



# 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 129<sup>th</sup> Year



Volume 12, No. 12

December 2010



## 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

~~~ Annual Photo Issue ~~~

This issue of the *Hartranft Herald* is draped in remembrance of our late Brother Norman Houser!

**Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays** to all of our Brothers and Sisters and readers of the *Hartranft Herald*!



Very soon camp 15 will be embarking upon its 130<sup>th</sup> year as an organization of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic serving South Central Pennsylvania, keeping green in our minds the memory of those who sacrificed so much that the life of the nation might be preserved!

[New Camps established or pending in Department of Pennsylvania.](#)

Camp 89 Col. James Crowther, Tyrone

Camp 276 George Cribbs, Greensburg

Camp 503 Gen. J. P. S. Gobin, Sunbury

Congratulations to the organizers and new brothers and sisters of these camps and their respective auxiliaries for desiring to continue the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic.

End of year thanx is greatly bestowed upon the brothers and sisters associated with camp 15 that have timely remitted their new year dues, helped collated and stamp and mail the monthly *Hartranft Herald*; have volunteered in office; and have given donations to the camp for postage and other operating expenses. Blessings to all!

**Thursday, October 28, 2010**

**Lower Paxton watchdog, Oct. 2010**

Below are highlights from recent Lower Paxton Township meetings:

Initial earth moving is expected to start soon in Brightbill Park for the Dauphin County Heroes Grove, a tribute to the county's military veterans, law enforcement officers, firefighters and other emergency responders. The tribute will feature an amphitheater in a one-acre grove donated by Lower Paxton Township near the Friendship Community Center.

background:

**Heroes Grove Fund**

"Since its establishment in 1785, Dauphin County has been home to countless ordinary citizens who have accomplished extraordinary feats. All have had one common thread: A willingness to sacrifice their own safety and well-being to protect their fellow citizens and the American way of life. Now, more than 220 years later, a movement has begun to honor these brave heroes.

Conceived by the Hon. Ronald Marsico and a collection of dedicated public servants, civic and community leaders, the Dauphin County Heroes Grove is being developed on a peaceful tract of land donated by Lower Paxton Township. Dauphin County Heroes Grove will feature an amphitheater, which will set the stage for remembrance and memorial ceremonies that will honor veterans, emergency responders, and law enforcement personnel who have demonstrated their dedication to our communities, commonwealth, and country. The amphitheater will also be the setting for a series of educational seminars and festivals." Camp 15 is a sponsor of this veteran's project!



source:



DAVE KLINEPETER PRESENTS CAMP 15'S SUVCW LICENSE PLATE TO D. BRAD SCHALL, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF AT REMEMBRANCE DAY ACTIVITIES 2010.

11-21-2010

D.J. Klinepeter & Camp 15  
Thank you for your gifts of  
Lincoln coins and the SUVCW  
license plate.  
Gethysburg was quite an event  
for me and moments will bring  
back very pleasant memories -  
Thank you Brothers —  
Brad Schall,  
Commander-in-Chief

EDITOR'S NOTE: "BROTHER KLINEPETER IS A TREASURE AND HONESTLY, NOT A MEETING GOES BY THAT I DON'T THINK HOW FORTUNATE WE ARE TO HAVE HIM IN CAMP 15. I MEAN THAT SINCERELY, DAVE". --- GREG KLINE, PAST CAMP COMMANDER, HARTRANFT CAMP # 15.

"BROTHER KLINEPETER IS A TERRIFIC AMBASSADOR FOR OUR ORDER". --- JOHN E DEPPEN, CAMP COMMANDER.

BROTHER DAVE HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF DATA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR A NUMBER OF SUVCW QUERIES SUBMITTED TO ME AT NATIONAL HQ. BLESSINGS DAVE. - DAVID W. DEMMY, SR. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR!

## PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR/GAR HISTORIAN

by Dave Klinepeter

### REMEMBRANCE DAY GETTYSBURG, P A . NOVEMBER 20, 2010 - THE PARADE

A beautiful clear, warm, sunny day. (some in the past were cold, wet, rainy, windy, sleet or snow flurries). I was unable to arrive in time for the Woolson Monument wreath laying services. (I do remember being on the Color Guard at the original dedication of the Woolson monument in 1956). I managed to find parking near the GAR Hall and walked over to the school where the troops were lining up. I can no longer march in the parade, so President Lincoln has invited me to share his carriage the last several years. This year we had the honor of Brad Schall- Commander in Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans riding with us. There was quite a turn out of people. At the end we stood and reviewed the parade. (this brought back many memories to me of many years ago. In the 1940s and 1950s the parade consisted of the 6 Infantry Field Music, Penna Brigade, Sons of Veterans Reserve--Fife and Drum Corps of Harrisburg, Pa, the school band of Gettysburg, Pa, a number of Sons of Veteran Reserve Units, and town folks. We marched from around the Train Station and Hotel Gettysburg out to the National Cemetery where wreaths were placed by the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic and speeches were delivered. This was before the Woolson monument and reenactors. The banquet in the evening was at the Hotel Gettysburg, There was no Civil War Ball in those days.) It is interesting to stand and review the parade and see the many various participants, not just the Union soldiers but the Marines, the Navy, the numerous Ladies organizations, the Confederates, the U.S. Colored Troops, the civilian units, especially the children involved. To keep our history alive we must involve the younger generations, for they are the future of our country. "YES I SAW BROTHER GREG KLINE PCC CARRYING OUR HARTRANFT CAMP 15 COLORS, 3 huzzzas to him.

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### THE BANQUET

Before the meal I placed a small plastic bag containing 4 different 2009 Lincoln pennies and a new 2010 President Lincoln dollar, enclosed was a card with compliments of Hartranft Camp 15 for each guest at the head table .After the dinner and introduction of National Officers and State Officers of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic, it was my pleasure to present our Sons of Union Veterans license plate to Commander in Chief Brad Schall. (That plate went to California.) Right before my presentation we heard a band in the adjoining room start playing Benny Goodman music. They were having a World War 11 dance. It was also a pleasure to have the speaker of the evening sitting at my table. He was Michael Cruther, Sr.,

portraying Fredrick Douglass. Mr. Crusher is an Army retiree and former assistant professor at the University of Kentucky's Lexington Community College. His current role was inspired after research revealed his great, great grandfather was a member of the 13th United States Colored Troops Heavy Artillery out of Camp Nelson, Kentucky. The talk was quite interesting. After our Penna closing and taps, the Ladies organizations opened up a side room and sold chances on various items and 50-50 tickets, to raise money.

(I did manage to drop in next door and hob nob with some of the WW11 folks. They, like us, are trying to teach and keep history alive.

My only disappointment, no other members of Camp 15 attended the banquet.

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### THE NATIONAL CIVIL WAR BALL

I understand over four hundred people were in attendance. There are several Balls around town but this is the oldest and largest one, it is sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. This year I understand they raised approximately \$4,500 which has been presented to the Gettysburg National Military Park. The Philadelphia Brigade Band, provided music for a variety of dances. The Victorian Dance Ensemble, under the leadership of Brother Larry Keener Farley PCC Camp 15, helped teach the dances and guide the dancers. (Your Patriotic Instructor was one of the organizers of the Victorian Dance Ensemble years ago) It is a sight to behold, the ladies in beautiful gowns, gentlemen in uniforms or civilian period attire. The Grand March was lead off by none other than our Commander-in Chief, Brad Schall. I did manage to participate in that march, and later on in a special waltz. It was a delight to see quite a number of young adults and some children on the dance floor. Another favorite of the evening was the Ladies cake walk. Col Bud Atkinson had them form in 4 circles and when the music stops some one won a cake or other door prize. During the evening a young lady tapped me on the shoulder and handed me an envelope. It seems I had won one of the 50-50 drawings (sorry I can not remember which ladies organization it was). Needless to say it paid for my banquet and ball tickets. The luck of the Irish--yes I know I'm German but my wife is Irish. During the early break I chatted with the Dept Commander of Illinois and he took one of our license plates along home. By than it was time to hit the road home.

