



# HARDS CRABBLE

Fraternity - Charity - Loyalty

Ever For the Union



Newsletter Publication For The U.S. Grant Camp #68 Department of Missouri  
Camp Commander: Steven Leicht

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Editor: Steven Leicht

## Cannon Restoration Project



Picture of one of 2 cannons restored on Site

On September 26, 1998 the following members worked on the cannons located at Grant and Gravius Road located across from Grants Farm. Past Camp Commander Bob Amsler, Sec/Tres Bob Petrovic, Bryan Leicht and Camp Commander Steven Leicht. The two cannons were sanded, primed and painted with 6 coats of a commercial waterbase paint made for structural steel tanks. Some of the overgrown brush around the cannons was trimmed back and removed. Members had also picked up and removed the trash in the surrounding the area.

PCC Bob Amsler will be doing some research on these cannons and we will publish the information in an upcoming newsletter when it is available.

## Camp Meetings

Camp meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month and are located at Young's Restaurant located at 386 Meramec Station Rd (Hwy 141 north of Hwy 44). Some of the members meet early for dinner between 6-7pm, meeting starts at 7pm. I would like to encourage

those who can to eat at the restaurant whenever possible. The Restaurant has been gracious to let us use the Banquet room for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year without any cost to the Camp. We need to show our appreciation by dining at their restaurant on occasion.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

- February 3 – Camp meeting
- February 6 – White Haven "Bits N Pieces"
- February 12 – Lincoln's Birthday
- March 3 – Camp meeting
- April 7 – Camp meeting
- April 15 – Camp meeting
- April – work day in cemetery
- May 5 – Camp meeting
- May 31 – Memorial Day Ceremony at Jefferson Barracks
- June 2 – Camp meeting
- June 14 – Flag Day

Additional dates and events will be listed in future newsletters.

## White Haven "Bits N Pieces"

A look at artifacts from the museum collection at the Ulysses S. Grant National Historical Site (White Haven), located at 7400 Grant Road. Program will start at 1pm and go until 4pm. The National Parks Service is offering the public an opportunity to view objects ranging from personal belongings to archeological field finds in a gallery style setting. The exhibition will last approximately 3 hours and no reservations are needed. For more information you can contact the Parks Visitor Center at (314) 842-3298 or Commander Leicht.



## **National Encampment**

The National Encampment will be held in Indianapolis this year August 18-23. If any member wants to go to this event you will need to make room reservations soon. It will be one of the largest Encampments that the Sons of Union Veterans have had in a long time. We will be celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the last GAR Encampment. For more information contact Commander Leicht.

## **Comments from the Commander**

I would like to first thank everyone who was present at the December Camp meeting for coming and showing their support for the newly elected Camp Officers during the election of Officers for the Camp. I hope that it was an enjoyable evening for everyone with lots of good food and fellowship amongst the members and their families.

The elected Camp Officers meet mid January to be updated on their job requirements, some current and past events.

Some of the following events and activities you can expect to see this coming year: Camp newsletter Bi-monthly edition for the members. We will be working on 2-cemetery projects; we will be at White Haven in November for a debate with the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Bob Amsler has agreed to give a presentation pertaining to the Civil War at most of the meetings. We will be trying to schedule another family outing for the members and their families to participate in and possibly another Camp dinner around June or July.

I think that most of the members will find that we will be having a very busy year this year and that there will be something for everyone to do. I hope that the members will find the events that we have scheduled interesting and enjoyable.

## **Camp Orders # 1**

1. Any member that has not paid his dues to Sec/Tres Bob Petrovic, please send your dues in as soon as possible. Dues have gone up to

\$26.00 this year due to the increase in the Departments per capita tax.

2. The Sons of Union Veterans sponsors the Lincoln Death Day Ceremonies at Lincoln tomb every year on April 15. If any member would like to participate in this ceremony please contact Commander Leicht.
3. Memorial Day will be held on May 31 this year. Members of the Camp participate in the Parade of Flags proceeding the Ceremony. If anyone would be able to make this event, please contact Commander Leicht. This is what we represent as an Organization, perpetuating the memories of our Ancestors.
4. If any member has not sent their e-mail address to Commander Leicht, please send the E-mail to [SentryRem@aol.com](mailto:SentryRem@aol.com).
5. If any member would like to serve on a position of the Camp Staff, please contact Commander Leicht. Participation of the members is always appreciated and important to the stability of this Camp.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri SVR Unit**

Dues are \$3.00 for those members that belong to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri. Please send your dues to Bob Petrovic or you can pay at the February Camp meeting. Please send your money to Bob as soon as possible so he can submit the unit's paperwork on time.

February 21<sup>st</sup> some of the members will be participating in the Boy Scouts Affton district Blue and Gold Banquet as a Color Guard Unit. They will also give a presentation on the Civil War Soldier.

## **Change of Address**

Please note that Camp Commander Steven Leicht will be changing his E-mail address. The new address will be [SentryRem@aol.com](mailto:SentryRem@aol.com). Please make a note of this change in your records.





