

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO / WYOMING

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SUMMER 2012

WESTERN

TRIBUNE



**Sons of Union
Veterans
of the Civil
War**

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Department Commander Message

Greetings from the Department Commander

This is what has been happening in the Department as has been reported to me or I have done.

I have been working with Allan McKinney of Boise, Idaho, Of recent National MAL now part of our Department and of Captain Lot smith Camp # 1 on a restoration project in several cemeteries in Boise Idaho. I hope to meet with him shortly as weather permits.

We as a Department have continued with scanning and copying the G.A.R. Records, forms, charters, roster books and collected books outside of the local museum for placement in a museum or college library as started by PDC Garry Brewer.

I have meet with State of Utah officials to press the matter of re-designating US 6 as The Grand Army of the Republic Highway. It lost this designation in 2009 with part of highway from Green River, Utah to Spanish Fork, Utah being designated the Mike Dmitrich Highway. I have called on the House, Senate and Governor to re-designated the "Grand Army of the Republic Federal Highway and also to allow that part to also be called the "Mike Dmitrich Scenic Byway" We the SUVCW request public involvement. So far the leadership in the legislature has been full of promises and no action. I intend to take this issue to the press and hopefully with TV involvement get the public to clamor for some action.

Also I continue to be involved in trying to get a Civil War Statue to be built on the State Capitol grounds. I am working with the grandson of our camp namesake who is a current member.

23 June 2012

Re-elected to second term as Department Commander of the Department of Colorado/Wyoming.

Other Accomplishments:

In addition to the above “physical” activities, the department has been busy with administrative duties. A current roster of the all Department’s members past and present has been completed by past DJVC Barker and now current DSVC and is now being consolidated in two forms. First form for Department use is one for Dept and Camp use for reinstatements or family descendents to be recruited. This will allow for ease of access and future modification of the membership roster and as a tool to hopefully renew past members into membership. And the Second form with only name and camp name with ancestor for posting into an electronic format on the web page as part of our history and possibly for people at large to use this as part of their admission.

Additionally, after several years of hiatus, the Department newsletter is now a reality and now coming out with its second issue. *The Western Tribune* and is now in an electronic format for easy distribution. This colorful and informative newsletter is something Department members will again be proud of, as it, was under former editor PDC Rhy Paris, and can be useful as a recruitment tool. Brother Wally Weart is now the editor. He is from Centennial 100 Camp in Denver, Colorado.

The Department’s web site is constantly updated and many new features will continually be added (current contact links, newsletter link, upcoming events link, etc.) for use by members and potential members.

All Camps within the Department continue to be active and look forward to the challenges associated with growth as I sent out a renewed challenge for 10 percent growth in each Camp or 1 new member per person.

My goals in the Department 2012-2013

1. Visit all camps within the Department;
2. 10 percent growth in each Camp and the Department.
3. Finish in the location and list each G.A.R. Post not current know in each State of the Department and where their records are found and locate each grave of the GAR and record same for Department records and digitally list same for all on the web page from copied roster books, post cemetery records and secure photos;
4. Attend Memorial and Veterans Day Parades;
5. Hold Department Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah in June 2013 and Denver, Colorado in June 2014.
6. I would like to have considered as presented before that National SUVCW eliminate the online application and in its place use only Form 3 so the Departments and Camps can get credit for recruitment and empower them to gain much more commitment to these new brothers.
7. It is my goals also to see more signage put up in Colorado and Utah on US 6 for the GAR Highway.
8. I would like to see members of the Camps in the Department get into schools more to teach the history of the GAR and the GAR Highway and the truth of the Civil War

