



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 **144th** Year serving Harrisburg Area

f @ [Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp 15 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War](https://www.facebook.com/GenJohnFHartranftCamp15)



Vol 28 No. 02

February

2026



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!

2026 Hartranft Camp 15	Commander ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Kyle Purchase 2025-2026
Officers and your Staff	Senior Vice Commander ~ ~ ~	Logan Swanger PCC 2021-2026
	Junior Vice Commander ~ ~ ~	Scott Debo, PCC 2021-2026
	Secretary ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner, PCC 2025-2026
	Treasurer ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	David W. Demmy, Sr. PCC 2007-2026
	Council 01 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Jeffery Smith, PCC 2018-2026
	Council 02 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner PCC 2023-2026
	Council 03 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Charles Brackbill Jr 2026
	Patriotic Instructor ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Jeffery Smith, PCC 2018-2026
	Chaplain ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Jeffery Smith, PCC 2026
	Graves Registration ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Logan Swanger 2014-2026
	GAR Historian ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Jeffery Smith, PCC 2018-2026
	Counselor ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Charles Brackbill Jr 2026
	Eagle Scout Coordinator ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner PCC 2025-2026
	GAR Highway Officer ~ ~ ~	Gregory E. Kline, PDC 2008-2026
	Guide ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner PCC 2021-2026
	Color Bearer ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner PCC 2021-2026
	Guard ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner PCC 2022-2026
	Webmaster ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Dave W. Demmy, Jr. 2011-2026
	ROTC Coordinator ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Gregory E. Kline, PDC 2011-2026
	Camp Historian ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner PCC 2020 - 2026
	Longevity Brother ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Late Dave J. Klinepeter PCC 1943-2023
	Praiseworthy Brother ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Late Floyd J. Demmy WWII Veteran
	Praiseworthy Brother ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Late Joseph E. Long, Jr., PDC, Veteran
	Praiseworthy Brother ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Late Lee F. Walters, PDC, Past Exec Dir.

Camp 15 routinely meets at the National Civil War Museum, at Reservoir Park, Harrisburg, PA, 2 pm, 3rd Sunday of most months. PA Dept: www.PASUVCW.org National: <http://www.suvcw.org/>

In accordance with General Order #7, March 7, 2022: "Individuals attending events hosted by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, by virtue of their attendance, agree to the usage of their likeness in the *Banner*, any Camp or Department Newsletter, any SUVCW website and/or on any SUVCW Social Media outlet, promotional brochures, or any other SUVCW material."

Membership in our Order does not require a civil war ancestor nor is our Order a reenacting group!

February 2026 *Hartranft Herald* Camp 15 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Award winning newsletter -- Marshall A. Hope Award presented to Hartranft Camp 2010-2011
Award winning website -- Horace Greeley Award presented to Hartranft Camp 2020-2022
SUVCW Legal heir of and representing the Grand Army of the Republic

This edition of our *Hartranft Herald* is draped in memory of our late brother PCC Larry Keener-Farley who passed last week on February 5th. A Camp Order will be prepared in his memory. Larry's desire is for no obituary nor service! Condolences can be issued to

**Mrs. Annette Keener-Farley
2 Westminster Blvd
Camp Hill PA 17011**

Brothers, our February camp meeting is scheduled for Sunday February 15, 2026 2pm Reservoir Park within the National Civil War Museum building upper level.

Brothers and Sisters in distress

by camp chaplain:

Sister Helen Shireman, great granddaughter to our camp namesake, John F Hartranft, is recovering from an ailment.

The current list includes prayers for Brother David Demmy Sr. as he struggles with some health issues, [the VA is keeping him busy with appointments] Camp counselor Chuck Brackbill Jr, ailments; Brother Scott Debo's family, and Ann Ribblett, wife of Camp #15 member Terry Bibblett. Sister Ann McMillin recovering from recent surgery. And, Annette Keener-Farley. Please keep all these Brothers and Sisters and their families in your prayers.

