



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 129th Year



Volume 12, No. 10

October 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!

Imminent Camp Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 17 at 2pm at National Civil War Museum, high atop Reservoir Park, Harrisburg.

December 12, Sunday - Annual Camp Holiday Banquet at Doc Holliday's, New Cumberland! Social time 11:30 – 12:30 Wait staff will begin taking Meal Orders about 12:30pm! NOTICE FORTHCOMING!

Brothers and Sisters in distress

Brother Commander John Deppen's mother has been relocated to a nursing home.

Brother Floyd Demmy's wife, Gret, has been suffering with a horrific upper respiratory infection!

If there are other Brothers and sisters in need, please contact us so we may add you and yours to our prayer lists.

65th WWII - Battle of the Bulge Living History Commemoration

at Fort Indiantown Gap

Saturday, January 30th, 2010
1 0 : 0 0 A M - 2 : 0 0 P M
I-81 Indiantown Gap exit 85b

MINUTES

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
General John F. Hartranft Camp #15
National Civil War Museum, Harrisburg, PA

Officers Present:

Commander.....John Deppen
Secretary.....Larry Sheibley
Treasurer./Chap.....David Demmy
Pat. Ins./Hist.....David Klinepeter
Council.....Norm Houser
Council/Guard.....Gregory Kline

Officers Absent:

Sr.V.Command.....Stanley Zellers
Jr.V.Command.....Scott Debo
Council.....Donald Prye
Guide.....Thomas Bruner
Color Bearer.....Kelly Betz

Other Members Present:

Candidate_Kenneth Linn, Tom Bowman;
Dave Demmy, Jr.; Floyd Demmy; Frank Haley;
Tony Kline; Dave Laman; and Allen Spigelmeyer.

Guests: Kori Linn & Brittni Linn

Sunday 19 September 2010 - Meeting called to order @ 2:00 p.m.

After Commander Deppen opened the meeting, Secretary Sheibley read the May minutes; and Treasurer Demmy reported \$680 in the camp treasury.

Brothers and sisters in distress were discussed: Brother Klinepeter's wife, Gloria, is out of the wheelchair and using a type of walker. Brother Spigelmeier anticipates future surgery.

Candidate Kenneth D. Linn of Millerstown was approved for camp membership and took the oath with his wife and daughter present. Welcome!

The camp secretary read a PA Department letter announcing state and national dues increases. A list of new Department officers and committees was made available. The SUVCW PA Department mid-year meeting will be held Saturday 30 October 2010 at 9:00 at Doc Holliday's Steak House. (All are welcome, but please RSVP – see Pennsylvania G.O. later in this issue of your *Hartranft Herald*).

Letters were sent to State Senator Jeffrey E. Piccola and State Representative Susan C. Helm requesting easier public access to PA death certificates. Also, a letter was sent to PA Department Commander Palmer requesting merchandising license renewal for selling SUVCW belt buckles and license plates, our only fundraisers. (All requests were approved by National)

Seven Shay's Camp #7 of Lebanon invited our camp to share in a field trip to Fort Indiantown Gap on 9 October 2010. A flier was distributed at the meeting and an email was sent to members. There was room for ten of us. The meeting location was to be near the 40 and 8

liberty freedom boxcar, from WWII, on site at Fort Indiantown Gap triangle!



PHOTO COURTESY OF HARTRANFT HERALD STAFF.

Commander Deppen spoke of the various camp activities since our May meeting - Memorial Day activities, camp picnic, Department Encampment.

After discussion, the camp gave a unanimous vote to increase camp dues from one dollar to four dollars. With the following increases: SUVCW National (\$5 increase to \$23); PA Department (\$2 increase to \$8); and Camp #15 Local (\$1 increase to \$4) the total dues increase from \$25 to \$35. These are the first increases since 2005! THEREFORE, THE 2011 SUVCW TOTAL DUES WILL BE THIRTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$35).

Brother Gene Mascioli sent the camp a letter about the need to clean-up the Harrisburg Cemetery of fallen limbs. American Legion member Les McClure, grave flagger since 1946, appears to be handling the situation.

The Grand Review of Union Colored Troops will be held November 2-9, 2010, in Harrisburg with the parade on Saturday 6 November at 9:00 am. Brother Greg Kline is checking to get Camp #15 participation.

