



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 142nd Year serving Harrisburg Area

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



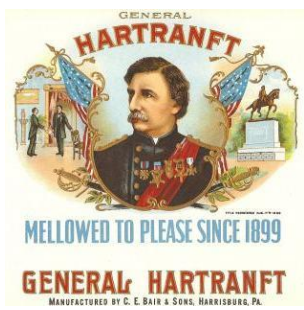
Vol 26, No. 06 “Memorial Day Weekend Images” June 2024



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!

2024 Hartranft Camp 15	Commander ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Vernon Stout 2021-2024
Officers and Staff	Senior Vice Commander ~ ~ ~	Logan Swanger PCC 2021-2024
	Junior Vice Commander ~ ~ ~	Scott Debo, PCC 2021-2024
	Secretary ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 2008-2024
	Treasurer ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	David W. Demmy, Sr. PCC 2007-2024
	Council 01 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Scott Debo, PCC 2015-2024
	Council 02 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Jeffery Smith, PCC 2018-2024
	Council 03 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner PCC 2023-2025
	Patriotic Instructor ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Jeffery Smith, PCC 2018-2024
	Chaplain ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	David W. Demmy, Sr., PCC 2000-2024
	Graves Registration ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Logan Swanger 2014-2024
	GAR Historian ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Jeffery Smith, PCC 2025
	Counselor ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Vacant
	Eagle Scout Coordinator ~ ~ ~	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 2011-2024
	GAR Highway Officer ~ ~ ~	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 2008-2024
	Guide ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner PCC 2024
	Color Bearer ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner PCC 2024
	Guard ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Wayne Blattner PCC 2024
Webmaster ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Dave W. Demmy, Jr. 2011-2024	
ROTC Coordinator ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Gregory E. Kline, PCC 2011-2024	
Longevity Brother ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Late Dave J. Klinepeter PCC since 1943	
Praiseworthy Brother ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Late Floyd J Demmy WWII Veteran	
Praiseworthy Brother ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Late Joseph E. Long, Jr., PDC, Veteran	
Praiseworthy Brother ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Late Lee F. Walters, PDC	



Camp 15 routinely meets at the National Civil War Museum, at Reservoir Park, Harrisburg, PA, 2 pm, 3rd Sunday of most months. PA Dept: www.PASUVCW.org National: <http://www.suvcw.org/>

In accordance with General Order #7, March 7, 2022: “Individuals attending events hosted by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, by virtue of their attendance, agree to the usage of their likeness in the *Banner*, any Camp or Department Newsletter, any SUVCW website and/or on any SUVCW Social Media outlet, promotional brochures, or any other SUVCW material.”

June 2024 *Hartranft Herald* Camp 15 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
 Award winning newsletter -- Marshall A. Hope Award presented to Hartranft Camp 2010-2011
 Award winning website -- Horace Greeley Award presented to Hartranft Camp 2020-2022

[Passing of PCinC Gene Mortoff](#)

Recent General Order from Commander in Chief Hristko reveals PCinC Gene Mortoff passed away after long illness. Gene was national's first Assistant Executive Director serving at Headquarters here in Harrisburg PA. His assignment at HQ has led the way for our current assistant executive director.

This newsletter is **draped** in celebration of the life of brother Gene and all he did for his camps, departments, and our national organization! One of his greatest accomplishments was his initiation of renaming of Dept of Maryland into Dept of Chesapeake which proclaims a better perspective of the dept that covers more than just the state of MD.

[Brothers and Sisters of Camp 15](#)

[We are on traditional summer break.](#)

[Next event is Pennsylvania Department annual encampment/convention at King of Prussia](#)

[Brothers and Sisters who may be in Distress](#)

by Brother David W, Demmy, Sr., PCC, a Kentucky Colonel, Camp 15 Chaplain & Treasurer, a CPA, and ARNG. Also, Memorial Camp 300, PA Dept MAL Camp secy.

Continued blessings for Mrs. Charlotte Walters PDP. Tony & Dot Kline, Scott Debo. Mrs. Betz, Jim Crane of Ohio; and Mrs. Rosemary Jackson.

Mrs. Ellen Kowalski to care for Jerry, our National Chaplain and our local chaplains too: Scott Teeters, & Clark Brocht! PCinC Ed Krieser & PCinC Brad Schall. Mrs Crystal Kratzer's and Brother Russell Kratzer! God bless you and yours, and in all things, give thanx! Blessings for Klinepeter family as they continue onward. Also, brother Logan Swanger with new concern!

