



# 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](http://www.SUVCWHarrisburgPA.org)

Celebrating our 130<sup>th</sup> Year



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



Volume 14, No. 6

God Bless America

June 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.

#### [Father's Day - a Story](#)

Father's Day, contrary to popular misconception, was not established as a holiday in order to help greeting card manufacturers sell more cards. In fact when a "father's day" was first proposed there were no Father's Day cards! According to one source, Mrs. John B. Dodd, of Washington, first proposed the idea of a "father's day" in 1909.

Mrs. Dodd wanted a special day to honor her father, William Smart. William Smart, a Civil War veteran, was widowed when his wife (Mrs. Dodd's mother) died in childbirth with their sixth child. Mr. Smart was left to raise the newborn and his other five children by himself on a rural farm in eastern Washington State. It was after Mrs. Dodd became an adult that she realized the strength and

selflessness her father had shown in raising his children as a single parent.

The first Father's Day was observed on June 19, 1910 in Spokane Washington. In 1924 President Calvin Coolidge supported the idea of a national Father's Day. Finally in 1966 President Lyndon Johnson signed a presidential proclamation declaring the 3rd Sunday of June as Father's Day. How many of you recall '66?

Father's Day has become a day to not only honor your father, but *all men who act as a father figure*, stepfathers, uncles, grandfathers, and adult male friends are all to be honored on Father's Day!

The Greatest Gift  
I Ever Had  
Came From God,  
And I Call Him  
**DAD**

June 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*

May Meeting Minutes

Gen. John F. Hartranft  
National Civil War Museum  
Sunday May 20, 2012

Officers Present

Commander.....Stanley Zellers  
Jr.V. Commander/Council.....Jeffery Smith  
Treasurer/Chaplain.....David Demmy, Sr  
Council ..... Lee Walters, PDC  
Pat.Ins./Hist.....David Klinepeter, PCC

Officers Absent

Sr.V.Commander.....Scott Debo  
Secretary.....Larry Sheibley-Beasom, PCC  
Council/Guard.....Gregory Kline, PCC  
Guide.....Thomas Bowman  
Color Bearer.....Kelly Betz

Members Present 13

Dave Demmy, Jr, Floyd Demmy, Tony Kline, Dave Laman.

Guests Present Dot Kline auxiliary 503 and Charlotte Walters Auxiliary 112.

At the appointed hour, Commander Stanley Zellers began the meeting with the ritual opening ceremonies. Brother Tony Kline, acting as secretary, read the April meeting minutes. Motion to approve the secretary's report by Brother David Demmy, Sr., seconded by Brother David Klinepeter; motion carried. Treasurer David Demmy, Sr. reported \$1,956.00 at the end of April; following payment of per capita to Department of Pennsylvania and average expenses, as of this meeting we have \$188.00 in the camp account. The actual camp count is presently 59 brothers. We had one junior, but, he is now a full member. Brother David announced that a new roster is available as well as bumper stickers and business cards. David also reported that Brother Swanger is working on the ancestor genealogy search guide. Motion to

approve the treasurer's report by Brother Lee Walters, seconded by Brother Dave Laman; motion carried.

Brother Lee Walters reported that his grandson, who is a member of Camp #15, has again been deployed to somewhere in Iraq or Afghanistan and asks our brothers to remember him in our thoughts and prayers.

Treasurer David Demmy, Sr. reported that there are presently no bills. Also, Form 990-N has been sent to the IRS. This must be done every year in order to maintain our non-profit status with IRS and the National organization.

Jr.V.Commander Jeff Smith gave an update on the Gettysburg Civil War Collector's Show to be held June 30 and July 1 at the Allstar Events Complex on Emmitsburg Road near the Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center. Brother Jeff has arranged to have a Camp #15 recruitment table provided at no cost. This is a good opportunity for us because upwards of 250 vendors attend and attract many shoppers. Jeff is asking for volunteers to serve at the table. Times are 10 AM to 5 PM Saturday, June 30 and 9 AM to 2 PM Sunday, July 1. Jeff also reported that October 8 is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle of Perryville, Ky. He has been working with the event organizer at the Park. This has been approved by SUVCW National as a Signature Event. There are various Union Sons and Confederate Sons working on the planning for this and he would like to see Camp #15 involved in this affair!

