

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

Volume 7, No.3, May, 2016

Traveling tips to the next Camp Meeting in Corona

The Main Street off ramp west bound 91 is still closed, but Lincoln is open. Lincoln is the next off ramp, west, past Main St. East bound Main off 91 is open. All I-15 off ramps are open. Other than that, traffic is pretty much normal.

A Message from the Camp Commander

Greetings, Camp 18 Brothers! Wow! What a busy time for Camp 18 during the last two months: first the Department Encampment in early March; then doing the Rededication Ceremony at the 100th Anniversary of the San Bernardino Soldiers and Sailors Civil War Monument on April 16th. I was so glad that there were several people taking pictures of the latter event and I hope all our Brothers received them in their emails. There was also a three minute video made that really captured the many aspects of the ceremony as it included not only our Rededication Ceremony, but several other important acknowledgements done by the San Bernardino Historical and Pioneer Society. Brother Rudy has also followed up with having articles and pictures in the *California Column* and *Banner* magazines, so we can look forward to seeing those in the near future.

I want to especially acknowledge and thank the following Brothers who participated in this event: Bill Daley PCC, was the Chaplain; the Musket Volley was done by Rudolph Velasco IV, DJVC Rudy Velasco III, and Camp JVC Mike Bullard. Richard Burns PCC and Larry Duncan monitored

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Tentative Camp Calendar

Saturday, May 28 – Memorial Day Service at Evergreen Memorial Cemetery, 4414 14th St. Riverside.

Volunteers,? Contact the Editor at: rev03@dc.rr.com

Saturday, June 18 – Camp meeting at the American Legion Hall, 1024 S. Main St. Corona, 12:00 p.m.

Monday, July 4 – Evergreen Cemetery 4th of July Fireworks Display. 3:00 pm -10:00 pm. Contact Commander Steve Doyle at: psychrn10@aol.com or the Editor at rev03@dc.rr.com or (760)770-9237.

Some Help appreciated for Memorial Day

Brothers, as a reminder:

If you are interested and would like to join us, we plan to meet at Riverside Evergreen Historical Cemetery (downtown Riverside off 14th Street) on Saturday morning, 28 May 2016, at 0800L to place American flags on the graves of over 1,000 fellow veterans (to include the gravesite of Col Cornelius Cole Smith, United States Army, & the cemetery's only Congressional Medal of Honor recipient) in honor of Memorial Day Weekend. The American flags are provided.

Any/all volunteers are welcome to participate. We will leave the flags in place thru Memorial Day on Monday, 30 May.

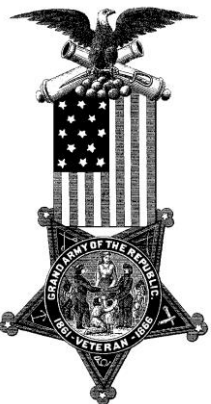
If you have any questions, please contact Mr. John Morris, 452 AMW Special Security Officer, at (951) 655-3622, or on his cell phone at (951) 746-0416

VR,

Brother John Morris, Camp Council.

*Dedicated to Preserving the Memory
of the Grand Army of the Republic*

And the soldiers who Fought to Save the Union 1861 - 1865



Commander continued,....

our Camp display. Thanks to all.

On another historical note, the 150th Anniversary of the G.A.R. was on April 6th of this year. Because the town of Waterloo, New York had made "Decoration Day" an annual, community-wide event, they are recognized as the official birthplace of Memorial Day. Their first Decoration Day was on May 5th, 1866, whereas the G.A.R.'s first Decoration Day was on May 30th, 1868. Now you know.....

Speaking of Memorial Day, we will be doing our annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Riverside Evergreen Cemetery again on Saturday, May 28th. The regular "Volunteers" are all on board again (you know who you are), so I think we've got things covered. But any other Brothers out there, who would like to pitch in, or, for that matter, just come and support, would be appreciated. Also, Brother John Morris will be placing flags on all the veterans' graves, starting at 08:00, so maybe he could use a hand.

On a final note, anyone who is still thinking about going to the National Encampment in August in Springfield, Illinois, please contact Rudy or myself for information or coordinating flights and hotels, etc.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Stephen E. Doyle,
Camp Commander.

History Graduate Student Conference Presentation

Reported by Camp 18 Brother Michael Emmett Jr.

From March 11-12 of this year, Ohio University in Athens, OH, held their 11th Annual History Graduate Student Conference. Having never applied to present at a conference before, I gave it a shot and was accepted after submitting an abstract of my paper and a one page Curriculum Vitae, a fancy resume focusing on research and experience.