New additions: PCinC Mark Day's wife Barbara is now home. PCinC Mike Paquette has a concern. Mrs. Dave Demmy Jr, is recuperating! And Jeff Smith's mother. Susan Mitchell Assistant Executive Director has an illness and is awaiting surgery!

If you have knowledge of our sisters and brothers in distress, drop us a line so we may pray for them!
DoubleD@Demmy.cc

Notes:

1 Recently Susan Mitchell, national assistant executive director, scanned **all known Banners** on hand at headquarters. The near 300 files were shared with banner editor and webmaster, who uploaded all of them to nat'l website, under **The Banner**. Enjoy. If there is a banner[s] you want a personal copy of let me know what issue[s].

2 Likewise, Susan finished a 2nd project of scanning **all known charters** on hand at headquarters [most surrendered charters due to camps disbanding] others are copies of camp charters – many are pathetic *photocopies* of olden days..

3 Susan also reviewed the 4 charters of Hartranft Camp 15. The first 2 are under the name **Sons of Veterans**; the last 2 are under the name **Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**. Charters 1 and 3 hanging left to right are fast fading having one, been printed with light ink and two fading in daylight; charters 2 and 4 are fine at this time. However, Susan's plan is to scan all 4 camp 15 charters, have the scans printed into photos. Place the 4 originals into *archival paper* and stored in an *archival box* for future protection! The printed photos will replace the originals in the original frames and continue to be on display in

room 241 at the national civil war museum. Susan also plans to make a copy of the 4th charter to hand-carry to camp meetings in lieu of dragging the heavier framed version to and fro. All 4 charters are available for review in camp 15's 2007 history book! Scanning has come a long way since '07.

Susan has calculated all the expenses for this camp 15 project to be less than \$100. Camp Council brothers have approved this expenditure up to \$100 cap. Anyone that desires to donate to camp 15 for this very worthwhile preservation project, your donation will be greatly appreciated..... please make your donation payable to Hartranft Camp 15 SUVCW.

Minutes of May Camp business meeting May 19th: mostly sunny at 73°

Brothers Present

Logan, SVC

Kyle, Bro

David, Tr

Wayne, Council member

Commander Vern out of town

Greg, Secy excused

Scott, JVC on injury list

Jeff, excused.

Notes from April 2024 meeting read by Brother Logan and accepted as read.

Brother Logan revealed he recently attended Graves Stone Settling event in Gettysburg. He indicated camp 15 brother Wayne Motts, a former park ranger, led a field trip into the Evergreen Cemetery.

Treasury Report by brother David:

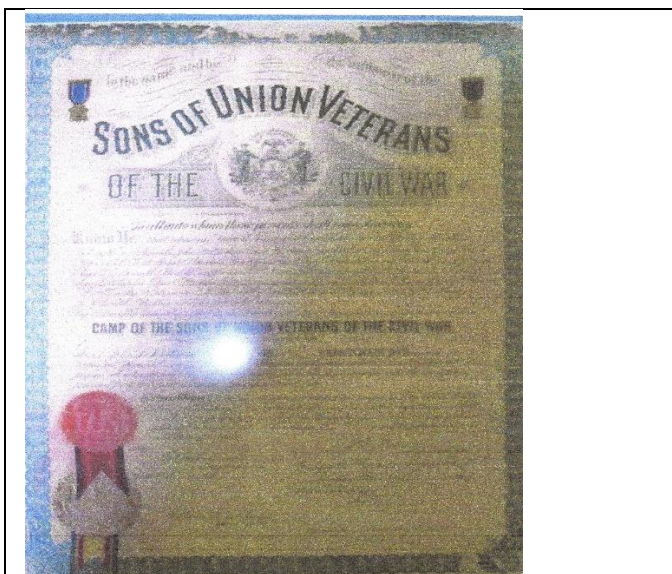
After paying 2024 dues and nat'l per capita to PA Dept secy's office, camp 15 has a checkbook balance of \$400. Pending is monthly internet service fee of \$7.95. TR also paid for 2 advertisements in forthcoming PA encampment booklet.

As previously proclaimed, Camp 15 has 4 charters, all fading due to age and light exposure. [see remarks in May newsletter]. The most recent charter has been scanned and printed as a photograph and it was framed and on display at May meeting:

The first image below is *after* it was cleaned up. The second image below shows the original *wear and yellowing*.



