



SONS of VETERANS RESERVE 4th MILITARY DISTRICT

August 2024



PAST IN REVIEW



4th District Staff Officers

Lt. Col. Thomas J Brown
Commander

5025 N. 105 St., Milwaukee, WI
53225 Phone (414-429-8979)
Email: tjbcarver@sbcglobal.net

Capt. Brian D. McManus
Chief of Staff

27327 LeMays Ct., Wind, WI
53185 Phone (262- 895-3868)
Email: bmcmamus1@wi.rr.com

Capt. Kent A. Peterson
District Adjutant

6024 S Kirkwood, Cudahy, WI,
53110-3106, Phone (414-614-3690)
Email: kapeterson0681@gmail.com

Capt. Randy Baehr
Inspector General

529 Clark Ave.St., Louis, MO
63119 Phone (314-962-4690)
Email: robaehr@earthlink.net

Lt. Col. Jerome W. Kowalski
Chaplain

206 East Grantley, Elmhurst, IL
60126 Phone (773-631-1610)
Email: paptom@msn.com

2nd LT Kim J. Heltemes
Public Information Officer

W2570 Archer Ave, Pine River, WI
54965 Phone (920-987-5911)
Email: heltemesk@centurylink.net

COMMANDERS COLUMN

Brothers,

The Summer is almost history. I hope everyone had a safe and fun summer. The 4th Military District and the National Civil War Artillery Association ran a School of The Piece artillery safety school May 11 this year. It was the first one since 2012 in Boscobel WI. The event was at the Boscobel Sportsman Club. Seventeen participants were trained and qualified that day. It was an enjoyable experience for all. The event was open to SVR units, Reenactment units (union and confederate), and Independent's, male or female. We will have another School of the Piece in Wisconsin May 9, 2026. Next year's School of the Piece will be in Missouri the third weekend in June. More details to follow when they become available.

I attended the SVR Breakfast at the National Encampment in Lexington KY. Information was presented for the Remembrance Day Parade in Gettysburg, PA. The date is Nov. 16, 2024. The information is on the SVR website. The Eisenhower Hotel and Aspire have rooms available for a discounted rate. Go on to the web site to reserve your rooms. There will be an SVR Breakfast on Sat. Morning. There will be a Civil War Ball in the evening there and Col. Steve Michaels is in charge of it. The admission is \$20.00 if you buy tickets in advance and \$25.00 at the door. All of the proceeds go to the Gettysburg National Park Service for upkeep of the monuments.

Because 2024 is a leap year Thanksgiving will be a week late I hope to see some our units participate in the parade this year.

Lastly, please keep Lt. Col. Chaplin Jerry Kowalski in your thoughts and prayers. National SVR and 4th Military District Chaplin Jerry fell in his bathroom recently and broke his ankle in three places and tore a tendon. He had surgery on Aug. 14th. Jerry is doing well and recovering in the hospital. It is going to take 6 weeks to heal and another 6 weeks of rehab. Anyone wishing to send a get-well card, send it to the address that is printed on the first page of our newsletter.

In F, C, & L,

Lt. Col. Thomas J. Brown
SVR4th Military District Commander and Event Coordinator

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**November 16, 2024 Remembrance Day and SVR Breakfast at
Gettysburg, PA**



GETTYSBURG, PA

The Eisenhower/Aspire Hotel complex has been totally renovated since the last time we used it as our headquarters. The special room rate for the Sons of Veterans Reserve Group is \$139.00 per night at the Eisenhower and \$149.00 per night at the Aspire (plus taxes). A free breakfast is provided at both locations for all hotel guests.



68th Annual Remembrance Day Parade Saturday November 16, 2024 Gettysburg, PA

*Sponsored by the Sons of Veterans Reserve, the Military Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War A Parade briefing will be held on November 16th at 12:00 Noon at the Unity Park Monument on Lefever Street.
All units are required to send one representative*

Units form up at Noon on Lefever Street Parade will step off at 1:00 PM

*For further information please contact: Lt.Colonel David Hann, Provost Marshal SVR
E-mail: majorsvrprovost@gmail.com Cell: 609-816-2012*

Join us for the entire day!

