



HARDSCRABBLE

Newsletter of Ulysses S. Grant Camp #68, St. Louis, MO



Vol. 2015, Issue #4 – November 2015

Commander's Corner



Greetings fellow SUVCW members: First, this will be my last communication as Grant Camp Commander. It has been an enjoyable two years and left me with no doubts that this is one of the best

Camps in our Order. I encourage everyone to attend our annual Christmas Dinner and Officer Installation on December 8. This is a festive event very much worth attending. I also encourage everyone to attend the Wreaths Across America event at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery on December 12. The weather is getting cold, but that should never keep us from our work. Thanks again, stay active and involved, and best of luck in 2016!

Bob Aubuchon
Commander

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Editor's Note....

It has been a beautiful Fall in the St. Louis area and an active one for the Grant Camp and there's more to come. Hope everyone has a happy Thanksgiving and an enjoyable Holiday season!

John Palmer
Senior Vice Commander & Editor



Grant Camp Participates in Annual St. Louis Veteran's Day Parade

On Saturday, November 7, members of the Grant Camp participated in the 32nd annual St. Louis Veteran's Day parade to mark the annual observance of Veteran's Day. The parade kicked off at noon at Veterans Memorial Military Museum on Chestnut St., turned on to 14th St. and made its way to Market St., where it came to an end at Market and 20th St. The parade featured ROTC groups, classic cars, bands, organizations representing veterans of most wars fought by the United States, and a large number of veterans themselves.

This year's events paid special tribute to Vietnam veterans and included a speech by St. Louis City Assessor Freddie Dunlap, a Vietnam veteran. This year's five parade grand marshals were all St. Louisans who served in Vietnam: U.S. Air Force CMSgt. Ret. Thomas J. Williams, U.S. Army Captain & nurse Bernadette Miller, USMC Captain & helicopter pilot George Casey, US Army Sgt. Terry Souders, and Thomas Irwin of the USMC. The keynote speaker for the event was General Frank J. Grass, an

Arnold native, who is also Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

This annual observance began in 1926 as Armistice Day, commemorating the end of World War I. A congressional act in 1954 changed the scope of Armistice Day to honor all veterans, and hence, became known as Veterans Day.

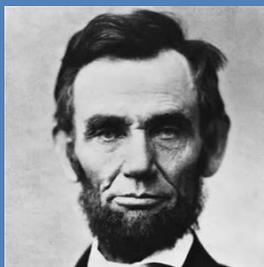


Veterans Day Parade Procession Marching Past Soldiers Memorial Museum on Chestnut Street



Abraham Lincoln's Thanksgiving Day Proclamation

Sarah Josepha Hale, a 74-year-old magazine editor, wrote a letter to Lincoln on September 28, 1863, urging him to have the "day of our annual Thanksgiving made a National and fixed Union Festival." She explained, "You may have observed that, for some years past, there has been an increasing interest felt in our land to have the Thanksgiving held on the same day, in all the States; it now needs National recognition and authoritative fixation, only, to become permanently, an American custom and institution.%o



Abraham Lincoln

Prior to this, each state scheduled its own Thanksgiving holiday at different times, mainly in New England and other Northern states. President Lincoln responded to Mrs. Hale's request immediately, unlike several of his predecessors, who ignored her petitions altogether. In her letter to Lincoln she mentioned that she had been advocating a national

thanksgiving date for 15 years as the editor of *Godey's Lady's Book*. George Washington was the first president to proclaim a day of thanksgiving, issuing his request on October 3, 1789, exactly 74 years before Lincoln's.

The document below sets apart the last Thursday of November "as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise." According to an April 1, 1864, letter from John Nicolay, one of President Lincoln's secretaries, this document was written by Secretary of State William Seward, and the original was in his handwriting. On October 3, 1863, fellow Cabinet member Gideon Welles recorded in his diary how he complimented Seward on his work. A year later the manuscript was sold to benefit Union troops.



Washington, D.C.
October 3, 1863

By the President of the United States of America.
A Proclamation.

