



DEPARTMENT OF

NEW JERSEY

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2022





FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDER



Commander Gary DeSiver

webmaster@njdept-suvcw.org



Dear Brothers,

I would like to congratulate and thank all brothers who were elected to serve as Camp officers for 2022. Please let me know if there is anything that I can do to help you be more successful in your role. I had the honor of installing the Sergeant Hiram W. Pursell Camp 104 officers on February 10th and look forward to installing the Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp 7 officers on March 5th.

In the December newsletter, I mentioned several reasons to participate in Remembrance Day activities. There was one more reason that I hadn't considered at that time. The Banner editor Jim Pahl (PCinC) was taking pictures at the GAR Memorial (Woolson Monument) ceremony. He said, "You never know which ones will be in the Banner". I had forgotten that he said that until I opened the Winter 2022 edition of the Banner and saw my picture.

The 140th New Jersey Department Encampment will be held June 11th at the Clarion Hotel in Toms River, NJ. I hope to see you at the encampment.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Gary DeSiver

Commander New Jersey Department

OFFICE OF THE EDITOR

Sr. Vice Commander Jay Godin

Jgcivilwar1@gmail.com



Hello,

Welcome to the official Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Department of New Jersey Newsletter.

I'm Br. Jay Godin Department Sr. Vice Commander and Editor of the Newsletter. My Home Camp is Major General George. A Custer Camp #17. Which I am past Camp Commander. I would like to say This is your newsletter. If you are My Brother in this organization then this Newsletter is open to you to send important updates and camp information you would like to share with the rest of the department. Don't hesitate to send along all the great things that your camp or yourself does for the SUVCW. I hope to hear from all the camps as we plan to make this a Quarterly letter that will be sent out via email. Send pictures, stories, news, and updates and we will do our best to get everything included.

I can be reached at the above email address, and will get back to you as quick as I can. I hope we can make this newsletter a great resource for all our New Jersey Brothers.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Jay Godin

Senior Vice Commander

Department of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE JR. VICE COMMANDER

Jr. Vice Commander Frank Tomasello

franktomsello2000@gmail.com

(609) 839-8059



Brothers,

As many of you are aware, PDC Fred Mossbrucker was instrumental in the enactment of a law in New Jersey declaring May as GAR/SUVCW recognition month. This has largely gone unnoticed as the Pandemic made any real celebration all but impossible. This year is somewhat better. Now is the time to think about how we can use this new law to our advantage. By the time you receive this, May will be but two short months away. Since May also contains Memorial Day, perhaps we can “piggy back” our message on to existing local events. Letters to the editor in local periodicals are another potential. Perhaps sending info to the local schools. Anything that puts our organization before the public is a potential recruiting opportunity. We need to take full advantage of this unique opportunity. Wishing you all the best for the Spring. Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Frank Tomasello,

Junior Vice Commander,

Department of New Jersey



CAMPFIRE NEWS

CAMP 100 - PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN CAMP

The State Camp of New Jersey, serving the entire state. Meets in Hightstown and Cranbury in the central area of the state.

Commander: David Potts

Point of Contact: Secretary-Treasurer Dr. David Martin PDC

In previous years, our meetings have included a business meeting, an educational presentation and a great lunch. This year, we've had to forgo the lunch and meet virtually. We look forward to returning to in-person meetings soon.

Brothers from other Camps are always welcome to attend our meetings

CAMP 7 - COLONEL LOUIS R. FRANCINE CAMP

Serving Hammonton, Turnersville, and points east

Commander: Wayne Grant

Point of Contact: Dave Hann PDC



While it has been a quiet winter the brothers of Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp are preparing for the Spring Campaign

One of the projects that the Camp is extremely proud of is the Polyandrium Project. What the project entails is the cleaning of Civil War Veterans tombstones.

One of the things that the Camp has to do is to follow up on the stones that are cleaned. The stones must be maintained as the D-2 does not last forever. We are also doing research on the graves we are cleaning as we as to make sure that the graves are posted on Find a Grave, SUVCW National Grave Registration Website and the NJ Grave Registration Website. It is hoped that by providing biographies on the veterans it will not only tell their story but may interest a reader or descendant to join our organization.

