



The Dispatch

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Department of Florida S.U.V.C.W
Editor – John M. Vaughn III, DSVC Co-Editor/Publisher – Paul A. Pardee
Spring 2013

The 10th Army Corps Badge



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 **COMMANDER'S CORNER** 

Brothers,

Spring is upon us, which for one means JROTC award ceremonies are upon us, as is the time for annual Camp reports (installation reports should already be in, as well as status change reports) to Department Secretary Lloyd.

Congratulations to Camp Commanders and Brothers for activities and meetings you can read about in later pages. More are scheduled in the weeks ahead, and that means keeping track of opportunities is a must. For your individual calendar, working back from furthest ahead, start with "saving the date" to attend the February 2014 observance of the Battle of Olustee sesquicentennial. I thank Brother Heiple for serving as founding Chairman of the Department Sesquicentennial Committee, and appointed Commander Oppenheimer to assume that position, with Brother Roger remaining on the re-appointed Sesquicentennial Committee. Also save the date to attend the October 2013 observance of the Tampa area sesquicentennial. And of course, save the date to attend the Saturday June 15, 2013 Department Encampment at the St. Cloud Senior Center; Commander-in-Chief Mellor is. Camp Commanders, please have DE delegates elected at Camp meetings. The DE Committee can still adjust the speaker/program/entertainment portion, so if you have an idea please let me know, or Brother Lloyd, or Commander John Pardee.

A number of Brothers are in need, and sometimes their family members. Please read Department Chaplain Acheson's update. On a separate note, I appointed Brother Acheson to be Camp Organizer for a new Camp in the Jacksonville area. The first meeting is scheduled shortly, after which if all goes well a charter will be applied for. I am resuming the effort Past Department Commanders Linscott and Custer began, and congratulate Brother Dave on his successful efforts to date.

Department By-laws are being reviewed. Please let Department SVC Vaughn or me know of any recommendations you have. Also, Department Signals Officer Pardee has offered to help Camps without websites create a website; Contact Brother Paul.

Finally, Junior Vice Commander Slavin reports he cannot fulfill JVC duties due to personal reasons. Please join me in thanking Brother Bill for his service as DJVC. SVC Vaughn has accepted as additional duties those of the DJVC going forward. I appreciate this as you likely do as well. I encourage Camp JVC's to contact Brother Vaughn to make sure applicants are identified well and that their applications are appropriately processed. Also, Camps, and their Patriotic Instructors in particular, should be in touch with DPI Shaffer so he can compile the Department JROTC Awards report.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Jim Ward, DC

Department Senior Vice Commanders Report

I have recently reviewed the change to the Department By Laws, submitted by Bro. Mike Farrell, PDC. I approved this resolution and had Bro. Lloyd Monroe, distribute it to the members of the Department. I will include the resolution, later on in this Dispatch.

John M. Vaughn III,DSVC,PCC

Department Junior Vice Commander Report

None.

Chaplain's Corner;

When this country was founded, it was a God fearing nation. It was led by the principles found in the Holy Bible.

When the Civil War broke out, whether the men wore the Blue or the Gray, they still prayed and believed in a Godly nation. When Abraham Lincoln said a house divided cannot stand, he was quoting the Bible.

After the Civil War and all other wars in history we have looked to God for protection and have received it.

Today we see the falling away from God as a nation, seems to be an acceptable way of life. God has been taken out of our schools. Religious displays have been removed from public places.

The question seems to be, will we remain "One Nation Under God"?

Officers of the Department of Florida S.U.V.C.W. 2012-2013



Department Commander: James Ward, Camp 04

SVC: John Vaughn III, PCC Camp 08

JVC: SVC Vaughn is performing DJVC duties

Secretary: Lloyd Monroe, Camp 01

Treasurer: Charles D. Custer, PDC Camp 04

Council No.01: Harvey Linscott, PDC Camp 05

Council No.02: Michael E. Farrell, PDC Camp 04

Council No.03: Robert Jones, PDC Camp 07

Patriotic Instructor: Richard Shaffer, CC Camp 07

Chaplain: David Acheson, PCC Camp 05

G.R.O.: James Ward, Camp 04

Historian:

Civil War Memorials:

Eagle Scout Coordinator: John Vaughn III, Camp 08

JROTC Coordinator: Richard Shaffer, CC Camp 07

Counselor: Lloyd B. Monroe, Camp 01

G.A.R. Research: Roger Heiple, Camp 04

Signals Officer: Paul Pardee, Camp 05

I believe the answer is yes, but only by seeking and praying to God. So I ask you Brothers as you bow in prayer, ask for mercy upon the United States of America so we can continue to be “One Nation Under God”.

