

# The Parmley Post

## Newsletter of Gen James J Byrne Camp 1

Dept of Texas and Louisiana SUVCW

Spring 2025

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### Commander's Message

No report received.

### Senior Vice Commander

No report received.

### Secretary -Treasurer's Report

Brothers,

As the Secretary-Treasurer of Camp No.1. I can report that the camp is on sound fiscal and membership grounds.

The Treasury is in good condition with an ending balance of \$2,525.05. through the 27<sup>th</sup> of April.

The camp has added three new members since last year bringing our current numbers to twenty-one.

Brother Beau Moore reestablished a virtual link for our April 27, 2025 camp meeting and brother Wilber availed himself of it.

The camp is making preparations for Memorial Day. Brother Wilber will coordinate with the cemetery and Brother Moore will organize a work day and preparations for Memorial Day. The service for Memorial Day will be at the Oakwood Cemetery in Fort Worth at 10 AM on Monday May 26, 2025.

Brother Wilber was elected as Delegate to the Department Encampment. He attended and participated in the color guard. He was also elected to be a delegate to the National Encampment in Houston August 7-10, 2025. All other camp members

in good standing were elected as Alternates to the National Encampment and are welcome to attend and participate except for voting.

Past Department Commander Gene Willis was elected as "Camp Brother of the Year Award" by the camp and Brother Durham was elected at the Department Encampment to be Junior Vice Department Commander. Brother Kendall was elected to the Department Council.

Brother Gates proposed Alexander Stephen Green, Kaleb Aaron Pool, and Daryl Russell Coffey for membership in Camp #1. All three we elected unanimously.

Commander Glass has suggested hosting the 2026 Department Encampment at the new Medal of Honor Museum in Arlington and the camp voted to place a Camp ad in the program for the 2025 National encampment Brothers Durham and Gates have worked together on procuring the Encampment Badge (metal) and the ribbon for the Encampment ID Tag for the 2025 National Encampment.

All in all, the year has gotten off to a great start for the Byrne Camp. Huzzah!

Don Gates, Secretary-Treasurer

### Camp Meetings

Meetings are bimonthly and held at 401 W 13<sup>th</sup> Street in Ft Worth at 2 pm. Meetings are hybrid.

Meeting dates: June 15<sup>th</sup>; Sept 14<sup>th</sup>; & Nov 16<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Luncheon on Dec 13<sup>th</sup> location TBD

## Memorial Day

On Memorial Day, Camp 1 will gather at the GAR Monument in Oakwood Cemetery (701 Grand Ave) in Fort Worth. The Ceremony will begin at 1000. Please arrive by 0930.

Afterwards, we will stop by and pay respects to Gen Byrnes in Pioneer Rest Cemetery (620 Samuels) before heading to Mercado Juarez Café (1651 E Northside Dr) to eat.

## Department Encampment



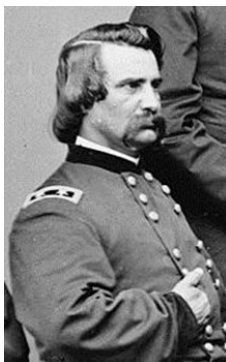
Front Rank L-R: Brian Glass, CC; Don Gates, Sec/Treas. Rear Rank L-R: Butch Durham, Dept JVC; Todd Wilber, GRO; Beau Moore, JVC; Timothy Phillips, Chaplain & Dept P.I.

## Camp Patriotic Instruction

by

Brother Craig Reves, PCC and PI

**Major General John Alexander Logan, USV –  
Author of the Memorial Day Order**



In a few short weeks we will gather once again to honor Memorial Day and read the General Orders of the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic in 1868 which established our order's commemoration of Decoration Day.

“... Let us then gather around their sacred remains and garland the passionless mounds above them with the choicest flowers of Springtime; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from dishonor; let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us as a sacred charge upon a Nation's gratitude—the soldiers' and sailors' widow and orphan.”

John A. Logan was born in southern Illinois in 1826. During the Civil War he received the sobriquet of “Black Jack” for his dark hair and eyes. He served as a volunteer lieutenant in the Mexican War and returned to practice law. In 1849, he became involved in local politics, eventually being elected on the Democratic ticket as a member from Illinois to the U.S. House of Representatives. He was still a sitting congressman in 1861 when he ventured on to the battlefield of Bull Run to volunteer on the spot with a Michigan regiment. He went back to Illinois and organized the 31st Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment and became its colonel, leading it at the battle of Belmont, MO in November 1861 under a rising General U.S. Grant. He went on to serve at Fort Donelson, TN in February 1862 and was rewarded with promotion to Brigadier General of Volunteers in March 1862. Following service at Corinth, MS, Logan was further promoted to the rank of Major General, USV.

