



HARDSCRABBLE

Fraternity - Charity - Loyalty
Ever For The Union



A Newsletter Publication For The U.S. Grant Camp #68, Department of Missouri
Camp Commander: Robert J. Amsler Jr.

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Editor: Steven Leicht



Installation of Camp Officers

January 7th at the Grand Glaize Library, Dept. Commander Steven Leicht installed the following members. Listed from left to right: Bob Amsler Camp Commander, Brady Umfleet Jr. Vice Commander, Bob Petrovic Camp Secretary, and Terry Cadenbach.

Elected Camp Officers

The following are the elected Camp Officers. Bob Amsler Camp Commander, Ed Chapman Sr. Vice Commander, Brady Umfleet Jr. Vice-Commander and Bob Petrovic Secretary/Treasurer. Camp Council Steven Leicht, Mike Woulfe and Terry Cadenbach.

Thanks for the Help!

Thanks to the following members who helped paint the ceiling of the Banquet room at Young's Restaurant March 4th. Bob Petrovic, Bob Amsler, Brady Umfleet, Terry Cadenbach, Mike Woulfe, Mike Raybourn, Steven Leicht, Bryan Leicht and Craig Brown. We now have a brighter room and are more appreciated by the management

Upcoming Meeting Dates and Events

April 1st - meeting at Young's Restaurant. Bob Amsler will be giving a presentation on Railroads during the Civil War.

April 4th - a slide presentation will be given at the Crestwood Community Center at White Cliff Park. Slide show will be on the presidential sites of Ulysses S. Grant located in Ohio and New York.

April 15th - Lincoln Death Day in Springfield Illinois.

May 2nd - story telling festival at White Haven. Stories will be told throughout the day.

May 6th - meeting at Young's Restaurant. We have tentatively scheduled a special guest speaker to talk to the members at this meeting. Mark this date on your calendar.

May 9th - Remembrance Day Parade at the Gardenville Community Center. See Bob Amsler for more information.

May 9th - Grave Rededication at King City Cemetery for Edwin J. Thompson. This is located north of Kansas City. If any member is able to go and participate please contact Steven Leicht. Pat Everette will be flying in from California for this event. She is the Great Granddaughter of Edwin Thompson.

May 16th - presentation 1pm at the Boarders in Sunset Plaza (on Watson Rd). The Grant Camp will be giving a presentation on the different uniforms of the Civil War. All members with uniforms are asked to participate in this presentation. Please contact Bob Amsler (353-9131) for more information and to let him know if you can participate.

Received 3/13/98

Flag presentation

Veterans Day November 11, 1997 Department Commander Steven Leicht and Camp Commander Bob Amstler presented a flag in memory of Eugenia Reese, on behalf of the Ladies of the GAR to the Bethesda-Dilworth Home. The Home did not have any extra stand or pole, so the members of the Grant Camp elected to supply the Home with a pole and stand. Since the presentation the flag and pole have been seen in commercials run by the Home on television.

Lincoln Death Day

The Sons of Union Veterans is present every year at the Gravesite of Abraham Lincoln April 15th. This year will mark the 133rd anniversary of the death of Abraham Lincoln. 11am at the Lincoln Tomb, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield IL the Sons of Union Veterans will be honoring our beloved President Lincoln. If any members of the Grant Camp wish to participate in this event please contact Steven Leicht. There is a formal ceremony at the grave of President Lincoln and a luncheon afterwards. There will be a guest speaker at the luncheon giving a presentation on Abraham Lincoln. If you have not attend this event you should go at least once. There will be members from across the Country participating. There will also be over 100 different organizations represented at the cemetery. For more information please contact Steven Leicht (487-2585).

Dues Notice

If anyone has not sent in his dues please do so. This year dues are \$22.00. Please send them to Bob Petrovic @ 4729 Mehl Ave, St. Louis, MO 63129

SVR Unit

If anyone still wants to join the Camp SVR unit please contact Bob Petrovic 892-2158.

LETTERS FROM THE FRONT

The following are letters written by David Allen Jr. of the 29th MO Vol. Letters were rewritten without correcting the punctuation.

Head Quarters 29th MO Vol.
Cape Girardeau Nov 3, 1862

Dear Mother,

I have just returned from my first scout safe and sound.

Yesterday the Commandant of the post ordered 4 companies of our Regiment to go on a scout beyond Jackson about 14 miles from here. I volunteered and had the honor of acting as aide to Major Peterson. I had a good horse but more hard riding than I ever did in my life before.