God Bless America.

Chaplain Dave Acheson, PCC
Dave Acheson, PCC
Chaplain Department of Florida

Brothers in Need

Brother Ebbon Johnson of Camp 05 passed into the next life on March 06th, 2013.
Our prayers and condolences go to the Johnson Family for their loss.

Sister Noreen Acheson, wife of Department Chaplain Dave Acheson, is recovering from a contracted illness. Let us pray for her to recover fully.

Brother Harley Nelson of Camp 05 is recuperating from a stroke on April 06th, 2013.
Include him in your prayers to get well soon.

Mrs. Pardee, wife of Camp 5 Commander John Pardee, and mother of Department Signals Officer Paul Pardee, is recovering from a protracted condition. Please join our prayers for her full recovery

If you know of a brother who needs to be in our thoughts and prayers, please feel free to contact me at nacheson1@att.net.

To read a daily message from Past Department Chaplain Skip Whitlam, click on the link below.

<http://www.tealah.com/DepartmentChaplain.html>

OLUSTEE BATTLEFIELD 2013

Sadly, I received a report from Brother Linscott that a long time Educational Exhibitor James "Randy" Kerlin had passed away from a stroke on January 23rd. I have been attending the Olustee Battlefield event, representing the Dept. of Florida SUVCW, for five years. In the mornings Randy and I would have coffee together before the event would start, and in the evening a few beers after it would end. Randy was an easy guy to get along with and we would share many stories about the Civil War. The Dept. placed a memorial plaque on our display table in honor of his memory. He was well known in the Civil War community and he will be missed. The Olustee tag this year was black, which I thought appropriate.

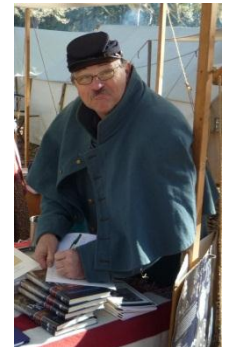


Friday Feb. 15th I spent educating children about the Union regiments that fought at the Battle of Olustee and they would get a chance to pick up a Springfield 1861 musket. There was always a look

of surprise on their faces as they realized how heavy the musket is. The emphasis was on the history of African American Union regiments that served in the Battle of Olustee. I would finish the talk by telling how important it is to learn their family history. Towards the end of the day Brother Lloyd Monroe and his wife stopped by to say hello before he went to meet with District 10 State Representative, Elizabeth W. Porter, regarding the Olustee Monument Project. After the meeting with the State Rep. Dept. Commander Ward stopped by and we discussed Dept. business at dinner.



Saturday Feb. 16th I invited Brother Brad Quinlan of the Dept. of Georgia and South Carolina to join with the Dept. of Florida. While I recruited new members, Brother Brad would sell & sign the books he wrote. One book is titled "Duty Well Performed" (\$30) the book covers the exploits of the 21st Ohio. The regiment included the ancestor of United States V.P. Mr. Dick Cheney. His ancestor was Capt. Samuel F. Cheney. Brother Brad had done the research on the Vice President's ancestor and told many colorful and interesting stories about his interaction with the Vice President. Most of all Brother Brad wanted to inform the members in the Department of Florida that the 2014 National Encampment shall be hosted by the Dept. of Georgia/South Carolina at Marietta Ga. They have some very exciting events planned. One of those events will involve the awarding of the Medal of Honor. Two Union soldiers who were part of "Andrew's Raid" April 12, 1862 did not receive the Medal of Honor. Perry G. Shadrack and George D. Wilson. The SUVCW is hoping the Government will recognize their sacrifice. They were hung as Union spies and are buried at the Chattanooga National Cemetery in Tenn.



