

THE UNION INFORMER

Monthly Newsletter of the Indian Nations Camp No. 3
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Tulsa, Oklahoma

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In an earlier year, a re-enactor group fires a mountain howitzer on College Ave, near the Headquarters House, during the commemoration of the Battle of Fayetteville.
(Photo courtesy of Washington County Historical Society)

April Camp Meeting

Delegates to the May 20th Department Encampment to be held at the Hardesty Regional Library in Tulsa will be elected at this month's camp meeting. Certain officers and past officers are automatic delegates to the proceedings, such as Camp Commanders and above. However, all Department members are invited to attend, but only delegates will have a vote.

We will be preparing a list of Encampment attendees so that nametags and delegate ribbons can be prepared.

No information was available regarding the program or the speaker for our April camp meeting at this time. Our meeting will be held in the **Maple room** at Hardesty Regional Library Thursday, April 27 at 6:30.

March Camp Meeting

Braving the stormy weather were; DC Clint Anderson, who chaired the meeting in the absence of acting Camp Commander, Mike Rusk; and Brothers Joe Fears; Rex Griffin; Brain Barton; Carl Fallen; and Bob Whittaker.

Brother Joe Fears did not disappoint us with his usual fine presentation on the Battle of Fayetteville at our March camp meeting. Arriving early during a heavy downpour well before meeting time, Joe used the whiteboard to draw a map of key points on the map that were prominent during the battle and show the relationship between them. During his presentation, Joe redrew maps to illustrate various points. Joe's ancestor fought at this battle, so he is well versed in its details.



Brother Fears gives his presentation on the Battle of Fayetteville.



The Headquarters House in Fayetteville, a building central to the Battle of Fayetteville, which now serves as the home of the Washington County Historical Society.

The Headquarters House on Dickson Street in Fayetteville was the home of Jonas Tibbets. It was located on the Wire Road running from St. Louis to Fort Smith, and Fayetteville was the largest city on that road. The (Telegraph) Wire Road was of strategic importance, since it was used for the movement of troops and military supplies.



DC Clint Anderson presents Bob Wilkerson's membership certificate to him at last month's camp meeting.

Bob Wilkerson Biography

In response to the Editor's urging as a way for Brothers to get to know him, Brother Bob furnished this short biography for us. Thanks, Bob. If others would like to do this as well, we could make this a regular feature of the newsletter.

"I was born in 1951 in Philadelphia, PA. Our family moved to Oklahoma when I was 8 and I've lived in Tulsa ever since. I attended the University of Tulsa receiving a Bachelor of Arts in 1973 and Master of Arts in History in 1975. My first career in publishing & advertising lasted for over 30 years, 16 of which were spent with PennWell Publishing, publisher of the Oil & Gas Journal. I shifted to a 2nd career around 2013 teaching American History and American Federal Government for half-dozen community colleges including Tulsa Community College, Spartan College of Aeronautics and University of Phoenix. I officially retired in 2019 and am currently involved as a volunteer docent at The Church Studio, the restored recording facility that Tulsa rocker Leon Russell owned in the early 1970s. My hobbies include genealogy, music, guitar playing and restoration, Chicago Cubs baseball and visiting Presidential libraries and other historic sites. I have been married to Jennifer for 27 years and have 4 sons by 2 previous marriages and 2 stepdaughters (Jennifer's). I also have been blessed with 8 beautiful grandchildren.

"My Civil War Union Veteran is Joseph B. Tucker, Private, 112nd Arkansas Calvary."

Union Ancestor of Col. Scott Preston:
Pvt. Lewis Cass Hodge
Company K, 49th New York Infantry

Camp Business

The National Organization has requested feedback on the recommended wording to be inserted in the Constitution and Regulations as to the meaning of 'male' in membership requirements. The camp took up this issue and essentially agreed to accept the National Committee's recommendation.

Also, members were urged to comply with the request from the National Organization to answer the skills survey that was emailed to them.

Plans were made to attend the department's planning meeting for the Department Encampment to be held in the Ash Room of the Hardesty Regional Library, 8316 E 93rd St., Tulsa, on April 1 at 10 a.m.

In answer to the request for suggestions for camp activities, Brother Fallen passed out his list of possibilities at the last camp meeting, primarily based upon those proven to be successful in the past.

We are still in search of a suitable library meeting place for our future camp meetings.

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Individuals attending events hosted by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, by virtue of their attendance, agree to the usage of their likeness in the 2Banner, any Camp or Department Newsletter, any SUCVW website and/or on any SUCVW Social Media outlet, promotional brochures, or any other SUCVW material.

