



Volume 7 Number 2

9 May 2015

From Our Commander



Gentlemen of the Fourth,

It has been *"Interesting"*

For those of you not tuned in to the "moccasin telegraph" within the Fourth Military District, let me save you the need for making inquiry by telling you up front that it is true...I and my Senior Staff have, indeed, tendered our resignations from the leadership positions within the District. We will remain at our posts until 0001hrs on 1st June,

2015, unless the Commanding Generals see fit to relieve us of our duties sooner. (UFO in military parlance...Unless Further Ordered")

There are a myriad of reasons for our collective decisions, and I have wrestled for several days with whether or not to attempt to enumerate them to you in some detail...but have decided that to attempt to do so would serve very little purpose. We know why we are leaving, and that is what matters most. Frankly, many of the "reasons" that we are going are pretty much the same as those that saw the entire membership of *"The Governor's Own"* 49th Iowa Veteran Volunteer Infantry choose to dissolve its relationship with the Sons of Veterans Reserve. Let's just say that we simply did not see ourselves as being a "good fit".

I cannot ever say that it has not been interesting...on a whole lot of levels. There are many misconceptions in our own ranks about what the Sons of Veterans Reserve IS and what it IS NOT at the most basic of levels. For a group of putative historians (some even claiming to be "renown" in the field) it seems painfully obvious that there is a genuine lack of understanding of who and what we are, and are not.

When an officer of an SVR unit in this District recently stated in a very public forum that, *"we are not wearing our uniforms"* and *"not displaying 'our' rank"*; and, advanced the argument that, *"we are portraying men who fought and died for our freedoms"*, it is painfully obvious that we have a great deal of misunderstanding and misperceptions flying around.

What I believe the gentleman was attempting to describe is something akin to the role of "re-enactors", not that of the clearly defined "military component" of a Nationally Chartered century-and-one-third old organization with long-standing rules and regulations. We are decidedly NOT "re-enactors with medals". We never were intended to be. Not ever.

While we are on the subject of the Rules and Regulations, I also have some very strong opinions that I will address more thoroughly in another forum. As currently written, they DO NOT provide anywhere NEAR the guidance and direction that such a document SHOULD exist to impart; nor do they not make clear in any manner that there should be consequences for those who do not choose to abide by the guidance once imparted.

These regulations should be a set of documents upon which to build a truly viable “military based” organization that we are, by our most basic definitions, supposed to be. There is clearly much work to do in re-vamping and modernizing these seriously outdated guidelines.

Another junior officer recently complained that the SVR is, “*becoming too militant*”. I guess must ask myself precisely what did he envision this to be when he signed on? As I said, a whole lot of work on perceptions and understandings appear to be needed.

Lest this get over-long, and “preachy”, let me try to wrap it up by saying a heartfelt “thanks” to those individuals within the District who have sought to be of aid and assistance to myself and my staff over the past year and one-half. You have made the journey at least marginally enjoyable for us.

To those of you who have not been particularly helpful, we must also extend our “thanks” for the educational experiences gained by dealing with some issues that we might never have expected to see in a group of individuals of our somewhat “seasoned” years. You have allowed us to look back at this time as being.....well, “*interesting*”.

In honor of the sad passing into history of our own SVR group that was the Naval Boarding Party of the *U.S.S Carondelet*, let me wish all of you;

“Fair Winds and Following Seas”

Major David M. Lamb
Inf., Commanding *
4MD/SVR

*until 0001 on 01062015 UFO (Unless Further Ordered)

Major David M. Lamb
Inf., Commanding
4MD/SVR

Headquarters Company

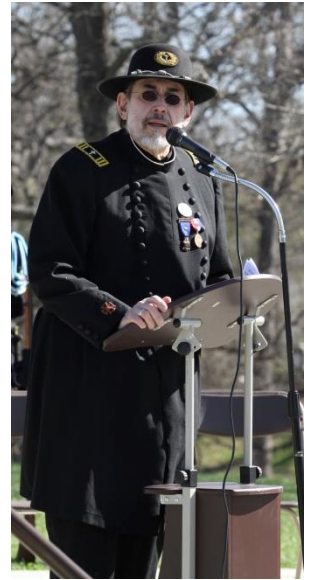
Franklin, WI

Headquarters Company Attends Ceremonies in Illinois

The 4th MD Headquarters Company participated in the 59th annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony in Springfield, Illinois, on Saturday, April 11th. The unit was among several SVR and re-enactment units processing to the



Tomb, and presenting wreaths there. Wisconsin DC Kim Heltemes presented a wreath for his department and DSVC Alan Petit presented a wreath for his Camp, as did Company Commander, 1Lt. Stephen Michaels. National SVR Chaplain Jerome Kowalski, also a member of the Headquarters Company, provided the invocation, and benediction elements of the program. The ceremony took place in front of the Lincoln Tomb and included a program of music by the 33rd Illinois Vol.Reg. Band, speeches by SUVCW and MOLLUS dignitaries as well as the wreath presentations. The Rockford Zouaves posted and retired the colors.