At our last meeting on November on November 6, 2021 we initiated lineal Brothers Roger Picklesimer, Jason Ring and Daniel S Adkinson. We would like to welcome new Brothers Michael MacIntosh and Thomas Ring Welcome to our Camp and to the SUVCW.

Nomination of Officers.

The following Brothers have been duly elected for offices for the term 2022-2024. They will be installed at our next meeting

Commander Charles Morgan

Senior Vice Commander Bryan Sigmund

Junior Vice Commander Jeremy Lacey

Secretary David Hann PDC

Treasurer Scott Hann

The Camp sponsored 21 luminaries this year for the Annual Gettysburg Luminaries. This generated \$391.23 for the Gettysburg Foundation Well done Camp!

Camp Junior Vice Commander Bryan Sigmund was a guest of radio station 92.1, the Rock and Roll Garage. Bryan talked about the SUVCW and the GAR.

On December 28, 2021, Past Camp Commander and current Department Junior Vice Commander, Frank Tomasello, was given the honor of unveiling the National Colors of the 28th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry at the Biennial Flag Rotation ceremony at the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton. Brother Tomasello had an ancestor who served in the 28th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry. This event was

featured in an article interviewing Brother Tomasello published in the Times of Trenton newspaper bringing much appreciated publicity to our organization.

On as sad note on January 17, 2022 Past Camp Commander Duane Joseph Conant passed away. Brother Duane joined our Camp July 18, 2007, on the record of his ancestor Pvt. Isaac Taggart of the 3rd Battery Vermont Artillery and served in a number of offices in our Camp including Camp, Junior Vice, Senior Vice and finally Camp Commander serving from 2014-2016, and at the time of his passing was serving on Camp Council and as Civil War Memorials officer. His wise council as well as his gentle good humor will be missed by the brothers of the Camp.

Brothers from the Francine Camp Formally recognized The Ancient Order of Hibernians & Fort Mercer Club as an important community Organization. Their Order remains exemplary by upholding the shared Principles of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. They are an Irish Catholic organization that raises tens of thousands of dollars for various charitable causes. Many founders of the AOH USA were heroes of the Union. We presented them with a framed letter, SUVCW national challenge coin, & a painting of the "fighting Irish"

Commander Wayne Grant signed a letter that wrote:

150,000 Irish-Americans served the Union Army During the American Civil War as officers, volunteers and draftees. Notably the very first two recorded combat casualties of the war were Irish-Americans stationed at Fort Sumter. The charity you provide honors the legacy of all the "Fighting Irish" and their heirs. This is a legacy that the Union could not have survived without. We are honored to Salute you.





Col. Francine buys 50 rounds for our Vets! Francine Camp has joined the camps in Michigan and made thank you Cards for veterans. When we see a veteran, we hand them a card and thank them for their service. These cards are great conversation starters and also help educate the public about the SUVCW.

Recently we have been going to the local Army Navy Union Garrison and stuffing little envelopes with our new cards and pre-paid drink chips. The bartenders have been handing them out to the veterans as they come in and sit at the bar. The feedback has been great! The Francine Camp has been getting many thank you's and the SUV has been getting some chatter. They encourage ALL brothers to make cards and find creative ways to use them.

next meeting is set for Saturday March 5, in Mays Landing New Jersey



CAMP 17 - MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE ARMSTRONG CUSTER CAMP

Serving Ocean County and parts of Monmouth and Middlesex counties

Commander: John Farley Scott

Point of Contact: Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Clark D. McCullough PDC



Until future notice all meetings will be held at the Ardena Baptist Church in Freehold N.J. 2022 Meetings All Meeting Times are 1:00 pm at the Ardena Baptist Church