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of

unequaled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battle-field; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the Unites States the Eighty-eighth.

By the President:
Abraham Lincoln

William H. Seward,
Secretary of State





St. Louis' Civil War Faces and Places: The Epilogue

With the war over and the Union saved, one wonders what happened to a few of the St. Louis people and places made famous by their involvement during the Civil War. In this final Civil War sesquicentennial article, we explore the lives of three prominent St. Louisans after the war, as well as the fate of places critical to the Union.

Francis P. Blair, Jr.



At the start of the Civil War, Frank Blair was a member of the United States House of Representatives from Missouri. He resigned his position in July 1862, becoming a colonel of Missouri volunteers. He was promoted to brigadier general in August 1862, and later, to major general in November 1862. Blair subsequently commanded a division in the

Vicksburg campaign and in the fighting about Chattanooga, and was one of William T. Sherman's corps commanders in the final campaigns in Georgia and the Carolinas. His XVII Corps was engaged protecting the rear areas of Sherman's army until later in the Atlanta Campaign. Before it left on the March to the Sea, XVII Corps absorbed part of the detachment of XVI Corps that had served with Sherman.

At the close of the war, Blair, having spent much of his private fortune in support of the Union, was financially ruined. In 1866, like his father and brother, he opposed the Congressional Reconstruction policy, and on that issue left the Republican Party. He was the unsuccessful Democratic candidate for vice president in 1868, running with Horatio Seymour. Blair contributed to the Democratic defeat by going on a speaking tour in which he framed the contest with Ulysses S. Grant and the pro-Reconstruction Republicans in stark racist terms, warning of the rule of "a semi-barbarous race of blacks who are worshipers of fetishes and polygamists" and wanted to "subject the white women to their unbridled lust." At least one Democratic Congressman saw Blair as the cause of Seymour's defeat, calling his behavior "stupid and indefensible."

Blair had an odd minor notoriety, when on July 29, 1870, he was an accidental witness to an incident in a famous homicide case. Staying at the then famous Fifth Avenue

Hotel, facing West 23rd Street off Fifth Avenue, Blair woke up to cries of help from across the street. He watched from his hotel window as two men ran out of a brownstone mansion across the street. They were two of the sons of Benjamin Nathan, the Vice President of the New York Stock Exchange, who had been bludgeoned to death the previous night. There was a series of hearings, and even suspicion towards several people, but the mystery was never solved.



(L to R) Blair Statue at Vicksburg; Blair Statue at U.S. Capitol Statuary Hall; Blair Gravesite in St. Louis

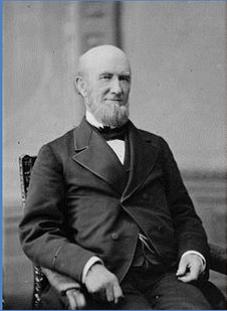
In 1871 Blair was chosen by the Missouri Legislature as a United States Senator. On November 16, 1872, he was stricken down by paralysis, from which he never recovered. Largely owing to his stricken condition, he was defeated for reelection to the Senate in January 1873. Blair learned to write painfully with his left hand and continued with his political affairs. Blair's consuming interest in politics kept him active and a candidate for office until his death from a fall in 1875 at the age of 54. He is interred in Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis. In 1899, the state of Missouri donated a marble statue of Blair to the U.S. Capitol's National Statuary Hall Collection.

James B. Eads

In 1861, after the outbreak of Civil War, James Eads, a prominent civil engineer, was called to Washington at the prompting of his friend, Attorney General Edward Bates, to consult on the defense of the Mississippi River. Soon afterward, he was contracted to construct the City-class ironclads for the United States Navy, and produced seven such ships within five months: *St. Louis*, *Cairo*, *Carondelet*, *Cincinnati*, *Louisville*, *Mound City*, and *Pittsburgh*.



