



The Parmley Post

Newsletter of Gen James J Byrne Camp 1



Dept of Texas and Louisiana SUVCW

February 2024



COMMANDING OFFICER

My Brothers,

Three officers were installed at Belton on January 20th by our Department Commander. See photos nearby. I greatly appreciated the opportunity to receive the gavel and the charge of my office in person. My bride Sheri was on-hand to pin the badge of office. Bro. Michael Belcher was sworn in as Senior Vice Commander and Bro. Ky White was

installed as Secretary. I look forward to the remaining elected and appointed officers being installed at our Zoom-only meeting on February 29th.

We immediately need a Junior Vice Commander (elected) and a Chaplain (appointed). *AND*, in just a short month or so our Treasurer *pro tem* Bro. David Appleton will need to pass the reins of office to someone else, including the transfer of banking responsibilities, etc. Please let me know if you would like to fill any of these important roles!

Regarding February 29th, we will have TWO main elements of this meeting. In addition to officer installations, we will have a guest speaker, external to our Order, who will present a program of special interest to most any Civil War buff. See elsewhere in this Parmley Post for more information! We plan to open the meeting, quickly hand off to our presenter (who will be joining from the Eastern time zone and will be closer to bedtime than us), then follow that with an abbreviated camp agenda that includes Installation of Officers by our Department Commander, Bro. Michael Lance.

Be thinking about Your opportunity May 4th to attend the Department Encampment in Plano. It will serve as our next in-person Camp meeting, and it will be a great chance to support our own Bro. Timothy Phillips, as he is slated to take the Department Commander role for 2024-2025.

Wanted: someone to plan/coordinate our Memorial Day commemoration in Fort Worth. Some of you have done this before – it is not my home area and I need some help!

SVC Bro. Mike Belcher will be planning/coordinating our alternate Memorial Day commemoration in Bell County. Contact him if you would like to plug in!

Please contact me if I may be of service.
I remain, your obedient servant in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Butch Durham, Commander

Snapshots from Belton



Officers (l to r): J. Vander Meulen, CC (Camp 2); M. Belcher, SVC; B. Durham, CC; K. White, Secretary; M. Lance, DC



From the Senior Vice Commander

[Commander's Note: this content harvested from email traffic]

Brothers,

I currently have an additional four prospects from the Bell County area with whom I am working to establish lineage documentation and commence member- and associate-member paperwork.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Michael Belcher, SVC



From the Camp Secretary

Report of Installation of New Camp Officers
20 January 2024, Belton, Texas

Officiating were: Department Commander Michael Lance and
Camp #2 Commander John C. Vander Meulen

Attending were the newly elected officers: Camp #1 Commander
Butch Durham, Senior Vice Commander Michael Belcher,
Secretary Ky W. White

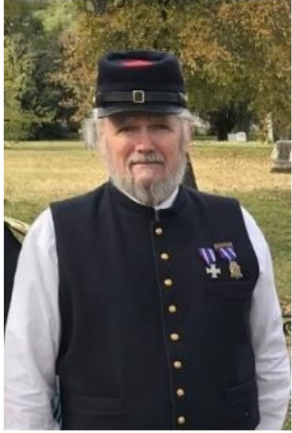
Department Commander Michael Lance called the meeting to order, and Brother Vander Meulen gave the invocation.

Old Business: There was none expressed.

New Business: The business of the meeting was the installation of the newly elected officers into their posts. This was done by the Dept. Commander for each officer who pledged to do their duties to the best of their abilities.

Bro. Mike Belcher gave the Benediction, and the Department Commander Michael Lance adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ky W. White
Camp Secretary



From the Camp Treasurer

Treasurer's Report as of 31 Jan 2024:

Beginning balance:	\$1,845.37
Income (from dues and fees):	506.00
Expenses (PayPal fees):	9.13
Current balance:	\$2,342.24

Membership Renewal Update:

There are four members we have not yet heard back from. With the renewals and promised-renewals we know of, that will leave the Camp 1 roster at 22 members.

