



Volume 2 Edition 4

FROM OUR COMMANDER

8 December 2010

Greetings!

Another year is almost gone. Since my last report on events, Maggie and I have attended the following activities.

July 10th, Living History event in Ste. Genevieve by the J. Felix St. James Camp # 326 SUVCW.

July 24th, Grant Death Day at Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site (Whitehaven). This was a nice event put on by the U.S. Grant Camp # 68, Co. A, 2nd Regt. Mo Inf. SVR and the National Parks

August 13-15, SUVCW National Encampment, Kansas City, KS. The MO Department Show –Me Spirit Award was awarded to Angela Antkowiak, Broadcast Coordinator at KETC-TV channel 9 PBS I had nominated her for the award. Bill Groth, Commander of Wm. T. Sherman-Billy Yank Camp # 65 SUVCW and I later presented it to her at the TV Station. It was very well received.

September 4th, A ceremony was held at St. Peters Cemetery, St. Louis, MO for Medal of Honor recipient Seaman Benjamin Swearer, Civil War Navy. A Medal of Honor tombstone had recently been placed on his grave. In the afternoon a ceremony was held at Carondelet Historical Society to present an art print of the USS Carondelet engaged in combat with a Confederate gunboat on the Brazos River. Members of Ships Company USS Carondelet SVR and their ladies, WRC members were present and added much to both events that day.

September 25th, Re-enactment of the Battle of Pilot Knob.

November 11th, Veterans Day Ceremony, Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery,

November 18th – 20th, Remembrance Day, Gettysburg, PA. 4th Military District SVR was very well represented by members from 7 different units. Co. A, 49th Regt. IA Vol. Inf. was awarded a SVR Unit Meritorious Unit Citation.

December 4th, Decorated the graves of the unknown at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis.

December 11th, Wreathes Across America-wreaths will be placed on Union Monuments at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis.

Since the last newsletter, I have sent SVR Unit Membership Certificates to our two newest units, Co. D, Phelps' Regt. and Battery K, 4th U.S. Artillery (Photo by Cher Petrovic) Myself and the District Staff wish you and your families a HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON.



In F, C & L,
Lt. Colonel Jack G. Grothe, Commanding
4th Military District SVR

Headquarters Company



The 4th MD Headquarters Company supported the Trimborn Farm 8th annual Civil War Weekend, October 1-3. The farm is an historic site in southwestern Milwaukee County.

On Friday, members talked to visiting students from area grade schools about the role of the GAR after the Civil War. Displays showed photos and GAR memorabilia. The kids received small U.S. flags and pamphlets on Memorial Day.

Photo: Pvts. Brian McManus, Jeff Lesar and 1Sgt. Tom Brown fold the Flag during Trimborn Farm's Closing Ceremony. (Photo furnished by Major Stephen Micheals)

On Saturday and Sunday, SVR members provided a color guard for raising and lowering the flag, which formally began and ended each day's events. Members manned their information and recruiting booth inside the "granary," moderated the President Lincoln/Gen. Grant press conference and narrated the afternoon skirmish.

Members of Cushing's Battery and Co. A, 28th WI Infantry, SVR, also participated the event.

The HQ Company observed Veterans Day in the several communities it serves. On November 6th, members in southeast Wisconsin marched in the 47th annual Veterans Day Parade through downtown Milwaukee.

On November 20th members of HQ Company were present at Remembrance Day and GAR Ceremony in Gettysburg, PA. Members who marched in the parade included Major Stephen Michaels, Chaplain Lt. Jerry Kowalski and 1st Sergeant Tom Brown. Chaplain Kowalski was an integral part of the ceremony at the Woolson monument.

Upon Brigadier General Robert Grim's reappointment as Commanding general, Lt. Col. Jack G. Grothe's reappointment as Commander of the 4th MD. was extended to 15 November 2013.

Maj. Stephen Michaels was presented the Distinguished Service Medal gold star for his service, coordinating the district's School of the Piece since 2002, which attracts approximately 100 participants across the U.S. He has also mustered troops for the annual Death Day ceremony at the Lincoln Tomb in Springfield.

