

Hartranft Herald

The Newsletter of Maj. Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp 15

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

www.SUVCWHarrisburgPA.org

Celebrating our 136th Year serving Harrisburg Area

 @ Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp#15 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



 Vol 20, No. 02

February and March Combined Issue

March 2018 

Come to our general meetings and view central Pennsylvania from high atop Reservoir Park!

A newsletter for, about, and by the members of Camp 15 and Auxiliary 7.

Come One, Come All - Ladies and Brothers, and Family & Friends, all are welcome to our Camp meetings

At the National Civil War Museum and field trips at-large -- Bring your camera!

2018 Hartranft Camp 15
Officers and Staff



Commander	Logan Swanger 2018
Senior Vice Commander	Vernon Stout 2018
Junior Vice Commander	Scott Debo, PCC 2018
Secretary	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 08-18
Treasurer	David W. Demmy, Sr. PCC 07-18
Council 02	Anthony Kline 16-18
Council 01	Scott Debo, PCC 15-18
Council 03	Jeffery Smith, PCC 18-21
Patriotic Instructor	Jeffery Smith, PCC 2018
Chaplain	David W. Demmy, Sr., PCC 00-18
Counselor	Lee F. Walters, PCC 07-08
GAR Historian	Jeffery Smith, PCC 2018
Graves Registration	Logan Swanger 14-18
Guide	Vacant 2018
Color Bearer	Vacant 2018
Guard	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 11-18
Eagle Scout Coordinator	Vacant 2018
Signal Webmaster	Dave W. Demmy, Jr. 05-18
ROTC Coordinator	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 11-18
GAR Highway Officer	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 08-18
Longevity Brother	Dave J. Klinepeter, PCC 1965

Camp 15 routinely meets at National Civil War Museum, at Reservoir Park, Harrisburg, PA, 2 pm 3rd Sunday of most months. The Marshall A. Hope author award was bestowed upon *Hartranft Herald* for excellence of a camp newsletter by Brad Schall, Commander in Chief, 2010-2011.

Dept of PA: www.PAsuvcw.org National: <http://www.suvcw.org/> See TMI from afar!

Have a safe and wonderful winter time Brothers and Sisters

Camp 15 next business meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 18th at 2 pm at NCWM building high atop Reservoir Park

pg. 1 February and March 2018 Hartranft Herald Camp 15 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Awarding winning newsletter -- Marshall A. Hope award presented to Hartranft Camp 2010-2011

Out of our Past



(Photo by Abbie Rowe—Courtesy National Park Service)

AT RIGHT

Shown on the steps of the Lincoln Monument in Washington, D. C. at the exercises sponsored by the Military Order of the Loyal Legion on February 12th are: (left to right, front row) Arthur Weaver, New Oxford; Paul Snyder, Gettysburg; Donald Blatt, Harrisburg; Edward Kramer, Harrisburg; David Tawney, Gettysburg; William C. Duval, Cincinnati, Ohio; Albert C. Lambert, Trenton, N. J.; and Gen. U. S. Grant 3rd, Washington. (Left to right, rear row) Jack Wolfe, Elwood White, Vernon Sanders, George H. Gruber, all of Harrisburg; O. G. McPherson, and Chester S. Shriver, both of Gettysburg.

"Above item from *Banner* 1959; Blatt above was brother-in-law to famous Pennsylvanian and PCinC, John Runkle; Kramer above was the glue that held Camp 15 together during the lean years.

In 1956 at the 75th annual National Encampment held at Harrisburg, PA, it was announced that President Eisenhower on July 29, signed Public Law 851, providing our national motto: "In God We Trust". And Public Law 730 provided to each surviving Veteran of the "War between the States" a medal.

The SUVCW National Headquarters office is in the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, PA. The building was begun in spring, 1996, and was opened 12 February 2001.

The first Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Harrisburg camp was organized and instituted 11 February 1882. It was known as Joseph Liness Camp #15 of the Pennsylvania Eastern Division, Sons of Veterans, U.S.A. At that time, Pennsylvania was divided into two divisions known as Eastern and Western. Later, Liness became the Hartranft Camp."

IN THE BEGINNING by Dave Klinepeter

A while back Brother David Demmy Sr. asked me how I met Major John H. Runkle and became active in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil.