In about two weeks, I will send out another reminder notice to any remaining non-renewals, with a final reminder (if necessary) at the end of February. I have always tried to get everyone renewed before early March, so that there is plenty of time for the Camp Secretary to prepare the Camp Annual Report and get it signed by everyone necessary, and get the check for the Department and National portion of the annual dues sent to the Department Secretary.

In F, C, and L,

David Appleton, Treasurer (*pro tem*)

Good of the Order

It is our sad duty to inform the membership that Brother Don Woodworth has lost his beloved wife Sherrye. We learned through an announcement of the DFW Chapter of the Society of Mayflower Descendants that their member Sherrye Woodworth died on January 27 following a battle with pancreatic cancer. Please keep Bro. Don and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

Special Program During Our February 29th Zoom-only Meeting

From the Cleveland (Ohio) Civil War Roundtable, we are pleased to welcome **Brian Kowell** to our virtual meeting for a 20-30 minute talk on “John Barleycorn -- Alcohol in Blue and Gray.”



Brian Kowell was born and raised in Cuyahoga County, Ohio. Graduated from Baldwin-Wallace University in 1973 with a B.S. in Biology. Worked for 38 years as a salesman/trainer in the pharmaceutical industry. A member of the United States Professional Tennis Association, I have been teaching tennis for 55 years in Ohio, Hawaii, Illinois, Texas, Florida and Canada. I have played in the USTA National Senior tennis tournament held in Florida and Arizona 2017-2021. Currently teach tennis at Towpath Tennis Club, Akron, Ohio.

Became interested in the American Civil War in 5th grade and have been studying the war ever since. Joined the Cleveland Civil War Round Table in 1975, holding all the executive positions including president and newsletter editor. Have organized and led numerous civil war fieldtrips. Was a charter member of the Northeast Ohio Civil War Round Table. Have published articles in *America's Civil War* magazine and the Emerging Civil War website as well as contributing articles in the “Charger” – the newsletter of the Cleveland Civil War Round Table. Currently live in Hinckley, Ohio and winter in Estero, Florida with my lovely wife Carole. We have five children and eight grandchildren.

From the Camp Patriotic Instructor

Reminder: The presidential primary will be held in Texas on March 5, 2024. Both the Republican Party and Democratic Party will hold primaries. - KWW

February 1862

The Western Theater

As the Civil War entered its second year several battles occurred in both the eastern and western theaters of the war. It also saw the emergence of Ulysses S. Grant as a general to be reckoned with. It was this month that he earned the *nomme de guerre* of Unconditional Surrender Grant. His first battle was the siege and victory at Ft. Henry, Tennessee on February 6th. The fort guarded the Tennessee River.

General Grant's two divisions of infantry was supported by Admiral Foote's Western Gunboat Flotilla. Under the bombardment of the gunboats the CSA commander as for terms of surrender. It was Admiral Foote who sent back the reply, "No Sir, your surrender will be unconditional!" The surrender opened the Tennessee River up to Union forces and invasion routes into northern Alabama and eastern Tennessee to Knoxville for the rest of the war. Union casualties were 40. Rebel casualties were 169 including more than 90 captured.

Less than a week later General Grant's two divisions marched a short distance, only 12 miles, to the Confederate Fort Donelson where the Cumberland River flows into the Ohio River. The Cumberland River opened an invasion route for the federal army all the way to Nashville. Admiral Foote's gunboats sustained severe damage from the cannons of the fort and were forced to withdraw. Grant's army surrounded the fort. The CSA commander escaped leaving Brigadier General Simon B. Buckner in command. He surrendered "unconditionally" to General Grant late that afternoon. The battle resulted in virtually all of Kentucky as well as much of Tennessee, including Nashville, falling under Union control. Union casualties were 2,691. Rebel casualties were 13,846 including 12,400 captured.

