



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 130th Year



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



Volume 14, No. 7

America's Birthday

July 2012



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 & Brothers, & Family & Friends, all are welcome to our Camp meetings at the National Civil War Museum and field trips at-large -- Bring your camera!

[Camp 15's next monthly general meeting](#) will be conducted on Sunday September 16, 2012 at National Civil War Museum high atop Reservoir Park, Harrisburg PA upper level room 222. Meeting begins at 2pm. Please have a safe and contented summer!

[Plan now for the 2013 Pennsylvania](#) Department annual convention – encampment at Gettysburg, Eisenhower Inn June 27, 28, and 29, 2013. This event will be one of the 150th anniversary activities hosted by Commandery of Pennsylvania. Major Commonwealth and Nationally known guests anticipated! This 2013 convention will be Pennsylvania's 133rd Encampment; the 130th Auxiliary Encampment; 100th annual Encampment for the DUVCW and the Woman's Relief Corps, Comrade Gabrio Corps #136.

[Thank you to the Brothers of Hartranft Camp 15](#) that helped the National Civil War Museum place Banners on the property in commemoration of the civil war Sesquicentennial. The museum places *Banners of the Fallen* in honor of those killed in

action during a significant civil war battle on the battle anniversary.

These Banners are placed in front of the museum building. The current Banners represent the Seven Days Battles June 25 – July 1, 1862, near Richmond Virginia. The flags will be on display into July!

And, thank you also to the Brothers that manned the Hartranft table at the recent civil war Relic show at Gettysburg. See following text on that event:

It is a pleasure to report that it seems the Gettysburg recruitment activity this past Saturday and Sunday (June 30, July 1) was a special and interesting success. Very special Kudos goes to Brother John Martin. Brother Martin sat at the recruiting post for virtually all of Saturday; the times I was there with him, there really seemed to be a pretty solid flow of interest from attendees of the Civil War Antique Show. No real "Buck Tail" stood his post better than did Brother Martin, virtually the whole of Saturday. I am going to estimate 15 people of good interest stopped by and asked a lot of questions. All the applications were

taken by Sunday morning when I arrived at post. On Saturday morning, War Governor Curtin made his appearance after I initially set up the display, and he “policed- up” the display to make it look more presentable to the crowd. Governor Curtin AKA Dave Klinepeter, gave me a few lessons in display etiquette, but I’m afraid that my artistic/design skills, are like the Southern Confederacy, a “Lost Cause”.

On Sunday, I manned the post for 2 or 3 hours. The flow of persons was slower, but still about 7 people came and several took information via the pamphlets. Now here is the interesting part, 85% to 90% of those who stopped were from outside the area; Massachusetts, Western PA, Connecticut, New Jersey, Delaware (even one from South Carolina)! Only a minority would probably join Camp 15, although there were a couple people of local habitation. It was also quite interesting to learn that most of the interested parties did specifically know about a Civil war ancestor. Only a minority would probably join Camp 15, although there were a couple people of local habitation, I don’t know if we struck any new membership for camp 15, but the SUVCW might have possibly picked up 1 or 2 new recruits for other camps: F. C. & L.

I recommend we recruit again this coming Fall 2012 in the same forum. The 2012 Fall show will be in late October or early November, 2012. Spearheaded by Jeffery Smith.

[Infantry Presentation](#) – Lecture and Authentic Equipment Exhibit – Sunday, October 21, 2012

Was your Union ancestor mustered into an Infantry Regiment? Statistics suggest that over 80% of Union soldiers were designated Infantry. Brother Jeffery Smith has volunteered to give a presentation to Camp 15 on Civil War Infantry. The presentation will discuss the organization, training, tactics, and equipment of the typical Civil War Infantry Regiment. The presentation will include a

question and answer session and actual infantry equipment from the war will be brought to the presentation for the brothers to examine following the presentation. The presentation will be given on forthcoming Sunday, October 21, 2012. If you have relics you would like to share, have them on hand, Sunday October 21 – the more the better.

[PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR/GAR HISTORIAN](#)

by Dave Klinepeter

[JULY 4TH 1866](#) independence DAY -- Return of the Penna Battle flags.

