




# 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 133rd Year in Harrisburg Area

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



Vol 17, No. 11

~~~ Time for Thanksgiving ~~~

November 2015



## And praises to our Veterans too

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

Let us give thanks for our bounty!

[www.SUVCWHarrisburgPA.org](http://www.SUVCWHarrisburgPA.org) for the October issue and all past issues, too!

[September 2015 Camp Meeting Minutes](#)

*Note: these minutes were mistakenly missing from the October News issue*

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

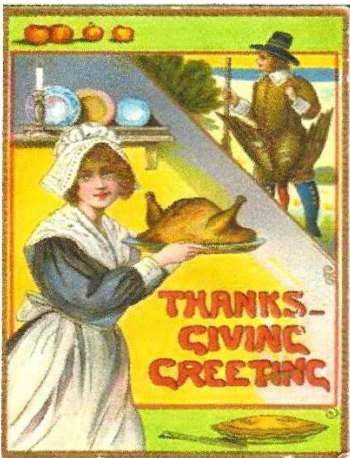
**Sunday September 20, 2015**

### Officers Present

Commander.....Jeff Smith  
JVC.....Logan Swanger  
Treas./Chaplain.....David Demmy, Sr.  
Pat.Inst./Historian.....David Klinepeter  
Council.....Lee Walters

### Officers Absent

SVC/Secretary.....Greg Kline  
Council.....Scott Debo  
Council.....Tomas Bowman



smells good!

### [Hartranft Camp 15's annual holiday event](#)

Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, you and yours are invited to our annual event to break bread with us, install our officers for 2016 and have some holiday fun. See invite in our October newsletters for RSVP and payment information. Visit on line at

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[Awarding winning newsletter -- Marshall A. Hope award presented to Hartranft Camp 2010-2011](#)

Guide/Guard.....Tomas Bowman

Color Bearer.....Kelly Betz

### **Members Present**

Tony Kline, Floyd Demmy, Don Fry

### **Guests**

Dot Kline and Charlotte Walters!

The meeting was called to order by Camp Commander Jeffery Smith at 2:00 p.m.

The Minutes from the May meeting were read and Brother Don Fry made a motion to accept, seconded by David Demmy, Sr. Motion carried.

Treasurer David Demmy, Sr. reported that funds available in our checking account as of the September meeting are \$1916... Brother Don Fry made a motion to accept the Treasurers report, seconded by JVC Swanger. Motion carried.

### **Amendment to the May Minutes**

In the May meeting minutes, mention was made of Brother Treat's request to have service bars made for campaigns in Panama and Grenada. Brother David Demmy, Sr. spoke to National Quartermaster Wheeler who believes there are probably not enough SUVCW veterans of the two campaigns to justify having proofs created and stocking the bars in the space available for the size of the Quartermaster store!

### **Report of Sick Brothers or a Brother's Family in Distress.**

JVC Swanger reported that his father-in-law recently had a stroke and he is now living with JVC Swanger and his family. See other brothers and sisters in need of prayer as listed in the current *Hartranft Herald!*

Brother David Demmy, Sr. mentioned that Brother Larry Shively-Beasom has an unkind disease. We are asked to keep these people in our thoughts and prayers.

### **Orders, Communications and Bills**

Brother Tony Kline read the latest General Orders issued by Past CinC Tad Campbell. G.O. #23-

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Revocation of camp charters in New York, Missouri and California. G.O. #24-Suspension of the Department of Connecticut, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. G.O. #25-Suspension lifted for Departments of New Hampshire and Rhode Island. G.O. #26-Display of the Confederate Battle Flag. G.O. #27-Replacement of Charter for Baker-Fisher Camp No. 101, Department of Pennsylvania. G.O. #28-Revocation of Charter for Daniel Ellis Camp No. 3 (in North Carolina). G.O. #29-Chartes, Scholarships and Awards Issued.

Latest General Orders issued by new CinC Eugene Mortorff. G.O. #01-Change of Command. G.O. #02-thanking Allied Orders Leadership.