Above, the 4th charter cleaned up and scanned and turned into a photograph and framed for meetings. It surely pops now!



Directly above is a 20-year-old photograph of charter #4. Far above see how well it was cleaned up and scanned nicely and made into photograph.

If you have knowledge of our sisters and brothers in distress, drop us a line so we may pray for them!
DoubleD@Demmy.cc

Other new business: brother Wayne spoke about his latest adventure while attending a recent PRR historical society event in Altoona. Wayne also provided an update on PA Dept PDC Ivan Frantz who is still recuperating from illness. Wayne, a member of the Harrisburg Civil War Round Table revealed the group celebrated 65 years of civil war good works.

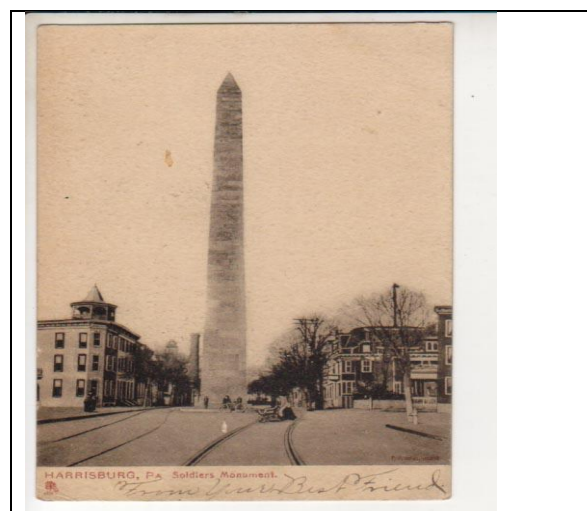
Brother Logan adjourned the meeting and the brothers gathered at local Longhorn Restaurant for continued good talks, boasting, and history data, including discussion on the Dauphin county monument to the soldiers of the county:

Brothers and Sisters who may be in Distress

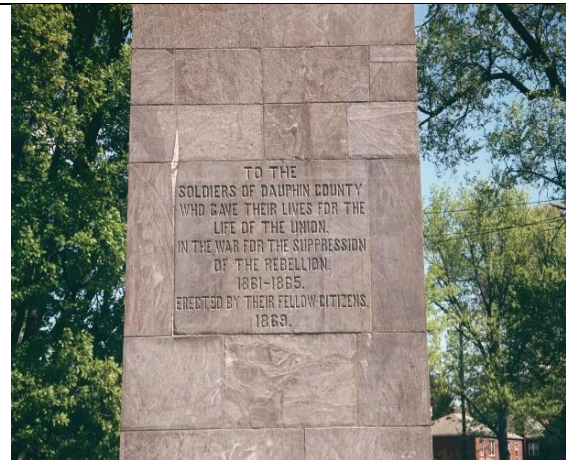
by Brother David W, Demmy, Sr., PCC, a Kentucky Colonel, Camp 15 Chaplain & Treasurer, a CPA, and ARNG. Also, Memorial Camp 300, PA Dept MAL Camp secy:

Continued blessings for Mrs. Charlotte Walters PDP. Tony & Dot Kline, Scott Debo recuperating. Chief of Staff Jim Crane of Ohio; and Mrs. Rosemary Jackson. Mrs. Ellen Kowalski to care for Jerry, our National Chaplain and our local chaplains too: Scott Teeters, & Clark Brocht! PCinC Ed Krieser & PCinC Brad Schall. Mrs Crystal Kratzer's and Brother Russell Kratzer! God bless you and yours, and in all things, give thanx! Blessings for Klinepeter family as they continue onward. Brother Logan Swanger with new concern!

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The monument originally stood at 2nd and State Streets. Along came automobiles with 2-way traffic and multiple pedestrians causing accidents. The Monument was relocated off near Division street at 4th street on the campus of the former William Penn High School shown below.



Inscription to soldiers of Dauphin County.

Anyone desiring larger prints, send editor your request[s].

[Pictures from May 25th, Camp 15's day-to-pay tribute to veterans](#) at historic Harrisburg Cemetery and later at Lincoln Cemetery in Penbrook [a stone throw away from Nat'l HQ].



Our dual brother Ben Hobbins, with Dept of WI participated in the Liberty Veterans Tree event giving out 47 Veteran Pins. Below Ben recruited new drummer boy Junior member, Felix Clemens; and put him to work.