Patriotic Instructor Klinepeter recommended we go back through old Newsletter issues and look at what was done some years ago on Memorial Day weekend. He recalls that Camp #15 would go to Cemeteries in the Harrisburg area and the Camp Commander would read General Logan's Order #11 and a High School representative would read Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. He again, along with Brother Lee Walters, voiced his disdain for the 3-day Memorial Day weekend. They, and others, feel it should be changed back to May 30, the original date. The US Memorial Day website at

<http://www.usmemorialday.org/act.html> grants you the opportunity to sign a petition to change Memorial Day to its original date – May 30. Likewise, our National website has same opportunity. Brother Dave read several parts from an article in the latest American Legion magazine. The article was “Sealed in Blood” and covered some Memorial Day highlights at the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery at Belleau Woods in France.

Brothers Floyd Demmy and David Demmy, Sr. recently attended the Army Heritage Day event at Carlisle. Brother Floyd read a poem from a WW2 connection to paratroopers at Camp (Fort) Campbell, Ky. He also reported on a recent bus trip to the WW2 Memorial at Washington, D.C. The trip was to honor our WW2 vets. He saw the Arlington Cemetery and was very impressed with the military precision during the change of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. He had a very memorable day and David Demmy, Sr. is putting together some notes from Floyd's trip.

Brother David Demmy, Sr. announced that we will be decorating graves at the Old City Cemetery at 13<sup>th</sup> and State Streets in Harrisburg on Saturday, May 26. We meet for breakfast at the American Dream Diner at 19<sup>th</sup> and Herr Streets at 8 AM and go to the cemetery from there. David pointed out that the Charter being displayed today is the 4<sup>th</sup> charter that camp #15 has! Brother David and Brother Lee explained that we have had a total of 4 charters and this is the latest. The reason for so many charters is because of various name changes through the years.

Brother Dave Demmy, Jr. was recognized for having built the oak stand that now supports the camp charter.

As always we thank our Brothers who arrive early to set up our meeting space and afterwards help to stack chairs etc. The meeting ended at 3:25.

Submitted by Brother Tony Kline.

Post meeting notes:

Brother Butler has been reinstated and now camp 15 is strong with 60 Brothers among our personnel roster.

#### [National Civil War Museum events](#)

Saturday, June 16 Community **FREE** Day: Encampment of 42nd Mississippi, Company F (encampment also on June 17); Lance Cappello as General John Buford; Civil War baseball and more  
June 22 – 12:30pm David Walker as Jefferson Davis

June 23—24 Living History Encampment: 27<sup>th</sup> New Jersey

June 28 — 12:00pm Ampersand Musical Group

June 30 — July 1 Living History Encampment: 21st Mississippi, Co. D, Jeff Davis

Guard & Amherst Battery

June 30 — 12:00pm - 21st Mississippi presentation on women's attire

June 30 - 2pm The Civil War & Its Impact on Two Nations with Jim Taggart

Sunday, July 1 — 12:15pm Angels on the Battlefield: Nurses at Gettysburg with Myra Reichart

July 1 — 2:00pm The Civil War & Its Impact on Two Nations - Jim Taggart

July 7-8 Living History Encampment: 148th PA Regiment Field Hospital & Venture Crew

Saturday, July 7 — 12pm Songs & Stories of the Civil War with Matthew Dodd

July 14 2pm James Hayney as President Lincoln

July 15 — 2pm “Pro-Union Sentiment in the South” with James Morgan

July 18—2 & 4pm - The Life of an Irish Soldier with Mike Plunkett

July 18—6pm - Doug Batson as D.H. Hill & the Seven Days Battles

July 21-22 Living History Encampment: 1<sup>st</sup> Maryland CSA

Saturday, July 21—12pm & 2pm

Lessons of the Civil War Through Music with Steve Ball

July 22 2pm Lessons of the Civil War Through Music

July 28 - 12pm & 2pm Libby Prison Minstrels

#### [Hartranft Camp 15](#)

Next, Memorial Day weekend events in photos!

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SCOTT DEBO, DAVE KLINEPETER, LES MCCLURE, DOT KLINE, GREG KLINE AND DIANE DEBO GATHERING FLAGS TO PLACE THRU-OUT THE OLD HARRISBURG CEMETERY. LES HAS BEEN RECOGNIZING VETERANS IN THIS CEMETERY SINCE 1946.



BROTHERS FLOYD DEMMY AND TONY KLINE PLACING FLAGS IN THE CIVIL WAR VETERANS PLOT AREA AT HARRISBURG CEMETERY.



