



**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 142nd Year serving Harrisburg Area

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



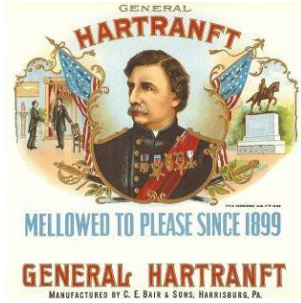
**Vol 26, No. 08**    *In Remembrance of Brother Dave Klinepeter!*    **October 2024**



*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, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of most months. PA Dept: [www.PASUVCW.org](http://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."

October 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

### October Camp meeting will be held on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>

2 pm at NCWM @ Reservoir Park.

John F. Hartranft (1830 – 1889) served as Governor of Pennsylvania, 1872-1879. Born in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania in 1830, having served local militia, he raised a regiment of Montgomery County militia in April of 1861 to serve in the Civil War.

Hartranft was later named Colonel of the 51st Regiment Volunteer Infantry, participating in several major battles, and rose to the rank of Brigadier General. Following the Civil War, Hartranft was appointed Special Provost Marshall, and given responsibility for the care and final execution of the conspirators convicted in the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln.

Later, Hartranft became Auditor General of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1865 and, served two terms. Thereafter he was elected Governor of our Commonwealth in 1872. As Governor, he was involved in the ratification of a new state constitution, the Centennial of Pennsylvania, and such labor issues as railroad strikes and the trials of the Molly Maguires. Following his years as governor, Hartranft was active in various organizations, and was appointed Major General over the Pennsylvania National Guard.

On October 17, 1889 he died.

### 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 immediate pass 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.

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 a condition and completed 2<sup>nd</sup> procedure. Praises too for continued improvement of brother Logan.

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

[DoubleD@Demmy.cc](mailto:DoubleD@Demmy.cc)

### Special PA Encampment

And

### 2024 Mid-Year Meeting

### Saturday October 19th

Location: [Hoss's Restaurant,](#)

[61 Gettysburg Pike](#)

[Mechanicsburg, PA 17055](#)

Special Encampment Start Time: 11:00 AM to 11:30

**(Credential Card Required)**

If you can't obtain a signed card, immediately contact David at [DoubleD@Demmy.cc](mailto:DoubleD@Demmy.cc)

Mid-Year Meeting Start Time: 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM

RSVP to Chief of Staff [Rich Essenwein](#)

Please let the Chief of Staff know if you will be attending the Special Encampment, Mid-Year Meeting, or Both

Do you have something to share with us? Send e-mail, business card, and photos and story to [DoubleD@Demmy.cc](mailto:DoubleD@Demmy.cc) -- Your *Hartranft Herald* staff!

***"You have enemies? Good. That means you've stood up for something, sometime in your life."***

- [Sir Winston Churchill](#)

## November 11 Veterans Day



Veterans and active-duty military are welcomed to free coffee, donuts, burgers, pizza, ice cream, and more on Veterans Day, November 11.

The following Starbucks, Hooters, Krispy Kreme, Olive Garden, Friendly's, Chili's, IHOP, and TGI Friday's are among the many national restaurant chains that *may be* celebrating Veterans Day with freebies for vets and active military!

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## Minutes of Sunday September 15 2024 camp 15 business meeting. Very Sunny 82°.

Meeting conducted in Education Gallery of the NCWM just off the rotunda.

Brothers Present:

1. Logan S.
  2. Bill R.
  3. Scott D.
  4. Gene M.
  5. Wayne B.
  6. David D.
  7. Kyle P.
- Guest Diane D.

SVC Brother Logan opened the meeting about 2:10 pm in the fashion according to our rituals and ceremonies.

## Brothers and Sister in distress:

Brother Greg caring for his parents, Sister Dot and Brother Tony!

Brother Scott for continued recuperation from his great fall earlier this year!

Concern for Brother Vern!

Praises for the great improvement and great health checkup after much earlier surgery for Brother Logan!

Treasurer's report provided by brother David revealing the value of our CDs, Savings, and Checkbook accounting during the summer of 2024.

Since we lack real funds to conduct an annual holiday banquet this year, a discussion ensued with a potential engagement with our sister camp Gobin 503 in Sunbury. Brother Scott will make an inquiry with camp 503 to include camp 15 with their holiday gathering. Scott to report back to camp 15 asap.

Sunbury Camp 503's event is scheduled for Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> at Americus Fire Association Headquarters. details to follow. . . .

## The Last Union Civil War Soldier of Perry County:

Abraham Ellenberger will have a tribute presented in his honor. Brother Logan provided an initial flyer for the event to be held on Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. at Chestnut Grove Cemetery, Spruce Street, Marysville just across the river from Rockville, [just north of Harrisburg]. Logan has coordinated the forthcoming event with family members, Perry Historians and local VFW. A bulletin for the event is in the planning stage too. All interested brothers and sisters are invited to attend this modern tribute including a Last Union Veteran Flag symbol. PA Department Commander Bill Fischer has RSVP'd in the affirmative for this exclusive event

at Marysville. Photos of this event will be available on Camp website under heading *activities*.

