

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.5, September, 2016

A Message from the Camp Commander

Tentative Camp Calendar

Greetings, Camp 18 Brothers! I hope this message finds you and yours healthy and in good spirits. I hope you have all been enjoying the summer and not been exposed to too much heat.

At our next camp meeting on Saturday, October 15, 2016, at the American Legion in Corona, we are going to try something a little different. Instead of starting the meeting at 12:00, we all decided at the last camp meeting to start the meeting earlier at 10:00. *Then*, to get really wild and crazy, someone suggested we come at 09:00 and make breakfast for ourselves!!! Since then, Brother Burt Hogue, has volunteered to foot the bill on all the food (Didn't know he'd won the lottery . . .) What a guy! For my part, I will be bringing my Keurig coffee pot, bottled water, coffee pods, cream, sugar, and Splenda. Pretty sure they have coffee cups there at the Legion Hall, but better bring your own, just in case. We will probably have the, "usual suspects" of 5-6 Brothers at the meeting (you know who you are), so if you plan on attending your first meeting in ages, please contact me or Brother Rudy to make sure we put an extra sausage on the barbie for you. Should be fun.

One topic we will be discussing at our next meeting will be to consider a request from Brother John Morris to contribute camp funds to purchase the small American flags that he and his cadre of volunteers put on all the veterans' graves on Memorial Day and Veterans' Day. It has been suggested that camp funds match Camp Brothers' contributions up to a maximum of \$300 (\$150 maximum Camp funds contributed.)

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Saturday, Oct. 15 – Camp breakfast meeting at the American Legion Hall, 1024 S. Main St, Corona. 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, Nov. 5 – Camp Display at the Inland Empire Military Museum - Veterans Day Parade & Car show, 8:00 am – 2:00 pm?

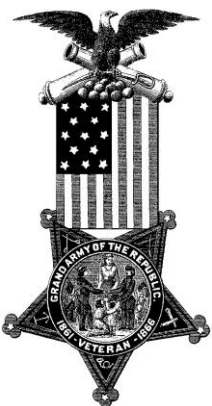
Saturday, Dec. 17 – Camp Meeting at the Palm Springs Air Museum, Palm Springs, CA. 11:00 am. We're meeting in the Air Science room again. Expect the usual \$10 admission fee which includes exploring all of the museum's hangers after the meeting.

February – Camp Display at Lincoln Shrine Museum in Redlands, CA. Usually first weekend of the month.

Saturday, Feb.18 – Camp Meeting, Legion Hall, Corona



Above; Dept. of California Delegates to the National Encampment in Springfield, Illinois. From the left; PCinC Tad Campbell, Frank Avila, Dept. Cmdr. Tom Graham, Dan Earl PCinC Brad Schall, Dept SVC Dean Enderlin, Camp 18's Rudy Velasco, James Monteton, Camp 18 Cmdr. Steve Doyle & Don Menzies. National Encampment Report on page 3.



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



MESSAGE continued from page 1,

If you are not coming to the meeting, and have any suggestions or concerns on this matter, kindly call or email me and I will gladly relay them to everyone at the meeting.

Brother Rudy and I will probably, once again, set up our camp display at the Inland Empire Military Museum (1328 North E Street; San Bernardino; 909-888-0477) during the San Bernardino Veterans' Day parade on Saturday, November 5th. Besides the parade (starts at 10:00), E Street is lined with antique and custom cars. Quite a nice event, if you're looking to join us or stop by.

As always, you can contact me at psychrn10@aol.com or by phone at: 909-862-7129. I would especially like to know about any Brothers or their family members who are ill or in distress.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Steve Doyle,
Camp Commander

In Memoriam

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of **Real Son** Brother Harold Becker of Grand Rapids, MI. He passed on 7 August 2016 at the age of 99. Brother Becker was a member of General John A. Logan, Camp No. 1 of Grand Rapids and the last Known son of a Civil War soldier in Michigan.

The National Web site, Department and Camp Charters and membership badges were ordered to be draped in black for a period of 30 days on 7 August 2016 in General Order 29 one of the last Orders issued by Commander-in-Chief Eugene Mortorff, now Past Commander-in-Chief.

General Order 29 was emailed to Camp 18 Brothers in early August.

A Request to Consider

Before moving out of the area, Camp 18 Brother Michael Emmett took on the job of making sure that American flags were placed on the graves of not only the Civil War Veterans but ALL American Veterans interred at Riverside's Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery, for Memorial Day and Veterans Day. After these holidays

had passed, Brother Emmett made sure the flags were picked up and stored until the next time they were needed.

Camp 18 has kind of adopted Evergreen cemetery as our own as we have conducted a Memorial Day service there for the past 7 consecutive years.

