

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 15, No.2, March/April, 2024



Above, Camp 18 Delegates to the Department Encampment in Laughlin. Left to right is Gene Justin, Rudy Velasco PDC, JVC Steve Matthews, Dept. Commander Steve Doyle, National Officer – Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Kevin Tucker, Camp Commander Matt Crowder & SVC John Morris. Sayre photo

Tentative Camp Calendar

April 20 – Camp meeting – 10:00 a.m. at American Legion Post 216, Corona.

Saturday May 25 – Memorial Day flag detail at Evergreen Cemetery in Riverside begins at 8:00 a.m. Ceremony practice run-through at 10:00 a.m. Memorial Service to begin at 11:00. More details to follow by email.

Saturday, June 15 – Camp meeting – 10:00 a.m. at American Legion Post 216 in Corona.

August 1 – 4 – 143rd Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War National Encampment at Lexington, Kentucky. More information on line at; <https://suvcw.org/national-encampment>

Possible - Saturday, August 17 – Possible Camp meeting. Let us know if you are interested in a meeting in August.

138th Department Encampment

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of California & Pacific held their 138th Annual Encampment on April 5 & 6, 2024 at the Tropicana Resort Hotel in Laughlin Nevada.

The six Camp 18 Delegates, pictured above, joined 26 other SUVCW Brothers from across California and Nevada and one, Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Kevin Tucker, joining us from the Department of Massachusetts, for a total of 32 to attend the Encampment's Business meeting on Saturday the 6th.

Some arrived on Thursday, April 4th to figure out the Casino floorplan

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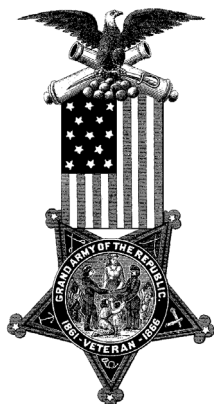
Trivia

Who was the last U.S. president to have served in the Civil War?

Answer on page 4

Just a thought for us Seniors,.....

Go ahead and talk to yourself, There are times when you need Expert advice !



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



Encampment continued,...

to help others navigate as they arrived.

As Friday afternoon progressed and our Brother Attendants started arriving, most eventually found their way to the Hospitality Suite that the Department Senior Vice Commander had put aside for the afternoon Department Officer meeting and for participant registration and for a later rendezvous for fellowship and libations. Our Brothers and significant others did have a good time in the suite talking with old friends, making new friends and watching ladies college basketball playoffs.

Saturday morning arrived with a Memorial Service for our Departed Brothers at 9:00 a.m.

The Business meeting began at 9:45 and continued on schedule with typical Department Encampment business.

There wasn't any old business to deal with so the meeting went right to New Business which dealt with Past Camp Commanders from a camp that closed wishing to have their "Camp Commander's Honors" restored to them as they transferred to new Camps. All were in favor and their titles and honors were restored.

The Department Officers were voted upon and mostly stayed the same as last year with the exception of Gary Hormel (Camp 24) being voted into the Department Council.

The meeting room was spacious and very adequate for the business of the day. The room was separated into two portions, blocked off by curtains to separate the meeting and dining areas.

The controversial vote for changing the language on the SUVCW membership application describing what a male descendent of a Civil War Veteran is described as was not ratified. Now it will be left to other Departments to see how they voted to find the outcome, stayed tuned.

After the Department Commander's Appreciation awards, the Encampment voted to let the Department's Senior Vice Commander, Wayne Eder, choose the Department's Encampment site for 2025.

With the business meeting ended, the Encampment closed with prayer and the Brothers went about their business to get ready for dinner and to be entertained by a first person impersonation of Civil War Major General John Gray Foster portrayed by Brother Department Sr. Vice Commander Wayne

Eder. Wow, this was a great and very entertaining impersonation. Dinner AND a Show! Thank You Brother Department Sr, Vice Commander.

