



HARDSCRABBLE



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

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Camp Commander: Don Palmer

Editor: Steven Leicht

Camp Activities

Lincoln Death Day

The 44th annual Lincoln Tomb ceremony was held on Saturday, 15 April at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL. Representing the U.S. Grant Camp were Commander Don Palmer and Secretary-Treasurer Mark Coplin. Commander Palmer presented a wreath for the Grant Camp as part of the ceremony. The featured speaker was U.S. District Court Judge Richard Mills, a veteran of the Korean War and a Major General in the Illinois Militia. His topic was the military experience gained by Abraham Lincoln as a member of the Illinois Militia during the Black Hawk War. SUVCW Commander-in-Chief Danny Wheeler also paid tribute to Mr. Lincoln and explained the significance of observances such as this one in helping individuals to better understand and appreciate the history of our country. The fine weather this year allowed the Springfield Municipal Band to perform and members of the 114th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment to fire a memorial salute at the close of the ceremony.



(Above Photo) - Color guards present at the 44th annual Lincoln Tomb ceremony

(Right Photo) - Senior Vice Commander John Avery during his presentation on the role of the undertaker on the battlefield at the 03 May camp meeting



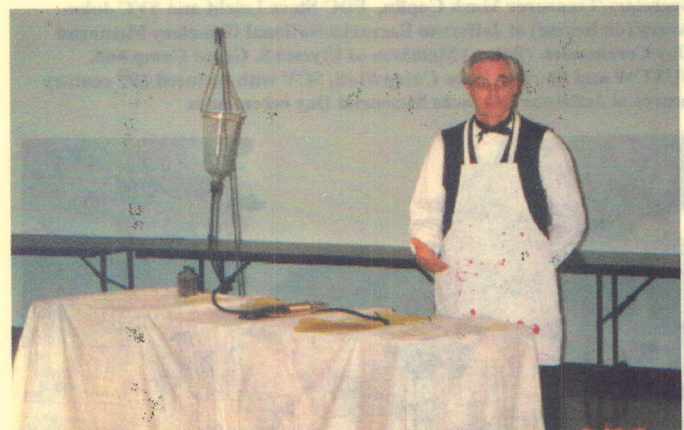
Gathering of organizations presenting wreaths at the Lincoln Tomb

Ulysses S. Grant Birthday – 30 April 00

A ceremony was held on 30 April to commemorate the 178th birthday of General Ulysses S. Grant at Grant's Tomb in New York. The ceremony was sponsored by Oliver Tildon Camp #26, Department of New York. U.S. Grant Camp #68 sent a letter of greetings to acknowledge this important observance.

May Camp Meeting

The final meeting at the current Young's Restaurant location was held on 03 May. Some of the topics of discussion included Memorial Day planning, a new product line featuring the GAR logo, the New Member Installation Dinner and issues to be brought up at the Department Encampment in June. In addition, Senior Vice Commander John Avery gave a presentation on the role of the undertaker on the battlefield, which was an educational experience for camp members in attendance.



Memorial Day @ Jefferson Barracks

On Memorial Day, members of Ulysses S. Grant Camp #68 played an instrumental role in the ceremonies at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. A 19th century hearse, restored by Senior Vice Commander John Avery, led the parade of veterans groups. The hearse carried a coffin draped in both the 34-star U.S. flag and the Confederate battle flag. This coffin was symbolic of the first large group of soldiers to be interred at Jefferson Barracks (over 12,000 Union and 1,000 Confederate). A cavalry detail that included Grant Camp member Terry Cadenbach led the hearse and six pall bearers on to the parade grounds. The pall bearers included Grant Camp members Mike Woulfe, PDC Steve Leicht and Secretary/Treasurer Mark Coplin. Also serving as pall bearers were members of Sterling Price Camp #145, Sons of Confederate Veterans. The pall bearer detail was led by PCC Bob Amsler. Peggie Avery joined in by serving as a grieving widow in period dress. Guest speakers at the ceremony included Missouri State Senator Anita Yeckel and Grant Camp Commander/Missouri Department Patriotic Instructor Don Palmer. Commander Palmer's presentation focused on the origins of Memorial Day, the role of the Grand Army of the Republic and the positive effect this annual observance had in the reunification of the Blue and Gray.