March 26th 2022

May 14th 2022

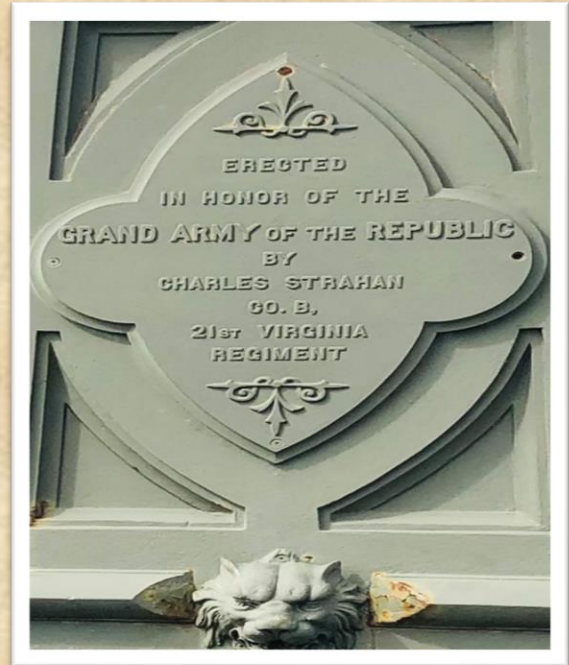
Sept 17th 2022

Dec 3rd 2022

At the last meeting on Saturday Dec 4th 2021 Br. James B. Daly was sworn in to Custer Camp.



Brother Clark McCullough and his lady friend Toni Mecchi at Cape Cod, Mass.



CAMP 20 - MAJOR GENERAL PHILLIP KEARNY CAMP

Serving Hudson, Bergen, Somerset and Essex counties and parts of Passaic and Middlesex counties

Commander: Peter Lindsay

Point of Contact: Clark D. McCullough or webmaster Eric Bal

Scheduled Meetings

Abraham Clark Memorial House, 101 W. 9th Ave, Roselle, NJ

Upcoming Meetings

March 5th 2022

May 7th 2022

Sept 10th 2022

Nov 5th 2022

March 5th 2022

Swearing in of a new Kearny Camp #20

Member Robert A. Gula.



Brother Jim Halloran presented A Major General Phillip Kearny Camp certificate to Fritz Rethage, Editor of The Gazette Newspaper. He has allowed Kearney camp to put stories about the SUVCW in the paper, and supports both the police and fire departments of all the towns in the South Bergen area. He has been active in Veteran events and gives them coverage.



On January 15, 2022, Brother Jim Halloran made a presentation on behalf of Camp 20, to the outgoing chief of the HHFD. Article on pg. 15 of The Gazette Newspaper.

CAMP 73 - GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT CAMP

Serving the South Plainfield area

Commander: Frank M. McGonigle

Point of Contact: Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Clark D. McCullough PDC



Meetings are at the Van Veghten House, Bridgewater, NJ (9 Van Veghten Dr, Bridgewater Township, NJ 08807).

Scheduled Meetings

2022 Meetings All Meeting Time are 1:30 pm

March 19th, 2022

April 30th, 2022

Sept. 24th, 2022

Nov. 19th. 2022

CAMP 82 - JAMES S. STRATTON CAMP

Commander: Bruce Lutz

Point of Contact: Scott West, Secretary



Over at Stratton Camp 82/Beck's Band, we have begun a major historical project involving the recovery/restoration/revival of Civil War Band Books of the 19th Va. Heavy Artillery Battalion, previously lost to the world. There are very few such remaining sets of band books from either side. They were found stuck away in the basement of the American Civil War Museum in Richmond, Va. A museum worker found them, showed them to a musician in the area and he went about the recovery and restoration of the badly damaged music. That was 20 years ago. In their original form they were virtually unplayable by today's bands, so they were performed just once, in 2003, and then shelved once again. I learned of them and we resolved to convert the books to a more playable form. I have since rearranged all 16 pieces of music and we are working on reviving them in a set of concerts and recordings, both here and in Virginia. We have partnered with a similar period band at George Mason University to perform these jointly and preserve them on a recording. We plan on having it all come together this fall, but it is still in the planning stage right now.

Still tentative as to the dates. We are looking for an appropriate historical venue in the greater Philadelphia/S. Jersey area and also sponsors to help underwrite the expenses incurred. If any of our brothers have any ideas for a venue or sponsorship, we would love to hear from them.

Much more information can be found on our website (www.becksband.com), including Becks' Talks, information regarding all performances, and many, many photos and videos.

Click on "About" for Becks' Talks" and more information about us. If you click on "Links", you will see other groups with similar interests. If your camp would like to cross-link, please let me know?

becksband@gmail.com

For those unaware of the symbiotic relationship between Becks' Band and Stratton Camp, we consider all members as one entity. We have the maximum number of SUVCW members we can claim within our ranks and can only hope to be able to add everyone else in the future.



