

May 8, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Frailey's Grill
I-55 & Butler Hill Rd.

1. **Opening Ceremony (STARTED 7:05) – Need a Temporary Secretary to take minutes for Walt** – *Commander Coplin performed the opening and lead the Pledge of Allegiance - Marty Aubuchon was asked to fill in for Walt – Commander Coplin wore a Hawaiian style shirt in honor of Walt*
2. **Roll - Call of Members** - *PCinC Don Palmer, John Palmer, SVC Mike Hudson, PDC John Avery, Jim Stebbings, PCC – JVC Bob Aubuchon PDC Marty Aubuchon, Father Heier, PDC Bob Petrovic, CC Fletcher - Sumner Hunnewell*
3. **Reading and Approval of Minutes** – *As Walt had sent the minutes and reports via email I failed to make any copies. Defer approval until next meeting in June.*
4. **Treasurers – Secretary's Report** - *As Walt had sent the Reports via email – I failed to make or bring that information to the meeting. Will approve those items at next month's meeting.*
5. **ROTC Update – John Avery** –
John read a thank you letter from a ROTC cadet from McClure North – Terrion Barfield. To Brother Avery's knowledge this is the first thank you card we have received. Marty attended Marquette HS dine out program, SLU – Air Force (Aden Oday), John Avery attended the Lafayette HS dine out program, Issued 6 certificates and medals, Riverview Gardens did not want anyone to attend just the certificate and medal. The event is in a small location. 9 total awards from Grant and 5 from Sherman. Could have 6-8 more if we had the man power.
6. **Commander's Report** –
 - a. **Working on the numbers for the Vicksburg Monument**
- Mailed out 60+ media guides for the event to all markets here in Missouri and in Mississippi
 - b. Placed an order for 2 more badges. Totaling 12 badges
 - c. Mailed out 3 orders. Have checks for Walt to deposit in our account.
 - d. Contacted Helen Fitzgerald's to price our Christmas Dinner in December. 25 person minimum for the room. \$18.95 to \$24.95 per person. Have the information here tonight.
Walt had suggested that we try to find a location that is more affordable. The members at the meeting felt the prices mentioned above were more than Greenbrier Country Club. Mike Hudson to check prices at the Marriott at Maryville University. Kim Palmer needs to know by September to set up the room at Greenbrier if we would like to return there.

7. **Senior Vice Commander's Report** – *No report – apologized for not being able to attend the past several meetings. Has had a lot going on with his family / Junior Vice Commander's Report* – *No report*

8. **Department Report / National Report** - *Lincoln Tomb Ceremony Not well attended – around 30. It did not help that it was on Easter weekend. Hoping to get the CofA meeting back in Springfield. It helps with attendance and it is a Sons Sponsored event.*

Department Encampment in Branson, MO

a. Vicksburg Memorial Ceremony Update – *Don Palmer reported – Most everything is in place. Still need to work on the color guard prior to the event would like to have names. So far only one Confederate and 15 Union. Also still in need of a large flag to cover the center statue. As far as guests attending. Around 60 Union, 30 Confederates to attend, 5 Missouri State Senators and Representatives to attend-including Warren Love, the Mississippi Attorney General to attend. Scott Benewich – Chief of Interpretation has been a big help, the Mississippi National Guard with be firing a salute. Brig Gen. Hillis – Keynote Speaker, will follow close to the program of 1917. Larry Dietzel's wife Nora will sing at the event. Don Palmer with present for the Sons, Darell Maples with represent SCV. Vicksburg visitors center to sell Missouri artifacts, books and will be selling 200 coins. Gift shop agreed to try to sell 200. Sumner will get with Doug and Don Palmer and ship to Vicksburg. Extras will be given as gifts to the speakers and VIPs. John Avery presented the Dedication Service to be used for Missourians buried the cemetery. All those buried there are Union. Don to consider purchasing 250 Missouri flags to be placed on each grave of a Missouri soldier. The park service has agreed to place the flags for us on Thursday and remove them on the Tuesday after Memorial Day. They then ship them back to Don.*

National – *Encampment in Lansing, Michigan, 501-C3 exemption will be probably authorized for National Only*

9. **Civil War Trivia** - *See attached*

10. **Sherman Camp Discussion Part 2 – Division of the Camp ?**

See attached for commander's comments of the actions over the past month. The group talked about the need for a meeting with members of Sherman Camp. Bob Petrovic suggested since we are so busy with Vicksburg and Memorial Day we should set up a meeting in September with members of Sherman to talk about the merger and what they would like to see happen. The members present agreed. No vote taken.

11. Old Business –

a. Memorial Day Event Plans – Vicksburg and Jefferson Barracks

- SUVCW Memorial Ceremony at Jefferson Barracks – Who is going to attend – who will be part of the ceremony - *The Dedication Ceremony that was mentioned earlier in the meeting is the same that will be used at Jefferson Barracks.*

11. New Business – Christmas Party – *See above for Christmas Party.*

12. Good of the Order –

13. Closing Ceremonies

Sherman Merger – Part 2

Over the past month, I sent an email out to all camp members to find out what the membership wanted to do. All the responses I received to date are in favor of allowing the camps to merge without a name change. This included the emails from 3 other founding members of the camp – Steve Leicht, Bob Amsler Jr and Michael Wolff.

I mentioned this outcome in an email I sent to Jack Grothe - and have not heard a response directly from him or from Sherman Camp. Marty has been in touch with Jack since my email was sent and he has shared with me that the merger without a name change would not go forward without some type of recognition of Sherman. The option of having a Sherman Division to the camp was mentioned and was favorable to Jack per Marty.

So - do we vote tonight to allow a merger of the camps with the idea that the Sherman Division will be part of our camp. Do we wait for another month after Memorial Day events and vote in June or July?

Mark Coplin – Camp Commander U.S. Grant Camp #68