



***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 138<sup>th</sup> Year serving Harrisburg Area



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



**Vol 22, No. 3**

**March 2020**



***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!

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!

2020 Hartranft Camp 15	Commander . . . . .	Logan Swanger 2019
Officers and Staff	Senior Vice Commander . . . . .	Vernon Stout 2018
	Junior Vice Commander . . . . .	Scott Debo, PCC 2018
	Secretary . . . . .	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 08-20
	Treasurer . . . . .	David W. Demmy, Sr. PCC 07-20
	Council 01 . . . . .	Anthony Kline 16 - 20
	Council 02. . . . .	Jeffery Smith, PCC 18-21
	Council 03 . . . . .	Scott Debo, PCC 15-20
	Patriotic Instructor . . . . .	Jeffery Smith, PCC 18 - 20
	Chaplain . . . . .	David W. Demmy, Sr., PCC 00-20
	Counselor. . . . .	Lee F. Walters, PCC since 2007
	GAR Historian. . . . .	Jeffery Smith, PCC 2020
	Graves Registration . . . . .	Logan Swanger 14-20
	Guide . . . . .	Vacant 2018
	Color Bearer. . . . .	Vacant 2018
	Guard . . . . .	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 11-20
	Eagle Scout Coordinator . . . . .	Vacant 2018
	Webmaster . . . . .	Dave W. Demmy, Jr. since 2011
	ROTC Coordinator . . . . .	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 08-20
	GAR Highway Officer . . . . .	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 11-20
	Longevity Brother . . . . .	Dave J. Klinepeter, PCC 1943

Camp 15 routinely meets at National Civil War Museum, at Reservoir Park, Harrisburg, PA, 2 pm,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of most months. The Marshall A. Hope author award was bestowed upon *Hartranft Herald*  
for excellence of a camp newsletter by Brad Schall, Commander in Chief, 2010-2011.

Dept of PA: [www.PAsuvcw.org](http://www.PAsuvcw.org) National: <http://www.suvcw.org/>

March 2020 *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

## March Greetings to our Brothers and Sisters of the Allied Orders

### 2020 Camp 15 Dues include funds for your local camp, the Pennsylvania Department, and National Per Capita obligations as set by camp vote and department and national encampments.

Camp dues notices are announced in this publication, beginning with December issue. This issue presents the 4<sup>th</sup> reminder. Following the end of each month, our camp secretary sends a reminder notice to each brother who has not paid to date. His notices are separate and numbered by him for his efforts.

Reminder, dues for 2020 was increased by motion of camp councilmen and approved by camp vote at November 17, 2019 camp meeting!

### Camp 15 Dues time – year 2020

### 4th printed notice

To save postage you may bring your New Year 2020

Camp 15 dues of **\$40** to March Camp Meeting!  
Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>

Life Members' dues is \$7.00 for Pennsylvania Department collection, only.

Life Members are exempt from Camp 15 dues and National per capita!

See text bottom of national form 9 for specifics

Camp treasurer prefers **\$40** check payable to  
'Hartranft Camp 15, SUVCW'.

Or mail your check to

David W. Demmy, Sr.

881 Sunny Hill Lane

Harrisburg PA 17111 – 4690

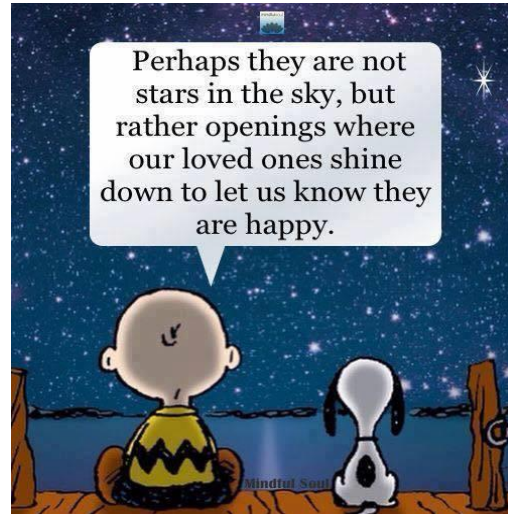
A Check protects both parties!

