



The Western Dispatch



The Official Newsletter of the 6th Military District SVR

Fall Edition 2005

Sons of Veterans Reserve Present the Colors at Petco Park - Home of the San Diego Padres – National League West Champions



Lt. Will Tisch (Acting as Corporal), Corporal John Pollard, and Private Brian Bingham of the 5th Ca. Vol. Inf. Co. G Present the Colors of Our Great Nation Under the 5th Ca. Regimental Flag at Petco Park and on Behalf of the Boys in Blue.

See Page 12 on How to Participate in One of these Events with your Color Guard.



Major Dave Allyn
Commander, 6th Military District
Sons of Veterans Reserve
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



Original 5th California Vol.
Infantry Flag Housed at the
California State Capitol
Museum

Commander's Corner

As we prepare for autumn, with the leaves changing, (if you live where THAT happens) college football, with children looking forward to the holidays, I hope we will take a moment to reflect on the recent “natural disasters” our great Nation has come through. Whether or not we have friends or families that were touched by Katrina/Rita, we should all take time to offer a word of prayer and, if able, contribute to relief efforts.

In this issue, we take some time to honor the memory of a true Patriot and personal friend, Corp. Al Hodges, of Co. G, 5th Cal. Inf. Volunteers, who passed into a Better Life, August 20th. Brother Al was a staunch supporter of the SVR/SUVCW and participated as often as his schedule would allow. He became a fixture in the Co. G, Color Guard, usually bearing the Camp or State colors. If not carrying a color, he would act as a rifle flanker. Whatever the assignment, Officers and NCO's could count on him to look sharp, march in-step and comport himself in an honorable fashion, bringing pride to the outfit! The men of his company who knew him will join me in saying Al will be sorely missed and difficult to replace, or, should I say, “Irreplaceable,” for no one can truly take Al's place!

We have a new unit in our District; Co. B, 2nd Colorado Volunteer Infantry. The Company was transferred from the 4th Military District. Currently, Co. B has an opening for a Commanding Officer and the unit is being run by its Adjutant, Corp. Doyle Brewer Jr. Look elsewhere for more info and photos. We extend a warm “Welcome and HUZDAH!” to Co. B!

As always, we invite your comments and feedback. Please send all reports, articles, photos, to our Public Information Officer, Lt. Will Tisch, at tis346@cox.net or his street address, in Santee, CA. Will can scan or otherwise convert just about anything you can mail him and get it entered. This is your opportunity to let others know what your unit is doing for the cause. You need not be the CO or Adjutant to contribute information for publication but one should get approval, from same.

Enjoy the fall edition and the wonderful days of cool, clear weather coming our way!

**6th Military District
Sons of Veterans Reserve
District Orders**

District Order 2005 - 1

21 September 2005

Effective 3 September 2005, the Sixth Military District welcomes Co. B, 2nd Colorado Infantry, SVR into our ranks. Co. B has been transferred from the 4th Military District and is located in Denver, Colorado. Election of Company Commander is currently pending. Until a commander is determined, Cpl. Doyle M. Brewer and Company Adjutant will be acting Commander.

District Order 2005 – 2

23 September 2005

The newly established SVR Annual Reporting period has made it increasingly difficult to maintain a current roster of member mailing and email addresses at the District level. Correct mailing and email addresses are particularly important to the District Public Information Officer in communicating the 6th Military District Newsletter, *Western Dispatch*, to all members. Therefore:

Effective immediately, all Unit Commanders or Adjutants are responsible for supplying District Adjutant Capt. Bob Lowe with current mailing or email addresses as individual changes occur. Changes that have occurred since last reporting period should be forwarded as soon as possible.

By order of:

Major David E. Allyn
Commanding 6th Military District
Sons of Veterans Reserve



Attest:

Capt. Bob Lowe, Adjutant
6th Military District, SVR

From Commander of the SVR David V. Medert:

I am truly delighted to report that, Happy Days are upon us. The Seventh Military District now has three active Units and can be reactivated.

