

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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Captured guns at Richmond ready for transportation to Washington, May, 1865.

(Andrew J Russell, photographer)

September Camp Meeting

After a three-month vacation from camp meetings, we will resume our monthly 4th Thursday meetings on September 28 at the Schusterman Library, 3333 E. 32nd Street (*not to be confused with the one in the OU Center at 41st and Yale*). The program selection is still in progress at this time.

Hopefully, everyone will arrive refreshed and ready to dig in with renewed vigor in honoring their ancestors, and shouldering the responsibilities that go along with

keeping active our brotherhood in the Indian Nations Camp.

We have a number of issues to discuss this month and plans to draft for the remainder of the year, including the arrangements for our October camp cookout, and preparations for camp officer elections.

This will be an important meeting, and all Brothers are encouraged to attend. Your ideas and opinions are crucial to modeling a camp that meets your needs. Let's get some activity going!



PCinC Brian Pierson and DC Clint Anderson flank Debbie Neece with her SUVCW Founders Award.

PCinC Brian Pierson and DC Clint Anderson presented the SUVCW's Founders Award to Debbie Neece from Bartlesville on Tuesday evening, September 5, in front of the Bartlesville City Council and Mayor. Debbie is from the Bartlesville Area Historical Museum, and received the award for her outstanding effort to save the records of the Bartlesville GAR Post, and for her welcome cooperation in helping the members of our department research ancestor data.

Camp Business

Unfortunately, since the last issue of the newsletter, there has been no camp business reported.

However, we have some important business ahead of us, with the selection of candidates followed by camp elections for next year. Those who are willing to stand for election should soon make their interest known.

Also, we're entering that part of the year when we'll be coming up on Veterans Day and planning a program for Remembrance Day.

We badly need to plan more camp activities for our future months. It's good to meet and enjoy good programs, but that is not enough to build cohesiveness among the members that is needed to strengthen the camp. In the past, we have participated in the Veterans Day parade, held headstone dedications, cared for neglected veterans' graves, cleared and cleaned

roadside Civil War markers, given Civil War speeches to Public School classes, etc.

Brother Scott Preston is to be congratulated for his work as Eagle Scout Coordinator, since that is one area where outstanding results have been achieved outside the camp's meeting room.

Missouri Rejects Secession

By Jason Rowe, Kansas City Public Library

As Southern states seceded from the Union in the months leading up to the Civil War, Missouri struggled with the decision of whether to rebel and join the new Confederacy. On February 18, voters elected an overwhelmingly pro-Union group of representatives to the convention. Despite strong Unionist sentiment, this set of resolutions from February to March of 1861 reveal that Missouri was a true border state: one that wanted to preserve slavery and yet ultimately rejected calls to abandon the Union.

Missouri's hopes of remaining neutral proved totally unworkable as the nation careened toward Civil War. After Fort Sumter its secessionist Governor Claiborne Fox resisted President Lincoln's call to raise soldiers against the Confederacy and went so far as to raise the Missouri Volunteer Militia and the Missouri State Guard (MSG) in defense of secessionist interests. Federal military leaders could not tolerate secessionist militias organizing within Missouri's borders, and after they instigated the disastrous "Camp Jackson Affair" in May, negotiations failed. Jackson, the MSG, and a number of likeminded state representatives abandoned Jefferson City and formed a government-in-exile as violence between the two sides escalated into full scale war with the battles of Boonville, Wilson's Creek and Lexington in the summer of 1861.

By a vote of 98-1 among the representatives to the convention, Missouri became the only state to call up a convention to consider secession without actually following through with seceding.



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.

Civil War Facts

During the war, as many as 3.9 million troops were mobilized to fight, and an estimated 620,000 were killed. Against today's population base, this is comparable to about 41.5 million troops and 6.5 million fatalities.

About half of the soldier deaths in the Civil War were caused by disease. Germs were not understood at the time of the war, resulting in unsanitary conditions, and many unnecessary deaths.

Army Organization:

- Army
- Corps
- Brigade
- Regiment
- Company

To adapt, many army units of the Civil War existed for only a few months before being dissolved and integrated into new or existing ones. Still, others lasted for years.

Nearly 2.7 million soldiers enlisted to fight for the Union, compared to a high-end estimate of only 1.2 million Confederate troops.

One of the most revolutionary changes that occurred during the Civil War was the movement away from flint-based triggers and towards percussion systems, which were much more reliable and would fire even in rainy weather, which their flint counterparts would not.

Breech-loading weapons were also introduced, but were not widely used before the war ended. These could be reloaded faster than the old-style muzzle-loaders.

Muskets could be lethal up to 175 yards but were really only accurate at a range of about 100 yards. Civil War rifles were accurate for hundreds of yards, with some being deadly at up to 1,000 yards.

Smoothbore cannon used when the war began were less accurate and had a shorter range than rifled cannon, which became common as the war progressed.

The war lasted 4 years, 3 weeks and 6 days.

The average age of Union soldiers was 25.8 years. Definite information for Confederate soldiers is not available.

