## HARDSCRABBLE



"WHITEHAVEN," The Dent Homestead Near St. Louis, Missouri Redrawn from an old drawing owned by Mrs. U. S. Grant Photo Courtesy of McClure's Magazine April 1897 Edition. Owned by editor.

# OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF U.S. GRANT CAMP #68 DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

From the Commander,

#### Greetings!

I am happy to report that on 20 January 2008 that four of our members were able to attend the Eagle Scout Ceremony in Shrewsberry, MO. It was the first one that I have ever had the chance to go to. I found it very interesting and was glad to have had the opportunity. An article follows in Grant Camp Activities Section of this edition of Hardscrabble.

As editor of our paper I would like to ask that you all send me some information on your ancestors who served our Country in its great hour of need. I am sure that many of us would love to find out more about them.

- February 17- 2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri Drill date. Meet at visitor's center at Jefferson Barracks at 2 p.m.
- February 23- Jefferson Barracks Swap Meet, Grant Shelter 9a.m. to 3 p.m. Table for Grant Camp.
- February 24-Sherman Days at Calvary Cemetery. 2 P.M. starting time. The military parade starts at 1:45 p.m. Assembly for the Military participants is at 1:30. Calvary Cemetery is at 5239 West Florissant Ave. St. Louis, MO
- March 3 Meeting at Growler's Pub at 7 p.m.
- April 12- Lincoln Celebration in Springfield Illinois. Ceremony will take place at Lincoln's Tomb.

If you have not done so please send in your dues to continue to support our camp as a member. As of our last meeting we had twelve out of our twenty-nine members to send in their dues.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Gary L. Scheel Camp Commander

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Photo: Courtesy of National Archives, Washington, D.C., Editor's possession.

What is the name of General Grant's horse in this photo?

- A. Cleveland
- B. Cincinnati
- C. Chickamauga
- D. Chattanooga
- E. Canaan

Answer to February Trivia Question: Who is this famous Civil War General pictured in the foreground? D. <u>U.S. Grant</u>, Mexican War era photo

Brothers responding with correct answer: Walt Busch. Dan Jackson.

## **CAMP BUSINESS**

Brothers,

We had a good meeting on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> and we missed you. There were ten members present. Brother Mark Coplin our Secretary/Treasurer reported that twelve of our members have paid their dues. We have seventeen members who have sent in their dues. Please do so as soon as you can.

Brother Dan Jackson, our Grave Registrations Officer, reported that twentynine grave registrations were turned into him in January.

A new camp in Columbia, MO has sent in their paper work to National Department to be organized.

Brother Don Palmer our National Secretary, reports the formation of two new Departments. One of them is in South Carolina.

We have been invited to the Commemoration of the Battle of Fort San Carlos at St. Louis in 1780.. The ceremony will be Sunday May 25 at 2 p.m. It will take place at the Missouri History Museum in the Great Hall. Address is Lindell and DeBaliviere in Forest Park. This invitation is for us to participate as individuals and is not a camp function

We have also been invited to participate on May  $17^{th}$  at a Monument Dedication at Minnie Ha Ha Park. It is primarily for the Indian Landing but there is Civil War significance to the site.

We have decided instead of fixing the tombstone of Major Inks that we will order a veteran tombstone that will lie flat and not have to worry about repairing the tombstone every two years.

Motion that was brought up was that when we have a guest speaker who is not a member of our camp that we would either offer to pay for a meal prior to the meeting with a couple of drinks or a gift of some kind. It will be up to the discretion of the Camp officers.



#### RE-UP 3 March 2008

It is time. Your membership dues for the U. S. Grant Camp #68 are due. Please If you would like to save the cost of postage bring your dues with you on March  $3^{rd}$  meeting. If for some reason you are unable to attend please send your check or money order for \$35.00 to or \$38 if you wish to pay SVR dues:

Mark Coplin, 4856 Hursley Dr. St. Louis, MO 63128

On 5 November 2007 we as a Camp voted to pay everyone's Sons of Veteran Reserve dues. The SVR dues are \$3 a year. Help us save money for a flag for our SVR Unit by sending in your \$3 with your Membership donation.

In order to be a member of our SVR Unit, 2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri Infantry you need to send in an application.

## **BOYS IN BLUE**



## 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant Samuel Jordan Company B, 34<sup>th</sup> Ohio Veteran Volunteer Infantry

1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant Samuel Jordan is the great-great Grandfather of Brother Dan Jackson.

There is no known photo of 1st Sgt. Jordan. He enlisted on 2 September 1861 at the age of thirty-five. He was Killed in Action on 22 September 1864 at the Battle of Fisher's Hill, VA and is buried in an unmarked grave or a grave that is marked as UNKNOWN.

Brother Dan states that there is one refer-ence of 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant Jordan being an officer but other than that there is no reference to his being commissioned.

Thirty-fourth Ohio Infantry.