Please pay asap to avoid xtra notices and concerns!

Membership cards for 2020 will be issued in mass!

March 2020 *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

To become a National Life Member of our grand organization, visit national suvcw website and under forms, select form 9, complete it, attach your payment for your age bracket and mail directly to national headquarters! Hurry!!!! Form 27 will be due soon by camp secretary to Pennsylvania Department secretary!



*"I think I've discovered the secret of life — you just hang around until you get used to it."*

— "Peanuts" creator Charles M. Schulz (1922–2000)

Brothers and Sisters in Distress by, David W, Demmy, Sr., PCC, a Kentucky Colonel, Camp 15 Chaplain, CPA, and ARNG.

Commander Logan Swanger's ongoing situation required surgery and he is recovering nicely. Blessings for Dave Klinepeter for recent ailment. Greg Kline, Tony Kline, Scott Debo. Mrs. Betz, PCinC Rich Orr, Jim Crane of Ohio, PCinC Andy Johnson; with continued blessings for Mrs. Charlotte Walters PDP and Mrs. Dot Kline Mrs. Rob Koenigsberg, spouse of PA Dept Secretary; and Rob too. Darlene Alcorn's son; and Lowell Alcorn, Mrs. Rosemary Martin, Mrs. John Martin! and Brother John Martin. Mrs. Robert Treat and Mrs. Tom McKay! Mrs. Russ Kratz of camp 15!

Mrs. Ellen Kowalski to care for Jerry!

Chaplains Jerry Kowalski and Scott Teeters and Clark Brocht! PCinC Ed Krieser, PCinC Brad Schall, Mrs. Dick Williams of the department of Michigan among our prayer list too! God bless you and yours, and in all things, give thanx!

If you have knowledge of our sisters and brothers in distress, drop us a line so we may pray for them!  
[DoubleD@Demmy.cc](mailto:DoubleD@Demmy.cc)

As previously established, most of the attendees departed the meeting to regroup at Longhorns Steakhouse for good food and more fellowship! Always amazing the things, we learn about railroading, schools we attended, hobbies, dreams and desires, and of course, the lowdown on our health issues and the future events for Camp 15.

#### Honor all of your union Civil War Ancestors through supplemental applications.

When you joined the SUCVW with hereditary status, you were only able to designate one ancestor on your application. Now you can honor your other union ancestors with a supplemental application for a mere \$5 fee for each tribute. Use SUCVW form 3, <http://www.sucv.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Form-3-REV-3-2017.pdf> check supplemental at top of the form. Complete page 1 as usual, input your 2<sup>nd</sup> ancestor on page 2 and attachment source documentation revealing that ancestor's union service. If you have a 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> or more ancestors to honor, repeat the process for each individual. Attach a remittance check payable to National Organization SUCVW, for \$5 for each supplemental *honor* and ship it off to your camp secretary for action.

Upon receipt at Hqs, your *computer profile* at HQs will be annotated to indicate you have submitted supplemental application data to honor an additional ancestor! Your supplemental submission will be added to your original application hardcopy file! It will be on file at headquarters indefinitely for future generations!



I went to the grocery store and they now have a parking spot for Fat guys that like to grill. That's so considerate.

#### Colorful Lady Bugs



Must be spring time along the Susquehanna River Valley. Lady Bugs hitch-hike upon visitors to the National Civil War Museum and then fly to the upper level of the museum and make their way down the hallway to the National Headquarters of the SUCVW! Within the SUCVW offices, they make their way to the windows in attempt to escape and end up on the window sills.