Sunday Feb. 17th Our Dept. Chaplain Brother Dave Acheson and wife joined me to recruit new members for the Dept. of Florida. Brother Dave is organizing a new Camp in the Jacksonville area and he may have some good news regarding his progress later on this year. Although it was cold every body had a great time. The Dept. of Florida had 11 men who showed an interest in becoming members. Their applications have been sent up to our Junior Vice Commander. Six applications were men living in the Jacksonville area and Brother Dave will be following up on those applicants. Next year will be the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Olustee and we would like you to plan on being there. See you next year!!!



M. FARRELL

CAMP NEWS

Winfield Scott Whitehurst Camp No. 01

Two Camp meetings were held in this time period: The February 2nd meeting of Camp #1 was held at Fort Meade, Florida. The time and location were chosen to coincide with the Battle of Bowlegs Creek Reenactment, and to allow Brothers who are employed or are students to attend. Included in the business meeting was the welcoming of new Brother Justin Arruda to the Camp. We were also honored to have PDC (Ohio) Charles Reeves as our guest. After the formal meeting the Brothers and their guests visited the encampments and attended the reenactment. Those who were present generally felt that this was an enjoyable, family friendly, event that was well worth attending.

The March 3rd meeting of Camp #1 was held at the Gamble Plantation, Palmetto, Florida. The time and location were chosen to coincide with the Gamble Mansion spring open house. A short business meeting was held. New Brother Michael Joslin was welcomed into the Camp. Our guests included PDC (Ohio) Charles Reeves, and three members of the Mary Todd Lincoln Tent #10 of the Daughters of Union Veterans. After the meeting we split up and toured the Gamble Mansion and other buildings on the property, as well as various displays which had been set up for the open house.

The planning for the October Ft. Brooke Sesquicentennial Event, which had been tentatively set for Ft. Brooke Park in the City of Tampa, led to the conclusion that the requirements of the City of Tampa for holding the event at any Tampa city park would be prohibitively onerous and expensive.

We are now investigating the possibility of joining the Hillsborough River Raid at the Veterans Memorial Park in Hillsborough County, Florida. The event, if held, would be on October 6 and 7.

Submitted March 18, 2013

Larry E. Oppenheimer, Commander
Winfield Scott Whitehurst Camp #1
Dept. of Florida

Lucius L. Mitchell Camp No. 04

Camp 4 members visited DUVCW Tent 11 meeting January 12th. at which time we presented a memorial plaque to sister Carolyn Hinman in honor of her husband, Past Camp #4 Commander, Phil Hinman.

On Jan 12th new Camp Officers were installed. During this past reporting period two new members have been initiated, brothers Bruggeworth and Biltz; Brother Bruggeworth was appointed to Camp Patriotic Instructor.

So far this year the member retention figure is 92%; Brother Ron Criswell, PCC has returned home and is doing well.

Camp 4 plans to recruit new members at the Narcoossee Battle event March 23 &24; all brothers are welcome to visit us;

Our next camp meeting is planned for Sat. May 4th Brother McCracken is doing a presentation on his ancestor, other camps are invited to visit us.

In FCL
C. D. "Buck" Custer, PDC
Cdr, L. L. Mitchell, Camp 4,
Dept of Florida, SUVCW

General Eugene A. Carr Camp No.05

I am happy to report that we had a GREAT turnout at Brooksville on January 19th. I along with our Chaplain Dave Acheson swore in new members Dr. Alan Clark and Michael Hensley in front of our tent, which attracted a crowd to watch this ceremony. I thank brothers Harvey Linscott, Ron Irons, Dave Acheson and his wife Noreen, Ebbon Johnson and his wife, Robert Gray, and Paul Pardee for making this possible for both the days that we were there.

The passing of Randy Kerlin of Camp 1396 Marion Light Artillery of the SCV has brought sorrow to those who knew him in our Camp. He died on January 23rd from an unexpected massive brain hemorrhage. Randy had an excellent collection of Confederate artifacts that made our "Civil War Day" event complete with his historical presentation. He will be sorely missed by all who were fortunate to be around his kind character. I extend my condolences to the family for their painful loss; let us keep them in our thoughts and prayers.