My memory is a bit shaky but I will try and answer that question. I will go back to the Sunday before Memorial Day in 1941. The local communities of Penbrook and Progress always held their Memorial Day service the Sunday before May 30th (in those days Memorial Day was held on the exact date. At the time I was 15 years old and had a strong interest in our American history, especially the Civil War period. I decided to go and watch the veteran's parade. There were several school bands the V.F.W, American Legion, several WWI veterans in autos, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and other citizens in the line of march. The last organization in the line was the Sons of Union Veterans Fife and Drum Corp from the Harrisburg, Pa area. I naturally followed the parade into the East Harrisburg Cemetery [along Herr Street] for services. It was very impressive. The Drum Corp played Civil War songs, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address was read by a school student, General Logan's order Number 11 was read, followed by a main speaker; than the firing over the graves and Taps. As Major Runkle was loading the equipment in the cars I approached and told him of my interest in Civil War history. As luck would have it, he lived on 24th street and I lived on 29 street in Penbrook, so he invited me to his house the next evening. I went to his home and sat in the side yard and we talked. He filled me in on the Drum Corp, inviting me to join, told me about Memorial Day plans. It seems the official name of the Drum Corp was 6th Infantry Field Music Penna Brigade, Sons of Veterans Reserves. (It was not a Sons of Union Veterans Camp, they are separate). Major Runkle took me in the house gave me a kepi, dark blue shirt, dark blue pants, white belt and handed me a fife. I told him I could not play a fife, He said, "Till I learn", just whistle across the top. He had learned I marched with the Boy Scouts and the school band so he invited me to march with the Drum Corp in the Harrisburg Memorial Day morning parade. WOW I accepted the offer. Little did I know what I was getting into. I rode into the parade with Major Runkle (the first of many many parades).

After the parade we went to Reservoir Park where the Auxiliary to the SUVCW served lunch.

The Sons of Veterans from Middletown came up for lunch and then we all went to Paxtang for another parade. The following Sunday we went to the west shore. It seems they would have their Memorial Day services the Sunday after. This was the Enola and West Fairview. Veteran's parade. I was a member of the Sons of Veterans Reserve for several years. When I became old enough, I had to join the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to maintain my membership in the Sons of Veterans Reserve. As mentioned they are two separate groups. My date of admission into the Sons of Union Veterans July 9, 1943! as Secretary, John H. Runkle, signed my certificate.

If anyone has questions about my service in the SUVCW contact David Demmy, Sr.

..... DJK

The National Civil War Museum news



Our Late Brother Larry Sheibley, PCC and past Camp secretary, bequeath a healthy amount of funds to Hartranft Camp 15! On Wednesday, January 24, 2018, secretary Greg Kline and Treasurer, David Demmy, Sr., visited AAA shop and had documentation notarized for Larry's attorney to further along the process of issuing the funds to Camp 15. In the meantime, Camp Council, Scott Debo, PCC, Tony Kline and PCC Jeff Smith, are working out the details of how the Camp should invest the funds for the future well-being of the Camp and its brotherhood of members. E.g., purchase a CD; set aside funds for quick access; purchase something in Larry's memory..... More

data to be announced by Camp council at a meeting near you.

MEETING MINUTES

Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp # 15
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
National Civil War Museum, Harrisburg PA

Sunday, January 21, 2018

Officers Present

Commander.....Logan Swanger
SVC..... Vernon Stout
JVC.....Scott Debo
Secretary.....Greg Kline, PCC
Treasurer/Chaplain.....David Demmy, Sr
Pat. Instructor/Historian....Jeff Smith
Council.....Scott Debo
Council..... Tony Kline
Council..... Jeff Smith

Officers Absent

Color Bearer.....Kelly Betz
Guide/Guard.....TBA

Members attending:

David Demmy, Jr
David Klinepeter, PC

The meeting was called to order by Camp Commander Logan Swanger at 2:00 PM

The meeting minutes from October 15, 2017 were read by Secretary Greg Kline. Motion to accept by Brother Tony Kline 2nd by Brother Dave Demmy Sr, motion approved.

Treasurer's report was read by Brother Dave Demmy, Sr. A checkbook balance of \$1591 was reported. Brother Dave discussed the migration of Camp 15's CD assets to our new credit union account and we are doing much better with interest on our CD's than we did at our previous bank. Motion to accept by Brother Jeff Smith, Second by SVC Vern Stout, motion approved.

Correspondence was received from the editor of the Department newsletter, *The Battle Cry of Freedom*, questioning our interest in renewing

our free advertisement for the sale of license plates and belt buckles. Both ads were renewed unchanged.

Motion made to accept the minutes as read by Brother Tony Kline, second by Brother Dave Demmy Sr, motion approved

Sick Brothers or Brothers in Distress

Brother Dave Demmy, Sr updated the Camp of his upcoming surgical procedure. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Orders, Communications and Bills

Secretary Kline read multiple Department and General Orders which were issued since the Camp's last meeting in October which include Brother Dave Demmy Sr brought up the occasional lack of attendance at some of our monthly Camp meetings and suggested the possibility of having a speaker once or twice a year in conjunction with our Camp meeting.

Brother Dave Demmy, Jr has a new Camp 15 website designed which just needs to be uploaded and will soon go live.