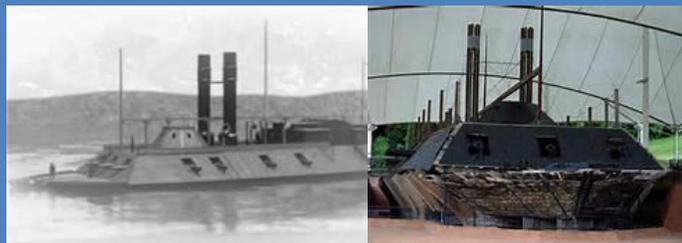
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James B. Eads

He also converted the river steamer *New Era* into the ironclad *Essex*. The river ironclads were a vital element in the highly successful Federal offensive into Tennessee, Kentucky and upper Mississippi (February, June, 1862). Eads corresponded frequently with Navy officers of the Western Flotilla, and used their "combat lessons learned" to improve vessels during post-combat repairs, and incorporate improvements into succeeding generations of gunboats. By the end of the war he would build more than 30 river ironclads.

The last were so durable that the Navy sent them into service in the Gulf of Mexico, where they supported the successful Federal attack on the Confederate port city of Mobile. All senior officers in the Western Theater, including Grant and Sherman, agreed that Eads and his vessels had been vital to early victory in the West. The first four gunboats were built at the Eads' Union Marine Works in Carondelet, Missouri. The next three were built under Eads' contract at the Mound City (Illinois) Marine Railway and Shipyard. Eads' vessels were the first United States ironclads to enter combat. On January 11, 1862 the Eads-built ironclads *St. Louis* and *Essex* fought the Confederate gunboats *CSS General Polk*, *CSS Ivy*, and *CSS Jackson* at Lucas Bend, on the Mississippi River. Subsequently, on February 6, 1862, Eads' ironclads captured Fort Henry on the Tennessee River. This was over a month before the combat actions of the ironclads *CSS Virginia* and *USS Monitor* during the March 8, 9, 1862 Battle of Hampton Roads.



USS Cairo – (L) During the Civil War and (R) Under Restoration at Vicksburg National Military Park

After the war, Eads designed and built the first road and rail bridge to cross the Mississippi River at St. Louis. The Eads Bridge, constructed from 1867 through 1874, was the first bridge of a significant size with steel as its primary material, and it was the longest arch bridge in the

world when completed. Eads was the first bridge builder to employ the cantilever method, which allowed steam boat traffic to continue using the river during construction. The bridge is still in use today, carrying both automobile and light rail traffic over the river.

The Mississippi in the 100-mile-plus stretch between the port of New Orleans, Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico frequently suffered from silting up of its outlets, stranding ships or making parts of the river unnavigable for a period of time. Eads solved the problem with a wooden jetty system that narrowed the main outlet of the river, causing the river to speed up and cut its channel deeper, allowing year-round navigation. Eads offered to build the jetties first, and charge the government later. If he was successful, and the jetties caused the river to cut a channel 30 feet deep for 20 years, the government agreed to pay him \$8 million. Eads was successful. The jetty system was installed in 1876 and the channel was cleared in February 1877. Journalist Joseph Pulitzer, who had known Eads for five years, invested \$20,000 in this project



Eads Bridge in St. Louis Traverses the Mississippi River

In 1884 he became the first U.S. citizen awarded the Albert Medal of the Royal Society of the Arts. Eads died in Nassau, Bahamas on March 8, 1887 at age 66. He was buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis.

Eads is memorialized at Washington University in St. Louis by James B. Eads Hall, an handsome 19th-century building long associated with science and technology. Eads Hall was the site of Professor Arthur Holly Compton's Nobel Prize-winning experiments in electromagnetic radiation. Today Eads Hall continues to serve Washington University as the site of a number of facilities including the Arts and Sciences Computing Center. Eads Hall was the gift of Eads's daughter Mrs. James Finney How.