(Above) L to R: Grant Camp members Mike Woulfe, Secretary/Treasurer Mark Coplin, PDC Steve Leicht and SVC John Avery (on hearse) at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery Memorial Day Ceremonies. (Below) Members of Ulysses S. Grant Camp #68, SUVCW and Sterling Price Camp #145, SCV with restored 19th century hearse at Jefferson Barracks Memorial Day ceremonies



Flag-draped casket honoring veterans of all wars (left) and coffin draped in 34-star U.S. flag and Confederate battle flag (right) symbolic of the first Memorial Day observances.



Members of Ulysses S. Grant Camp #68, SUVCW and Sterling Price Camp #145, SCV with restored 19th century hearse.

Department of Missouri Encampment

The Department of Missouri 2000 Encampment was held at the State Capital building in Jefferson City on 24 June. A discussion on the Department by-laws was held. Each camp in Missouri has a representative on the by-laws committee. A draft of the Missouri by-laws will be assembled by Vern Stottlemire for review by the committee prior to the National Encampment. Also, annual reports were presented by each officer. Discussions were also held regarding graves registration, GAR post locations, Missouri Department anthologies and 2001 National Encampment planning. Several announcements were made regarding National officer elections. Robert Grim has announced that he is a candidate for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. George Powell has indicated that he is a candidate for Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. As it stands today, the only contested election for the National Encampment will be for Commander-in-Chief, which will be contested between Ed Krieser, the current Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief and the brother he defeated for that post, Al Peterson. In addition, new department officers were elected. The Department officers for 2000-2001 are:

- Commander – Vern Stottlemire (McNeil Camp #62)

- *Senior Vice Commander* – John Martin (Westport Camp #64)
- *Junior Vice Commander* – Don Palmer (Grant Camp #68)
- *Secretary/Treasurer* – Bob Petrovic (Grant Camp #68)
- *Department Council* – John Rutherford (Phelps Camp #61), Jack Grothe (Sherman Camp #65), Paul Leistriz (Sherman Camp #65)

Upcoming Events

08 July – U.S. Grant National Historic Site

You won't want to miss the encore program of "Grant: An American Hero". Compete with others in a game of Grant trivia, get your photo taken with Grant or dressed in Julia Grant's finest and enjoy other activities throughout the day. Please call the National Park Service at (314) 842-3298 for reservations or more information.

12 July – July Camp Meeting

There will be a camp meeting on Wednesday, 12 July at the Grand Glaize Branch of the St. Louis County Library, Meeting Room #1. The focus of the meeting will be a quarterly review of camp goals and objectives. In addition, upcoming events will be discussed.

01 August – August Camp Meeting (Tentative)

A camp meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, 01 August at the Grand Glaize Branch of the St. Louis County Library, Meeting Room #2. Please watch for announcements regarding this meeting.

17-20 August – 119th National Encampment @ Lansing, MI

The SUVCW 119th National Encampment will be held in Lansing, MI from Thursday, August 17 through Sunday, August 20. The Encampment will be held at the Holiday Inn South Convention Center, which was the site for the 1988 and 1994 National Encampments. All SUVCW members are invited to attend. For more information, please refer to the May 2000 issue of the BANNER, or contact Commander Palmer.