MARCHING OFF TO DO THEIR DUTY, WHILE, AT LEFT, TWO WWII VETERANS DAVE KLINEPETER AND LES MCCLURE RECALL DAYS AND YEARS GONE BY.



CIVIL WAR VETERANS PLOT. FORMER OLD HEDGEROW HAS BEEN REMOVED, TO NOT ONLY ALLOW SUN UPON THE CIVIL WAR VETERANS LAST RESTING PLACE, BUT TO ALLOW CONSTRUCTION BY AMERICAN LEGION, SPEARHEADED BY LES MCCLURE, TO INSTALL US FLAG AT THIS SIGHT.



CAMP 15 AND LOCAL AMERICAN LEGION PAY TRIBUTE AT HISTORIC HARRISBURG CEMETERY MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2012.

CONTINUED



LET THE SUNSHINE ON!



ANOTHER VIEW OF THE AREA.



FLAGS ON DISPLAY AT FORT INDIANTOWN GAP NATIONAL CEMETERY MEMORIAL DAY 2012



BLUE FLAGS IN FOREGROUND REPRESENT FALLEN PENNSYLVANIA VETERANS!  
PHOTOS SHARED BY BILL KUHN JR HERSHEY PA.



COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF DON PALMER AND PRESIDENT OF AUXILIARY, ANNE JASTER PRESENTING WREATHS AT LINCOLN MEMORIAL.  
THIS PHOTO SHARED BY DAVE SONSNOWSKI

[Veterans Data](#) submitted by Brother Glenn Stephens of Hummelstown PA

To my Brothers and sisters of camp 15: My great-great grandfather, William EGAN served with the 97<sup>th</sup> PA Infantry from Chester County, Sep 1861-Sep 1864. He participated in the attack on Fort Wagner, Georgia, depicted in the movie "Glory". He was in Company E

which was held in reserve. According to Bates, that company along with 2-3 others was ordered to stack their arms and crawl out on the battlefield to retrieve wounded Afro-Americans—which they did that all through the night.

Another great-great grandfather, Aaron ALLAM, born in 1816, was too old to serve in the Civil War. He was the oldest child of Henry ALLAM from Bedminster Township, Bucks County, PA. In the 1840s, Henry moved the family north to Bethlehem, Northampton County, where they all eventually worked for the Bethlehem Iron Works (i.e., the Bethlehem Steel Corp.). In the 1850's, one of Aaron's younger brothers, William, went down to Columbiana, AL with a few other men to help build the Shelby Iron Works. He remained and served with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Alabama Cavalry—our only Rebel. Meanwhile, his brother, Jesse ALLAM served in the Union Army with Sherman (46<sup>th</sup> PA Infantry). They were both in the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, among others, and both survived and served through the end of the war.

My great-great grandmother, Rachel CLEMENS, 2<sup>nd</sup> wife of the above Aaron, was said to be related to Mark Twain. Two of three branches of Mark Twain's family did, in fact, live in and around Bucks County, PA. But there was also a separate PA German family there to which I think we were more likely related. I thought I disproved our alleged connection to Mark Twain only to find that William ALLAM, who went to Alabama, there married a Mary SAWYER.

I have a distant cousin, Joseph STEPHENS who served with the 47<sup>th</sup> PA Infantry and was killed at the decisive Battle of Cedar Creek in October, 1864, between Middletown & Strasburg, VA.

I also have a great-great grandfather, Johannes/John Frommer from Isingen, Wuerttemberg, Germany, who arrived in Pennsylvania around 1857. In October, 1863, he was given his draft notice into the Union Army. He appealed on the basis of being a German citizen. Then, the next month, after his draft notice was cancelled, he applied to become a U.S. citizen. For that, he was tried and convicted of perjury, in November, 1864, and sentenced to 3 months at Eastern State Penitentiary, in Philadelphia. His appeal was denied in December, 1864. Due to overcrowding. He spent two weeks in the guardhouse before being placed in the penitentiary in February, 1865. In May, 1865--one week prior to the end of his sentence--he was pardoned. I don't know if this was a specific pardon for him or part of a more general pardon (which I more strongly

suspect). Ironically, because of his time in the guardhouse, he ended up serving one week longer than his sentence.