After the Pennsylvania troops were mustered out of service, many of the battle flags went home with



color bearer
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by the men to remember what they had done. There were no provisions to collect them by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

On June 13, 1865 the War Department ordered the chief mustering officers to turn over all colors in their possession to the governors of the various states. By this time, as stated the Pennsylvania State Flags were scattered all over the state. The few flags collected by the state were not being properly cared for; and the veterans in possession of the flags were not willing to turn them in. By the end of 1865 it was realized that proper care of the flags was necessary and government issued colors were

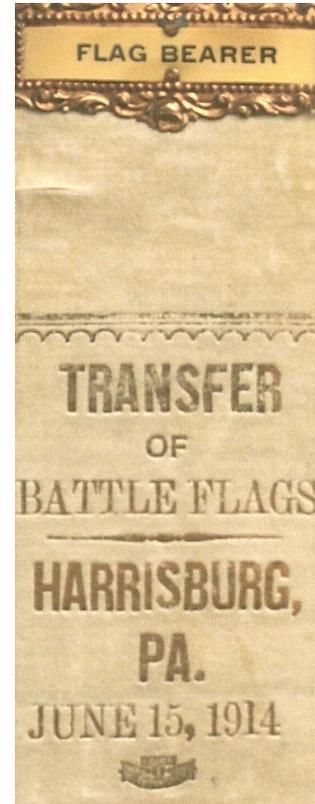
to be returned to state care in a ceremony on Independence Day 1866, at Philadelphia Independence Hall.

A grand parade and ceremony were planned. The streets in daylight were decorated with every patriotic device, and at night there was a general illumination. General Grant attended; Major General Winfield Hancock served as grand marshal.



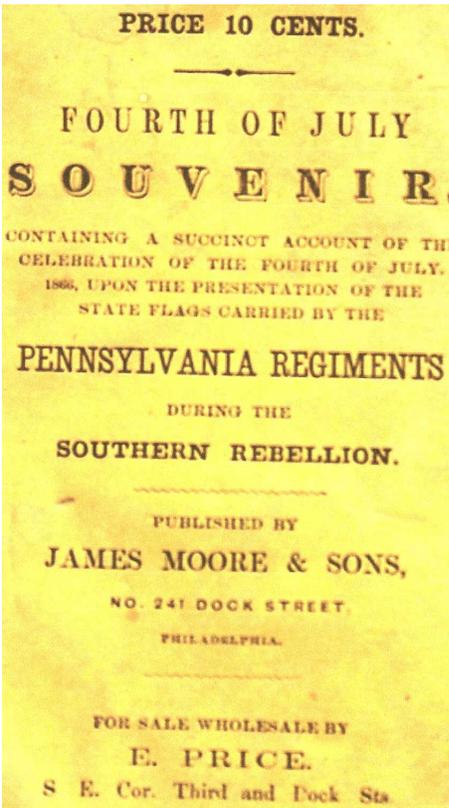
Besides many veterans marching, children attending the special Orphans Schools paraded each given small flags, DISPLAYED ABOVE, they won the hearts of the sympathetic public. General Meade received the loudest applause as the "Hero of Gettysburg". When the parade was completed by the extended line of march to Independence Square, where the old color bearers carrying the tattered flags formed around the platform erected for that purpose. General Harry White opened the ceremonies of the flag return with a stirring speech. Following that the Reverend Thomas Brainerd, D.D., offered a fervent prayer for the return of peace and a restored union. At the parade's end, General Meade stood in front of Independence Hall and officially returned the colors to Governor Curtin, than making comments on the veterans and

their service. Governor Curtin responded by honoring the bravery and heroism of the Pennsylvania veterans. and spoke at length about their accomplishment during the war. Fireworks closed the program. At that time the flag collection totaled 270 colors.



A souvenir medallion was sold for the event, see display later in this issue of your [Hartranft Herald](#). Front has old state coat of arms, inscription reads "Pennsylvania Volunteers- Gettysburg July 3, 1863" Back has crossed flags and shield, inscription reads "In Commemoration of the Return of the State Flags of Penna Regiments. At Independence Hall July 4, 1866"

Continued! Next page



Also a SOUVENIR PROGRAM of the event sold for 10 cents (a lot of money in 1866).

