



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 132nd Year in Harrisburg
f @ [Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp#15](#)
[Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War](#)



Volume 17 No. 6

Summer time is upon us enjoy warmth

June 2015

Volume 18 No. 7

God Bless the USA

July 2015

Attend 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!

Camp 15 Summer Activities

No Camp meeting in June! We hope to see you at the Pennsylvania Department annual encampment at Williamsport, June 19 and 20.

Next Camp meeting is **Sunday September 20, 2015**.

“Horses are smarter than people. You never heard of a horse going broke betting on people”.
... Will Rogers, America’s humorist.

PennLive In April, *PennLive* debuted a database where readers can search for those in Pennsylvania who died while serving in the Vietnam War. Since then, we've worked to expand this database to include other wars. Go to

http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2015/05/pa_war_dead_database.html?appSession=684153394483526&cbSearchAgain=true&AppKey=f6122000a24d30aaa78840c290ce

Brothers and Sisters in Distress

Please add the following to your prayer list

Mrs. Robert Treat. Jeffery Smith.

Charlie Kuhn Jr, PCinC, Past Dept of PA Secretary.

Joe Long Jr, PDC at Scranton Camp 8.

Mrs. Rob Koenigsberg, spouse of newly elected PA Dept Secretary.

May Meeting Minutes

Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp #15

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

National Civil War Museum, Harrisburg, PA

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Sunday May 17, 2015

Officers Present

JVC.....Logan Swanger
Treas./Chaplain.....David Demmy, Sr.
Pat.Inst./Historian.....David Klinepeter

Officers Absent

Commander.....Jeff Smith
SVC/Secretary.....Greg Kline
Council.....Lee Walters
Council.....Tom Bowman
Guide/Guard.....Tom Bowman
Color Bearer.....Kelley Betz

Members Present

Tony Kline, Bill Kuhn, Bill Jackson
Vernon Stout

Guests

Dot Kline, Rosemary Jackson, Scott Long
Brother Swanger appointed Brothers to replace absent officers!
The meeting was called to order by JVC Swanger at 2:02 PM.
The Minutes from the April meeting were read and accepted.
Treasurer David Demmy, Sr. reported that funds available in our checking account as of the May meeting are \$951.
A motion was made by Brother David Klinepeter to accept the Secretaries and Treasurer’s reports and was seconded by Brother Bill Kuhn. Motion approved.

Orders, Communications and Bills

Brother Tony Kline read correspondence from the Pennsylvania Department in the form of Department Orders. These included the following:

Department Order #18 suspending Camps #34 and #48 for failure to file Form #27 on time.
Department Order #19 describing the origin of Memorial Day and reminding all Camps to get involved in various events to pay respect and remember all veterans at this special time.

Department Order #20 reinstating Camp #34, but suspending Camps #89 and #504.

Unfinished Business

The Adopt-A-Position for cleaning a site at the Gettysburg Battlefield was discussed. A suggestion was made to wait until the September camp meeting to set a date for the cleanup. Brother David Demmy, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Brother Vernon Stout to have Secretary Greg Kline pick several possible dates and send out a dispatch questionnaire to the camp membership and report the responses back to the camp. Motion approved.

Brother David Demmy, Sr. mentioned that again, this year, Camp #15 will be decorating veteran’s graves at the Old Harrisburg Cemetery at 13th and State Streets at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 23. If anyone is interested, we meet at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast in the back room at the American Dream Restaurant and go to the cemetery from there.

Brother Treat’s request to have service bars made for campaigns in Panama and Grenada was discussed. Brother David Demmy, Sr. mentioned that the Office of the Secretary of Defense posts acceptable wars and unless they are on the list National SUVCW [probably] would not create them.

Continued

New Business

On Saturday, May 23 Brother David Klinepeter is accompanying Helen Shireman to a cemetery in Norristown to place a wreath on General Hartranft's grave. Brother David made a motion, seconded by Brother William Jackson to give him a blank check, he will use it to pay the cost of the wreath, give the check to Mrs. Shireman and then he will reimburse Camp #15 for the amount. Motion approved.

Patriotic Instructor

Patriotic Instructor David Klinepeter mentioned that the Ephraim Slaughter ceremony will be held Wednesday, May 27 at 9:00 a.m. in the National Civil War Museum. He reviewed a list of Time Line Dates of Battles, beginning with the revolutionary war up to Operation Iraqi Freedom. He gave a brief history of the GAR and noted General Logan's setting the date of May 30 as Decoration Day, which became Memorial Day in 1882. Brother David displayed several items of Memorial Day memorabilia including old photos, sheet music and several books about Abraham Lincoln.