Both Maj. Michaels and 1Sgt. Brown represented the Hq Company at the SVR Breakfast,



(Photo by Cher Petrovic)

Battery L, 1st Illinois Light Artillery

Mulligan's Battery



The Battery participated in the Lake Villa, IL Civil War event on 18-19 September. Pictured are: Everett Nylund, Rob Hauff, Craig Lanning (on loan from Chicago Light Artillery), Lt. Tom Hauff, Stuart Stefany, John Bigwood (Camp 1 Commander), John Hauff **photo from Lake Villa event**

On 7 November 2010, 1st Illinois Light Artillery Battery L (Mulligan's Battery) participated in a ceremony honoring our veterans. The Battery fired a cannon salute at Rosehill Cemetery in Chicago.

Lt. Tom Hauff Commander Mulligan's Battery

Company A, 2nd Missouri Infantry



On Saturday November 13, 2010 four members of the 2nd MO Infantry, Co A SVR 4th Military District and US Grant Camp #68 Sons of Union Veterans participated in a Dedication of a Civil War Marker for Pvt Henry Hencken 1825-1899. Pvt Hencken was a member of Keeler Post, NO. 152 Grand Army of the Republic. Pvt Hencken served in Captain Haag's Missouri Home Guard, Company E. The dedication ceremony was held at the Hencken Family Cemetery located in Wildwood, MO. Members of the Wildwood Historical Society were in attendance in addition to several family members. Members of

L-R John Avery, Mark Coplin, Marty Aubuchon and Don Palmer the 2nd Mo Infantry SVR and US Grant No 68 SUV are John Avery Mortuary Representative 4th Military District, Mark Coplin Sgt 2nd MO Infantry, 1st Lieutenant Martin Aubuchon 2nd MO Infantry and CC US Grant Camp, JVC Department of Missouri, and Don Palmer Senior Vice Commander National Sons of Union Veterans, PDC Department of Missouri

Company C, 5th Missouri Cavalry Regiment

SVR Members attend event in Whitehall, IL
(L-R, Private Paul Shetley, Captain Emmett Taylor,
Private Wayne Sampson, 1st Sergeant Sonny Cummings
and Sergeant Harold James)→



← Private Wayne Sampson is shown in camp giving demonstrations. He regularly gives these demonstrations at many of the reenactments that we attend.



December 11th we are having our annual Regimental Christmas Dinner. It will take place at the Creole House in Ste. Genevieve, MO. We would like to invite you to attend. If you would like to attend please contact Gary L. Scheel at 314-623-2062 or somewhere1@sbcglobal.net



← Captain Emmett Taylor and his new charger, Spirit. After much looking and a horse that did not work out, Spirit has proven to be a great horse.

Veterans Day Activities 2010 Reports

- November 6- 10th Iowa Volunteer Infantry; 10 members participated in the parade in Council Bluffs, IA as well as some from the 49th IA Infantry and Nebraska Rangers.
- November 7- 1st Illinois Light Artillery participated in honoring veterans at Rosehill Cemetery in Chicago.
- November 11- 78th Enrolled Missouri Militia; 7 members of our SVR Unit participated in the ceremonies at the American Legion Hall.
- November 13- 47th Missouri Infantry; 7 members participated in a ceremony at Hopewell cemetery as well as two members from the 78th E.M.M.
- November 13- 2nd Missouri Infantry; 4 members participated in a Civil War Marker

Company B, 10th Iowa Volunteer Infantry

- Oct. 9-10 Six members attended the re-enactment at Brownville, NE. While there we secured three new members for the Dept. of Nebraska and possible assisted them in preparing to start a new camp at Beatrice.
- Nov. 6 The Company participated in the Veteran's Day parade in Council Bluffs, IA. Ten members were present, as well as our friends from the 49th and a lone member of the Nebraska Rangers.. After the parade, we adjourned to the Federal Building, where Co. A, 49th Iowa, the Department Color guard, assisted in dedicating a new monument to Major General Samuel R. Curtis, the victor of Elkhorn Tavern, Weston, MO, and a score of other successful actions. General Curtis passed away from a very brief illness on this spot on Dec. 26, 1866, while en-route to Washington to report on the progress of the Transcontinental Railroad. Guests of Honor were Council Bluffs Mayor pro-temps, Matt Walsh and Department Commander James Braden, Jr.
- Nov. 18 2 LT Carr and Pvt. Bob Pauls presented a program to the residents of the Allen House care center in Atlantic.