9. It is also my goal that in conjunction with finding all graves possible that we as Department work with Brother James Davenport PDC our Dept Graves registration Officer to assist him in getting all grave makers and names into the National database and if in disrepair that each Camp will annotate them for replacement through the local VA.
10. I want each camp to become more involved in the Eagle Scout project that has been done by the Department Eagle Scout Officer Jerry Mosley PDC and voted upon at the 2012 Annual Encampment. We can get more Scouts recognized and many might be incline to join and further assist our Order.
11. I would like to see developed a program in the Department a J/ROTC programs for High Schools and Universities in the Camps.
12. It was voted upon and with the assistance of Brother Wally Weart's wife we are planning on setting up a Woman's Auxiliary.
13. We need to have our Camp and Department Patriotic Instructor more active and submit reports of their progress in teaching in each Camp and to submit report to the Department PI and for reports submitted to the Department Secretary and National PI.
14. With the new flyers and press packages from National SUVCW pending, each camp would request a minimum of 10 flyers and enough press packages for each TV station and at least 2 major radio stations or authority to reproduce same for each Camps needs.
15. Finally I desire to get a new camp in either the Boise or Pocatello/Idaho Falls, Idaho area by June 2013

Faithfully Submitted
 In Faith, Charity and Loyalty
 Eric Dan Richhart Department Commander
 Colorado/Wyoming Department

Pictures from the recent Department Encampment



National SUVCW Jr. Vice Commander Tad Campbell and Department Commander Eric Richhart



National SUVCW Jr. Vice Commander Tad Campbell inducting Department Commander Eric Richhart



Centennial Camp 100 James Baker delivers his report.



Sr. Vice Commander William Buvinger delivers a report.



Back row: James Barker, Gary Parrott, Eric Richhart, William Buvinger, Garry Brewer, Front row: Cecil Tapey, Robert LeMaster, Tad Campbell, Susanna Weart, Walter Weart and Amber Weninger.



PDC Gary Brewer, current Commander of Camp 7 delivers his report.

New Department members for 2011/2012

Camp Chapman-Compliment # 2

James Allan McCormick Ancestor George Smith 5th Sgt Maine 28th Infantry
Lon D. Brown Transferred In Kalispell, Montana

Camp Capt. Lot Smith # 1

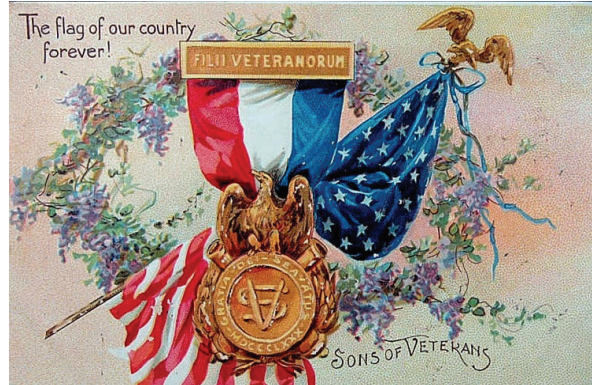
Allan Eugene McKenney Transferred In - Boise Idaho
Robert Steven Brower Transferred In Orofino, Idaho

Charles Edward Heisler Transferred In Pocatello, Idaho
 Charles Scott Patterson Ancestor William Fletcher Priest Pvt. 16th Regt. Kansas Cavalry
 William Paul Charles Simpson Ancestor Gabriel Stephens Pvt 12th Kentucky Infantry

Camp Centennial # 100

Roger Alan Walton Ancestor James Walton Pvt. 10th Iowa Infantry
 Dennis H. Smith Ancestor Jethro Philbrook Hartford Pvt 22nd Maine Infantry
 Beren Brooks Goguen Ancestor Sylvanus M Woodward Cpl. 12 regt Conn Vol. Infantry
 Dick Patrick Marsh Ancestor. Thomas Sherman Bugbee Pvt. 1st & 10th Maine Vol. Regt 2nd Anc. William Patrick 20th Regt., Illinois Vol. Infantry

Thomas Russell Zink Ancestor. Henry M. Phillips 29th Regt. Pennsylvania Vol. Infantry



Biography of Charles Wesley Buvinger, M.D. Surgeon 80th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

By William E. Buvinger, Grandson



Charles Wesley Buvinger was born on June 12th 1832 in Hanover, York Co., PA. His parents moved the family to Dayton, Ohio in 1835 and there he spent his youth and early manhood. He received his initial college education at Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio. After leaving college, he apprenticed and studied medicine in Dayton, Ohio for three years and received his Medical Degree at the University of the City of New York.

