



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

Celebrating our 134th Year serving Harrisburg Area

f @ [Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp#15 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War](#)



Vol 18, No. 06

-- Loss of Brother Floyd J Demmy --

June 2016



Vol 18, No. 07

July 2016

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 June/July 2016 issue of your *Hartranft Herald* is draped in honor of our late Brother Floyd J Demmy!

Obituary available upon request. Brother Floyd was a known artist and author of the region. He has been featured or published in the following media:

The Gem 1978

The Patriotic News, Harrisburg 1989

PA Farm Show News 1992 and 2011

Wildwood Lake Center News 2006

Daily Item, Sunbury 2010

Lebanon Daily 2014 and 2015

50 Plus Seniors News 2015

B Magazine 2015

Hershey Reflections 2015

Central Penn World War II Round Table

2014 and 2015

Dog Tag Tours 2016

On behalf of the Demmy clan, we wish to thank all of you who sent words of encouragement, perhaps a card, perhaps a hug, you offered up a prayer, sent flowers or attended the service and funeral.

I am very proud to be the recipient of the US Flag that covered his coffin! It is inserted into a flag display case, hand-crafted by his grandson, Dave Demmy, Jr, Camp 15's webmaster!

With sincere regards, David W. Demmy, Sr.

On Aug. 9, [1945], after Nagasaki was a-bombed, {President} Truman made another public statement on why the atomic bombs were used:

June/July 2016 Hartranft Herald Camp 15 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
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"Having found the bomb we have used it. We have used it against those who attacked us without warning at Pearl Harbor, against those who have starved and beaten and executed American prisoners of war, against those who have abandoned all pretense of obeying international laws of warfare. We have used it in order to shorten the agony of war, in order to save the lives of thousands and thousands of young Americans." ("Public Papers of the Presidents: Harry S Truman, 1945", pg. 212)

EDITOR'S NOTE: DROPPING THOSE 2 BOMBS SAVED 100S OF THOUSANDS OF GI LIVES INCLUDING MY FATHER FLOYD WHO WAS SCHEDULED TO INVADE JAPAN FROM THE BEACHES, ONLY THE SURRENDER OF THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN SAVED BOTH AMERICAN AND JAPANESE LIVES!
[Brothers and Sisters in Distress](#)

By Camp Chaplain, David Demmy Please add the following to your daily prayer list:

Mrs. Robert Treat; Jeffery Smith; Mrs. Robert Manning; Charlie Kuhn Jr, PCinC, Past Dept of PA Secretary; Joe Long Jr, PDC at Scranton Camp 8; and Mrs. Rob Koenigsberg, spouse of

PA Dept Secretary! Mrs. Bill Kuhn Jr and Tony Kline, with continued blessings for Mrs. Charlotte Walters and Mary Jane Bannan; and the Demmy family during their time of mourning.

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR/GAR HISTORIAN by Dave Klinepeter

On May 21, 2016 a number of members of Hartranft Camp 15 journeyed to Scranton, Pa to visit the GAR Hall and Civil War Museum. I want to thank Greg Kline for my ride. There were several members from other Camps in attendance. It was great to visit with our "ole" mentor, Joe Long, if not for all his time and effort years ago, Camp 15, would not have survived. Joe was presented with a special plaque and I presented him with 4 research books on the GAR and Civil War for the Museum. Although

the Museum is small it has a very good collection of artifacts, which are identified, and give the name and outfit of the veteran donor. This is a place you want to go back to again and again.

On May 28, 2016, Helen Shireman, Great Grand Daughter of General John F, Hartranft, our namesake, and I went to Norristown, to the Montgomery County Cemetery for Memorial Day services. It was our honor to place a wreath on General Hartranft's grave, from Camp 15 of Harrisburg, Pa.

On May 29, 2016 I journeyed to Big Cove Tannery, Pa in Fulton County. Brother Mike Klinepeter (my son) helped put on the Memorial Day services at Laurel Ridge church. After the inside services were finished everyone went outside where fresh flowers were placed on the veterans graves by the children and a young lady performed taps.

As I am no longer able to march in the parades, on May 30, 2016 I traveled to the Gettysburg National Military Park as a volunteer with the Victorian Dance Ensemble. They had several displays of civilian items and photo items of the Civil War period and we have several dance demonstrations, to help educate the public!