My wife actually has a more "distinguished" Civil War (Union) ancestry with 3 great-great grandfathers serving in the Union Army: Absalom DARKES (of Lebanon County, PA) with the 4<sup>th</sup> PA Cavalry (1861-1865, including Fredericksburg, Antietam and Gettysburg) [the information at Fredericksburg incorrectly excludes him because it only list 1 of his 2 enlistments]; Elias BUCK (of Dauphin County, PA), who served with the Emergency Militia called up during the Rebel invasion of the Gettysburg campaign, then served the rest of the war with the 20<sup>th</sup> PA Cavalry; and Henry HECKARD (of Perry & Dauphin Counties, PA) who served 1864-1865 in the 5<sup>th</sup> PA Cavalry. Henry was wounded during the Battle of Chapin's Farm, east of Richmond (where the most Medals of Honor for black Union soldiers were awarded) but was at Appomattox and sometime thereafter released.

Of course, there's also my great-great grandfather, Amandus STEPHENS/STEFFEN who originally qualified me for membership in the SUVCW. He was drafted into the Union Army at age 43 and within a month paid for a replacement to serve out his enlistment.

I've identified all these graves except: William EGAN (whose wife died in the Chester County Poorhouse in November, 1864). There is no pension record for William so I assume that he died shortly thereafter.

Henry HECKARD (Girer's Point cemetery in Perry County—but haven't located the grave).

Joseph STEPHENS (most probably buried somewhere around Middletown, VA)

Absalom DARKES is buried at Bindnagle's Lutheran Church, north of Palmyra, PA.

Amandus STEFFEN is buried at Western Salisbury Union Church in Lehigh County. I don't think that his grave has a marker.

My father, Rev. William A Stephens (1925-2010) served in the 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry, in Germany during WW2 and with the Army Security Agency during the Korean Conflict.

In addition, I am an honorably-discharged USAF Vietnam-era veteran (1967-1972).

Shared by Glenn Stephens

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## July 4<sup>th</sup> A Tribute to Our Comrades in Arms

Fourth of July 2003! I just read again about Ft. McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland and how Francis Scott Key, being on an American Truce Ship, was being held captive during the long night of the bombardment of Ft. McHenry. This battle took place 189 years ago. Thru the long night, the shells were bursting in the air and the sky would light up to reveal the smoke filled bay. Then as daylight dawned he saw through the haze that our flag was still there. God Bless America, and he has!

It was just a matter of time until we won our freedom from Great Britain, and we would become a great power to be reckoned with. How many men lost their lives at Valley Forge during the severe winter in our struggle for independence? When I think of the meager rations they received and their clothes and shoes were not enough to keep them warm and dry. How many men froze to death, their wounds would go untreated because of lack of doctors and medical supplies. I just read recently that an American spy let the British know that General Washington and his rebel band were planning to cross the Delaware in the middle of winter at the Pennsylvania side to Trenton, N. J., and rout the British. But the British gave the alarm no heed and kept on drinking and were caught with their muskets idle.

It seems that no sooner one conflict ends than another takes its place. In the war of 1812, John Paul Jones said, "Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes. Make sure they are so close that you can't miss." The Spanish-American War, the war with Mexico, The Alamo, all leading up to the great Civil War between the American states where brother was pitted against brother, father against son, etc., not counting the many women that died. Some of these women weren't always nurses, some were soldiers or messengers, and some actually were at the thickest of the battles. Some played the role of spies. Then there were young boys that carried the flags into battle or played the drums to urge the troops forward.

Then the Great Civil War broke out and once again we were thrust into conflict. I have read again the poem of Barbara Fritchey of Frederick, Maryland after the men in her town pulled down the American flag. They didn't want the house burned down that carried the flag. She picked it up and climbing the stairs to the attic she fastened it outside the window. With the tramp of

horse and foot of this rebel horde, Stonewall Jackson called a halt. A shot cried out, as the flag was rent and would have tumbled to the ground from the marksmen's weapon. But Barbara snatched the flag and waved it in defiance of the rebels, where Jackson blushed with shame as Barbara shouted, "Shoot if you must this old gray head but spare your country's flag." The leader cried out, "Who touches a hair of yon gray head dies like a dog! March on!" he said.

During the Civil War in 1863, Henry W. Longfellow was writing, "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day," his heart was heavy as he thought of the many men dying and the terrible shape the country was in since the war broke out, and his own son a lieutenant in the Army of the Potomac lay in a hospital seriously wounded. He writes:

"And in despair I bowed my head.  
There is no peace on earth I said,  
for hate is strong . . .  
Somewhere a church bell rang,  
then pealed the bells more loud and  
deep.  
God is not dead nor doth he sleep...!"

