



HARDSCRABBLE

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



Members of the Sterling Price Camp SCV and the U. S. Grant Camp SUCVW

Sappington Cemetery

On April 24th members of the U.S. Grant Camp SUCVW and the Sterling Price Camp SCV met at the Sappington Cemetery to clean headstones, repair broken headstones, and set new veterans markers for the Civil War soldiers both Confederate and Union.

The cemetery was named after the Sappington family who lived in the South County area. Some of the members of the Sappington family had helped Ulysses S. Grant build the log cabin that he and his family lived in. The Sappington Cemetery has soldiers dating as far back as the Revolutionary war.



Terry Cadenbach Cleaning one of the many headstones

Approximately 100 headstones were cleaned. Two headstones needed repair and several markers were secured in the ground with cement. Both the SCV and SUCVW supplied veteran markers for the Civil War soldiers.



Commander Leicht repairs a damaged headstone. (Notice all the help he was getting)

Thanks to the following members for their efforts working on the Sappington Cemetery. (Picture shown upper left corner) Sterling Price Camp Ollie Sappington, Jim England, Dan Matman, Steve Chase and Alan Flannery. Members of the U. S. Grant Camp Steve Leicht, Mark Coplin, Bob Petrovic and Terry Cadenbach.

December Camp Meeting

The Camp meeting will be held on December 3rd this year. We will have our annual Christmas dinner along with a short meeting. Members are welcome to come at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

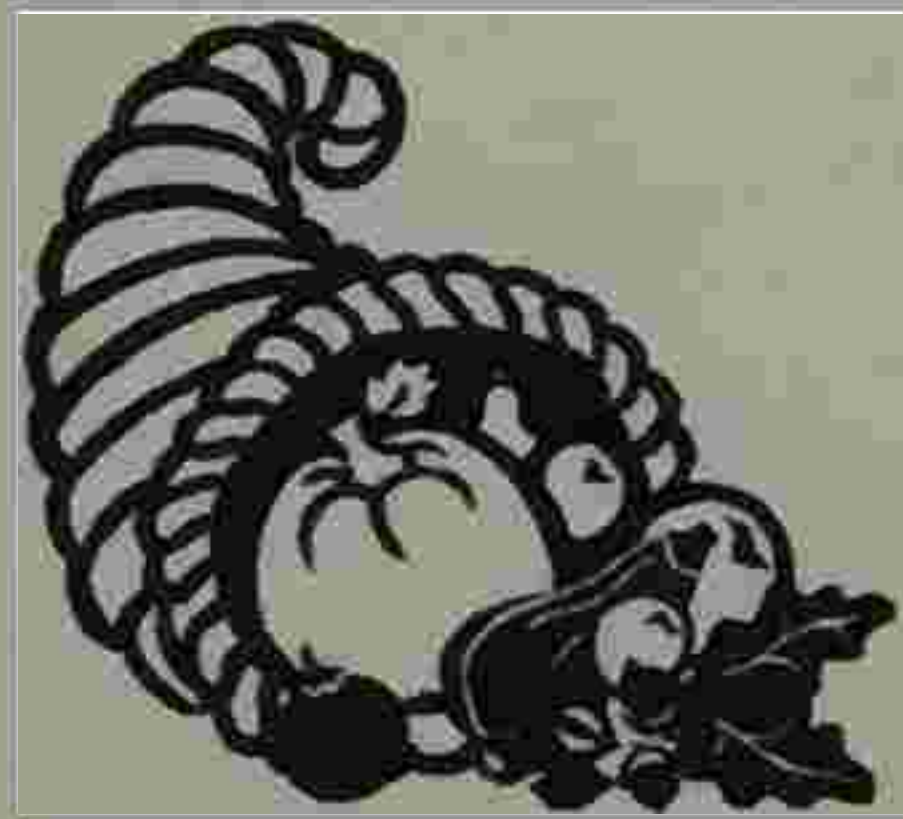
We will be installing the newly elected Camp Officers and we should have membership certificates to hand out to

present and past members. We will have a guest speaker from White Haven.

This year we will be collecting toys for the children at the burn unit at one of the local hospitals. We will also be collecting clothes for the Old Soldiers Home and canned goods for a local food pantry. Please bring any items that you wish to donate to the December meeting. We will collect them at the meeting and deliver the items during the month of December. If anyone wishes to make a cash donation please feel free to do so.

Last year was a joyous time and should be the same this year.

Please send the enclosed postcard to Commander Leicht to RSVP by November 29th. If you cannot make the meeting and still have some items to donate please contact Commander Leicht @ (314) 487-2585.



Calendar of Events

November 1 5th-2 9th The Arch will have a Civil War exhibit on display in the Westward Expansion Museum. Hours for viewing the exhibit are from 9am to 6pm. (Closed Thanksgiving)

November 27 Department Meeting Columbia, MO.

December 3 Camp meeting and Christmas party.

December 4 Father Dickens Cemetery work day. (Weather permitting)

December 4 The National Parks Service will be presenting Holidays at White

Haven. The program will provide an opportunity to learn about 19th Century holiday activities. Activities will include ornament making and Christmas Traditions for the children and Caroling for all ages. Tickets are free for the activities however the Parks Service asks that you pick up your tickets in advance. For more information please call (314) 842-3298.

