



# SONS of VETERANS RESERVE 4<sup>th</sup> MILITARY DISTRICT



May 2024



## PAST IN REVIEW



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### COMMANDERS COLUMN

Brothers,

Spring is here. The Lincoln Tomb and the B.F. Stephenson Ceremonies are past. The Lincoln tomb ceremony was lightly attended, only 15 wreaths were presented. I would like to thank brothers from the Iron Brigade Guard for participating with the SVR, especially 1St. Sgt. Jeff Graf for carrying the 4th.Military District flag. Also, the 14th. Michigan for participating.

I would like to thank the Department of Ill. for the B.B. Stephenson Ceremony later in the day. I t was good to see Commander of the 1st. Ill. Artillery Rob Hauff and his father Major Tom Hauff (retired 4th. Military Inspector General of the 4th. Military District).

I would like to thank Lt. Gen. Bob Grim Commander of the National SVR for all the years that he served as National Commander of the SVR. Last year at the SVR Breakfast at Remembrance Day last year, Bob announced his retirement from his position As Commander of the SVR and was put on the reserved retired list. Bob, I hope to see you at future events and National Encampments. You will be missed.

Brigadier Gen. Don Darby is now the commander of the National SVR. I look forward to working with you. Congratulations to you Gen. Darby on your new position.

The 4th Military District along with The National Civil War Artillery Association (NCWAA) will be running a School of the Piece in Boscobel WI. on May 11<sup>th</sup> at the Boscobel Sportsman Club. Preregistration is closed but we will accept walk in registrations on Friday and early Sat. morning. Call me at 414-429-8979 if you are interested.

I hope to see some of our Units at the National Encampment in Lexington KY. at the SVR breakfast at the encampment.

All units keep up the good work, take pictures at events and ceremonies that you attend this year, along with a short description of the people in the picture and submit to District Public Information Officer Kim Heltemes to put in the District Newsletter.

One final thought, the District Chief of Staff Brian McManus is accepting submissions for SVR Awards, they must be turned in by August 31st. Brian and his review board will look them over and submit them to me to forward to the National SVR,

Have Fun and Active Summer.

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

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

May 11, 2024 SCHOOL OF THE PIECE BOSCOBEL, WISCONSIN  
August 2-4, 2024 National Encampment Lexington, KY. SVR  
breakfast August 3.  
November 16, 2024 Remembrance Day Gettysburg, PA

## CHAPLAIN COLUMN

Brothers,

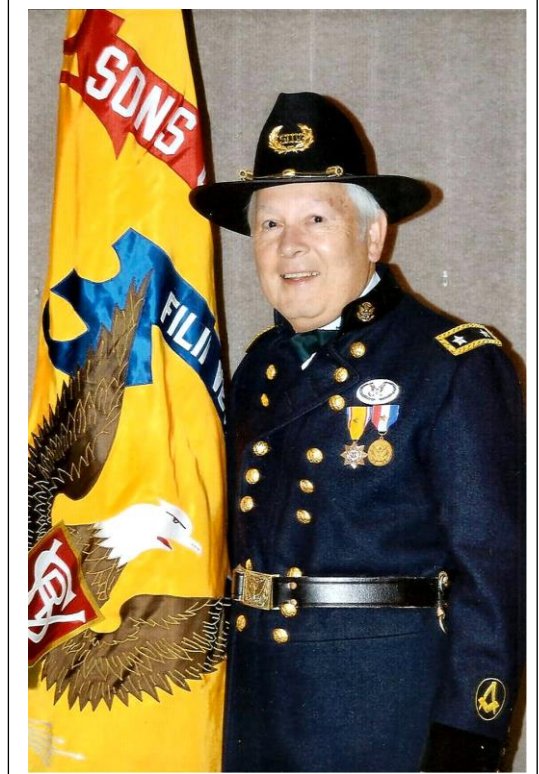
Several years ago I was asked to contribute to the wake for the Father-in-Law of a member of a Camp to which I belong. I knew many of the family and friends. Every chair was taken and many were standing on the sides and in the back of the funeral chapel. The family had asked me to lead their favorite prayer, and I even printed a hundred copies for everyone to follow and pray along.

When my time came to do my part, I didn't. I had no excuse. The family knew the prayer. I knew the prayer, but after just a few moments the deceased man's daughter came up to the podium and asked me to stop. I was so far off that the family wanted me to stop. So I stopped and had everyone say the "Our Father."

Embarrassed, to say the least. A simple payer that I have said every day for years, and it didn't come out right. There was absolutely no excuse. I had made a mistake.