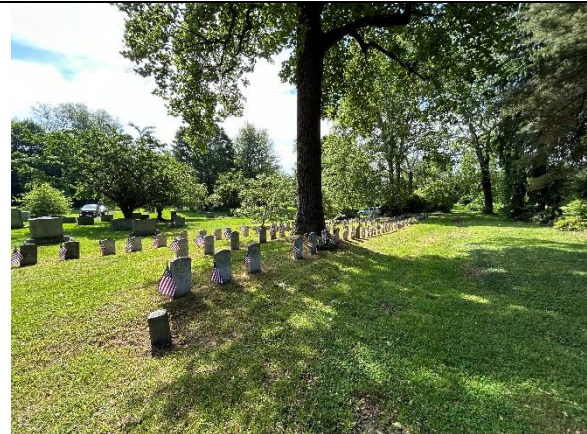
Camp 15's first stop, upon entering historic Harrisburg cemetery was Gen John Geary' site and what a delight today. The General was on display in the sunshine for change.



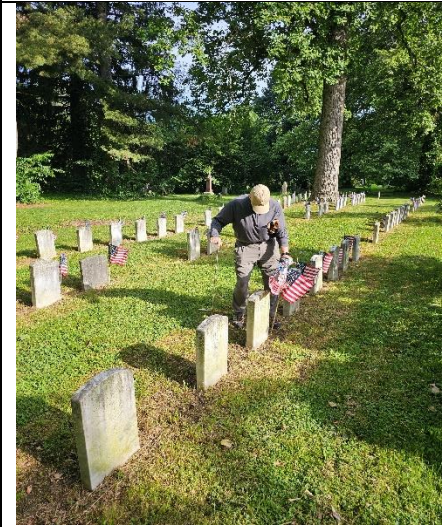
Bros on duty from l to r David, Kyle, Vern and Gene. Photo by Logan.



Sunshine over civil war veterans section. photo by Kyle.



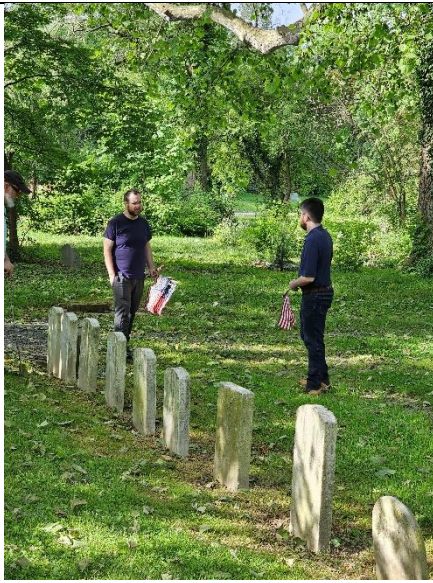
Gardens of Stone – the veterans of the Civil War, many who died in Harrisburg buildings which were turned into make-shift hospitals. Photo by Kyle.



Logan.



Commander Vern reading an appropriate poem for Memorial Day. Photo by Logan.



Vern and Kyle paying tribute to veterans.



Gene and Vern.



Old Jos Knipe, named Camp Curtin in uptown Harrisburg which was the largest training facility among the Union forces. Photo by Logan.

Upon completing our mission at Harrisburg Cemetery, we convoyed to Lincoln Cemetery in Penbrook, [Est 1827] a few miles away. This historical cemetery was established for former slaves, black veterans and in general, black individuals and families. Hmmmm we didn't see 1 American Flag along the route between the 2 cemeteries.



Ephraim Slaughter, a former slave and Harrisburg's last Union Civil War Veteran.

Above Photo by Logan.



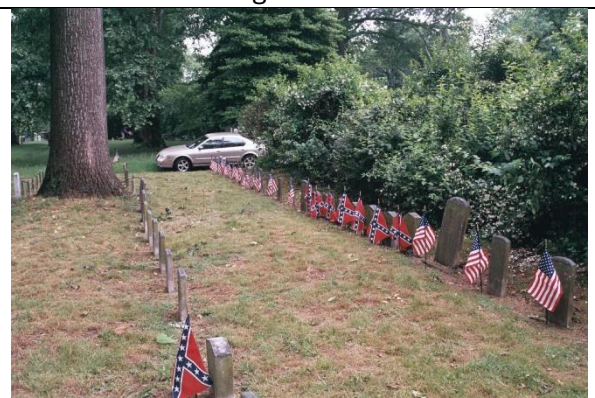
Mover and shaker among the city.