CAMP 10 - BRIGADIER GENERAL NATHANIEL LYON CAMP

Serving Vineland and Cumberland counties

Commander: Morrel Wolf

Point of Contact: Secretary-Treasurer Robert Wilhelm PDC



Attached is a photo of Lyons Camp Memorial Day salute.

Every year they participate in the Vineland Memorial Day Parade and fire a salute and perform a ceremony at the Lyon Post 10 GAR monument in the center of town.

All Lyons camp activities for last year were cancelled yet They still managed to gain 2 new members and 2 Junior members!!

Updates are being planned for our Camp web site www.lyoncamp.org.

CAMP 4 - PRESIDENT JAMES A. GARFIELD CAMP

Serving the Trenton/Lawrenceville Area

Commander: Tim Murphy

Point of Contact: Joseph F. Seliga PDC

A new location for the Museum is still underway. Contact Joseph F. Seliga PDC for more information.

CAMP 104 - SERGEANT HIRAM W. PURSELL CAMP

Serving the Northwest Quadrant of New Jersey consisting of the following counties: Hunterdon, Morris (partial), Passaic (partial), Sussex, and Warren.

Commander and Point of Contact: Cliff Laing

Sgt. Hiram W. Purcell, Camp #104

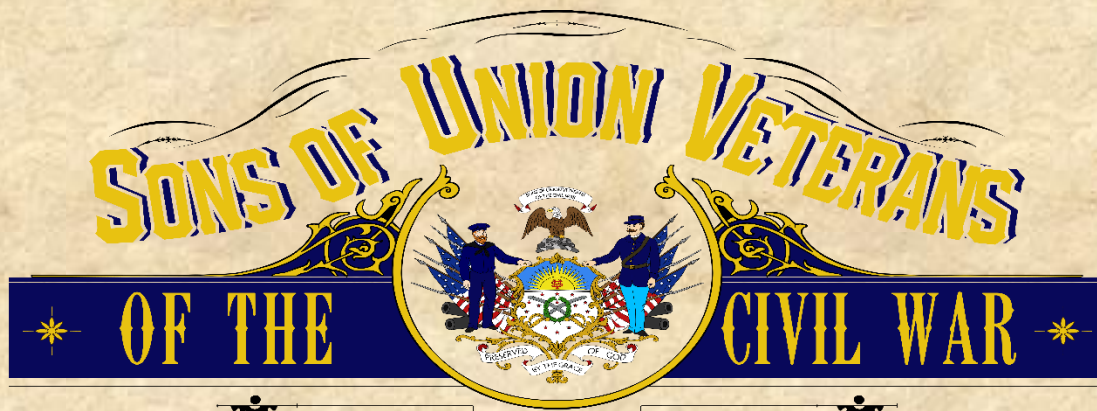


As of Fall, 2021, Camp 104 had resumed regular in-person meetings at the Raritan Township Police Department. The Township has kindly provided the use of the traffic court chambers at no-charge. As our active camp membership is mostly seniors, we now meet during daylight hours to alleviate nighttime driving concerns. We find the Flemington location to be more central geographically as well.

On 02/10/21, DC Gary DeSiver presided over the installation of our newly elected officers for the current year. We were treated to an interesting narrative by Brother Dave Paretto about his quest for Civil War ancestor verification. He initially discovered a likely ancestor that had joined the 14th NJ Vols as a surgeon. Under further investigation, it was found that this relative was only 14 years of age at the time. Obviously, this raised some questions and it was learned that another local doctor of the very same name and year of death was the actual veteran that served. This dead-end resulted in Brother Paretto once again searching and subsequently finding another uncle on his mother's side that satisfied the SUVCW requirements. The appropriate paperwork has been completed elevating Brother Paretto from Associate to Full Descendant membership.

Prior to adjournment, the camp discussed plans for the coming year. With the benefit of improved weather and reduced pandemic, graveside services are anticipated for Last Soldier of Warren County buried in Phillipsburg and General McCallister buried in Belvidere. Our next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, April 14.





