



## ***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 130<sup>th</sup> Year



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



Volume 14, No. 8 and 9



August/September 2012

**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 and Auxiliary 7!

Come One, Come All - Ladies & Brothers, & Family & Friends, all are welcome to our Camp meetings at the National Civil War Museum and field trips at-large -- Bring your camera!



CAMP 15 APPEARED ON COVER OF THE *GETTYSBURG TIMES* FOR THE 2012 MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS IN GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA! PHOTO ABOVE PURCHASED FROM *GETTYSBURG TIMES*!

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August/September 2012 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*

### Camp 15's next monthly general meeting:

The date of this meeting is changed from traditional 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, September 16 due to 150<sup>th</sup> Sesquicentennial anniversary events at Sharpsburg and will be conducted one week later on **Sunday September 23, 2012** at National Civil War Museum high atop Reservoir Park, Harrisburg PA upper level room 222. Meeting begins at 2pm.

We expect to see all of our Brothers and sisters smiling faces after a long hot summer!

### Patriotic Instructor

by Dave Klinepeter

The first Thursday of the month is the World War 11 roundtable at Grace Methodist Church, 403 Main St Hummelstown, Pa Usual a WW11 Veteran as a speaker

Sept 14-15-16 Reenactment 150th Anniv of the Battle of Antietam, Md. (a number of our camp members will be participating in the reenactment).

Sept 18--Historic Gettysburg Adams County Org GAR Hall 7:30pm speaker

Sept 20--H e r s h e y C W R T -7:30pm--Country Meadows Brenda McKean speaker

Sept--21--Harrisburg CWRT--8:00pm Radisson Camp Hill-- Dr Herbert Schiller

Sept--22-23--12th annual Pa Civil War train event- Hummelstown-Middletown Railroad

Civil War encampment, skirmishes train rides Middletown, Pa.

Sept--28-29-30--200th anniversary of Port Royal, Pa. Civil War encampment, battle, parade Sat, numerous other activities all week end!

(150th Anniversary of the Civil War event)

On August 2, 1862 in Rebersburg, Pa, in front of the local hotel, 72 men from Brush Valley were sworn into Company A, 148th Pa Vol Inf by Lieutenant Fetterman from Camp Curtin in Harrisburg, Pa. They were issued uniforms,

muskets, cartridges, cap boxes, belts, and bayonets. After the ceremonies were over the men were loaded in several wagons and taken to Lewistown and put on the train to Camp Curtin, for training. They, like men all over Pennsylvania were answering President Lincoln's call of June 1962 for 300,000 more troops. Pennsylvania's quota was for 40,388 men.

On July 14th, 2012 this historical event was reenacted in front of the original hotel in



Rebersburg, Pa. A monument stands there commemorating the original Mustering-in.

Brother Lynn Herman (A MEMBER OF HARTRANFT CAMP 15 SUVCW) and Dave Felice were in charge of the event. Historical accuracy was of paramount importance.

The men took on first person, of a man mustered in and the women and children portrayed their families. Governor Andrew Curtin gave a speech at the original mustering, so I was invited to portray Governor Curtin! Civil War music was by the Coburn Brass and the Penn's Valley Men's Chorus.

Jeff Wert, a local historian and author of 7 books on the Civil War made opening comments.



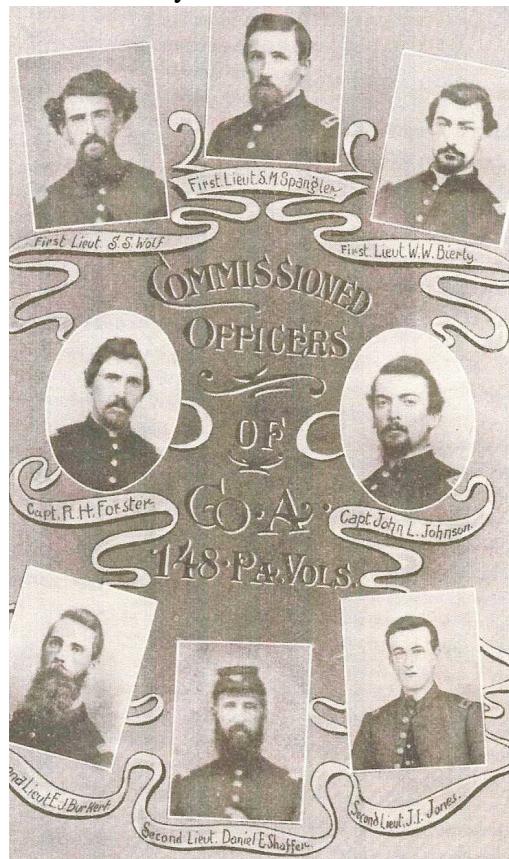
The reenactment started by the men gradually gathering in small groups from different directions as civilians. They decided who were going to be Sergeants and Corporals, than lined up to sign the



Muster in Roll. Then quick health inspection, Oath of Allegiance, then the issuing of uniforms and equipment, and finally the formal roll call! After inspection the Troop was presented to Governor Curtin, who made a short patriotic speech, thanking the men for stepping forward to serve their country. The Governor than presented the Company with their colors.



