



HARDSCRABBLE

Fraternity - Charity - Loyalty
Ever For The Union



A Newsletter Publication For The U.S. Grant Camp #68 Department of Missouri

Volume 1. No. 1. October 1997

Camp Commander Robert J. Amsler Jr.

Editor Stewart Brady Umfleet

Ulysses S. Grant Camp Presented With Abraham Lincoln Award

August 8, 1997 C-in-C Alan Loomis Presented the U. S. Grant Camp with the Abraham Lincoln award at the 116th National Encampment in Utica, New York. Past Camp Commander Steven Leicht accepted the award on behalf of the Camp. This award is given to only one camp each year that has showed outstanding performance and achievements throughout the year. There are 175 camps in the organization.

Congratulations to all the brothers who made this award possible!!! Let's try for 2 years in a row!!!

National Appointed Officers

The following brothers of the Grant Camp were appointed National positions:

Steven Leicht National Chief of Staff; Bob Petrovic National Eagle Scout Award Coordinator; Bob Amsler National Legal Staff.

The appointed positions of Brothers Leicht and Petrovic is the first time in over 50 years that a member from this State has held a position this high in the National Organization.

Congratulations to these outstanding men!!

Dept. of MO Gets Original Dept. Charter

September 26th the Sterling Price Camp SCV invited the Missouri SUV Camps to join them at a dinner to celebrate their camp's birthday. At this dinner Department Commander Steven Leicht was presented with the Original

Department Charter for the State of Missouri. The U. S. Grant Camp will be inviting the Sterling Price Camp to our December Meeting to show our appreciation and to have good fellowship with the SCV. The Camp Commander asks that the members make a special effort to come to the meeting and show their support in thanking the Sterling Price Camp.

Hardtack from the Editor

Welcome brothers and greetings from the editorial staff at the Hardscrabble, your new U. S. Grant # 68 Newsletter. We are hoping to come to you at least Quarterly throughout the year.

Our mission is to provide you with camp news, upcoming events, history and other tidbits. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform our brothers on what is going on in our camp and our organization. We hope that as our camp grows the newsletter will grow also. We're looking for your ideas of what you would like to see in the camp newsletter. Your Editor in Chief, Brother Stewart Brady Umfleet, has organized the newsletter to provide the following coverage: an editorial column from the Editor in Chief, Camp Orders from the Commander, Camp news, columns on the history of the civil war, a column on Brothers Civil War Heritage, Suttlers Post (want ads) and upcoming events.

Any brother may submit an article or ad for the Suttlers Post for publication at the discretion of the editorial board and I would suggest that you do unless you want to be bored with the editor writing every article. To submit an article for publication mail to: Brady Umfleet, 90 Forest Knoll, Fenton, MO 63026.

Received 30 Oct. 06 21 1997
Listed

EDITORIAL

Brothers what is Fraternity, Loyalty, and Charity (F. C. & L.)? According to Webster's New World Dictionary the word fraternity means: brotherliness, a group of men joined together for fellowship, and a group of people with the same beliefs. What does Fraternity mean for a Son? It means to come together at monthly camp meetings, departmental and national encampments, and camp social activities that are meant to bring us all together to further the cause of this camp and this organization.

What is the Webster's definition of loyalty? The word loyalty is defined as: faithful to one's country, friends, ideals, and showing such faithfulness. What does Loyalty mean to a Son? It means to be Loyal to the camp and the organization and this is done by being Fraternal, Charitable, and Loyal.

How does Webster's define charity? The word charity is defined as being: love for one's fellow men, leniency in judging others, and generosity toward the needy. And what does Charity mean to a Son? It means to take part in activities that are designed both to remember those men and women that have sacrificed for our country, and those that are struggling today in living day-to-day.

I have not written this editorial to slam my fellow Brothers. I have written this editorial to stress that it is not enough to simply belong to an organization but brothers also have to give of themselves to that organization. If we do not give of ourselves to the organization then the organization will not grow, and sad to say neither as individuals will we. In F. L. C. S.B.U.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE CAMP

We will be holding our annual food drive for the hungry. Please remember to bring canned goods to our next November meeting.

We will also be holding our annual toy drive for tots. We will be collecting toys at our next two

meetings. Along with collecting money and new or like new clothing for old soldiers home.

The camp voted to collect clothing and money to help the men at the old soldiers home and disadvantaged veterans. This will provide help to our veterans who are not in a position to help themselves.

October 25, 1997 Odd Fellows Cemetery Day 9:00 a.m. Located at Broadway and Kingston Rd. In the event of bad weather contact Brother Steven Leicht @ 487-2585.

November 5, 1997 Camp meeting at Young's. Nominations for Camp Officers will be made at this meeting.

December 3, 1997 Camp Meeting at Young's. We will be electing Camp Officers and have food after meeting.

December 12, 1997 Camp Christmas Party at Old House in Kimmswick at 6:30 p.m. Seating is limited. You must contact Brother Steven Leicht by November 12th for reservations. 487-2585

January 7, 1997 Camp meeting at Library. A Library presentation will take place instead of our regular meeting at Young's. We will be giving a presentation on the different uniforms of the Civil War.

Note: I would like to know of any upcoming events that a Brother may know about. Just send me that information. I would be happy to publish it.

LETTERS FROM THE FRONT

Brother Steven Leicht has given us for publication in the Hardscrabble Newsletter photocopied letters written by David Allen Jr. of the 29th Missouri Infantry Volunteers. I will publish a few of these in each edition of the Hardscrabble Newsletter. I have published them just as they were written. I think that you will find these letters interesting, it appears that as the

war goes on David will be a part of the march to the sea with General Sherman.