Plaque Wording

IN MEMORY

MAJOR GENERAL SAMUEL R. CURTIS

FEB. 5, 1805 - DEC. 26, 1866

GENERAL CURTIS DIED AT THE ROOMING HOUSE
THAT OCCUPIED THIS LOCATION.

HE COMMANDED THE ARMY OF THE SOUTHWEST AT THE
BATTLE OF ELKHORN TAVERN, ARKANSAS
HIS ARMY INCLUDED THE FOURTH IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY
REGIMENT COMMANDED BY GRENVILLE M. DODGE

PLAQUE ERECTED BY:

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
GOVERNOR SAMUEL J. KIRKWOOD CAMP #4, COUNCIL BLUFFS
COLONEL WILLIAM H. KINSMAN CAMP #23, ATLANTIC

In FC&L,
2 LT Mike Carr, Commanding
Co. B, 10th Iowa Vol. Inf, SVR

Company C, 34th Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry "Rock River Rifles"

Action at Whitney Lane: Dedication of Historical Marker

On 24 October 2010, Kensett, Arkansas Sherman Camp #65 Chaplain Joe L. Difani Sr. and Private Joe L. Difani Jr. members of Co. C, 34th Regt. Ill Infantry were given the honor to unveil the new historical marker near Whitney Lane. Their veteran Pvt. Lorenz Difani, Co. F, 17th Missouri Infantry was killed along with 21 others, while coming to the aid a foraging party. The Difani's were given this honor because they were the only ones in attendance who had a relative who participated in this battle.
(L-R Scott Ackridge [owner of property], unknown, Joe→ Difani Sr., Joe Difani Jr.)

On 19 May 1862 a small Confederate group, Texas soldiers and some White County men routed a Union foraging party on the road between Searcy and West Point. The battle prompted Union forces to postpone marching into Little Rock and instead went to Helena, Arkansas.



First Civil War Veteran Interned in a Missouri State Veterans Cemetery

17 September 2010 at Missouri State Veterans Cemetery, Jacksonville, Missouri was the location for the first Civil War Veteran to be interned in a Missouri State Veterans Cemetery.

The Missing in America Project (MIAP) interred our first Civil War Veteran. Private John W. Kling and his wife Elizabeth was located and identified through the efforts of the Missing in America Project and the Newcomers Funeral Homes of Kansas City, Missouri. Pvt. Kling was born Oct. 16, 1837 in Pennsylvania and on Nov. 4, 1861 at the age of 23, joined the Union Army. He served in Company E, 2nd (Old) Regiment Artillery Volunteers of Missouri. Pvt. Kling was honorably mustered out of the Union Army on 24 Aug. 1863. After the war, John met and married his lifelong companion Elizabeth Weaver in 1870. John died Mar. 28, 1918 followed a few years later by Elizabeth on Feb. 21, 1923. They were both cremated and their remains are in one copper box. They were discovered by MIAP in Newcomers Funeral Homes of Kansas City, MO. Originally Cpl. Vernon Stottlemire was informed there were also two Confederate remains. But upon further investigation the information was an error by the MIAP who thought two other cremations were Civil War Veterans.



At 1300 hours 1st Lt. Charles Ed Funck III, Commander Co. C, 34th IL SVR, Pvt Rod Price 47th MO SVR and Missouri Department Commander, Pvt. Gary L. Scheel 78th E.M.M. SVR and Pvt Robert D. Hammond and Missouri Department Eagle Scout Coordinator, escorted the remains of Pvt. John W. Kling and Elizabeth Kling to the cemetery's chapel for the full Military Funeral with Honors Ceremony.

Proceeding through an avenue of over 30 flags bearers to the altar of the chapel, our men in slow memorial military form began the service. Participants included the cemetery director Larry Carmer, from Jefferson City, Executive Director of Missouri Veterans Commission Larry Key, Joe and Linda Smith of the Missing in America Project, American Legion Green Hills Post #57 Commander Leighton REik. Patriot Guard Riders Flag line included local Boy Scouts, Tri-County Christian School, American Legion Bucklin, Missouri

Green Hills Post 57, squadron Soldiers for flag folding, Army Bugler, Post 57 Honor Guard rifle squad. The service ended with 1st Lt. Funck presenting the funeral folded flag to Dr. Michael "Doc" Yosida Ride Captain of the Patriotic Guard Riders who was designated the adopter of Pvt. John W. and Elizabeth Kling. In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, 1st Lt. Charles Ed Funck III Commander.