When the war broke out, he was practicing medicine in Holmes Co. Ohio. When the rebel troops under command of Gen. Kirby Smith, early in September 1862, threatened the invasion of Ohio and the destruction of Cincinnati, Charles answered the call from Gov. Tod for "Minute Men" or "Squirrel Hunters" to rush to the defense of Cincinnati. When the invasion did not take place, the "Squirrel Hunters" were released and returned home and later in 1863 they received certificates of service and a letter of thanks from Gov. Tod. Charles returned to his medical practice but soon gave it up and joined the Army as an Acting Asst. Surgeon (a contract doctor). He was assigned to the reinforcements under Gen. McPherson, which left Jackson, Tenn. Oct 3, 1862 and Bethel, on the M&O RR, Oct 4, 1862 for Corinth, Miss., the day of second days fight at that place. Thus began Dr. Buvinger's active military career.

He was on General Hospital duty at Corinth and attending a number of the 80th Ohio troops. This resulted in them making a special request of the Chief of Hospitals that Dr. Buvinger be assigned as Asst. Surgeon to the 80th Ohio. In the meantime, in December 1862, Charles was ordered to proceed to LaGrange, Tenn., with hospital fixtures, to assist in organizing the General Hospital there. While in LaGrange, he received his Commission as Asst. Surgeon from Ohio Gov. Tod, dated May 13, 1863, and he was ordered to report for duty to the Colonel of the 80th Ohio as Asst. Surgeon. He joined the regiment May 30th while it lay at Memphis, Tenn. Dr Buvinger was later promoted to the rank of Surgeon and remained with the regiment until their muster-out at Little Rock, AK on August 13th 1865.

Following the War he returned to private practice in Pittsburgh, PA, his wife=s home town. He married Emma Priscilla Hunter, June 29th 1865. They had four children. Dr. Buvinger continued to practice medicine until his death, at age 58, January 7th 1891. He is buried in Allegheny Cemetery, Pittsburgh, PA.

Boy Scouts and the GAR

By Gerald F. Mosley PDC

In The Grand Army Tradition Recognizing Outstanding Youth

It then speaks of the Eagle Scout recognition certificates that can be presented to new Eagle Scouts at their Courts of honor.

I have just returned from the Boy Scouts of America Nation Order of the Arrow Conference in Lansing, Michigan that took place this past week August 1st through 4th.. At NOAC there was a museum of Order of the Arrow memorabilia which in-

cluded a **display of photos of Boys Scouts in attendance at the 1913 Gettysburg Reunion.**

E.Urner Goodman one of the founders of the Order of the Arrow is shown here wearing his Gettysburg Reunion medal.



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E. Urner Goodman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E._Urner_Goodman)



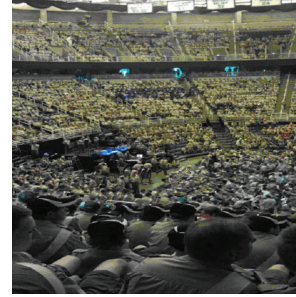
The newly formed BSA was in attendance at the 1913 reunion and Scouts were performing “Cheerful Service to the soldiers from both sides who fifty years before were “blazing away at each other.”

385 Scouts who served at the 1913 Gettysburg Reunion each received one of these medals.

I was impressed with the quality of youth at NOAC and the deep traditions that the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War share with the BSA.



There were 8000 Scouts and their leaders there. They told us 38 percent were Eagle Scouts. I wonder how many were grandsons of Union Veterans?



Gerald Frederick Mosley Is a member of Captain Lot Smith Camp # 1 of the Colorado/Wyoming Department. Jerry as he is called by friends is a Past Department Commander of this Department and currently serves as Department Scout Officer. He serves full time as a Scouter with the BSA in Salt Lake City, Utah with the Great Salt Lake Council. Jerry was sent to Michigan as only one of three so honored. -Eric Dan Richhart Department Commander

My Civil War Hero James M. Weart By Walter Weart, Secretary Centennial Camp 100



Please allow me to introduce one of Civil War ancestors on my father's side of the family. James Manners Weart is my great uncle and the man upon whom I based my living history re-enactments.