David V. Medert
Brigadier General, SVR
Commanding

Adjutant General's Annual Report

25 July 2005

TO: Brig. General David V. Medert, Commander

The purpose of this Annual Report is to provide an overview of the past twelve months of activity. In terms of numbers, the 2004-2005 year ended up on the plus side, with over a 5% growth in membership. While losses and gains have been experienced in the various Units, five new Units have been added to the 2005 SVR Roster contributing a total of 47 men and only one Unit was disbanded, with 10 of the 13 men of that disbanded Unit immediately proceeding to form a new Unit. To continue on the positive side and with three Units up and running, the Seventh Military District was reactivated on 21 July 2005 and on the aforesaid date a new District Commander was appointed. The reactivation of the Seventh Military District was memorialized in Special Order 2005-02 and in conformity with the provisions of Article III, Section 4 of the Regulations of the Sons of Veterans Reserve.

Henry E. Shaw
Colonel, SVR
Adjutant General





Lt. Will Tisch, PIO
 6th Military District
 Sons of Veterans Reserve
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 8505 Ellsworth La.
 Santee, CA 92071-4002

Co. B 2nd Co. Infantry

9/13/05

Gentleman,

Let me welcome you to the 6th Military District. Attached is the latest copy of the Western Dispatch for your reading pleasure and patriotic inspiration. I look forward to working with you in the name of the Memory of the Boys in Blue. Please send related articles and photos to me for inclusion into our next Western Dispatch. Also, Please update your email address for my records.

Yours in Service,
 Lt. Will Tisch, PIO

6th Military District
 Sons of Veterans Reserve
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 Tis346@cox.net



Welcome Brothers Of Co. B 2nd Colorado Infantry on Behalf of the 6th Military District



Flagpole Dedication and Memorial Day Services at Howard Cemetery, Howard, CO. The flagpole was donated and installed by Greenwood Camp 10, Greenwood Cemetery Committee and W.T. Bridwell Camp 2020. L to R: Dennis Dilley, Tim Grabin, Carol McNew, Ann Swim, Tom Monaco, Rick Ulrich and Doyle Brewer.

6th Military District Staff

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This picture taken after the formal ceremonies at the Greenmount Cemetery in Durango, CO. Left to Right: Matthew Foisel, Robert Foisel, Duane Smith, James Davenport, Jerry Crawford and Michael Kots in Civil War US Marine Uniform.



Ceremony honoring Joseph B. Smith as the Last Living Civil War Veteran in Fremont County. This dedication took place in Lakeside Cemetery, Canon City, CO. Left to Right: Doyle Brewer, Glen Todd, Dennis Dilley, Rick Ulrich, Tom Monaco and Tim Grabin. SCV, W. T. Bridwell Camp 2020 joined Greenwood Camp 10 in honoring Joseph Smith.



Battery A 3rd US Artillery, SVR at Ft. Point

On August 13, 2005 the American Civil War Association, a primarily Northern California reenacting group, organized a living history day at the Presidio of San Francisco's Ft. Point. Ft. Point is the only brick Civil War fort west of the Mississippi. The most asked question is, "Did the fort ever fire its guns at an enemy?" This is up for debate. The commander of Ft. Point, an appointment made by President Lincoln before the war because the existing commander was pro-southern, could have been mildly paranoid. I say that not only because he was secretly sent to seize the fort from its pro-southern commander, but the engineer of fortifications on Alcatraz had been accused of espionage for allowing photographing of the artillery batteries there (that union officer's father was an officer of the Confederacy). Confederate raiders were sailing the world's seas looking for plunder to support their war effort and San Francisco Bay was the entrance to gold banks in San Francisco and Petaluma which could have been plundered. During the Civil War the Union suspected the English of entering the war on the side of the Confederacy. It was in this distrustful climate that British Royal Navy vessels entered the Golden Gate without dipping their colors, the customary salute at the time. The Fort's guns went into action, which promptly brought about both the appropriate salute and outrage from the English officer.