Camp 15 Dues time – year 2026

Last 'announced' notice

To save postage you may bring your New Year 2026 Camp 15 dues of **\$53** to an early camp Meeting!

Life Members' dues are \$10.00 for the Pennsylvania Department collection!

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

All PA Department brothers including Life Members now must pay the PA dues amount –

passed at 2025 PA encampment... the amount is \$10 for PA!

See text bottom of national [form 9](#) for specifics!

Camp 15 treasurer prefers **\$53** 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!

Additional Notices will be issued in January and February!

Deadline for 2026 dues is the end of February!

Donations appreciated for postage and office supplies!

C&R

Article II

Membership

Section 3 (a). A Brother whose dues are not paid by **March 1 may be dropped for nonpayment of dues** by Camp. A Brother so dropped shall not be admitted to another Camp or membership-at-large unless having received the concurrence of the Camp which dropped him.

A Brother so dropped from the rolls of a Camp shall be issued a General Discharge for the Good of the Order.²⁴ ***A Brother may be reinstated by paying the current year's dues [camp and department] plus a [national] reinstatement fee of ten dollars (\$10.00)!***

Typical note with many dues payments submitted to camp 15:

Thank you very much for all you do for our Camp and the memory of our Civil War ancestors.

If you see me talking to myself,

Just move along!

I'm self-employed, and

We are having a staff meeting!!!

Notes from Camp Commander, in lieu of meeting minutes, by Kyle Purchase, CC.

Since we are not meeting in January due to snow (and potentially more snow on the way for the upcoming Sunday), I wanted to send this email as an alternative to what would have been Old and New Business for the January meeting. Please keep this email on hand for future reference.

Old Business

- Tri-Camp Holiday Banquet was a great time and well-received. Thanks to Brothers Jeff, David Demmy Sr. and Dave Jr. for making the event run smoothly and congratulations to all those who were sworn in as officers!

- Camp Dues - Dues (\$53) are due at the **end of February**. Please send them to Brother Demmy if you have not done so already. Payable to \$ **Hartranft Camp 15 SUVCW**

David Demmy
881 Sunny Hill Ln
Harrisburg PA 17111

[Or hand-carry to February camp meeting on the 15th]

- Dauphin County VA meeting follow up - I was going to recap my meeting with Thomas Coreau and bring papers he gave me that lists burials in Dauphin County to show all of you. (I can do that in February and we can further discuss other points regarding flag holders, Memorial Day, etc.)

New Business

- Potential new brothers - I believe we have a total of four individuals (per Brother Demmy) who are interested in joining and we have two applications.

- Over the break, Brother Demmy found the Camp 15 flag and said it needs slight repair.

- IRS 990-N filing - Needs to be filed for the year 2025. The site is down for maintenance, but we have until **May** to do so. It's a simple form.

- Lincoln Luncheon - Gen. J.P.S. Gobin Camp #503 is graciously hosting it again and it will be **Saturday, February 7th** at the Packer House in Sunbury at 11 am or noon. RSVP needs to be in by **January 31st**. Brother Scott or Greg, are there other details?

- Tabling event at the museum - Will be **Saturday, February 14th** from 10-4. Please let me or David know if you can help out.

- PDC Bill Fischer sent out an email detailing the new procedure for the SUVCW Cadet Awards. Brother David and I received it. Brother Wayne, I can send that email to you in case you didn't get it.

I know this isn't the ideal way to discuss agenda items given the list of them, but I don't want brothers to be in jeopardy when driving on snowy/icy roads, especially those who have to drive a decent distance. If there's other items I may have missed, please feel free to add anything.

I appreciate you all reading this email and hope to see you at the February meeting!

In F, C, & L, Kyle G. Purchase, Commanding.

PS: IRS form 990 has been submitted to IRS for camp 15.