Company F, 47th Missouri Infantry Regiment



On November 13th we held a "Belated Veterans Day Ceremony" at Hopewell Cemetery near Potosi, MO it included the McCormick Camp, Volker Auxiliary, and two members of the St. James Camp. We arrived early and began the day by placing flags on the graves of the 61 Civil War veterans buried there. This was followed by the opening ceremonies of the men in uniform marching the length of the cemetery road, U.S. flag waving in the wind, and a rider-less horse being led by our junior-member. Members of the camp and auxiliary gave talks, read a poem, had prayer, and fired an honor volley as part of this ceremony.

(Photo and article furnished by 2nd Lt. Chris Warren)

Company A, 49th Iowa Volunteer Infantry

“The Governor’s Own”

On October 23rd, eight members of the Regiment gathered in Des Moines for the dedication of the General Marcellus Crocker Memorial Bridge on the GAR Memorial Highway where it crosses the Des Moines River. This dedication is part of a series which will take place across Iowa to commemorate several of Iowa’s most important, and successful, generals. Afterward, we adjourned to Woodlawn Cemetery and placed a wreath upon the General’s grave.

Several members traveled to Des Moines to assist our compatriots of Co. B, 10th Iowa. Ten members of the Regiment took part in the annual Veteran’s Day parade and then assisted in dedicating a plaque on the site of rooming house where Major General Samuel Curtis, victor of Pea Ridge, AR and Weston, MO, passed away Christmastime of 1866.

On Veterans Day, Nov. 11, five of our members attended the Des Moines Veterans Day ceremonies held at the Hy-Vee Events Center. While there, Iowa Veterans Affairs Director Patrick Palmersheim and Congressman Leonard Boswell both received certificates proclaiming them to be members of the Loyal Order of Lincoln for their efforts on behalf of Iowa servicemen and women.

Afterwards, those of our unit visited the Veterans Cemetery at nearby Van Meter, as well as cemeteries in Des Moines, and laid wreaths for our fallen troops.

Company F, 78th Enrolled Missouri Militia

On December 4, 2010 in Ste. Genevieve, MO at the annual Christmas Walk we participated in the parade. There were three different SVR units represented as well as two different Auxiliaries.

Units that were present were 2nd Missouri Infantry Regiment of the U.S. Grant Camp # 326, 17th Missouri Infantry Regiment, Major Wilhelmi Camp # 17, 47th Missouri Infantry and 78th E.M.M. The ladies auxiliaries present were the Volker Auxiliary of the McCormick Camp # 215 and the St. James Auxiliary of the St. James Camp # 326.



There were twelve men in uniforms with six of them from the 78th E.M.M. We have eleven members in our SVR unit and feel proud that over half of them were there on that cold windy day. We were commanded by 1st Lt. Martin Aubuchon of the 2nd Missouri Infantry Regiment, SVR.

Remembrance Day at Gettysburg, PA



(Photo by Cher Petrovic)

Remembrance Day. What is it? It is the day that we have chosen to commemorate the Gettysburg Address given by President Abraham Lincoln on November 19, 1863.

The Gettysburg Address is the most quoted speech that was ever given by one of our Presidents. The beginning of the speech, "Four score and seven years ago..." still today is referred to quite often in the press.



←Senior Vice Commander-Chief Donald Palmer in conversation with members of the 49th Iowa Infantry after the parade.
(Photo by Maj Stephen Micheals)

National Chaplain Jerry Kowalski at the Woolson → giving the benediction. (Photo by Major Stephen Micheals)





On 20 November 2010 Lt. Col. Robert Petrovic who is National SVR Chief of Staff received his papers promoting him to full Colonel. Colonel Petrovic is also a member of Company A, 2nd Missouri Infantry Regiment SVR.



Rockford (IL) Zouaves at Woolson Monument in Gettysburg, PA
(Photo's furnished by Cher Petrovic)



Reconnaissance

February 27, 2011 General Sherman Death Ceremony at Calvary Cemetery in St. Louis.

April 16, 2011 55th Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony starting at 10 a.m. at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL. Below is the internet link for the registration form.

<http://www.suvchw.org/LincolnTombObservanceForm.pdf>