Latest Pennsylvania Department Orders issued by DC Doug McMillin. D.O. #22-reinstating Camp #504. D.O. #23-Thanking those camps who made a donation to the Soldiers National Monument. D.O. #24-vacating D.O. #9.

### **Unfinished Business**

Regarding the Adopt-A-Position for cleaning a site at the Gettysburg Battlefield, Brother Greg Kline was absent and, therefore could not report on any possible dates for holding the clean-up. CC Smith requests that Brother Greg report on this at our October meeting.

On Saturday, May 23 Brother David Klinepeter accompanied Helen Shireman to a cemetery in Norristown to place a wreath on General Hartranft's grave. Brother David purchased the wreath and gave the credit to Camp #15.

### **New Business**

Brother David Demmy, Sr. reported that plans for the Annual Christmas Party are progressing and are in good shape financially. The party will be held on the second Sunday in December and will be held upstairs in the museum.

Brother David Demmy, Sr. attended the National Encampment in Richmond. He reported that Gene Mortorff, who is a member of Gettysburg Camp #112, is now the new Commander in Chief. Brother

David reported on two items discussed at the Encampment. The Ritual and Ceremonies book has been revised and will be available soon. The subject of Dual Members was once again brought upon the floor to consider allowing dual members paying dues to only their primary home Camp, and not subsequent dual camps! The subject was forwarded to the Program and Policy Committee for review! Potential results are to be prepared for April 2016 council meeting in Springfield.

CC Smith opened the floor for nomination of officers for 2016. The following officers have agreed to run for office:

- Camp Commander     Jeff Smith
- SV Commander        Greg Kline
- JV Commander        Logan Swanger
- Secretary             Greg Kline
- Treasurer             David Demmy, Sr.
- Council                Scott Debo
- Council                Thomas Bowman
- Council                Tony Kline

Having no other nominations from the floor, Brother Floyd Demmy made a motion to accept the nominations and accept the nominees as officers for 2016, seconded by Brother Don Fry. Motion carried and the Brothers listed herein were elected for 2016.

**Patriotic Instructor**

Patriotic Instructor David Klinepeter mentioned that he attended events at the White Hall School in Camp Hill and at Oyster’s Point. Brothers Greg and Tony Kline had a great grandfather who attended White Hall after his father was killed at Petersburg. He reported on an Eagle Scout project - a statue of a drummer boy. It was initially to be erected at the National Civil War Museum, however it ended up at Gettysburg. Brother David attended ceremonies and a parade at Newport for the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary where he portrayed Governor Curtin. He placed an ad for the SUVCW and an article about the GAR in their booklet. He attended the 150<sup>th</sup> closing of Camp Curtin and he mentioned numerous events coming up on Remembrance Day weekend this coming November.

Brother Floyd Demmy gave a very interesting talk about his trip to Europe this past July. He visited many interesting places, including ones where he had fought during WWII.

After the closing ritual ceremony, the meeting ended at 3:45 p.m. The next meeting will be held Sunday, October 18, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

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

Work and Sleep

*I sleep 8 hours a day and work 8 hours and I try to do both at the same time!*

Minutes of October Camp Meeting

Temp low of 34°in morning, about 44°near meeting time; with wet snow turning to rain drifting down Susquehanna River Valley to Reservoir Park. Even a hail storm nearby pelted everything!

Sunday October 18 2015

**Officers Present**

- Commander.....Jeff Smith
- Treas./Chaplain.....David Demmy, Sr.
- Pat.Inst./Historian.....David Klinepeter

**Officers Absent**

- SVC/Secretary.....Greg Kline @ cedar creek
- JVC.....Logan Swanger
- Council.....Lee Walters
- Council.....Scott Debo @ cedar creek
- Council.....Thomas Bowman
- Guide/Guard.....Thomas Bowman
- Color Bearer.....Kelly Betz

**Members Present**

Tony Kline, Floyd Demmy, and Paul Fromm

**Guests**

Dot Kline

The meeting was called to order by Camp Commander Jeff Smith at 2:00 p.m.

The Minutes from the September meeting were read and Brother David Demmy, Sr. made a motion to accept, seconded by Paul Fromm. Motion carried.