The Ladies of the Valley presented each man with a sprig of Rosemary as a remembrance. The men were than loaded onto a wagon pulled by horses and taken out of town. The program closed with comments from Jeff Wert, the Colburn Brass and the Penn's Valley Men's Chorus playing and singing Civil War songs. The weather was not too hot; there was a good turn-out of local people interested in their history.



Co. A, 148<sup>th</sup> Regt. Pennsylvania Volunteers  
Reenactment of Oath Administered August 25, 1862

The printed program listed the names of the men who were sworn and mustered in August 25, 1862.



Brother Herman, his wife and all those participating are also complimented on an event well done.

An interesting side note: I was chatting with long time SUVCW member Brother John M McNulty, PDC and his father, PCC, at a recent wedding. In telling them about the Rebersburg reenactment, they informed me their great grand sire, Aaron Miller, was mustered in to Company A, 148 Pa Vol Inf on that date. He died July 2, 1863. --- Dave Klinepeter

#### GAR HISTORIAN by Dave Klinepeter

August 28-September 1, 1949 (I was there) A very special date for the Grand Army of the Republic, the 83rd National Encampment of the GAR at Indianapolis, Indiana. THIS WAS THEIR LAST NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT. The first National Encampment was held at Indianapolis, Indiana on November 20, 1866. In 1949 there were 16 members still living, but only 6 were able to attend. General Hartranft Camp 15 SUVCW Harrisburg, Pa. had a number of members attend. Our Sixth Infantry Field Music Penna. Brigade (Harrisburg Fife and Drum Corps) under the leadership of Major John H. Runkle paraded and entertained those in attendance. At the final parade for the GAR our Fife and Drum Corps did not play. Our position of honor was directly behind the United States Marine Corps

Band so we marched to their beat. Hartranft Camp 15 also had the high honor of *Major John H. Runkle being installed as Commander in Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*. There was a commemorative stamp issued August 29, 1949!

Of course a Delegate badge was issued, although only 6 GAR members were there, all 16 living members received a badge from the National Secretary. Many people believe there were very few badges struck but there were many. They were sold, first to anyone attending the Encampment and than to the general public. This had been done a number of times at past encampments. Each member of our Drum Corps was given one by John H. Runkle; we also received a special letter from him with the first day of issue stamp. The letter urged the Sons of Veterans to carry on the work of the Grand Army of the Republic, and to keep their memory alive.



**Description of badge.** Three piece drop with yellow ribbon. The top represents the eagle of the membership badge, Across the top of the second drop is a banderole inscribed "First Encampment", below it is a scene of the Soldier's Memorial in Indianapolis, in the background is inscribed "Nov 20, 1866/Indianapolis/Final Encampment", below is a banderole inscribed "Aug 28,

1949". The lower drop is a circle inscribed "Commander in Chief Theodore A. Penland", this circles his portrait. The reverse is marked "Metal Arts Co/Roch". N.Y." ... DJK

## Fold3 presents *Navy Casualty Reports, 1776-1941*

Fold3 website recently released *Navy Casualty Reports, 1776-1941*, documenting deaths of U.S. Navy personnel in wartime and in accidents outside of war. Although the casualty reports include records of those who were killed, injured, wounded, diseased or imprisoned, the majority of these records report only Navy deaths from the Revolutionary War to the brink of World War II. The four volumes include lists of men or detailed accounts of how they lost their lives. For more, go to:

[http://www.fold3.com/title\\_808/navy\\_casualty\\_reports\\_17761941/](http://www.fold3.com/title_808/navy_casualty_reports_17761941/)

And this too ....