Charles Davis photo by Kyle

We were fortunate that volunteer of the Lincoln Cemetery was on hand and provided history and variety of personnel therein.

Out of our Past images:



2011 image of veteran area. stock photo.

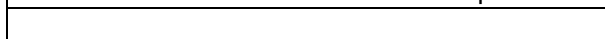


2013 camp 15's late WWII veterans: Les, Dave and Floyd. Navy 2 vs Army 1.



Colonel W. W. Jennings, regimental commander of Dauphin County 127th Regiment, PA Volunteers Infantry. Stock photo.

2016 General John F Hartranft stock photo



Brothers needed to man Camp 15 recruiting tables June 22nd for National Civil War Museum Community FREE Day in celebration of Juneteenth.

Contact David Demmy, newsletter editor.

Next newsletter scheduled for September.

Licensed items for sale:

S U V C W

**Aluminum Vehicle License
Plate**

FULL 'COLOR' DETAIL



Send \$15 payable to

General John F. Hartranft Camp 15

Greg Kline

205 N. 40th St. Apt. 203
Harrisburg, PA 17111-2271

Or purchase at encampment registration desk!

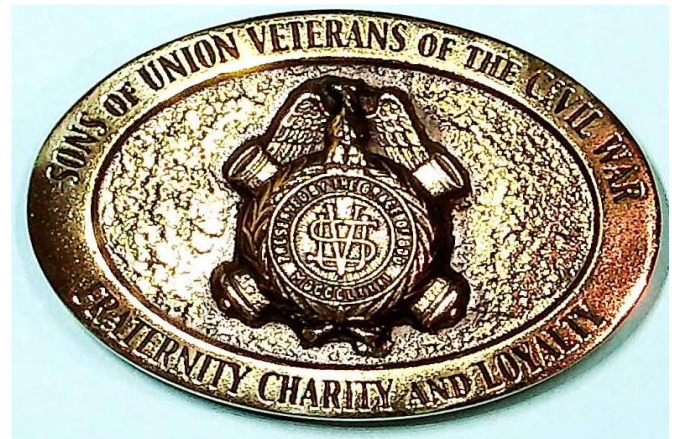
Licensed by national council for exclusive sales only by
Hartranft Camp 15.

2024

Or purchase these items in person at any camp
meeting..... please provide cash or check.

S U V C W

Solid Brass 'Belt' Buckle



Solid Brass 'Belt' Buckle

Fits up to 1 & 3/4-inch Belt

send \$50 payable to

General John F. Hartranft Camp 15

Scott Debo

144 Race St, Sunbury, PA 17801

Or purchase at encampment registration desk!

Licensed by national council for exclusive sales only by
Hartranft Camp 15 only.

2024

Camp 15 on the Road for 2024

~~May camp meeting Sunday 19th~~

~~May Memorial Day weekend Camp Day **Saturday 25th**! On this date the camp gathers for **7 a.m.** breakfast [*reservation already made*]; and then off to historic Harrisburg cemetery to pay tribute to veterans therein; followed up with visit to Lincoln cemetery in Penbrook just a mere couple of miles away. Penbrook is a small community next to Reservoir Park. Please RSVP to execdir@suvcw.org.~~

Breakfast Details: 7 a.m. at Peachtree Restaurant HOME | Peachtree (peachtree251.biz) – or try Online Menu of Peachtree Family Dining, Harrisburg, PA (menupix.com).

June 22 Free Day Nat'l Civil War Museum. Recruiting opportunity for camp 15 to man tables.

June PA Dept encampment 27th 28th 29th at King of Prussia with election of new department officers for 2024-2025. For details Visit department 2023 newsletter: [Volume 2007-2008, No 2 \(pasuvcw.org\)](http://pasuvcw.org)

August National encampment 1st, - 4th at Lexington KY. For details visit: <https://suvcw.org/national-encampment>

No Camp 15 meetings are scheduled for summer.

September camp meeting Sunday 15th

October camp meeting Sunday 20th

November Remembrance Day Parade weekend 16th

Nat'l Council meeting Sunday 17th

December Camp Annual Holiday Banquet Sunday 8th.

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
- -The Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans 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 members submit them.

Worksheets were inserted in Camp 15's 125th 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, cousin, your neighbor and all your friends to a Camp meeting! Family and our sisters of the Allied Orders are always welcome!

Camp 15 Established February 11, 1882
in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty!

God bless you and yours and God bless the USA.