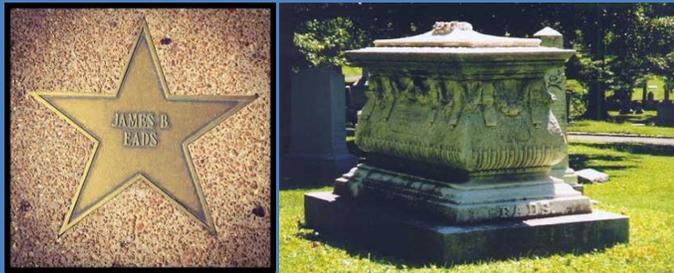
Each year the Academy of Science of St. Louis awards the James B. Eads Award recognizing a distinguished individual for outstanding achievement in science and



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technology. Eads was also recognized with a star on the St. Louis Walk of Fame.

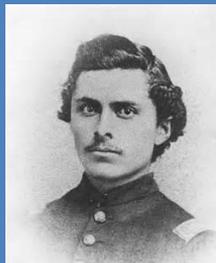
Eads' great Mississippi River Bridge at St. Louis was designated a National Historic Landmark by the Department of the Interior in 1964 and on October 21, 1974 was listed as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark by the American Society of Civil Engineers. It was also awarded a Special Award of Recognition by the American Institute of Steel Construction in 1974 on the 100th anniversary of its entry into service.



(L) Eads' Star on Delmar Blvd. and (R) Eads' Gravesite at Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis

Leo P. Rassieur

Leo Rassieur had enlisted for service as a Second Sergeant with the Union Army in the 1st Regiment, U.S. Reserve Corps, Missouri Infantry, in St. Louis. After the regiment's one year term concluded, Rassieur returned to St. Louis and reenlisted with the 30th Regiment of



Leo P. Rassieur

Missouri Infantry, which fought in the Trans-Mississippi theater of the war, including the battle of Chickasaw Bayou, the Siege of Vicksburg, and the assault and capture of Fort Blakely. Rassieur was a Captain by the time the 30th was mustered out of service on August 21, 1865. He returned to St. Louis the following month.

After his return to St. Louis, he studied law, was admitted to the bar, and was in active practice until he was elected Judge of Probate in St. Louis in 1894. For ten years he was the attorney for the St. Louis School Board and for four years was a member of that body, serving as its vice-president. Also, interested in athletics, he served as president of the St. Louis Gymnastic Society and for

13 years was president of the Western Rowing Club, the largest organization of its kind in the West. Rassieur also received an honorary doctorate of law from McKendree College in Illinois.



In the years after the Civil War, Rassieur became an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Missouri. He was a member of Frank P. Blair Post #1 in St. Louis. When the National Encampment of the GAR came to St. Louis in 1887, Rassieur was elected as a representative of the Department of Missouri and selected by Department Commander Nelson Cole to join a committee that was instructed to take charge of and arrange everything that will be necessary for the proper care of the National Encampment. In 1900, Rassieur was elected to a one year term as the Grand Army of the Republic's National Commander-in-Chief. Rassieur was the only St. Louisan to serve as GAR Commander-in-Chief in the 90-year history of the organization.

Rassieur had a strong interest in communicating the history of the Civil War and ensuring its accuracy. As such, he wrote and published *Civil War Regiments from Missouri*. It is still in print today, with the most recent edition published in 2007.

In 1911, Missouri governor Herbert S. Hadley put forward a plan to establish a Missouri state monument at Vicksburg National Military Park. He appointed Rassieur as president of the commission to develop and dedicate this monument. On October 17, 1917, the Missouri monument at Vicksburg was dedicated.

Rassieur died at his home at 25 Whittemore Place, near Lafayette Park in St. Louis on July 1, 1929 at the age of 85. He is buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis



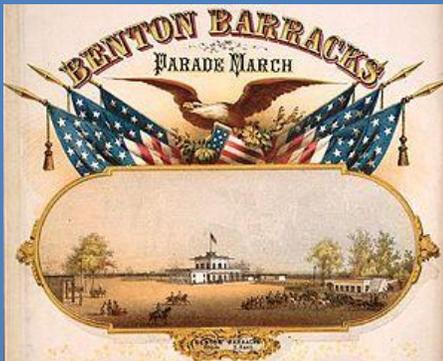
(L) Missouri State Monument at Vicksburg; (R) Rassieur's Gravesite at Bellefontaine Cemetery



