

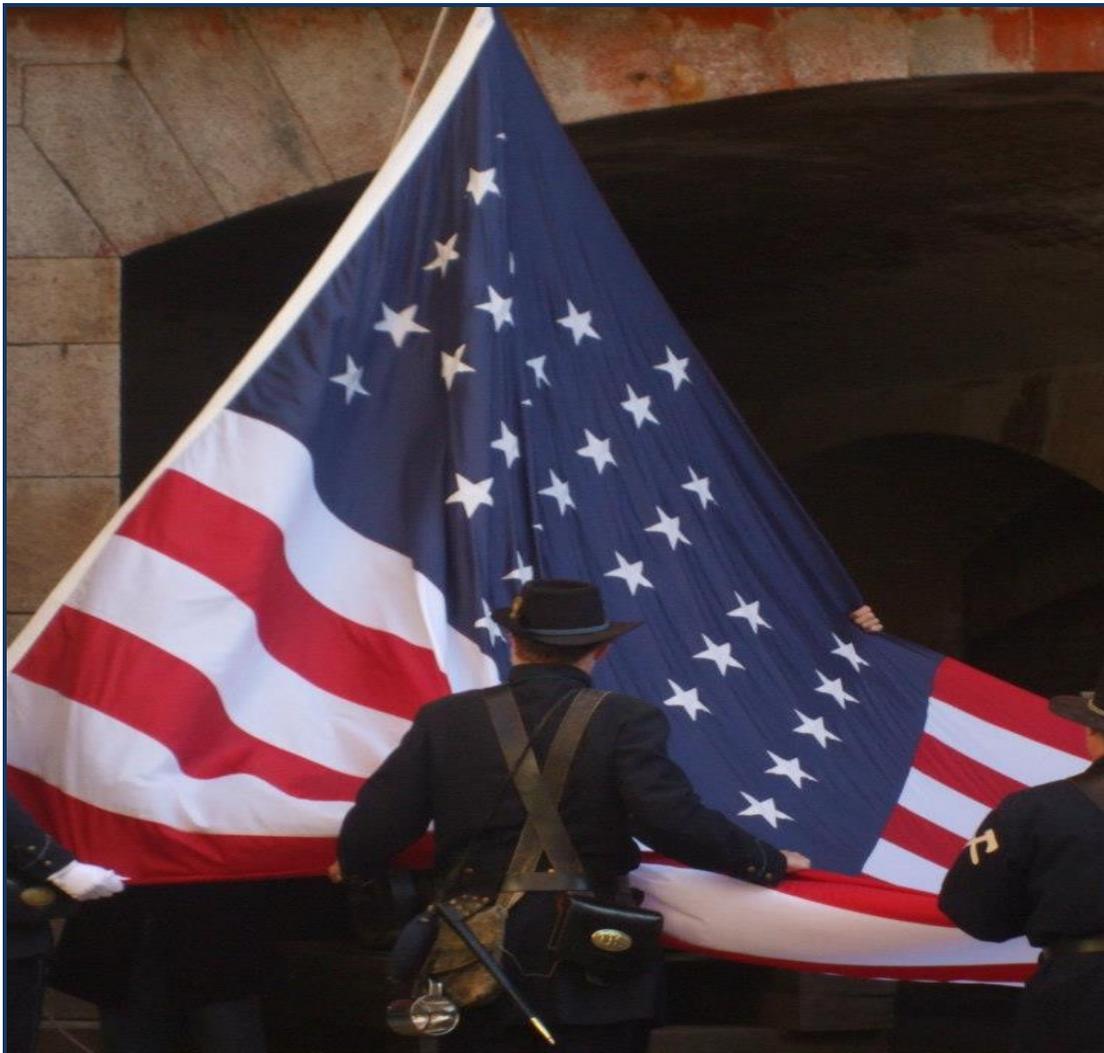
The Western Dispatch



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 6TH MILITARY DISTRICT
SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE

VOLUME X, NO. 1

WINTER EDITION 2013



An unidentified man assists in the raising of the National Colors at the January 26th Fort Point Sesquicentennial Signature Event at San Francisco.