Visit the Vietnam Wall on-line at  
<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>  
by DJK

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2010 AT GETTYSBURG



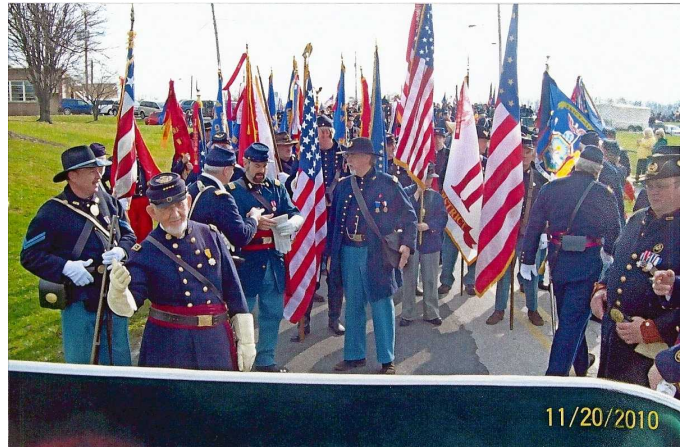
MEMBERS OF BATTERY B MONUMENT PAYING TRIBUTE TO ANCESTORS AND OTHER VETERANS. PHOTO SHARED BY GREG KLINE, PCC.



BATTERY B BROTHERS ARE CONDUCTING AN ONGOING FUNDRAISER TO RESTORE THE ORIGINAL BATTERY B MONUMENT ON CEMETERY HILL. PHOTO SHARED BY GREG KLINE, PCC.



THE GOVERNOR AND PRESIDENT WAIT FOR THE START OF THE REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE ON NOVEMBER 20, 2010 IN GETTYSBURG, PA PHOTO BY DAVE KLINEPETER.



TROOPS FORM UP FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE. PHOTO BY DAVE KLINEPETER!



DEPARTMENT COMMANDER HOWARD WOLFE GREETES MICHAEL CRUTHER, SR. (PORTRAYING FREDRICK DOUGLASS) PHOTO BY DAVE KLINEPETER!

## [Members Section](#)

**Notice:** Camp 15's January 16, 2011 general meeting will be in the Education Gallery first floor level, to your far left of the National Civil War Museum's fabulous staircase. Our usual meeting room 222 will be otherwise, occupied!

See Camp Events later in this and each edition of the *Hartranft Herald*.

***THIS AND THAT*** by Dave Klinepeter  
Indiantown Gap military museum will be open on the week end of the re-enactment of the **Battle of the Bulge in January 29, 2011**. At other times the hours are Monday 10am to 4:30 pm and on Fridays the hours are 10 am till 4:30 pm. Other times by special appointment. The phone is 717-861-2402 leave message if not open. It is located in building T-8-57  
The curator is Mr. Charles Oellig.

The book "The Training of an Army "(history of Camp Curtin) is at the National Civil War Museum under a new cover "Civil War City, Harrisburg, Pa"

For any of our members who want to learn some of the C W dances the Victorian Dance Ensemble will be holding Civil War Dance classes at the National Civil War Museum on JAN 16 FEB 13 MAR 6, 2011 Free but need reservations because of space limit contact [CivilWarDance@verizon.net](mailto:CivilWarDance@verizon.net) or call 717-732-5330

I would like to work up a display and talk on the Korean War Veterans but need help. I strongly encourage other members to participate in the meeting when it comes to the GOOD OF THE ORDER --- DJK.

A National SUVCW Calendar is now available on the National website at <http://www.suvcw.org/index.html>.

For 2011, the National QM will have following new stock:

Camp Guide on

2011 thru 2015 GAR Anniversary Challenge Coins.

A Maryland Camp was granted National approval to sell SUVCW wooden plaques, customized for individual camps. EDITOR'S NOTE: THE PLAQUES ARE A WORK OF ART!

## [Camp 15's annual Christmas Holiday party](#)

"Brothers, (you) did real well with the Christmas party; everyone enjoyed themselves and everyone won something to take home. It was good to see our Brothers and sisters again, especially those that had to travel a bit to attend".

"Thank you very much for all you and yours did to make yesterday's party a success.

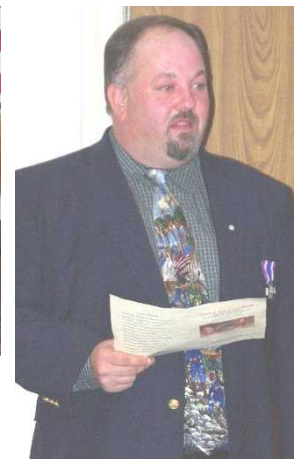
Taci and Molly enjoyed themselves - Molly was thrilled with her popcorn prize!

