



HARDSCRABLE

Fraternity – Charity – Loyalty
Ever for the Union

Newsletter Publication for Ulysses S. Grant Camp #68
Department of Missouri – SUVCW
Volume 13 – Number 2 – September 2011

U.S. Grant Camp On the Move Again **Meetings at d.dooleys 026 in Fenton**

Second Monday of the Month at d.dooleys.026 in Fenton, MO at 7pm. We will have a private room for the next several months there and are trying it out. So far, members and their families that have eaten there have really enjoyed it. d.dooleys is in the Dierberg's plaza at the corner of Hwy 141 and New Hwy 30 in Fenton. There is plenty of parking. Come early to enjoy a meal and fellowship. Note: Except for December meeting which will be held at another location.

Real Son Joins U.S. Grant Camp

Grant camp 68, Dept of MO, has another real son on their membership books. Hilbert (Herb) J. Gramelspacher was 11 years old when his father died in the early 1930s. His father, Joseph, had married a younger woman like many older soldiers did. They had 3 children before the old soldier died. His father served in the 143rd Indiana Infantry Co E in 1865 and is buried apparently in an unmarked grave in Jasper IN. Herb, age 91, he served two hitches during WWII in the US Coast Guard, both stateside and in convoy escorts. He and his wife currently live in Poplar Bluff, Mo. Herb also signed up for our SVR unit.

Below is a photograph of Dept Commander Chris Warren doing the honors for the Grant Camp in pinning on Herb's membership badge.



Chaplin's Corner

By Mark Coplin PCC

At our meeting in March Commander Jackson added a section to the meeting minutes. It was entitled - Report of sick Brothers or Brother's family in distress. This is a report that I will provide at the camp meetings. Please email me, phone, or write anything that you would like the camp to know about. If you know of another Brother that needs our support please let us know. We can pray for you or in some cases try to help as best we can. Our organization is a fraternal order so we should try to help each other when we can. My number is (314)-487-8067 cell (314)-302-4775 email is macnac1@earthlink.net. My address is 4856 Hursley Dr. St. Louis, MO 63128

"Doctor Hair" Has Moved Up the Ladder **Don't fall off Don**

Don Palmer – is now the National Commander-in- Chief. When asked how it felt, he reported that a great weight was now on his shoulders. His schedule will be busy traveling around the country. Please keep Brother Palmer in your thoughts and prayers this year. Hopefully he can do as much at the National level as he did for our Department. The Lt. Col. J. Felix St. James Camp #326 is hosting a Reception/Dinner for National Commander-in-Chief Donald Palmer on October 29th at the Ste. Genevieve Hotel Restaurant. Registration has past at the time of this publication.

Christmas Dinner

This year's Christmas Party will be held at the Greenbriar Country Club located at Big Bend and I-270. The date of the dinner will be on the second Tuesday of December (12/13). It will be semi-formal. The dinner price is equivalent to the \$20 range and we could get a private dining area with a podium/table or what ever provided. Marty is working on the presentation. Put it on your calendar.

U. S. Grant Camp #68

Sesquicentennial Challenge Coin Series



#1



#2



A set of 5 Numbered Civil War Sesquicentennial Coins to be issued by 2015.
Coin 3 will be released by Nov 15, 2011. We anticipate having the entire set by 2013. \$75 includes all shipping for the set. Ordering now insures a low number!

May check payable to- U.S. Grant Camp #68

Mail to: Robert M. Petrovic, P.D.C
6519 Cherokee Lane
Cedar Hill, MO 63016-2527



SVC Don Palmer presenting Grant brothers with challenge coins.

Arcadia Valley's Commemorates the 150th Anniversary of U.S. Grant's Promotion to Brigadier General

On Saturday, July 30th in Ironton, MO, the U.S. Grant Camp #68 commemorated Colonel Grant receiving the news of his promotion to brigadier-general. The signature event was sponsored by the U.S. Grant Camp, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Arcadia Valley Chamber of Commerce, and the Iron County Historical Society, in cooperation with the Friends of Fort Davidson State Historic Site and Ste. Marie du Lac Catholic Church.