Spencer Stout Weart and his wife, Sarah Garrison, had seven children, the youngest, James Manners Weart, was born on June 3, 1836.

In 1861 James was studying law in Jersey City where his brother, Jacob, had a law office. On April 16, a meeting was called to raise troops, and the muster roll was presented. James M. Weart was the first one to step up and sign his name. He headed the roll of volunteers to protect the Union and was the first volunteer soldier from New Jersey. His brother, George Washington Weart, volunteered at the same time. They came home, dreading to tell their parents,

expecting their mother to reluctant to have both of them go at once, but she said "Go: if I were a man, I would follow you to the war". She became president of the Ladies' Aid Society which sent boxes of supplies to the soldiers at the front.

The men of Hopewell brought a large flag and erected a flag pole at George Washington's Headquarters building, where it could be seen for miles. Spencer Weart was to raise the flag on all great occasions during the war, which he did.

The company and regiment were soon raised, and they were sent to Washington for the protection of that city and the archives for the Government. Their trip was by train to Camden and steam canal boats to Washington to avoid the problems that were being experienced in Baltimore at the time.

James's unit was stationed at Camp Monmouth, located on Meridian Hill north of the Capitol building. On May 12, President Lincoln, accompanied by Secretaries Chase and Steward visited the camp. After training, James's unit crossed the Potomac

and was stationed at Fort Runyon. His unit was held in reserve in Alexandria during First Bull Run.

After serving three months the regiment returned home and there began a call for more troops and, at that time, James enlisted again in a nine months' regiment, being elected lieutenant in his company. James was lieutenant on the staff of Gen. A.P. Howe

On July 16th the army finally began to move, but James Weart's regiment was held in reserve at Alexandria. On July 21st the First Battle of Bull Run occurred several miles away. Retreating soldiers of that unfortunate Union defeat made their way back through the lines at Alexandria."

The boys had enlisted for three months' service and their time was up on July 25 when they returned to Washington. They traded their percussion muskets for the Minie muskets that had been issued by New Jersey authorities, and returned by railroad to their home state. On July 31, the Weart brothers were mustered out of the army."

James re-enlisted and served two additional years, being mustered out in June 1863. The GAR post in Hopewell, NJ was named for James and lasted until 1935.

John Borschell - Grand Junction's only Civil War Marine veteran

By Garry Brewer

Little did 9-year-old John Borschell know when he and his 20-year-old brother, Adam, arrived in Philadelphia, Pa., from Germany, that 68 years later the government he fought for in the Civil War for four years would declare this loyal U.S. Marine, an enemy alien? How could this possibly happen?

John Borschell was born in Weiterode, Hersfeld-Rotenburn, Hessen, Germany, on July 1, 1842, one of many children of Martin and Veronica Gros Borschell. He and Adam, knowing their opportunities were limited in Germany, crossed the ocean, arriving in New York in October 1851. For the next 12 years they lived in the Philadelphia area.

In August 1862, at the beginning of the Civil War, John enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He was one of only 3,600 men and officers to serve in the Corps during the Civil War. He served as a private for the next four years on the following ships — the USS Niagara and Gunboat USS Alabama. While on board, he was injured in the line of duty and received an honorable discharge on Aug. 14, 1866.

Five days later he married Elizabeth Keell in Philadelphia. Apparently sometime during the war this Marine found time to court a young lady. They remained in Philadelphia until about 1868, and then moved west to Johnson County, Iowa, and on to Gage County, Neb. They had three children Minnie, Anna and William Henry.

Elizabeth died on Nov. 10, 1873, in Gage County, Neb. and was buried there. John left with three small children, married Anna Gesburg three months later on Feb. 11, 1874, in Johnson County, Iowa. They had five children, Johnny (died as a baby), Alvin, Hattie, Laura and Pearl.

John received a homestead patent for land in Gage County, Neb., on May 3, 1880, and the family lived there until 1888. John's war injury and ill health compelled him to give up farming and move to Lincoln, Neb., until 1895 when they moved to Grand Junction, Colo., making their home at 636 Grand Ave. The family in their home by this time consisted of William from his first marriage and their surviving children, Alvin, Hattie, Laura and Pearl. John's daughter Anna and her husband later relocated to Grand Junction as well.