Encampment Planning Meeting

The annual meeting to plan the Department Encampment was held as scheduled on April 1 at Hardesty Regional Library in Tulsa. Dept. Secretary, William Andrews distributed a detailed agenda before the meeting which laid out the format for the meeting. Officer reports received so far were given.

The camps will assume the responsibility for the determination of those qualifying for 10, 15, and 20 year membership pins and making the awards. Some form or recognition will also be made at the department level.

A presentation of the Dr. Mary Edwards Walker award will be made this year. No candidates for other awards had been recommended.

To comply with department suggestions, *The Union Informer* newsletter will be emailed to all Oklahoma camp commanders for further distribution to their respective camp members. There have been requests in that regard. Three copies of the newsletter will also be emailed to the CinC for entry into the best camp newsletter competition.



E2023 Encampment Badge designed by SVC Mike Rusk, Delegate Ribbon by PDC Carl Fallen.

Department Encampment

May 20th – Tulsa

The Department Encampment will be held again this year at the Honey Springs Battlefield Visitors Center. A sandwich lunch will be delivered after the meeting, and included in the \$25 attendance fee. Attendees will also receive a nametag with delegate ribbon and Encampment badge. The meeting is scheduled from

10 a.m. until noon. A few ladies from the Allied Orders are expected to attend free of charge. Camps are to bring their camp flags with flagstuffs and bases.

Each Brother attending should carry an SUVCW ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT CREDENTIAL CARD signed by the Camp Secretary, Mike Rusk, and bring his annual Membership Card to the Encampment.

A slate of Department candidates for office had not been completely firmed up at the time of the Planning Meeting. The nominating process outlined in the C&R will be followed during the Encampment with each camp being polled for nominations for each office, rather than random nominations taken from the floor.

Civil War Prisons

Although more than 150 places were used as prisons on both sides during the war, only a handful are important. Generally, they fit into certain types: the fortifications, former jails and penitentiaries, altered buildings, enclosures around barracks, enclosures around tents and open stockades. Of the first type, the only important example in the Confederacy is Castle Pinckney. The Union had Fort Warren in Boston Harbor, Fort Lafayette in N.Y., Fort McHenry in Baltimore and, most dreaded in the South, Fort Delaware in the Delaware river. The Union used the Alton, Ill, and the Columbus, Ohio penitentiaries for prisoners, and the Confederate cavalryman, John Morgan escaped from the later. The Confederacy's Libby Prison and the Union's Old Capitol, and Gratiot Street Prisons were converted buildings. Others, all in the South, where tobacco factories were common and excellent for this purpose, were Ligon's in Richmond and Castle Thunder in Richmond and Petersburg. Buildings were also converted in Danville, Lynchburg, and Shreveport, and Cahaba, AL was one of the more important ones. Union prisons that were enclosures around barracks included Johnson's Island, Camp Morton, Camp Douglas, Camp Chase, Elmira, and Rock Island. The Confederate Belle Isle and the Union Point Lookout prisons were enclosures built around tents. Prisons that were open stockades existed only in the South, and the most infamous was Andersonville. Others of this type were Camp Lawton, Camp Ford and Camp Groce, and stockades at Salisbury, NC, Macon, GA, Charleston, Florence, SC, and Columbia, SC.

Soldiers' Rations

A ration is the amount of food authorized for one soldier (or animal) for one day. The Confederate government adopted the official US Army ration at the start of the war, although by the spring of 1862, they had to reduce it. The original Federal ration was: one 16-ounce biscuit (hardtack, pilot bread, or crackers) or 22 ounces of bread or flour, a pound and a quarter of fresh or salt meat or three quarters of a pound of bacon.

In June '64 this was increased by six ounces of flour and four ounces of hard bread and three pounds of potatoes. In addition, for each 100 men there was authorized eight gallons of beans, 10 pounds of rice or hominy, 10 pounds of coffee, 15 pounds of sugar, four gallons of vinegar, and two pounds of salt. Men cooked individually or messed by squads until Mar. '63, when cooking by companies was prescribed. Individual or squad cooking did not, however, disappear. Although the Federal soldier often went for long periods without his authorized rations, the Southern soldier fared much worse. The Sanitary Commission did much to improve the standards of food in the Union Army.

The problem in the South was not so much in shortage of food as it was the lack of adequate distribution, particularly by rail. Soldiers of both armies relied to a great extent on food sent from home and on the ubiquitous Sutler.

Camp Calendar



April 27 Camp Meeting – Maple Room, Hardesty Library
May 20 Department Encampment – Honey Springs
May 25 Camp Meeting – Location to be announced
May 27 Distribute Grave Flags – Rose Hill Cemetery
May 29 Memorial Day – Rose Hill Cemetery

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