The conference was open to anyone who wanted to apply, as long as they were Graduate Students, both working on Masters and PhD candidates. There was a keynote on the 11th, the presenter, Dr. Melvyn Leffler of the University of Virginia spoke on why the U.S. went to war in Iraq in 2003. The 12th held the student presentations broken up into four sessions, each one containing two different topics.

The sessions were: Gender Studies and the Global Cold War, Intelligence Studies and Contemporary American Studies, U.S. Foreign Policy and British

Imperialism and lastly, 19th Century American History and US Intellectual History. I spoke in the 18th Century American History portion of the final session along with a fellow Marshall University student, where we are both finalizing our theses for our Masters. My presentation, modeled from my thesis was titled: " 'Or This Whole Affair Is A Failure': A Special Treasury Agent Experiences the Port Royal Experiment." My Marshall companion, John McMillian's thesis modeled presentation was: " 'The Election Is A Farce, The Time For Fighting Has Come': West Virginia and the Mobilization of Union Troops."

My presentation centered on Special Treasury Agent James Severance, Ohio born but Boston-area resident before the Civil War. James' father Theodoric and younger brother Mark were Special Treasury Agents during the war. The former two in Port Royal, SC, the latter in Savannah, GA. My family has in their possession the papers of the Severance Family, unpublished. My argument is two fold.



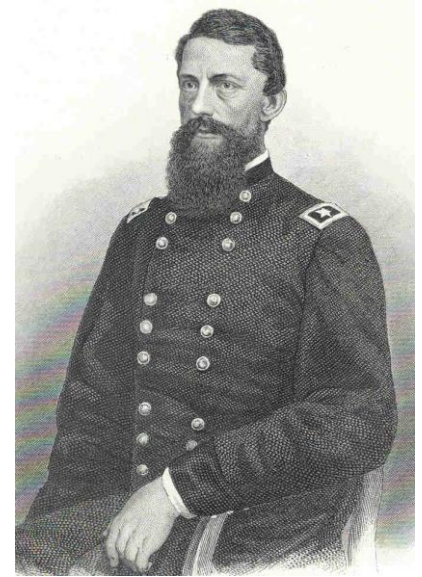
Above: Brother Michael E.S. Emmett Jr. makes his presentation at Marshall University this past March.

One, the studies of this abolition-driven experiment to turn slaves into wage laborers and prepare them for eventual citizenship has overlooked the work and words of Special Treasury Agents. These agents, while working under the Treasury, also had to carry out the orders of the military and abolition groups, while pleasing all of them and help the now ex-slaves, which placed Agents in a tug-of-war being caught in the middle. A full account of the Experiment can never take place until Treasury Agents as sources are utilized. Secondly, I argue via Severance, that the Experiment was more fragile and ready to fail, maybe even violently, than had been reported by higher up and concluded by historians. Severance feared the government mismanagement and poor treatment of the black populace was dooming the Experiment and the lives of others. This more desperate look at the Experiment will have historians rethinking the fragility of the Experiment and how this more precarious state really played out from wars end to Reconstruction.

Brother Emmett Jr. is in the Master's Degree program in History; Marshall University, Huntington, West Virginia.

2016 Department Encampment
 Reported by Camp Commander Steve Doyle

I am happy to report that General Stoneman Camp #18 was well represented at the 130th Department Encampment in Sacramento this past March 4-6th. Our Secretary/Treasurer, Rudy Velasco III, his son, Rudy Velasco IV, Bill Daley, PCC, and I made the trek up North once again. As near as I can tell, there was only one other person from “the South”: Camp 28’s JVC, with the rest of the 35 attendees coming from the Northern camps. To hopefully remedy this situation in the future, DSVC, Dean Enderlin, reported that next year’s Encampment will definitely not be in Sacramento, and that it will, in all likelihood, be in Bakersfield. He acknowledged Camp 18’s proposal to have this year’s Encampment in Riverside, but said that the cost was more than the Department was willing to gamble on. Future southern Encampments will probably be determined by how well southern camps attend next year’s Encampment.



General George Stoneman Jr.
Camp 18 Officers

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



Above: Camp 18 Representatives with Commander-in-Chief Eugene G Mortorff. Left to right are Bill Daley PCC, Camp Commander Steve Doyle, C-in-C Mortorff, Brothers Michael Emmett Sr, Rudolph Velasco IV & DJVC Rudy Velasco III PCC.

Appointed

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

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



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ENCAMPMENT continued,...

Department Junior Vice Commander for another term. Brother Bill Daley and I avoided having to run against each other for the vacant Department Councilman position when one of the two remaining Councilmen opted to fill the vacant Department Newsletter Editor position, thus allowing both Bill and myself to be on the three man Council. Let's hear a resounding, "Huzzah, Huzzah, Huzzah!!!" for our Camp 18 Brothers!