## **VJ Day: August 14, 1945**

The war that began for the United States on December 7, 1941, finally ended on August 14, 1945, with news of Japan's surrender. VJ Day (Victory in Japan) inspired jubilant celebrations throughout America as we observed the end of World War II. Although the war in Europe ended on June 8 (VE Day), the war with Japan in the Pacific persisted until President Truman made the radical and controversial decision to drop atomic bombs on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9. Even after that, events were climactic and negotiations tense as the conditions of surrender were debated. On August 8, Russia declared war on Japan and invaded Manchuria. Ultimately, the Japanese surrendered unconditionally on August 14, with General Douglas MacArthur formally accepting Japan's surrender aboard the USS *Missouri* on September 2, 1945. The [World War II Collection](#) on Fold3 lets you experience World War II through the stories of those

who served. Photos, war diaries, JAG and military conference reports, and, [missing Air Crew Reports](#) are only some of the many highlights of the collection.

[Greetings Brothers and sisters](#) of camp 15 and Auxiliary 7 of the greater Harrisburg area! My Circus Model Builders Group will be displaying our circus models in Memorial Hall East next door to the Hanneford Circus at the 2012 York Fair. Come and out visit the York Fair – you'll have a great time and enjoy some fine food!

Submitted by Brother Gene Mascioli, PCC.

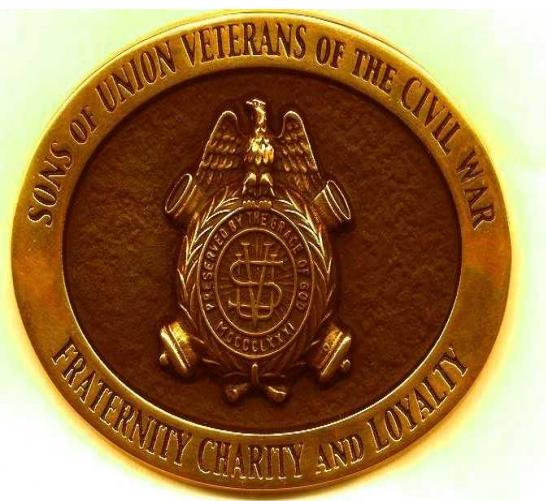
## [SUVCW Wooden Nickels](#)



carry 1 in your pocket as reminder to recruit for your local camp or SUVCW Nationwide! Pick up a wooden nickel at next camp meeting – September 23<sup>rd</sup>. available from camp 15 while supply lasts. Additional wooden nickels available for purchase from our National Quartermaster!

**Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp 15 Harrisburg**

## Brass Belt Buckle



## **Solid Brass SUVCW Belt Buckle**

\$30.00

**(\$26 + \$4 S&H ea)**

**Lifetime Guarantee Fits up to 1-3/4 inch Belt**

***Shipped Priority Mail***

\$26 + \$4 shipping for each buckle

Make check or money order payable to

## Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp 15

**Send order and \$30 payment to**

Larry Sheibley-Beasom

523 South Fourth Street  
Newport, PA 17074-1316

Recruiting tool for camp 15

Brothers how many times did you attempt to recruit someone into our grand organization only to not know a telephone number for them to obtain more data? Well now you can readily share a business card with the individual, You may pick up a strip of cards at any camp meeting or contact [Hartranft Herald](mailto:HartranftHerald@DoubleD@Demmy.cc) at DoubleD@Demmy.cc

## **Gen. John F. Hartranft**

## Camp # 15

## Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

[www.suvcwHarrisburgPA.org](http://www.suvcwHarrisburgPA.org)

## the Harrisbu

Since 1882

*Need help researching an ancestor*



The Research Muse

Carolyn S. Billups

[researchmuse@md.metrocast.net](mailto:researchmuse@md.metrocast.net)

39045 Tanglewood Court  
Mechanicsville MD 20659-4323

(301) 472-1863

*highly qualified*

## [On the Road with Camp 15](#)

Monthly Camp Meetings begin at 2 p.m. and are held on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, at National Civil War Museum unless otherwise, indicated!

Note change of date below for our September business meeting:

Sunday, **September 23, 2012** General Meeting at National Civil War Museum at Reservoir Park, Harrisburg! Annual nominations and elections for 2013 camp officers to be conducted due to a number of Brothers being on the civil war trail the weekend of our normal October meeting.

Sunday, **October 21, 2012**, General Meeting at National Civil War Museum at Reservoir Park, Harrisburg!

October Keynote speaker Jeffery Smith will entertain us with presentation and discussion on civil war infantry. Bring your relics and collection to share with audience.

November 16 and 17 – National Remembrance Day weekend in Gettysburg, PA. **No camp meeting** the month of November.

Sunday, **December 9, 2012** annual Camp 15 holiday party at Doc. Holliday's Restaurant, New Cumberland.

You have to eat ... please come out and break bread with us. As needed, you may leave after the meal and before we engage in annual entertainment.

Plan to share good time with Hartranft camp today! During our annual banquet, camp officers for forthcoming year '2013' will be installed!