At the end of the month the Union Army of the Mississippi under General John Pope began the Siege of Island No. 10 and were supported by Admiral Foote's flotilla. The siege lasted five weeks and the island surrendered on April 8th. It was the first loss of a Confederate position on "the Gathering of Waters" during the war. The Mississippi River was opened up to a short distance above Memphis. With New Orleans surrender in April, the Confederacy was in danger of being cut in two. Union casualties were 78. Rebel casualties were 30 killed or wounded and including 7,000 captured.

The Eastern Theater

The Battle of Roanoke Island in North Carolina was fought on February 7-8 of 1862. The Union Army there was commanded by General Ambrose Burnside and supported by the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron commanded by Admiral Louis "Old Guts" Goldsborough. Union casualties were 264. Rebel casualties were 2,643 including 2,500 captured.

Such losses for the South were unsustainable.

Admirals Foote and Goldsborough and Generals Grant, and Pope are worthy of further study.

Further Reading:

Dupuy, Trevor Curt Johnson, and David Bongard. *The Harper Encyclopedia of Military Biography*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, Inc., 1992.

Lest we Forget

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Ky W. White, Patriotic Instructor



From the Camp Graves Registration Officer

Camp 1 GRO Report 2-3-24

I was at 41 undocumented bluebellies in Tarrant Co when I stepped down as GRO last Spring. After retaking up the GRO mantle last week on behest of Commander Butch, I am up to 50.

Mt Olivet Cemetery- Ft Worth

42. Samuel A Evans- Co E, 33rd IN Inf; Co F, 85th IN Inf; Co D, 5th VRC
43. Harrison C Ravenscroft- QM 25th & 148th Reg W VA Militia
44. Wyatt Scott- Co K, 91st IL Inf
45. Nicolas Van Horn- 2nd Lt Co A, 47th IN Inf
46. Solomon Males- Cpt Co E, 6th MO Inf US
47. Virgil C Bigham- QM Sgt Co I, 4th AR Cav US; Co B, 1st Bttn AR Inf US
48. Horatio H Babcock- Co F, 1st CO Cav
49. Aaron H Burk- Co F, 1st TX Cav US
50. John C Shields- Sgt Co G, 16th MO Cav US; Co G, 6th Prov Reg EMM

All duly entered into the graves database.

In F, C, & L,

Todd Wilber
Camp 1 GRO

News From Around the Department

Formation of Camp 3 in San Antonio (*abbreviated for space*)

Brothers and Friends of the Department of Texas & Louisiana SUVCW,

We had a great kick off meeting in November to form a San Antonio camp. [Admin tasks and] application for a Charter will take several months. ... I am looking forward to completion on or before our Department Encampment on Saturday May 4, 2024 in the Plano, TX area hosted by Camp 18.

Next Steps: We have a form (55) on which we list officers and current Brothers who wish to be listed as transferring into Camp #3. These Brothers will be inked onto the Camp #3 Charter. If you wish to transfer into Camp #3 and be listed on the charter please reply to me with full name and intention to transfer as soon as possible.

Camp Name: There were several GAR Posts in the area so we decided to keep that tradition alive and name ourselves after the GAR post here. We will be the Major General Edward O.C. Ord Camp #3 after that GAR Post. Gen. Ord was a storied general officer and postbellum was assigned Commander of the Department of Texas for his last posting. He supervised the construction of Fort Sam Houston so it should not be a surprise a GAR Post was named for him.

Please reply [with your notice of interest] to blairrudy@me.com or 214-505-1452. Texts are great. In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, Blair Rudy, PDC, Department Camp Organizer

My Civil War Ancestor -- Julius A. Stevens

By Todd Wilber


My fourth great uncle Julius A. Stevens was born on January 28th, 1823 in Wilmington, VT. By 1850, he is married and living in Heath, MA. By 1855, he has moved his family to Shawano, WI. He is residing in the town of Omro, WI at the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion.