Life in Grand Junction

John became a shoemaker and also worked as the custodian of the First Methodist Church for 20 years. This was inside work and he enjoyed it because of his severe war injuries.

John and Anna were well known in the area for their leadership in their church and the local community. John was always a proud member of the U.S. Marine Corps and the only Civil War Marine veteran to live in Grand Junction.

John joined the Grand Army of the Republic, John A. Logan Post 35, in Grand Junction on Jan. 24, 1896. He held many leadership positions over the years, always participating in the parades, and Memorial Day events at the cemetery to honor his comrades, the "Boys in Blue" who had passed on before him.

As John got older, his war injuries became

more of a problem and in early 1918, John and Anna said goodbye to Grand Junction and moved to the "Old Soldiers Home" at Sawtelle, Calif. (now part of the L.A. Veterans Hospital).

At this time the U.S. was in the middle of the First World War against Germany.

Feelings were high against anything German all across the nation as well as in Grand Junction. In fact 17 train cars of German spies from the West Coast and the crew of a captured German raider ship were stopped in Grand Junction at the train depot for a short time on March 30, 1918. Some of the spies had been operating in the Grand Valley 10 months earlier but now they were all being shipped back East to a camp where they would be interned for the duration of the war.

In early April, 1918, in Grand Junction, the Colorado National Guard, Company D, headed by Captain Furman, raided the office of the International Bible Students Association on Ute Avenue. Books that favored the German cause were taken and burned by the Company.

The same month William Moyer, a prominent business owner of the Fair Store, was said to be pro-German and that the U.S. government had investigated him and was taking over his store and selling him out. Of course, this was all false information spread by rumor, the Daily Sentinel was quick to act and reported the rumor a "Black Lie, and that Moyer was a very patriotic and loyal man."

In May of the same year, local newspapers printed poems written about being anti-German, and not drinking from a cup or to eat from a plate, made by a German hand or man. This poem was seven stanzas long.

Later in May there was a patriotic parade in Grand Junction and over 1,000 people turned out to support our troops. On the same day, late in the evening, masked men paid a visit to Prof. E.E. Cole, past principal of Grand Junction High School and then current superintendent of Appleton School. They took him at gunpoint out into his orchard and tarred and feathered him and told him he had 36 hours to get out of town because he had said something pro-German. Many friends of Prof. Cole came forward and the story of his being pro-German was found to be NOT true.

'Enemy Alien'?

Into this atmosphere came John and Anna Borschell. When John checked into the Old Soldiers Home he presented his Honorable Discharge papers to the hospital. As the hospital clerk was filling out the forms, the clerk asked where John was born. Of course, he said Germany and at that point red flags went up. Then he was asked where his naturalization papers were and he said he didn't know he ever needed them.

John came to this country in 1851 at age 9, served in the U.S. Marine Corps, married twice, had many children, had been given a section of land for his service in the Civil War, had been voting for over 50 years, was an active member of veteran organizations and many of his friends were now in the hospital he was trying to enter, including Newton Smith and Jacob Fallis. But because his birth country was now at war with the U.S., he was asked if he had signed up as a foreign national under the enemy alien act. John answered no because he didn't think he was an enemy.

John further stated all the German in him had long leaked out and if he had a chance to get his hands on the Kaiser he would kill him. He also said if somebody gave him the whole country of Germany he would not take it!

John was declared an "Enemy Alien" and became a "Virtual Outcast" and barred from the Old Soldiers Home.

John and Anna's friends in Grand Junction heard of their plight and started to work to clear up this matter. Soon the United States District Attorney's Office in L.A. also began to work on his behalf. John and Anna Borschell were finally admitted to the hospital and his honor and good name were restored to him and his family. The local newspapers said of John Borschell: "None who knew him EVER questioned his Loyalty."

John and Anna and their daughter, Pearl, stayed in California until John passed away on Oct. 13, 1922 and his wife Anna on October 10, 1927. Both are buried in the Los Angeles Veterans Cemetery with other Civil War friends from Grand Junction, Newton N. Smith, Jacob Fallis and the only Medal of Honor winner from our town, Charles W. Rundle.

