



# 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 131<sup>st</sup> Year in Harrisburg

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



Vol 15, No. 11



November 2013



### 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!

### [God Bless the USA!](#)



Our Prayer to you and yours this Thanksgiving Day Season is for your health and well being and our hope you can share the coming holidays with family and friends! Please take the opportunity to join Camp 15 and Auxilliary 7 for our annual holiday gathering on Sunday December 8 for caterer lunch and enjoyment. SEE HOLIDAY DATA LATER IN THIS NEWSLETTER. No Camp business meeting in November; we hope to see you on Remembrance Day!

### [Greetings](#), by Commander Scott Debo

Sorry I missed the last meeting. I was with the Cooper's Battery at the Cedar Creek reenactment.

The weather was normal for this reenactment, cool or cold to some, with rain. One addition to this year's event was they built two forts that were used during Saturday's 2nd Battle of Winchester.

On November 11<sup>th</sup> Remember to thank a veteran. To all Brothers' that are veterans, let me say, in advance, "Thank You!"

Please keep in mind the Remembrance Day Parade and festivities in Gettysburg on Saturday November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Regarding Remembrance Day, Cooper's Battery will be holding a ceremony on East Cemetery Hill to dedicate the new capstone for its monument. The ceremony starts at 9:00 AM. Parking will be available at the Military Museum parking lot. Brothers and sisters, you are more than welcome to attend the ceremony.

See you in Gettysburg and at the Hartranft Christmas Dinner on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty  
Scott Debo, Commanding

### [Iraq and Afghanistan Casualties](#)

Three new titles have been added to a Fold3 collection called [Casualties from Iraq and Afghanistan Conflicts](#). Named for three separate military operations, each title includes the names and related personal and service information for over six thousand men and women who died in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001.

While the three record sets include "casualties" in their titles, they only contain records for those killed, not wounded. They include:

- [Operation Enduring Freedom \(OEF\) Casualties](#)  
"Operation Enduring Freedom" (OEF) is the operational codename given by the United States government to the War in Afghanistan which began in 2001 and is currently an ongoing conflict.
- [Operation Iraqi Freedom \(OIF\) Casualties](#)  
"Operation Iraqi Freedom" (OIF) is the operational codename given by the United States government to the conflict in Iraq from 2003-2010.
- [Operation New Dawn \(OND\) Casualties](#)  
"Operation New Dawn" (OND) is the operational codename given by the United States government for U.S. involvement in Iraq after Operation Iraqi Freedom ended on August 31, 2010.

### [National Civil War Museum upcoming Events](#)

*November 19, 2013 marks the 150th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address.*

January 15, 2014 - '1864' Exhibit Opening with [Robert Krick](#)

Help us celebrate the opening of our new exhibit on the fourth year of the Civil War. Krick will present "Sixty-five New Generals: Fundamental Changes in the Army of Northern Virginia". [RSVP](#) by January 10.

From National Civil War Museum's [Blue & Gray Messenger E-Newsletter](#)  
Now Available!

Included in this issue:

*Member Spotlight:* Dick Simpson  
*A Special Package's Journey Through the NCWM*

*The Civil War, Twitter & Me* by member Dorothy Hardin and more!

Don't forget about Community Days on 11/15 & 16...

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### [Meeting Minutes](#)

Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp #15  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
National Civil War Museum, Harrisburg, PA  
Sunday October 20, 2013

#### Officers Present

SVC/Council.....Jeff Smith  
Treas./Chaplain.....David Demmy, Sr.  
Pat. Inst./Historian.....David Klinepeter  
Council.....Lee Walters  
Color Bearer.....Kelley Betz

#### Officers Absent

Commander.....Scott Debo  
JVC .....Stan Zellers  
Secretary/Council.....Greg Kline  
Guide/Guard.....Tom Bowman

#### Members Present

Floyd Demmy, Dave Laman, Don Fry, Don Messersmith and Tony Kline

#### Guests

Charlotte Walters and Dot Kline.

The meeting was called to order by SVC Smith at 2:05 PM.

The Minutes from the September meeting were read. Motion to accept by Brother Don Fry, seconded by Brother David Demmy, Sr. Motion approved.