His rise to national prominence occurred during the Vicksburg Campaign of 1863 where he commanded the 3rd Division of the XVII Corps in Grant's Army of the Tennessee. Logan's command distinguished itself in the area around the Shirley House (if you are familiar with that structure on today's national battlefield park) in mining and exploding a mine under the Louisiana Redan.





This tactic helped shape Grant's thinking in 1864 about exploding a mine at the famous Crater incident at Petersburg in 1864. Once Vicksburg surrendered, Logan's division was granted the privilege of being the first to march into the fallen city.

In late 1863, Logan was selected to take over the command of the XV Corps from Major General William T. Sherman, who had received command of the Army Group which advanced into Georgia in the Spring of 1864. Logan's corps fought with distinction at the battles around Atlanta. He is immortalized in the cyclorama painting at the Atlanta Historical Center riding to rally his troops. When the Army of the Tennessee's commander James B. McPherson was killed at Atlanta, Logan took over command of that Army. While Logan was deemed a highly competent combat commander, he suffered, in the eyes of Sherman, of being a non-West Point trained officer and a political general. Consequently, Sherman replaced him with Major General Oliver O. Howard as Army commander. Logan was keenly disappointed and returned to Illinois to campaign for Lincoln, but returned to the Army as Corps commander during the Carolina campaign where his troops fought at Bentonville in March 1865. Sherman gave Logan's command the honor of leading the Army of the Tennessee in the Grand Review parade held in Washington DC at the end of the war in May 1865.

Logan returned to Congress, now as a Republican, during reconstruction. He was identified with the Radical Republican wing and was frequently accused of waving the "bloody shirt" in his invocations during debate of the late war. He served as the second Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic from 1868 until 1871. He was selected as the vice-presidential candidate for the Republicans in

1884 but they lost to the Grover Cleveland Democratic ticket. He concluded his political career as US Senator from Illinois in 1886 until his death at 60.

John A. Logan is commemorated in statues at the Vicksburg National Military Park and in Washington, DC on Logan Circle.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Fredericksburg

*The 5<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry at 2<sup>nd</sup> Fredericksburg. From Quiner's Military History of Wisconsin.*

(Uncle Franz Hlawacek, Co A. KIA storming Marye's Heights. Editor).

The "Light Division " was organized from the Sixth Corps, in February, 1863, by General Pratt, including the Fifth Regiment, which was intended to march, and be ready to undertake reconnoissances and movements which required great activity, unincumbered by the usual impedimenta. This "Light Division" remained in camp at Belle Plain until April 28th, when it moved to the Rappahannock, crossed on pontoons, and took position before the enemy, below Fredericksburg, and on the 2d of May, while skirmishing, lost First Lieutenant John McMurtry, of Company H, who was mortally wounded by rebel sharpshooters. Moving up to the city, the Sixth Corps took position in front of the enemy's fortifications on the heights.

On the 3d of May, the "Light Division" was ordered to storm the enemy's position on Marye's Heights, where, in December, General Burnside lost 5,000 men in a similar attempt, which had given the place the name of "the Slaughter Pen." The "Light Division," commanded by Colonel Burnham, of the Sixth Maine, moved to obey the orders. The right wing of the Fifth, Companies A, B, F, H and I were to lead the storming party, under Colonel Allen. The Sixth Maine and Thirty-first New York were placed in the rear of the right wing of the Fifth, and the left wing of the Fifth in rear of the Thirty-first. The plan of the charge and arrangement of the troops was made by Colonel Allen. The enemy's works consisted of a battery in front on the heights above, with a battery on the left, and two other batteries on the right, which could pour a terrible cross fire into the attacking force. In front of the right wing was a gentle slope, on ascending which, the force became fully exposed to the fire of the enemy, and at about 450 yards in front of their starting point was a stone wall or fence forming one side of a cross road, behind which the enemy had placed a regiment or two of sharpshooters. Beyond the wall, the hill rose very steep, on top of which was the battery and rifle-pits which the Light Division were ordered to take. Two regiments were to advance up a road to the right, in order to draw the fire of the enemy while the charge was being made.