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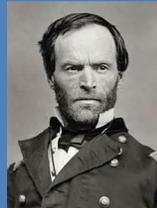
Benton Barracks

In 1861, Major General John C. Fremont assumed command of the Western Department of War for the Union Army. General Fremont ordered the establishment of a training barracks at the site of the St. Louis Fairgrounds. The barracks originally consisted of five buildings, 740 ft. in length and 40 ft. in width. Additionally,



there was a two-story building erected for the headquarters of the Barracks Commander. The barracks could accommodate up to 30,000 soldiers. By 1863, Benton

contained over a mile of barracks, as well as warehouses, cavalry stables, parade grounds, and a large military hospital. The hospital was built from the converted amphitheater on the fairground site and could accommodate 2,000 to 3,000 soldiers at a time. General Fremont served as the first garrison commander in 1861, followed by Brigadier General William T. Sherman from 1861-1862, and finally, Colonel Benjamin Bonneville from 1862 through the remainder of the war.



Benton Barracks Commanders: (L to R) Fremont, Sherman, Bonneville

After the Battle of Lexington, the Post and Convalescent Hospitals were added to the training barracks, in order to assist in treating hundreds of incoming wounded troops. Once the war ended, the barracks was dismantled, returning to its pre-war, civilian use as a fairground and race track. Nothing of the original barracks remains at this site today.

The Benton Barracks site originated in 1856 as

fairgrounds operated by the St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Association. In the early 1880s, the association fell upon hard times and was replaced with the St. Louis Fair and Jockey Club. In 1901, Cap Tilles, Sam W. Adler, and Louis A. Cella, the principal owners of Delmar Racing Track, purchased the St. Louis Fairgrounds. Since 1892, the partnership had been purchasing race tracks across the St. Louis area, with Delmar Track becoming the main competitor to the St. Louis Fair and Jockey Club. By the turn of the century, the competition won out, with Tilles becoming President of the new association. The annual exposition ceased in 1902 as preparations for the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair began.

However, the revival of the Fairgrounds suffered another blow with the abolition of gambling on horse racing in Missouri in June 1905. Governor Joseph W. Folk was elected in 1904, running as an anti-gambling, progressive reformer. Folk signed the Anti-Breeders Act, directly leading to the permanent closure of the St. Louis Fairground Track.

In 1908, after protracted political debate, the abandoned 132-acre fairground was purchased from the association for park use by St. Louis for \$700,000. The park was dedicated on October 9, 1909.

All of the former fair structures and zoo buildings were removed except the bear pits of the old zoo and the amphitheater. In 1912, the amphitheater was removed and replaced by the city's first municipal swimming pool, then said to be the world's largest. This was replaced by a new pool in 1958 as part of the 1955 bond issue program, which also provided lighted baseball diamonds and hard surface tennis courts. At the corner of Grand Boulevard and Natural Bridge Road, the facade of the old bear pits still stands at the park's main entrance.



(L) Park Entrance as it Appeared in 1913; (R) Façade of Old Bear Pits as it Appears Today



Grant Camp Descends on Michigan for Central Region Conference

The 77th annual Allied Orders of the GAR Central Region Association conference was held on October 3 in Dundee/Monroe, MI, home of General George A. Custer. The Central Region is one of two regional associations in the Allied Orders organizations, with the other being the New England Regional Association. The Central Region was founded with the purpose of "bringing the Departments closer together in the true spirit for which they were organized, and to receive information and inspiration for renewed efforts.

- ~ Follow up on storage of Central Region records, which are now stored at LGAR headquarters
- ~ Status on sales of Central Region 75th challenge coins
- ~ Sites for future locations for Central Region Conferences, including Nashville, TN in 2016 and Cleveland, OH in 2017.

The highlight of the business meeting was the presentation of the Meritorious Service Award to Alan and the late LeeAnn Teller, who together, have been the face of the Central Region for the last decade.



Custer Statue in Monroe, MI

The weekend began with an informal dinner at a local restaurant for those that arrived early. On Saturday, the conference began with a trip to the Monroe History Museum for a tour, a presentation on Custer, and lunch.

