

Stoneman Dispatch

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Of the Inland Empire, Department of California and Pacific

Email: camp18@suvpac.org Web: www.suvpac.org/camp18.html

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Lincoln Monument Centennial Re-Dedication



The Lincoln Statue, located in downtown Long Beach, California was dedicated on July 3, 1915; the anniversary of the Union victory at Gettysburg, PA. in 1863.

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MONUMENT...



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

Tentative Camp Calendar

Saturday, Oct 17 – Camp meeting at Camp Commander Bill Daley’s house in Yucaipa at 12:00 pm.

Saturday, December 12 – Camp election meeting at the Palm Springs Air Museum. Noon start time.

Saturday, February 6 – 77th Annual Lincoln Pilgrimage Parade in Redlands. We are looking for more participants.

Sunday, February 7 – Camp display at the Lincoln Shrine Open House in Redlands.

Saturday, February 20 – Camp meeting at the American Legion Hall, Corona.

Reminder - Membership Dues

Just a simple reminder that “Dues” season is just around the corner. The Camp will be mailing the Dues notices with Return envelopes in November in hopes of having all dues received by the beginning of January 2016.

Just a heads up!

Next Camp Meeting

The next Camp Meeting is scheduled for October 17th, 2015 and will be held at Camp Commander Bill Daley’s house in Yucaipa. The meeting will start at the usual 12:00 p.m.

Contact Commander Daley for RSVP and directions at (909) 809-7401 or email badaley6969@gmail.com

WE hope to see you there!



MONUMENT continued.....

On Saturday, August 29th, the Lincoln statue located in downtown Long Beach was re-dedicated under the direction of SUVCW Camp 2 Brother Thomas Chumley.

The monument which was originally dedicated in 1915 is situated at the edge of a park adjacent to the Long Beach Civic Center.

Brother Chumley originally planned the Centennial re-dedication for July of this summer but City red tape held up the celebration.

The festivities began about 11:00 a.m. with an audience of about 40 consisting of locals, Sons of Union Veterans Camp 2 Brothers, Sisters from the Camp 2 Auxiliary, local Daughters of Union Veterans and Boy Scout Troop 206 of Long Beach.

The Mare Island Marine Guard of the Sons of Veterans Reserve provided the Opening Ceremony Colors followed by Boy Scout Troop 206 leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.



Above, left to right; Color Guard Pvt. Rudy Velasco IV (Camp 18), O'Sgt. Rudy Velasco III (Camp 18), Scouts of Troop 206, Sgt. Glen Roosevelt (Camp 17) and Seaman Andrew Brown (Camp 2).

After Brother Chumley introduced a few Special Guests and Dignitaries, Memorial Wreaths were placed at the foot of the monument by Camp 2's Auxiliary.

The Hon. Douglas Haubert, Long Beach City Prosecutor was the Ceremony's Principle Speaker and provided a very interesting account of "*Lincoln the*

Lawyer" as he traveled the back roads of Illinois for the Court's circuit and leading to the Douglas debates. Very, very well done.

After a few closing remarks from Brother Chumley, the Color Guard retired the Colors and the event concluded.

Freelance Photographer Tom Underhill took many photos of the event and has kindly put them on line to be viewed and can be seen at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/glowdog/albums/72157657650808760>

I believe you can email the photographer to order photo copies at underhillphoto@gmail.com

The following is from an interview of Brother Chumley by the local Press-Telegram newspaper for the statue re-dedication:

A heritage group that traces its history back to the Civil War will rededicate Long Beach's Lincoln Monument this weekend. The statue of Abraham Lincoln at the entrance to Lincoln Park was originally dedicated more than 100 years ago on July 3, 1915. The Same

group that raised the money for the statue a century ago, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, has organized the rededication. "We're dedicated to keeping alive the memory of the Boys in Blue who fought to preserve the Union," said Thomas Chumley, leader of the Long Beach Camp of Sons of Union Veterans. "we're here to preserve the historic legacy, to honor those who fought."

Chumley said his group traces its roots back to the Grand Army of the Republic, a veteran's organization set up after the Civil War. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was organized in 1881 and recognized as the Grand Army's legal successor by Congress in 1954.

Maintaining military cemeteries, doing registration and ancestry work and public education are the primary goals of the Sons, Chumley said. Bringing an Abraham Lincoln monument to Long Beach falls in the last category.

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STATUE continued.....

“It was actually an affiliated group, the Daughters of Union Veterans, who started the push for the monument,” Chumley said. “It was only the second of its kind in the nation — the other was on the field at Gettysburg.”

The drive to raise money began in 1910. It took a couple of years before there was enough to commission the artist, and two more years to complete the work.