After a 10 minute recess, our Patriotic Instructor, Dave Klinepeter, gave an

outstanding presentation on World War II with displays, photographs, albums, and artifacts. First, Brother Floyd Demmy, in full military uniform, spoke of his going home process after his honorable discharge at the end of the war. Brother Klinepeter continued with information about himself and his two brothers, campaign badges and medals, and the WWII Memorial.

Also, Brothers Tom Bowman; David Demmy, Sr.; John Deppen; Greg Kline; Dave Laman; and Larry Sheibley spoke of relatives or friends in the war. The entire presentation gave a wealth of information. Thank you, gentlemen.

Do you know what a "40 and 8" box car is? Those present at the meeting now know. See answer on next page:

Brother Klinepeter gave all persons present a new gold President James Buchanan one dollar coin. Greatly appreciated, Dave!

The Camp 15 meeting closed at 4:05.

In fraternity, charity, and loyalty,
Larry Sheibley, PCC, Camp 15 Secretary
Photos below from 1945



Veterans headed for LeHarve France and then USA



From Bamberg Germany to LeHarve, France
1945

Source: Bob Searl, Sr. galleries at <http://www.pbase.com/rhssr/profile>



GRATITUDE TRAIN WITH VETERAN FLOYD DEMMY STANDING NEXT TO THE GRATITUDE TRAIN ON SITE AT FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, ANNVILLE, PA CIRCA 2009. PHOTO COURTESY OF HARTRANFT HERALD STAFF.

A 40 and 8 boxcar was designed to hold 40 men or 8 horses. Following WWII Victory in Europe, such boxcars as indicated in these few photos reveals veterans were shipped from the victorious 'front' in Germany, back to France in 40 and 8 boxcars and stayed at such places in France as Camp Lucky Strikes till passage was available on a ship departing for USA and home.

[Military history for you continues](#) with honorable discharge symbol following WWII:



Left above is the RUPTURED DUCK CLOTH PATCH 2 1/2" diamond shaped color military patch. It is worn on the right side of the uniform above the pocket on the Army uniform. It is officially called the "World War II Honorable Discharge Patch." It is sewn on the uniform at discharge to show that a veteran served honorably in World War II. On the right is the lapel pin that was generally worn by veterans upon their business suit.

[The P-38 Story - 'Army's Greatest Invention Ever'](#)

No one talks about WWII without saying something about their P-38; so herein, we share the grand story of this marvelous invention for your reading enjoyment.

In an article for 'The Pentagram' (August 18, 1986) Army Public Affairs' Officer Maj. R. Foster wrote that the P-38 could be the 'Army's Greatest Invention Ever'.

It was developed in just 30 days in 1942 by the Subsistence Research agency in Chicago. And never in its history has it been known to break, rust, need



sharpening or polishing. Perhaps that is why many soldiers, past and present, regard the P-38 C-ration can opener as the Army's best invention.

C-rations have long since been replaced with the more convenient Meals,

Ready to Eat, but the fame of the P-38 persists, thanks to the many uses stemming from the *unique blend of ingenuity and creativity all soldiers* seem to have.

"The P-38 is one of those tools you keep and never want to get rid of," said S. Kiraly, a military policeman. "I've had my P-38 since joining the Army 11 years ago and kept it because I can use it as a screwdriver, knife, anything." The most vital use of the P-38, however, is the very mission it was designed for, said Fort Monmouth, N.J., garrison commander Col. P. Baerman.

"When we had C-rations, the P-38 was your access to food; that made it the hierarchy of needs," Baerman said. "Soldiers discovered it was an extremely simple, lightweight, multipurpose tool. In warfare, the simpler something is and the easier access it has, the more you're going to use it. The P-38 had all of those things"

The tool acquired its name from the 38 punctures required to open a C-ration can, and from the boast that it performed with the speed of the World War II P-38 fighter plane.

"Soldiers just took to the P-38 naturally," said World War II veteran J. Bandola. "It was our means for eating 90 percent of the time, but we also used it for cleaning boots and fingernails, as a screwdriver, you name it. We all carried it on our dog tags or key rings." When Bandola attached his first and only P-38 to his key ring a half century ago, it accompanied him to Anzio, Salerno and through northern Italy. It was with him when World War II ended, and it's with him now.

T. Paquet, swing shift supervisor in the Fort Monmouth Provost Marshal's Office, was a 17-year-old seaman serving aboard the amphibious assault ship USS New Orleans during the Vietnam War when he received his first P-38. The ship's mission was to transport Marines off the coast of Da Nang.

