



# HARDSCRABBLE



**Fraternity – Charity – Loyalty  
Ever for the Union**

Newsletter Publication for Ulysses S. Grant Camp #68, Department of Missouri, SUVCW  
Volume 4, Number 2 – November 2001

## Commander's Corner



Thanks to PCC Don Palmer and Graves Registration Officer Mark Trout, we are beginning a new series of U.S. Grant Camp newsletters. Thank you Bros. for taking on this much-needed task.

The Missouri Department hosted an excellent National Encampment. We gained a great deal of respect from many individual Departments as well as the National Officers. Thanks to all who devoted many hours of hard, and sometimes frustrating work to put a VERY favorable light on the Missouri Sons. Bob Petrovic and Don Palmer deserve special thanks for their work.

Thanks in large part to Mark Trout, Graves Registration Officer, we have begun what is hoped to be a long series of dedications in Wildwood Cemeteries. The H. W. Horstmann Cemetery was our first. Wildwood is part of our designated area, and there are many graves, both in private and public cemeteries for us to work on. We need everyone's help or we will burn out a few very dedicated Bros. Plan to schedule your time to help when called upon.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

*John Avery*

Commander

U.S. Grant Camp #68

## Missouri Department Shines as Host of 120<sup>th</sup> National Encampment

The 120<sup>th</sup> National Encampment held in Springfield, MO from August 9-12 was designated as a tremendous success based on feedback from a number of National officers and delegates from across the country.

On Thursday, the schedule of events featured guided tours of the Springfield battlefield, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, General Sweeney's Civil War Museum and a program at the new Springfield Library Center. The program included an impersonation of Civil War photographer Matthew Brady and a performance by "Echoes of the South", a local group that performs songs of the Civil War era. This was actually the first public performance for the brother-sister quartet.

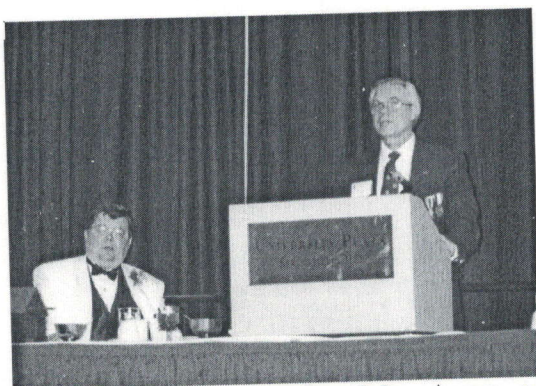
On Friday, Department Commander Don Palmer officially opened the Encampment along with Commander-in-Chief Ed Krieser, Auxillary President Mary Scofield and National Chaplain Robert Carroon. Separate business meetings were conducted by the Sons, the Auxilliary and the Ladies of the GAR. On Friday night, the Campfire program was held, which consisted of a well-orchestrated "Parade of Soldiers" from the American Revolution through the Gulf War. The parade was choreographed by members of Phelps Camp #66 in Springfield.

On Saturday, the business meetings continued throughout the day and concluded with election and installation of the National



officers for 2001-2002. George Powell of Pennsylvania was elected Commander-in-Chief. Congratulations go to Bob Petrovic of the U.S. Grant Camp as he was elected to a one-year term on the National Council of Administration. On Saturday night, the Allied Orders Banquet brought the Sons, the Auxilliary and the Ladies of the GAR together for an evening of fellowship. U.S. Grant Commander John Avery served as master of ceremonies. The entertainment was provided once again by "Echoes of the South". As a result of their performance at the National Encampment, the group booked their first professional engagement for a performance in Philadelphia, PA. The SUVCW wishes them well and hopes they remember where they got their start!

The Encampment concluded on Sunday with a meeting of the National Council of Administration. A number of comments were received from members of the Sons, the Auxilliary and the Ladies of the GAR, to the effect that this was the best National Encampment that they have attended and the Department of Missouri should be proud. The Grant Camp would like to thank Jim and Lynne Martin for preparing a display on the history of the D.N. Keeler GAR Post in Wildwood, MO. The Keeler display was included in a general display of Missouri GAR memorabilia and received a number of favorable comments.