After the closing ritual ceremony, the meeting ended at 3:30 PM. The next meeting will be held Sunday, September 20, 2015 at 2:00 PM.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, Tony Kline (acting for Secretary Greg Kline) Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp #15, SUVCW

Two Horses

Just up the road from my home is a field, with two horses in it.

From a distance, each horse looks like any other horse. But if you stop your car, or are walking by, you will notice something quite amazing....

Looking into the eyes of one horse will disclose that he is blind.

His owner has chosen not to have him put down, but has made a good home for him.

This alone is amazing. If you stand nearby and listen, you will hear the sound of a bell. Looking around for the source of the sound, you will see that it comes from the smaller horse in the field.

Attached to the horse's halter is a small bell. It lets the blind friend know where the other horse is, so he can follow.

As you stand and watch these two friends, you'll see that the horse with the bell is always checking on the blind horse, and that the blind horse will listen for the bell and then slowly walk to where the other horse is, trusting that he will not be led astray.

When the horse with the bell returns to the shelter of the barn each evening, it stops occasionally and looks back, making sure that the blind friend isn't too far behind to hear the bell.

Like the owners of these two horses, God does not throw us away just because we are not perfect or because we have problems or challenges.

He watches over us and even brings others into our lives to help us when we are in need...

Sometimes we are the blind horse being guided by the little ringing bell of those who God places in our lives. Other times we are the guide horse, helping others to find their way....

Good friends are like that... You may not always see them, but you know they are always there... Please listen for my bell and I'll listen for yours, and remember...

Be kinder than necessary - Everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle. In fraternity, charity and loyalty.

[DUVCW youngster achieves greatness](#)

This spring, among the students that participated in the American National German exams, IIsa Smith, daughter of Camp Commander, Jeffery Smith, placed in the state of Pennsylvania for all students taking German II! She won the German Gold

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award from the German Consulate, and was offered a free trip to study in Germany!

It is anticipated that Ilsa will be speaking better German when she returns home!



Proud Dad, says “she already is beyond me” speaking German, and will be more so after her return. She will be living with a German family while attending school in Deutschland! Camp 15 and Auxiliary 7 express a ‘Well done’ to dear Ilsa, who is a sister of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, one of our 5 Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Camp 15 brother continues grand career in US Army.



Staff Sergeant Duke Hall, 2nd from left, member of Camp 15, was recently recognized for his recruiting achievements while stationed in Georgia. Brother Duke, we salute you!

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR/GAR HISTORIAN by Dave Klinepeter

Your Patriotic Instructor was quite busy the latter part of May and during June. I was asked to accompany Mrs. Helen Shireman (her late husband, Ronald was a member of Camp 15 for many years, also Mrs. Shireman is the great granddaughter of General John F. Hartranft) to Montgomery Cemetery in Norristown, Pa on May 23rd for Memorial Day Services. We placed a wreath, from Hartranft Camp 15, on the grave of General Hartranft. There was a small parade to a number of graves, with brief comments, placing a wreath, firing a salute and taps. The last stop was the Veterans plot. What impressed me, was after the comments, the people, especially the children, took a hand full of rose pedals and spread them on each veteran’s grave, than the rifle salute and taps was sounded. While having refreshments later I was able to meet an old friend of Camp 15: Brother John McNulty, PDC, attends our camp Christmas party each year.

On May 25th I was at the Gettysburg National Military Park as a volunteer with the Victorian Dance Ensemble. Talked with a number of men about the SUVCW but most were out of state so I give them info on how to call National Headquarters.



AUTHOR, SLAUGHTER’S LIFE-LIKE STATUE, AND SLAUGHTER’S GREAT GRANDCHILDREN.

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AUTHOR, SLAUGHTER AND BROTHER DAVID

On May 27th I attended the unveiling of the Ephraim Slaughter exhibit at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pa. Our Brother David Demmy Sr., Executive Director SUVCW, was on the program and gave a brief history of the GAR.

I was acknowledged as having been on the rifle team that fired the salute over Slaughter's grave in 1943. (I was 16)!

This funeral service occurred before I departed Harrisburg for the US Navy during WWII.



On May 30th (the real Dedication Day) I went to the Lincoln Cemetery in Susquehanna Township with friends and relatives of Slaughter for a wreath laying and special

services. I represented Camp 15 SUVCW. (We were the ones that handled the original military services.)