On occasional evenings, Marines gathered near Paquet's duty position on the fantail for simple pleasures like "Cokes, cigarettes, conversation and C-rations." It was during one of these nightly sessions that Paquet came in contact with the P-38, or "John Wayne" as it's referred to in the Navy.

Paquet still carries his P-38, and he still finds it useful. While driving with his older brother, their car's carburetor began to have problems.

"There were no tools in the car and, almost simultaneously, both of us reached for P-38s attached to our key rings," Paquet said with a grin. "We used my P-8 to adjust the flow valve, the car worked perfectly, and we went on our merry way."

Paquet's P-38 is in a special box with his dog tags, a .50-caliber round from the ship he served on, his Vietnam Service Medal, South Vietnamese money and a surrender leaflet from Operation Desert Storm provided by a nephew.

The feelings veterans have for the P-38 aren't hard to understand, according to 1st Sgt. S. Wilson of the Chaplain Center and School at Fort Monmouth.

"When you hang on to something for 26 years," he said, "it's very hard to give it up. That's why people keep their P-38 just like they do their dog tags. ... It means a lot. It's become part of you. You remember field problems, jumping at 3 a.m. and moving out. A P-38 has you reliving all the adventures that came with soldiering in the armed forces. Yes, the P-38 opened cans, but it did much more. Any soldier will tell you that."

Information about the actual inventor of the P-38 has faded with the passing of years. So perhaps it's best to fanaticize about a "Patron Saint of Army Inventions" who's been responsible for creating devices empowering a soldier to survive in war and peacetime.

There were the steel helmets designed for head protection, but proved ideal for washing, shaving and cooking; the faithful, trustworthy jeep, guaranteed to go anywhere and in any kind of weather; and the TA-50 ammunition pouch for storing those personal items that soldiers just couldn't leave behind. The P-38, however, remains the Saints finest work.

List of P-38 Uses by S. Wilson, MSG Proponent NCO, Dept of the Army Office of the Chief of Chaplains, The Pentagon

1. Can Opener
2. Seam Ripper
3. Screwdriver
4. Clean Fingernails
5. Cut Fishing Line
6. Open Paint Cans
7. Window Scraper
8. Scrape Around Floor Corners
9. Digging
10. Clean Out Groove on Tupperware lids

11. Reach in and Clean Out Small Cracks
12. Scrape Around Edge of Boots
13. Bottle Opener
14. Gut Fish (in the field)
15. Scale Fish (in the field)
16. Test for 'Doneness' When Baking on a Camp Fire
17. Prying Items
18. Strip Wire
19. Scrape Pans in the Field
20. Lift Key on Flip Top Cans
21. Chisel
22. Barter
23. Marking Tool
24. Deflating Tires
25. Clean Sole of Boot/Shoe
26. Pick Teeth
27. Measurement
28. Striking Flint
29. Stirring Coffee
30. Puncturing Plastic Coating
31. Knocking on Doors
32. Morse Code
33. Box Cutter
34. Opening Letters
35. Write Emergency Messages
36. Scratch an Itch
37. Save as a Souvenir
38. Rip Off Rank for On-the-Spot Promotions

P38 story was paraphrased from
<http://www.georgia-outfitters.com/page52.shtml>

[Booklets on display during our Patriotic Instructors discussion on WWII were](#) 📖:

Reflections on World War II -- Across Europe in a Half-track © 2002 – 2010.

The Demmy family during WWII.

Pictures on America during WWII – on the home front and the war in Europe with contributions from members of camp 15 and their military veterans of the WWII era. Parts I and II available for review.

Personnel military 201 files..

Continued

Saga of 127th Regiment, Company C, Penna.
Vols. – Infantry © 1993 – 2010.

Brothers and sisters, most of these booklets are available for you to borrow, read and return.

Contact [Hartranft Herald](#) staff or attend camp 15 Christmas Party on Sunday, December 12 at Doc Holidays Restaurant, New Cumberland.

[Pictures from September camp meeting!](#)

PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY HARTRANFT STAFF, DAVE DEMMY, JR., JOHN DEPPEN, & DAVE KLINEPETER!



DAVE KLINEPETER'S DISPLAY OF VETERANS, INCLUDING MURPHY AND KLINEPETER AND OTTENS FAMILY TOO.



DAVE KLINEPETER'S DISPLAY OF MILITARY AWARDS, BADGES, RUPTURED DUCK, STAR BANNERS AND DISCHARGE CERTIFICATES.