Over the years the flags were moved several times and more flags were turned-in to the state. Fortunately they were housed in the Executive Library and Museum Building when the capitol burned on February 2, 1897. When the capitol was rebuilt it included *niches* and it was suggested the battle flags be placed in them. The ceremony for the transfer of the flags took place on Flag Day in 1914. The aged Civil War Veterans marched to the Capitol rotunda. Many of the flag bearers in the parade were the same color bearers in the 1866 parade, as well as in the war.

Images of items indicated in this text are from Brother Keener-Farley's collection!

Each veteran wore a special ribbon (see picture later in this issue) the soldier on the left of the picture was Patrick De Lacy, Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient served during the Civil War as a

First Sergeant in Company A, 143rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, captured a Confederate flag at the Battle of the Wilderness, Virginia on May 6, 1864, demoralizing the enemy.

The picture is from the Civil War Museum in Scranton, PA.

On Saturday June 30th I went to the Civil War Relic Show at the Sports Complex in Gettysburg. A pat on the back for, Brother Jeff Smith for securing table space for Camp 15, right at the entrance, at visitors had to walk past it; also for Brother John Martin's attendance and manning camp 15's table all afternoon.

While there I saw a GAR grave marker that was unknown to me. It was large, including the man's name and unit he served in, showed no Post number. There was another marker on the table with a different name, so this was not one of a kind. Because of the price, I took a picture. See photo end of this article. If any of our members are interested in GAR items, this is the show to go to. There are several *advanced* dealers there with many fine items. Just take your wallet.

On the morning of July 4th I arrived at Paxtang, for the annual holiday parade. Paxtang is a small town, big on Patriotic spirit. No it was not big, about half an hour or a little more, no big bands, or big fancy units, mostly home town folks. What impressed me the most, from numerous organizations, so many KIDS in the line of march. Yes I will go see it again next year. In the afternoon I went to the John Harris Simon Cameron Mansion in Harrisburg, Pa. A gentleman, portraying John Harris Jr., read the Constitution of the United States of America several times during the day. The historical society had a book table, face painting, and cut outs for the kids, plenty of water, historical material, a couple playing Patriotic songs on stringed instruments and several Colonial Soldiers. It was quite shady under the large trees and there was a little breeze off the river. There was a small steady stream of people wandering in and staying a while. It is events like

this and the small parades that help plant the seed of Patriotism and history in our young people. They do not seem to get much of it in the school system(s).

On Friday July 6th I went to the Battle of Gettysburg reenactment. Every year there I see a large tent display of the Sons of Confederate Veterans with plenty of information and hand out material. Another large tent there has tables for Historical Societies, artist, book signers, etc, but nowhere did I see a table or display provided by our grand organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War or anything about the Grand Army of the Republic; Why? This should not be a one camp project! - We are into the second year of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War and I feel the Sons are missing the boat in some areas. I am willing to help in some small way and with some money! Regarding my age and lack of the old ZIP, I optioned not to go back out into the 100+ degree weather; Saturday, I stayed home. I would like to hear what some of our other members did to celebrate the 4th!

Up coming dates

July 19, 2012 Hershey
CWRT 7:30pm Country Meadows
Home Hershey.

July through Aug the National Museum in Harrisburg, Pa has events every weekend, both indoor and outdoors.

National Park Sites have numerous events listed.

Historic Gettysburg-Adams County Educational Speakers Program for 2012 has programs each month Third Tues 7:00pm GAR hall in Gettysburg, Pa.

Harrisburg, CWRT no meetings in July and Aug.

I have dates on various Roundtables, Camp Coleman, Lebanon,, Lancaster CWRT U.S.Army Heritage Center Carlisle.

I believe most of our members can check out events on the internet instead of me taking up considerable space in the newsletter --- DJK

[Back in time](#)



block of 1949 3-cent stamps in commemoration of the GAR Grand Army of the Republic

---- DJK heyoun2u2@verizon.net!

[On the Road with Camp 15](#)

Next issue of *Hartranft Herald* will be combined for August and September 2012

Sunday, September 16, 2012 General Meeting at National Civil War Museum at Reservoir Park, Harrisburg!

Sunday, October 21, 2012, General Meeting at National Civil War Museum at Reservoir Park, Harrisburg! Annual nominations and elections for 2013 camp officers.

October Keynote speaker Jeffery Smith will entertain us with presentation and discussion on civil war infantry. Bring your relics and collection to share with audience.