Treasurer David Demmy, Sr. reported that the actual balance in the checking account as of the October meeting is \$2351.00. Motion to accept by Brother Don Fry, seconded by Brother Floyd Demmy. Motion approved.

Brother David Demmy, Sr. reported that Department Secretary/Treasurer Charlie Kuhn PCinC is recuperating from a kidney operation. He had cancer on his kidney and it had to be removed. Likewise, David Demmy continues to recuperate after minor surgery upon his herniated umbilical cord!

A new member application was presented for Terry A. Mills of Palmyra PA, a retired UM pastor. His membership is based upon his G, G, G grandfather, Sgt. Isaac Milner of Company B, 87th Regiment, Illinois; He died in service on 30 August 1863. Motion to accept the new member was made by Brother David Demmy, Sr. and seconded by Brother Walters. Motion carried.

#### Unfinished Business

SVC Smith is setting up a recruiting table for Camp 15 at the Gettysburg Gun Show on Saturday, October 26 and Sunday, October 27. He stated he will need volunteers to help man the table.

#### Election of Officers

In place of Brother Stan Zellers, Brother Rev. Logan Swanger agreed to run for the office of Junior Vice Commander. All other officers have agreed to run for another year.

A motion was made to have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot to accept the nominees was made by Brother David Demmy, Sr. and seconded by Brother David Klinepeter. Motion carried.

The officers for 2014 are as follows:

Camp Commander	Scott Debo
SV Commander	Jeff Miller
JV Commander	Rev. Logan Swanger
Secretary	Greg Kline
Treasurer	David Demmy, Sr.
Council	Lee Walters
Council	Jeff Smith
Council	Greg Kline

#### Patriotic Instructor

Our Patriotic Instructor Dave Klinepeter mentioned the various Civil War Round Table meetings coming up in our area. He mentioned that November 19 is the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lincoln Gettysburg Address. President Barack Obama has been invited to speak and James McPherson is included in the event. He displayed four Currier and Ives prints pertaining to the Civil War. Some dates to remember are November 22, 1963 President Kennedy assassination; November 23-25, 1863 Chattanooga Tennessee battle; December 11-14, 1862 Fredericksburg Virginia battle; and November 23, 2013 Remembrance Day at Gettysburg.

SVC Jeff Smith gave a presentation on Pickett's Charge on July 3, 1863. This was the third and last day of the battle of Gettysburg which was considered to be the high mark of the Civil War. Jeff described the events of the first two days leading up to the third day's battle. He then described the third day's battle and how the artillery played a large roll. He displayed some ordinance projectiles and some of the actual fragments from those projectiles. He also covered problems the infantries faced. And he displayed an Enfield rifle which was the more common rifle used by the confederates. He also mentioned the generals involved in the third day and some of their idiosyncrasies. He ended the presentation by fielding some questions and received good applause for a job well done.

After the closing ritual ceremony, the meeting ended at 3:40 PM. The next meeting will be held Sunday, January 19, 2014 at 2:00 PM.

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

EXTRA - EXTRA  
69<sup>th</sup> WWII - Battle of the Bulge Living History  
Commemoration February 2014

the World War II Federation  
and

Fort Indiantown Gap  
Presents the 69<sup>th</sup> WWII - Battle of the Bulge  
Living History Commemoration  
Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, PA

**Saturday, February 1st, 2014**

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM I-81 North  
Indiantown Gap exit 85b

More data at <http://www.wwiifederation.org/>  
This is not a camp function, but you are truly  
invited if interested in this subject.  
See camp photos among past Hartranft Heralds  
at [www.suvcwHarrisburgPA.org](http://www.suvcwHarrisburgPA.org)

The Day to HUG a World War II Veteran is  
coming in less than 95 days, 9 hours, 51  
Minutes, and 58 Seconds

Prior to this Saturday event, camp members  
and friends gather at Farmer's Wife Restaurant  
at Ono, Pennsylvania, just a few miles east of  
the Gap on Route 22 East.

We gather about 8 a.m. and then convoy to  
GAP parking area.

GAP reenactment is free.

Buffet breakfast available or you may order  
from large menu – pay as you go.

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR/ by Dave Klinepeter  
A few dates to remember

November 11, 1865 Closing of Camp Curtin-- Nov 11,  
2013-148 anniv.