Other subjects were postponed and to be included on the agenda of our October meeting on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>:

Requirement to set dues for 2025.

1. Requirement to conduct Nominations and Elections of camp 15 officers for 2025.
2. Polo Shirts for exclusive use of camp 15 for special wear for camp 15 recruiting days and/or field exercises.
3. Set meeting dates for the calendar year 2025.
4. Secure plans for holiday dinner potentially with Camp 503 in Sunbury.

A table full of brothers enjoyed dinner together following the meeting that closed about 3:55 pm

**Post Meeting Note:** Sunbury Camp 503's namesake, **General Gobin** was featured in the 2024 Summer Edition of the 28<sup>th</sup> *Penna National Guard* newsletter page 7.

**Another post meeting note:** Sunbury camp has invited camp 15 to join them for holiday banquet. Questionnaire was issued to all brothers with an email address requesting their rsvp to join 15 at 503 on Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup>.

As an alternative to traveling to Sunbury, a few brothers are working on a small plan at a local restaurant for camp 15 to gather and enjoy fellowship – likely a pay as you go event! To be discussed at October meeting.....

**Memorial Day weekend revisited** by Brother Wayne and his activities at Montgomery Cemetery. His adventure in words and images below:



Camp 15 met Joyce Racey, who is Helen Shireman's niece when we went to the Hartranft celebration at the Schwenkfelder Museum October 2022 [re-visit:

<https://www.suvcwharrisburgpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/October2022.pdf>].

Joyce verified the family "name" as they stood at the General's grave site on Memorial Day 2024.

*Joyce is the General's 2 times granddaughter, To Joyce's left above is her son Todd Racey who is the General's 3 times grandson. Located in the front row, left to right are Carson, Crew, and Beau Racey. They are Todd Racey's sons, and the General's 4-times grandsons.*



Wreath above presented by Brother Wayne Blattner on behalf of Hartranft Camp 15 of Harrisburg.

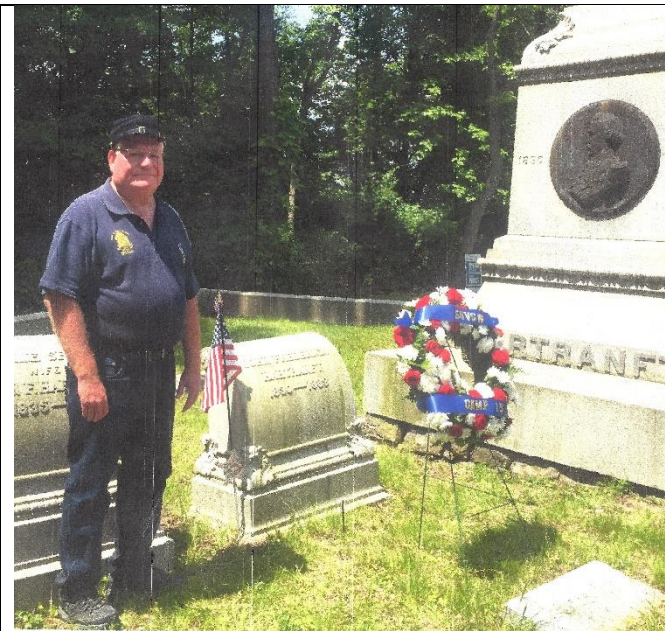
From the Klinepeter Family,

David J Klinepeter

04 19 1926

10 09 2023

- -- Pat, Tom, and Mike, sons of our late brother Dave [the Governor] Klinepeter.



Wayne on Duty representing Camp 15 for 2024.  
Brother Wayne thank you for providing the wreath  
and for representing Camp 15!

Revisit camp 15s journey in 2022 to visit the  
Schwenkfelder Museum indicated above.

John Frederick Hartranft's life celebration!  
It was the kickoff of part of the "Hartranft  
Homecoming" exhibits and programs  
presented by the Schwenkfelder Library  
and Heritage Center in Pennsburg, PA.

Go to:

<https://www.suvchwarrisburgpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/October2022.pdf>

Brothers at Hartranft Camp 15, SUVCW,  
we, "the Klinepeter boys", want to  
thank all of you gentlemen for  
all that you provided in  
support of our late father's  
wishes to honor the Boys  
in Blue.

Honoring our father's wishes,  
and adding to it, enclosed is  
donation check to be used  
as the membership would  
deem fit.

Yours in F,L,C.

Mike Klinepeter

Son Mike, Pat, and

Tom Klinepeter

The Sons of Bro. David J. Klinepeter

## Camp 15 on the Road for 2024

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

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

~~No Camp 15 meetings are scheduled for summer.~~

September camp meeting Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>

October camp meeting Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>

November Remembrance Day Parade weekend 16<sup>th</sup>

Nat'l Council meeting Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>

**As Camp does not have the funds to conduct [rent fee and downpayment to the cater] a 2024 Camp Holiday Event as we have in the past, [and to keep costs at a reasonable value] our sister camp 503 in Sunbury has graciously invited Camp 15 to attend the Sunbury event on Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm. Details were issued in an email to all camp 15 brothers having an email address requesting their RSVP for camp 15 to pass along to cam 503. The expected cost is \$20.**

## 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 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, 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.