The business meeting was held back at the Holiday Inn in neighboring Dundee, MI. Central Region Commander Jim Pahl (dual member of the Grant Camp) brought the meeting to order. In addition to officer and committee reports, a number of topics were discussed, including:

New officers were elected for the 2015-2016 administrative year, including our own PCinC Don Palmer as Central Region Commander. Grant Camp members Walt Busch and John Palmer, were appointed as Chaplain and Color Bearer, respectively.



Central Region Elected and Appointed Officers for 2015-2016



Fall Department Meeting Highlights

The Fall Department business meeting was held on October 24 at the State Capitol in Jefferson City. The initial portion of the meeting was designated as a %Special Department Encampment+ in order to restore Past Camp Commander (PCC) credentials to Brothers Wayne Sampson and Emmett Taylor. Both Brothers Sampson and Taylor were Past Commanders of the Alexander Asboth Camp #5, which recently surrendered their charter. PCC credentials were restored for both by vote of the Special Department Encampment. In addition, a vote to restore Past Department Commander (PDC) credentials to Brother Taylor was held and the motion passed. However, PDC credentials cannot be completely restored without a resolution and vote of approval at the National Encampment.

issues were discussed, including:

- ~ Developing a process for handling supplemental ancestor applications and proposing to National.
- ~ Status of the Vicksburg monument restoration project and the need to contact local legislators to help move funds approved by the state to the National Park Service.
- ~ Review of proposed by-laws revisions, primarily as they relate to the Awards program.
- ~ %Brain-storming+ ideas for new Department-wide projects, including youth-oriented initiatives similar to those implemented by the Sons of the American Revolution.

At the Fall business meeting, a number of topics and/or

After the meeting, a number of attendees retired to a favorite Mexican restaurant in Jefferson City for food and fellowship.



Annual Grant Camp Christmas Party

Come out and join the Brothers of U.S. Grant Camp #68 and the Sisters of Julia Dent Grant Auxiliary #68 for fun and festivities at our annual Christmas Party and 2016 officer installation!

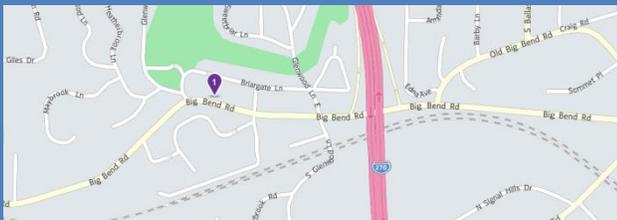
Date: Tuesday, December 8

Time: Social at 6:30 pm, Dinner at 7:00 pm

Location: Greenbriar Hills County Club
12665 Big Bend Blvd.

Program: Fr Vincent Heier will present his program on %Grant as Portrayed by Hollywood+

Please RSVP by December 3
(contact PCinC Don Palmer at pondook@aol.com)



Welcome New Member!

The Brothers of U.S Grant Camp #68 would like to welcome **James E. Hoskins** from Troy, MO as a new member of the Camp! Brother Hoskins derives his membership from his 4 x great grandfather, James Conway Tucker, who served in Co. C, 10th Kentucky Cavalry US, and Co. K, 62nd Ohio Infantry.

The 10th Kentucky cavalry was mainly involved in operations in eastern Kentucky and Southwest Virginia in 1862 and 1863 and was mustered out of service in September 1863.

The 62nd Ohio Infantry had extensive service in both Virginia and South Carolina. In South Carolina, the 62nd Ohio was involved in the assaults on both Forts Wagner and Gregg on Morris Island and the siege of Charleston. In Virginia, the regiment was involved in the siege of Petersburg and the Appomattox campaign.

Tucker was born in Kentucky in 1837 and enlisted on August 10, 1862. He was injured in battle and mustered out of Union service on December 7, 1865. He died in Hannibal, MO in 1921 at the age of 84.