Be Proud Wear the Badge



Come out to a meeting and join us!  
Allied Orders of the GAR

- Woman's Relief Corps Auxiliary to Grand Army of the Republic,
- Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic,
- Daughters of Union Veterans of Civil War,
- Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,
- Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the 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 125<sup>th</sup> 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, neighbor and friend to a Camp meeting!

Family and our sisters of Auxiliary 7 are always welcome!

**GENERAL JOHN F HARTRANFT, CAMP 15  
HARRISBURG, PA,**

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
ESTABLISHED FEBRUARY 11, 1882  
IN FRATERNITY, CHARITY, AND LOYALTY

## [Tips for a Lifetime of Living History](#)

- 1) Stuff a miniature marshmallow in the bottom of a sugar cone to prevent ice cream drips. Beats that sticky mess while demonstrating pitching a tent, to an audience.
- 2) Use a meat baster to "squeeze" your pancake batter onto the hot griddle - perfect shaped pancakes every time, but who's keeping score!
- 3) To keep potatoes from budding, place an apple in the bag with the potatoes.
- 4) To prevent egg shells from cracking, add a pinch of salt to the water before hard-boiling.
- 5) While performing living history in the wilds, run your hands under cold water before pressing Rice Krispies treats in the pan; the marshmallow won't stick to your fingers.
- 6) To get the most juice out of fresh lemons, bring them to room temperature and roll them under your palm against the kitchen counter or scrub platform before squeezing.
- 7) To easily remove burnt-on food from your skillet, simply add a drop or two of dish soap and enough water to cover bottom of pan, and bring to a boil on stove-top - skillet will be much easier to clean.
- 8) Spray your Tupperware with nonstick cooking spray before pouring in tomato-based sauces - no more stains.
- 9) When a cake recipe calls for flouring the baking pan, use a bit of the dry cake mix instead - no white mess on the outside of the cake.
- 10) If you accidentally over-salt a dish while it's still cooking, drop in a peeled potato - it absorbs the excess salt for an instant "fix me up".
- 11) Wrap celery in aluminum foil when putting in the refrigerator - it will keep for weeks.
- 12) Brush beaten egg-white over pie crust before baking to yield a beautiful glossy finish. You'll be the envy of your fellow living historians.
- 13) When camping and your brown sugar hardens, place a slice of apple in hardened brown sugar to soften it!
- 14) When boiling corn on the cob, add a pinch of sugar to help bring out the corn's natural sweetness. If that fails, slip back into the farmer's field for another arm full of corn.
- 15) To determine whether an egg is fresh, immerse it in a pan of cool, salted water. If it sinks, it is fresh - if it rises to the surface, throw it away and run to the chicken coop for another fresh egg. Watch out for Mrs. Leghorn!
- 16) Cure for headaches: Take a lime, cut it in half and rub it on your forehead. The throbbing will go away!
- 17) Don't throw out all that leftover wine: Freeze into ice cubes for future use in casseroles and sauces.
- 18) If you have a problem opening jars: Try using latex dishwashing gloves; they give a non-slip grip that makes opening jars easy. Just ask your maid.
- 19) Potatoes will take food stains off your fingers. Just slice and rub raw.
- 20) potato on the stains and rinse with water.
- 21) To get rid of itch from mosquito bite: try applying soap on the area, instant relief. Also try WD-40!
- 22) Ants, ants, ants everywhere ... Well, they are said to never cross a chalk line. So get your chalk out and draw a line on the floor of your tent or wherever ants tend to march - see for yourself.
- 23) Use air-freshener to clean mirrors: It does a good job and better still, leaves a lovely smell to the shine. Watch out for honey bees.

NOW Look what you can do with Alka-Seltzer:

- Clean a toilet - drop in two Alka-Seltzer tablets, wait twenty minutes, brush, and flush. The citric acid and effervescent action clean vitreous china.
- Clean a vase - to remove a stain from the bottom of a glass vase or cruet, fill with water and drop in two Alka-Seltzer tablets; Polish jewelry - drop two Alka-Seltzer tablets into a glass of water and immerse the jewelry for two minutes.
- Clean a thermos bottle - fill the bottle with water, drop in four Alka-Seltzer tablets, and let soak for an hour (or longer, if necessary).

- Unclog a drain - clear the sink drain by dropping three Alka-Seltzer tablets down the drain followed by a cup of Pennsylvania Heinz White Vinegar. Wait a few minutes, and then run the hot water! You're welcome!

