



Hartranft Herald

The Newsletter of

Maj. Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp 15

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

www.SuvcwHarrisburgPa.org/

Celebrating our 138th Year serving Harrisburg Area



@ [Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp 15 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War](https://www.facebook.com/GenJohnFHartranftCamp15SonsOfUnionVeteransOfTheCivilWar)



Vol 23, No. 6 & 7

Summer Time

June & July 2021



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!

2021 Hartranft Camp 15	Commander ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Vernon Stout 2021
Officers and Staff	Senior Vice Commander ~ ~ ~	Logan Swanger PCC 2021
	Junior Vice Commander ~ ~ ~	Scott Debo, PCC 2021
	Secretary ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 08-21
	Treasurer ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	David W. Demmy, Sr. PCC 07-21
	Council 01 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Anthony Kline 16 - 21
	Council 02 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Scott Debo, PCC 15-21
	Council 03 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Jeffery Smith, PCC 18-21
	Patriotic Instructor ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Jeffery Smith, PCC 18 - 21
	Chaplain ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	David W. Demmy, Sr., PCC 00-21
	Counselor ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Lee F. Walters, PCC since 2007
	GAR Historian ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Jeffery Smith, PCC 2021
	Graves Registration ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Logan Swanger 14-21
	Guide ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner 2021
	Color Bearer ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner 2021
	Guard ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 11-21
	Eagle Scout Coordinator ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner 2021
	Webmaster ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Dave W. Demmy, Jr. since 2011
	ROTC Coordinator ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 08-21
	GAR Highway Officer ~ ~ ~	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 11-21
	Longevity Brother ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Dave J. Klinepeter, PCC since 1943
	Praiseworthy Brother ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Late Joseph E. Long, Jr., PDC

Camp 15 routinely meets at National Civil War Museum, at Reservoir Park, Harrisburg, PA, 2 pm, 3rd 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.

PA Dept: www.PAsuvcw.org National: <http://www.suvcw.org/>

June – July 2021 *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



Eagles in the header of our newsletter complimentary of our newest dual member brother, Life Member Ben Hobbins. Thank you, Ben, for the effort and time you expended to create these colorful images for SUVVCW use.

This newsletter is draped in remembrance of death of ASUVVCW Past National President Janice Lee Harding, aged 84 years, on 2 July 2021 at Parkville, Maryland See General Order #19 for details.

Camp Birthdays for summer

Diemer Jr, Wesley E
Kline, Gregory Edward
Proper, Michael Scott
Riegle, Charles William
Baker, Bruce R
Bruner, Thomas Gene
Demmy Jr, David William
Hall, Nathaniel Allen
Klinepeter, D. Michael
Kuhn Jr, William Charles
Kyle, Lynn E
Stout, Vernon David
Walters PDC, Lee Franklin
Foster, Barry Elmer
Hall, Duke Allen
Swanger, Logan Garth
Jackson, William Spencer
Happy Birthday to
US Army, June 14.

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

- Blessings for Dave Klinepeter! Greg Kline, Tony Kline, Scott Debo. Mrs. Betz, Jim Crane of Ohio,

PCinC Andy Johnson; with continued blessings for Mrs. Charlotte Walters PDP and Mrs. Dot Kline; and Lowell Alcorn, Mrs. Rosemary Martin!

- 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!

- Mrs Crystal Kratzer's condition continues to improve, as well for Brother Russell Kratzer who is on tele-duty versus field work, and, lastly, brother D. Mike Klinepeter is recovering! As we go to press, we learned Brother Duke Hall has been deployed once again with the US Army. He is in an area where he is not allowed to receive US Mail – must be a major bummer for him and his buddies.

- Blessings to family of Brother Bill Fischer of camp 8; new grandchild is now home – hooray! If you have knowledge of our sisters and brothers in distress, drop us a line so we may pray for them!

DoubleD@Demmy.cc

April camp meeting minutes

Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp # 15

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

National Civil War Museum, Harrisburg PA

Sunday, April 18, 2021 very sunny 64°

Officers Present

Commander.....Vern Stout

SVC..... Logan Swanger

JVC.....Scott Debo

Secretary.....Greg Kline

Treasurer/Chaplain.....Dave Demmy, Sr

Pat. Instructor/Historian.... Jeff Smith

Council.....Scott Debo

Council..... Tony Kline

Council.....Jeff Smith

Color Bearer.....Wayne Blattner

Guide/Guard.....Wayne Blattner

Officers Absent..... None

The meeting was called to order by Camp Commander Vern Stout at 2:01 PM

The meeting minutes from March 21, 2021 were read by Secretary Greg Kline. Motion to accept by Brother Tony Kline 2nd by Brother Dave Demmy Sr, motion approved.