U.S. Grant Camp #68 2015 Officers

Commander .	Bob Aubuchon
Senior Vice Commander .	John Palmer
Junior Vice Commander .	Mike Hudson
Secretary/Treasurer .	Walter Busch
Council -	Bob Amsler
Council -	John Avery
Council -	Bob Petrovic
Patriotic Instructor -	Martin Aubuchon
Chaplain -	Fr. Vincent Heier

Membership Inquiries?

Please contact Junior Vice Commander Mike Hudson at HUDSON0268@yahoo.com.

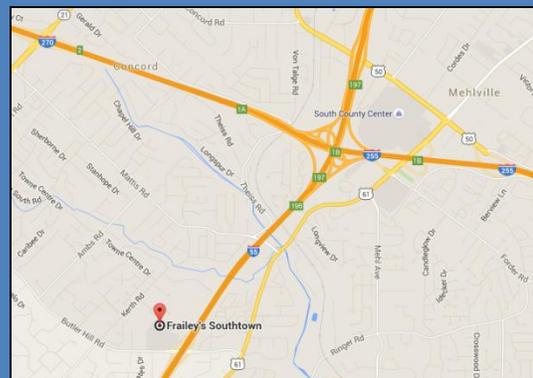


U.S. Grant Camp #68 Meeting Information

Meeting Dates: 2nd Monday of each month
(no meeting in August)

Meeting Time: 7:00 pm (many members gather for dinner prior to meeting at 6:00 pm)

Meeting Location: Frailey's Southtown Grill
4329 Butler Hill Rd.
St. Louis, MO



Upcoming Events....

- ~ Nov 26 . Thanksgiving Day
- ~ Dec 8 . Grant Camp Christmas Party at Greenbriar Hills Country Club
- ~ Dec 12 . Wreaths Across America at Jefferson Barracks Natl Cemetery
- ~ Jan 11 . Camp Meeting at Frailey's Grill
- ~ Feb 8 . Camp Meeting at Frailey's Grill
- ~ Feb 28 . Sherman Day Ceremonies at Calvary Cemetery
- ~ Mar 12 . Missouri Department Meeting at Jefferson City
- ~ Mar 14 . Camp Meeting at Frailey's Grill
- ~ Mar 19 . Friends of Jefferson Barracks Swap Meet



Sons of Veterans Reserve Activities



Sons of Veterans Reserve National Chief of Staff (and Grant Camp member) Col. Bob Petrovic attended the Remembrance Day programs at Gettysburg National Military Park on November 21. The SVR-organized event included the SVR Breakfast at the Wyndham-Gettysburg Hotel, the Woolson Monument ceremony on the battlefield, the Remembrance Day parade through the town of Gettysburg, and the annual Civil War Ball at the Wyndham Hotel. The proceeds from the ball are donated to the National Park Service for battlefield preservation efforts at Gettysburg. Over \$75,000 has been donated since the inception of this program.



News from the Auxiliary

Julia Dent Grant Auxiliary #68, St. Louis, MO



There were a couple of actions at the recent National Encampment that Auxiliary #68 members should be made aware of:

- ~ There were two amendments to the Constitution that were passed that will require ratification by Departments and Auxiliaries-at-Large. One of these amendments removes the requirement that Auxiliary members must be United States citizens. Voting materials will be sent to Departments and Auxiliaries-at-Large (both Presidents and Secretaries) to document the ratification votes. Auxiliary #68 will be required to submit their ratification vote results by May 31, 2016.
- ~ No more printed copies of the CR&R and Rituals will

be produced until all previously approved amendments, additions, corrections and changes have been incorporated. Until then, electronic versions will be made available.

In other news:

- ~ Auxiliary Chaplain Sarah Palmer was appointed Allied Orders Central Region Guide for the 2015-2016 year.
- ~ PAP Cher Petrovic attended the Remembrance Day events at Gettysburg on November 21.

Finally, elections for 2016 Auxiliary officers are coming up. If any Sister is interested in serving in an elected or appointed office, please contact either Auxiliary President Deb Aubuchon or Secretary/Treasurer Cher Petrovic.