### National Civil War Museum Data

CEO, Wayne Motts was featured in the Sunday Patriot-News, July 29, 2012 D1; and more recently Wayne was also featured in the October Issue of the Civil War Times Illustrated magazine too.

Celebrate our Friday, October 5  
 Blue & Gray Gala presented by PPL Corporation  
 Featuring keynote speaker Michael J. Durant, Motivational speaker, Veteran Pilot and Author of "Black Hawk Down"

For sponsorship opportunities or more information, please contact Lynn Smolizer: 717.260.1861 x 1108.

### 2013 the National Encampment

On August 8-11, 2013, the National Convention/Encampment returns to Wisconsin!

"With the 2012 National Encampment in Long Beach, California, and the 2014 convention anticipated in Marietta, Georgia, Wisconsin is in a unique position to serve our members living in the central United States in 2013.

The 2013 National Encampment site is in Brookfield, Wis., a suburb of Milwaukee, at the Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel.

Wisconsin has had a long history of hosting national reunions and encampments. This began in 1880 with Milwaukee's Soldiers & Sailors Reunion, largely credited with

reawakening interest in the Grand Army of the Republic and veterans affairs. National GAR Encampments, held in 1889, 1923, and 1943 in Milwaukee, and 1937 in Madison, followed.

It will have been 70 years since the 62<sup>nd</sup> annual National Encampment was held September 19-24, 1943, in Milwaukee. The 77<sup>th</sup> National GAR Encampment was held at the same time".



Encampment delegate badge. Visit <http://2013.svcw-wi.org/> for more data!

### Notes from 2012 National Encampment

Pennsylvania had 6 Brothers present and several dual members in other Departments!

Demographics of our Order:

Associates = 7%

Life Member = 18%

Age 60 = 71% average age = 63

Veterans = 46%

Camp websites = 50%

Camp Dues \$30 = 25% of camps

Camp Dues \$40 = 61% of camps

Camp Dues over \$40 = 16% of camps

53 SUVCW Signature Events have been held by various camps across the USA.

National quartermaster now accepts PAYPAL for purchases from National store.

National per capita continues to be waived for our military Brothers serving in areas designated by DOD.

Dr Mary Edwards award and medal guidelines have been revised – see National website under awards for data concerning a ladies recommendation for this award.

Likewise Eagle Scout certificate changes also on SUVCW website.

National Trademark<sup>TM</sup> must be upon a material prepared by a camp or Department such as documentation, ribbons, medals that contain Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War's logo. <sup>TM</sup> must appear next to each logo.

National Secretary Gene Mortorff plans to run for National Jr Commander in Chief in 2013 at the end of his term as National secretary. Brother Gene is a dual member of Pennsylvania Gettysburg camp 112.

All camps and Departments are asked to update their websites often, listing current officers and staff and calendar events!

Nationally, 6 new camps have been granted

date of rank or will before end of 2012!

2013 National Encampment will be held in Wisconsin. 2014 National Encampment will be held in Georgia. 2015 National Encampment is being planned by co-hosts, New York and Pennsylvania Departments, in New York. 2016 National Encampment is being considered by Department Illinois. 2017 is open!

Life Member program has been revised with new age and rate fees retroactive to 1Jul12. See form 9 on National website under forms.

Our Ritual has been changed to reflect that veterans may render hand salute whenever our flag passes by and during the Pledge of Allegiance and our National Anthem.

#### Camp 15 Authors New Brochure

#### **Tracing Your Civil War Ancestor in Pennsylvania**

By  
Gen. John F. Hartranft  
Camp #15  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
Harrisburg PA  
[www.suvcwHarrisburgPA.org](http://www.suvcwHarrisburgPA.org)

Several proofreaders approved a new brochure by Camp 15 Brother Logan Swanger. This *tri-fold* document will assist any researcher in tracing his civil war ancestor in PA. Likewise, a researcher can easily substitute described Pennsylvania data for another state to search for an ancestor outside of PA.

Well done Brother Logan. Any Brother desiring a copy may pick up a few at camp meeting or request a copy via email at [DoubleD@Demmy.cc](mailto:DoubleD@Demmy.cc)

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August/September 2012 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*

A Certificate of Recognition awarded to Battery B, 1<sup>st</sup> Pennsylvania Light Artillery  
(Cooper's Battery)

Presented By 2011-2012 Commander in Chief Donald D. Palmer, Jr., at 2012 Nat'l Encampment



on behalf of the Pennsylvania Battery, the award was gratefully accepted by camp 15 Brother,  
David W. Demmy, Sr.

Encampment photos available at National website - <http://www.suvcw.org/index.html>

End of August/September 2012 *Hartranft Herald*