Announcements

- As most of you were aware, Young's Restaurant, our monthly meeting location over the past few years,

closed in May to move to another location. Originally, Young's was going to re-open at a new location in June. However, due to a situation with the leasing arrangement, Young's will not re-open until this Fall at the earliest. Until further notice, the U.S. Grant Camp will be meeting at the Grand Glaize Branch of the St. Louis County Library on Meramec Station Rd. just north of Big Bend Rd. A meeting schedule has been worked out with the library through November 2000. In some cases, we will need to meet on Tuesday instead of Wednesday due to meeting room availability. The amended meeting schedule for the remainder of 2000 is as follows:

- **Wednesday, July 12 @ 7:00 pm** – Meeting Room #1
- **Tuesday, August 1 @ 7:00 pm** – Meeting Room #2 (Meeting Tentative)
- **Tuesday, September 5 @ 7:00 pm** – Meeting Room #1
- **Tuesday, October 3 @ 7:00 pm** – Meeting Room #2
- **Wednesday, November 1 @ 7:00 pm** – Meeting Room #1
- **Wednesday, December 6** Christmas Party (Location and time to be Determined)

- The Ulysses S. Grant camp sends it's sincerest condolences to the family of C-in-C Danny Wheeler on the death of his father, who was also an SUVCW member. A sympathy card was sent on behalf of the camp.

Camp Travel Guide

Joshua L. Chamberlain Museum – Brunswick, ME

If you ever have the opportunity to visit the Brunswick, Maine area, don't miss visiting the Joshua L. Chamberlain Museum. This site, operated by the Pejepscot Historical Society, includes General Chamberlain's house, his church, his alma mater (Bowdoin College) and his gravesite.

General Chamberlain's extraordinary Civil War career is much admired today, thanks to books such as John J. Pullen's "The Twentieth Maine", Alice R. Trulock's biography "In the Hands of Providence", documentaries such as Ken Burns' "The Civil War" and novels such as Michael Shaara's "The Killer Angels". From Antietam in 1862 to the triumphal grand review of the armies in May 1865, Chamberlain saw much of the war in the east, including 24 battles and numerous skirmishes. He was

wounded six times – once, almost fatally – and had six horses shot out from under him.

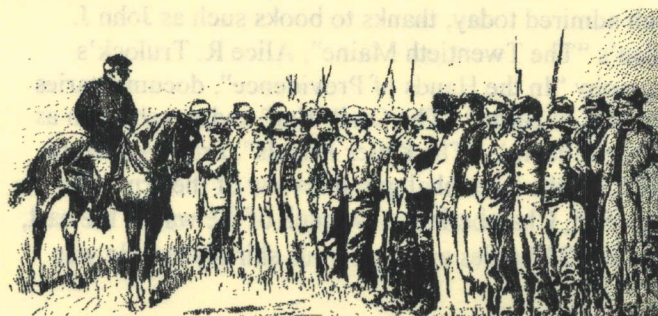
He is best remembered for two great events: The action on Little Round Top on the second day of Gettysburg and when Grant chose Chamberlain to receive the formal surrender of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia on 12 April 1865.

After the Civil War, Chamberlain served four terms as Governor of Maine and then served as president of Bowdoin College. Chamberlain spent much of the final three decades of his life in business ventures, in writing accounts of his battles and participating actively in the GAR and other veterans groups. In 1900, Chamberlain was appointed Surveyor of the Port of Portland, ME, where he lived until his death in 1914 at the age of 85.

Although never forgotten in Maine, Chamberlain largely faded from national view for most of the 20th century. No Chamberlain statue was ever erected at Gettysburg and few historians studied his campaigns. But amid the resurgence of interest in the Civil War in the 1990's, he has re-emerged as an exemplary figure among the Union generals, the very model of the citizen soldier.

The Joshua L. Chamberlain house was sold out of the family by his daughter, Grace Allen, in 1939, to a local landlord who converted it into apartments. The building served as an apartment house from the 1930's to the 1980's, when it was determined to be structurally unsound. The Pejepscot Historical Society rescued the house from planned demolition in 1983. Most of the early restoration work was to restore the structural integrity of the house. Since 1996, much of the restoration has focused on the interior details.