HALF-TRACK INFANTRY SQUAD MEMBER, FLOYD DEMMY EXPLAINING HIS LAST DAYS IN GERMANY AND FRANCE BEFORE BEING SHIPPED HOME TO AMERICAN ONLY TO BE DEPLOYED TO JAPAN TO FINISH THE WAR. WHEN JAPAN SURRENDERED, BROTHER FLOYD REENLISTED FOR PERSONNEL TRAINING AND ASSISTED MANY RETURNING GI'S TO BE HONORABLY DISCHARGED.

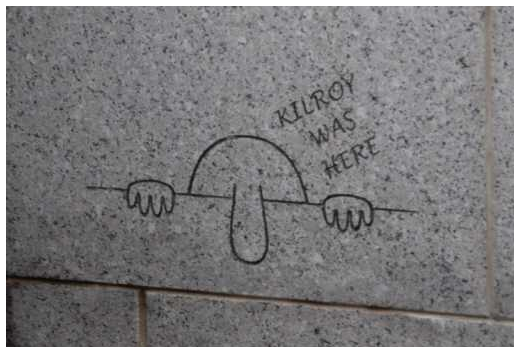


IMAGE FROM ONE OF THE WWII MEMORIAL WALLS AT WASHINGTON DC.

CONTINUED



CAMP 15 MEMBER, FLOYD DEMMY, STANDING-AT- EASE FOLLOWING HIS DIALOGUE WITH THE CAMP 15 AUDIENCE.



Brother Ken being pinned by his wife, Kori. Brother Ken was given a 2008 Camp 15 History Book.

Gen. John F. Hartranft Camp 15 welcomes new member:

Kenneth Linn, of Millerstown, PA



BROTHER KEN, LEFT, IS ABOUT TO RECEIVE MEMBERSHIP BADGE FROM CAMP COMMANDER JOHN DEPPEN, AND IMMEDIATE PAST CAMP COMMANDER GREG KLINE.

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR by Dave Klinepeter

At the September meeting my discussion was, remembering the ending of World War II, when Japan surrendered. They signed the formal papers Sept 2, 1945 on the battleship USS Missouri. Many people today do not know or remember this is the 65th anniversary of the ending of WW II. First off, I would like to thank fellow Veteran Floyd Demmy (in uniform) for telling us part of his own story of being discharged and finally coming home. I wish to thank other members also for telling us about a veteran they knew, a father, an uncle, a very close friend. (If any of our members know a WW II veteran, maybe they would like to send an article to the newsletter telling us about his or her service). I am also interested in knowing if Camp 15 has any other WW II veteran members besides Floyd Demmy and me? If so, please contact us at heyu2u2@verizon.net.

Most Veterans, when discharged received a number of items from the government: MUSTER OUT PAY; HONORABLE DISCHARGE; NUMEROUS PAPERS, and a one way ticket home. They were entitled to the WW II VICTORY MEDAL,

World War II Victory Medal



See the picture and description, CAMPAIGN MEDALS and OTHER MEDALS AS EARNED, also an EAGLE LAPEL PIN see



"RUPTURED DUCK"

image – it was nicknamed the ruptured duck. This same eagle emblem is used as the WW II grave marker. (Many cemeteries no longer use the medal grave markers to hold the American flag). Let us remember all of those who have served.



From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
(Redirected from World War II Victory Medal)

The **World War II Victory Medal** is a decoration of the United States military which was created by an act of Congress in July 1945. The decoration commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between December 7, 1941 and December 31, 1946.

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a ribbon, and was referred to simply as the "Victory Ribbon." By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal. The medal's front depicts Nike standing victorious, holding a broken sword, representing the broken power of the Axis, with one foot upon the helmet of Mars, the Roman god of war, representing the end of the conflict. Behind Nike is a sunburst, representing the dawn of peace. The reverse recalls the "Four Freedoms" speech by President Roosevelt, with a laurel sprig, surrounded by the words "United States of America", and the dates of the conflict, "1941-1945". The edges of the ribbon revisit the multi-colored rainbow ribbon of the Allied World War I Victory Medal. This again honors all the allied nations. The wide red center represents the new sacrifice of blood by World War II combatants. The thin white lines separating the central red band from the outer multi-colored bands represent the rays of new hope, two of them signifying that this was the second global conflict.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty – DJK.

Other works and contributions by

*** Floyd J. Demmy**

Poems and Short Stories © 1970 - 2010

Saga of 127th Regiment, Company C, Penna.
Vols. – Infantry © 1993 – 2010.