Patriotic Instructor/GAR Historian continued; On May 20, 2016, Camp 15, lost one of our older dedicated members. Floyd J. Demmy (father of our David Demmy Sr.) passed over to the other side of eternal life. I first met Floyd when he joined Hartranft Camp 15 SUVCW in 2000. Though he was Army, and I was Navy, we gravitated to each other because of being WWII veterans.



I enjoyed listening to his numerous stories of things done, places traveled, and about family. It seems Floyd was many things to many people, not just his family. He was always willing to extent a hand in help or friendship. I am sure his influence will radiate down through his children and grandchildren. Yes, he was special to me and yes, I already miss him. Floyd, may you rest in everlasting peace. DJK!



EDITOR'S NOTE: FLOYD'S FIRST GREAT, GREAT GRANDSON, JAMESON SCOTT DEMMY, WAS BORN ON FATHER'S DAY AT 1:23 PM AND ARRIVED AT 8 LBS, 12 OZ AND 20 INCHES LONG WITH A MOP OF HAIR. Camp 15 Brother Jon, proud daddy is all smiles.....

May Meeting Minutes

Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp #15
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 National Civil War Museum, Harrisburg, PA
 Sunday May 15, 2016

Officers Present

- Commander.....Jeff Smith
- JVC.....Logan Swanger
- Treas./Chaplain.....David Demmy, Sr.
- Pat.Inst./Historian.....David Klinepeter
- Council.....Thomas Bowman
- Council.....Tony Kline
- Guide/Guard.....Thomas Bowman

Officers Absent

- SVC/Secretary.....Greg Kline
- Council.....Scott Debo
- Color Bearer.....Kelley Betz

Members Present

Vern Stoudt, Robert Treat

Guests

Dane DiFebo, Dorothy Kline

The meeting was called to order by Camp Commander Jeff Smith at 1:53 p.m. The Minutes from the April 17, 2016 meeting were read and Brother Logan Swanger made a motion to accept, seconded by Dane DiFebo. Motion carried. Treasurer David Demmy, Sr. reported that we have a balance of \$540.00, [available for expenditures], in the checking account. Brother Tom Bowman made a motion to accept, seconded by Brother Vern Stoudt. Motion carried.

Report of Sick Brothers or a Brother's Family in Distress.

Brother David Demmy, Sr. reported that his father, Brother Floyd Demmy, is convalescing at Vibralife on Shepherdstown Road in Mechanicsburg. His heart is very weak and his condition is frail. His next move will probably be to a nursing home. We are to keep Brother Floyd in our thoughts and prayers.

Orders, Communications and Bills

Brother Tony Kline read Department Order #12 reminding all Camps that Memorial Day is the most important day in the SUVCW year. We are to attend ceremonies to remember the Boys in Blue. Brother David Demmy, Sr. suggested that Camp Commander Jeff Smith and SVC Greg Kline submit a report to Department Commander Doug McMillin after Memorial Day describing Camp #15 activities over the Memorial Day weekend.

Unfinished Business

There was some discussion regarding a visit to the GAR museum in Scranton on Saturday, May 21. At a show of hands David Demmy, Sr. Thomas Bowman, David Klinepeter, Dane DiFebo and Vern Stoudt agreed to attend. The group will meet at the National Civil War museum at 10 a.m. David Demmy, Sr. will get in touch with SVC Greg Kline and finalize the plans. The group will be joined in Scranton by several Members of Camp #503, Sunbury. Brother Tony Kline reported that the Cooper's Battery B plaque to be given to Brother Joe Long, Jr. in Scranton is almost finished. The cost is \$231.70. Brother Robert Treat contributed \$50.00 and Brother Dane DiFebo contributed \$25.00 toward the cost in honor of their Armed Forces relatives. Kudos to these two Brothers for their generous offer. The remaining cost will be split between Camps #15 and Camp #503.

We were reminded regarding Saturday, May 28. On that day we will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the American Dream Diner for breakfast. From there we will go to the Old Harrisburg City cemetery to decorate veteran's graves. All Brothers are invited to join in the event.

Patriotic Instructor

He discussed various events related to the beginning of Memorial Day and mentioned Commander-in-Chief Logan's General Order #11 creating May 30 as Decoration Day, later to become Memorial Day. Finally, he read a 1929 Harrisburg *Patriot* newspaper Article about a

local parade and the various activities held on that Memorial Day.