COMMANDER'S CORNER



As we enter into 2013 our work continues to Honor our Boys in Blue and that of our Country's fine service personnel and Veterans. We look to teach patriotism and appreciation for the sacrifices many have made for freedom. You are today's voices of those fine men in Blue. Our purpose is to perpetuate their memory through uniformed ceremonial functions that include upcoming Memorial Day services for which we will be very busy. Throughout the Western Seaboard and inland to Texas and Oklahoma we will take up positions at cemeteries and monuments to honor our brave men whose courage and glory resonate strongly to this day. Our task is to raise awareness for all those who fought and died bravely in those anguished years of the Civil War. Our district today is in good shape to carry on this mission. We have 11 units at the ready for assignment to duty with one new unit assembling. Many of our SVR Brothers are serving diligently performing triple duty in our SUVCW as well as MOLLUS to carry on. To those dedicated Brothers I raise my hat and shout HUZZAH!!! HUZZAH!!! HUZZAH!!!

To our Commanders and Adjutants, I thank you for your care and expedience in reporting for your units. I wish to

6th Military District Staff

Maj. Will Tisch
COMMANDER

Capt. John May
ADJUTANT

Capt. J.C. Marti
CHIEF OF STAFF
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

2nd Lt. Rev. Dr. Glen Alan Dickey
CHAPLAIN

Congratulate Captain **Stephen Aguirre** for his elevation to Commander of Company C 8th CA VOL INF.

Stand on guard, men, and enjoy the legacy that has been passed along to us.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Major Will Tisch

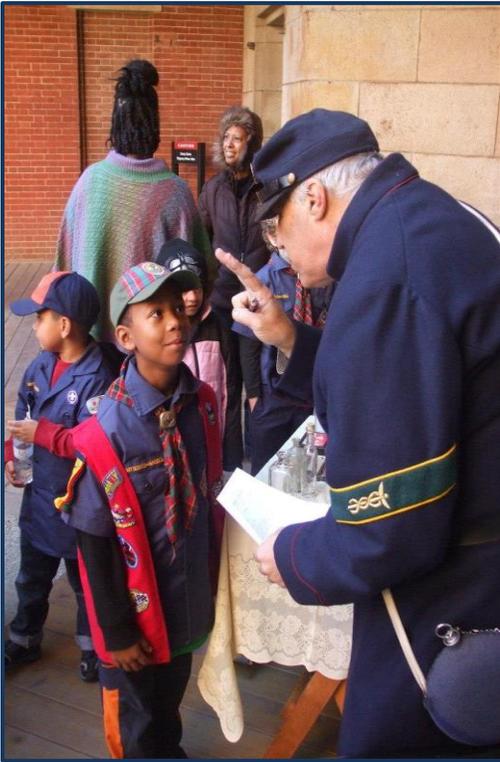
Major Will Tisch
Commanding Officer
6th Military District
Sons of Veterans Reserve



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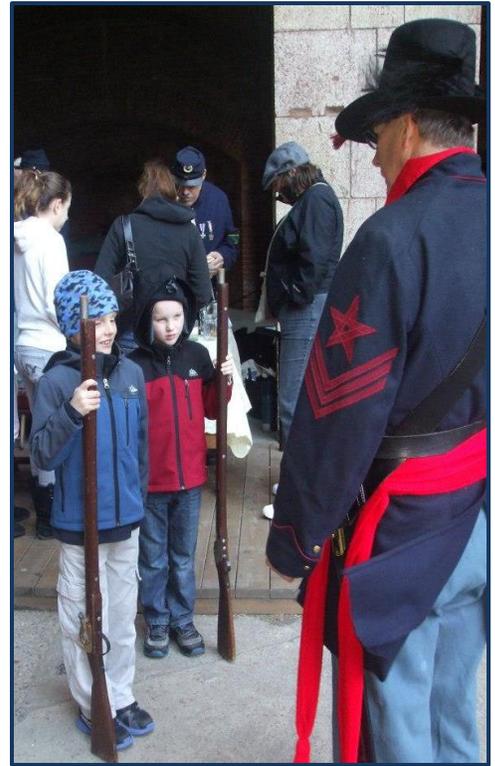


Frank Avila of 8th Cal. administers a medical exam to a promising Webelo recruit

FORT POINT SESQUICENTENNIAL SIGNATURE EVENT HELD

Three 6th Military District units were represented January 26th at Fort Point National Historic Site for a Sesquicentennial Signature Event. The annual event was greeted with blue skies, but a frosty wind kept the temperatures cool. Turnout was great, and it gave an opportunity to show the public what our ancestors endured through a series of both static displays and interactive exchanges whereby youngsters could ‘enlist’ in the army, have a medical screening, and then proceed to drilling with wooden rifles. Represented at the event were members of Co. B and C, 8th California Volunteer Infantry and Company G 5th California

Volunteer Infantry.