The Chamberlain house is located on Maine St. in Brunswick just across from Bowdoin College. You can also see Chamberlain's Medal of Honor on display at Bowdoin College. Pine Grove Cemetery is located just north of the Bowdoin College campus. Tax deductible contributions can be made to help offset the cost of the restoration activities. For more information, check out the Pejepscot Historical Society web site at www.curtislibrary.com/pejepscot.htm or call (207) 729-6606.



Bvt. Major General Joshua L. Chamberlain



General Chamberlain's home currently under restoration to look as it did in the 1870's.



Across the street from Chamberlain's home is Bowdoin College, his alma mater.





The grave of General Chamberlain at Pine Grove Cemetery in Brunswick, ME.



Behind Chamberlain's tombstone is the Government issue stone that signifies his military service.

Notable Dates in Union History

May

- 01/02 – Battle of Chancellorsville (1863)
- 05 – Battle of the Wilderness (1864)
- 12 – Battle of Spotsylvania Court House (1864)
- 16 – Battle of Champion's Hill (1863)
- 18 – Siege of Vicksburg begins (1863)
- 28 – First African-American regiment, 54th Massachusetts, departs for active duty.

June

- 01/03 – Battle of Cold Harbor (1864)
- 02 – General Philip Kearny born (1815)
- 06 – Memphis surrenders (1862)
- 09 – Battle of Brandy Station (1863)
- 15 – Petersburg Campaign begins (1864)
- 17 – Thaddeus Lowe demonstrates hot air balloon for surveillance (1861)
- 23 – Last formal Confederate surrender (1865)
- 26 – Stoneman begins Atlanta raid (1864)
- 27 – Battle of Kennesaw Mountain (1864)

Department Orders

Series 1999-2000, Number 3

1. As the fourth quarter draws to a close, it is my hope that the Missouri Department membership has prospered under my leadership and will continue to prosper under my successors. It is also my hope that my initiatives, begun at the February 26, 2000 meeting in Columbia, will be carried out to fruition.
2. A seed fund will be necessary to finance the purchase of raffle items for the 2001 National Encampment. At the Missouri Department's June 1999 meeting, members agreed to a \$20 bond (hereafter described as a "Loyalty Bond"), which will be designated exclusively for this seed fund. Missouri Department members may voluntarily contribute money and obtain a Loyalty Bond. All Camps are asked to maintain a register with the name and address of camp members who purchase Loyalty Bonds, and forward a copy of the register and money to the Missouri Department Commander. The Department will then issue a certificate in the name of each SUVCW member who contributed money for a Loyalty Bond. At the conclusion of business for the SUVCW National Encampment, this bond will be redeemed; the money will return to the camp to which each bond holder belongs, and the money will be used as a partial payment of each

Loyalty Bond holder's 2002 annual dues. Please consider contributing \$20 for a Loyalty Bond. Every member now has an opportunity to contribute actively to the success of the SUVCW 2001 National Encampment.

make a note of this when calling upon membership dues (also known as the "per capita tax"). The total due per quarter to the Missouri Department is now \$4.50 per member. At the February 26, 2000 meeting, Life Members and Real Sons were exempted from the per capita owed to the Missouri Department.

3. Department staff, since the August 1999 reorganization, are as follows: Commander John Rutherford, Senior Vice Commander Vern Stottlemyre, Junior Vice Commander John Martin, Secretary-Treasurer Bob Petrovic, Council John Pillers, Bud Marks and Zac Caldwell, Counselor Bob Amsler, Assistant Secretary Jeff Patrick, Assistant Treasurer Mark Coplin and Patriotic Instructor Don Palmer.

By Order of:

John C. Rutherford
Department Commander
24 June 2000

4. The national organization has queried the Missouri Department regarding our next department encampment and elections. After discussion with Missouri Department members who attended the joint meeting on February 26, 2000, it was decided to hold the Missouri Department Encampment and officer elections on June 24, 2000.
5. This is a reminder to camp officers and Missouri Department members. A \$2 increase in the national per capita tax began on January 1, 2000, so please