Website: suvchw.org/remembrance-day

*Please follow Annual Gettysburg Remembrance Day Parade on Facebook
Face Book Page QR Code*

Remembrance Day Site QR Code



Remembrance Day in Gettysburg, PA is scheduled for Saturday November 16, 2024. This year the SVR headquarters hotel has changed. This year it will be at the Eisenhower/Aspire Hotel, located at 2634 Emmitsburg Road, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, 17325. Phone: 717-334-8121

The SVR breakfast will be held in a private dining room on Saturday morning November 16, 2024. Information will be released about the breakfast as we get closer to the event.



The Eisenhower will be also the location of the Original Military Ball that will take place later on the evening on Saturday November 16, 2024. Tickets are \$20/person in advance, \$25/person at the door and are available by sending stamped, self-addressed envelope and check payable to "SVR Ball" to: Col. Steve Michaels, SVR 6623 S. North Cape Road Franklin, WI 53132-1227. Cell: (414) 712-4655 or Lt.col.sm@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN COLUMN

Brothers,

Please wish Jerry well.

1st IL. LT ARTILLERY BATTERY L

Thank you to all of the units that submitted articles for the newsletter.

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY



Above left: The Wisconsin contingent at Nationals this year with the National C-in-C Kevin Martin in the center. Front: Kirby Scott, Lt. Col. Tom Brown, Kevin Martin, Dave Daley, Col. Steve Michaels, Back row, Gerry Drought, DC Bob Koenecke and Gary Carlberg.

Upper Right: Col. Steve Michaels with his wife Danielle enter the 2024 Nationals.

Left: 2nd Lt. Kim J. Heltemes gave nine 20 minute talks about the Iron Brigade at the D.C. Everest Junior High School in Schofield, Wisconsin in May.



School of the Piece.

Above left: Tom Trimble instructed the members on the guns as they got their hands on the equipment.

Above right: from left to right with the flag of the 4th District: 2nd Lt. Kim J. Heltemes, Chief of Staff Captain Brian McManus, Captain of the Iron Brigade Guard Jeff Graf and Lt. Col. Tom Brown.

Right: Lt. Col. Tom Brown handled registration.
Below: Class was held inside the Sportsman's Club building.





The newbies got to get their hands on experience with the cannon and limber. Each person learned all five positions and rotated to perform each of them. For anyone that has an interest in Artillery, this is the class that will save your life and the life of the crew members. Both Lt. Co. Tom Brown and 2nd Lt. Kim J. Heltemes have over 20 years each working with a couple of the best artillery batteries in the mid-west. To be safe, this is the class you need. Learn from the best and it will make your time in the field enjoyable.



1st MO ENGINEERS

Members of the 1st MO ENG have also been busy. While our membership is somewhat scattered across the state, we do our part to honor our boys in blue. In May, our commander was asked to give a special presentation titled "Sherman's Engineers" to the Lt. Col. J. Felix St. James Camp #326 – SUVCW and the public in Ste. Genevieve, Missouri. Next, June found a few of our members assisting the National Stars & Stripes Museum in Bloomfield, Missouri with their annual kid's "Journalism Camp." PVT Andrew Porter demonstrated differences in equipment and weaponry of the Civil War soldier, while 1LT Chris Warren (and his wife Twyla & daughter Abbie assisted) with a first-person program titled "Missouri's Forgotten Civil War Couple." The program spoke of one of only two women to work for the U.S. Army's Military Telegraph service in the Civil War; Louisa Volker; and her husband Capt. Thomas Macklind. Then, in July, Andrew Porter & the Warrens were once again at the Stars & Stripes Museum to assist in their "Occupy Bloomfield" event, where they gave presentations on the war in Southeast Missouri. PVT Porter set up a camp outside and spoke of Southeast Missouri Unique role, with the engineers helping at New Madrid and canal digging and etc. 1LT Chris Warren gave presentations on a unique military unit – Company K, 3rd Missouri State Militia Cavalry (which wore artillery uniforms, but were actually cavalry). We too have a full schedule of activities for the Fall and can't wait to share with you in the next issue. Respectfully Submitted,