## February Meeting Minutes nice 38° fair weather!

Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp # 15  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
National Civil War Museum, Harrisburg PA  
Sunday, February 16, 2020

### Officers Present

Commander.....Logan Swanger  
SVC..... Vernon Stout  
Secretary.....Greg Kline, PCC  
Treasurer/Chaplain.....David Demmy, Sr  
Pat. Instructor/Historian.....Jeff Smith  
Council..... Tony Kline

### Officers Absent

JVC/Council.....Scott Debo  
Color Bearer.....Kelly Betz  
Guide/Guard.....TBA

### Members attending:

Dave Laman  
Wayne Blattner  
Gene Mascioli, PCC

### Guests:

Mark Smith [pending new member application]

The meeting was called to order by Camp Commander Logan Swanger at 2:00 PM

SVC Vern Stout read the minutes from the January meeting which he had recorded in Secretary Greg Kline's absence. Motion to accept by Brother Jeff Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brother Greg Kline, motion approved.

Treasurer's report: A working checkbook balance of \$631 was reported, most of which is dues being held for payment to National and Department per capita. Treasurer Demmy reported that the Camp website has been transferred to a new internet service provider which will save us \$80 per year.

Motion to accept by Brother Tony Kline, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brother Wayne Blattner, motion approved.

### Sick Brothers or Brothers in Distress

Brother Wayne Blattner's uncle (Carl Blattner) passed away recently. Continued prayers for Brother Scott Debo as he continues his treatments. Prayers for Commander Logan Swanger for his upcoming heart surgery.

### Orders, Communications and Bills

Secretary Kline read current General Orders issued by the Commander-in-Chief which included General Order# 10 regarding the passing of PC-in-C Lowell Hammer and General Order# 11. He also read an invitation from the Johnstown Camp inviting all Camps in the Pennsylvania Department to attend a headstone dedication in that area.

At this point in the meeting, Commander Swanger introduced our guest, Mark Smith, who is a new member of the board of directors of the National Civil War Museum. Mark is the great, great, great grandson of Robert Smalls, who escaped slavery, served in the Union Navy and was elected to Congress after the war. We look forward to welcoming Mark soon as a new Member of Camp 15!

### Unfinished Business:

Nothing reported

### New Business:

Brother Jeff Smith mentioned the Gettysburg Foundation's Spring Muster which will be held on April 24-26. There are many good programs scheduled for this year and Jeff will be emailing a link to the website. SVC Vern Stout mentioned a Last Soldier dedication for Perry County. Commander Swanger will be contacting the Perry county



historian group and the descendents for possible participation. June 20 was set for the headstone dedication and Brother Jeff Smith suggested that the PA Department be invited to attend.

Commander Swanger recently found the resting location in Cumberland County of the Last Soldier also.

Commander Swanger reminded the Camp of upcoming activities to keep in mind for Memorial Day weekend including decorating graves in the old Harrisburg City Cemetery and marching in the Gettysburg Memorial Day parade.

### Good of the Order

Brother Wayne Blattner read some text that he had submitted to go along with photos he had submitted to the Battle Cry of Freedom. The text for some reason never made it into the newsletter.

### Patriotic Instructor:

Patriotic Instructor Jeff Smith did a program on Abraham Lincoln's early life. He used a very interesting handout to accompany the presentation which included photos and facts relating to Lincoln's "Kentucky Years", his "Indiana Years" and his approach into adulthood. Another fantastic program by Brother Jeff!

The meeting was closed by Commander Swanger at 3:54 PM.

Faithfully submitted  
In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

Gregory E. Kline, DC  
Secretary  
Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp# 15

### REAL DAUGHTER IRENE TRIPLETT

By Dennis St Andrew, PDC, North Carolina

We have a "Real Daughter" here in the Department of North Carolina and her name is Irene Triplett. Like our SUVCW **Real Sons**, a "Real Daughter" is a woman whose father was a Union veteran of the Civil War. Irene Triplett was born in Wilkes County, NC, on January 9, 1930. When she was born, her



father Moses Triplett, a Union Army veteran, was 83 years old, and her mother Elida was 34. Such *May-December* marriages were *not uncommon*. Many of these marriages took place during the Great Depression, when veterans' pensions offered the wives a reliable source of income, and the veterans got a younger wife who would care for them in their old age. Private Moses Triplett did receive a Union Army pension.