On September 8th, 1861 Julius enlists in Company C, 14th Wisconsin Infantry. He is mustered in on January 30th, 1862. He is appointed 5th Sgt on November 15, 1861. By May 1862, he is 1st Sgt. Julius was in the hospital from May through July and is discharged by order of General Grant on August 31st, 1862.

The 14th WI Inf took part in second day of Shiloh and the Siege of Corinth during Julius' service. Julius was not done. On September 13th, 1864 he enlisted in Company E, 1st Wisconsin Cavalry. He was mustered in on September 21st for one year's service. He is shown present for duty until May 1865 when is in the hospital in Nashville. Julius had his right leg amputated to the upper third due to gangrene from an injury contracted in the service. He is given a disability rating of 2/3s and is discharged on September 8th, 1865.

The 1st WI Cav took part in Wilson's Raid during Julius' service. Julius becomes a founding member of GAR J.F. Sawyer Post 7 in Omro, WI in 1880. Julius passes away from stomach cancer on March 23rd, 1882 age 59. He is buried in Omro Cemetery.

ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.
CERTIFICATE
OF DISABILITY FOR DISCHARGE.



Private Julius A. Stevens, of Captain Stillman
 Company, (E.) of the 1st WI Cav. Regiment of the United States
 was enlisted by S. H. Chapman of
 the 1st Regiment of Mass. at Madison
 on the 13th day of September, 1864, to serve 3 years; he was born
 in Washington in the State of Vermont, is 33 years
 of age, 5 feet 8 3/4 inches high, Dark complexion, Blue eyes,
Brown hair, and by occupation when enlisted a Farmer. During the last two
 months said soldier has been unfit for duty 60 days. Has done no duty for five
months.

STATION: Warburton
 DATE: Aug 28th 1865

B. Brown Surgeon U.S.A.
 In Charge Cumberland Hospital
 Commanding Company

I CERTIFY, that I have carefully examined the said J. A. Stevens Priv.
 of Captain _____ Company, and find him incapable of performing the duties of a
 soldier because of amputation of right leg upper third result of ex-
siphlas & gangrene - Diseases contracted since enlistment
& while in line of duty. Elect discharge - Degree of dis-
ability 1/2

M. B. Full
 Asst. Surgeon U.S.A.

DISCHARGED, this 8th day of September, 1865, at Warburton
Vermont

B. Brown
 Surgeon U.S.A. Discharge
 Cumberland Hospital
 Commanding Co. Regt.

The Soldier desires to be addressed at
 Town Omro County Monroe State Wis.

* See Note 1 on the back of this. † See Note 2 on the back of this.

[A. O. G. No. 109 & 101—First.] [DUPLICATES.]

Upcoming Camp Events (updated details/reminders to follow)

29 Feb -7PM regular meeting with special program and officer installation (Zoom only)

04 May -proxy Camp meeting as part of the all-day Dept Encampment (Plano)

Memorial Day commemoration event in Fort Worth, details to be developed

Memorial Day commemoration event in Temple/Belton, details to be developed

Camp 1 Officers for 2024

Commander	Butch Durham
Senior Vice Commander	Mike Belcher
Junior Vice Commander	<i>vacant</i>
Secretary	Ky White
Treasurer (pro tem)	David Appleton, PCC
Camp Council	Paul Kendall, PCC, PDC Craig Reves, PCC Gene Willis, PCC
Patriotic Instructor	Ky White
Chaplain	<i>vacant</i>
Graves Registration	Todd Wilber



The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) is a fraternal organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of veteran heroes who fought and worked to save the Union in the American Civil War.

Organized in 1881 and chartered by Congress in 1954, SUVCW is the legal heir and successor to the Grand Army of the Republic. <https://suvchw.org/>

The Department of Texas and Louisiana, SUVCW website may be found here: <http://txsuv.org/>