Another instance of the fort's guns firing upon a ship was the celebration of our country's centennial. A ship, laden with kegs of black powder, was anchored in San Francisco Bay. Great crowds gathered all around the bay, as they do every year to watch the fourth of July fireworks. Instead of a fireworks show, at the appointed time all the batteries at Ft. Point, Angel Island, Alcatraz and Marin fired upon the ship in an attempt to create a huge explosion. To the horror of the numerous civil war veterans in the audience, the sitting duck target ship survived for over an hour without being hit. Finally, an officer rowed a boat out to it and lit a fuse. The last time we know of the fort's guns being fired was in a Presidential Salute near the turn of the 20th century.

On the cold windy August Saturday in 2005, the commander, Lt. Welch led members of the SVR Battery in participating in the garrison size flag raising and lowering ceremonies. The large size of the flag and the flagstaff's location attached to the corner of the fort requires many troops on the parade ground and troops posted on the tiers and top deck to prevent the flag from becoming entangled while being raised or lowered. Battery members participated in the unfolding and folding.

Throughout the day, Battery members manned an information table and answered questions for the public while ACWA members ran artillery and Zuoave bayonet drills.

Ft. Point is open Friday, Saturday and Sunday during the summer and weekends in the winter. Battery A's next event there will be in January, just as cold and windy as August, so bring your greatcoat. There is a good sampling of artillery, both heavy and light, projectiles, full powder magazine (empty kegs, of course), and soldiers living quarters. See you in January!

2nd Lt. Steven Welch, Commander, A3US Artillery, SVR

A Eulogy to Brother Al Hodges as Delivered by Captain Bob Lowe, Adjutant 6th Military District, at Al's Memorial Service

Elks Lodge #1812 on August 27th, 2005

Al Hodges was a quiet, perhaps overly modest man, acutely conscious of his responsibilities and prone to deprecate his own charms and abilities. He was a splendid man of great knowledge and big heart. This loved and loving husband and father was also my best friend and colleague over the past 21 years, when work and leisure brought us into almost daily association.

Al worked tirelessly on the "Camp Beyond the Scars" Committee for 5 years, serving as Chairman 3 consecutive years. Under his leadership, El Cajon Elks Lodge 1812 was able to send dozens of burn victim children to a special camp that enabled them to learn how to deal with their physical and emotional scars.

Despite his proclivity to understate his contributions and never seeking acknowledgment, Al was named this Lodge's "Citizen of the Year" in 2001, an award in which he was silently, but vastly proud.

Jerry Sayre, Camp 21 Commander of the SUVCW, named Al, "Brother of the Year," last December. This year, he was serving as Civil War Monuments and Memorials Officer. Needless to say, all of our Camp's engineering needs were directed to Al.

Here was a man of superlatively high standards, complete integrity and boundless enthusiasm for whatever task he took in hand. No one, whose privilege it was to know him, is likely to forget the candor of his speech, the courage of his faith or the warm and glowing brightness of his friendship. He never dodged a responsibility, never refused to take on a hard job if it needed to be done. What he preached, he practiced. What he believed, he believed with heart and soul. He fought hard for every cause in which he enlisted, and causes for which he fought were good and right. His devotion to Veterans, Americanism and Patriotism is unmatched.

With a great passion for woodworking, at one time Al made a replica of a Civil War cannon, which measured about one foot in length. He showed it to me and I was most impressed with the detailed workmanship and wished I had one like it. With out a word, he secretly went to work on another cannon, this one for me. It was presented to me at Christmas, last year, with many of our friends looking on. The only difference between his first cannon and mine was that this one was an exact $\frac{3}{4}$ scale model measuring seven feet in length and about three feet in height. He had also made one further addition to this replica. During the Civil War, there was a famous cannon named, "Big Bill." Al decided to add a hanging plaque with the raised words, "Big Bob," on it. To really get to me, he made the plaque reversible and, when turned around, proclaimed the name, "Big Boob." Such was Al's sense of humor. The "Big Boob" cannon now sits in a place of prominence on our patio, with guests to our house admiring it, but wondering what on earth it is doing there. I'm sure Al is looking down on me, laughing about his gift that keeps giving.