Irene's father, Moses, *Mose*, or "Uncle Mose" Triplett was born in 1846 in Watauga County, NC. Mose Triplett served in both the Confederate and Union Army during the Civil War. At age 16, he enlisted in the 53<sup>rd</sup> North Carolina Infantry Regiment in May 1862. In January 1863, Pvt. Triplett transferred to the 26<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Infantry Regiment. In August, 1864, he joined the Union regiment, 3<sup>rd</sup> North Carolina Mounted Infantry, nicknamed "Kirk's Raiders" made up of Union supporters in western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee. Mose Triplett was discharged four months after Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, Virginia. In 1938, Mose attended the 75<sup>th</sup>

anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg with more than 1,800 veterans from both sides. Moses Triplett died of on July 18, 1938, age 92, days after returning from the Gettysburg reunion. He is buried in an Elk Creek cemetery, and his headstone reads "He was a Civil War soldier."



Today

Irene Triplett lives in a nursing home in Wilkesboro, NC. Irene says that her father didn't talk about the Civil War, and that she doesn't remember too much about him. Irene says that she no longer has any of her father's possessions as they have been lost over the many years since his death in 1938. These days, Irene enjoys watching TV and visiting with the other residents of the nursing home. My wife Denise (ASUVCW) and I travel to Wilkesboro at least twice a year to visit with Irene, bringing her flowers and a gift. ABOVE DENNIS SHOWN WITH REAL DAUGHTER IRENE!

#### Some Interesting Facts About Irene Triplett:

- At age 90, Irene is the last living recipient of VA benefits connected to the Civil War.
- In 2014, the Wall Street Journal did an article about Irene. The reporter, Michael Phillips, who visited Irene, says he is very supportive of the Sons of Union Veterans recognizing and honoring Irene.



- ABOVE, IRENE SHOWN WITH JEROME L. ORTON, PDC, CHAIR OF OUR COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN OF CIVIL WAR VETERANS.
- Irene was born into poverty in a tiny log cabin in the mountains surrounded by illegal stills. Irene didn't drink moonshine, but she got hooked on tobacco in the first grade. She still chews tobacco.
- At school, the children would taunt Irene about her father the "traitor", and she dropped out after the sixth grade.
- In 1943, at age 13, Irene and her mother moved into the Wilkes County *poorhouse* and lived there for 17 years. In 1960, the poorhouse shut down, and Irene and her mother moved to a nursing home, and each month the two would sign their "X" on a VA pension check, which helped pay for their care. Irene lived in the nursing home for more than 50 years until she broke her hip in 2013 and had to move into the Wilkesboro nursing home for additional care.

Finally, President Lincoln, in his second inaugural address called for Americans "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan". President Lincoln's promise is still being delivered today, 150+ years later, to Real Daughter Irene Triplett! In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty, Dennis C. St. Andrew, Past Department Commander Department of North Carolina, SUVCW

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE G.A.R. MUSEUM**  
**Please consider attending the annual**  
**luncheon benefiting the museum on**  
**Saturday, March 21, 2020.**

The Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum and Library is the only museum in this area that is solely dedicated to preserving the history and telling the story of the Civil War.

The collection is recognized for its historical significance and features numerous relics of singular historical importance including: General Meade's warhorse Old Baldy, handcuffs found in John Wilkes Booth's trunk after the assassination, the strip of the pillowcase and Lincoln's blood, Dr. Mary Walker's medical case, the bullet that killed Col. Edward Baker at Ball's Bluff, and the uniform of Col. DeWitt Clinton Baxter of the 72<sup>nd</sup> PA Infantry.

As members of the historical community it is vitally important that we show our support for the museum, or this wonderful museum will disappear.

Please consider attending the annual luncheon benefiting the museum on March 21, 2020. This is so much more than a luncheon.