Shortly after his arrival in Ironton in August, 1861, Colonel Ulysses S. Grant received the official notification of his promotion to Brigadier General. Grant, the leader of the Union forces stationed in the Arcadia Valley at that time, received the news at his headquarters near a cool spring on property owned by Col. James Lindsay on August 7th, 1861. Years later, in 1886, surviving members of the 21st Illinois Infantry Volunteers (Colonel Grant's unit) erected a monument on the spot where he received the official notification of his promotion. The ceremonies on the 30th will have the monument as a center point.

The organizers extended special invitations to the Grant family, Col. Lindsay's family and descendants of the 21st Illinois. 4th Military District SVR Commander Lt. Col. Jack Grothe is descended from Pvt. Levi McDowell, Co. D of that unit. At the celebration, Ulysses Grant VI and brother Levi, along with members of their family, were in attendance. Also in attendance were members of Col. Lindsay's family and members of several SUV camps. The Grant brothers were presented with the challenge coins made by the US Grant Camp #68.

The signature event also featured music by the Pilot Knob Mountain Boys, a historical re-creation of Grant receiving the news, speeches and displays from

various groups. This was the second signature event of the U.S. Grant Camp in the last several months. The first was at Camp Jackson, St. Louis, in May in remembrance of the first military action in the state and Union victory.



Brigadier General Ulysses S. Grant photographed at Cairo, Illinois in September, 1861. Photo from the Photographic History of the Civil War in Ten Volumes, Vol. 1, page 181

The following is the keynote speech given by Walt Busch.
Edited and expanded upon by David Roggensees

U.S. Grant Remembrance

at

Ste Marie Du Lac Church, Ironton, MO.
July 30, 2011

We have come here today to honor the memory of Ulysses S. Grant commanding general of the armies of the United States of America during the darkest crisis in our country's history. Just as President Lincoln clearly saw the political consequences of disunion and fought to preserve our country in the political arena, Unconditional Surrender Grant saw as no one else how to defend our nation on the field of battle. Because of Grant's clarity of vision throughout his life, we are a stronger nation. Today, I will concentrate on this warrior's coming of age as a leader of men in the state of Missouri.

Born Hiram Ulysses Grant in Point Pleasant, Ohio on April 27, 1822, he entered West Point Military Academy at the young age of 17. When the Mexican-American War broke out in 1846, young Lieutenant Grant went with the army and was twice brevetted for bravery; once at Molino del Rey and again at Chapultepec.

After the war, while stationed at Jefferson Barracks, Grant met Julia Boggs Dent. They fell deeply in love and were married on August 22, 1848. Four children blessed their union. An officer who excelled at war Grant resigned from the peacetime army in 1854. He farmed the hills around White Haven in Affton, Mo. before trying other business ventures that kept his gifts in obscurity. Grant would not shine until the outbreak of war.

Immediately after the first cannons of America's Civil War began to roar, Grant was commissioned as a Colonel of the 21st Illinois Infantry which was organizing in Springfield. Commanded to go to Quincy, he trained his recruits while they guarded the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad bridge at Hunnewell. From there, he chased Missouri Guard General Harris around the Florida area in Northeast Missouri. Harris apparently feared the approaching Union force and this taught Grant a valuable lesson. Grant learned: "From that event to the close of the war, I never experienced trepidation upon confronting an enemy, though I always felt more or less anxiety. I never forgot that he had as much reason to fear my forces as I had his. The lesson was valuable."

On August 8th, he took command of the defenses at the vital railhead of the Iron Mountain Railroad, established blockhouses for security and set up his command post at Ironton, Mo. Shortly after arriving, Colonel Grant read in the newspapers that he had been nominated by President Lincoln for the rank of brigadier-general. A few days later, under the "Grant Oak" near a spring on the current grounds of St. Marie Du Lac Catholic Church in Ironton, he received official word of his promotion. It was here on the grounds of Emerson's Ironton

estate, Judge Emerson insisted that Grant conceived of his plans to allow the Mississippi to run into the sea "with unfettered freedom," and split the Confederacy. Some post war documentation exists that Grant indeed envisioned this plan of action well before anyone else and within days of his promotion.

