

THE UNION INFORMER

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

VOLUME 25 NUMBER 3

MARCH 2023



Indian Nations Camp listens to DC Clint Anderson at the podium: PDC Jesse Walker; Brother Bob Wilkerson; Eric Sachau; Councilor Kevin White; PDC Joe Fears; Councilor Mike Gates; Brother Charlie Walker; and Acting Camp Commander Mike Rusk. (Photo by Carl Fallen)

March Camp Meeting

Again, this month, our camp meeting will be held in the Ash Room (just inside the door to the right as you enter) at the Hardesty Regional Library, 8316 E. 93rd Street, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Road construction work around the Creek Turnpike and Memorial Drive area has hampered traffic in that vicinity, so in planning your trip, you might want to factor that into your time estimate.

PDC Joe Fears volunteered to give the program for this month's meeting on "The Battle of Fayetteville." Joe's Union ancestor comes from that area, and knowing history the way he does, he always makes an outstanding presentation. Joe is a dual member of the Indian Nations Camp and the Sgt. Jacob Overturf camp, as are Clint and Rex Griffin. More recently, Jesse Walker has become a dual member of both camps. It's good that these Brothers are willing to do double duty to keep both camps going. We salute

them! Let them know it by giving them a pat on the back and a kind word when you see them.

Fayetteville was one of those areas of Northwest Arkansas that seesawed back and forth for control between the North and South, before the Union finally secured it. In the meantime, it was a treacherous place to live. I grew up there, and I remember my father saying that a farmer could be plowing in his field and be approached by an unidentified group of armed riders, who might ask, "Which side are you on?" The farmer had a 50-50 chance of surviving that encounter, depending upon whether he gave the right answer.

The Camp Council is expected to have its report ready but they have still not been able to contact the Camp Commander. Delegates to the Department Encampment will be elected at the April camp meeting.

February Camp Meeting

It was quite encouraging to see so many of our Brothers attend the camp meeting. Even though some of our regulars had signaled they had conflicting commitments, we still had a great turnout for our February camp meeting. Present were: DC Clint Anderson; SVC Mike Rusk; Joe Fears; Jesse Walker; Charlie Walker; Eric Sachau; Carl Fallen; Councilors Kevin White and Mike Gates; and Bob Wilkerson.

That's not all. Col. Scott Preston put in a day's work in Kansas and drove hard to try to make it to the meeting before it ended. He arrived at 8 p.m., but unfortunately, he had the disappointment of finding that the meeting had already been gaveled to a close. Let's give him credit for a gallant effort.

Brother Rusk had prepared a short program about Pres. Lincoln and his cats, of which he had two and a soft heart for many others. His kittens were an unexpected gift from Secretary of State William Steward. He named them Tabby and Dixie.

There is a story that he was so fond of his cats that he once fed Tabby from the table at a formal White House dinner.

At one point during his first term, Lincoln was said to have observed in frustration, "Dixie is smarter than my whole cabinet! And furthermore, she doesn't talk back!"

Skill Set Survey – Please Reply

The National Organization of the SUVCW is reviewing plans for a new Headquarters or redesign of an existing building for the purpose of a National Headquarters. Each member has been requested to fill out a document intended to identify those of us who may have particular skills they would be willing to use in the aid of the organization at either the camp, department, or national level. This particularly applies to the new Headquarters project.

An email with the survey form has been directed to each of us, with the request to at least reply by email that we have received it. Hopefully, each of us will be willing to go a step further: fill out the form and submit it as requested. The main thrust of this survey may be to find Brothers who may be willing to contribute toward the construction of a new National Headquarters.



Department Cdr. Clint Anderson addresses the camp at the February camp meeting.

Last Call for Camp Dues

Each of you should have received more than one notice that it's time to pay your annual camp dues of \$40. You are urgently encouraged to do so. We don't want to lose any members, and your continued membership is highly valued, even if you aren't able to attend camp meetings. If so, we hope to keep you informed of camp affairs through the newsletter. We have done all that we can to keep the cost as low as possible. Most of you have already paid, but for those who haven't please send payments to:

Michael D. Rusk
3208 S. Pittsburg Ct.
Tulsa, OK 74135

Those whose dues remain unpaid at the end of this month must be dropped from the membership rolls for non-payment.

Welcome to Bob Wilkerson

Our newest Brother is Robert (Bob) Wilkerson, whose application and supporting documents sailed through the examination process, and was approved for membership at the February meeting. Following that, he was unanimously elected to membership.

Bob told of coming to Oklahoma at age 9, and pursuing a career in publishing for 20 years until he switched to teaching history. He retired in 2019. He became interested in genealogy, and that's when he found his Union ancestor.