After the war was over it was anticipated that Camp  
Curtin could not handle a large influx of men so  
additional land was acquired. It was called Camp Return,  
so for a while the area was known as "Camp  
Return". The first regiments began returning after June  
1st 1865, slowly, but in one week over 7000 veterans

had arrived. They were received with little fanfare in  
Harrisburg but the men were glad to be home. The  
Provost Marshal ordered all the saloons and taverns  
closed till the men were mustered out and sent home.  
Despite the absence of a public outpouring of  
sentiment of the public, the return of the soldier's was  
not with out ceremony. Governor Curtin and his staff  
went to Camp Return to welcome the veterans and to  
officially receive their battle flags. The Governor  
thanked them for their devotion and patriotism, and  
remembered the ones who did not return. Through the  
coming months various groups returned. In July the 6th  
Regiment of Veteran Volunteers were sent to the camp  
for provost guard duty and stayed till the closing. On  
November 11, 1865 the 6th Regiment provost guard  
marched out of camp, went to the train depot and  
left. There were a few clerks left and the hospital  
remained open for a time. The last Penna unit did not  
arrive in Harrisburg until May 1866 and likely bivouacked  
on the old camp ground. Camp Curtin had become  
merely a deserted plot of ground on which to pitch a tent  
and build a camp fire one more time .Governor Curtin  
spoke to a group of returning veterans; he spoke of the  
camp as one of the great sites of the war. "The field  
upon which we now stand will be known as classic  
ground, for here has been the great central point of our  
organization of our Military forces. When my  
administration of public affairs will have been forgotten  
and the good and evil will be only known to the  
investigation of the antiquarian, Camp Curtin with its  
memories and association will be immortal".

(Training of an Army, Camp Curtin and the North in the  
Civil War) by William Miller. I recommend it  
DJK

\*\*\*\*\*  
SPECIAL NOTE NOVEMBER 11, 2015 WILL BE THE  
150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLOSING OF CAMP  
CURTIN, WILL ANY ORGANIZATION, THE CITY OF  
HARRISBURG, DAUPHIN COUNTY, OR THE STATE  
PUT ON A SPECIAL PROGRAM?

\*\*\*\*\*  
*November 19 1863 150th Anniversary of Lincoln's  
Gettysburg Address at the Soldiers National Cemetery.*  
*November 22, 1963 50th Anniv. Assassination of John  
Kennedy*  
*November 23, 2013 Remembrance Day wreath laying,  
parade, banquet, Civil War Ball, all conducted by Sons  
of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Hope to see some of  
you there. djk*  
Continuing





A thank you to our brother SVC Jeff Smith for securing a recruiting table at the Gettysburg Civil War Relic Show on Oct 26-27. He set up the table, but had to leave because of other commitments! I was on deck shortly after that; a little later brother Don Fry, left above, arrived on Saturday. We talked with a number of people, handed out information, but alas, most were not from around our area. Still we are a National Organization and maybe some other Camp will benefit. I was unable to make it on Sunday. DJK! Editor's Note: One visitor contacted National Office for more data!

While at the Civil War Relic Show in Gettysburg I saw what I thought an out standing display. It was about 8 or 9 tables in length. There were many, many assorted items. They all pertained to the Battle of Gettysburg Reunions of 1913 and 1938. A number of the photos caught my eye. Many of the ole Union Veterans were wearing an assortment of GAR badges. I appreciate the dedication, time and effort some one took in collecting, preserving and displaying these artifact.

On Duty by Commander Scott Debo  
 Brothers, On Sunday October 27th, Brother Greg Kline and I attended the Civil War relic show at the Eisenhower Complex Gettysburg. We Joined Brother Smith and manned a recruiting table at the show, Brothers Klinepeter and Fry manned the booth Saturday. Thank You!

As I walked around the show it seemed like I was in a museum.

I ran into the gentleman that was the Captain of Cooper's Battery when I joined back in the summer of 1999. APPARENTLY, I left a lasting impression because he acted like he didn't know me. I'm not sure how Saturday went; however, I'm certain Brother Klinepeter got the word out.

Sunday we did manage to hand out some information on the Camp. We had to laugh afterward! We asked two men if they were interested in information on the

Sons and it turned out one was a life member from North Carolina the other was a member of Gettysburg Camp.

