



# 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 13, No. 10

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

This *Hartranft Herald* is **draped** in remembrance of the passing of Past National President Eileen Coombs. Sister Coombs passed away on 20 September 2011 at the age of 86. She was a member of the ASUVCW for 70 years and served in various capacities in the Department of Maine, including Department President. She served as ASUVCW National President in 1971. Source: National General Order #04 series 2011-2012.

To all concerned personnel, Camp 15's next business meeting will be held on at 2pm Sunday, October 16, 2011 at National Civil War Museum, upper level room 222.

Keynote speaker will be our camp webmaster,



Dave Demmy, Jr, who will discuss U.S. Flag etiquette and display.

Dave participated in the ABC TV Extreme Makeover show in June 2011.

The series is moving from Sunday nights to Friday. The show he worked on will be the 2 hour Premier show for the Friday night 8 pm

schedule. According to recent authority, Friday October 21<sup>st</sup> is supposed to be the air date for the Keefer Family makeover episode! At 7:30 pm, the local ABC TV 27 will air their background report on this local event.



PHOTO SOURCE: WWW DEMMY CC.

Brother Dave has also completed 3 church orientated mission trips this year and the year is not over. In fact he returned home on a Saturday from one of the mission trips and the next day reported for duty for the extreme makeover week long event.

If you expect to catch a glimpse of Dave on TV, don't get excited. He worked the night shift from 8pm to 8am and did not have much involvement with the filming process. If you still desire to play "where's waldo" and hunt for him in the crowd, he was one of the few from the contractor's team wearing a grey polo shirt and blue hard hat. [see photo above]. The general volunteers were in blue t-shirts and white hard hats. Here's a hint -- during the first day sendoff for the family, he would be approximately 3 to the right and 3 back from the wheelchair young Keefer uses every day.

[A note from Department JVC Doug McMillin](#), PCC, Gettysburg 112: at September camp meeting of Camp 503 Sunbury, "I presented the National Rippey award for the most outstanding new camp to J.P.S. Gobin Camp #503 today at their regular meeting. The award was originally presented by CnC Schall at the 2011 National Encampment. It was an honor to be the courier to bring a well deserved award to a remarkable new camp." While there, they inducted 3 new brothers. Camp #503 is truly an example for all camps to follow.

#### [PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR](#) by Dave Klinepeter

On August 26, 2011 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Commander in Chief, Donald D. Palmer issued General Order #1. In it he stated, my focus this year will be on working toward a vision of what our Order should look like by the end of the decade. *This vision is: "to be recognized by Government, academia and the general public as the leading source of information pertaining to: (1) history, genealogy and preservation initiatives associated with the GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC and the Soldiers, Sailors and Marines who fought to*

*preserve the Union and (2) patriotism, the duties of citizenship and honoring those that made the supreme sacrifice in defense of the Nation."*

*I refer to it as "VISION 2020". This vision feeds off of our mission as defined by our Federal Charter. It focuses on outreach and growth rather than contraction and inward progression. But this cannot be my vision only, in order for it to become a reality, it must be a shared vision, with Departments and CAMPS adopting it as well. In addition, my successors must also be committed to seeing it through. Over the next several months, I will be working with the various officers and committees to develop a long term plan to help us achieve Vision 2020. This plan will involve organizational growth, data collection and research, development of youth programs, collaboration between the ALLIED Orders and developing sound financial strategy.\*\*\*\*\**

*WHERE WILL HARTRANFT CAMP 15 FIT IN THE "VISION 2020" PROGRAM???*

In my article on the 100 Anniversary of the Battle of Bull Run, last month, I forgot a small paragraph.

See the lines "On firing our cannon we were not pleased with the sound of *woomp*, it did not have the expected boom. We needed to figure something out for the next day."\*\*\* add\*\*Saturday I was assigned the limber chest to hand out the powder charges. On lifting the lid for the first charge I saw a roll of 1 inch masking tape so proceeded to wrap TWO powder charges together. On discharging the cannon there was a very fine "BOOM", AND IT ROSE A FOOT IN THE AIR AND ROLLED BACK ABOUT 4 FEET. Now that was cannon in action. We just did not fire quite as many rounds. It seems when the powder charges were being made up the folks forgot we were shooting a 10 pponder and most of the other cannons were 6 pounders.

## A FEW DATES TO REMEMBER

- October 5th 1864 Atlanta Falls.
- October 13th 1775 U.S. NAVY established.
- October 15th 1863 CSS Hunley sank during a test run with the loss of its seven man crew; later on it was raised and saw further service.
- October 19th 1864 Battle of Cedar Creek, Va. Sheridan's ride saves the day.
- October 31st 1864 Congress admits Nevada as 36th state.
- November 8th 1864 Lincoln reelected.
- November 10th 1865 Henry Wiz commander of Andersonville, GA prison is hung this date.
- November 11th 1918 signing of the Armistice ending WW1.
- November 11th 1865 Closing of CAMP CURTIN.