On almost any holiday or special occasion, the Hodges house and yard was a veritable wonder of lights and wooden figures, made by Al. After a year or two, he would tire of the handmade decorations, make new ones and freely give the older ones to anyone who was interested. Such was his generosity.

These are but two of the hundreds of true and humorous stories I could relate about my friend, Al Hodges. I could go on all day.

In closing, I should like to paraphrase the words of the great Abraham Lincoln, who, in his memorable Gettysburg Address said, "The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here." In this instance, Al Hodges, an honored, respected and revered member of our organizations, gave of himself unstintingly to the preservation of human rights and liberties and was ever zealous to take and carry through to its ultimate conclusion the cause of those who needed sound, experienced and wise counsel or assistance.

Al Hodges was loved by many, his contributions boundless and he leaves a huge void in our lives. Those who knew him were made better people merely by association. Al will be sorely missed and always remembered. Goodbye, my friend.

The Following Page 8 is a Tribute to Brother Almey Hodges who passed away on August 20th 2005. It is hoped that you may print this page and use it as a bookmark. Fold it in such a way that Brother Al is visible on one side of the bookmark and the tribute is on the other side. Then refold the book mark to see the other photo when desired. Trim the excess paper with scissors.

Tribute to Brother Al Hodges

Brother Al Loved God.

Brother Al Loved the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Sons of Veterans Reserve.

Both Brother Al and Sister Cindy Participated in Parades and Camp Functions Regularly.

Brother Al Loved the Color Guard. He Always Looked Sharp and Knew How to March Very Well. Even Coaching those who had trouble. Teaching them from his good experience marching with the JROTC in his younger years.

Brother Al Helped Groom and Clean the Grave of our Country's First Medal of Honor Recipient – Sergeant William Pittenger and his wife Winnie for our Memorial Day and Remembrance Day Commemorations.

Brother Al Respected and Cared for Our Great Country and Beautiful Flag. He flew it every day. He helped me put in my new flag pole before Memorial Day that I received on My Birthday – He helped throw a party for me.

We had so much fun.

So Today I say Farewell My Dear Friend and Beloved Big Brother. For you are now under the wing of the Grand Army of the Republic who you served in life and to you who they will protect in Death.

Lt. Will Tisch, PIO

6th Military District, SVR

SUVCW



Dedication for Daniel S. Burson

September 26, 2005

Co. G 1st Cal. Vol. Infantry has been very busy this month of Sept. On September 17th we dedicated a new headstone for the grave of Daniel Smith Burson founder of the Mother Lode town of Burson, Cal. Daniel was a member of Co D 7th Kansas Calvary. He volunteered for service in 1861. He fought in several battles and was wounded, for which he was honorably discharged in November of 1862. He was a founding member of the GAR post in Burson in 1890. The veterans from throughout the area would gather in Burson every Memorial Day.

Daniel died in 1907 at the age of 77. Co. G served as honor guard for the ceremony.

On September 24th we were once again called on for a stone dedication for a fallen hero in Denair, California. A new military headstone was dedicated for Joel Riley Haworth, Corp. Co F 16th Iowa Inf. Corp. Haworth was born in Indiana in 1838. He died November 28, 1917 at the age of 81. Corp Haworth was a veteran of the battles of Shiloh, Luka, Corinth, Miss., and Atlanta, Georgia. He was captured in 1864 at the battle of Atlanta and sent to Andersonville prison. While in prison he suffered a stroke which made him disabled for the rest of his life. Before entering the service, Corporal Haworth was a strong healthy young man. His life was changed forever as a result of seven months of the inhumane treatment he endured at Andersonville. Corporal Joel Riley Haworth's unmarked grave was discovered in Denair Cemetery. Eighty-eight years after his death and one hundred forty years after his great sacrifice for the Union he finally got his just recognition from the SVR-SUVCW. Co. G 1st Cal. Vol. Infantry was honored to host the Ceremony. Those attending were, Lt Charles Gardali,

Commanding, 1st Sgt. Carl Taylor, Pvts, Kirby Morgan, Jim Brazelton, George Hussey Art Scully, and Rob Orr.