Mace Gjerman of Co. C, 8th Cal. drills the recruits



AN INVITATION

By 1st Sgt. **Wayne Eder**, Commander
Battery A, 3rd US Artillery

Recently, I forwarded an e-mail inviting your “at-large” camps to participate in Battery A, 3rd US Artillery. We are the 6th Military District’s Artillery Unit. In the event that the former notification was not received, I am placing this information here.

Battery A currently consists of 12 SUVCW Brothers from Nevada and California. While based in Reno, Nevada as part of the General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25, we travel throughout the region and country participating in SUVCW and other Civil War events. 2012 was a great year for us as our members purchased two new cannons, a Model 1841 Mountain Howitzer and a Model 1838 Coehorn Mortar. We participated in the 150th Picacho Pass Reenactment (Arizona) as artillery and the 150th Antietam as Dismounted Cavalry. In 2013 we will be participating in the 150th Gettysburg (The GAC Event) as dismounted cavalry and are falling in with an East Coast unit.

The SVR is a great opportunity to participate in National and regional events. As members of Battery A, 3rd US Artillery, our men proudly portray a Western Theater unit that served in California and during the New Mexico Campaign. We plan on moving our efforts into Oregon and Washington in the coming season’s and while invited to a Fort Klamath, Oregon event this year that conflicts with a Nevada 150th event we are sponsoring, we have committed to future events including Fort Stevens, Oregon.

Our goal is to get enough crews in all 5 Western states (Nevada, California, Arizona, Oregon, and Washington) to allow us to participate in those events in which artillery is typically under-represented. SVR dues are typically \$2 per year and allows for participating in events such as the November Remembrance Day events held each year in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. I would consider it an honor to have your SUVCW Camp members join us. The Fall 2012 issue of the 6th Military District shows some of the events we have been involved with and our Mountain Howitzer. You can see that issue [here](#).

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2012 WAS A BANNER-EY YEAR FOR BATTERY A



2012 was a busy year for Battery A, 3rd US Artillery, the 6th Military District's own Nevada Artillery Battery. In addition to taking delivery of its Model 1841 12 lb. Mountain Howitzer in October 2012, the Battery took delivery of its second cannon in November. A reproduction Model 1838 24 lb. Coehorn Mortar with a tube cast by Hern Iron Works of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, with a base and final assembly by Cannonsmoke LLC of Warsaw, MO was delivered to Reno, NV just prior to Thanksgiving. This weapon will give the Battery added flexibility for events as it is more portable than the Mountain Howitzer.



Model 1838 24 lb. Coehorn Mortar

Battery members are currently busy building a limber for the Mountain Howitzer to add to the realism of the Batteries inventory during upcoming events. The Battery is currently working with the General William Passmore Carlin Camp 25 of Reno, Nevada on a 150th Sesquicentennial event during Memorial Day weekend 5/24-27/13 to honor the 150th anniversary of the formation of the 1st Battalion Nevada Volunteer Cavalry. This event will include living history and battle reenactments, as well as a ceremony honoring the event. For more information, visit <http://nevadacivilwar150.webs.com/>. In addition to this event, Battery members will be participating in the 150th Gettysburg; Remembrance Day; and several Nevada events.



Tad Campbell and Frank Avila of Co. C (l&r) and Brad Schall of Co. B, both of the 8th California Volunteer Infantry

FREE MUSEUM DAY PROVIDES SVR RECRUITING OPPORTUNITY

Members of Co. B and C, 8th California Volunteer Infantry gathered to recruit and support Sacramento's annual Free Museum Day on behalf of the California State Military Museum in Old Sacramento. Museum officials reported the turnout for the day was in excess of 6,000. It was a fine day and the brothers were joined by other military history groups such



Jim Monteton, Joe Marti, and Owen Stiles of Co. B, 8th California Infantry

as the California Historical Artillery Society, WWII, and WWI . The California State Military Museum is located at 1119 Second Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and their web address is <http://www.militarymuseum.org/>.

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SVR PROVIDES MILITARY HONORS FOR OREGON REMEMBRANCE DAY

By 2nd Lt. **Randy Fletcher**

Co. B, 71st Pennsylvania Vol. Infantry

Sons of Veterans Reserve

For the seventh consecutive year Col. Edward D. Baker Camp held a Remembrance Day ceremony in Oregon. The typical Oregon weather did not dampen the spirits of the participants or the small crowd on spectators that gathered to watch the event. President Lincoln was on hand (portrayed by Stephen Holgate) to deliver the Gettysburg Address. SUCW and SVR brother Scott McArthur spoke on his new book *The Enemy Never Came: The Civil War in the Pacific Northwest*.