Later that same day, HQ Company personnel paid their respects during a ceremony at Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson's gravesite, at Petersburg, Illinois' Rosehill Cemetery

Mulligan's Battery

Company L, 1st Illinois Light Artillery

Glenview, Illinois



1st IL Light Artillery Battery L (Commanded by Lt. Tom Hauff) at the True Son Carson Yaeger Funeral ceremony Stockton, IL on April 4, 2015.

Back row: Harry Reineke IV, Don Sherman, Dave Nolan, Rob Hauff, Jon Fixmer. Front row: Sean ILL Ted ILL



Dr. Benjamin Stephenson Monument ceremony April 11, 2015 in Petersburg, IL. 1st Sgt Rob Hauff, PCC Nick Kaup, Bill Birzetis, Dave Nolan, PCC LT Tom Hauff

Company B, 10th Iowa Vol. Infantry

Council Bluffs, IA

As usual, Co. B, 10th Iowa Volunteer Infantry has kept active, but not as active as we will be in May and June.

On Jan 24th: 1st Sgt. Dennis Sasse attended the dedication of a plaque located at the site of the Memorial University at Mason City, IA.

At 7:00 pm, April 15th: Seven members of the unit and one ASUVCW member gathered around the Civil War Monument in Atlantic, IA, to commemorate the 150th anniversary President Lincoln's assassination. 1st Sgt. Sasse, was Master of Ceremonies, Camp Chaplain Pvt. McAlpin led the prayers, Denise Sasse, Aux. Chaplain spoke, Pvt. Butcher laid the wreath. Corporals Boeck, and Weber were the honor guard. Privates Boots & Hancock were also present.

Twelve members of Co. B, 10th Iowa gathered at Graceland Cemetery at Avoca, Iowa on a very wet, blustery day to dedicate a new gravestone for Pvt. William Pickerill, 116th Indiana Infantry. They were joined by six members of ASUVCW Auxiliary #23, as well as about forty relatives, friends, and spectators, including members of two American Legion posts and the local Boy Scout troop.

Among the dignitaries present were SUVCW Dept. Commander Danny Krock, City Council representative Sandra Peterson, and Darlene McMartin, from the Pottawattamie County Veteran Affairs office

There were nine descendants of Pvt. Pickerill present, with his grand-daughter laying a white rose at the gravesite. Many thanks to Mrs. Barb Butcher and the local historical and genealogical societies for their kind assistance and hospitality.

Captain Mike Carr
Commanding

49th Iowa Infantry

Des Moines, IA



49th Iowa VVI
Honored by a Full Resolution of the
Iowa House of Representatives.

9th April 2015 on the floor of the Iowa House of Representatives inside the Capitol Building in Des Moines, Iowa, guardsmen of the 49th Iowa fell into formation at 8:30am to join the entire body of the House and their staff for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the flag before the public reading of House Resolution 29 (below) was read into Iowa law. To wit;

HOUSE RESOLUTION 29 BY STANERSON and KEARNS

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO MEMBERS OF THE 49TH IOWA VETERAN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO HONOR IOWANS WHO SERVE IN THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR.

WHEREAS, the 49th Iowa Veteran Volunteer Infantry was formed in June, 2009, for the express purpose of establishing a highly trained and historically accurate uniformed ceremonial Honor Guard of military historians from across the State of Iowa who were also members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; and,

WHEREAS, this groups sworn “missions” are the preservation and restoration of Iowa’s aging Civil War monuments across the State of Iowa; and, on distant battlefields, and, the education of the public at large about the role played by Iowans in the American Civil War, (1861-1865); and,

WHEREAS, in its very first year of existence as a unit of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, the National Commander of the Sons of Veterans Reserve awarded the 49th Iowa the National Meritorious Unit Citation for excellence in all of their undertakings; and, were further honored by both Iowa Governors Culver and Branstad by being named by each Governor, in turn to be “*The Governor’s Own Iowa Rifles*”; and,

WHEREAS, the 49th Iowa also undertook to support historic preservation efforts of entities like the Iowa State Historical Society by providing thousands of man hours of volunteer services to the Iowa Battle Flags Project; and,