We left camp Peckham where we were reinforced by a squadron of Calvary and a company of State Militia about 9 O'clock at night. We had a beautiful moonlight ride but after passing Jackson the clouds became heavy and spoiled all the beautiful picture. When we reached our destination 4 miles beyond Jackson we found that the Rebels we had come to catch had slips out or never had been there. After some time spent in the scouting around the neighborhood we encamped about 3 O'clock in the morning. Soon the woods were lit up by our camp fires and the various groups. Presenting pictures from an artist. After standing by the fire getting warm I looked around to for sleeping quarters and found them at the foot of an old oak tree. Pulling my overcoat cape over my head and throwing myself down on the leafy bed I soon was in the arms of Moophus. I was waken by the noise made by our boys on their return from a forging excursion. They had been to a secessionist house near by and taken nearly all the fowels they could lay hands on chickens, ducks, geese, turkey, in fact we had nothing but poultry for the whole command.

At day break we struck camp and spent the morning in the vicinity trying to obtain all the information possible, noon found us on our way to Jackson. We stopped for dinner about quarter of a mile from our camp this morning and made another requisition from old Sices for some mutton. Soon a number of sheep that were frisking about in the pasture when we rode up were transferred to our camp fires and after a hearty meal we continued our homeward ride.

Reached home about 4 O'clock this afternoon after a hard ride of about an hour. I was in the saddle nearly 16 hours and am pretty tired, but am very well and in excellent spirits.

Jackson is a very pretty little place and very quite when we rode through to-day being Sunday. I received Jim's letter of the 30th and was very glad to hear from you all.

Write and tell Jimmy to write at least once a week. It does much good to know that all are well at home. Jim says you want me to take care of myself. You need have no fear on my account we have every comfort possible.

Tell Jimmy I got the money (\$2.00). We were mustered for pay and Col. Cavender has gone up to St. Louis for the Pay Master. I will send you some as soon as I am paid either by mail or Express in either case to the care of Mrs. Jones.

I am glad Jim is going to have the Owl stuffed. Tell him to try to make a case for it and the snake and other curiosities out of the show case in the cellar. If he exercises a little care I think he can make a new job of it. Tell Aunt Elizabeth and Aunt Sarah that I intend to see the rebels if I can and it will not be my fault if they are not warmly received.

Alex and Anna must both write to me at least once a month and tell me how they are getting along. Write soon. Give my love to Aunt Sarah, Elizabeth, Jim, Alex and Anna, and yourself. Believe me ever For The Union.

Your Affectionate Son
David Allan Jr.

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Cape Girardeau November 8th 1862

Dear Mother

I have just received your letter of the 6th and am glad to hear once more from home. We are still in Cape Girardeau although the Regiment is about 2 1/2 miles from town. We have very comfortable quarters in town and have very few sick in the hospital. I am none for the worse for my scout last Saturday night although I was a little sore from riding so much.

Col. Cavender and Lieut. Col. ? have both returned from St. Louis so I expect we will soon be on our way once more. It's reported to-day that we will go to Jackson 10 miles from here where a camp of instruction will be formed.

The first opportunity I have I will send a small package home.

The John H. Dickey which had blew out her boiler on her way down had on board as passengers our Lieut Col and three of our men. 2 were killed, the 3rd was well as the Lieut. Col. had secured a berth and so happily escaped the fate of the others.

The farms I have seen are nowhere beside those in St. Louis County and none reach anything like my idea of a farm. Of course the appearance of the country is some what owing to the times but as no time did the country around here approach any ways near my estimation of a country home.

The scenery around is very tame and monotonous and the only place in this country I have seen that can be called pretty is the little town of Jackson which is regularly lac'douh and well situated for an inland town.

I am glad to hear Alex and Anna are getting along so well and hope they will always strive to improve, try to get Alex to give more attention to reading. If he ever wishes to become anything he will be will owe it as all others do, to attention to reading and studing.

When Jimmy gets the owl tell him to give me a discription of how it is mounted. When I send you some money which should be in a day or two, let him get some amount and fasten the cork of the bottle containing the snake also fill up with alcohol and clean the bottle.

We had a fire last Monday night 2 boats were burned the Mingo U. S. Ram and the John Dvers Jr. the latter a ferryboat used in the Government service.

Tell Aunt Sarah and Aunt Elizabeth to write sometime and mother also. You can write as often as you please. If any letters come from me forward them to my address.

Send me a paper now and then as they are not so plenty as in St. Louis. When they get here the sell for only ? Cents apiece!

It's improbable that we will go to Pilot Knob and so may the chance of sending you some specimens.

Have you seen anything is the St. Louis Union of a letter I wrote about the flag presentation if you have get me a copy. I wrote the letter on the 28th of October.

I sent you a letter last week I think you will find it between the 30th and present date.

Give my love to Aunt Elizabeth and Sarah and to Alex, Jim, and Anna. Also retain a share for yourself. I wanted you to write to me yourself. I like to get letters from you all.

Remember me to all inquiring friend and believe me Ever for our Glorious Union.

David Allan Jr.