Brothers, have you ever made an error? Did you try to blame the weather, someone else, or just ignore it? I couldn't. You see I am a sinner. I asked for forgiveness, tried to make amends, but that event many years ago still haunts me. Have you ever made a mistake that you still remember? If you have just say Amen, and try to never do it again

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty  
Chaplain Jerry



Thank you Major General Robert Grim for your years of service to the SVR and the SUVCW.

**From District 4 we wish you a  
HAPPY RETIREMENT**  
and congratulations to General Don  
Darby, our new commander.

### 1st IL. LT ARTILLERY BATTERY L

Right: Members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Illinois Artillery Battery L show the youngsters the cannon at the Benjamin Stephenson Memorial service held in the afternoon of April 13, 2024. The service was done after the Lincoln Tomb ceremony that morning.



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



## HEADQUARTERS COMPANY



At the Patriotic Luncheon on February 3, 2024 in Milwaukee, WI – Above: A uniformed color guard comprised of SVR members from Headquarters Company opens and closes each Patriotic Luncheon event. In this photo, the colors are retired by 1SGT Tom Brown and one of our newest members, Pvt. Mike Benton (at right).

Below: Headquarters Co. commander 1SGT (Lt.Colonel) Tom Brown exchanged greetings with Chaplain Jerry Kowalski and JoEllen Kowalski at the annual Patriotic Luncheon held in February. The event is in its 54th year and attracted an audience of about 100. Dept. of Wisconsin Camp 1 and Auxiliary 4 co-host the luncheon every year.

THE NATIONAL CIVIL WAR ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION  
and the  
**SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE**  
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
present a

# **SCHOOL OF THE PIECE**

**MAY 11, 2024**

on the grounds of the Boscobel, Wisconsin, Sportsman's Club



## **A Qualification Program for Re-enactors and Living Historians**

NCWAA staff will instruct and qualify.

Crews and guns from all muzzle-loading periods (Civil War and earlier) and under all flags are welcome and encouraged to attend

**Fee: \$20/person, payable to "HQ 4<sup>th</sup> Military District, SVR"  
(\$25/person at gate)**

For registration information, contact:

Lt.Col. Tom Brown, SVR, at (414) 429-8979 or email: [tjbcarver@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tjbcarver@sbcglobal.net)

Hosted by the 4<sup>th</sup> Military District Headquarters Company, SVR

**Registration Deadline: April 27, 2024**



## Sportsman's Club BOSCobel, WISCONSIN

60 minutes from Dubuque

75 minutes from LaCrosse  
90 minutes from Madison

3 hours from Milwaukee  
4 hours from Chicago



**Limited Camping Sites are available without electric hook-up at the Boscobel Sportsman's Club**

### **Contemporary Lodging:**

AmericInn by Wyndham (formerly River Inn, formerly Super 8)

1700 Elm Street

Boscobel, WI 53805

1-855-516-1090

[www.americinnboscobel.bookonline.com](http://www.americinnboscobel.bookonline.com)

Sands Hotel

300 Elm Street

Boscobel, WI 53805

1-888-833-4167

[www.sandshotelboscobel.com](http://www.sandshotelboscobel.com)

## 1st Missouri Light Artillery, Company M



SVR members of Company M, 1st Missouri Light Artillery, SVR, attended and participated in the Sherman Remembrance Ceremony at the William T. Sherman family gravesite in Calvary Cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri, on Saturday, March 23, 2024. The annual ceremony, begun by the former William T. Sherman/Billy Yank Camp #65, SUVCW, in St. Louis, has continued under the sponsorship of the Ulysses S. Grant Camp #68 in St. Louis since the Sherman Camp closed at the end of 2017.

## 47th MO INF CO. E

SVR Newsletter Submission – April 2024  
47th Missouri Infantry, Company E

With January and February being colder here in Missouri, and trying to recuperate from the holidays and all of the flurry of activities, we took a little break. On January 27th, a few members of the 47th MO INF joined members of a local SCV Camp to present a Civil War Children's Day at the National Stars and Stripes Museum and Library in Bloomfield, Missouri. They presented a variety of demonstrations like uniforms, equipment, weapons, and etc. of soldiers in Southeast Missouri during the Civil War. Next, on March 24, 2024, members of the unit joined the 1st MO INF and members of various SUVCW Camps to participate in an annual Gen. William T. Sherman Day Ceremony in St. Louis, MO. Unit Commander Chris Warren was given command of the honor guard and command the honorary firing salute. After this ceremony, several members went down the street to place flowers & flags on Gen. Tomas C. Fletcher's grave as well (the founder of the original 47th MO INF during the Civil War). Then, on April 13, 2024 a few members of the unit volunteered for the National Parks Service at the Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site in St. Louis, MO to present a Civil War Day. Demonstrations included Civil War era camp music, a Civil War Boot Camp, and firing demonstrations to name a few. Finally, we found several members at Spring Drill at the Battle of Pilot Knob State Historic Site in Pilot Knob, MO. Members fell in with the infantry, engineers, and artillery units to provide a special Civil War Day of military training, while spectators looked on with amazement. We have more activities planned for the next few months, so stay tuned as we enter our "busy season" and share our events to honor the "Boys in Blue!"