On May 31st, I went with Mrs. Shireman to Pennypacker Mills, Pa. to a Civil War reenactment to meet Mark Grimm. He portrays General John F. Hartranft in an organization known as the *Confederation of Union Generals*. Each member portrays a particular Union officer, (there are a few civilians mixed in) She has helped him with research about General Hartranft.

On June 6th the V F W Post in Lower Paxton had an open house honoring Memorial Day, D-Day and Flag Day. They also had a flag burning ceremony. A number of other members of VFW, American Legion and other veteran organizations were in attendance. I informed them about the WWII roundtable, the Vietnam Veterans round table, the Civil War roundtables, and the SUVCW. I attend most of these roundtables during each month. Am always ready to talk up the Son of Union Veterans.

On June 20th, Mrs. Shireman and I were invited on a bus trip to Washington D C at Fort Meir for a movie making session on the Lincoln Conspiracy trial. This was not a reenactment but an educational movie. The *Confederation of Union Generals* are very strongly involved. Of interest is the fact that General John F. Hartranft was the Provost Marshal in charge of the trial. This taping was in the original court room at the fort. It was quite a learning experience for me. July 7, 1865 was the hanging.

This year I did not go to the Battle of Gettysburg (it was cancelled because of *soggy fields*.) There were numerous other activities going on, but I decided to stay home all three days. Have a safe summer and God Bless you and God Bless USA. DjK

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Floyd Demmy, above, is off to Europe on a WWII Veterans Tour of England, France, Belgium, and Germany. This time he and the other veterans will need a passport! Safe travels Brother Floyd and the tour group.



Brother Floyd marching with 10th Armored Division, (Tigers), 54th Armored Infantry Battalion, half-track squad on the move from one town to another always mindful of enemy snipers!

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On the Road with Camp 15

Monthly Camp business meetings begin at 2 p.m. and are conducted the 3rd Sunday, at National Civil War Museum

Camp 15 does not conduct a business meeting during the long days of summer.

Next major event will be the National encampment August 20 and 23 at Richmond VA.

Next Camp 15 business meeting to be held on Sunday, September 20 at Reservoir Park 2

pm.

This will kick off our fall activities.

Pennsylvania department mid-year meeting to be held on or about Saturday October 24! -- Another notice will be posted when the meeting is announced for 2015.

Hartranft Camp's annual holiday event is scheduled for 2nd Sunday in December, 12/13/15. Please make plans to enjoy the day with us your Brothers and Sisters of Camp 15 and Auxiliary 7 of Harrisburg area.

Please update your social calendar now.

Camp 15 yearly calendar available upon request. Send e-mail to Hartranft Herald staff.

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 Auxilliary to 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!

Established February 11, 1882

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty!

Continued

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From Days Gone By

GAR General Order No. 9 1876

By order of John F. Hartranft, CnC.

HEAD-QUARTERS
Grand Army of the Republic,
No. 920 WALNUT STREET.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 15th, 1876.

General Orders }
No. 9. }

I. Headquarters has been established, in conjunction with the Department of Pennsylvania, at 920 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, where all communications will be hereafter addressed.

The rooms are fitted up with a view to the convenience of Comrades visiting the City, who are cordially invited to make use of them.

It is requested by the Chairman, that communications for the Centennial Committee G. A. R., be sent to the above address.

II. It seems necessary to call attention to the fact that Orders and Circulars from National and Department Headquarters must be read to the Post at the next meeting after their receipt, and then be filed with the Post records.

Where action thereon is required, the Post Commander will call the matter up in the regular order of business.

III. On receipt of this Order, Post Commanders will report to Department Headquarters what numbers of the printed proceedings of the National Encampments are on file with the Post records.

IV. A Provisional Department, to embrace the state of Maryland, is hereby established, and Comrade E. B. TYLER, Baltimore, is appointed Commander.

Comrade J. C. STONE, Burlington, is hereby announced as Commander of the Provisional Department of Iowa, *vice* Comrade J. C. PARROTT, relieved at his own request.

The following appointments on the staff of Comrade Stone are approved:

A. A. G., Comrade A. A. PERKINS, Burlington.

A. Q. M. G., Comrade ED. L. HOBERT, Burlington.

The appointment of Comrade B. F. CLARK, Quincy, as S. V. C., Provisional Department of Michigan, is hereby approved.

The above-named Comrades, as appointed, will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of

JNO. F. HARTRANFT,

Commander-in-Chief.

Ross, B. Beath
Adit General

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