Submitted by 1st Sgt Carl Taylor
Co G 1st Cal Vol Inf Reg



Burson Dedication for Daniel S. Burson



Left to Right: Lt Charles Gardali, Carl Taylor, Art Scully, Rob Orr, Kirby Morgan, and Jim Brazelton. Piper Phil McGill.
Dedication for Joel Riley Haworth. Denair Cemetery.



Turlock Journal

Your City. Your News. Your Paper.



Monday, September 26, 2005

News

Civil War soldier finally gets headstone

By Abby Souza
Tuesday, September 20, 2005 9:47 PM PDT

Although the Civil War took places thousands of miles from the Turlock area, a few of its soldiers made their way here before their lives were over.

One of those soldiers - Joel Riley Haworth - has been buried in an unmarked grave Denair's cemetery for 88 years until the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War discovered him two years ago.

The group will hold a dedication ceremony - including an unveiling of a newly-placed military headstone - at 11 a.m. Saturday at the cemetery on the corner of Zeering and Quincey roads on the outskirts of Denair.

George Hussey, part of the Sons group, first heard of Haworth in an old newspaper article where a women's group honored several soldiers buried in the Denair cemetery. Haworth was one of them, but his grave couldn't be found.

After looking through cemetery records and ordering Haworth's service records, Hussey and his group members were able to locate Haworth's grave and give him the proper headstone.

The public is welcome at Saturday's ceremony, which will include the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and Denair's Webelos scouting group. The Webelos will lead the Pledge of Allegiance at the ceremony, unveil the headstone and lay flowers at Haworth's plot.

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Dedication for Joel Riley Haworth



Headstone of Joel Riley Haworth

Brothers of the 6th Military District SVR-SUVCW:

Let us all pause a moment and give a prayer and thought to all the good people who have suffered through Hurricane's Katrina and Rita. To any of our Brothers who may have been in the storms we are with you in spirit.

We hope that any of our Brothers who are recovering from an illness or accident are on the road to a speedy recovery.

Always remember to keep our "Boys in Blue" in the Public eye. It is through their sacrifice we are the Great United States of America that we are today. God Bless, Lt Carl Taylor Chaplain 6th Military District SVR-SUVCW

I can be contacted at:

NinerNut@aol.com or 209-823-7288.

Yours in F, C, & L,

2nd Lt Carl Taylor

Chaplain 6th Military Dist. SVR

Instructions on How to Participate with your Color Guard at Professional Sporting Events

- Call the main office of the organization you wish to be involved with.
- Identify yourself and say that you are interested in presenting the Colors of our Great Nation with your Color Guard at one of their upcoming events.
- At that time they will either give you an address to write to or transfer your call to the person in charge of pre game ceremonies or entertainment.
- If you are connected to that person then Identify yourself again and say you are interested in presenting the Colors of Our Nation at an upcoming event. If you are not connected and given an address, then write a professional letter of request and describe your Color Guard noting that you wish to inspire patriotism by presenting the colors at one of their games.
- Once you have set a date for the event then practice presenting the Colors with you Color Guard.
- Contact Commander Dave Allyn for all the details of how to perform at these events. Or Contact me, Lt. Will Tisch for more information.
- These events can be very inspiring and extremely enjoyable.
- The crowds love seeing the SUVCW and SVR out on the field and the host organizations are very happy to have you there and will announce who you are. This is a great way to keep up the Spirit for the Boys in Blue and get our name out there for recruitment.
- Examples of Events are: Baseball, Football, Ice Hockey, etc. College level events are good starting places too.



Please Update Your Email Address to Captain Bob Lowe



LT. Will Tisch

Public Information Officer

6th Military District, SVR

8505 Ellsworth Lane

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