Let's all welcome Bob to our camp. Gosh, not only a teacher, but a *history* teacher. How lucky can we be?

Union Ancestor of John Jeremy Carl Woods:
Pvt. Nathaniel R. Ewing
Company E/F, 11th Kentucky Infantry

Camp Business

Consideration is underway to replace our Camp Commander, who had generously agreed to serve a second term. He is known to have demanding job requirements that leave him little time for family and service to our organization. After receiving his email saying that he would be unable to attend camp

meetings until at least July, camp members have been unable to make contact with him. The Camp Council was tasked with studying the situation and preparing recommendations for dealing with the officer shortage.

No action was taken on the National Organization's request for feedback on the recommended wording to be inserted in the Constitution and Regulations as to the meaning of 'male' in membership requirements.

DC Clint Anderson announced that the planning meeting for the Department Encampment would be held at the Ash Room of the Hardesty Regional Library, 8316 E 93rd St., Tulsa, on April 1 at 10 a.m.

Brother Rusk asked for recommendations for camp activities for the year. A few suggestions were offered from those present including:

- Scheduling work days at Honey Springs Battlefield Park.
- Helping the Scout Troop distribute flags in White Rose Cemetery, one of Bartlesville's largest, which has some 90 Union graves.
- Cash contributions to charities.

Delegates and alternate delegates to the May 20 OK Dept. Encampment will be elected at the March camp meeting. Certain officers and past-officers are automatically designated Encampment delegates based on past service. Details are described in the SUVCW Constitution and Regulations.

Colt Revolvers During the War



The Colt 1848 Dragon

In early 1836, the 22-year-old Samuel Colt patented and started producing his revolvers. Despite the antipathy of Army Ordinance experts, and the resulting failure of his first "Patent Arms Manufacturing Company" in 1842, Colt finally gained

military acceptance of his revolver when the Mexican War created a demand for them.

The first type manufactured in quantity for the government was the Model 1848, of which about 30,000 were produced. Known as the “Dragoon” or “Holster Pistol” –the word revolver not yet being current—this was a huge cal. .44 rifled pistol that weighed four pounds one ounce.



Colt 1851 Navy Revolver

The Model 1851 “Navy” was a cal. .38 pistol that weighed only two pounds, ten ounces. Over 200,000 of these were made up until 1865. The “Navy” remained more popular in the South and was the prototype of practically all Confederate-made revolvers.



Colt Model 1860 or 'New Model Army Pistol'

The Model 1860 was a streamlined cal. .44 weapon that became the official US Army pistol and was the principal revolver of the war. Between 4 Jan. '61 and 10 Nov. '63 the War Department was furnished 107,136 of them. They became known as the New Model Army Pistol and the 1848 weapon was then known as the Old Army Model Pistol.

The Model 1861 Navy pistol was not so popular as the Model 1851 Navy, and relatively few were made. The army purchased 2,056, and the navy bought only a few.

-----0-----
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

Banner, any Camp or Department Newsletter, any SUVCW website and/or on any SUVCW Social Media outlet, promotional brochures, or any other SUVCW material.

Grant's Horses

Grant's favorite, Cincinnati, was given to him by an admirer sometime after the battle of Chattanooga and carried him throughout the rest of the war. Standing 17½ hands high, this mount was rarely ridden by anyone other than Grant, Lincoln in his last visit to City Point being one of the few exceptions.

Grant had a number of other horses during the course of the war, the first being Jack. He bought this cream-colored horse in Galena, IL, at the beginning of the war and rode him as an extra or ceremonial mount until the fall of 1863. During the actions around Donelson and at Shiloh he had a roan named Fox, and his mount during the Vicksburg campaign, Kangaroo, was a raw-boned and ugly horse the Confederates left on the field at Shiloh. Grant, who was an outstanding horseman, saw that the animal was a thoroughbred, and after a period of rest and care turned him into a magnificent mount. Also during this campaign, he had a black pony named Jeff Davis, captured on the plantation of the brother of the Confederate president.

Camp Calendar



Mar. 23 Camp Meeting – Hardesty Regional Library
April 1 Department Planning Meeting at Ash Room,
Hardesty Regional Library, 8315 E 03rd St., Tulsa
April 15 Battle of Fayetteville, AR, Commemoration
April 27 Camp Meeting – Location to be Announced
May 20 Department Encampment – Honey Springs

Editor: A. Carl Fallen – acfallen@sbcglobal.net
Camp Website:
<http://indiannationscamp3-suvchw.weebly.com>
Webmaster: Terri Walker – National Auxiliary to the SUVCW