Treasurer's report was read by Brother Dave Demmy, Sr. A checkbook balance of approximately \$2100 was reported which includes dues payments. Balance will be \$400-\$500 after Form 27 per capita is submitted. Motion to accept by Brother Tony Kline, 2nd by Brother Greg Kline, motion approved.

Sick Brothers or Brothers in Distress

Fortunately, there was nothing to report

Orders, Communications and Bills

Secretary Kline read several Department and General Orders including the following:

Department Order #12- reminding Camps that birthdays must be included on Camp rosters that are submitted with Form 27.

General Order# 14-Restrictions on Lobbying

General Order# 15-Clarification of C&R Guidance on Membership cards. To be issued by Camp/Department Treasurer.

General Order# 16-Passing of Auxiliary Past National President Michelle Langley

Department Orders can be read in their entirety at www.pasuvcw.org

National General Orders can be read in their entirety at www.suvchw.org

Unfinished Business:

Our project to rehabilitate Sister Mary Jane Bannan's grave will take place over Memorial Day weekend in May when we decorate graves at the old city cemetery. Brother Scott Debo has offered to provide topsoil and grass seed and the Camp will be planting grass. We will meet for breakfast at 8 AM at the Peachtree Restaurant, 251 N. Progress Ave, Harrisburg.

New Business:

Brother Dave Demmy Sr gave a report on the recent Council of Administration meeting. Some of the major topics include:

1) Commander-in-Chief Pierson is forming a committee to examine insurance policies for National, Departments and Camps. He is suggesting a blanket policy that will cover everyone.

2) Eagle Scout certificates may be going to a fillable form on the National website.

3) Dave is on the committee exploring the possibility of a standalone National Headquarters for the SUVCW. Dave no longer has adequate storage space at the Museum office and off-site storage is being considered. A scanning machine for use in storing documents electronically would cost approximately \$2200.

Brother Jeff Smith suggested that a Camp 15 field trip to Fort Delaware. The trip could also include a visit to General Hartranft's grave at the Norristown Cemetery and Brother Greg suggested an Italian restaurant in the area, Buca di Beppo, as a possible place to have dinner.

The Gettysburg Memorial Day parade is on for 2021 and Brother Greg will once again register Camp 15 and the Pennsylvania Department as participants.

Good of the Order:

Brother Wayne Blattner is now a grandfather!! Many blessings and congratulations to Wayne and his family!

Patriotic Instructor:

Patriotic Instructor Jeff Smith discussed the Spring Muster at Gettysburg. There was a program on General Hancock in the morning and in the afternoon the program was "In

the Footsteps of Lincoln". He discussed events and trivia surrounding Lincoln's visit during the Gettysburg Address timeframe. He quizzed the Camp on some of the details including a true & false quiz that was given to them by the Licensed Battlefield Guide.

The meeting was closed by Commander Stout at 4:14 PM. Faithfully submitted, In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,

PCC Greg Kline, Secretary, Camp 15.

There was no meeting during May – too many brothers had family obligations and travel events!

How was your Memorial Day 2021

Comments by brother Bill Jackson: On Sunday morning, I always head to Oak Hill Cemetery in Curwensville where I place flowers on 26 graves, including the ones of my mom, stepdad, one set of grandparents..... Also, my great, great uncle, Captain John H. Norris of Company K, 42nd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, 13th Pennsylvania Reserves, in the Civil War.

Captain John had quite a career. He was captured in the fighting at Mechanicsville, and was sent to Libby Prison. He was paroled, He was wounded in the fighting at Spotsylvania Court House and then transferred to Company H, 190th Pennsylvania Infantry and was promoted to second lieutenant. He was captured again and returned to Libby Prison, then later was paroled in ill health. He resigned Jan. 28, 1865 as a result of his health problems. He later was breveted a captain and spent one term as president of the Pennsylvania Bucktails Association. When the Bucktail historical group meets in Curwensville, they hold a brief ceremony at his grave.

Since Captain John's Company K from Curwensville was one of the early groups to train at Camp Curtin here in Harrisburg, I became eligible to join the Camp Curtin Historical Society as a member of their Descendant Brigade. The Society, in addition to holding Civil War lecture meetings and trips, is

responsible for maintaining the Governor Andrew Gregg Curtin statue and the memorial to Camp Curtin on North 5th Street in Harrisburg.

Likewise, it qualifies me for membership in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and its Maj. Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp 15, which meets regularly at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg.

Images of Camp 15's visits to at least 2 cemeteries

As usual, we visited old historic Harrisburg Cemetery at 13th and State Streets and placed flags upon veterans therein. It was a cold rainy-day weekend, nothing unusual for Memorial Day weekend in the Susquehanna Valley.

First image is a group shot at General Geary's monument, taken thru the rain.