The confederates moved into Pennsylvania and concentrated on a little known town by the name of Gettysburg. But this time the Federal troops had the upper ground and the overwhelming amount of troops and supplies. A different outcome compared to the Battle at Fredericksburg where the rebels were dug in and repelled every attack the Yankees made. The creeks ran red with the blood of many men that died trying to storm the hill where the rebels were dug in; the hillside was littered with blue coats where the men lay dying. Abraham Lincoln prepared a speech aboard a train bringing him to Gettysburg where he made the famous "Gettysburg Address." "Four score and seven years ago" was the way it started and as he said in the speech, we would little remember what was said here but that we would always remember what was done here. As the years go by more people want to see the great battlefield where so many died for the cause they believed in. I have a cousin whose husband's great-grandfather was hit in both legs with a musket ball. For the rest of his life he walked on his knees because he lost the lower part of his legs. (I saw the cane he used; it was only 18" long.)

Between the Civil War and WW#1, there were other conflicts that called American boys to defend their homeland. Then the war clouds broke on the horizon and the radios blared with the beginning of WW#1, and once again our service men and women had to leave home to serve their country. The great battle ships would steam across the Atlantic Ocean to bring troops and arms to the western front. With the cavalry, infantry and the cannon being pulled by horses and the caisson attached to the cannon being pulled behind. Our doughboys would storm out of trenches only to charge into enemy fire. Then another threat raised its head during that terrible war. The enemy used mustard gas, and all our troops had to carry gas masks to try to protect themselves. When I was small there was a neighbor of ours that was said to be gassed as he was in the First World War I think it restricted his ability to work, etc. Again how many men and women lay on the battlefields and never returned to America. After the Armistice was signed, the world breathed easier as the great troop ships brought the men home. They were all heroes, but one stood out above the others, 'Sgt. Alvin York.

After WWI just as the country was trying to get back on its feet, the Great Depression hit America. Men lost jobs and many walked the streets looking for work and many of these men were veterans. It was a very sad time in America's history as this dragged out. But over in Europe the storm clouds started to build up again. There was this little corporal from WW#1 stirring up trouble. Also in the Pacific area the Japanese were planning to invade America.

Somewhere before WWII, Germany sank the Lusitanian, which belonged to England. This ship as I recall, had American passengers on board which helped to drag America into WWII. When I was in grade school, there was a typhoon that hit Japan. The teachers asked all pupils to bring a can of vegetables and one potato for our little brown brothers. Then December 1941, the little brown brothers hit Pearl Harbor in a sneak attack. We were fighting on almost every front in the world, not only in Europe and Africa, but the Philippines, Guam, Bataan, Pacific Ocean, and the Atlantic Ocean. God Bless America and he has!

We couldn't build ships and tanks and planes fast enough or get them to the front lines in time to stem the tide of the German might. We used women to shuttle fighters and bombers to certain bases to be used by the fighting men. Once again our sons and daughters

had to reach out to defend our shores with the spilling of American blood that littered the shores of France. The beaches of Italy and the beaches of many islands in the Pacific with the dead of American boys. If every man, woman, or young person that lost their lives defending our shores were stood side by side, I wonder just how far they would stretch, and they are still dying everyday. How many blue stars hung in the windows of American homes and how many mothers went to bed with a prayer on their lips before falling asleep. And how many blue stars turned to gold with their son lying on a beach they just stormed or cut down crossing some farmers field in France or maybe some plane that crashed in the Pacific Ocean brought down by ack-ack. My wife's brother no more landed on Okinawa when a sniper's bullet hit him. He was one of the lucky ones, he got sent back home. There were some that are still lying under foreign soil. Every now and then they will find a plane from WWII that was covered with sand or maybe ice depending on where the plane came down. Sometimes the sand shifts or the ice melts just enough to let someone know its secret.

How many service men and women died since the end of WWII? Audie Murphy died in a plane crash. The American Indian that helped plant the flag on Iwo Jima, after being sent home, died while going home from a bar! He fell and drowned in 3" of water! Yes, these are Veterans that we lift up on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 30<sup>th</sup> of May, and the 11<sup>th</sup> of November of each year. It doesn't take much to see these brothers and sisters down through the years. Just think about them, and there they are. The ones that carried the flag, the ones that stormed the hills with no hope of victory but only because their leader said, "Charge!" The ones charging a machine gun nest, storming one of the many beaches, holding a hill against all odds. The nurse holding the hand of some private just off the farm or maybe a young teenager dying and this may be his first time away from home. Walk through a cemetery and these veterans will jump out at you and tell you they'd do it all over again just for America. God Bless America and he has!