If the opportunity presents itself again it is well worth "working the booth" and getting the Hartranft Camp 15 name out.

Thanks to JVC Smith for making the Arrangements.

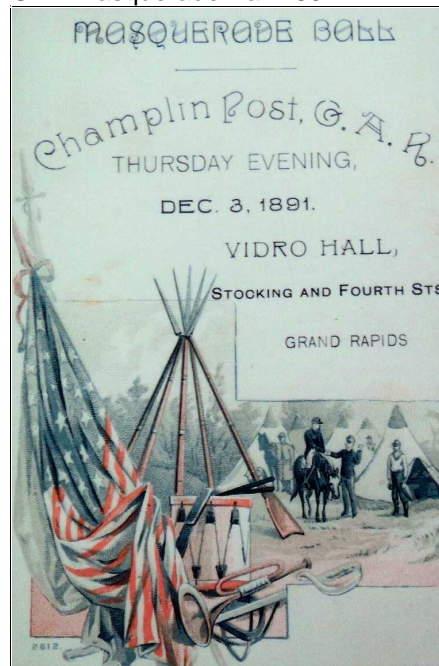
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, Scott Debo

In addition by Greg Kline, PCC

On Sunday, we hit pay dirt in a different way than expressed above. Four days later, I received a check in payment for a SUVCW license plate, provided exclusively by Hartranft Camp in Harrisburg Pennsylvania. The individual, a former member of the Son's from the 1970s expressed interest in renewing his membership. Along with the plate I mailed him, I offered assistance to him to reenlist. A successful weekend indeed!

[GAR HISTORIAN](#) by Dave Klinepeter

GAR Masquerade Ball 1891



On Dec 3, 1891 a Masquerade Ball for the G.A.R. Champion Post 29 of Grand Rapids, Michigan was held. Inside gives the particulars of the ball, listing the committee members, floor managers, the price-35 cents for men and 15 cents for ladies. The money was being raised to place a monument at the soldiers plot in Greenwood Cemetery.

Yes, the old veterans loved to socialize. Many of their events were held with the help of the Allied Organizations of the Grand Army of the Republic. Numerous items (some hand-made), not just membership and delegate badges, were made and marked GAR. I believe they number in the thousands. In upcoming issues of the Hartranft Herald I hope to display pictures of different items

djk

To save postage you may bring your New Year 2014 Camp 15 dues of \$35 along to Holiday Event on Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup>.

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

[2013 Nat'l. Encampment badge still available!](#)

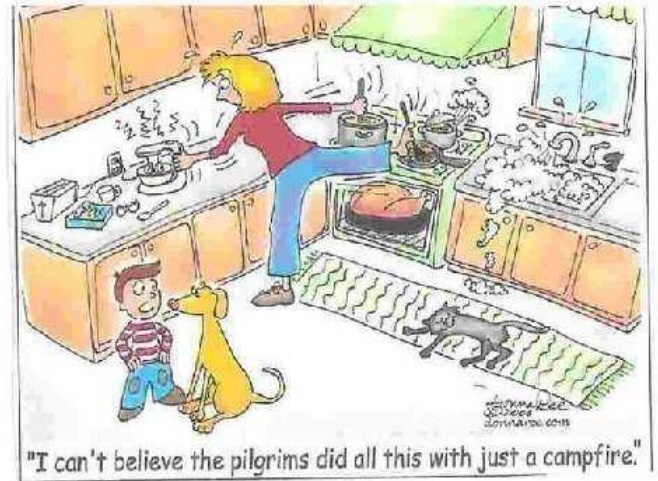
This past August, at the 2013 Nat. Encampment in Brookfield, WI, many remarked at the fine workmanship and detail of the badges presented to each delegate and alternate. The image on the badge is that of Milwaukee's Civil War memorial, the "Victorious Charge" (see attached history).

The badge was so popular that an additional 50 badges have been struck for our brother collectors, those who may want an extra keepsake, or those who were unable to attend the convention, but would like to purchase this fine emblem (see attached). Cost is \$20 ea. plus \$3 shipping & handling.

I plan to be at Gettysburg for Remembrance Day on the 23rd, if you'd like to forgo the shipping & handling charge.