Grant Camp Commander John Avery as Master of Ceremonies at the Allied Orders Banquet – at left is Commander-in-Chief Edward Krieser of Indiana.



The local Springfield group "Echoes of the South" performs at the Allied Orders Banquet.

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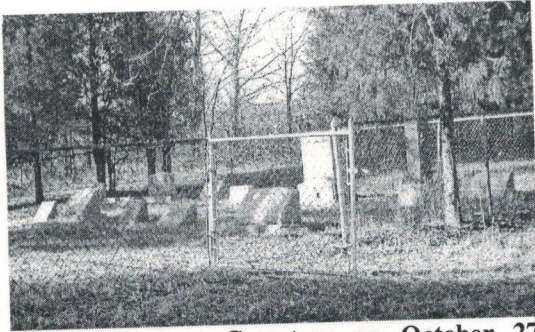
## Before and After: Horstmann Cemetery Back on the Map

On October 26 and 27, members of U. S. Grant Camp #68 cleaned and renovated the Horstmann Cemetery off of Fox Creek Rd. just west of Eureka. Bob Petrovic and John Avery began on Friday with removal of the heavy brush surrounding the cemetery and on Saturday, Don Palmer, Mark Coplin and Steve Leicht joined Bob to remove brush, weeds and leaves in the cemetery, cut the grass and power spray the stones. After cleaning, a GAR marker for H.W. Horstmann, who served in the Pacific Battalion, Missouri Home Guard, was mounted in cement. After about seven hours of work, the cemetery was deemed ready for the dedication ceremony the following week.



The Horstmann Cemetery on October 26 prior to clean-up.





The Horstmann Cemetery on October 27 after clean-up.

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### North and South Come Together to Pay Tribute Union Veteran

On Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, a group of about 75 people gathered at the Horstmann Family Cemetery in Wildwood, to pay tribute and dedicate a G.A.R. Marker to H. William Horstmann. He served as a Private in Company E, Pacific Battalion, Missouri Home Guard in 1862. The cemetery is now owned by Mr. Horstmann's great-great grandson, Stephen Pizzitola, with his wife Julie and two sons, Adam and Jake. Mrs. Shirley Pizzitola, great-granddaughter of Mr. Horstmann, was also present and welcomed the gathering. The event was part of a Historical House Tour sponsored by the Wildwood Historical Society.

Greetings were brought by Bob Petrovic, on behalf of the Sons (National & Department), by Lynne Martin on behalf of the Wildwood Historical Society and by Douglas Niermeyer on behalf of MOLLUS, W.T. Sherman Camp #65, and the new Franz Wihelmi Camp #17. Last but not least were greetings by Jim England on behalf of the Sterling Price Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans. Jim received a very warm welcome from all present. The Dedication Ceremony was written and conducted by John Avery, Commander, U.S. Grant Camp #68.

Thanks to the research and dedication of our new Graves Registration Officer on both the Camp and Department levels, Mark Trout, we have many grave locations to work on. Much work in this area has also

been done by The Wildwood Historical Commission and Society. We hope this will be the first of many such dedications in the Wildwood area.



Grant Camp Commander John Avery, assisted by Adam and Jake Pizzitola, dedicating the GAR marker for the H. William Horstmann gravesite



Participants in the Horstmann GAR marker dedication: L to R - Doug Niermeyer, Jim England, members of the Pizzitola family, Jim and Lynne Martin and Peggie and John Avery.





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### Upcoming Events

## **D.N. Keeler GAR Post Marker to be Dedicated**

At long last the D.N. Keeler marker is to be presented and dedicated by the U.S. Grant Camp #68. The Ceremony will take place at the Jim and Lynne Martin residence, 19160 Melrose Rd., on Saturday, November 24, 2001 at 10:00 A.M. This is the former meeting place of the D.N. Keeler Post #152 of the GAR. We have been working toward this dedication for many months. It is an honor for us to have a former G.A.R. Post at our back door. Please make every effort to be present for the dedication. Wear your badges! See all of you there.