After the closing ritual ceremony, the meeting ended at 3:35 p.m. The next meeting will be held Sunday, September 18, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

Good of the Order

On June 17, 18 and 19 there will be Harrisburg Civil War Days and various activities are being planned. The National Civil War Museum will be free for one day on June 18 and it was agreed to set up a Camp #15 recruiting table on that day.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
Tony Kline (acting for Secretary Greg Kline)
Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp #15, SUVCW

Scranton Road Trip for Camp 15 and 503 among others

I was very impressed by Camp #8 and Auxiliary #10's collection of Civil War and Spanish American War artifacts and veterans' memorabilia viewed during my visit to their Civil War Museum. I was especially impressed by the collections of framed identified photographs of Union soldiers that are paired with photographs of the postwar veterans.

It was also an honor to join the brothers of Camp #15 in recognizing Brother Joe Long for his contributions to our Order. Brother Long was one of the first brothers that I became acquainted with when I jointed the Sons in the early 2000s. Brother Joe had helped revitalize a camp in my hometown around the same time that he worked to improve Camp #15. He certainly is a treasure for the Pennsylvania Department. The items in the museum are likewise a treasure trove for the Civil War researcher and history buff.

Dane DiFebo
Museum Educator, The National Civil War Museum
717-260-1861, ext. 1130
educator@nationalcivilwarmuseum.org



Hartranft gravesite

2016 – wreath placed by Helen Shireman and Dave Klinepeter.



PCC Brothers with Joe, l to r Craig Kelly, Greg Kline, Brother Joe, Gene Mascoili, Tony Kline Scot Debo and Dave Klinepeter seated.



Dave and Joe with presentation display



L to r back row David Teeters,Dane Difebo, Vern Stoudt, and Greg Kline, foreground Scott Teeters and Craig Kelly.

Camp 15 offers thank you to Past Camp Commander, Larry Keener-Farley and wife Annette for their donation to the Camp in honor of David Klinepeter’s 90th birthday and for all he has done in service to the SUVCW since 1943, even before he joined the US Navy for WWII.

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Our Camp Brother, SSG Duke Hall, on active duty with fellow soldiers.

Camp 15 and 503 Road Trip to Scranton Camp 8's Museum

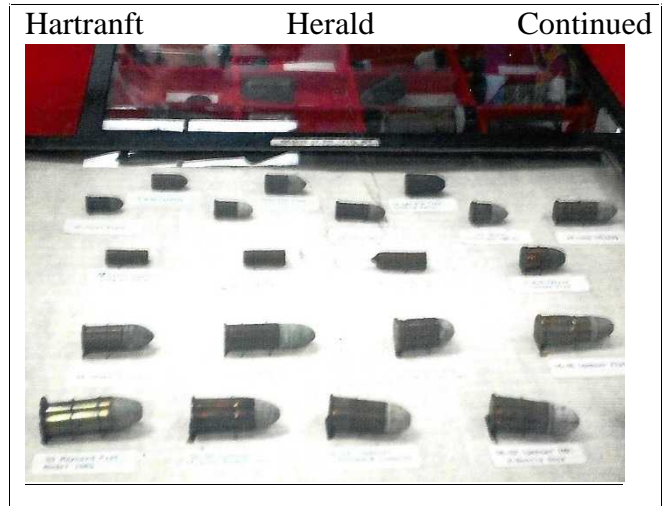


The Pizza MRE Is Finally Coming

source taskandpurpose.com



The advent of a Pizza Meal, Ready-to-Eat will let every day be pizza day, even in war. Close your eyes. Now, think of the most delicious food imaginable. If you're picturing, say, a hamburger or a bowl of mom's spaghetti, you're wrong. It's pizza, or, as it will soon be known in the military, Meal, Ready-to-Eat No. 37. That's right, a U.S. Army laboratory has just successfully concocted the first ever field-ready slice. And guess what? It's the real deal. Well, almost. "It's a fully assembled and baked piece of pizza in one package," Lauren Oleksysk, a food technologist at the U.S. Army's research, development, and engineering center in Natick, Massachusetts, told Tech Insider. But unlike a normal, civilian slice of pizza, this one is infused with something called Hurdle technology, which prevents mold from forming and allows the MRE to remain edible for three years at 80 degrees. In other words, if the Terminator were a slice of pizza, this would be it. According to Oleksysk, soldiers can expect the slice to taste like "day after pizza" or the 'za commonly found in school cafeterias across America. As true pizza fans know, those are two of the very best varieties. "We've actually had feedback from the warfighter for years," Oleksysk said. "Pizza just seems appealing to all." Damn right it is. MRE No. 37 is scheduled to make its debut sometime in 2017, at which point deployments will get exponentially more delicious. Until then, everyone will just have to keep fighting over Chili and Macaroni.