I Remember Growing Up in Harrisburg
© 1999 - 2001

My Mother, the Girl from the Country
© 2001

His Eminence, Brother Paul © 2001 – 2010.

The War Years in America © 2001 – 2010.
(Following the Great Depression)

**(My) Reflections on World War II -- Across
Europe in a Half-track © 2002**

What Makes a Hero © 2003 – 2010.

A Tribute to American Comrades in Arms
© 2003 – 2010.

A Compilation of stories on the Jacobs and
Sugar Families © 2003 – 2010

[65th WWII - Battle of the Bulge Living History
Commemoration](#)

The World War II Federation and Fort
Indiantown Gap Presents the
65th WWII - Battle of the Bulge Living History
Commemoration

Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, PA

Saturday, January 30th, 2010

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

I-81 Indiantown Gap exit 85b

More data at

http://www.wwiifederation.org/p_index.html

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.sucwvHarrisburgPA.org

[More displays of WWII tribute](#)

Image from the war zone



Harry Ottens,

Brothers of Camp 15, I hope you'll understand that I won't be able to attend the meeting Sept. 19th. I'd like the membership to know that my father, Sgt. Harry Ottens, served in World War II with the 573rd Signal Air Warning Battalion. He was in the Normandy Invasion and the Battle of the Bulge (where he was frostbitten in one leg, resulting in loss of feeling on the surface of his skin).

He is pictured above in the fall of 1944 on top of a captured German flak tower in Berg, Holland, on the Meuse River. I'm always in awe of the things he went through serving his country and fighting for my freedom.

Russ Ottens, Tifton, Georgia, member
Hartranft Camp 15, -- 31Aug10

ITEMS AND STORIES LIKE THIS ONE ARE FEATURED IN PART II OF *PICTURES ON AMERICA DURING WWII* – ON THE HOME FRONT AND THE WAR IN EUROPE WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF CAMP 15 AND THEIR MILITARY VETERANS OF THE WWII ERA. PARTS I AND II AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW.

Be Proud Wear The Badge



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

Camp Schedule of events for 2010

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

October 17, Sunday - Elections for 2011

November 20, Saturday - Remembrance Day parade and activities at Gettysburg, PA.

November – no Camp business meeting!

Please visit Gettysburg this weekend and support your camp and the brotherhood of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

December 12, Sunday - Annual Camp Holiday Banquet at Doc Holliday's, New Cumberland! Social time 11:30 – 12:30 Wait staff will begin taking Meal Orders about 12:30!

- ❑ 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*.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Membership Bio Profiles will continue to appear as they are submitted by members.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worksheets were inserted in Camp 15's 125th Anniversary history book. If you prefer, [and your <i>Hartranft Herald</i> wishes you would], complete an e-worksheet, please ask for one – send e-mail request to DoubleD@Demmy.cc
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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

CONTINUED

Brothers you are invited to attend this meeting and luncheon!

Pennsylvania Department
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Mid-Year Meeting

Saturday, 30 October 2010

09:00 Start

(A light breakfast of doughnuts, coffee, tea and water will be provided at 08:30)

Doc Holliday's Steak House

110 Limekiln Road

New Cumberland, PA. 17070

www.kearesrestaurants.com

All brothers of the Pennsylvania Department are invited, welcome and encouraged to attend the 2010 mid-year meeting! Please come out to meet and work with your fellow brothers in charting the course for our Department's future!

Directions: Take Pennsylvania Turnpike to Exit 242 Harrisburg West. Turn right (North) onto I-83, stay in right lane and proceed approximately 500 feet to the first exit (Limekiln Road). Turn left on Limekiln Road and then turn left again into the hotel / restaurant complex.

A lunch break will be had during the day's meeting. At that time, each brother will be able to order as he wishes from a menu provided. (see attached menu) Cost for lunch will be \$15.27 which includes tax and gratuity. Each brother is responsible to cover the cost of his own lunch.

Rooms have been reserved at the Harrisburg West Inn and Conference Center (same location as Doc Holliday's) for both Friday and Saturday nights at a cost of \$49.05 per night, taxes included. Each room has two (2) double beds. Reservations can be made for one or both nights. This price will cover up to 3 guests per room. (additional guests are \$10.00) To make a reservation, please call 717-920-3627. Be sure to tell the reservationist that you are with the "Pennsylvania Department, Sons of Union Veterans for the mid-year meeting.

While you are in the area, you may desire to visit
The National Civil War Museum at Reservoir Park Harrisburg.