I am also glad to report that we had a good turnout at the new Nature Coast re-enactment at Webster on February 23rd. I thank brothers Harvey Linscott, Ron Irons, Dave Acheson, Alan Clark, Robert Gray, Michael Hensley, and Paul Pardee for making this possible for both the days that we were there. I also give special gratitude to Dave's wife, Noreen, who made cookies for the brothers who attended; and Department Commander, Jim Ward for visiting and checking the status of our Camp's prosperity.

As the re-enacting season is coming to a close in Florida, the Camp will be meeting back at the Freedom Library in Ocala on Thursday March 14th. In April, we will hold our sixth annual Civil War day event at the library. We are finding people to cover the history of the Confederates as Randy Kerlin of the SCV had since the beginning. The date will be determined at our March meeting, but it will be very likely that it will be held on a Saturday. I encourage all brothers to see this awesome experience.

We have not gained any new members during the period, and lost one, Brother Ebbon Johnson, through death. Our Camp is in a period of mourning until April 14th, 2013.

No report on Eagle Scout or JROTC programs.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty,
John Pardee, CC

General William S. Harney Camp 08

The only thing accomplished recently is a Christmas ceremony at Greenwood Cemetery where a wreath was laid at the GAR Monument on Dec. 8, 2012. The Louisa May Alcott Tent #11 joined the activity with us.

No Scout or ROTC activity.

Thank you, Brother John, Camp #8

DEPARTMENT RESOLUTION

The following resolution and proposal is brought before the members in the Department of Florida at their 17th Annual Encampment June 16th, 2012 and is ACCEPTED ~~DECLINED~~.

BE IT KNOWN that the 10th Army Corp holds the distinction of being the only Union Army Corp to fight in the State of Florida during the war of the rebellion 1861 to 1865.

BE IT NOW RESOLVED that the Department of Florida adopt the Union Army 10th Corp symbol as a badge or insignia of the Department of Florida, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

WHEREAS the Department of Florida is authorized under the bylaws Article XVI, Section 1; to adopt a Department badge or insignia, which shall be governed and does not conflict with the C&R criteria for recognition devices as defined under the C&R Chapter V, Article III, Section 3, Sub-Sections M, and P.

THEREFORE the Department of Florida shall adopt recognition devices, its insignia in the form of the 10th Army Corp symbol used by the 10th Army Corp of the late War of the Rebellion 1861 to 1865, to be worn by the members in the Department of Florida, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. That this symbol when worn will distinguish their members from members of other Departments within the Fraternal Order of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at all public events.

UPON adoption of the Union Army 10th Corp symbol for recognition devices the Department Commander shall form an annual committee to copyright the symbol and maintain such. To investigate what manufacturers may fabricate possible recognition devices as specified in the C&R Chapter V, Article III, Section 3, Sub-Sections M, & P. And to establish pricing on the Department of Florida recognition devices based on quotes from qualified manufacturers.

Submitted under seal this 16th day of June Two Thousand and Twelve

Signed: _____

Charles D. Buck Custer SECRETARY /TREASURER, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA, SUVCW

Approved under seal this 16th day of June Two Thousand and Twelve

Signed: _____

Michael E. Farrell COMMANDER, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA, SUVCW