Quote by Governor Andrew Gregg Curtin in 1865

"The field upon which we now stand will be known as classic ground, for here has been the great central point of the organization of our military forces. When my administration of public affairs will have been forgotten and the good and evil will be known to the investigation of the antiquarian, CAMP CURTIN, with its memories and associations, will be immortal."

Source: (quoted from the Bugle, journal of the Camp Curtin Historical Society) ---  
DJK October 2011

## [GAR HISTORIAN](#) by Dave Klinepeter 2011

Lately I have been listening to some Civil War music CDs, which prompted me to look up the words to several of them. Having been in numerous reenactments and sat around many a camp fire made me think of the feelings and emotions of the Civil War soldier on the night before the battle. Imagine yourself in his place as they sang:

*"JUST BEFORE THE BATTLE MOTHER" by George F. Root*

*Just before the battle, Mother, I am thinking most of you.*

*While upon the field we're watching, with the enemy in view.*

*Comrades brave are 'round me lying, filled with thoughts of home and God:*

*For well they know that on the morrow, some will sleep beneath the sod.*

*CHORUS*

*Farewell, Mother, you may never press me to your breast again:*

*But, oh, you'll not forget me, Mother, if I'm numbered with the slain*

*Oh, I long to see you, Mother, and the loving ones at home,*

*But I'll never leave our banner till in honor I can come.*

*Tell the traitors all around you that their cruel words we know,*

*In every battle kill our soldiers by the help they give the foe.*

*CHORUS*

*Hark! I hear the bugles sounding, 'tis the signal for the fight,*

*Now, may God protect us, Mother, as He ever does the right.*

*Hear "The Battle Cry of Freedom," how it swells upon the air,*

*Oh, yes, we'll rally 'round the standard, or we'll nobly perish there.*

*CHORUS*

Music has played a very strong part in all our wars! --- DJK

## Hartranft Deceased

[John Frederick Hartranft \(1830-1889\)](#) — Born in New Hanover Township, Montgomery County, Pa., December 16, 1830. A Republican, he served in the Union Army during the Civil War; was Pennsylvania state auditor general, 1866-72; then Governor of Pennsylvania, 1873-79; and candidate for Republican nomination for President, 1876. He received the Medal of Honor in 1886 for action at Bull Run, Va., July 21, 1861. The General died October 17, 1889. His Interment is at Montgomery Cemetery, Norristown, PA, which Camp 15 has visited. The General, of course, is our Camp's namesake!

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Flag saluting by veterans

[To all armed forces Veterans of the United States of America](#)

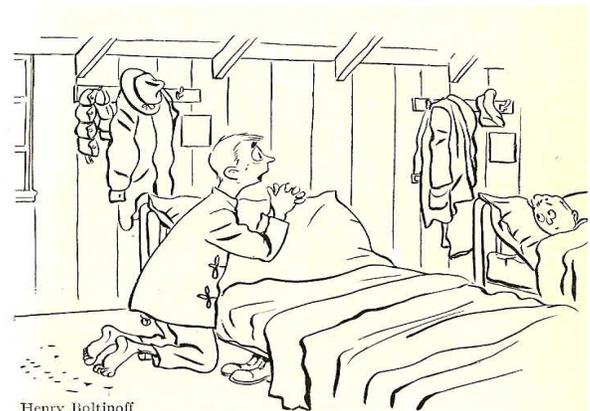
Modification to U.S. Flag Code (4 US Code 1) -  
The Flag Code - Title 4, United States Code,  
Chapter 1

§ 9. Conduct during hoisting, lowering or passing of (our) flag

During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in review, those present in uniform should render the military salute. **Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute.** All other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, or if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Citizens of other countries should stand at attention. All such conduct toward the flag in a moving column

should be rendered at the moment the flag passes.

**National Anthem** (a) Designation.— The composition consisting of the words and music known as the Star Spangled Banner is the national anthem.(b) Conduct During Playing.— During a rendition of the national anthem—(1) when the flag is displayed—(A) individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note;(B) **members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform;** and (C) all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart; and (2) when the flag is not displayed, all present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed.



“. . . and please make my Sergeant like me!”

COURTESY OF DAVE KLINEPETER, WWII VETERAN

## Camp Schedule of events for 2011 into 2012

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!

### October 16, 2011, Sunday camp meeting.

Presentation by Dave Demmy, Jr. on U.S. Flag etiquette and display

### October 29, 2011 Saturday Mid-year Meeting of the Pennsylvania Department Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at Doc Holliday's New Cumberland!

November 19, 2011 no camp meeting! We will see you at Lincoln Remembrance Day activities at Gettysburg, PA.

Sunday, December 11, 2011 annual holiday party at Doc Holliday's Restaurant at New Cumberland, PA. And you have a standing invitation.