Courtesy of 3d Armored Division newsletter



Photos above courtesy of Brother Gene Mascioli, PCC – “I am glad I was able to make the recent visit to the Scranton Camp’s Museum. It was a great field trip. Hope more [field trips are] in store [for us] in the future.” ~ ~ Gene.

Hartranft Herald Continued

Scranton Photos below from Brother Vern Stoudt



Confederate graves to be decorated



Confederate graves to be decorated



150 ANNIVERSARY-- GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC (GAR)

FIRST OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP BADGE OF THE GAR.

The original badge was adopted by resolution in 1866 and continued in use till 1869, when it was redesigned. The badge was in a modified shield shape, crossed flags and sabers over a drum in the lower half and a cannon and crossed muskets on an anchor in the upper half. On the upper, in center is a "3", on the left is a "B" on the right is an "N". On the lower half is G A R over the flags. This meaning "THIRD BATTALION" GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC can be found in the book "History of George Meade Post No. One, Department of Pennsylvania, GAR, by Joseph Chandler Ward, Phila. 1889." In battle the Third Battalion stood behind the first two battalions to support them. After the war, the GAR saw themselves as part of the shield of the UNION. The regular army was the first battalion, the militia was the second battalion and the GAR was the third battalion or veteran volunteers.

Many veterans had taken their weapons home and they were stored in GAR Posts ready to return to the field should the south attempt to rise again. In his History of the GAR in 1888, Robert Beath comments on these meanings. When the badge is redesigned in 1869 the 3BN is dropped. This badge was in two known sizes, but numerous materials.

The following ad was in the Great Republic newspaper of Washington D. C.

On January 3, 1867. The Grand Army of the Republic Badge Manufacturing Company, with headquarters at La Fayette, Indiana, are now prepared to furnish Badges of all kinds and qualities at the short notice. We have been designated by the Commander in Chief as the sole and exclusive manufacturer of Badges for the Grand Army. A caveat has been filed and a patent applied for, to protect us from the sharks, who remained in the rear during the war, but are now anxious to step forward and reap the profits of our work. All members of the Badge Company are members of the GAR in good standing. A large per cent of the profits are paid to National Headquarters for charitable purposes. We furnish Badges of the following kinds and prices stated: Silver-plated Badges- 50 cents Genuine Silver Badges-\$1.00 heavy Gold Plated Badges-\$2.50 Solid Gold Plated Badges \$10-\$25, according to fineness and enamel. This is the only company authorized to make and sell Badges for the Grand Army.

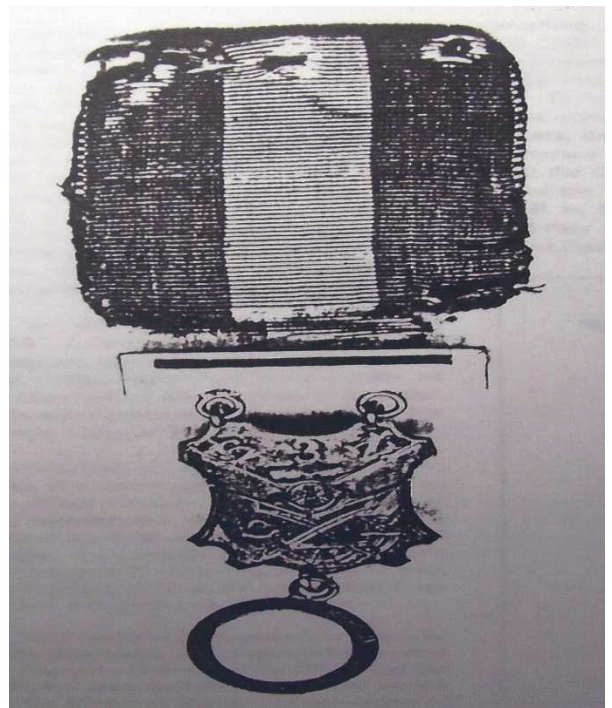
There are a number of variations of 3BN badges, some in white metal, some in gilt. Many were enameled in red-white-blue, some in black. There are also various shapes, all are not alike.. I did own one that a jeweler had engraved on a gold stick pin. The smaller one was about the size of a dime and the larger one about the size of a quarter.