Treasurer David Demmy, Sr. reported that funds available in our checking account as of the October meeting are \$1,998. Dues and donations for 2016 are already arriving! Brother Floyd Demmy made a motion to accept the Treasurers report, seconded by Brother Tony Kline. Motion carried.

### **Report of Sick Brothers or a Brother's Family in Distress.**

Brother David Demmy, Sr. reported that he saw Brother Charlie Kuhn at the Mid-Year Meeting and he looked well and content; however, he is still taking treatments for his ailments.

We are asked to keep Brother Charlie in our thoughts and prayers.

### **Orders, Communications and Bills**

Brother Tony Kline summarized General Order #05 issued by CinC Eugene Mortorff

Announcing the passing of Brother James Getty, the well-known portrayer of Abraham Lincoln and a member of Camp #112 Gettysburg.

### **Unfinished Business**

Regarding the Adopt-A-Position for cleaning a site at the Gettysburg Battlefield,

CC Smith announced that Saturday, November 7 is the date for the clean-up. This will take place at Knapp's Battery on Culp's Hill at Gettysburg. A time to meet will be determined soon. Volunteers are always welcome. Hopefully we can have lunch together following the work detail.

Brother David Demmy, Sr. reminded us that Saturday, November 21 is Remembrance Day at Gettysburg. Anyone wishing to parade must be in Civil War era dress.

Brother David Demmy, Sr. reported that the Camp #15 Christmas Party will be held Sunday, December 13, upstairs, room 222, at the museum. The buffet dinner cost is \$25.00 and includes ham and turkey. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. for fellowship and around 1:00 p.m. the meal will begin. Event will close about 4:00 p.m.

### **New Business**

Brother David Demmy, Sr. reported that he attended the Pennsylvania Department Mid-Year Meeting, yesterday. It was announced that the 2016 Department Encampment will be held in State College at the Toftrees Marriott on June 23 to 25. In 2017 the Encampment will be in the western region of the Commonwealth and in 2018 in the York area! The 2016 National Encampment will be in Illinois, Michigan in 2017, in Massachusetts in 2018 and maybe in Pennsylvania in 2019. Future training for new Camp Commanders and secretaries was again discussed. Forms 27 and 35 are being completely overhauled and modified for annual reporting year 2016.

### **Patriotic Instructor**

Patriotic Instructor David Klinepeter discussed various dates relating to Governor Curtin and Camp Curtin and he displayed various pamphlets, articles, and photos. He mentioned some upcoming dates of events regarding the Civil War around the Harrisburg and Gettysburg areas. One event mentioned is, November 14 there will be a Colored Troops Grand Review in Harrisburg. This is discussed in the recent Hartranft Herald. He read an article regarding Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. From the time the Address was written until the present there have been mixed reviews as to how the address came about, and where and when it was written.

After the closing ritual ceremony, the meeting ended at 3:05 p.m. The next meeting will be held Sunday, January 17, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

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Tony Kline (acting for Secretary Greg Kline)  
Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp #15, SUVCW

The Late James Getty



James and Joanne Getty on the occasion of his last birthday, January 2015. Photo by R Rukstelis.

Camp Curtin in the news



1990, Dave Klinepeter's first portrayal of War Governor, Andrew Curtin, with Jamey Abel as Mrs. Curtin at the renewal dedication of Camp Curtin at 6<sup>th</sup> and Woodbine Streets, uptown Harrisburg, at Camp Curtin Park.



Andrew Curtin statue at Camp Curtin Park. Photos from the Klinepeter collection.

Most people spend an entire lifetime and wonder what difference they may have made in the world ... Marines do not have that problem!

--- Ronald Regan, US President

Camp 15 Dues time – year 2016 – 2<sup>nd</sup> notice

To save postage you may bring your New Year 2016 Camp 15 dues of \$35 along to Holiday Event on Sunday December 13<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

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SUVCW License Plate available only from Hartranft!

***Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp 15, Harrisburg, PA.***

Aluminum License Plate



**Auto License Plate**

Aluminum - Full Color SUVCW License Plate.