### Sunday, January 15, 2012 camp meeting.

Presentation by **Cooper's Battery B!**

*Weather permitting the Battery will conduct live firing on National Civil War Museum grounds east of building upon the site of original city reservoir.*

Saturday, January 28, 2012, next reenactment of the WWII Battle of the Bulge at Fort Indiantown Gap I-81 exit 85b.

June 2012 - 132d annual Encampment of the Pennsylvania Commandery of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War – June 22, 23, 24 at Four Points by Sheraton at Greensburg, PA

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](mailto: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**

## MINUTES

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
General John F. Hartranft Camp #15  
National Civil War Museum, Harrisburg, PA  
Sunday 18 September 2011 - Meeting  
called to order @ 2:01 p.m.

### Officers Present:

Commander..... ..John Deppen  
Sr. V. Command.....Stanley Zellers  
Jr. V. Command.....Scott Debo  
Secretary.....Larry Sheibley  
Treasure./Chap.....David Demmy  
Pat.Ins./Hist.....David Klinepeter  
Council/Guard.....Gregory Kline  
Council.....Jeffrey Smith  
Guide.....Thomas Bowman

### Officers Absent:

Council.....Lee Walters  
Color Bearer.....Kelly Betz

### Other Members Present:

Dave Demmy, Jr.; Floyd Demmy; Frank  
Haley; Tony Kline; Dave Laman; and William  
Neumyer

### Guests:

Rod Detter, Henny Smith, and Mrs. Ilsa Smith.

Commander Deppen called the September meeting to order. After the opening ceremonies, Secretary Sheibley read the minutes and Treasurer Demmy stated a balance of \$100.94. One brother was reinstated after being late in paying his 2011 dues. The camp now has recruiting cards to give to potential new members. As always, for sale were the following: license plates, belt buckles, bumper stickers, used books, and U.S. Civil War postage stamps.

The secretary cast a single unanimous ballot for the acceptance of new Brothers J. Danny Reed and Christopher Daniel Reed, both descendents of Civil War Veteran William Hill, who served with Company C, 50<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He arose to the rank of First Sergeant and was killed in

action at the Wilderness. Welcome to Camp #15! Both Brothers hope to be present at the October meeting for their initiation ceremony.

A thank-you note from the Heroes' Grove Memorial for our past monetary contribution was read. Camp #15's Hartranft Herald received recognition at the SUVCW National Encampment for being an outstanding monthly camp newsletter. Brothers recruiting from three to five new members will be awarded special recognition. The Mid-Year Meeting of the PA Department of SUVCW will be held Saturday 29 October 2011 at Doc Holliday's Steakhouse in the Holiday West Inn, New Cumberland, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Brothers Greg and Tony Kline spoke of the June PA Department Encampment and Brother Demmy, Sr., spoke about the July National Encampment.

Eagle Scout certificates have been purchased and a discussion ensued about the potential need for about 200 total for 2011. Brother Fry, coordinator, will be contacted. Brother Greg Kline volunteered to be our Junior ROTC coordinator – he will interface with local schools which conduct a JR ROTC program.

Camps 15 and 503 plus Cooper's Battery participated in the flag retirement ceremony at the McClure Bean Soup Festival.

Patriotic Instructor Klinepeter reminded members of upcoming events and Civil War historical dates. He distributed Gettysburg quarters to all present. Thank you Brother Klinepeter!

Brother Jeff Smith gave an outstanding presentation on Civil War artillery using photographs, readings, and actual relics. Interesting material!

The meeting closed at 3:38 p.m. Minutes taken by Larry Sheibley-Beasom, PCC, Secretary, Camp #15.

--- End ---

# Pennsylvania Department Encampment Committee

Report of the Encampment Site Committee  
June 7, 2011



To: Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic  
Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865  
Auxiliary to the Sons  
S.U.V.C.W.

## Brothers and Sisters

You are cordially invited to attend the 2012 Department Encampment/Convention of the Allied Orders, which includes the Sons of Union Veterans, Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans and the Daughters of Union Veterans.



The 2012 Encampment/Convention will be held on

## June 21st, 22nd and 23rd, 2012

at the

Four Points by Sheraton

100 Sheraton Drive, Route 30 East  
Greensburg, Pennsylvania 15601

(724)836-6060 – [www.fourpointsgreensburg.com](http://www.fourpointsgreensburg.com)



Rooms are \$99.00 plus tax. Reservations are to be made under “Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic” Meeting room are: Sons - Keystone #2, Auxiliary - Keystone #3, Daughters - Keystone #3. There will be a luncheon buffet on Friday and Saturday at a cost of \$15.00 per person.

The final report on the 2011 Encampment held in Scranton, Pennsylvania will be presented at mid-year.

Your Encampment Committee Members, M. J. Bannan, Faye Carlisle, and Mary Jo Long would like to thank Camp #8, Auxiliary #10 and Tent #59 for their help in putting the 2011 Encampment together.



Yours in F.C.L.

*Joseph Long, Jr.*

Encampment Chairman