During the day and before dinner, tickets were being sold for a drawing of Civil War related items to be raffled during the cocktail hour before dinner. There were also tickets being sold for a 50/50 collection/raffle. There were plenty of winners from the donated items raffle, some walked away with 10, 12 -15 items. The 50/50 raffle was the big winner of the night with the raffle winner walking away with \$240 and the Department receiving the same amount. Good thing this encampment was held in Nevada. Looking forward to next year.



Photos above, from the left: Maj. General John G. Foster (Brother Wayne Eder) and Department Commander Steve Doyle at the Department's 138th Encampment.

National Medal of Honor Day

On 25 March, a couple of Camp 18 Brothers gathered at Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery in Riverside to pay respects to place a wreath at the grave site of one of America's Medal of Honor recipients.

Brothers Mike Emmett and John Morris, Camp 18, present a wreath to honor Medal of Honor recipient Col Cornelius Cole Smith, US Army, on National Medal of Honor Day. Col Smith was awarded his Medal of Honor for his outstanding leadership and heroic actions protecting a U.S. Army

Continued on page 3, see MOH,

MOH continued,

wagon supply train against over 300 Sioux Indians at the Battle of White River, South Dakota on 1 January 1891.



Photo left, Brother John Morris (left) and Brother Mike Emmett place the camp wreath at the grave site of MoH Recipient Col. Cornelius C. Smith

and Below,...

With Respects to the End of Hostilities during the Civil War

Camp 18 Senior Vice Commander John Morris and Junior Vice Commander Steve Matthews presented our camp wreath to the Grand Army of The Republic monument at

Evergreen Memorial Park on 9 April 2024 to commemorate the 159th Anniversary of General Lee's surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Court House (9 April 1865), basically ending the Civil War.



Photo above; Brother Steve Matthews (left) and Brother John Morris present a wreath at the GAR monument at Evergreen.



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

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Camp Commander, | Matt Crowder PCC |
| Sr. Vice Cmdr, | John Morris |
| Jr. Vice Cmdr, | Steve Matthews |
| Sec/Treas, | Rudy Velasco III |
| Camp Council #1 | Michael Emmett |
| Camp Council #2 | Rudolph Velasco IV |
| Camp Council #3 | Benny White |

Appointed

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Camp Chaplain | Bill Daley PCC |
| Camp Historian | Burt Hogue |
| Camp Guide | Bodie Crowder |
| Camp Guard | Steve Doyle PCC |
| Graves Registration | Michael Emmett |
| Newsletter Editor | Rudy Velasco III |
| Patriotic Instructor | Steve Doyle PCC |
| Eagle Scout & | |
| JROTC Coordinator | 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



Trivia Answer from page 1

William McKinley, 25th president of the United States served from 1897 – 1901, rose from private to major in the 23rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He served as a commissary sergeant and was noted for serving hot coffee and warm food at Antietam to every man of the regiment while under fire. President McKinley is honored by a monument near Burnside's Bridge.



Welcome New Brother

Welcome New Brother Barry Opdyke who was initiated into Camp 18 at the February 17th Camp meeting.

Barry joins the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War honoring the Civil War service of his G-G Grandfather John C. Opdyke Sr. who served from September 1862 through June 1863 with Company G, 30th New Jersey Infantry. Welcome!

Cracked Civil War Headstones Replaced

Camp Sr. Vice Commander John Morris coordinated with the Department of Veterans Affairs to replace two cracked headstones for Civil War Veterans; Hiram Woodruff – Co. I, 148th Ohio Infantry Regiment & George Dean – Co. C, 1st Wisconsin Heavy Artillery Regiment, at Evergreen Memorial Historical Cemetery in Riverside. The new headstones were received and installed by Cemetery staff.



Lincoln Shrine Open House

Way back, at the beginning of February of this year, Saturday the 3rd (to be exact), Camp 18 set up the usual annual display in the front yard of the Lincoln Memorial Shine in Redlands.

This year we had Steve Doyle PDC, JVC Steve Matthews and Rudy Velasco PDC taking care of the display and talking with the public. Brother Bill Daley PCC and Angie stopped by for a while to see how everything was going. Brother Larry Duncan as Dr. Malarky had his Field Hospital display set up across from the Camp display. Brother Rich & Ree Foy also enjoyed the museum and Open House.