It galls me to think there are some people that don't care a hoot about the veteran, but without these honored brothers and sisters I wonder just where America would be today. I recently heard that within every 35 years there is some conflict that breaks out where America is called to defend itself. We just went thru these unpopular wars with Korea, North Viet

Nam, and we say, "When will it all end?" If that weren't enough then the terrorist throughout the world has to try to bring America to its knees. But they should know that our people will only take so much until we strike back and strike back we can and we will.

We just lost a great friend and faithful comrade to the veteran. One, we will never forget, Bob Hope. Washington, D.C. and many important capitals throughout the country have their flags at half-mast in honor and memory of Bob, "A Friend of the GI."

### God Bless America

Submitted by Floyd J Demmy, WWII combat veteran of 10<sup>th</sup> Armored Division (Tigers) the ghost division of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Army ETO!

Memorial Day by our camp Historian  
Dave Klinepeter

### MEMORIAL DAY 2012 by Dave Klinepeter

Of course this particular holiday brings back many memories for me. For those interested in how it was with Hartranft Camp 15 SUVCW back in the 1940s-1950-1960, (when we had a Fife and Drum Corps and a Rifle team) look up the back issues of the Hartranft Herald, May and June issues for many pictures and articles on how active we were over Memorial Day. Time moves on and things change. Harrisburg stopped parades many years ago, but continues to have a big Artfest. I am glad that many small towns still take time to have parades and cemetery ceremonies. On the holiday Saturday morning a number of members of Camp 15 joined Lester McClure, Legion Post 27 (he furnishes the American flags for us) Note\*\* Lester has been doing this every year since the end of WW11.



LES IN TRUCK SHOWN WITH DAVID DEMMY.

We were informed that the old grave stones are to be replaced with new ones, furnished by the government, in the coming year. I understand a young fellow working on a special EAGLE SCOUT project is the motivation behind this. That cemetery could use help with keeping up with the tall grass and downed limbs. On that Saturday afternoon I



had been invited to the Midland Colored Cemetery in Swatara Township for their Memorial Day program. Although Gov Curtin was not on the printed program, he ended up filling in for Dauphin County Commissioner George Hardwick, who was home in bed. There was an Honor Guard of USCTs from Phila, which presented the Colors, fired the salute and played taps. It was a fitting tribute.

On Sunday I visited the Oberlin cemetery and then the Soldier's plot at Paxtang Cemetery. It was placed there by Simmons

Post 116 Grand Army of the Republic. I noted that there are a number of new flat Civil War flat grave stones in place. The caretakers do well there. Went across the street to Old Paxton church yard. This is where the founder of Harrisburg, Pa John Harris the son, and a number of Revolutionary War soldiers are buried. Even found a War of 1812 grave marker. It is hard to describe your thoughts and feelings looking at the flags blowing in the breeze, reading some of the stones and remembering what those soldiers went through for this great country of ours.



poles with large flags and along the banks thousands of small American flags. Further up was a square of hundreds of Penna State blue flags. There were many large flag poles throughout the cemetery, even back in the newer section, where my wife rests. Many people were there to pay their respects and place flowers.

*I would like to hear what other members of our Sons of Veterans did over the Memorial Day weekend.* --- DJK



Monday afternoon I went to Linglestown and watched their parade, I was impressed by the number of young people who took part in the parade. This is one of the small towns that stops to remember, for many years now. After that I visited the cemetery there and viewed the monument to the men of West Hanover, East Hanover, Susquehanna and Lower Paxton townships who served

in the Civil War.

On Memorial Day MONDAY I drove out to Indiantown Gap National Cemetery. Had heard how they displayed the flags there. On each side of the entrance road was lined with flag

## On the Road with Camp 15

June 2012 – 132nd annual Encampment of the Pennsylvania Commandery of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War – June 22, 23, 24 at Four Points by Sheraton at Greensburg, PA!

June 30 – July 1 – Camp 15 members will be present at Gettysburg Civil War Collector's Show to be held June 30 and July 1 at the Allstar Events Complex on Emmitsburg Road near the Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center

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.

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

Plan to share good time with Hartranft camp today

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 125<sup>th</sup> 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

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