WHEREAS, when members of the 49th Iowa learned of the deplorably decrepit state of the largest Iowa Monument at the Vicksburg National Battlefield Military Park in Vicksburg, Mississippi, they immediately set about working with members of the Iowa House and Senate to seek a bi-partisan funding bill passed by the General Assembly in 2013, that allowed for the funding of the total restoration of this monument; and,

WHEREAS, the 49th Iowa has consistently and repeatedly supported veterans of this state and nation by participating in a wide array of ceremonies throughout the State of Iowa; and, accompanied Iowa’s Governor as

the official Honor Guard to the re-dedication of the Iowa Monument at Vicksburg National Battlefield Military Park; and,

WHEREAS, the 49th Iowa has replaced dozens of gravestones on veterans graves throughout the Midwest and has performed uniformed Full Military Honors ceremonies in strict compliance with United States Military regulations for veterans who had in some cases lain in unmarked and un-honored graves for over one-hundred-years; and,

WHEREAS, after appearing at the annual Lincoln's Tomb Observances in Springfield, Illinois, in April of every year since 2009, the 49th Iowa was afforded the singular honor of being designated as the Tomb Guard at Lincoln's Tomb in 2013.

We, Kraig Paulsen, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Carmine Boal, Chief Clerk of the House, hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-sixth General Assembly.

Signed:

Kraig Paulsen
Speaker of the House

Carmine Boal
Chief Clerk of the House

We then received a standing ovation of the legislators and staff for our efforts over the course of the past six years to educate and inform the public of the role that Iowa played in the American Civil War.

We are humbled by the magnitude of this greatest of honors that can be rendered by the People of the state of Iowa, and we hereby pledge to continue to serve the same goals and missions that we have already adopted that have carried this unit to this place in time.

Although we are formally ending our association with the Sons of Veterans Reserve of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the 49th Iowa will continue the march and re-double our efforts to honor all Iowans who have serve in our nation's military as the uniformed Honor Guard of the Iowa Military Heritage Society.

You will soon be hearing much more about this organization as we close one chapter in the annals of our unit, and open another.

Respectfully Submitted,

1/Lt. David M. Lamb
Inf., Commanding
The Governor's Own Forty-Ninth Iowa V.V.I.
Honor Guard of the Iowa Military Heritage Society
Personal Honor Guard to the Governors of Iowa
Tomb Guard at the Tomb of President Abraham Lincoln
Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois

Honors of the 49th Iowa

The principle accomplishments of the 49th Iowa Veteran Volunteer Infantry while a serving unit of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War:

Honor Guard to the Department of Iowa, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War 2009-2015
“*Defenders of the People*” by Ho-Chunk Nation, (Black River Winnebago), 3 feathers – 2009
Honor Guard to the Official State of Iowa Veteran’s Day Observances, Des Moines, IA, 2009
Deputy Adjutant General’s Award for Excellence, by Brig. Gen. S. Bogle, U.S. Army, 2009
Iowa Honor Guard, “*Wreaths across America Project*” - 2009 through 2014
“*The Governor’s Own*” Gubernatorial Proclamation of Gov. Chester Culver, Feb 12, 2010*
Meritorious Unit Citation, by Maj. Gen. R. Grim, Commanding General/SVR Nov. – 2010
Governor’s Volunteerism Award, by Gov. C. Culver, Nov. 2010
Award of Merit, Sons of the American Revolution, 2010
Award of Merit, Iowa Battle Flags Project/Iowa Historical Museum – 2010
“*The Governor’s Own*” Gubernatorial Proclamation of Gov. Terry E. Branstad, April, 2011*
Honor Guard to the “*Missing in America Project*” interment of eleven at IVC/IDVA, 2010
Honor Guard to opening ceremonies, State of Iowa’s Sesquicentennial Observances, Apr. 2011
Honor Guard to the Iowa Historical Museum opening of “Iowa in the Civil War”, 2011
Honor Guard to the Governor at Muscatine Monument Dedication, July 4, 2011
Honor Guard for Iowa State Fair Veterans Day Parades, 2010, 2011
“Top Unit- People’s Choice Award”, Iowa State Fair Parade, 2011
Iowa Honor Guard for the Homecoming from Afghanistan of 2BCT, 34th Inf. Div. IANG, 2011
Iowa Honor Guard to the National Honor Flight, 2010, 2011
Honor Guard for Re-Dedication of G.A.R. window at Civic Hall, Cedar Rapids, Ia. 2011
Honor Guard & Presentation of Colors at Last Reunion of 561st Field Arty, WWII, 2011
Honor Guard to Upper Iowa University “Remembrance of Shiloh” event, 2012
Honor Guard to “*Let Freedom Ring*”, Prairie Trails Museum, Corydon, IA, 4 July, 2011
Personal Honor Guard to PCinC/SUVCW, Dr. Donald D. Palmer, Jr. – 2011 -2012
“Advance Guard” National Wounded Warrior Project 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015
Honor Guard at Iowa Monument Re-dedication at Vicksburg Nat’l. Battlefield Mil. Park, 2013
Honor Guard participation at Lincoln’s Tomb Event, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015
Provost Guard at Lincoln’s Tomb Event, 2013, 2014, 2015
Honor Guard at Re-Dedication of Winneshiek County Civil War Monument, Oct, 2013
Only Iowa SVR unit to support Meals from the Heartland as Volunteers, 2011 – 2014
First SVR Unit in Nation to lend Formal & Fiscal Support to Lincoln Funeral Train, 2014-15
National Salvation Army “Red Kettle Campaign” Volunteers, 2009-2014
United States Marine Corps Reserve “*Toys for Tots*” Campaign, 2010 – 2014
Remembrance Day at Gettysburg, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
“The Tomb Guard” at Lincoln’s Tomb, Springfield, Illinois 2013-2014
Six Full Military Honors Ceremonies (per U.S. Army Reg’s.) Performed since Oct, 2013
Four Military Flag Retirement Ceremonies (per U.S. Army Reg’s.) performed in 2014
Volunteer Organization of the Year Award, City of Des Moines, Iowa 2014
The Adjutant General of Iowa Award for Excellence, by Maj. Gen T. Orr, U.S. Army, 2015
Joint Resolution of the Iowa Legislature Honoring the 49th Iowa V.V.I., 2015