Article reprinted with permission

Detroit's Grand Army building receives a new lease on life



What was once old will soon be new again. A Detroit landmark will soon be home to new businesses and a restaurant.

The Grand Army of the Republic building currently being renovated. Looming over the corner of Cass and Grand River is Detroit's "castle." Detroit's GAR Building was built as a post, a lodge by and for veterans of the Civil War. It's one of the city's most historic and recognizable buildings.

It's been vacant for 30 years, but now it's being restored. David and Tom Carleton are two of the new owners. The brothers' creative firm, Mindfield, will occupy the top floors; levels two and three will be leased to similar companies. It's a massive renovation, but builder Brian Mooney says parts of the limestone building, like its 100 year old banisters, are just as sound as they were back in 1899. 130 windows will be reinstalled. Total project cost? \$2.5 million. A museum and restaurant are planned at ground level. The renovation is painstaking, it's costly, but those involved say it's worth it to be part of Detroit's rebirth. Move in day is Veteran's day 2013.

The Defenses of the Nation's Capitol

By Brother Ben Hawley

In 1860, the Union capital, Washington, D.C., was a sleepy city of approximately 62,000 residents. The city sat almost completely unprotected, with Fort Washington, the lone fortification, being 12 miles south. Virginia, a Confederate state, lay on one side of the city, and Maryland, a slave-owning state, was on the other, leaving

Washington dangerously vulnerable. Realizing the potential danger the city faced, the Union army constructed additional fortifications for the city. By 1865, the Defenses of Washington included 68 forts, supported by 93 detached batteries for field guns, 20 miles of rifle pits, and covered ways, wooden blockhouses at three key points, 32 miles of military roads, several stockaded bridgeheads, and four picket stations. Along the circumference of the 37-mile circle of fortifications were emplacements for a total of 1501 field and siege guns of which 807 guns and 98 mortars were in place. The defenseless city of 1860 had become one of the most heavily fortified cities of the world.

Not only did the defenses serve their purpose well by deterring Confederate attack on the capital, but they impacted the city culturally, socially, and politically. For example, many enslaved people came to the fort system for protection and settled nearby, changing the cultural landscape of the city. The population doubled in less than five years and changed in character from southern origin to northern newcomers.

The physical landscape was drastically affected, as well. Miles and miles of trees and many buildings were razed to construct the defense system--creating a fort-capped circle around the city.

During the Civil War, many Americans were mindful of the British attack on the nation's capital during the War of 1812 that resulted in the burning of the White House and U.S. Capitol. Americans were acutely aware that control of the capital city could define a nation. Washington, D.C., therefore, played a significant part in the Union strategy and became a political symbol of the Union during these turbulent years.

The Defenses of Washington were a tangible expression of the Union cause. Northern leaders firmly held on to the belief that if Washington fell into Confederate hands other countries would recognize the South and back it with defensive troops and financial support. The military leaders of the south believed this as well.

This sentiment was summed up by John G. Barnard, supervisor of the construction of the defense system encircling Washington, D.C. The following excerpt is from his report, A Report of the Defenses of Washington, to the Chief Engineers:

“It is scarcely necessary to dwell upon the necessity, in the civil war through which our country has just passed, of holding and defending Washington. In a war of the nation—united and patriotic—with a foreign power, conquest by the enemy of the seat of government, through it might be a disaster and even a disgrace, would have little influence upon the issues of contest. In the recent civil war, on the contrary, the rebel flag flying from the dome of the Capitol would have been the signal ‘recognition’ by those foreign powers whose open influence and active agency would be too willingly thrown, with whatever plausible pretext, into the scale of dismemberment to become almost decisive of the event. That the preservation of the national cause should have thus identified with the continuous tenure of a city situated as is Washington, upon the very boundary to the most powerful and energetic of the rebellious States, and surrounded by the territory of another State only restrained from open rebellion by the heavy pressure of armed force, was one of the chief embarrassments of the Government in the prosecution of the War”.

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