

# Stoneman Dispatch

## Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Of the Inland Empire, Department of California and Pacific

Email: [camp18@suvpac.org](mailto:camp18@suvpac.org) Web: [www.suvpac.org/camp18.html](http://www.suvpac.org/camp18.html)

Volume 6, No.4, July - August, 2015

### Informal August Meeting Proposed

As most of you know, we usually don't have an August meeting for our camp. Not that I am wanting to break that tradition, but I thought I would start another tradition by offering my home in Highland as a less formal place for all of my SUVCW Brothers to meet and "chill." Our next scheduled meeting would be Saturday, August 15th, so I've chosen that date to have this "meeting."

I also thought this might be a nice informal way to invite a friend or relative to get to know us better and to find out what SUVCW is all about. I encourage you all to try to bring a friend, relative or prospect new member to this informal event.

Here is my proposed Schedule of Events:

- 12:00: Arrive. Have lunch.
- 13:00: Informal Meeting/Socialization.
- 14:00: Swimming Pool and Jacuzzi available.
- 15:00: Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament. \$5 Buy-Ins? (Now, I've got your attention, huh!). Those not wishing to participate should plan their own transportation home.
- 17:00: Seconds on Sandwiches.
- 21:00: You can start to leave now . . .
- 24:00: My German Shepard will chase you to your car . . .

No need to bring anything. I will supply various meats and cheeses for sandwiches, potato salad and

*more on page 2, see MEETING....*

### Tentative Camp Calendar

**Saturday, Aug. 15** – Informal Camp Meeting at SVC Steve Doyle's house. More information further in newsletter.

**August 20 – 23** – SUVCW National Encampment in Richmond, Virginia. For more information on line, visit [www.suvcw.org/?p=1554](http://www.suvcw.org/?p=1554)

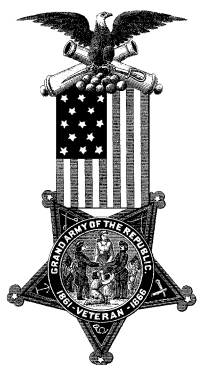
**Oct 10 – 11** – Camp Display at Tom's Farm Civil War reenactment, Corona.

**Saturday Oct 17** – Camp meeting at the American Legion Hall, 1024 B South Main St. Corona. Noon.

**Saturday, Dec – 12** – Camp Election meeting. Palm Springs Air Museum.



*Photo above: Memorial Day Service at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside on 23 May 2015. From the left are Secretary Rudy Velasco, Rudy Velasco IV, JVC Richard Burns and SVC Steve Doyle. Story on page 2....*



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*Dedicated to Preserving the Memory  
of the Grand Army of the Republic  
And the soldiers who Fought to Save the Union 1861 - 1865*

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**MEETING continued....**

condiments along with diet and regular Pepsi and bottled water.

You are welcome to BYOB or other liquid refreshments. All I ask is that you RSVP me either by phone (909)-862-7129 or email [psychrn10@aol.com](mailto:psychrn10@aol.com) and give me the following information:

- If you're coming, and with or without a guest.
- Number of Sandwiches you'll probably eat.
- Type of Meat you want: Beef, Ham, or Turkey.
- Type of Cheese you want: Swiss, American, or Provolone.
- If you think you will want to play Poker.

Hey, it's *Summer*, so let's have some FUN!! Hope to see you at my place.

Steve Doyle, Sr. Vice Commander, Camp 18.



### Camp 18 Brothers busy for Memorial Day

Brother Michael Emmett spent some time on Saturday, May 23, putting American flags at the burial sites on Union Soldiers at the old cemetery in Billings, Montana. He also participated in an American Legion ceremony at Custer cemetery (not the Little Big Horn) as a color guard participant.

Just a stray fact, Brother Michael Emmett, Camp 18 Graves Registration Officer, surpassed 1000 total grave registrations around the month of April. That's cumulative for the camp's existence in.

Brother John Morris and his crew of volunteers placed more than 1000 American flags at all the Veterans burial sites, from the Civil War through modern times, at Riverside's Evergreen Cemetery between Friday May 22 and Saturday Morning, May 23. Brother Morris and crew had everything ready for Camp 18 to begin the Memorial Day Service on time for Saturday, May 23.

Thank you Brothers for participating and reporting.