And, the march continues...

*Designated as Personal Honor Guard to both Gov.’ Culver and Branstad.



Continuing the March Under our Own Colors

Company "A", 49th Regiment, Iowa Veteran Volunteer Infantry, "*The Governor's Own*" has elected to withdraw from the Sons of Veterans Reserve en-masse and continue the march under that aegis of our own organization. As of 11th April, 2015, when we completed our tour of duty at the Lincoln Tomb event in Springfield, Illinois, we handed in our "walking papers" to Co. Robert Petrovic, Chief of Staff, SVR for forwarding to the Commanding Generals on our behalf.

Upon ending our association with the SVR, the 49th Iowa immediately assumed our new duties as the Honor Guard to the Iowa Military Heritage Society (a benevolent, educational and charitable organization dedicated to the preservation of the long and proud heritage of military service rendered this nation by citizens of the state of Iowa from the eighteenth century onward).

The stated missions of the 49th will remain as they have always been; to honor our ancestors to the utmost of our abilities by active participation in monument restoration, historic preservation efforts, graves restoration, educational programs, direct participation in civic and cultural events, veterans affairs, and support of programs such as the "Missing in America Project", the "Wounded Warrior Project" and the "Wreaths Across America Project", to name a few.

We will continue our efforts as lobbyists to the Iowa legislature for historic preservation projects; and to provide support to both the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum at Camp Dodge; and the Iowa State Historical Museum in Des Moines. We will continue our efforts to re-establish the Iowa Battle Flags Conservation Project as well as the Preservation of the Iowa Muster Rolls from the Civil War enlistments of over 76,500 Iowa troops. We will continue to act as an aid to individuals and municipalities in the marking of veterans' graves by acting as the direct liaison to the Department of Veterans Affairs for the procurement of federally-issued gravestones, and/or replacement stones, for veterans' graves

We shall also continue to conduct uniformed, militarily appropriate, Full Military Honors ceremonies in compliance with United States Army regulations for the placement of first grave stones on previously unmarked veterans' graves. We will continue to provide the Military Flag Retirement ceremonies for the City of Des Moines and Polk County, Iowa; and will continue to serve as the Honor Guard to the Governor of Iowa (a post we have been honored to hold since 2010).

Future endeavors may include the adoption of other period military uniforms for special ceremonial occasions of the various wars that Iowans have participated in from the period of the Revolutionary War through the modern GWOT. Expanding upon our long-held tradition of annual live-fire musket qualification shoots, some thought is also being given to the establishment of a competitive rifle and pistol marksmanship team.

Chances are, you will be seeing us around for some time to come. (Our new collar brass is pictured above).

Best of luck in all of your endeavors!

The Officers and NCO's
of
Co. "A" 49th Regiment
Iowa Veteran Volunteer Infantry
"*The Governor's Own Iowa Rifles*"
Honor Guard to the Iowa Military Heritage Society