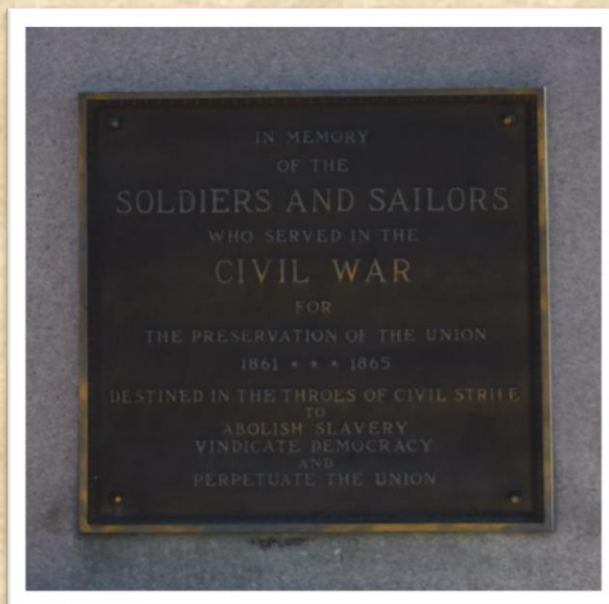
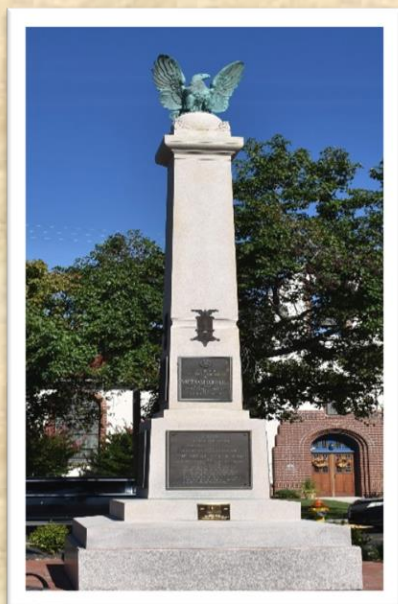
DEPARTMENT NEWS

The 140th New Jersey Department Encampment will be held June 11th at the Clarion Hotel in Toms River, NJ.

Rank of Past Camp Commander Conferred upon Brother John B. Smith Jr. of Camp 104 - Sergeant Hiram W. Pursell Camp.

Congratulations! Br John

Winter months can be a slow time for news, showing a little late summer or spring content can be refreshing. A late Summer trip to capemay NJ I visited this wonderful monument to Veterans. It is located at 610 Columbus ave.



On Decemebr 28th 2021 the unveiling of flags for display was assisted by our Department Commander Gary DeSiver, JuniorVice Comnader Frank tomessalo and Br Andrew Megill of Custer camp. (see: The New Jersey State House Flag Collection portion of this newsletter for full details)

The New Jersey State House Flag Collection consists of 191 flags, 140 of which date from the Civil War and the Spanish-American War eras. The greatest portion of the collection (132 flags) consists of Civil War related flags. Fifty of these flags on display at the New Jersey state house. They are divided into ten groups of five flags each. They are put on display for approximately six months, with changes happening every June and December.



In Br Frank Tomasello's words

“James H. Hewes (1834 - 1914) was my great great grandfather. He served as the 4th Sgt. of Company G, of the 28th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry. At the age of 28, he enlisted on August 30, 1862, was enrolled on September 22, 1862, for a 9

month term. He was honorably discharged on July 6, 1863. The 28th was actively engaged in the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. At the time of his enlistment, he was the successful owner of his own wheelwright shop in Bridgeport, Gloucester County, New Jersey. After the war, he resumed his wheelwright business and became the father of three sons. He died in 1914. The flag unveiled in Trenton was the 28th's National colors.”



Br. Andrew Megill had this to say...

“At the unveiling of the New Jersey Civil War battle flags at the New Jersey State Museum on December 28, 2021, Dr. David Martin told about the first National Color (US Flag) of the 7th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry. It was presented to the Regiment in 1861 in the presence of both Gen. George B. McClellan and President Abraham Lincoln. Dr. Martin believes that this flag was carried in all of the battles in which the 7th NJVI fought up to and including the Battle of Gettysburg. I had

the honor to uncover the flag since one of my relatives served in Co. D of the 7th NJVI.

Charles W. Guice enlisted in Co. D, 7th NJVI as a Private on September 9, 1861 and was mustered into service on September 18, 1861. He mustered out with the other men of the regiment who didn't re-enlist on October 7, 1864 in Trenton, NJ. Guice again enlisted to serve and mustered into service on February 4, 1865, again as a Private, this time in the 34th NJVI. He mustered out of Co. K at the end of his 1 year enlistment on February 4, 1866 in Mobile, Alabama.