Sunday, December 9, 2012 annual Camp 15 holiday party at Doc. Holliday's Restaurant, New Cumberland.

You have to eat ... please come out and break bread with us. As needed, you may leave after the meal and before we engage in annual entertainment.

Plan to share good time with Hartranft camp today! During our annual holiday banquet, camp officers for forthcoming year [2013] will be sworn into office.

Continued next month.

Be Proud Wear the Badge



Come out to a meeting and join us!

Allied Orders of the GAR

- Woman's Relief Corps Auxiliary to Grand Army of the Republic,
- Ladies of the Grand Arm y of the Republic,
- Daughters of Union Veterans of Civil War,
- Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,
- Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the 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!

**GENERAL JOHN F HARTRANFT, CAMP 15
HARRISBURG, PA,**

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
ESTABLISHED FEBRUARY 11, 1882
IN FRATERNITY, CHARITY, AND LOYALTY

[2012](#) [Pennsylvania](#) [Department](#)

Encampment-

Convention was held in Greensburg PA.

Commander in Chief Donald Palmer, native of Missouri, visited with us the entire weekend and participated in business sessions, campfire and banquet Saturday evening.

Executive Director David W. Demmy, Sr passed National charter to Brother Don to hand-carry to National Encampment-Convention in LA, California next month. Brother David will be flying to the event and cannot carry charter from PA to CA. Following the Encampment, Marilyn and David will be traveling a bit farther west, about 5 hours out into the Pacific. The National office will be closed from August 8 thru 20.

And extract from Brother Don's message to Pennsylvania Encampment included statistics from the National survey all of us were invited to participate in late last year. One our average age 63 – we must recruit younger personnel or our grand organization will not survive decades from now.

All 5 of the Allied Orders of the GAR are 15,000 in strength, with sons having over 6200 Brothers.

2013 PA Encampment is scheduled at Gettysburg – discussion on page 1 above.

2014 PA Encampment site is leaning towards Penn State Convention Center. There are 9 museums and bus tours in the general area.

GAR of days gone by:

General Orders 2 June 20, 1931 Headquarters, Department of Pennsylvania GAR City Hall Philadelphia

A J Pugh, Junior Vice Commander elected from GAR Post 58, Harrisburg.

Jacob Urich, GAR post 58, Harrisburg became representative to the 65 National Encampment.

General Orders 2 June 27, 1932 Headquarters, Department of Pennsylvania GAR City Hall Philadelphia.

At the 66th annual Encampment of the [PA] Department held at Harrisburg, June 22, Jacob Urich, GAR Post 58, Harrisburg, was elected and designated at Senior Vice-Department Commander.

The 66th annual Encampment of the Department, held at Harrisburg, was largely attended by comrades and members of our auxiliary and allied organizations. No effort was spared to make the comrades comfortable and to afford them an enjoyable week.

The Encampment was held in the Penn-Harris [tower] Hotel which was admirably adapted for the purpose.

The camp-fire on Wednesday evening was held in the auditorium of the [state] Library Building, which was filled to capacity.

Governor Pinchot welcomed the comrades to the State Capitol. The Commander in Chief presided and addresses were made by comrades, ladies of our allied organizations.

By command of Jacob Barron, Department Commander, Samuel Town, Assistant Adjutant General.

Officers Associated with Hartranft Camp 15

Commander	Stan L. Zellers 12-13
Senior Vice Commander	Scott Debo 12-13
Junior Vice Commander	Jeffery Smith 12-13
Secretary	Larry C. Sheibley, PCC 05-12
Treasurer	David W. Demmy, Sr. 07-15
Patriotic Instructor	Dave J. Klinepeter, PCC 65
GAR Historian	Dave J. Klinepeter, PCC 65
Council	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 10-12
Council	Lee F. Walters, PDC 11-13
Council	Jeffery Smith 11-13
Guide	Tom Bowman, 11-12
Guard	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 08-12
Color Bearer	Kelly W. Betz 07-12
Chaplain	David W. Demmy, Sr. 00-15
GAR Highway Officer	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 08-15
Graves Registration	John E. Deppen, PCC 08-15
Eagle Scout Coordinator	Donald Fry 11-12
ROTC Coordinator	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 11-15
Past Dept Commander	Lee F. Walters, PCC 07-08
Pennsylvania Com	Richard Essenwein, PCC 2012-2014