### Memorial Day Service at Evergreen Cemetery

Camp 18 Brothers attending or participating in this year's Memorial Day Ceremony were Brothers John Morris, Burt Hogue, Tate Burns, Camp Commander Bill and First Lady Angie Daley, with her beautiful red, white



*Above, left Melinie Prost-Caines, SUVCW Auxiliary Past Department President and Susan Sweet, Camp 2 Auxiliary President, participated with Camp 18 at the 2015 Memorial Day Service at Evergreen Cemetery.*

and blue glittery and festive earrings, Sr. Vice Commander Steve and Ellen Doyle, Jr. Vice Commander Richard Burns, Camp Secretary Rudy and Susan Velasco and Brother Rudy Velasco IV.

For the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, General George Stoneman Jr, Camp 18 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, has held, for the most part, a traditional GAR style Memorial Day Service at Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery in Riverside, CA. The Cemetery and the surrounding community seem to approve.

Again this year, Boy Scout Troop 120 of Moreno Valley took the big weathered American flag from the GAR circle flag pole and retired it by the traditional Folding and Burning method, then replaced it in a true Scout ceremony. The new addition to our Memorial Service this year was the addition of a guest key note speaker, Ryan Keating, PhD, History Professor at Cal State Fullerton.

The service started with the Ramona High School Marine Corps. JROTC Color Guard, advancing and displaying the Colors, another year of perfect operation.

Brother Secretary Rudy Velasco opened the proceedings with the reading of the Traditional Camp Opening, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Brother Richard Burns continued with Greetings and Introductions and General Logans's General Order No. 11 challenging GAR and SUVCW Brothers to maintain with care, the burial mounds of our Civil War departed. Brother Tate Burns came to the microphone to comment on the "Beginnings of Decoration Day."

The next part of the ceremony was addressed by our Keynote speaker Cal State Fullerton Professor of

*Continued on page 3, see MEMORIAL,...*

**MEMORIAL continued,....**

History Ryan Keating, PhD, who spoke about the westward expansion of the Union Civil War Veteran after the 1861 – 1865 war. He also spoke about the Union Veterans lives in So. California and their struggles as as older men. The last part of Keating’s history speech was about the way these Veterans melted into the local counties and communities and passed away into oblivion , no one caring about their history.

Keating’s report was fact filled and relative to our general area of operation, as a Camp.

Professor Keating also expressed how excited he was to be a Key speaker at our Memorial Day Service because it was the first time he has been asked to speak in such a manor. He was a splendid speaker and covered some great local history.

General W.S. Roscrans Camp #2 Auxiliary President Susan Sweet participated reading the “the Unknown Dead” poem and presenting a floral wreath to the flags of the military service branches flags at the cemetery.

Camp 18 Senior Vice Commander Steve Doyle recited a poem entitled “ A Soldier’s Grave’s” Poem

Past Department of California President of the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Melinie Prosk-Caines presented a wreath for the “Sons” to the Woman’s Relief Corps Monument.

More wreath presentations were made to the other American Military Service Branch Flags flying at the GAR circle by the Board of Director Ladies of Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery and Camp 18 wife Susan Velasco.

Towards the end of the Service, Boy Scout Troop 120 of Moreno Valley removed and respectfully retired the massive and tattered American flag from the GAR circle. They performed the flag retirement ceremony without a problem and in true Scout fashion.

The program progressed to an end with a 3 volley musket salute provided by Camp 18 Honor Guard of SVC Corporal Steve Doyle, Private Rudy Velasco IV and Secretary Rudy Velasco III. It is ALWAYS fun to shoot those muskets.

After the program ending with “Taps”, the audience of about 30 guests was invited to help distribute the provided fresh flowers to the Union Veterans graves at the GAR circle.