“It was dedicated on July 3, because that is the day that the Union won the battle at Gettysburg,” Chumley said. “There were something like 12,000 to 15,000 people in Long Beach in those days, and it was estimated 12,000 to 15,000 came out for the dedication, so people came from all around.”

Chumley said that Civil War veterans were plentiful in early Long Beach. A plot in Sunnyside Cemetery set aside for Civil War veterans contains more than 100 graves, he added.

Today, there are about 60 members in the Los Angeles Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Chumley, who works for the city, said that he has been organizing the rededication for much of the last year.

A ceremony has been set for 11 a.m. Saturday at the statue just off Pacific Avenue, between Ocean Boulevard and Broadway. Elected leaders from the city and beyond have been invited to attend.

City Prosecutor Doug Haubert will be the keynote speaker. Haubert will talk about “Lincoln the Lawyer.” Members of the Sons will present the colors in period uniforms.

Chumley said the entire ceremony should take a little more than an hour. It is open to the public. “But there’s nothing commercial,” he added. “No music, no food, no vendors. We’re there to rededicate the monument.”

August Meeting at the SVC’s Home

On Saturday, August 15th Camp 18 Senior Vice Commander Steve Doyle opened up his very comfortable home for an informal Camp meeting and information session.

Although the swimming pool was available and “Texas Hold ‘Em” poker was offered, there were no takers. Everyone opted for the air conditioning and seconds on the lunch sandwiches and salads and all the conversation, all which were great as well as the company.

We had four Camp Brothers attend the meeting at SVC Doyle’s place along with a couple of his friends and a prospective new member who wanted more information about the SUVCW and Camp 18.

The son of one of the friends who was visiting, 13 year old Hugh, was well versed on Civil War history and not troubled to politely challenge a Civil War topic he had different facts about. Hugh is a great kid and is planning on joining the SUVCW after he moves and gets settled in Maryland later this summer.

After 3 or more hours of merriment and fun conversation, the meeting concluded without Brother Doyle’s German shepherd chasing anyone out. *Thank you Brother Steve.....*



**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



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War 134th National Encampment

Congratulations to the Department of California and Pacific's own Tad D. Campbell for a very successful term as Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Congratulations are also in order for his wife Rachelle Campbell for her successful year as National President of the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans.

The Annual Encampment for 2015 was held in Richmond, Virginia between August 20th and the 23rd.

Here is a quick list of the 2015 – 2016 top elected National Officers of the SUVCW and the Allied Orders:

SUVCW Commander-in-Chief; Eugene G. Mortorff of East Berlin, Pennsylvania.

Senior Vice Cmdr-in-Chief; Donald L. Martin of Chillicothe, Ohio.

Junior Vice Cmdr-in-Chief; Mark R. Day of Lynchburg, Virginia.

National Presidents as follows:

Cindy Zerkowski of the Women's Relief Corps;
Carolyn Agosto of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic;

Sally Redinger of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861 – 1865;

Linda Kronberg of the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Camp 18 Brothers attends National Encampment

Camp 18 Brother and Graves Registration Officer Michael Emmett and Camp Brother Michael Emmett Jr. attended the National Encampment and sent the following report.

My son, Michael E. Emmett and myself, Michael S. Emmett, both members in good standing with Camp 18 George Stoneman, Department of California and the Pacific, attended, as the only two delegates from southern California to augment the eleven delegates from northern California. Interestingly enough, we were two delegates with the same name, representing California, coming from West Virginia and Montana, to Richmond, Virginia driving a car from New Jersey. Confused yet? They were in Richmond when we registered.

My son and I came in a couple of days early to explore a little history beforehand. In Newport News, we visited the Maritime Museum that houses the turret from the Monitor. Great visit for anyone who is in the area. The

entire museum is fascinating, not just the Monitor vs. Merrimac section. In the afternoon, we stopped at Fort Monroe and found the cell that Jefferson Davis occupied after the war. Since we were nearby, a stop at Yorktown was a necessity. Although we arrived a half hour before closing, we were able to absorb the gist of significance.

Rather than "tour" with the crowd of Civil War nuts, my son and I took off on our own for Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Spotsylvania Court House, The Wilderness and the site of Stonewall Jackson's death. Except for the latter, these were all battles that our ancestor, Sgt Daniel Imbody of the 155th PA INF, participated in. The Park Service people even were able to give us detailed information as to the location of the regiment during the battles. Pretty neat! That evening we checked into our room and crashed. The Omni Hotel in Richmond is a very nice place to conduct a meeting such as ours. The rates were reasonable all things considered. Its location allowed us to test the local food establishments within short walking distance.