David Sosnowski took LOTS of good photos - I've seen some of them on Facebook already".

Following photos courtesy of Dave Sosnowski and Dave Klinepeter.



Camp *Banner* with Portable homemade wooden braces!



MC – Greg Kline, PCC



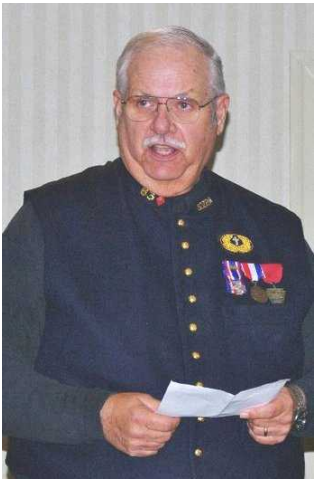
Department Commander Howard Wolfe installs Camp Commander John Deppen for 2011.



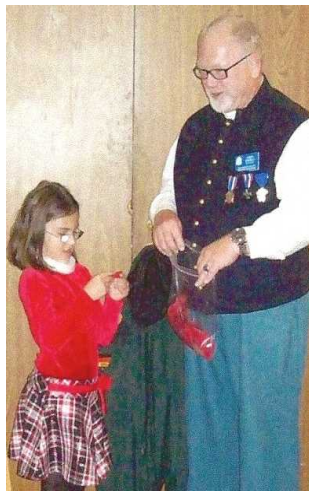
Dave Klinepeter presented John Deppen with Hancock item.



Charlotte and Lee



Department Chaplain Dave Acheson



Molly Deppen assists Larry Sheibley, PCC.



Larry Sheibley, right presents our WWII veteran Brother, Floyd Demmy, left, with his 10 year membership pin.



Brothers Doug and Dave in deep discussion!



Judy and Howard Wolfe are engaged in Christmas spirit by Joe Long of Scranton Camp 8.



Larry and Cathy Nace benefiting from festivities!



Dave Demmy, Jr., Camp webmaster, with grandparents, Floyd and Gret Demmy.



David W. Demmy, Sr. and John Deppen delighted over something!



Greg Kline, PCC, King of Bingo callers!



Sister Ann, President of Pennsylvania ASUVCW.

More photos forthcoming in your January [Hartranft Herald](#).



Taci and Molly Deppen ecstatic over holiday entertainment!

## [Camp Schedule of events for 2011](#)

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 Arry 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

Monthly Camp Meetings begin at 2 p.m. and are held on Sunday, at National Civil War Museum unless otherwise, indicated!

January 16, 2011, Sunday camp meeting.  
January 29, 2011 reenactment of WWII Battle of Bulge conducted at Fort Indiantown Gap.

February 12, 2011 Saturday annual Lincoln Luncheon at Eden Resort, Lancaster, PA.

February 20, 2011, Sunday camp meeting.

March 20, 2011, Sunday camp meeting.

April 16, 2011, annual Lincoln Ceremonies at Springfield, IL.

April 17, 2011, Sunday camp meeting.

May 15, 2011, Sunday camp meeting.  
May 28, 2011, Saturday Camp Memorial day activities at variety of cemeteries.  
May 30, 2011 Camp participates in Parade.

June 24-25, 2011 Pennsylvania Department Encampment at Scranton, PA.

July 17, 2011, Sunday annual camp picnic TBA.

August 12-13 National Encampment at Reston, VA.

September 18, 2011, Sunday camp meeting.

October 16, 2011, Sunday camp meeting.

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

Sunday, annual holiday party TBA.



[66<sup>th</sup> WWII - Battle of the Bulge Living History Commemoration January 2011](#)

the World War II Federation and Fort Indiantown Gap Presents the 66<sup>th</sup> WWII - Battle of the Bulge Living History Commemoration  
Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, PA  
[Continued](#)

**Saturday, January 29th, 2011**

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
I-81 Indiantown Gap exit 85b

More data at <http://www.wwiifederation.org/>

This is not a camp function, but you are truly invited if interested in this subject.