January 5 NO Camp Meeting.

Elected Camp Officers

The following members were elected to office of the U. S. Grant Camp.

Camp Commander

Don Palmer
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Sr. Vice Commander

John Avery
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Secretary/Treasurer

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Camp Council

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Debate at Whitehaven

On November 6, Mark Coplin, Don Palmer and Dwight Prade of the U.S. Grant Camp participated in a debate held at White Haven. This debate was promoted as one of the Special Saturday programs sponsored by the U.S. Grant National Historic Site. The subject of the debate was Ulysses S. Grant and the Civil War. Also participating was Tom Hubert of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) and Jack Powell and Don Waldemer from the Civil War Round Table of St. Louis (CWRT). The program consisted of three "mini-debates", two of which included the Sons of Union Veterans (SUV). The first mini-debate contested between the SUV and the SCV focused on Grant and Robert E. Lee and their respective greatness as generals. Don Palmer presented the case for Grant and Mark Coplin provided the rebuttal on the issue of Lee. The third mini-debate, contested between the SUV and CWRT centered on the issue of whether Grant was essential to the Union victory. Dwight Prade presented the rebuttal on the case made by the CWRT. The second debate, contested between the SCV and CWRT focused on the question of which battle, Vicksburg or Gettysburg, had the greatest impact on the outcome of the war. After the debate, questions from the audience of about 40 visitors were entertained. The feedback from the audience and the staff at the U.S. Grant Historic Site was very positive.

Cemetery Work Dates

We will be having a work date at the Father Dickson Cemetery (located on Sappington Road, between Watson and Big Bend) on December 4th. If anyone is interested in working on this project or any other cemetery please contact Mark Coplin. Father Dickson's Cemetery was established for Black slaves. Among those buried in the Cemetery are Black Civil War Veterans and Buffalo Soldiers.

We would like to get a list of members that we could call during the winter months on a short notice when the weather is good. We will be working on 3 cemetery projects in the upcoming year.

Camp Dues

Camp dues will be \$28.00 this year due to a \$2.00 increase voted on at the National Encampment. Money will be used to fund the increasing cost for the National Organization. There has not been an increase of the per capita tax from the National Organization for at least 10 years. A portion of the increase will be set aside for a legal defense fund for the Organization. Please send your dues to Mark Coplin. Dues are due by January 1, 2000.

SVRDues

Those members who are in the 2nd MO SVR Unit and would like to reenlist for another year the dues for 2000 are \$3.00. Please your SVR dues to Bob Amsler or Bob Petrovic @ 4729 Melh, St. Louis, MO 63129.

Camp WebPage

The Camp WebPage is now up and running. Don Palmer and Scott Williams have spent a lot of time setting this up. The address for this sight is
<http://usgennet.org/~ahmostlu/grantcamp.htm>.

I recommend that if you have Internet connections that you visit the Camp Website. Thanks Don and Scott for a job well done.

New Members

We would like to welcome the following members to the Grant Camp

Scott Williams a past member rejoining the Camp.

John Winkelmann joined as an Associate member.

Barney Comb, his Great Great Grandfather Fielding Richard Comb was a private in Company F 50th MO Infantry.

Comments from the Commander

As the year winds down and we reach another change in the officers of the Grant Camp, I would like to take this time to thank those who have participated in the past projects and events sponsored by the Grant Camp. When this camp was formed in 1996 I made the comment that this camp will only be as good as the members make it. Since then, we have had a very active Camp and we have new projects to look forward to for next year. Because of our efforts we were awarded the Abraham Lincoln Award by Commander-in-Chief Alan Loomis at the 1997 National Encampment. This award is given to the most outstanding Camp for the year. I alone can not take credit for these achievements. If it was not for the efforts of the members who participated and support the Camp projects, events and Officers of the Camp we would have never achieved this award.

At the December meeting we will be installing new Officers. I will be stepping down and Don Palmer is going to take over the Commander of the Grant Camp. We will continue to have a strong and active Camp because of the men who were willing to step forward and take Officers'

positions. I want to thank those who have taken Officer positions in the past and those who will soon be elected New Officers. Congratulation to the newly elected Officers of the Grant Camp.

I want to thank the members for having the confidence in me to elect me Camp Commander. It has been my pleasure and an honor to have the opportunity to form the Camp and to be elected a Commander twice by my brothers. I have met and made many friends over the years and will cherish the memories. I would like to wish everyone a safe and joyous holiday season coming up and a Happy and prosperous New Year.

Steven Leicht
U.S. Grant Camp Commander

Membership List

Members of the Grant Camp will find a membership list enclosed with this newsletter. If any information is incorrect please contact Commander Leicht or send a change in with your dues to the Camp Secretary Mark Coplin.

Department Meeting

Department Commander Rutherford has called for a Department Meeting on November 27th. The meeting will be held in the community room at the Public Library located at 100 West Broadway, Columbia, MO. The meeting will start at 2 p.m. They will be discussing the 2001 National Encampment with members of both Missouri and Kansas Departments.

Directions are posted on the Department Website at <http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/Barracks/2683/meeting.html>. If anyone does not have Internet access and would like a copy of the directions please contact Commander Leicht.