Cols, A. Sanders Piatt, John T. Toland, Freeman Freeman E. Franklin; Lieut-Cols., John W. Shaw

Shaw, Luther Furney; Majs., Thomas W. Rathbone, Alfred Butters. This regiment was organized at Camps Lucas and Dennison, from July 27 to Sept. 14, 1861, to serve for three years. It left Camp Dennison on Sept. 15 for western Virginia, with full ranks, and arrived at Camp Enyart on the Kanawha river on the 20th. During the autumn and winter it was engaged in the arduous duty of guarding the rear of Gen. Rosecrans' army, and the counties of Cabell, Putnam, Mason, Wayne and Logan, were kept pretty free from guerrillas by continual scouting. It participated in the battle of Princeton, losing several men. Part of the time at the battle of Fayetteville the 34th fought in the open field and repeatedly charged the enemy, its loss being necessarily heavy. Of six companies engaged the loss was 130, or fully 1/3 or 1/2 of the officers being either killed or wounded. Cutting their way out under a heavy fire, the Federal troops fell back towards the Kanawha river, made a stand at Cotton hill the next day and at Charlestown, Sept. 13, 1862, where a severe engagement took place. From this time until May, 1863, nothing of moment occurred to vary the monotony of garrison duty. At Wytheville in the following July Co. C was attacked by a superior force of Confederate cavalry, and a number was killed and wounded, Capt. Cutter and 15 men being taken prisoners. Several expeditions to Lewisburg and vicinity completed this year's campaign. About 2/3 of the regiment re-enlisted as veterans, and on June 5, 1864, the regiment skirmished with a body of cavalry at Piedmont. The next day the Confederates were met at Buffalo gap, in a position secure from direct attack, but the brigade succeeded in

flanking and driving them out. Then ensued Hunter's disastrous raid upon and retreat from Lynchburg, in which the 34th participated. Then came the operations in the Shenandoah Valley, and at Snicker's gap the regiment lost 10 killed and 20 wounded. Four days later occurred the fourth battle of Winchester, in which the 34th suffered severely. Aug. 21 found the regiment at Halltown, where heavy skirmishing ensued until the 27th, when the enemy withdrew to demonstrate on the upper Potomac. The regiment next participated in the battle of Berryville, then marched to Summit Point and lay in camp until day on which occurred Sheridan's famous battle of Winchester, it being the third time the regiment had fought over nearly the same ground. It suffered terribly that day, the color-guard having no less than 6 men, in quick succession, killed and wounded while carrying the flag. The next evening found the regiment at Cedar creek, where it lay until the battle of Fisher's hill. The loss of the 34th in the last two engagements was 61 killed. The loss of the regiment in the affair at Cedar creek was 2 killed, 12 wounded and 18 prisoners. On Jan. 11, 1865, the post of Beverly, garrisoned by the 34th, which by this time was reduced to 300 men present for duty, and the dismounted portion of the 8th Ohio cavalry, was attacked by the enemy. So secret and sudden was the attack - no alarm whatever being given until the enemy was in the quarters - that resistance was out of the question and nearly every man was at one time a prisoner, though subsequently a great many escaped, favored by the darkness and intense excitement of the occasion. The survivors of this most unfortunate and disgraceful affair were consolidated with the 36th Ohio, the union of the separate organizations dating from Feb. 22, 1865, and in which the old 34th lost its identity.

Source: The Union Army, vol. 2



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FEBRUARY 15 thru MARCH 15

FEBRUARY 17 2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri Infantry Regiment Drill Jefferson Barracks. Meet in front of V Visitor Center at 2 p.m.

FEBRUARY 23 SWAP MEET. Grant Pavillion at Jeff Brks. We will have a table. Starts at 9 a.m. over at 3 p.m. Come by and help us.

FEBRUARY 24 SHERMAN BIRTHDAY CEREMONY
Calvary Cemetery, W. Florissant Ave
St. Louis. Ceremony is at 2 p.m.
2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri Infantry members arrive
at main gate at 1:15 p.m. Ceremony
will take place at General Sherman's
Grave site

MARCH 3 U.S. GRANT CAMP #68 MEETING At Growler's Pub. Meeting starts at 7 p.m.



# OUR ACTIVITIES

One of the ways that we can honor our ancestors who fought in the Civil War is by participating in public activities that have a Civil War emphasis. We have been very active in fulfilling this mandate established by the Grand Army of the Republic for the Sons of

Union Veterans of the Civil War. Most of the time we participate in activities at gravesites of Union Veterans or at various places such as churches and historic societies. Another place we have an opportunity to show who we are to the public is at an Eagle Scout Swearing in Ceremony. On January 20<sup>th</sup> we were invited to have provide a flag honor guard at an Eagle Scout Ceremony for Justin Wash in Shrewsberry, MO.

One of the requirements to become an Eagle Scout is to plan and participate in a community project. What Justin Wash planned and completed was to build a retaining wall at Crestwood Elementary School, near his home.

Eagle Scout Justin has been a member of Boy Scout Troop #51 all of his scouting experience.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War have a certificate to commemorate this achievement in the life of a Scout.

Brother John Avery presented the Certificate to Justin at the beginning of the ceremony with a brief history of the Sons of Union Veterans and the Boy Scouts becoming involved with each other.

At the Gettysburg Battlefield at the  $75^{th}$  Anniversary of the battle the Union and Confederate soldiers met. At the same time the Boy Scouts were having their

National Jamboree at Gettysburg, PA. The boy scouts and the veterans from both sides built up a friendship and it was from this event that Sons of Union Veterans established what later became known as the Eagle Scout Certificate.

There were four members of our camp able to attend.



L/R: Gary Scheel, Mark Coplin, Justin Wash, Marty Aubuchon and John Avery

### 2007 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT ITEMS FOR SALE

Polo shirts with encampment arch logo on them. \$30.00 Logan Medals limited supply and they are numbered \$15.00 Encampment medals with arch logo on them \$7.50 Arch logo gold GAR badge on them \$7.50 Goodie bags \$10.00

Special offer
Logan Medal, Encampment arch medal and Arch button \$20.00

If you are interested in purchasing the above items contact Robert Petrovic at RPetro7776@aol.com

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