Brother John Morris has taken over the flag placement/retrieval duties since Brother Emmett's move and is doing a fantastic job. Besides inviting all of us at Camp 18 to come and place the flags with him, he has a variety of volunteers that do help ranging from Boy Scouts & military personal, civilians and Legion Riders.

O.K, enough back ground. The flags are fading and wearing out and the mounting sticks are breaking. Not the best for our Nation's Heroes.

Brother Morris has been replacing the aging flags out of his own pocket. He emailed the Editor with a simple question; "would the Sons of Union Veterans / Camp 18 like to help, purchase and donate flags for the graves?" Simple question. I told Brother Morris I would bring the request to the October Camp 18 business meeting and let him know.

Brother Morris is looking to replace 300 flags at an approximant cost of \$1.00 each, or \$300 dollars as mentioned in the Camp Commander's Message on page 1.

So I will put it to you, would you like to donate any amount to this endeavor. My suggestion was that the Camp match the amount donated from our Brothers to a total of \$300.

If you would like to help and cannot make it to the October Camp meeting to donate, you can mail a check made to "Camp 18 SUV CW" c/o

Rudy Velasco
69-586 Borrego Rd.
Cathedral City, CA. 92234

Thank you for entertaining my opinion.

Eagle Scout Commendations

Camp 18 has issued 5 Eagle Scout Commendation certificates this summer. We were able to attend 3 of these Court of Honors as presenters. One of the five was out our area and a little too far to drive and another has been to date, undecided on a date for the Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

A quick list of these Eagle Scouts is; Eagle Scout Triston R. Muzic, age 17 of Murrieta, CA. Eagle Scout Christopher M. Fernando, age 17 of San Marcos, CA. Eagle scout Michael T. Law of Pomona, CA. Eagle Scout

Continued on page 3, see Eagle Scout...

Eagle Scout continued,

John C. Teunissee of San Dimas, CA. and Dillian C. Morgan of Pomona, CA.

On Saturday, August 27, Camp 18 Sr. Vice Commander and Co-Eagle Scout Coordinator Richard Burns attended and made the Certificate presentations to Eagle Scouts Michael Law and John Teunissee at the *Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church* in San Dimas, CA.



Your Editor, & Secretary/Treasurer Rudy Velasco was lucky enough to attend and make an Eagle Scout presentation to Eagle Scout Triston Muzic (pictured above) at Murrieta Vista High School. Triston was not only being honored as an Eagle Scout but also as an outstanding Marine Corps JROTC Cadet 1st Lieutenant.

Triston’s Eagle Scout project was building an outdoor physical fitness area at the High School for his fellow MCJROTC Cadets but the most impressive part of his P.T. area was the addition of the Memorial Monument installed in memory of his previous “Nighthawk” school mates that had gone before him and perished in military service. Monument shown in the photo above. Great Job Triston!

National Encampment Report
From Camp Commander Steve Doyle

The 2016 SUVCW National Encampment was held August 11-14th this year in Springfield, Illinois, where Abraham Lincoln lived before becoming President and where he is buried nearby. Brother Rudy Velasco III and I attended from our camp and joined several other Brothers, mostly from the northern camps, to represent the Department of California and the Pacific. Rudy and I started on Thursday morning,

Continued on page 4, see 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

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



Encampment, from page 3,

August 11 by walking to the G.A.R Museum, but were we disappointed to find that the museum wouldn't open until 10 a.m. and here we were visiting at 9:00 am. We then only had time enough to tour the Lincoln House before our scheduled bus tour at 12:00 pm. What an eerie feeling to be walking in the same house that Lincoln and his family had lived in for so many years.

Our pre-paid bus tour was worth every bit of the \$25 charge. We first visited Lincoln's Tomb. What a wonderful monument to our 16th President. We then went to Petersburg, Ill. to attend a Memorial Service at the grave-site of Dr. Benjamin Stephenson, founder of the Grand Army of the Republic. Finally our tour ended in the refurbished town of "New Salem" where Lincoln started and failed at many vocations before educating himself to become a lawyer, State Legislator, State Senator and finally President of the United States.

On Friday, the 12th, the first of our two business days began. It had mostly to do with Departments submitting their Annual Reports and awarding certificates and plaques to various individuals. Later in the evening there was the more informal and traditional "campfire" meeting. The main event that evening was the presentation of Max and Donna Daniels' mini-play, "An Evening with Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln." It was superbly done and refreshed our memories on the triumphs and tragedies of their lives.



Photo above; the Lincoln Tomb Monument where the 16th President is entombed just outside of Springfield, Illinois

On Saturday the 13th there was a rather heated discussion about the C-in-C's General order regarding the Federal Holiday of Memorial Day (last Monday in May) and the G.A.R. started "Decoration Day" of May 30th (honestly, I myself am not sure exactly what the issue was) The Issue was temporally resolved when C-in-C Mortorff recinded his order and it was decided that the new Commander-in Chief would appoint a committee and report to the 2017 National Encampment. With that and all other issues resolved, elections were held and the encampment business was concluded.