Respectfully Submitted,  
1LT D. Christopher Warren,  
Unit Commander



**47th MO INF CO. E**



Above:  
Turner Brigade  
Spring Drill (Apr.  
20, 2024)

Above: U. S. Grant NHS Civil War Day (Apr. 13, 2024)

Below: Sherman Day Ceremony (March 24, 2024) with the 2nd Regiment, Missouri Infantry and Co. A (1861) Company M, 1st Missouri Light Artillery.





## 1st MO ENGINEERS



Above: Stars & Stripes Civil War Day (Jan 27, 2024)

Right: Sherman Day Ceremony (March 24, 2024)

Left and below: Stars & Stripes Civil War Day (Jan 27, 2024)



Turner Brigade Spring Drill (Apr 20, 2024) with "George" the cannon



**HEADQUARTERS COMPANY**  
continued



Above left: 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Kim J. Heltemes presented the SUVCW U.S. Grant ROTC award to an officer's cadet from the Fox Valley Battalion at the University of Oshkosh. Right: Colonel Steve Michaels MC'd the Patriotic Luncheon and presented the speaker with an appreciation award.

Left: Wisconsin Old Abe Camp 8 attended to their display at the Echoes of the Past Trade Fair in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The event was on February 24-25, 2024 at the Sunnyview Expo north of town. From left to right are PDC Kim J., Heltemes, Jim Schumann, PDC Tom Brown from Camp 1, Kirby Scott, and Andy Hauck. Kirby was able to help visitors find their Civil War ancestors with happy people walking away from his research. Camp 8 has been doing the event for almost twenty-five years.

Andy is a new member of the SVR.



**IRON BRIGADE GUARD**

**NEBRASKA RANGERS**





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



Our 2024 membership stands at 46 officers and enlisted men. We have been busy this quarter holding events honoring General Sherman at his gravesite in Calvary Cemetery, St Louis, MO and also at a special event held at US Grant National Historic Site (locally known as White Haven), Affton, MO, during his April birthday month. We had an excellent turn out at our ceremonies honoring the 56th US Colored Troops buried at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in October 2023. At the mass grave for their unit in which many died of cholera upon returning from the war in 1866, we had a large group of the public, news media and school groups show up. Our guest speaker was retired Major General Byron Bagby (to the right of the monument).



Left: On February 23, 2024, Lt. Robert Aubuchon along with Sgts. Walt Busch and Craig Mathews, Sr, presented Missouri Civil War Museum Director Mark Trout (pictured here with his daughter, US Grant Camp's Sherman Flag for patriotic service. Mark almost singlehandedly created the museum at Jefferson Barracks and also repeatedly supports our programs, such as the 56th USCT event, by providing both equipment and rooms for our programs. Flags which have flown over General Sherman's grave are presented only to people who have done patriotic service for our country and/or the remembrance of our Civil War soldiers. Mark is the 5th person to receive this award.





Left: Salute conducted by the SVR at General Sherman's gravesite under the command of 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Christopher Warren.

Bottom: Lt. Robert Aubuchon and a daper Missouri PDC, Walt Busch, sit at US Grant Camp's Table at Civil War Days held at the US Grant National Historic Site on April 13.





**(Updated 2023) UNITS of the 4<sup>th</sup> MILITARY DISTRICT**

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**1<sup>st</sup> IL. LT ARTY BATTERY L**

Commander: Robert Hauff  
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**NEBRASKA RANGERS**

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**IRON BRIGADE GUARD**

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**47th MO INF CO. E**

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bigalastro@yahoo.com

**2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Missouri Infantry, Co.  
A (1861)**

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ARTILLERY**

Commander: Randel Baehr  
robaehr@earthlink.net

**2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri Cavalry**

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Email: dcrandell@swbell.net

Remember to send your newsworthy articles to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Kim  
J. Heltemes at [heltemesk@centurylink.net](mailto:heltemesk@centurylink.net)

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