See camp photos among past [Hartranft Herald](#)s at [www.suvcwHarrisburgPA.org](http://www.suvcwHarrisburgPA.org)

*The Day to HUG a World War II Veteran is coming in 95 days, 9 hours, 51 Minutes, and 58 Seconds*

After you visit the event above, make your way over to the Pennsylvania National Guard Museum – tis not far from reenactment area.

Details below:



## HOURS

Hours are 10:00-4:30 (Monday & Friday).

To schedule an appointment to visit the museum at a time not listed, call the Museum Director, Mr. Charlie B. Oellig, at the museum Monday & Friday at 717-861-2402, the Command Historian, SGT Damian J. M. Smith, at 717-861-2464, or the Cultural Resources Manager, Rita Meneses, at 717-861-9415.

## DIRECTIONS

From I-81, take exit 85B(northbound) or exit 85 (southbound), Fort Indiantown Gap exit, and proceed north on Route 934. At the first red light, turn right onto Service Road. The museum is located four tenths of a mile at the corner of Service Road and Wiley Road, Building T-8-57. Look for the Civil War Cannon, Korean era tank, and the museum signs on the right hand side.



[At Press Time, Camp 15 learns of the departed of one of our own.](#)

Brother Norm's Obituary:



Norman L. Houser, 71, of Halifax died Saturday, December 11, 2010 at Harrisburg Hospital. He was born March 27, 1939 in Harrisburg, a son of the late Walter and Ruth (Umholtz) Houser. Norman was in banking for 50 years and retired as Senior Vice-president of Mid-Penn Bank. He received many awards and recognitions. Norman served for 6 years in the U.S. Navy, was a member of Millersburg Assembly of God Church, served as a member of the Board of Camp Hebron and for 40 years as Treasurer of Fort Hunter Foundation and Museum, and Fort Hunter Board of Trustees. He was the Disbursing Officer of Dauphin County Park of Fort Hunter. Norman was also a member of the Harrisburg Civil War Round Table and Camp Curtain Historical Society. He participated in several reenactment units and appeared in Civil War documentaries and films.

Norman is survived by his loving wife, Ruth Ann, and brother Walter, sons Mark, and Matthew, and daughter Deborah. Also surviving are grandchildren, Joshua, Michelle, Kristen, and Nathaniel. Services will be held at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 240 Broad Street, Highspire on Wednesday, December 15, 2010 at 12:00 Noon with a visitation from 10:00 a.m. until time of service in the church. Burial with full military honors will follow at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Camp Hebron, 957 Camp Hebron Road, Halifax, PA 17032. K.M. Knight Funeral Home, Highspire, PA., in charge of arrangements. [www.pennlive.com/obits](http://www.pennlive.com/obits)

You may share your thoughts with the family at [www.Pennlive.com](http://www.Pennlive.com) Visit [Guest Book](#) or contact at Houser Family  
194 Dividing Ridge Rd  
Halifax PA 17032

Camp Commander John Deppen's comments sum up Camp 15's Brothers' feelings for our fallen Brother, Norm!

Brothers,

I am deeply saddened to learn of Norm's death - I am also saddened to learn of it at such a time when I am unable to be present for his funeral.

I believe it is entirely appropriate for all brothers of Camp #15 to drape their badges with the black mourning band at our next meeting in January, and for our charter to be displayed with the appropriate mourning garment.

Norm was a true friend of history, and a champion of our Civil War heritage.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

John Deppen  
Commander, Camp #15

And this note from our friends in Montgomery County of Norm's passing - I received this reply from Eileen Santori -

Thank you for this information, we will plant a Rose Bush in the Veterans Memorial Rose Garden this Spring

in this Memory, and we will place the Navy Flag for Memorial Day with a Ribbon with his name on it. Please extend our sincere sympathies to his family. The Rose Bush will be a living tribute to his memory, and every year we will also place the Navy Flag. Thank you again, Take Care, Eileen M Santori  
Shared by John Deppen.

Editor's Note: Brother Norm served on Camp Council for several terms. He will be missed at our camp meetings and out-of-doors activities. Norm was of our Brothers to visit and enjoy the reenactment of the Battle of the Bulge at Fort Indiantown Gap as well as Remembrance Day in Gettysburg.



Expect more 2010 holiday photos in the January 2011 issue of your [Hartranft Herald](#).

Look for member's shared stories on the Korean War era next year as time permits in these pages.

End of December 2010 [Hartranft Herald!](#)