[National Civil War Free Community Day to salute their 25th Anniversary at Reservoir Park.](#)

Saturday February 14th

Camp breakfast at 8 am at Peachtree Restaurant

Museum opens to public at 10 a.m. please be on sight at least 10 am to man *camp 15 info and recruiting table*, courtesy of CEO of the Museum and brother of Camp 15, Wayne Motts since 2013.

January 2026

www.pasuvcw.org



The Battle Cry of Freedom

A Publication of the Pennsylvania Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Our Departmental Newsletter for winter of 2026 is available for reading at

[https://www.pasuvcw.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/SUVCW Newsletter January-2026 Final.pdf](https://www.pasuvcw.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/SUVCW_Newsletter_January-2026_Final.pdf)

with thanx to camp secy, brother Wayne Blattner, check out camp 15 story within the January issue.

Logan and Pai Swanger wish to thank Camp 15 for its prayers and thoughts for them on the occasion of their son Jeremiah's untimely passing. He loved attending the annual Winter banquet and having conversations with the camp brothers. Special thanks to those brothers who attended his funeral in York. Camp 15 definitely exhibited its *fraternity, charity, and loyalty* during a time of grief and need.

Camp 15 on the Road for 2026

Winter, Camp 15 begins dues collection for 2026, new amount is **\$53.00** payable to **Hartranft Camp 15 SUVCW**.

The increase is based upon Approval at June 2025 PA Dept encampment to keep up with inflation!

If you are not renewing your 2026 membership, please inform us that you are resigning from SUVCW:

WBLATTNER1@comcast.net

*February 14th **recruiting table** at Community FREE Day at NCWM 10 a.m.*

February camp meeting is scheduled for Sunday 15th.

DST March 8th.

March camp meeting is scheduled for Sunday 15th.

April camp meeting is scheduled for 19th.

May camp meeting is scheduled for Sunday 17th.

May 23rd Camp 15 annual breakfast at 7:30ish a.m. at PeachTree Restaurant, prior to attending Memorial Day tribute to veterans of historical Harrisburg Cemetery. Guests are welcome . . .

Memorial Day Monday May 24th.



June 25 thru 27 annual encampment of the **PA Department at Carlisle.**

Dates subject to the call of our Camp Commander.

please update your social calendars now !

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 members submit them.

Complete an **e-worksheet**, please ask for one – send e-mail request to DoubleD@Demmy.cc

Bring a nephew, uncle, brother, father, grandfather, cousin, your neighbor and all 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.



January 2026

www.pasuvcw.org**PRE-REGISTRATION FORM**

**Department of Pennsylvania
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Annual Encampment**

Camp No: _____ Date: _____

Brother: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

**I am a member in good standing in this camp
and my rank in the Order is:**

____ CinC ____ PCinC ____ DC
____ PDC ____ CC ____ PCC

Attending as: ____ Delegate ____ Alternate

Pre-Registration fee is \$7.00 by 6/12/2026

\$10.00 at Encampment

Make check payable to: PA Dept., SUVCW

And send to: Secretary/Treasurer: Rob

Koenigsberg 504 Prospect St.

Portage, PA 15946

814-244-0899

rkoenigsberg3@gmail.com**CREDENTIAL CARDS**

If your intention is to make either the Department Encampment in June 2026 or the National Encampment in July/August 2026, please make sure you obtain a signed card before making either event.

The Credential Card for the Department Encampment can be obtained from your Camp Secretary and must be filled out fully so that you have the right to participate during the business meetings and vote.

The Credential Card for the National Encampment must be filled out fully and signed by the Department Secretary before you are able to participate. So please contact your Camp Secretary or Camp Commander and he can obtain these for you from the Department.

The form for the Credential Card is located on the National web site under the forms tab. This is a printable form right off the site. The site is www.sucvw.org

Please make every effort to have these filled out correctly as it makes it easier for those who do the registration to help you.



request your credential card from camp 15 secy brother Wayne Blattner!