An interesting celebrity was in attendance at our Encampment this year. One of the great – great grandsons of Ulysses S. Grant,

John Griffens, attended both days of the Encampment and was also at the Saturday night's Commander-in-Chief's banquet. He sat at the table next to ours and when Brother Brad Schall got up to go over to his table to shake his hand, I took the opportunity to take their picture. Surprisingly, a few minutes later, Mr. Griffens, got up from his table and came over to *me*. He had noticed my Minnesota 1st Regiment lapel pin on my suit and wanted to acknowledge to me that he knew it was a, "Gettysburg pin." I was stunned, and deeply moved, that he would do such a gracious act. Brother Schall was then able to take *my* picture, shaking his hand: definitely, the highlight of my first National Encampment experience!

Continued on page 5, see "More Encampment"...



Above; SUCVW Brother John Griffens, G-G Grandson of General U.S. Grant, enjoys dinner conversation. Left; Brother Griffens admires the "Minnesota 1st Regiment" pin worn by Camp 18 Cmdr. Steve Doyle

More Encampment....

For those of you who are interested, the 2017 National Encampment will be in Lansing, Michigan, and the 2018 National Encampment will be in Boston, Massachusetts. Both events will again be in early August. I hope to see some of you there and, I especially hope to meet Brother Griffins again.

More highlights of the National Encampment

A few new National Officers were elected at the Encampment in Springfield and I will list a couple of them; Donald L. Martin PDC of Chillicothe, Ohio was elected to Commander-in-Chief; Mark R. Day PDC of Lynchburg, Virginia was elected to Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief and Donald W. Shaw PDC of Flint, Michigan was elected to Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. A complete list of National Officer can be seen by visiting "National Officers & Committees" at: www.suvcw.org/?page_id=262

All five of the Allied Orders to the G.A.R. were represented at the Encampment in Springfield. Besides the Sons of Union Veterans and the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans holding their Encampments, the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR) were also holding their National convention in Springfield as well.

Representatives from the Daughters of Union Veterans and the Women's Relief Corps (WRC) along with the groups mentioned above joined for Saturday night's Dinner with the Commander-in-Chief.

Another special guest joining us for the C-in-C's dinner was Tom Strain, National Commander of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

The SUVCW Department of California and Pacific had 13 Brothers attending the National Encampment in Springfield this year, representing most of the Camps in California and Nevada.

Springfield Illinois is truly the "land of Lincoln." It was very enjoyable walking through the souvenir shops (where I picked Lincoln's Presidential License shown lower left) and enjoyable walking through a few of the many museums devoted to our 16th president but the most exciting experience of the Springfield trip was seeing the restored home of the Lincolns and those of his neighbors, the building were Lincoln and partner had their law practice and the old court house where Lincoln worked.



Above; the house where the Lincolns lived before moving to Washington D.C. in 1861. Mary Todd Lincoln did major remodeling to the house while they lived there

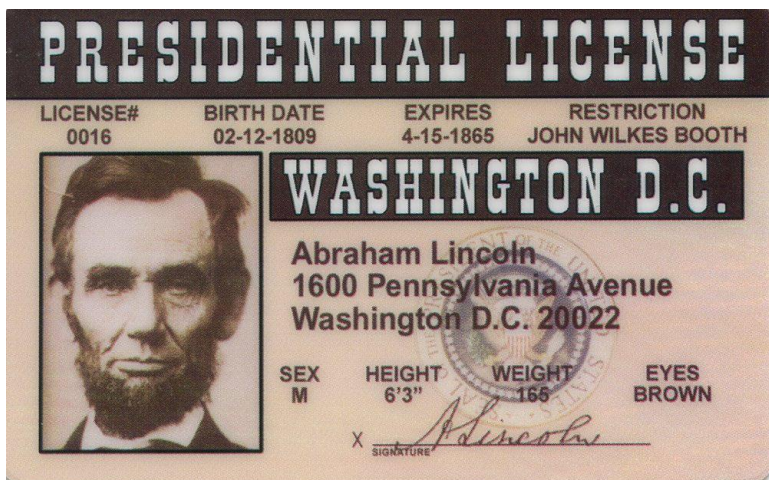


Photo Left:

**SUVCW
Commander-in-Chief Don Martin
at the
Encampment in
Springfield, Ill.
The flag on the
wall behind the
CinC is a replica
of the flag that
covered Lincoln's
coffin. The Flag
was recently made
for the 150th
anniversary of
Lincoln's death by
the same company
who originally
made the flag in
1865**



*General George Stoneman Jr. Camp 18
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Newsletter
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Cathedral City, CA. 92234*