**The Kreienkamp Store in Wildwood, meeting location of D.N. Keeler Post #152 of the GAR from 1884 to 1918.**

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## **Camp Christmas Dinner to be Held on December 5<sup>th</sup>**

The annual U.S. Grant Camp Christmas Dinner will be held on Wednesday, December 5 at Jackie Smith's Louisiana Café at the corner of Clarkson and Clayton Roads in west St. Louis County. The social will begin at 6:30 with dinner served at 7:00. After dinner, elected officers for 2002 will be installed by Department Commander Don Palmer. This is a family event, so please encourage spouses, children and significant others to attend. Please RSVP with number attending to Commander John Avery by Friday, November 30.

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### **† Chaplains Report †**

- Grant Camp member Robert Amsler, Sr. was recently diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. Our thoughts and prayers are with PCC Robert Amsler, Jr. and the Amsler family as they deal with the reality of this debilitating disease.
- Our thoughts and prayers are also with PDC Steve Leicht as he continues to recover from a life-threatening heart condition. We were all happy to see him looking well at the recent Horstmann cemetery clean-up project.

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### **On this Date in History.....**

#### *October*

- 16 - John Brown raids the U.S. Arsenal at Harpers Ferry, WV with the intent of starting a slave rebellion (1859)

#### *November*

- 6 - Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin are elected president and vice president of the United States. Missouri is the only state carried by Lincoln's Democratic opponent Stephen A. Douglas. Lincoln carries only two Missouri counties: Gasconade and St. Louis (1860)
- 7 - Brigadier General U.S. Grant leads Union soldiers in an attack on the Confederate camp at Belmont, MO opposite Columbus, KY (1861).
- 9 - Major General Henry W. Halleck takes command of the Department of Missouri, with headquarters in St. Louis (1861).

#### *December*

- 20 - South Carolina is the first state to secede from the Union (1860).
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# CAMP QUARTERMASTER

## CLOTHING ITEMS

(With GAR or SUVCW Logos)

<b>Polo Shirts</b> (Red, White or Royal Blue) GAR or SUVCW Logo - S, M, L, XL: \$40.00 - 2XL, 3XL: \$43.00 - 4XL: \$48.00	<b>Sweat Shirts</b> (Red, White or Royal Blue) GAR Logo Only - S, M, L, XL: \$32.00 - 2XL, 3XL: \$35.00 - 4XL: \$40.00	<b>Denim Shirts</b> (Short or Long Sleeve) GAR or SUVCW Logo - S, M, L, XL: \$45.00 - 2XL: \$49.00 - 3XL: \$53.00
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Personalize Your Shirts with....

*Remembering the  
32nd Missouri Infantry*


*Your Favorite  
Regiment....*



1861-1865

*D.N. Keeler Post #152  
Melrose, MO*


*A Local  
GAR Post....*



1884-1918

*Remembering the  
"Boys in Blue"*

*...or a general  
note of  
Remembrance*



1861-1865

### Satin Jackets

(Royal Blue or Black)

GAR or SUVCW Logo

Embroidered Camp or Department Name on Back

- S, M, L, XL, 2XL: \$95.00 (w/flannel lining) or \$98.00 (quilted)
- 3XL, 4XL, 5XL: \$99.00 (w/flannel lining) or \$103.00 (quilted)
- For TALL Sizes, add \$5.00

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

**Address Labels**  
 90 count  
 (GAR or SUVCW Logo)  
 \$4.00

**Porcelain Coffee Mugs**  
 (SUVCW Logo)  
 \$15.00

**Station Banners**  
 14" x 16" - Set of 3  
 w/ Fringe - \$110.00  
 w/o Fringe - \$80.00

**SUVCW Name Badge**  
 2" x 3" Plastic - Laser Engraved  
 Blue - Camp, Red - Department,  
 Gold - National  
 \$7.00

**GAR Logo Banners**  
 18" x 16.5"  
 (Red, Blue or Black Background  
 with Camp or Department Name)  
 \$65.00

For ordering information, please contact Camp Secretary/Treasurer Mark Coplin, 9629  
 Twincrest, St. Louis, MO 63126, Phone: (314) 963-9972, E-mail: macnac1@earthlink.net