There were several styles of officer's badges. There is very little known about these

as very few were ever manufactured. Any badge with 3 B N - G A R upon it is extremely rare, and the research for badges and more information continues.

See badges below.

~~~~ DJK



**At the 2016 Pennsylvania Department Encampment at State College;** our Brother Greg Kline, past Camp Commander of Camps, 15 and 503 at Sunbury, was elected departmental Jr Vice Commander! *In 4-5 years we will be contributing to his department retirement fund.*

### On the Road with Camp 15

Monthly Camp business meetings begin at 2 p.m. and are conducted the 3rd Sunday, at National Civil War Museum!

No Camp meeting in June, instead we hope you may attend the 2016 annual Department of Pennsylvania encampment at State College, PA.

National encampment August 11-14 Springfield IL.

Fall Camp meetings:

Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup>

Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup>

No meeting in November, please visit Gettysburg for annual SUVCW Remembrance Day events November 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Sunday December 11<sup>th</sup> annual Camp Holiday banquet.**

Please update your social calendar now.

Camp 15 yearly calendar available upon request. Send e-mail or contact Hartranft Herald staff [DoubleD@Demmy.cc](mailto:DoubleD@Demmy.cc).

### Be Proud - Wear the Badge



Come out to a meeting and engage with us!

The Allied Orders of the GAR:

- Woman's Relief Corps Auxiliary to GAR,
- Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic,
- Daughters of Union Veterans of Civil War,
- Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and
- Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of 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.

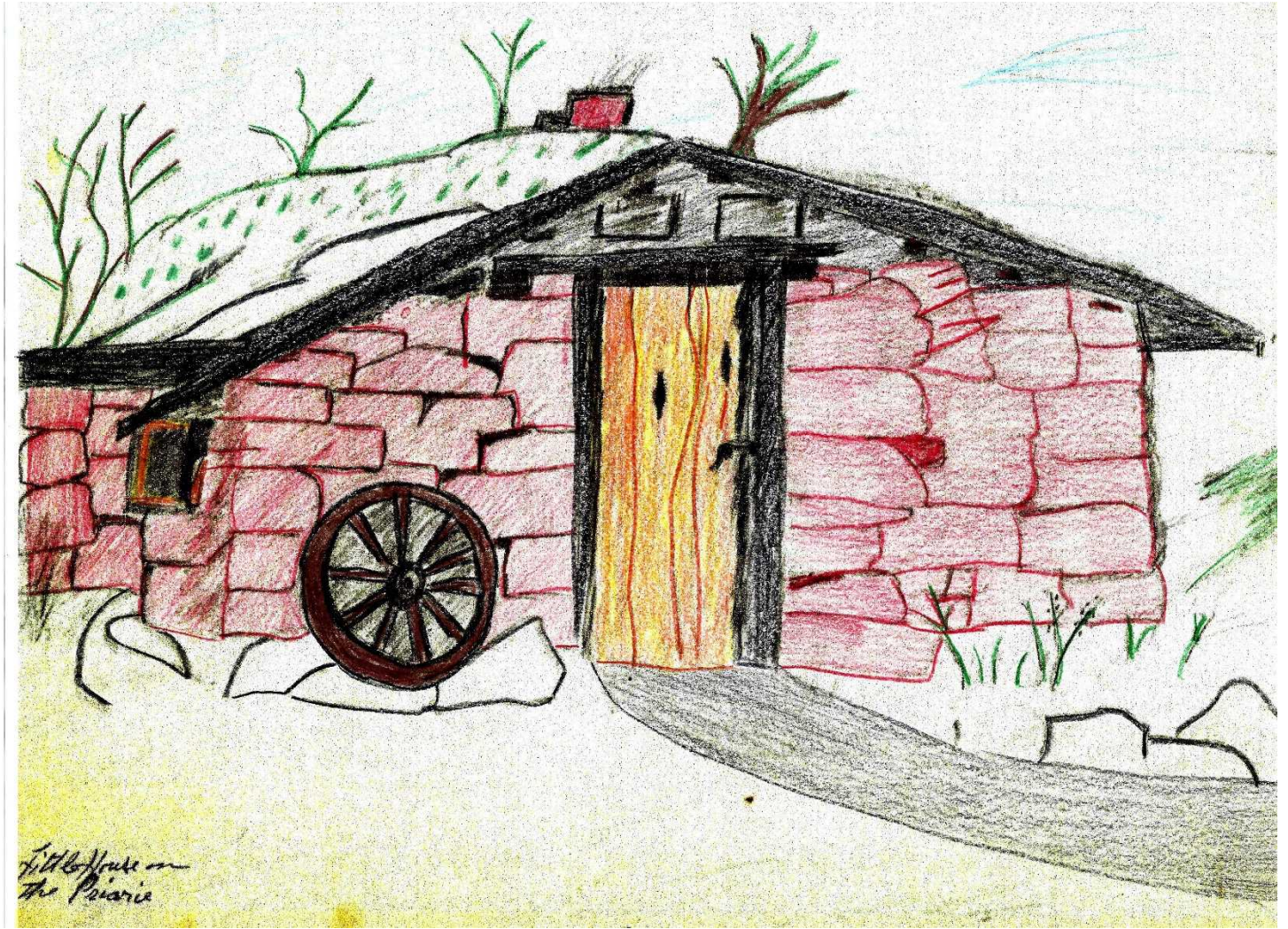
If you prefer, [and your *Hartranft Herald* wishes you would], complete an e-worksheet, please ask for one – send e-mail request to [DoubleD@Demmy.cc](mailto:DoubleD@Demmy.cc)

Bring a nephew, uncle, brother, father, grandfather, neighbor and friend to a Camp meeting! Family and our sisters of Auxiliary 7 are always welcome!

Established February 11, 1882  
in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty!

Continued

One of many properties sketched by our late Brother Floyd Demmy



*'Little House on the Prairie'* year unknown!

FJD

Colorized by his favorite daughter-n-law, Marilyn J Smith Demmy