*Above, Cal-State Fullerton History Professor Ryan Keating, PhD speaks at Camp 18’s Memorial Service, May 23, 2015. S. Velasco photo.....*



**General George Stoneman Jr.  
Camp 18 Officers**

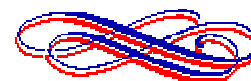
- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Camp Commander, | William Daley      |
| Sr. Vice Cmdr,  | Steve Doyle        |
| Jr. Vice Cmdr,  | Richard Burns      |
| Sec/Treas,      | Rudy Velasco III   |
| Camp Council #1 | Michael Emmett     |
| Camp Council #2 | Michael Bullard    |
| Camp Council #3 | Rudolph Velasco IV |

**Appointed**

- |                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Camp Chaplain        | vacant           |
| Camp Historian       | Burt Hogue       |
| Graves Registration  | Michael Emmett   |
| Newsletter Editor    | Rudy Velasco III |
| Patriotic Instructor | Richard Burns    |
| JROTC & Eagle        |                  |
| Scout Coordinator    | Richard Burns    |

**Good Will Ambassador At Large;  
General Roger Rothrock (U.S.Army Retired)**

*If* you have something of interest that you would like to add to this newsletter, something that our **Brothers** might enjoy like an article, a photo or a Civil War event, contact the Editor, Rudy Velasco for placement. [rev03@dc.rr.com](mailto:rev03@dc.rr.com)



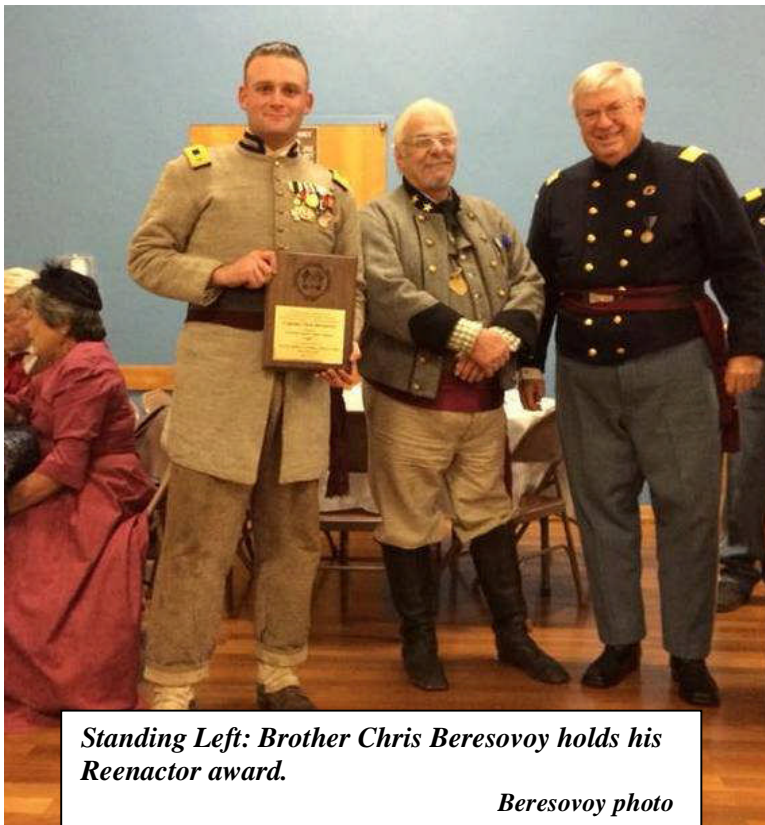
## Camp 18 Brother Chris Beresovoy receives Award

This year, Brother Chris received an award and was placed into the California Civil War Reenactor Hall of Fame. Not only has he been reenacting for 16 years, he is the youngest member to ever be installed in the Reenactor Hall of Fame at just 26 years old.

A little more about Brother Chris; he was a four year NJROTC Student, and he now attends St. Jacinto College where is completing his Associates degree in American History. Christopher also serves in the US Army Reserves.

Chris has been Civil War reenacting since he was just 9 years old. He is a proud member of the Civil War Alliance of Southern California and is the currently Captain of the 2nd Florida Company I. (A Confederate Infantry Unit).

Chris' 4<sup>th</sup> Great Grandfather, Frederick Kagely, served with Co. A, 47<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Infantry.



Standing Left: Brother Chris Beresovoy holds his Reenactor award.

*Beresovoy photo*

The Reenactor Hall of Fame is really just in the Southern California area as far as I know. It was started a long time ago, and we're not sure by whom. Basically in order to become a member, you have to have reenacted for over 10 years and have to be nominated by the current members of the Hall of Fame. They try to take one Confederate and one Union reenactor a year, but it doesn't always work out that way! In order to be

considered, the person must have made some sort of monumental contribution to the hobby in general.

Chris' contribution to the reenacting Community has been his many years involvement in the hobby and his willingness and the ability to motivate young and troubled kids into straightening up, on and off the field.

Thank you for your contribution to the newsletter.

