR Highway Officer, Brother Ron Black, managed to get Cal Trans to post two replacement signs on I-5 and State Route 14.



Camp 4: Camp 4 was part of the United Veterans Council of Santa Clara County’s Flay lowering ceremony at Oak Hill Memorial Park.



L-R: Frank Avila DSVC, Paul Lavrischeff CC, Robert Kadlec PCC and Rick LaRosa.

A headstone dedication ceremony was held at the Mission Cemetery in Santa Clara, California, for Jose Ramon Pico who was a

Captain of Company A of the First California Native Calvary, 1863-1866. Brothers of Camps 4, 10, 23 and 24, along with Sisters of Auxiliary 52 were present



L-R: Ken Felton, Paul Lavrischeff, Tom Graham, Bev Graham, Tad Campbell, Emelia Campbell, Dan Earl, Cindy Eddy, Frank Avila, Dean Enderlin, Rick LaRosa and Doug Thompson

Camp 10: Camp 10 hosted Brother and Sisters of Camp 4 for the Monterey 4th of July Parade.



Brothers of Camps 4 and 10 and Sisters of Auxiliary 52 in Monterey, CA.

An unexpected encounter at the 4th of July Parade: **Old meets New!**



Camp 12: Monthly participation in the Las Vegas Civil War Round Table, and many Eagle Scout and JROTC award events keep the Brothers very busy.

Camp 17: The Huntington Beach Civil War Days event brought together Brothers from Camps 2 10, 17 and 21.



L-R: Jerry Sayer PDC (Camp 21), Phil Caines PCC (Camp 2), Tim Reese PDC (Camp 10), Terry Shaw Sec-Tres Camp 17, Glen Roosevelt PDC (Camp 17), Dean Smith CC (Camp 2)

Camp 18: The camp issued JROTC award packages to eight local high schools in 2019. They also mailed out 5 more Eagle Scout awards. At the Huntington Beach Civil War Days event Brother Larry Duncan portrayed Dr. Malarkey and had his Field Hospital open

and explained the use of Ether during the Civil War.

Camp 21: On Saturday, September 14th, a final coat of paint was applied to the new picket fence of Lt. Asa Hebbert, Co E, 28th WI, family gravesite. This project of replacing a falling down picket fence over 110 years old with hand forged square nails started in June and finished this month.



The crew from Camp 21 finishing up.

The camp also participated in the Huntington Beach Civil War Days.



L-R: Jerry Sayre PDC and Monroe McBride

Camp 24: A Medal of Honor head stone dedication was held August 7th at the San Francisco National Cemetery for Matthew Arthur, a Civil War sailor, who was awarded the Medal of Honor July 10, 1863. Thanks to Camp 24 Commander and Department

Graves Registration Officer Ken Felton the gravestone now indicates Medal of Honor.



Ceremony assisted by members of Co G, 20th Maine, American Civil War Association.



At the gravesite, L-R: Cindy Eddy PDP, Ken Felton PCC and Commander of Camp 24, and Dean Enderlin PDC.

Camp 25: The camp participated in the Virginia City 4th of July parade. Brother Wayne Eder was instrumental in the establishment of Camp 31 in Henderson, NV.

Paul Frederick Washeleski, PCC, first commander and driving force behind the founding of Camp 25 passed away July 15, 2019.



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