He must have liked the military life, because three months after mustering out of the 34th NJVI, he enlisted in the 5th United States Infantry Regiment and became one of Uncle Sam's Regulars. He served as a Private in Co. K of the 5th US Infantry until his discharge on May 16, 1869 at Ft. Wallace, Kansas.”





MEMORIAL DAY

May 30th 2022

This year Memorial day falls on its traditional day. Please take lots of photos and send them into the news letter . make your camp proud!

Memorial day, a day of Remembrance for the Americans who Died in Service to Our country.

Originally Decoration day , those who survived the civil war decorated the graves of their fallen comrades .

May 5th 1868 by General John Logan, the National Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued General Order No.11. “The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land,”

" It WOULD be in vain for me to attempt a proper Eulogium, of the character of these fallen heroes. They gave up the fair promise of a useful life, gave up chances of fame, aye! gave up life for the Salvation of the common country.

In what light can I set the high mark of their patriotism ? What words can tell the story of their courage,

with what language can I adorn their lofty heroism?

How valiently they fought, how serenely and sub-

limely they died.

They fell in the fierce conflict, amid the cheers, the fire, the smoke, the flame, soothed in the dying hour by the consciousness that victory came to side of right and truth and liberty, and that -'Old Glory" still waved triumphantly. They have pitched their tents, in the eternal bivouac beyond the stars, and are camp- ed in the mysterious and unknown silence of the life immortal.

Oh, unconquerable heroes! Let it never be said that the great republic is forgetful of your deeds, or unmindful of those whom you most loved. Finally, my Comrades, let us fight valiently, on all the stern battle- fields of this life, so that, when the last tattoo IS beaten, and 'lights out' forever, we shall be

worthy to join the immortal ranks of the comrades on the other side, and march before the Great Reviewing officer, when time and earth and hostile armies are no more forever "

Captain H.N. Minnign

1st P.A. Reserves

30th regiment

Co.K

“ The Boys that Fought at home “



FRATERNITY, LOYALTY
AND CHARITY



THE MEN WHO IN THE CONFLICT LED
AND FOR THE UNION FOUGHT AND BLED
THO' PASSING ON ARE NEVER DEAD.



Letter To the Editor

Dear Editor,

Recently I learned that Ed Shames, the last surviving member of the famous Easy Company or 506th, 101st Airborne Division had passed away. This news led me to realize that another great era has come to an end.

As our Grandfathers grew, they heard first hand accounts about the Civil War from Civil War Veterans. As our father's grew, they heard first-hand accounts about WWI from WWI Veterans. And as we grew, we heard the first-hand accounts of WWII from WWII veterans.

Yet, time is bittersweet. It moves swiftly, storytellers leave this earth, and eras find their end. But, our present day Veterans are still with us and they deserve our attention.

I ask that our bretheran not forget our living American Veterans and that we begin to focus on them as we create new initiatives. Let us not wait for this era to pass before showing our Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty toward these dedicated souls. They are, after all, a part of a long tradition of American service passed down by our beloved Union Veterans.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty,

Bryan Sigmund JVC Francine Camp #7

SUVCW, Dept. of NJ

HIGHLIGHTED MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF

N.J.

AND THEIR ANCESTOR

Br. Dave Hann



SUVCW National Secretary from 1997-1999

PDC Department Of New Jersey

PCC Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp #7

Dave Hann PDC was born in Philadelphia in 1959, and resided there until 1971 when his family moved to New Jersey. He is a 1977 graduate of Buena Regional High School and 1980 graduate of Atlantic Community College earning an Associate of Arts Degree. In 1981 he followed in his father's footsteps and was accepted into apprenticeship into Local Union # 98 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in Philadelphia, retiring in 2016.

Always a student of Civil War history, Dave first joined the Sons in 1986 as a Brother of Vrenderburg Camp of Toms River, then transferring to Baxter Camp, then leaving Baxter Camp to be one of the three co-founding Brothers of Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp #7 in 1991. Dave has served as Camp Commander and is presently the Camp Secretary. Dave has also served the New Jersey Department

as Commander from 1995-1997 and has served as Department Secretary and served a term as National Secretary from 1997-1999.