## 4th of July Display at Evergreen Cemetery

by  
Steve Doyle, SVC

Brother Richard Burns and I set up our SUVCW display at the Riverside Evergreen Cemetery on Saturday, July 4th. I brought my new easy-up and was impressed with several Firemen Explorer youth assisting us with setting it up. We got particularly busy around 17:00 as the crowds started to filter in for the fireworks display that started at sunset. One gentleman who came to our display, was proud to report that his relative had lost an arm in the Battle of Vicksburg. He and several others were given pamphlets and contact information about SUVCW and encouraged to contact Camp 18 if they wanted more information or wished to join.

We are happy to report that the fireworks display did not set off a fire on the top of Mt. Rubidoux this year.

Brother Richard handed out flyers about the upcoming re-internment of Civil War/Indian Wars Medal of Honor recipient, Sgt. Charles Schroeter, into the new Mira Mar National Cemetery in San Diego. He died in 1921 and had no relatives here as he was originally from Germany. His cremains were found in a crypt in a San Diego cemetery and he was never buried with full military honors. On July 9th, this oversight was corrected.

## Forgotten Veteran of the Civil War buried with honors at Miramar National Cemetery

Associated Press contribution

Union Cavalry Veteran and Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. Charles Schroeter, forgotten in an unmarked grave for over 90 years, finally received a funeral and given full military honors when he was reburied at Miramar National Cemetery on Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

A large Army contingent from Fort Irwin with

*Continued on page 5, see FUNERAL,....*

**FUNERAL, continued from page 4.....**

a Military Band, Honor Guard, Pall Bearers and the Commanding General conducted a ceremony with full military honors.

“On behalf of a grateful nation, may you find this new place of rest to be the home of honor you rightfully deserve,” Army Brig. General Joseph M. Martin told the crowd.

Scores of veterans from past wars attended the ceremony along with our Sons of Union Veterans Brothers who were dressed in Civil War uniforms.

Sgt. Schroeter is the first Medal of Honor Recipient to be buried at San Diego’s newest National Cemetery.

The German-born U.S. soldier received the Medal of Honor in 1869 for his gallantry during battles between settlers and Native Americans in the west. The action in particular during the Battle of Rocky Meza on Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1869 which was sparked by an Apache attack on a stage coach where two civilian and four Cavalry troopers were killed. Schroeter and other troopers tracked the Apaches into Arizona’s Chiricahua Mountains where more fighting erupted and more troopers were killed.

Researchers say Schroeter was born in Germany on July 4, 1837 and migrated to the United States as a young man. He would spend the next three decades serving in the U.S. military. He first joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Missouri Cavalry Regiment in 1863 and saw action in Arkansas against Confederates. After the Civil War he joined the U.S. 8<sup>th</sup> Cavalry and headed west. Schroeder also spent 5 years with the U.S. Marines.

He devoted his life to adopted country.

Schroeter retired from the military and settled in Buffalo, New York before heading to San Diego in 1918.

He never married or had children so when he passed in 1921 his remains rested among others, unclaimed in an unmarked crypt for nearly a century.

**Drum Barracks Susan Ogle Retires**

After 15 years as Director of Drum Barracks Civil War Museum, Susan Ogle has retired.

On Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> 2015, the museum and the City of Los Angeles held a small retirement party for Susan on the back lawn and court yard of the Barracks. Lunch, refreshing drinks and cake were served to the 50 plus well-wishers who visited to help celebrate her years as Director and the improvements to the property she has overseen.

Over the years, Susan has become a great friend to



*Army Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class J.Gendron carries the remains of Sgt. Schoreter during the burial service at Mira Mar National cemetery 7/9/2015.*  
AP photo

the southern California Civil War community including reenactors, the SUVCW and the Auxiliary and Civil War book club and Round Table.

Susan received Plaques of Recognition and Certificate awards and kind words of endearment from City co-workers, museum staff and a few Civil War reenactor groups.

As the Museum’s Director, Susan is responsible for the building’s new tile roof, lead abatement and the exterior’s new paint.

Interior improvements include expanding the research library and adding 3 new exhibition rooms and improvements were made to existing displays each year.

Susan will be missed by the entire Southern California Civil War community.



*Above: Drum Barracks Director Susan Ogle in the Barracks court yard.*





*General George Stoneman Jr. Camp 18  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
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