Checks made payable to "National Encampment 2013 SUVCW" should be sent to me at:  
6623 S, North Cape Rd.  
Franklin, WI 53132-1227

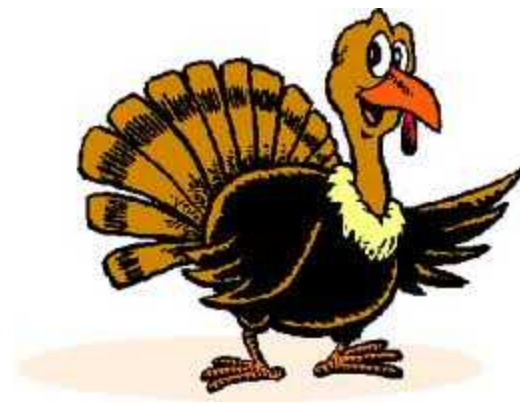
In F, C, & L,  
PCinC Steve Michaels



Modern day Thanksgiving Day kitchen duty!



Circa 1862 civil war kitchen duty!



"I'm glad you didn't catch me this year; better luck next year when I may not be as tender!"



## On the Road with Camp 15

Monthly Camp business meetings begin at 2 p.m. and are conducted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, at National Civil War Museum unless otherwise, indicated!

### Remembrance Day at Gettysburg 2013

Change of date: **Saturday, November 23, 2013**, SUVCW Headquarters will be at Wyndham Hotel at Gettysburg! We'll see you in or along the parade route Saturday afternoon. Parade steps off at 1300 hours.

**December camp annual holiday event on Sunday December 8, 2013** at National Civil War Museum ballroom! Social hour starts at noon and we expect the opening remarks to begin at 1 pm followed immediately by lunch.

### Sunday January 19, 2014 Camp Meeting

Keynote Speaker will be our camp Brother Wayne Motts, CEO of the National Civil War Museum.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2014**, NEXT REENACTMENT OF THE WWII BATTLE OF THE BULGE AT FT. INDIANTOWN GAP I-81 EXIT 85B.

Saturday February 15, 2014 Community FREE day at National Civil War Museum.

Sunday February 16, 2014, Camp Meeting.

Sunday March 16, 2014, Camp Meeting.

Saturday March 29, 2014 Camp Road Trip to Changing of Guard at Unknown Soldier Tomb and WWII Memorial, Washington DC.

Sunday April 13, 2014, Camp Meeting - note change of date; the usual 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend meeting time is Easter Weekend; therefore change!

Sunday May 18, 2014, Camp Meeting

Saturday May 24, 2014 – Traditional day for Hartranft Camp to pay tribute to veterans at historic Harrisburg Cemetery. Preceding the placing of flags at the cemetery, we gather for breakfast at 7:30-8:00.

## Be Proud Wear the Badge



Come out to a meeting and join us!  
The Allied Orders of the GAR

- ❑ Woman's Relief Corps Auxiliary to Grand Army of the Republic,
- ❑ Ladies of the Grand Army 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

2013



You and yours are invited to break bread with General John F. Hartranft, Camp 15, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at our annual Christmas Banquet gathering.

When	Sunday, December 8, 2013
Where	National Civil War Museum at Reservoir Park Harrisburg
Cost	\$25.00 per person, prepaid - payable <u>Hartranft Camp 15, SUVCW</u>
Payment	Please submit your check to camp Treasurer NOW!
Fellowship hour	12:00 – 1:00 Mealtime approximately 1:15 pm.
Activities	Good food and fellowship; appointment of officers for 2014

All participants: please bring 1-3 items for the gift table; ITEMS SHOULD BE UNWRAPPED FOR VIEWING! Each time you win at Bingo, move to the gift table and select an item. Return to your seat and play again – good luck!

Items may be, eg: nice old book, new book, relic tree ornament, Roy Clark country album, gift certificates, other ideas may be Civil War related or not, eg: candles, stationery, teddy bear, puzzles, games – you may make it interesting for all of us by making unusual choices! Any items remaining and suitable for our fighting forces will be sent to overseas military service personnel.

Likewise, if you are interested, bring some cash to engage in the Camp's 50/50 opportunity! **50/50** Tickets are \$.50 each; or 12 for \$5.00 – that's 2 free.

Attention all drivers, you may drop off your passengers at the door and then park!