Dave helped to organize Co. A, 7th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve and serves as Adjutant. Dave also serves on the National Staff of the SVR as Provost Marshal with the rank of Major and is responsible for organizing the Remembrance Day Parade in Gettysburg. Dave is a reenactor with Company D, 7th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry and is also a Charter member of Pvt. Meredith Pool Camp # 1505 Sons of Confederate Veterans and is the current Camp Commander having family on both sides of the war and a member of Col Richard Somers Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution. Dave lives in Mullica Township, NJ with his wife Kelly who is a founding member of Elizabeth Thorn Auxiliary # 14 and a son Daniel. Sons John and Tom and a granddaughter Kali who live in North Carolina. All three of his sons are members of the Col. Francine Camp.

Br Dave's ancestor

Charles Ellet Co. B 3rd Michigan

Dave's great-great-great grandfather Charles Ellet was born May 24, 1818 in Dublin, Ireland. At the age of 13 Charles immigrated to North America by himself living in Canada in 1838. Charles moved his family from Canada to Grand Rapids, Michigan, in 1848 (or possibly as early as 1846) and operated one of the first meat markets in the city. Charles joined the Grand Rapids Artillery in 1859. Under the command of Captain Baker Borden, the GRA would serve as the nucleus for Company B, also under the command of Borden, of the Third Michigan infantry. Charles was 43 years old and living in Grand Rapids when he enlisted in Company B, of the 3rd Michigan Infantry, on May 13, 1861. By September of 1862 he was

employed as a Wagoner, probably in the Brigade wagon trains, and was reported as a Wagoner with the Brigade trains from April of 1863 through July, in October was with the supply train, probably serving as a teamster. In November he was a First Division Wagoner and was back with the Brigade supply train from December of 1863 until he was mustered out of service on June 20, 1864. Following his wartime service Charles returned to Grand Rapids where he lived out the remainder of his life. The years spent in the Army must have had an effect on him as he served in the 2nd Regiment of the Michigan State Troops for over 25 years as a gunner with Company K. He was a member of Grand Army of the Republic and belonged to Champlin Post No. 29 in Grand Rapids and the Old Third Michigan Infantry Association, as was elected as one of the Vice Presidents of the "Old Third" upon its organization in 1871. He was known as the "city cannoneer". According to his obituary, "the old cannon now owned by the city was in Mr. Ellet's care and on 4th of July and similar occasions it was invariably he who fired the gun." Charles died of old age and "La Grippe" (influenza) on February 3, 1900, at his home at 16 Broadway Street in Grand Rapids, and the funeral was held at the house at 2:00 Monday afternoon and was conducted by Rev. I. Davis of the First Presbyterian Church. He was buried in Greenwood cemetery: section F lot no. 57. Many members of the Old Third were in attendance.



THE NEW JERSEY STATE HOUSE FLAG COLLECTION



The New Jersey State House Flag Collection consists of 191 flags, 140 of which date from the Civil War and the Spanish-American War eras. By far the greatest portion of the collection (132 flags) consists of Civil War related flags. Just a small part (8 flags) consists of flags dating from 1865 to 1900 (primarily veterans groups and Spanish-American War period).

During the Civil War, New Jersey fielded a total of 37 infantry regiments, 3 cavalry regiments, 5 batteries of artillery, and a number of independent militia units. These units received their flags from three different sources: private donation, state issue, and federal issue. At the end of the war many units turned in their flags to the state, but numerous other flags were retained by individual soldiers or were torn apart into keepsake fragments. Those flags turned in by the various units as they disbanded formed the original nucleus of the present State House Collection. In 1871 the state legislature authorized the Quartermaster General to seek out and recover regimental flags that were not yet in his possession. The flags were then put on display after 1888 in a fireproof display room at the State House. The Civil War collection as it exists today was primarily complete around 1900, although a few flags were added after that date.

The typical Civil War infantry regiment was issued seven flags: a red, white and blue national flag; a blue state flag usually carrying the seal of New Jersey or the federal eagle; four smaller positional markers (2 flank markers and 2 camp colors); and a storm flag. The national and state flags were made of silk and were quite large (6 feet by 6 feet 6 inches), and required a pole 9 feet 10 inches long. They were mostly made by two companies in Philadelphia, Horstman Brothers and Evans & Hassell. National flags usually cost from \$50 to \$75 and state flags from \$75 to \$125, though special presentation flags could cost up to twice as much.