Once again the Camp Carlton Cornet Brass Band entertained all with 1860's period patriotic music throughout the day.

The 1st Pennsylvania Light Artillery demonstrated loading and firing Civil War era artillery with a few "live fires" during the day. It was great to meet Rosecrans Camp 2 Jr. Vice Commander Brandon Villardi who is one of the cannons demonstrating the live fires.

Close to the end of the day, President Lincoln recited the Gettysburg Address after which he asked the band to play Dixie, which they did.

We received an email after the Open House event which stated that over 1,000 visitors to the Shrine that day. It was a little busy but a good time was had by all.

Fannie A. Jackson

Southerner caring for Northerners

Fannie A. Jackson suffered the same hardships shared by women throughout the South. Her husband had been conscripted for the duration of the war, and she was left to face the growing shortages on their small family farm in northern Georgia. She worked in the fields, took care of the animals and somehow found time to spin and cook for her small children.

Yet despite being Southerners, born and bred, both Jacksons had strong Union Sympathies. Mr. Jackson had vowed that he would seek an opportunity to desert and take the family to the North, while Fanny, who opposed secession, was to write, "I felt as if slavery was wrong... a dark spot

Continued on page 5, see Jackson

Jackson *continued,*

on American civilization... so foul and evil.

On May 8, 1864, Union forces under Gen. William T. Sherman, on their way to Atlanta, were engaged in a battle near the Jackson farm. Despite having lost everything to the Northerners, Jackson volunteered to nurse the wounded in her tiny house, a “log cabin...with one room.” In gratitude, the Union quartermaster gave her a few sacks of supplies – as well as letters of recommendation to Northern authorities.

With the departure of Union troops from what was left of her home, Jackson deposited her children with neighbors and on June 12, 1864, presented herself as a nurse in the General Field Hospital of the Union Army of the Cumberland, then stationed in Georgia. She soon gained a reputation for patient and compassionate nursing, one surgeon telling a young amputee that Mrs. Jackson would be a “mother” to him. When this young man died two years later from lingering effects of his operation, Jackson was asked by his family to write his epitaph.

The Jacksons spent the rest of the war in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where she became head female nurse at the Union general hospital on Lookout Mountain and stayed until September 1865. After decades of trying to obtain a pension, Jackson was awarded one in the 1890’s. She died in Kansas in 1925.

Fascinating Fact: Jackson’s Union superiors held her in such regard that when her husband was taken prisoner during the siege of Atlanta, they intervened on his behalf and he was released.

What is the significance of the Mason – Dixon line?

To settle a boundary dispute, Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon partly surveyed the borderline between Pennsylvania and Maryland from 1763 – 1767. This became the popular name for the boundary between free and slave states.

**2024 Camp Annual Calendar**

general idea/dates may change

January**February**

Saturday 3rd - Lincoln Shrine Display.

Saturday 17th - Camp Meeting

March

Monday 25th – Medal of Honor Day

April

Sunday 9th – 159th Anniversary of Lee’s Surrender at Appomattox Court House.

Saturday 20th – Camp Meeting.

May

Saturday 25th – 8:00 a.m. Memorial Day weekend Flag Detail at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside.

May 25th – 11:00 a.m. Camp Memorial Day Ceremony, Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside.

June

Saturday 15th – Camp Meeting

July**August**

Aug. 1 – 4 -143rd National Encampment, SUVCW at Lexington, Kentucky. More info to follow.

Possible Camp meeting on the 17th?? The camp hasn’t had an August meeting because of summer vacations. More Camp discussion needed?

September**October**

Saturday 19 – Camp Meeting

November 8 – 9 - Veterans Day Flag Detail and Veterans Day Service at Evergreen Cemetery.

December

Saturday 14th – Camp Meeting.

Saturday 21th – National Wreaths Across America Day Ceremony at Evergreen Cemetery, Riverside.



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