The ceremony took place November 17th at Mountain View Cemetery in Oregon City and included the rededication of the graves of nearly 100 Union veterans buried there. Over the past year the headstones of the Civil War veterans at Mountain View were cleaned and restored by Baker Camp brothers who spent several Saturdays going about the task. One headstone, that of Pvt. Maurice Root of the 7th Michigan Cavalry, was so badly damaged it had to be replaced. The new headstone is the 107th headstone installed by the Baker Camp since 2006.



The invocation and benediction were provided by Rev. **D.H. Shearer**, chaplain of the Baker Camp and of the Sons of Veterans Reserve. Military honors were provided by Company B, 71st Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, SVR. Following a musket salute Taps was played by SVR commander 1st Lt. **Steven Betschart**.

Oregon's first modern Remembrance Day was held in 2006 and was organized by Steve Betschart the current Baker Camp Commander, who has planned each successive ceremony.



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CAMP OF INSTRUCTION



WEARING THE BADGES OF THE ORDER

In attending events there often seems to be confusion among our own ranks as to the badges of our order and the proper wearing of them. Below is reprinted by the Constitution of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and is referenced as the authoritative document governing their use as members of the Sons of Veterans Reserve (Constitution and Regulations, Chapter V, Article 3, Section 5). Please take note and make sure we put our best feet forward as we don our ancestors' uniforms to perform our sacred duty to them.

Group A

Membership Badge (or Associate, Junior, Junior Associate or Honorary Member badge)
Commander in Chief Badge
Department Commander Badge
Camp Commander Badge
National Officer Badge
Department Officer Badge,

The Membership badge is appropriate for wear on all occasions where identification or recognition of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is fitting. In the alternative, the Brother may wear the badge of office for which he currently occupies from the list in Group A. As amended through the 130th National Encampment August, 2011, Reston, Virginia Annotations amended through the 128th National Encampment Brothers may not wear more than one badge from this group at any one time.

Group B

Past Commander in Chief badge
Past Department Commander badge
Past Camp Commander badge,

Each badge in Group B is unique and uses various historical elements as part of its composition. The Brother may choose to wear only a Group B badge, without wearing at the same time a Group A badge and as such, badges from Group B are considered a "Badge of the Order".



Group C

War Medal
Military Service Medal

When worn, the War Medal or Military Service Medal must be accompanied by a Group A or Group B Badge of the Order. The War Medal is approved for wear by the Brother's Camp and shall include a device identifying the period of qualifying service. Those devices shall not be worn upon any other badge.

Group D

Sons of Veterans Reserve Badges
Current National Encampment badges
Current Department Encampment badges

Other temporary badges authorized as official badges of the Order by the National Encampment, Council of Administration, or Commander-in-Chief for the time period specified in the authorization.

When worn, a Group D badge must be accompanied by a Group A or Group B Badge of the Order. With the exception of SVR badges, Group D badges should be worn on the right breast only when appropriate to the event. Encampment badges are neither awards nor personal decorations, but in keeping with the traditions of the Grand Army of the Republic, they may be worn to recognize participation in an event or activity. Should a Department issue a badge as part of its Department Encampment, that Department may specify that such badge may also be worn by the Department's delegates and any Brother of that Department who has automatic credentials to attend a National Encampment, at a National Encampment of the Order. Section 6. The order of precedence for badges of other hereditary, patriotic or veterans' societies are based upon the date of founding or creation of the organization.

GENERAL ORDERS

GENERAL ORDER 2012-23

Sons of Veterans Reserve

17 November 2012

1. Effective this date the Commanding General, SVR, takes pleasure in promoting the following Officers:
 - a. Captain Eric Schmincke is promoted to the rank of Major and will continue to serve as the Provost Marshal for the Sons of Veterans Reserve. Major Schmincke's commission will remain in effect until November 20, 2013 or until properly relieved.
 - b. 2nd Lieutenant David K. Hann is promoted to the rank of 1st Lieutenant and will continue to serve as Ass't Provost Marshal for the Son of Veterans Reserve. 1st Lt. Hann's commission will remain in effect until November 20, 2013 or until properly relieved.