Cavalry units carried smaller flags, and individual companies often carried swallow-tailed red, white and blue flags known as guidons. Artillery batteries also carried guidons, which cost from \$10-\$12 each.

Many of the units raised in the first year of the war went through at least three sets of flags by 1865, while those raised in the last two years of the war usually went through only one or two issues. Of the approximately 140 national and state flags issued to the state's infantry regiments, today only about 100 survive today. The most complete set of flags belonging to any one unit are the national flag, state flag and 2 flank markers issued to the 38th Infantry in late 1864.

The collection consists of a number of elaborate presentation flags, as well as some unique militia flags and some quite interesting brigade flags from the 1st and 2nd New Jersey infantry brigades. Quite interestingly, there are also 6 captured Confederate flags in the collection. Originally New Jersey's troops captured about 20 enemy flags. Those that could be identified were returned South in the early 1900s; one other was transferred to the Chancellorsville Battlefield National Historic Site in 1963. The ones that remain could not be identified as to their origin.

Over the years many of the flags have deteriorated a great deal. An effort was made to preserve them in the 1930s by sewing most of the flags to cloth backings, but this process may have done as much harm as good. In 1985 the flags were removed from the State House Annex and were entrusted to the care of the New Jersey State Museum by the Joint Management State House Commission. The

Museum had conservation assessments made on the collection, and set up a climate-controlled storage area for them at a facility in downtown Trenton. Here they are preserved in specially designed individual horizontal storage trays.

In October of the year 2000, 50 of the flags were moved from storage to a newly established gallery on the ground floor of the old Department of State Building located at 225 West State Street in Trenton (the building where the State Archives is located). Funds for five specially designed display cases were provided by the State of New Jersey, each case holding ten flags. The New Jersey Civil War Heritage Association (NJCWHA) paid for display panels and battle maps that helped to interpret the exhibit, and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) helped pay for interpretive brochures. The display flags remained there for 17 years until they were moved to the ground floor of the adjacent New Jersey State Museum at 205 West State Street, where they are today.

The fifty flags on display are divided into ten groups of five flags each.

Starting in December 2010 each group or “cycle” was put on display for approximately six months, with cycle changes happening basically every June and December. In July 2013 a special display was set up of New Jersey flags that were at the battle of Gettysburg.

The unveiling of new flag cycles was suspended two years ago because of the Covid-19 crisis. The next unveiling will be at 10 AM on Tuesday, December 28, 2021, and will feature the following flags from modified Cycle 10. Emphasis will be placed on the 11th New Jersey Infantry in order to feature a sword, belt plate, sash and gloves belonging to Col. Robert McAllister that were recently donated to the State Museum. More information is available from David Martin.

dmartin@peddie.org



- 7th Infantry National flag (CN 42)
- 11th Infantry National flag (CN 56)--
- 25th Infantry Regimental flag (CN 82)
- 28th Infantry National flag (CN 87)
- 2nd NJ Brigade marker (CN 16)

DMartin 11/20/21



FINAL MUSTER

PCC DUANE JOSEPH CONANT

Camp 7 - Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp

b. 12/11/1954

d. 1/17/2022

PDC RONALD L. BROWER

PAST CAPTAIN

COMPANY A, 1 ST NEW JERSEY INFANTRY, SVR

Abraham Lincoln Camp 100,

The State Camp of New Jersey

b. 07/28/1934

d. 08/27/2021





FREDERICK WILLIAM COLE

Camp 10 - Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon Camp

b. 01/04/1945

d. 05/04/2020

GENE COSTILL

Camp 7 - Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp

b. 02/06/1926

d. 04/21/2021

PDC JOHN MAKOS JR.

Camp 7 - Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp

b. 02.27/1950

d. 04/15/2021

WILLIAM RIGHTER

Camp 7 - Colonel Louis R. Francine Camp

b.06/25/42

d. 08/29/2020

WILLIAM J. VOLONTE

Camp 20 - Major General Phillip Kearny Camp

b. 03/07/1954 d. 02/05/2021

West New York, NJ 07903



AUXILIARY TO THE NJ SUVCW

Attached to Lyon Camp 10 is our Ladies Auxiliary "Hancock
Auxiliary # 10.