- You will have a wonderful opportunity to meet and greet both old and new friends who share your interest in history;
- We have a great keynote speaker, historian and author of many Civil War books, Bradley Gottfried;
- you can explore the books and merchandise from Jim Schmick's Civil War and More;
- you will be eligible to win one of many great especially selected raffle prizes;
- and you will have an opportunity to purchase authentic Civil War relics.

All this while also helping us to secure the future of the museum.

Please check out the luncheon notice and make your reservation. Without your support, this wonderful and historic museum may well become a thing of the past; only a memory.

*THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, CIVIL WAR MUSEUM AND LIBRARY, Invites All Museum Supporters and Civil War Enthusiasts to the ANNUAL PRESERVATION LUNCHEON, TO SUPPORT*

*THE ONLY DEDICATED CIVIL WAR MUSEUM IN PHILADELPHIA* Saturday, March 21, 2020 12:00 noon – 3:30 PM

Cannstatter Volkfest Verein

9130 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114

(Intersection of Academy Rd. and Frankford Ave., at I-95 Academy Road exit)

Keynote speaker BRADLEY M. GOTTFRIED

Nationally recognized historian and author

Presentation of the GRAND ARMY AWARD

**\*\* Three course Chefs Luncheon \*\***

History books, videos, music featuring Jim Schmick "Civil War & More."

Free door prizes – Print raffles

**DONATION: \$40.00 PP AND \$75.00 PER COUPLE**

*\*Reservations requested by March 13, 2020*

Please make checks payable to *GAR MUSEUM*, and mail with reservation form below to:

GAR MUSEUM,

Attn: Herb Kaufman, 4278 Griscom Street, Phila., PA 19124.

To Reserve by MAIL: [shkaufman1865@gmail.com](mailto:shkaufman1865@gmail.com)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (for confirmation) \_\_\_\_\_

**Entrée Choices (please indicate number):**

Chicken \_\_\_\_\_

Beef \_\_\_\_\_

Salmon \_\_\_\_\_

From Joe Perry!



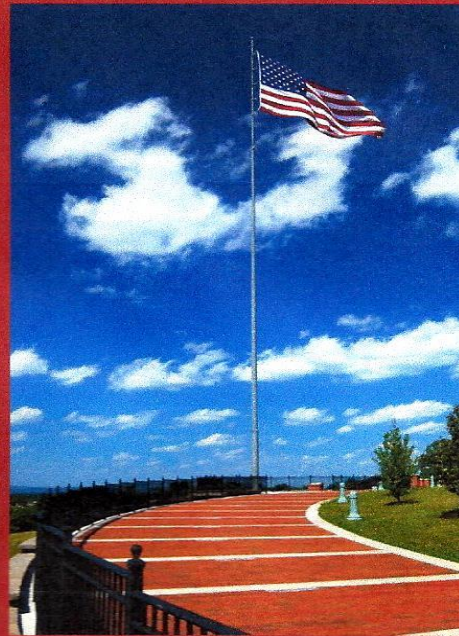
## Carve A Memory In Stone

Our Memorial Brick program is a great way to mark a life event or recognize an ancestor **AND** support the education and preservation mission of the museum.

**Brick donations start at \$75 for non-members**

Memorialize your ancestor or hero in our **Walk of Valor**. A permanent landscape feature designed to remember participants on both sides of the American Civil War.

Our **Friends Walkway**, is a great way to acknowledge a birthday, thank a retiring co-worker or mark a life event, with a permanent brick.



*"You'll not find a more beautiful place to preserve a memory" - NCWM member*

***Placement of memorial bricks is a tax-deductible donation.***

***We thank you for your support!***

**Call Mary Beth 717-260-1861 ext. 1108 to order by phone or to receive your member discount code for online orders.**

**March 1, 2020 is the deadline for Memorial Day placement**

**Members can place bricks for as little as \$65**

**Memberships make great gifts too!**

**Join now!**