**Blue** Lettering on White Background

with **Red** Border - very Patriotic

Send check or money order for

\$12 + \$3 S&H Payable to:

**Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp 15**

**Mail to Greg Kline**

**205 N. 40th St. - Apt. 203**

**Harrisburg, PA 17111-2271**

Or purchase one at Camp meeting.

### Rationing for Thanksgiving Dinner 1943

Homemakers preparing Thanksgiving dinner in 1943 not only had to be creative cooks but clever mathematicians.

Two years into World War II, rationing had become the law of the land to ensure ample materials for the war effort and fair distribution of limited goods to consumers. Along with checking prices, shoppers had to calculate ration points to make sure they stretched to cover the family's needs.

Favorite holiday recipes were discarded if they were too rich in rationed ingredients. Substitute recipes were created. For cooks who couldn't get mincemeat filling for the traditional holiday pie, a recipe for victory mince pie using spiced apples and carrots was offered.

In November 1943, shoppers found these prices: a 16-ounce can of Del Monte peas, 15 cents and 16 points; a 12-ounce can of Niblets corn, 13 cents and 10 points; a 16-ounce can of Ocean Spray cranberry sauce, 17 cents and 10 points; and a pork loin roast, 30 cents per pound and 7 points per pound.

Each family member was entitled to a point ration book. Stamps were issued in denominations of 1, 2, 5 and 8 points. Retailers could not give stamps as change, so shoppers had to keep track of purchases and present the exact amount.

Stamps had letters identifying the ration period and were color-coded to designate the category, i.e. meats or canned goods. The government also raised point values if a product became scarce or lowered the points if an ample supply was on the market.

Rationing regulations prohibited trading in loose stamps. The grocer had to watch as each shopper removed stamps from a rationing book.

Ration stamp calendars were published regularly in newspapers. The cost of food was controlled by the federal Office of Price Administration, which set a ceiling on prices charged by retailers.

The OPA ceiling price on turkeys in Dauphin, Cumberland, Lebanon and Perry counties for Thanksgiving, Nov. 25, 1943, was 63 cents a pound for birds up to 13 ½ pounds and 59 cents a pound for larger birds.

Fearing a shortage of turkeys, enforcement officers with the District OPA warned retailers they would be checking to ensure that prices were kept within OPA limits and no black market sales occurred.

Turkeys were reported scarce at markets Nov. 20, as dealers apparently decided to withhold stock until Thanksgiving eve or Christmas. Large grocery chains

were low on stock, with one store manager reporting receiving only 75 percent of the 1942 supply.

The suggestion was made that cooks postpone the big Thanksgiving meal until the following Sunday to force release of turkeys by growers.

Perhaps some residents took the suggestion to heart or substituted large chickens because by Thanksgiving eve retailers were faced with a surplus. Some lowered prices, but many closed their shops with birds on hand.

The average price of a Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings in 1943 was \$11.50 compared with \$10.50 in 1942; \$8 in 1941; and \$6.50 in 1940.

While prices were up, so were wages in Pennsylvania. The average weekly paycheck rose from \$39.49 in August 1943 to \$39.57 in October. Workers in the manufacturing sector earned an average weekly wage of \$45.63 while those in radio broadcasting took home \$57.75 a week.

Wartime shortages cut into the Girl Scouts annual cookie sale in 1943. Local scouts had received orders for 25,000 boxes of cookies, but bakers could only fill 16,000 orders. Chocolates were substituted for the remaining 9,000 orders.

Food was just one commodity affected by rationing. Early in 1943, shoe rationing went into effect. Clothing styles were trimmer to conserve dress and suit material. Rubber was scarce. So were rubber boots.

Home-heating oil was rationed with allowances set at maintaining a temperature of 65 degrees in a home.

With gasoline and tire rationing curtailing automobile travel, residents made Thanksgiving visits using public transportation. New York Central Railroad reported a 60 percent increase in Thanksgiving travel over 1942. Reservations were filled on the Pennsylvania Railroad. Airlines seats were sold out.

Patriotic citizens supported the war effort wholeheartedly, responding to requests for vital material. Families donated heirloom pewter which was needed to build airplanes. Capital Bakers removed steel bumpers

on its fleet of more than 200 trucks and replaced them with wood bumpers.