Cape Girardeau Mo

October 23rd, 1862

7 o'clock P.M.

Dear Mother

We have arrived safe at this place. After a great deal of delay we got off about 10 o'clock last night as a matter of course all were kept awaked by the excitement. I stood on the hurricane deck looking into the depths of the night straining my eyes as lights after light disappeared. At least two solitary lights looming through the fog alone indicated the position of St. Louis, first one then the another disappeared then all was swallowed up in the night. I then descended to the cabin and after a good warming I commenced to look about for camping ground which I finally discovered on a pile composed of tents Boxes re and immediatly went into possession there of sharing my bed with Frank Stiber B.W Sergeant. We had a cool time of it but managed to get a few hours rest being awakened when we passed the magazine and getting up at four. Found the boat lying at Rosi's Landing which we left in 15 minutes by daybreak an reached Chester, Ill which we found to be quite a business looking little place but very shabby. We soon resumed our voyage and passing several little towns and landing we reached here about 1 o'clock PM To-day. During the latter part of our trip nummerous greetings were exchanged by our fellow soldiers with their wives parents & families who reside along our rout a great many of Co K bieng from this neighborhood. We met with nothing to mar our pleasure except some of our companions whom drank to much and of course made themselves some what officious. We had an accident to happen to one of our wagons. Through the carelessness of some of the hands one of the wagons slipped from the grasp of the men who were taking it aboard and ran into the river We however recovered the wagon and all the contents though somewhat damaged.

I enjoyed myself very much spending most of my time on the hurricane deck viewing the scenery on both sides of the river. That of the Illinois side was nearly all low woody bottom. That of the Missouri highbluffs over grown with dwarf oak.

We found all of our friends in good health and excellant spirits. Alex Robertson is getting along fine has been out scouting several times and had the honor of surrounding a house and capturing nothing except some Rebel Buttons I will send you some. Jim can label them as curiosities. Tell Aunt Elizabeth and Alex goodbye for me as I did not get a chance to see them. Give my love to Aunts Jim, Alex, and Anna and except a larger share for yourself and bluve me ever

Your Affectionate Son

David Allan Jr.

P.S Write immediatly remember me to all kind friends and direct. I am well & in good spirits.

David Allan Jr., Care of Lieut. E.M Joel
QM 29th Mo Vols

Cape Girardeau Mo

Head-Quarters

29th Regiment Missouri Volunteer Infantry

Cape Girardeau Oct. 25, 1862

Dear Brother

Having a few spare minutes I devote them to penning a few lines to you. I wrote to mother the day we arrived here (Thursday about 1 o'clock).

I am well and in the best of spirits. The majority of our Regiment feel the same. We were to have had a Color Presentation to-day but it did not come of on account of a snow-storm which lasted all morning. The Boys out at camp had a disagreeable time with the snow although the tents are not cold as you would think for. The Quartermaster has his warehouse in a store opposite the St.Charles Hotel, so I have a Comfortable time. How is Anna, is she better than when I left ? How are you All ?

I want you to send me Two (2) Dollars as I can not get my pay until the first of next month you can get Ten Dollars (\$10) From MR. Jones which will pay the months rent besides my money. Send my two dollars cash in a \$2 US note or in small postage stamp notes. Send as soon as possible by mail.

I will send some of my things back by earliest opportunity to the care of Mr. Jones I will also send some Rebel Buttons home which you can keep for curiosities. They were captured by Alex Robertson while on a scout.

Give my love to all at home. Remember me to all my friends. I have been very buisey to day so excuse my short letter.

Ever for the Union
Your Brother
David Allen Jr.

To
James Allan
St.Louis, Mo

Camp Orders

Series 1997

October, 1997

1. The next meeting of the camp will be the first Wednesday of November 1997. The group will convene with dinner at Young's Restaurant at 6:00 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

2. A workday is scheduled for the cemetery. More information is contained in this newsletter. Please help if you can. It is our duty as members of the SUVCW to preserve the graves of our ancestors and those who died to preserve the Union and free those held in bondage against their will.

3. Our Camp will give food to the needy for Thanksgiving. Please remember to bring some canned food (and not just the stuff you do not want) for those who need our charity at this time

of year. To those of us to whom much has been given, much is expected.

4. Our Camp will also participate in a toy drive for the needy children again this year. Please be generous. Moreover, I have learned that there is a need for toys for older children. There are more than enough toys for those young children and babies. The real need is for those who are older.

5. In addition, our Camp will be donating items to the Old Soldiers' Home in St. James, Missouri. These Veterans need our help also. As a personal aside, my Grandfather went to this home when he was older and was indigent. No one in our family was able to take care of him. He died there shortly after I was born. My Grandfather, Theodore Amsler served honorably during the first world war and was the grandson of Casimir Amsler who fought in the Civil War for the Union. This home now houses veterans who are indigent and may not be remembered by their families as they ought to be or do not have families. I think this is a very worthwhile project for our Camp to take on and I hope that this will be continued forever.

6. Elections are upcoming. The candidates are listed elsewhere in the newsletter. Please attend the next few meetings so you can vote for your favorite candidate and attend the installation. More information will follow.

7. Finally, the U. S. Grant Camp No. 68 will hold a Christmas Dinner at an appropriate restaurant. For more information see article in Up Coming Events December 12th.

Yours in Faith, Charity, and Loyalty,
Robert J. Amsler, Jr.
Commander

The Hardscrabble is the official publication of the General Ulysses S. Grant Camp # 68, Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War. All rights reserved and copyrighted. Any brother may submit articles for publication. Send to Stewart Brady Umfleet, 90 Fore st Knoll, Fenton, MO 63026