Commander Swanger mentioned a challenge coin that is being struck to commemorate

General Logan's Order which established Decoration Day, now celebrated as Memorial Day.

Brother Jeff Smith, PCC is shooting for an early June date for the Adopt-a-Position work day in Gettysburg at the Knap's Battery position on Culp's Hill.

Unfinished Business: Nothing reported

New Business:

An application for transfer to Camp 15 was read from Brother Wayne Blattner, PCC from the recently disbanded Gennari Camp. Motion to accept Brother Wayne's transfer made by Brother Dave Klinepeter, second by Brother Tony Kline, motion approved unanimously.

Brother Dave Klinepeter, second by Brother to the public and advertising the event in local newspapers

Tony Kline, motion approved unanimously.

Discussion was had about opening the meeting to the public and advertising the event in local newspapers. A committee was formed including Brother Jeff Smith, PCC and SVC Vern Stout to look into more details!

Good of the Order:

Brother Greg Kline gave details and reservation information for the upcoming annual Department Lincoln Luncheon.

Bother David Demmy, Sr has commissioned and received a *plaque* for placement in the lobby of the National Civil War Museum indicating it as the **Home of the National Headquarters of the SUVCW.**

Patriotic Instructor:

Patriotic Instructor Jeff Smith gave a very interesting presentation relating to the economics of the Civil War. He discussed the monetary cost of the war effort to the Federal government, amounting to \$2.5 million per day as well as the incredible inflation rates experienced by both sides but the Southern states in particular. He displayed some wonderful currency and coin artifacts and discussed their relationship to the lack of a National Bank in the early history of the United States, the abundance of privately issued paper and metal currency and the Currency Act of 1864 which forever ended the production of private currency in the U.S. This was Brother Jeff's first presentation as Camp Patriotic Instructor and he did a great job!

The meeting was closed by Commander Swanger at 4:04 PM

Faithfully submitted

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Gregory E. Kline, PCC

Secretary

Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp# 15

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

On the Road with Camp 15

Monthly Camp business meetings begin at 2 p.m. and are conducted [*mostly*] on the 3rd Sunday, at National Civil War Museum [NCWM]!

March 2018 Camp meeting on Sunday March 18th.

April 2018 Camp meeting on Sunday April 15th

Please update your social calendar now.

May 12 2018



75th Anniversary Banquet in Honor of Brother Dave Klinepeter's 75 years of service to SUVCW.

Saturday May 12 2018 at National Civil War Museum 11:30 a.m. social hour – meal time 1 pm very similar to our December Holiday banquet.

National Spring Time Council Meeting, **March 23 and 24, 2018** at Franklin TN.

Pennsylvania Department encampment convention apparently at Genetti Hotel *Williamsport* PA **June 21-24, 2018.**

National encampment convention at Sheraton Framingham Hotel & Conference Center, about 20 miles from downtown Boston. The rate is \$109.00, for single or double rooms; **August 9 – 12, 2018.**

Be Proud - Wear the Badge



Come out to a meeting and engage with us!

- The Allied Orders of the GAR:
- -Woman's Relief Corps Auxiliary to GAR,
- -Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic,
- -Daughters of Union Veterans of Civil War,
- -Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and
- -The Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans Civil War.

Camp Officers & authors, the first Friday of each month is the Deadline for submission of stories, events, articles, and photos for *Hartranft Herald*.

Membership Bio Profiles will continue to appear as they are submitted by members.

Worksheets were inserted in Camp 15's 125th Anniversary history book.

If you prefer, [and your *Hartranft Herald* wishes you would], complete an *e*-worksheet, please ask for one – send e-mail request to DoubleD@Demmy.cc

Bring a nephew, uncle, brother, father, grandfather, neighbor and friend to a Camp meeting! Family and our sisters of Auxiliary 7 are always welcome!

Established February 11, 1882
in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty!

Camp 15 Dues time – year 2018

3rd and final Newsletter published notice

To save postage you may bring your New Year 2018
Camp 15 dues of **\$35** to MARCH Camp Meeting!

*Life Members' dues are \$8.00 for Pennsylvania
Department collection.*

National Life Members are exempt from Camp 15 dues
and National per capita!

Please pay during Camp meeting on

Sunday March 18th!

Camp treasurer prefers checks payable to

'Hartranft Camp 15, SUVCW'.

Or mail your check to

David W. Demmy, Sr., 881 Sunny Hill Lane

Harrisburg PA 17111 – 4690

Check protects both parties!

DUES NOT PAID by end of March 2018, will
subject individual member to be dropped by
Camp 15.

Reinstatement for 2018 must include a \$10
National Fee for total of \$45 *anytime* for the
remaining months of 2018.