In closing, I sincerely hope that my fellow Camp 18 Brothers will mark their calendars for next year's Encampment, Probably the first or second weekend in March. As noted above, the more Brothers who attend from the Southern Camps next year, the more comfortable the Department Council will feel in having any subsequent Encampments in the Southern California area.



Photo Above: Commander-in-Chief Mortorff addresses the Encampment after lunch on March 5th 2016.



Photo Above, from the Left, Camp 18 Brothers Larry Duncan, Bill Daley PCC, JVC Mike Bullard, ASUVCW Melinie Caines PDP, Brothers Rudolph Velasco IV, Rudy Velasco PCC. C.C. Steve Doyle, ASUVCW Susan Sweet Auxiliary President, Brother Richard Burns PCC and DUVCW Lynette Harmon-Canales, Tent 92 Vice President. Canales photo

Soldiers & Sailors Monument Centennial Rededication in San Bernardino

On Saturday, April 16th General Stoneman Camp 18 participated in the Centennial Re-dedication ceremony of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument at Pioneer Park in San Bernardino, California, 100 years and a day after the monument's original dedication in 1916.

The plan was that while the ceremony was taking place, Camp 18 Brothers Larry Duncan and Richard Burns, in Civil War Uniform would attend to our camp display and hand out SUVCW information to any of the interested public that had come to witness the dedication service. But the wind was howling and didn't give us a chance to show anything without it blowing away.

The event which was hosted by the City of San Bernardino and the San Bernardino Historical & Pioneer Society listed Camp 18 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War as Special Guests to re-dedicate the monument of

28 feet with the 8 foot tall Civil War Soldier at the top. The 9 ½ foot tall marble pedestal that the marble soldier stands upon has four sides and on each side there is an etched inscription dedicated to soldiers of America's wars up and until 1916. The side facing west is inscribed "Liberty, 1776 – 1812" and dedicated to the Revolution. The south face is inscribed, "Progress, 1846 -1848" and dedicated the soldiers of the Mexican War. On the North side is inscribed, "Justice, 1898 – 1902" and dedicated to the soldiers of the Spanish American War. The east side is dedicated to "Union, 1861 – 1865" for the Union soldiers of the Civil War.

The City produced an 8 ½ by 11 inch, 4 page color commemorative event program, which featured a G.A.R. membership badge along with SUVCW membership badge on the front page.

The rededication service began in typical fashion with Presentation of the Colors, Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem. Master of Ceremonies Nick Cataldo of the San Bernardino Historical & Pioneer Society made some opening remarks and began introducing the morning's guest speakers, one of which was Carey Davis, the Mayor of San Bernardino. Camp Commander Steve Doyle was the Keynote Speaker who gave a very interesting address about the 150th

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REDEDICATION continued,

anniversary of the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and the principles upon which the Fraternity was built. The G.A.R. was founded on April 6, 1866.

Another interesting guest speaker was James R. Valdez Jr. an older retired Navy and Fleet Marine Force veteran and fixture around San Bernardino's historical organizations, who gave an invigorating speech about freedom, service and of the monument statue, he said in part, quote: "this statue, this old soldier, a Civil War Soldier, has stood watch over San Bernardino for over a century. Day and night, in good times, in bad times and in peace and war."

Camp Commander Steve Doyle presided over the dedication portion of the service using a slightly modified version of the 1917 G.A.R. Memorial Dedication Service from the SUVCW National website, with Camp Chaplain Bill Daley PCC offering the Prayer of Rededication. Our compliments to Commander Doyle for the 6 weeks plus of preparation that he put into this ceremony, researching his speech to be the most accurate and for working behind the scenes with City and Hosts of the program to work out all of the details and make a smooth service.

General Rosecrans Auxiliary No. 2 Sisters Melinie Caines PDP and Susan Sweet PAP and Daughters of Union Veterans Mary Jane Safford, Tent No. 92 VP Lynette Harmon Canales shared in the event by presenting wreaths to the monument. The service moved towards closing with Camp 18's musket squad of Rudolph Velasco IV, JVC Mike Bullard and Rudy Velasco PCC rendering a three volley salute to our Civil War Ancestors.



The Program closed with a performance of "Taps" performed by Bertrand R. Trottier, (pictured at Left), the Last U.S. Navy Battleship Bugler.

Thank You to the Allied Orders who helped with the Ceremony and a special Thank You to Maria Carrillo, Curator at the Lincoln Memorial Shrine who said she was really interested in seeing rededication and braved the high winds to come see the service.

The following morning

Sunday, April 17, the San Bernardino Sun newspaper published a small article about the Soldiers & Sailors Statue rededication. Edward W. Headington who portrays General U.S. Grant in the Southern California Civil War reenacting community, read the Sun article and sent a congratulatory email to Camp 18 for our efforts in San Bernardino. At least we got some recognition from "the General." How cool is that!