*Gettysburg – Adopt A Monument – Knapp’s Battery:*

Last year, Camp #15 participated in the Gettysburg National Park “Adopt a Monument Program”. The program allows volunteers to adopt a specific monument in the park, and maintain the area around a monument once or twice in the year. Camp #15 adopted Knapp’s Battery, which is located on Culp’s Hill. Last November, Brothers Greg Kline, Scott Debo, Logan Swanger, and Jeffery Smith met for lunch at Gettysburg and then proceeded to clear the area near the battery which helped widen the view shed along the road and increased the safety for the bikers and autos following the tour route in that area. The brothers had the honor of clearing an area held by the 6<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin, a regiment of the “Iron Brigade” which was assigned this defensive position on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Recently this summer one of the brothers visited that area, and the effects of their work are still to be seen.

This year, Camp #15 will again participate in the program and maintain the area of Knapp’s. The activity is planned for this coming October or November 2016. The same brothers above are planning to participate, but would love to see the ranks increase with more brothers from Camp #15. Please feel free to contact Brother Greg Kline at his email ( [gregsuvcw@yahoo.com](mailto:gregsuvcw@yahoo.com)) or at his cell (717) 571-6877 if you are interested in helping out. It is guaranteed to be a good time, with fellowship of brothers in the camp, and feeling that sense of contribution in enhancing the Gettysburg experience to all visitors who visit Culps Hill. The men of the 6<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin will surely smile on our efforts from afar!

Tributes in the next Hartranft Herald:

The August/September combined Hartranft Herald issue, according to our Camp Commander, Brother Jeff, will include a large tribute to our late Brothers, Larry and Floyd. Therefore, if you have any words of wisdom, a sentence or paragraph on how you met, photos, stories, remembrances, whatever, that you desire to share, please begin to submit those images, words, stories to [DoubleD@Demmy.cc](mailto:DoubleD@Demmy.cc) for inclusion in the combined issue or mail such documentation or photos to David Demmy, 881 Sunny Hill Ln, Hbg, PA 17111.

End of June/July 2016 Hartranft Herald