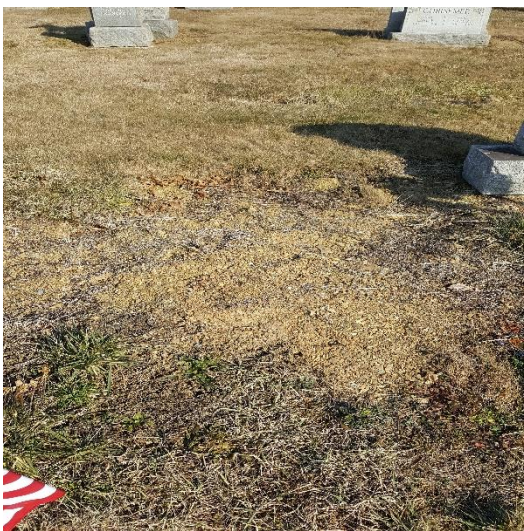
l – r: David W Demmy, Sr, Nat'l Executive Director, PCC Logan Swanger, CC Vern Stout, DC Greg Kline, CofS Scott Debo and PCC Wayne Blattner

Photo Credit brother Wayne Blattner.



Garden of Stones, tribute to fallen veterans of the Civil War! File photo!

Following that visit, we convoyed over to the East Harrisburg Cemetery along Herr Street and cleaned up the gravesite of our camp auxiliary's late leader, Mary Jane Bannan. Her site was *neglected* and we leveled it, applied fresh topsoil and topped it with grass seed.



before image of Mary Jane's deplorable gravesite.
2020 Photo credit David Demmy.



Work detail



Tribute to Mary Jane by Sister Ellen Higgins



Back row l to r: CC Vern Stout, DC Greg Kline, Dept CofS Scott Debo, PCC Wayne Blattner.

Front row l to r: Nat'l Exec Dir David W Demmy, Sr, PNP Sister Ellen Higgins, and immediate past CC Logan Swanger.

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Colonel Jennings, Commander of 127th Regiment PA

Then we had a tribute performed by Auxiliary Sister Ellen Higgins who traveled from New Jersey to assist us for the day. Photo Credit: brother Wayne Blattner

Fast forward 2 months with a visit to the site, and the wreath was blown away, but recaptured and placed again in honor of Mary Jane.....

[Other images at historic Harrisburg Cemetery](#)



[Enders Family](#)



2011 visit to cemetery at Norristown



PCC John Deppen, visiting General Hartranft family gravesite.



MEMORIAL DAY PARADE- 6th Inf Field Music SVR of Camp 15 marching to East Harrisburg Cemetery in the Penbrook Progress parade the Sunday before Memorial Day. 1945

Guess which *trooper* may be Dave Klinepeter

Gotta love em cars.....

File Photos



Sunday, September 19th, during our next camp meeting, our camp Patriotic Instructor, Jeff Smith intends to have a discussion of WWII; especially Pacific Theater of Operations, and will have on hand a number of artifacts regarding WWII. All are welcome to attend, and bring for *display*, their own artifacts, uniforms, souvenirs of the 1940s and WWII.

A-must see, to be on display, is the 12 x 18 wooden bound, 6-inch-thick diary of Edith (Aebi) Nile from Alliance, Ohio, who served as the **National President of the Auxiliary to the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War** during the 1940s. It is quite amazing, filled with numerous G A R newspaper clippings as well as mementos from her national travels. It certainly captures the *patriotic sentiment* of the country during the war period.

On the Road with Camp 15

Monthly Camp business meetings begin at 2 p.m. and are conducted [*mostly*] on the 3rd Sunday, at National Civil War Museum [NCWM]!

National Encampment August 4th – 9th at Hilton St. Louis Frontenac at St Louis, Missouri.

September Camp meeting

Sunday September 19th 2pm at NCWM.

If you plan on displaying any WWII items, come early to do so. All other readers, come early also to have time to view all of the WWII treats we expect to have on display for your interest.

3-4 tables at least.....

October TBA

November Remembrance Day at Gettysburg

December, camp 15's annual holiday banquet TBA.

Please update your social calendar now.

Camp 15 annual calendar available upon request. Send e-mail or contact Hartranft Herald staff DoubleD@Demmy.cc.

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 Civil War.

Camp Officers & authors, the first Friday of each month is the Deadline for submission of stories, events, articles, and photos for *Hartranft Herald*.

Membership Bio Profiles will continue to appear as they are submitted by members.

Worksheets were inserted in Camp 15's 125th Anniversary history book.

If you prefer, [and your *Hartranft Herald* wishes you would], complete an e-worksheet, please ask for one – send e-mail request to DoubleD@Demmy.cc

Bring a nephew, uncle, brother, father, grandfather, cousins, your neighbor and all of your friends to a Camp meeting! Family and our sisters of the Allied Orders are always welcome!

Camp 15 Established February 11, 1882
in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty!

God bless you and yours and God bless the USA.