Business day! I forgot how much fun it is to argue over semantics for hours on end. Some of the business appeared to be needed, others, such as the attempted secession of western PA from the Department of Pennsylvania, less so.

I did use time to try and make contacts. I hooked up with the National Grave Registration Officer which profited me some on some minor issues. My son had less luck with the National Historian, but he now understands how the system works.

Sunday morning we took French Leave and took off early for Petersburg. After visiting the Crater and a couple other epic sites, we meandered south to where the 155th PA engaged at the so-called Second Battle of Hatcher's Run to find the area that Sgt Imbody was mortally wounded on 25 Mar 1865. It is all private property now, but we had a feel for the line on that fateful day. We did make it back for the afternoon session that climaxed in elections. Ironically, one of the votes was decided by two votes...glad we made it back.

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ENCAMPMENT *continued*,.....

That night the “rubber chicken” banquet was held and it was a fun affair. They had a four-person band (including bagpipes) playing CW era music as we dined. Tad Campbell emceed his last function as C-in-C and the president of the Confederate Veterans was also present. Nice event all the way around.

Urge some of you-alls to go in the future.

Thank you Brother Michael for that report.

Eagle Scout and ROTC Awards

As of September, Camp 18 has participated in 11 ROTC /JROTC award banquets and 2 Eagle Scout Courts of Honor. We were able to have a Camp representative at each of these events to personally present the Cadet or Scout with their award certificate.

Here is a list of schools we participated with; Cathedral City H.S. AFJROTC (Cathedral City), Ramona H.S. MCJROTC (Riverside), Corona H.S. NJROTC (Corona), Moreno Valley H.S. AFJROTC (Moreno Valley), San Jacinto H.S. AFJROTC (San Jacinto), Redlands H.S. AFJROTC (Redlands), Carter H.S. AJROTC (Rialto), Vista Murrieta H.S. AFJROTC (Murrieta), Rubidoux H.S. AFJROTC (Jurupa Valley) and 2 awards to Claremont/McKenna College AROTC.

The two Eagle Scout Courts of Honor we attended were for Eagle Scout James Mosley of Corona and Eagle Scout Jaden Oliver of Moreno Valley.

We would like to thank the following Brothers for participating in making special memories for these young adults; Camp Commander Bill Daley, Sr. Vice Cmdr. Steve Doyle, Jr Vice Cmdr. Richard Burns, Secretary Rudy Velasco and Brother Ken Walker.

Here is a story for you.....**Over at the Sutler’s tent....**

Over at the Sutler’s tent I heard a Cavalry Trooper conversing with a New York fellow, a correspondent from a newspaper in the north. They were talking about a Union Infantry boy from Maryland with the name of Joe Parsons.

It seems that poor Joe was in front of Antietam Creek when a minnie ball passed directly through his eye socket and across his face, destroying his eyesight forever.

On the first day of the battle he was hit and knocked down and he laid there all day and all of that night. The next morning the battle was renewed.

Joe said he couldn’t see “nothin” and he could hardly stand the pain. He wanted to get out of there but the minnie balls were flying all around. So he waited and listened. He listened until there wasn’t anything else to hear, but the hissing of all the passing minnies, until later that day when he heard another fellow moaning and groaning close to where he lay.

“Hello...who be yer,...a rebel?” asked Joe.

“Hello yourself, yer a yankee?” was the reply.

“So I am,...what be the matter with yer?” says Joe.

“My leg’s smashed an’ I cain’t walk” replied the rebel.

After a short while of conversing while the battle raged on, they both decided to do each other a favor. Joe says “Well ol’ butternut, I cain’t see nuthin, but I can walk! Crawl over here and let’s get out of this. You point the way and I’ll tote yer off the field on my back.”

They shook hands and managed off the field together.

After a short stay in a Rebel Camp the Rebs decided that poor Joe couldn’t do no more shoot’n so they pointed Joe north and sent him on his way over to the Union lines. After 3 days of traveling north Joe ended up safe behind Union lines with other wounded northern boys and doing well, all things considered.

After the correspondent suggested sympathetically that Joe would never see again, he said that Joe told him glibly, “That was so, he would never see again but I did my dooty. I got shot pop in the eye and I cain’t help that, but that’s my misfortune, not my fault!”

Did You Know ?

There was an Abraham Lincoln on each side, North and South during the Civil War. The President of the United States and a Confederate named Private Abraham Lincoln. The latter Lincoln was of Company F, 1st Virginia Cavalry from Jefferson County. He was reported as a deserter in 1864 so that the North ended up with both Lincolns.



Question: Which post- Civil War Presidents had owned slaves?

Answer: Both Andrew Johnson and Ulysses S. Grant.



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