GENERAL ORDER 2012-24

Sons of Veterans Reserve

15 December 2012

1. a. Effective this date, the Commanding General, SVR, orders that the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony Parade to be a National SVR Event.
 - b. Given that this event is now considered a National SVR Event, the Commanding General appoints 1st Lieutenant David M. Lamb, Special Provost Marshal, for the event. This appointment will remain in effect until the completion of the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony.

GENERAL ORDER 2013-1

Sons of Veterans Reserve

7 January 2013

1. The 57th Annual Grand Army of the Republic Remembrance Day Parade sponsored by Sons of Veterans Reserve Military Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will be held on Saturday 23 November 2013 and not on Saturday 16 November 2013 as previously published. We apologize for any inconvenience this date change may cause.
2. The SVR/SUVCW headquarters hotel has also changed. Our headquarters hotel is now the Wyndham Hotel 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA, phone 1-717-339-0020. There is a 2 night minimum and we have a special daily room rate of \$113.00. They also own the Courtyard Marriott which is right next door within walking distance and the rate there is also \$113.00. In addition to the hotel room rate the local and state governmental authorities will impose their customary tax on hotel guests. Hotel reservations can be made any time after 15 January 2013. It is suggested that you make your reservation early as this will be the 150th anniversary of President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address which may result in a large number of visitors to Gettysburg for Remembrance Day weekend. The special hotel rate is available to all those identifying themselves as participating in the SVR/SUVCW Remembrance Day activities.
3. The annual SVR breakfast will be held at the Wyndham Hotel at 8:00 a.m. 23 November 2013. Reservations should be made with Colonel Donald E. Darby, Adjutant General of the SVR.

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4. The annual Grand Army of the Republic memorial ceremony will be conducted at the Woolson Monument in Ziegler's Grove on 23 November 2013 at 11:00 a.m.

5. The Original Civil War Ball sponsored by the SVR/SUVCW will be held at the Wyndham Hotel on the evening of 23 November 2013. Tickets are available from Brigadier General Henry E. Shaw, Jr., Deputy Commander of the SVR. Music will be by the Philadelphia Brigade Band with dance instruction by the Victorian Dance Ensemble Performing Troupe of the Civil War Dance Foundation. The net proceeds from this ball are donated to the Gettysburg National Military Park for monument preservation.

Major General Robert E. Grim
Commanding Officer

Attest:
Colonel Donald E. Darby



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Many people have seen the blockbuster movie Lincoln. This movie appears to be on the way to winning a large number of Academy awards this month. The movie is historically accurate, emotionally moving, and cinematically exciting. I found the most interesting aspect of it was in how it attempted to portray Lincoln's conviction of faith and prayer. Not an easy task for someone who has been dead for a century and a half. However, the movie continues to ask the question of which side was God on in this conflict. Many on both sides said God was on their side. Of course, Lincoln's answer is well known when he was asked if God was on the Union side. He replied, **"Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right."** Lincoln's words paraphrase the thoughts Azariah expressed to King Asa of Judah. After the Spirit of

God came upon Azariah, he said, "The Lord is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you" (2 Chron. 15:2). **It's dangerous to mistake our wishes for God's will.** Perhaps, instead of trying to ask if God is on our side it is better to struggle with trying to know whether we stand with God.

Continue to pray for those who serve our country and protect our freedom.

Blessings and peace to you

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

The Rev. Dr. Gary Alan Dickey
Chaplain



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ABOUT THE SONS OF VETERANS RESERVE



The Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) is the ceremonial uniformed military component of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). The National Military Department of the SVR consists of the General Staff and seven geographical Military Districts across the nation. SVR Units participate in Civil War related ceremonies, parades, living history programs, and reenactments.

Membership in the Sons of Veterans Reserve is open to any Member (Hereditary), Junior (Hereditary), or Associate (Non-hereditary) of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. To be in the SVR you must be a Member or Associate in the SUVCW. Units and individuals must file an application for membership. Minimal annual dues are charged all SVR members.

Individuals interested in joining the SVR may contact either:

Major Gen. Robert E. Grim - *Commanding Officer*
5367 SR 72 South, Sabina, OH 45169-9425 (937-584-4622)
Email: robertgrim@dragonbbs.com

OR

Col. Donald E. Darby - *Adjutant General*
1382 Western Ave., Chillicothe, OH 45601 (740-772-6081)
Email: darby@horizonview.net

150 YEARS AGO



Fort McAllister in Georgia, which in February 1863 was targeted by three Union gunboats for destruction. The attack failed to level the fort at that time, but it would later fall in December of 1864 from an infantry attack from Gen'l Sherman's men.

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