Forming in line, as arranged, the right wing of the Fifth lay for three hours, protected by the slope of the ground, before orders were received to charge. The men were rather serious, for they felt it to be an almost hopeless task, where so many had failed before. Colonel Allen, to change the current of feeling, addressed his men, saying — "Boys! You see those heights! You have got to take them! You think you cannot do it; but you can! You will do it! "When the order 'Forward' is given, you will start at double quick — you will not fire a gun — you will not stop until you get the order to halt! You will never get that order!" At last came the command "Forward," and every man advanced with undaunted bravery up that sheltering slope and into the deadly fire which met them when about one hundred yards from the stone wall or fence. Then it came with terrible fury and effect from musketry behind the wall and rifle-pits above, in front, and from batteries on all the crests of the hills, from rifles in houses and rifle-pits on the right flank. Shot, shell and cannister tore through the ranks of the gallant storming party, but without

stopping to return a shot, the band of heroes rushed on, surmounted the stone wall, where they bayoneted some of the foe, and scattering the others like chaff, clambered up the steep pitch and into the enemy's works at the top, and were soon in possession of the famous Washington Battery of New Orleans, whose commander surrendered his sword to Colonel Allen, at the same time complimenting him for his daring and the bravery of his men. The column which was to charge the batteries on the right, failed to reach them, and the Light Division proceeded to secure them, capturing in all nine guns, several hundred prisoners, and many small arms. The battery on the left was taken by a Vermont brigade. The casualties in the Fifth were three commissioned officers and forty-one enlisted men killed or mortally wounded, and eight commissioned officers and eighty-four enlisted men wounded, and twenty-three missing, out of a force of about four hundred men.

#### Source

E.B. Quiner, *The Military History of Wisconsin in the War for the Union*, 1866, pp. 513-5

#### In Their Own Words

*Report of Col Cobb, 5<sup>th</sup> WI Inf, on the Battle of Williamsburg, VA. 5 May 1862*

No. 54.

Report of Col. Amasa Cobh, Fifth Wisconsin Infantry.

Hdqrs. Fifth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers,  
Camp No. 11, in the Field, May 6, 1862.

General: I have the honor to report that yesterday, the 5th instant, at about 10 o'clock a. m., pursuant to your orders, and following you, I marched my regiment, the Fifth Wisconsin Volunteers, from Whittaker's farm (where I had lain on my arms the previous night) by the road to the right, striking the line of the enemy's works near Queen's Creek. Upon arriving where the road debouches in a large open field, I turned to the left and deployed my regiment, facing the right earthwork of the enemy on the opposite side of Queen's Creek, throwing out skirmishers on my front and left, under the immediate command of Maj. C. H. Larabee. I crossed the stream at double-quick and occupied the work, which I found deserted by the enemy. I then marched my

regiment out of the work and formed in line of battle facing the second work, which was distant about 800 yards. Here I was joined by other regiments of the brigade and a battery of artillery, which formed on my left.

Receiving your order to advance, I threw out Companies A, E, and G as skirmishers on my front and right and marched upon the enemy's work. This, like the other, was found entirely deserted. From this work three similar but larger works were in plain view at a distance of 1,000 and 2,000 yards, respectively, to the front and left. These works were thickly studded with the enemy's infantry and sharpshooters, who opened a galling fire on my skirmishers, who, being thrown well forward, came within their range.

Pursuant to your orders, I again advanced about 400 yards, and sent forward Companies D and K, under the immediate command of Lieut. Col. H. W. Emery, to support my line of skirmishers. The battery having taken a position near some lone farm houses, and being engaged in shelling the enemy's works, I held my remaining five companies to support it, keeping my men well under cover of the crest of a slight elevation, my right resting on a thick wood, well covered by my line of skirmishers, and frequently lying down to avoid the return shots from the enemy's artillery. I maintained this position until about 4.30 o'clock p. in., when a sharp fire of musketry on my line of skirmishers announced the approach of the enemy, who appeared in a long line of infantry and cavalry at a distance of about 400 yards in my front and penetrating the wood on my right. From my position I could then see only the cavalry. Holding my position until the battery had passed to the rear and reached a place of safety and apprehending a charge, I formed my men in square to resist cavalry, but the cavalry, being effectively checked by the fire of my skirmishers, fell in rear of the infantry. I then reduced my square, formed in line of battle, and opened fire on the infantry, who had already commenced a sharp fire on my right, my left being to some extent covered by the farm buildings above mentioned, which buildings at the same time greatly prevented the effectiveness of my fire. After maintaining this position for some time I received your order to fall back fighting, which I proceeded to execute to the best of my ability.