Soon after relinquishing his post at Ironton, Grant took command the district of Southeast Missouri at Cairo, Illinois. Immediately, the new commander saw he had to take control of the rivers and seized the town of Paducah a mere four days after assuming command.

In early November he was ordered to hold the Confederates at Columbus, Ky. Learning that they might be heading into Missouri, Grant attacked rebel forces at Belmont, in Mississippi Co. Although at the end of the day Grant and the Union soldiers were forced to retreat, the new general had shown a willingness to fight and President Lincoln took note of this man of action and vision.

Grant went on to greatness. He proved himself a consummate commander in the art of war. He grasped both strategy and tactics and together with his friend and lieutenant William Tecumseh Sherman defined modern warfare. As a great leader he knew the time when he would have to demand "Unconditional Surrender," but also had the forethought to provide gracious terms at Appomattox when it was time for the war to end and the healing process to begin. In later years, Grant served as 18th president of the United States. Although his presidency is often considered marred by political favoritism, Grant showed his visionary side again. His campaign slogan, "Let Us Have Peace" was not only a call to northerners and southerners to lay aside their differences, it called for the end of racial violence in the south and the end of extermination of the Indian tribes on the plains. It was Ulysses S. Grant that signed the Civil Rights Act of 1875 into law. To this day, his foresight and actions serve as a standard for the defense of freedom in this land.

After he left office, he lost almost all his money in the stock market. Broke, without a military pension or the presidential retirement that exists today, he began to compose his memoirs. The sheer willpower, the same vision, the same clarity of thought that governed his military life pushed him to complete his memoirs mere days before his death from throat cancer. The memoirs became an instant best-seller, providing his family with needed income, and also giving the world one of the finest examples of military memoirs, second only to Julius Caesar's Gaelic Wars.

One hundred fifty years ago, Ulysses S. Grant, future General of the Armies and future 18th President of the United States stood on these grounds, the launch site of his rocketing star to fame. Someday people living on this continent may forget this visionary, this man of determination, this man of willpower, but we, today, are better free-er people for the fact that he lived.



Later photo of James Lindsay. Lindsay, who was related to Grant by marriage, offered the use of his property to Grant during his posting in the Arcadia Valley.

Photo courtesy of the Iron County Historical Society



U.S. Grant monument erected in 1886 on what are now the grounds of the Ste. Marie du Lac Catholic Church in Ironton.

Photo courtesy of the Iron County Historical Society

Grant Camp Officer Nominations for 2012

Commander: Bob Petrovic

SVC James Egbert

JVC Bob Aubuchon.

Councils: Bob Amsler, Daniel Jackson, Mike Woulfe.

Treas: Walt still in his term.

CAMP QUARTERMASTER

POLO SHIRTS - Red- White - Blue

S, M, L, XL \$40.00

2XL, 3XL \$43.00

4XL \$48.00

DENIM SHIRTS -SHORT/LONG SLV.

S, M, L, XL \$45.00

2XL \$49.00

3XL \$53.00

SWEAT SHIRTS - Red - White - Blue

S, M, L, XL \$32.00

2XL, 3XL \$35.00

4XL \$40.00

SATIN JACKETS - BLACK OR BLUE

S, M, L, XL, 2XL \$95.00 FLANNEL

\$98.00 QUILTED

3XL, 4XL, 5XL \$99.00 FLANNEL

\$103.00 QUILTED

ADDRESS LABELS - 90 COUNT

SUV - GAR LOGOS \$4.00

NAME BADGES - LASER ENGR.

2 X 3 PLASTIC Blue - Camp Red - Depart.

Gold - National

\$6.00 for Camp Members

COFFEE MUGS - SUVCW

\$7.00

STATION BANNERS

14X16 - SET OF 3

WITH FRINGE - \$115.00

WITHOUT FRINGE - \$85.00

All prices are for camp members only no shipping

Contact Mark Coplin to Order Items

(314) 487-8067