1LT D. Christopher Warren, PDC

Commanding, 1st Missouri Engineers, Co. A – SVR

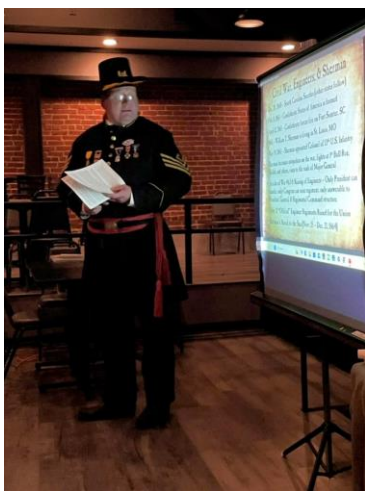
Below: Top left: Commander Warren gives "Sherman's Engineers" program in Ste. Genevieve, MO - May 2024

Top middle: PVT Andrew Porter at Stars & Stripes Journalism Camp - June 2024

Top right: Commander Warren at Stars & Stripes Journalism Camp - June 2024

Lower left: PVT Andrew Porter at Stars & Stripes Occupy Bloomfield Event - July 2024

Lower right: Commander Warren at Stars & Stripes Occupy Bloomfield Event - July 2024



47th MO INF CO. E

Members of the 47th MO INF, Co. E – SVR have been busy this summer. First, we had two different JROTC award ceremonies which we took part in – Farmington, Missouri High School (Air Fore JROTC) where 1st SGT Alan Trodus presented a SUVCW ROTC Award and Fredericktown, Missouri (Army JROTC) where 1st LT D. Christopher Warren presented an award. Then, we had previously found a broken gravestone in a local cemetery, which turned out to be the first union soldier to be killed from Jefferson County, Missouri. This had also been the local G.A.R. Post's namesake: Perry V. Fletcher. Our group worked diligently with the City of DeSoto, Missouri to replace this stone (2nd LT Doug Roussin serving as liaison). For our Memorial Day service this year, we were able to dedicate the new gravestone (accompanied by a couple brothers from the St. James Camp #326 in Ste. Genevieve, MO and our sisters in the Volker Auxiliary #215). Next, with lots of vacations and things, we took a little break for June. Finally, July rolled around, and we marched in the local 4th of July parade, to the cheers of the crowd. Our Commander also gave a special presentation on "Civil War Uniforms" to members of the Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 SUVCW, the Louisa Volker Auxiliary #215 ASUVCW, and their guests at their monthly August meeting. As we plan for an extremely busy Fall, we look forward to sharing more with you next time.

1LT D. Christopher (Chris) Warren, PDC, Unit Commander / Camp Commander
47th MO INF, Co. E - SVR / Ge. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 - SUVCW.



Above left: 1st SGT Alan Trodus presenting Farmington JROTC Award - May 2024. Above right: Perry Fletcher Gravestone Dedication #1 - May 2024. Above bottom: Perry Fletcher Gravestone Dedication #2 - May 2024

47th MO INF CO. E
continued

Above: 1st LT Christopher Warren presenting Fredericktown JROTC Award - May 2024

Below: DeSoto, Missouri 4th of July Parade - July 2024



2nd Regiment, Missouri Infantry, Co. A (1861)

With Ceremonies for Memorial Day, SUVCW Encampments, and General Ulysses S. Grant Memorial Day, it has been a busy period for our unit. On Memorial, we have traditionally held ceremonies at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, the 2nd largest veterans' cemetery in the nation. Unfortunately, the VA leadership and in particular the directors at Jefferson Barracks have not been cooperative when we hold events, so Grant Camp 68 decided to not hold an event there this year. Members of our unit instead attended other ceremonies with the majority of our members supporting ceremonies held by the Francis Wilhelmi Camp 17 and Turner Brigade Re-enactor group at St. James Veteran's Home. The home was begun in the 1890s by the Missouri Woman's Relief Corps and was later taken over by the state. A GAR post was also at the home which still has several original buildings and a veterans' cemetery.

On July 27, US Grant Camp and the 2nd Mo Inf Co. A held ceremonies at Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site, commonly known as White Haven, was commemorating the anniversary of the President/General's passing. This is a ceremony we regularly hold and in the past several years we have been holding it and also supporting, the day before, the U.S. Grant Symposium held at the Soldier's Memorial in downtown St. Louis. Pictured here are (L-R) Greg Wolk, who organizes the symposium, Sgt. John Avery, 2nd Mo Co. A in GAR uniform, Sharon Michael, past president Julia Dent Grant Tent, DUVCW and a person unknown to this writer.