Housewives collected kitchen fat in tin cans and took them to meat dealers. The fat was used to make gunpowder to -- as one promotional ad put it -- "blast the Axis gangsters off the face of the earth."

Harrisburg residents were generous to the war victims overseas and donated 50 tons of used clothing earmarked for Russia. Retailers added 12 tons of new clothes.

"Harrisburg's observance of the second Thanksgiving Day of World War II was tempered with an air of sadness," The Evening News reported. "While families returned thanks for the many blessings and privileges they enjoy, vacant chairs at the table indicated the absence of some loved one in the armed forces at home or abroad on the fighting front."

Cornerstone recalls the area's rich history and offers ways to savor it in the present. Readers may write to Mary O. Bradley, Features Department, The Patriot-News, P.O. Box 2265, Harrisburg, PA 17105, or e-mail [mbradley@patriot-news.com](mailto:mbradley@patriot-news.com).

Sample of War Years Rationing Stamps courtesy of Brother Floyd J. Demmy



PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR/GAR HISTORIAN  
by Dave Klinepeter

Another Lincoln statue in Gettysburg. Gettysburg College recently hosted a dedication of a seated statue of President Abraham Lincoln signing the Emancipation Proclamation. The 8-foot work by sculptor Stan Watts stands in front of Stevens Hall, which is named for Thaddeus Stevens. He was a college trustee and U.S. representative from Pennsylvania. Stevens opposed slavery and urged emancipation and ratification of the Thirteen Amendment outlawing slavery. Last year another Watts statue of Lincoln was installed in front of the Adams County Library on Baltimore Street. Both were gifts of Gettysburg College alumnus Scott Higgins, a 1967 graduate and trustee emeritus, and his wife. (From Civil War News).

November 19, 2015 will be the 152nd Dedication Day of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, at the Soldiers' National Cemetery in Gettysburg, Pa. at 10 am. The key note speaker will be Garrison Keiller. There will be a wreath laying, recitation of Lincoln's Gettysburg address, (James Getty will be greatly missed by many). And naturalization ceremony for new citizens. Note these services are always held on the exact date, November 19th each year.

November 21, 2015 Remembrance Day the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War usually hold several events on the Saturday closest to Nov 19. This year on November 21 there will be a wreath laying at the Woolson Monument at 11 am. The parade will be at 1 pm, a Dedication dinner 6:30 pm, and a Civil War Ball at 8pm, Most of these are under the leadership of the Sons of Veterans Reserve.

Note--Over 70 years I have watched the November 19th and Remembrance days grow. Back in the 1940s-50s there were meetings, a small parade and

a banquet than later adding dances. Now there are many events taking place.

four Civil War Balls, Meade ceremony, Hancock tribute, Civil War expo, Victorian Tea, Pennsylvania Soiree, National Cemetery illumination, and book signings. I believe these type events serve as a learning tool for people to research, preserve, and learn about our history. (And some join the Allied Orders of the GAR).

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Source: <https://karleeaturner.wordpress.com/2010/12/12/harper-weekly-december-1865/>

The Christmas cover of the Harper's Weekly had a religious illustration of the Christ Child, a decided un-military cover of the Prince of Peace. Thomas Nast's annual holiday centerfold had Santa Claus, with domestic scenes of the family enjoying a Christmas dance with the children and telling of Christmas ghost stories, before the blazing Yuletide hearth. Underneath Santa Claus was the message he pointed to "Merry Christmas to All" (from "We Were Marching On Christmas Day) I will have a copy of this book on the bingo table at our Christmas party on December 13th, hope you can make it. djk

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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 Clean day in Gettysburg announced for Saturday November 7th!

1865 Closing of Camp Curtin presentation on Sunday, November 15 at 2pm at Camp Curtin Park, uptown Harrisburg.

Remembrance Day Parade is Saturday, November 21st, downtown Gettysburg.

Camp 15 annual holiday banquet to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> **Sunday of December on 13<sup>th</sup>** at reservoir Park!

2016 Battle of Bulge reenactment of 1944 actions! Most likely, the last Saturday of January 2016 at Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville PA.

Please update your social calendar now. Mark us down first before you get invited out to lunch.

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 Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of 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](mailto: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!

End of November *Hartranft Herald*!