BATTERY A, 3rd U.S. ART’Y TAKES HOME A VICTORY

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ith so many groups working to honor those who fought in the American Civil War (1861-1865) during this sesquicentennial, one group from Northern Nevada was honored recently during the SVR Breakfast at the Remembrance Day ceremony in Gettysburg, PA on November 23, 2013.

Within the 6th Military District, Battery A, 3rd United States Artillery is one of the most active units. Staffed by members of the SUVCW General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25 in Reno, this artillery group is active in Civil War ceremonies, reenactments, and living history events in the West. The national SVR staff recognized the efforts of both the Battery as a group, and the Battery Commander, Captain WAYNE EDER who also serves as the Adjutant of the SVR 6th Military District.

* COMMANDING OFFICER’S UNIT CITATION: Accepted by Captain Wayne L. Eder for the activities of the ENTIRE Battery during 2012/2013; “For consistently cultivating the principles and objectives of the SVR and promoting patriotism through their efforts in commemorating our Civil War ancestors and their respective units.”
* MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL, SILVER STAR: Presented to Captain Wayne L. Eder (1st LT); “For exceptionally distinguished service and sustained outstanding performance of duty while serving as Commander of Battery A, 3rd US Artillery, 6th Military District, SVR.”

The following are the citations issued:

UNIT CITATION: Battery A, 3rd United States Artillery had previously disbanded in the 6th Military District in California. The unit was re-activated in Reno, NV in 2012 by Brother Wayne L. Eder and the members of SUVCW, Dept. of California & the Pacific, General William Passmore Carlin, Camp 25. The Battery currently operates two-full scale artillery pieces with all of the necessary tools and accoutrements, utilized at SUVCW ceremonies, reenactments, and other Civil War events in Nevada, California and Oregon. Through the use of these two weapons, a Model 1841 12lb. Mountain Howitzer and a Model 1838 24lb. Coehorn Mortar, along with a replica limber fabricated by Battery member RAY AHRENHOLZ, the Battery is able to demonstrate the operations of field artillery in the Civil War. Since reforming, this unit has steadfastly thrown itself into the effort to educate the public on the role Nevada and California played in the Civil War. They organized and executed a successful Sesquicentennial Signature Event in Virginia City on May 25, 2013 to honor the 150th anniversary of the formation of the 1st Battalion, Nevada Volunteer Cavalry. They conduct an annual open house and participate in numerous reenactments throughout the region. Battery members have donated their time at National Park Service, Fort Point (CA) and Nevada State Parks, Fort Churchill to educate the public on the life of Civil War artillerymen at both posts. This unit traveled to Arizona in 2012 shortly after forming to participate in the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Picacho Pass, the westernmost battle fought during the Civil War. They have been effective in engaging with local news media to publicize all of these events and keep the spirits of the “Boys in Blue” alive in the hearts of the citizens and visitors of our region.

Congratulations to Battery A for setting the bar high for all the other units in the district. It’s a great goal to try to emulate!