In falling back to the point indicated I was immediately unmasked by the buildings and found

myself in front of the enemy's center, a heavy regiment, afterward ascertained to be the Fifth North Carolina, which was supported on either flank by other troops, all of whom advanced rapidly, concentrating upon me a rapid and heavy fire. My men fell back in good order, every man loading as he retreated, wheeling and returning the fire of the enemy with a rapidity and coolness worthy of veterans.

In this manner I fell back slowly to the line of battle which had already formed, and with your assistance formed my regiment in the center, a space having been left for that purpose. You then ordered a charge, and the whole line moved forward with a short and well-directed fire, driving the enemy before them like chaff, they fleeing in wild confusion, leaving the field over which they had just pursued my retiring line literally strewn with their dead and wounded, and leaving their battle-flag behind them, which was brought in by one of my men, who handed it to a staff officer to be conveyed to you.

During the entire day my officers and men behaved with great coolness and energy, manifesting a carelessness of danger bordering on recklessness. It is not too much to say that all did their duty, did it well, and at the right time. Saying thus much of all, I cannot refrain, in justice to my own feelings on the field of battle when the result was uncertain, from making special mention of the coolness and gallantry of Adj. T. S. West and Lieuts. Enoch Totten and J. B. Oliver, whose positions were near me during the engagement, and whose assistance to me in encouraging the men, both by word and example, deserves my gratitude and admiration. Color-Sergt. George B. Madison also deserves special mention. Although severely and painfully wounded in the knee in the early part of the engagement, he carried the colors steadily and gallantly to the last.

Capt. William A. Bugh, of Company G, was dangerously wounded in the first attack on the line of skirmishers and was disarmed by the advancing foe. He was, however, brought in after the rout of the enemy, and great hopes are entertained of his recovery. It is reported to me that the captain behaved with great coolness and bravery.

The casualties of the day in my regiment are 8 killed on the field, 50 wounded, 2 of whom have since died; none missing.\* A detailed report of killed and wounded is herewith respectfully forwarded.

I have the honor to be, general, your most obedient servant,

AMASA COBB,

Colonel Fifth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers.

General W. S. Hancock,

Commanding First Brigade, Smith's Division.

#### Source

War of the Rebellion, Vol 11, Ch 23, Pt 1, pp. 554-6

#### GRO Report

I am still at 86 undocumented bluebellies in Tarrant Co.

In F, C, & L,

Todd W

#### TX GAR History

Fort Worth Daily Gazette- 1 May 1891, Fri, Page 2

**THE COLORS WILL BLEND.**

**The Ex-Confederates and the Grand Army of the Republic will Observe Memorial Day Together.**

The members of the two posts of the Grand Army of the Republic and the members of Camp R. E. Lee, Confederate veterans, will unite in observing Memorial day, May 30. The following notices explain themselves:

**ATTENTION! BLUE AND GRAY.**

All ex-Confederate soldiers of Fort Worth and vicinity who desire to take part in the parade of the "Blue and Gray" on "Memorial day," May 30, 1891, are earnestly requested to report as early as possible to A. M. Friend, adjutant of R. E. Lee camp Confederate veterans.

It is the desire of the committee to make this the grandest parade of old soldiers which the city has ever witnessed and we trust that our lady friends will also lend us all the assistance in their power.

**THOMAS BRATTON,**  
Chairman Committee of R. E. Lee Camp.

All ex-Union soldiers and sailors of Fort Worth and vicinity are urgently requested to report at an early date to J. D. Bound, secretary of the G. A. R., joint committee or to Theo Hitchcox, adjutant W. S. Parry Post No. 4, or Thos. W. Manchester, adjutant Sedgwick Post No. 39.

The committee desire to make the parade on memorial day, May 30th, 1891, the largest parade of the kind which our city has witnessed, and we therefore ask that all old Union soldiers and sailors make a special effort to unite with us on that day.

**L. P. GOODELL,**  
Chairman Joint Committee G. A. R.



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/>