Chronologically, the Battle of Fort Sumter was actually the first battle of the war, but it mainly involved bombarding, rather than large scale man-to-man battle. The First Battle of Bull Run was indeed the first major battle of the conflict.

Prior to the actual start of the Civil War, 11 states seceded from the Union, starting with South Carolina in December 1860, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana in January 1861, Texas in February 1861 and the last four states (Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina and Tennessee) between April and June 1861.

The Battle of Gettysburg is one of the most famous battles of the Civil War, but it was also the bloodiest battle of them all (when taking the total number of casualties into account). After 3 days of battle between July 1 and July 3, 1863, 51,000 individuals of both sides were killed, wounded, captured or missing.

Nearly 10,500 battles were fought in total, with nearly 50 major battles and approximately 100 others that were of major importance to the end result. But that is only the fighting which is considered an actual battle; there were many other skirmishes, naval engagements, sieges, bombardments.

Battles in the Civil War are sometimes complicated by some battles having two names - one given by the Union and one given by the Confederacy. The Union usually named their battles after bodies of water (rivers, creeks and similar) or other significant geographical features on or near the battlefield.

The Confederacy named their battles after nearby towns, settlements or other manmade landmarks.

Doctors of the time used chloroform, ether or whisky as the main anesthetics. Doctors and surgeons had no standard training requirements before assignment to duty.

Women legally had no right to fight in the war, but some disguised themselves as men to be able to participate. It has been estimated that 400-800 women fought in the Civil War.

Thank You Note

Submitted by DC Clint Anderson

Those who attended the DUVCW National Convention in Oklahoma City will remember the young man (Avery Frantz) in Civil War Uniform, a brother from the Department of the Southwest, who joined us as we presented the Colors and escorted the ladies. He sent us a very nice thank you note that I wanted to share with you.

Thank you for allowing me to help escort the DUVCW with you all. It allowed me to also share a special moment with my Grandma Verna Malinski whom became the National President of the DUVCW.

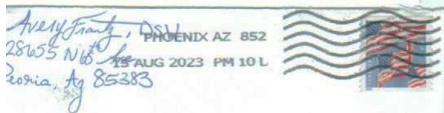
You all also shared a positive and kind brotherhood with me. I enjoyed speaking with you all and getting to know some of them. Also fun to know that I saw some of them back in 2021 at the National Encampment.

Thank you all again.

In F. C. L.,

Avery Frantz "The Kid"
Graves Registration Officer
Dept of the Southwest

Aug 6, 2023



Dept of OK, SUVCW
C/O Lauri Wasmach
6500 N. Grand Blvd, Unit #166
Oklahoma City, OK 73116

Michigan Man Furnishes Graves Registration Data

Adam Youker has contacted our camp website with service details for a family member named Pvt. James Williams, who is buried in the Stroud Cemetery. Adam is Pvt. Williams' second great grandson who lives in western Michigan. He writes:

"James Williams enlisted (with his father, Francis Williams) at the age of 18, May 17, 1861, in Mannsville, New York, to serve two years. Mustered in as a Private, Co. K. Wounded August 30th, 1862, at Bull Run. He lay on the battlefield for over 24 hours until he was relocated for medical treatment. James was discharged March 20, 1863, from hospital in Philadelphia, PA. He suffered complications from injuries due to the War his entire life. He relocated to Cedar Vale, Chautauqua, Kansas, with sister and brother-in-law. Eventually married my great-great grandmother, Caroline Taylor. Together they had two daughters, Frances Williams Youker and Dulcie Williams Lutman in Stroud. James died in Stroud in December 1899, after which his widow and daughters relocated to Michigan. His daughter, Dulcie made a trip to Oklahoma in 1955, and there are pictures of her visiting James' grave. A recent visit to 'Find A Grave' assures me that his VA stone is standing and in good condition. Hoping this is true even now. A blood relative has not been to James' grave since that visit in 1955. Wanted to point out his service and history to you and let you know that despite distance, his service has not been forgotten by his descendants."

Adam Youker, Scottville, Michigan

Camp Calendar



- Sept 28 Indian Nations Camp Meeting
Schusterman Library – 3333 E. 32nd St.
- Oct. 7 Indian Nations Camp Cookout
- Oct. 26 Indian Nations Camp meeting
- Nov. 3-6 Honey Springs Civil War Demonstrations
- Nov. 10 Tulsa's Veterans Day Parade

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<http://indiannationscamp3-suvcw.weebly.com>

Webmaster: Terri Walker – National Auxiliary to the SUVCW

Brother Bill Andrews' Resignation

We have received word that Dr. William Andrews will be transferring out of state, and will be resigning his posts as Oklahoma Department Secretary and Chaplain. As everyone knows full well, Brother Bill has done a superb job in discharging the duties called for by those posts. He has gone well above what is required and deserves our sincere thanks for his efforts. We have certainly been the benefactors of his willingness to excel.

Dept. Cdr. Clint Anderson stated that appropriate steps are being taken to find a replacement for Brother Bill.