Above, Camp 18 fires a volley in Honor of our Civil War Union Ancestors.
Canales photo

150th Anniversary of the Grand Army of the Republic

April 9, 1865: Lee surrenders at Appomattox. America's bloodiest war has finally ended. More than 600,000 soldiers, and even 100,000 civilians, have been killed. Every single day of this 1,396 day war, there were minor skirmishes to major battles taking place. On average, approximately 600 people died *every single day* due to the war. Sons, brothers, fathers, and husbands never came home. 60,000 veterans are left with partial or complete leg and arm amputations. Exposure to the elements for years, poor nutrition, poor hygiene, and diseases took their toll, both physically and mentally. Soldiers, witnessing their "brothers in arms" not only killed, but being left unburied on the battlefields, are traumatized. Hundreds of thousands of men deal with wartime physical and emotional scars. They now have to adjust to civilian life again. Many were not able to do so. Immediately after the war, 2 out of 3 men sentenced to state prisons in the North were Civil War Veterans.

Recognizing this need to minister to his fellow Civil War veterans, Benjamin Franklin Stephenson, organized and chartered the Grand Army of the

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G.A.R. continued....

Republic on April 6, 1866, in Decatur, Illinois. It quickly became the preeminent veterans' organization at the close of the Civil War. The organization was based upon three objectives: Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

Fraternity was done by regularly scheduled "camp fires" where veterans would get together at GAR halls to socialize and share and recount their wartime experiences. Much like our modern day V.F.W.

Charity was done through helping disabled veterans find work and setting up funds for widows and orphans. By 1890, Soldiers' Homes were established in sixteen states and orphanages in seven states.

Loyalty was fostered through constant reminders to subsequent generations of the significance of the GAR in reuniting our once divided nation. They solicited funds for monuments and obtained cannons and field pieces for courthouse squares and parks. They encouraged the preservation of Civil War sites and contributed items like battle-stained flags, historic documents, and relics to local museums.

Soon, the GAR became a powerful political influence regarding legislation for Civil War veterans. In 1862, Lincoln had approved a bill granting pensions to soldiers who had received permanent disability due to their military service. But by 1890, the GAR helped ensure passage of the Dependent Pension Bill, which gave pensions to every disabled veteran, whether or not their disability had been incurred as a result of the war. Because of this, it became an almost universal entitlement for every Civil War veteran.

The GAR's principal legacy, however, is the annual observance of May 30th as, "Decoration Day". May 30th, 1868, was declared by the GAR Commander-in-Chief, General John A. Logan, as, "designated for the purpose of strewing flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion . . ." By the end of WWI the holiday had developed into what we now call Memorial Day, a day in which we honor all military personnel who have died in *all* of America's conflicts.

Through the passing of time and the passing of its members, the Grand Army of the Republic effused into the modern day organization of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. And in 1954, Congress chartered and recognized the SUVCW as being, "the Legal Heir and Representative of the GAR." This fraternal organization is made up of males who can prove their lineage to a Civil War veteran and can demonstrate a desire to promote Patriotism, Civic Duty, and Honoring the Flag. Their primary goal is to perpetuate the memory of the

GAR and the men who saved our Union during the Civil War of 1861-1865. Let us *all* continue to promote the memory and the ideals of the GAR on this, their 150th Anniversary on April 6, 2016.

Contributed by Camp Commander Steve Doyle



The American Civil War - 1861: Marching To War

June 4, 2016 - Temecula, California

www.gazette665.com/cw-conference-2016



Join us for a Civil War History Conference!

Saturday, June 4, 2016

8:30am - 5pm (lunch is provided)

The Temecula Conference Center, Temecula, California

\$40.00 per guest

Seven historians share their research and topics relating to the first year of the Civil War. Come join us for a full day of presentations and discussions. You'll learn about politics of the 1860's, the lives of some extraordinary Americans, civilians' response to the conflict, California's important role during the war, and much more. Bring a friend and explore America's history and heritage!

Details and Conference Registration Available:

www.Gazette665.com/cw-conference-2016

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JROTC AWARDS

So far this Spring, Camp 18 has sent two ROTC award packages to Claremont/McKenna College as we have done in past years and participated in 5 JROTC award ceremonies at local high school programs. We do have a few more JROTC award nights on schedule for May. While Brother Richard Burns PCC was making an award presentation to a deserving Cadet at Kaiser High School in Fontana, he recited the American Creed and excited the audience with the patriotic words. Pictured at right is Camp Commander Steve Doyle making a JROTC presentation at Carter High School in Rialto.