July 2012 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

[National Civil War Museum News](#)

Friday, October 5, 2012 - Blue & Gray Gala featuring *Black Hawk Down* Pilot Michael Durant

And

This Week Wednesday, July 18
2:00 and 4:00 pm

"Paddy Has Gone for a Soldier"

6:30 pm

Doug Batson as D.H. Hill and the Seven Days Campaign

July 21-22

Living History Encampment: 1st Maryland, Co. A, CSA

Saturday, July 28 - 12pm & 2pm

Libby Prison Minstrels

August 4-5

Living History Encampment: Federal Generals Corps

August 6-8, 2012

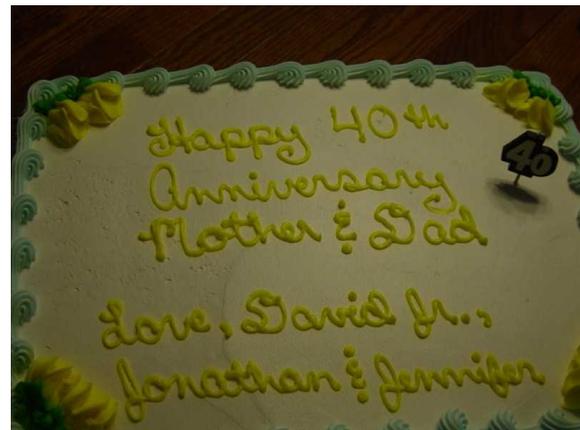
[Sign up](#) today for the **Civil War Adventure Camp** -for 4th, 5th & 6th grade students! *Hurry - Deadline to register is July 25! Contact Museum at:*

ismolizer@nationalcivilwarmuseum.org

[Members update](#)



Past Gettysburg Camp Commander Dave Sosnowski and National Auxiliary President, Anne Jaster will be wed on July 21, 2012. Dave has been dual member of Hartranft Camp well over a decade.



Marilyn and David Demmy celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary 1972 – 2012 upon a surprise dinner by their 3 children and family.

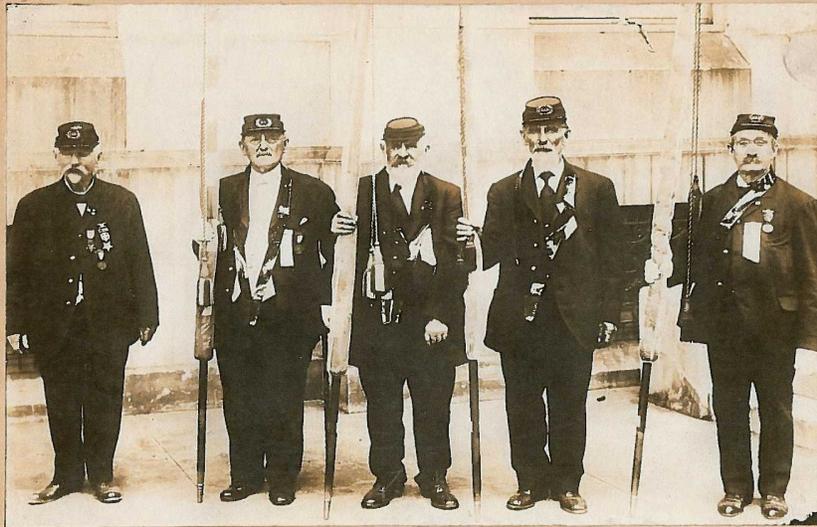
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Awarding Winning newsletter! Marshall A. Hope award presented to Hartranft Camp 2010-2011



Color Bearers of the 143rd Regiment at Harrisburg, PA, on June 15th, 1914.

Color Bearers of the 143rd Regiment at Harrisburg, Pa, on June, 15th, 1914.



Left to Right— P. De Lacey- President 143rd Regiment Association, James A. Stettler, Company A, Francis Furman, Company K, Nathan Vosler, Original Color Bearer, Company I, and Mark B. Perigo, Company H.

July 2012 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

Camp 15 table display at civil war Relic show at Gettysburg, June 30 - July 01 2012



SCVCW display



SCVCW display



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