April and May are also our busy times for handing out ROTC certificates at local high schools and colleges. The Missouri SUVCW is very active in getting members to attend these ceremonies and hand out certificates to outstanding cadets. 2nd Lt. Sumner Hunnewell, of our unit, is the SUVCW department coordinator for passing out medals and making sure those members throughout Missouri and Arkansas can attend such events. Pictured here is Sgt. Craig Mathews, Sr, 2nd Mo Inf Co A, handing out a certificate to Air Force Cadet Bianca Craig, recipient of JROTC at Marquette High School in west St. Louis County. 1st Lt. Robert Aubuchon of our unit has been elected as Missouri SUVCW Department Commander at the department encampment in Boone, MO this past June. Upcoming events for our unit. Missouri SUVCW is planning "Victory in Missouri 1864" events throughout the state. They include ceremonies at the Battle of Pilot Knob Reenactment in September, a symposium at the Secretary of State Archives in Jefferson City, ceremonies at Loose Park, a scene of part of the battle of Westport, and ceremonies at the Newtonia site of the final battle which drove Confederate General Sterling Price out of the state.



Continued next page



1st Missouri Light Artillery, Company M

IRON BRIGADE GUARD

HQ COMPANY continued

Since Covid and the changes that have taken place at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King, Wisconsin, Old Abe Camp #8 and members of Headquarters Company have been trying to re-establish the Sons relationship to the Home on Memorial Day. Shown on the right from l- r are: PDC Brian Peters, PDC Kim J. Heltemes, Jim Schumann, Kirby Scott and Sam Solberg.



NEBRASKA RANGERS



On May 15, 2024 members of Harrison Camp #53-2 Department of Nebraska SUVCW and Nebraska Rangers SVR members did Last Union Veteran of the County dedications for Jefferson W. Meyers Co. K 33rd Iowa Infantry from Merrick County Nebraska and Leander T. Herron Co. C 83rd Pennsylvania Infantry from Howard County Nebraska. In the Union Cavalry uniform is Sgt. Rick Marx and in the Union Kepi and vest is PDC Norm Weber



On February 12, 2024 members of the Nebraska Rangers SVR and First Nebraska Volunteer Infantry and a guest attended the Nebraska State Legislative session to post the colors at the State Capitol in Lincoln Nebraska. Annually, members of the Nebraska Rangers SVR post guard duty at the statue of Lincoln on the west side of the State Capitol building. Lincoln Nebraska is the largest city in the United States named after our 16th president.



(Updated 2023) UNITS of the 4th MILITARY DISTRICT

1st MO ENGINEERS

Commander: D. Christopher Warren
the_civilwar_guy@yahoo.com

1st IL. LT ARTY BATTERY L

Commander: Robert Hauff
rjhauff@gmail.com
Adj: Tedd III
tedd1968@gmail.com

NEBRASKA RANGERS

Commander: 1st LT Keith Rockefeller
Adj: 1st SGT Gage Stermensky
gagestermenskycivilwar@gmail.com
g2minime@charter.net

IRON BRIGADE GUARD

Commander: Jeffrey Graf
jgugcdi@hotmail.com
Adj: Brian McManus
bcmcmanus1@wi.rr.com

4th MILITARY DISTRICT HQ COMPANY

Commander; Thomas Brown
tjbcarver@sbsglobal.net
Adj: Kent Peterson
kapeterson0681@gmail.com

47th MO INF CO. E

Commander: D. Christopher Warren
the_civilwar_guy@yahoo.com
Adj: Alan Trodus
bigalastro@yahoo.com

2nd Regiment Missouri Infantry, Co. A (1861)

Commander: Robert Amsler, Jr.
ramsler@charter.net
Adj: Walter E. Busch
webusch@hotmail.com

COMPANY M, 1st MISSOURI LIGHT ARTILLERY

Commander: Randel Baehr
robaehr@earthlink.net

2nd Missouri Cavalry

Commander: Kevin Miller
Email: kevinmil1960@swbell.net
Adj: Dale Crandell
Email: dcrandell@swbell.net

Remember to send your newsworthy articles to 2nd Lt. Kim J. Heltemes at heltemesk@centurylink.net

Your unit cannot be posted in the newsletter unless you send in the photos and captions.