### **Elected Camp Officers**

The following Officers were elected at the December  
Camp meeting:

#### **Camp Commander**

Steve Leicht  
2743 Bloomfield  
St. Louis, MO 63129  
Phone (314) 487-2585  
Fax (314) 894-4436  
E-mail [SentryRem@aol.com](mailto:SentryRem@aol.com)

#### **Sr. Vice Commander**

Don Palmer  
147 Lucerne PL  
Ballwin, MO 63011  
Phone (314) 230-3656  
E-mail [pondook@aol.com](mailto:pondook@aol.com)

#### **Jr. Vice Commander**

Mark Coplin  
9629 Twincrest  
St. Louis, MO 63126  
Phone (314) 963-9972  
E-mail [Macnac@gateway.net](mailto:Macnac@gateway.net)

#### **Secretary/Treasurer**

Bob Petrovic  
4729 Mehl Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63129  
Phone (314) 892-2158  
E-mail [RPETRO7776@aol.com](mailto:RPETRO7776@aol.com)

#### **Camp Council**

PCC Bob Amsler  
5630 Arendes Dr.  
St. Louis, MO 63116  
Phone (314) 353-9131  
E-mail [ramslers@stlnet.com](mailto:ramslers@stlnet.com)

Terry Cadenbach  
5731 Highway P  
Robertsville, MO 63072  
Phone (314) 629-0530

Craig Brown  
7511 Murdoch Ave  
St. Louis, MO 63119  
Phone (314) 645-6489  
E-mail [cprr@mvp.net](mailto:cprr@mvp.net)

### **Camp Chaplain**

Bob Schaeffer  
9968 Brook  
Lemay, MO 63125  
Phone (314) 544-8040

### **Letters from the Front**

The Following are some of the letters that were wrote by  
David Allen Jr. of the 29<sup>th</sup> Missouri Volunteers to his  
family during his campaign marching to the sea with  
General Sherman Civil War.

On board John Warner  
December 11<sup>th</sup> 1862

Dear Mother,

I take the opportunity of our landing at Memphis to  
write you a few lines. I wrote a letter to Jim at Cairo  
in which I enclosed \$5.00. I also the day before sent  
\$25.00 by Mayor William C. Jones Paymaster U. S.  
Army, which I suppose is now in your hands.

While at Cairo I was very agreeably surprised by  
meeting my friend George C. Brumeister Captain of  
Company C 35<sup>th</sup> Regiment Missouri Volunteer.  
While standing on the boiler deck talking I was told  
that someone on the wharf boat was inquiring for me,  
and on my descending I was passed ashore by the  
Officer on the Guan. The first person I meet was  
George the same old fellow although he does wear  
shoulder straps. We had a short walk up town and  
back to the boat where we exchanged good-byes.  
Hoping to meet when once more peace reigns over  
our glorious Country (and I hope it may be soon) if  
not fated to meet as a soldier on the battlefield  
against black hearted treason.

He is in fine spirits and I regretted very much that I  
had no time to visit the Camp of his Regiment. They  
have been here about two weeks.

Cairo is quit a busy place a fleet of gunboats were  
laying here and the scene was enlivened by those  
little propellers built at St. Louis which were flying  
hither and thither carry Officer messages or  
occasionally you seen a yawl manned by jolly tars in  
full rig. The place is much improved to what it was  
when I remembered it.

Night before last we passed Columbus, Kentucky and  
are now where the rebels held away a year ago. We



passed Island No. 10 and New Madrid two other notorious places, which I suppose you all know about.

The Island is very low but at low stages of water would be very formidable you know it must be a place of great strength since it took our gunboats so long to reduce it.

I am now further south than I have ever been in my life and see objects to interest me at every mile we make. As far as traveling goes I am in my glory as I have always longed for to see new sights.

And now see them about as rough as they can be seen. My bed being on the boiler deck forward of the engine (I mean the deck above the boiler) and am woke through the nights by the cool breeze from the river, but take it altogether I have a fine time.

During the day Cook and I have a room in the stern of the boat to work in.

We are getting all our papers straight so that we will have time to see the sights below here.

I hope you will all have a Merry Christmas. Tell Jimmy if you can spare part of the money I sent you to get a book for Alex and Anna each of them for my Christmas present.

Enclosed please find \$1.00 give Alex and Anna each half for Christmas money. If you do not get my letter often you must charge it to the mail, for I will write two or three times a week when I have the opportunity. When you do not get a letter you will have to read over the last ones like I did not hearing from home. Give my love to Aunt Sarah and Elizabeth, Jim Alex, Anna and retain a share for Mr. and Mrs. Jones and all inquiring friends.

I remain ever true to the Union  
Your Affectionate Son  
David Allen Jr.

\*\*\*\*\*

To: James Allan  
St. Louis, MO

S. B. John Warner  
December 14<sup>th</sup> 1862  
Dear Brother

I wrote a letter to mother a day or two ago but have had no opportunity of mailing it, but as my regular day has arrived for writing you, I will take the present opportunity to let you know what we have seen. Since the night we left Cairo we passed Columbus prevented us from having a view of the fortifications, several gunboats were lying at the place.

The next day we got a ground about 11 O'clock and did not get off till day before yesterday. The Steamer Universe assisted us in getting off the bar. During the day it was necessary to transport the regiment to land and so lighten the boat. We thus had an opportunity of examining the battlefield opposite Point Pleasant, MO, Also the pleasure of standing on the soil of Tennessee for the first time. We saw the remains of the sand fortress of the rebel's also two dismantled guns. Enclosed I send you a sliver from a wheel of one of the gun carriages. If you hold it in your hand you can think how it has handled by rebel hands and how each fiber shook with the report that hurled iron hail upon our fellow soldiers.

We found a Skull of some poor misguided rebel and also seen a large pile of damaged ammunition which once belonged to the rebels.

After viewing the battlefield we went up the river and got some persimmons. The tree grew near the burying place of the rebel troops, a long mound alone indicated the spot where they lay.

The boat got off about 2 O'clock when we once more got aboard and resumed our downward trip.

Yesterday evening we passed Fort Pillow another of the rebel stronghold which you know commanded the approach the Memphis. The place is very formidable and admirably situated.

The voyage from Cairo thus far has been very interesting to me and I have enjoyed myself very much.

Give my love to Mother, Aunts, Alex, Anna and retain a share for yourself.

Remember me to Mr. and Mrs. Jones and all our inquiring friends. Write often.

Your Affectionate Brother  
David Allan Jr.