HISTORY OF THE 10TH CORPS ARMY BADGE: ITS SIGNIFICANCE TO THE CIVIL WAR IN FLORIDA

On the eve of the Rebellion the Regular Army of the United States was essentially a frontier constabulary whose 16,000 officers and men were organized into 198 companies scattered across the nation at seventy-nine different posts. In 1861, the U.S. Army was under the command of Lieutenant General Winfield Scott, the seventy-five-year-old hero of the Mexican-American War. His position as general-in-chief was traditional, not statutory, because secretaries-of-war since 1821 had designated a general to be in charge of the field forces without formal Congressional approval. The field forces themselves were controlled through a series of geographic departments whose commanders reported directly to the general-in-chief. The U.S. Federal government had two basic options for the use of the Regular Army. It could be divided into training and leadership cadre for newly formed volunteer regiments or be retained in units to provide a reliable nucleus for the U.S. Federal Army in coming battles to preserve the Union of the old slave republic. Lt. General Scott wanted the Regulars to fight as units and therefore the war, was fought primarily with State-militia volunteer officers and men, the vast majority of who had no previous military training or experience. The Federals began the war with a Regular Army organized into an essentially Napoleonic, musket-equipped structure. Each of the ten prewar infantry regiments consisted of ten 87-man companies with a maximum authorized strength of 878. At the beginning of the Rebellion, the Federals added nine Regular infantry regiments with a newer "French Model" organizational structure. The new regiments contained three battalions, with a maximum authorized strength of 2,452. The new Regular battalion, with eight 100-man companies, was, in effect, equivalent to the prewar regiment. The U.S. Federal War Department established a volunteer infantry regimental organization with a strength that could range from 866 to 1,046 (varying in authorized strength by up to 180 infantry privates). These smaller units were formed into Divisions, Corps and Departments of the Union Army. Various enlistment figures exist, but the best estimates are that approximately two million men enlisted in the Union Army during 1861-65. Of that number, 1 million were under arms when the Rebellion ended.

Early in the war, an Expeditionary Force was created to support the blockade strategy of the Lincoln administration. It was a combined military operation between the Navy and the Army. The Army would provide ground troops under the command of Brigadier General Thomas West Sherman and the Naval Force was under the command of Commodore Samuel F. Dupont. The Expeditionary Force formed in September of 1861, it was at this time that the military career of what would become the 10th Army Corp began. The first engagement November 4th 1861 was at Port Royal, S.C. And on January 1st, 1862 the regiments of what would eventually be part of the 10th Army Corp were again engaged in support of an action to take the fort at Port Royal Ferry, S.C., under the direction of General Isaac Stevens 2nd Brigade Exped'y Corp. After many months preparing for the siege of Fort Pulaski, Georgia, General Thomas W. Sherman was relieved of Command of the Expeditionary Corp in March of 1862.

The Department of the South was created under the Command of Major General David Hunter from the troops of the Expeditionary Corp. It was on this date, April 10, 1862, that the troops from the Expeditionary Army Corp participated in the siege of Fort Pulaski, Georgia under the Command of Brigadier General Gilmore. Military history was made during the siege of Fort Pulaski. For the first time in military history rifled canon successfully reduced a Fortress from over a mile away. What was thought to take months of siege only took 30 hours. The Confederate Commander of Fort Pulaski was told by no less a man than General Lee himself that the canon placed, a mile away on Tybee Island, Ga., would not be a problem. The various regiments of the Army Corp had been stationed throughout the Sea Islands along the shores of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. These same Union troops occupied the cities of Jacksonville and St. Augustine Florida. On April 13, 1862, following the Union capture of Ft. Pulaski Maj. Gen. David Hunter issued General Order No. 7 freeing those enslaved. The General also advocated enlistment of black soldiers in the Union Army. President Lincoln overturned the order.

This was the first indication that the war was not about preserving the old slave republic but about establishing a new republic providing freedom to all peoples. In January 1863 Pres. Lincoln would issue the Emancipation Proclamation. The Bureau of Colored Troops was established on May 22, 1863.

During this time tens of thousands of slaves escaped from their plantation masters to the occupation forces of the Union Army located along these shores. It was at this time that the Army established housing, food, medical care and education to the escaped slaves. This organization laid the foundation of what would be known later as the Freedman's Bureau. The Expeditionary Corp also has the distinction of mustering the first colored regiments that were formed from the freed slaves.

Organized under General Orders No. 123 September 9th, 1862 the Tenth Union Army Corp was established from troops in the Department of the South. Major General David Hunter was relieved of command on September 16th, 1862. The newly formed Tenth Army Corp was placed under the command of Major General O. M. Mitchel.

At the time these troops were stationed principally at Hilton Head, S.C., and Beaufort, S.C., the order including also the troops at Fort Pulaski, Ga., Key West, Fla., Fernandina, Fla., and St. Augustine, Fla.; in all, 14,602, present and absent, with 10,190 present for duty. There were 14 regiments of infantry, 1 of engineers, a battalion of cavalry, and the usual compliment of light batteries. The object of the new commander was the capture of Charleston. The first action was the destruction of the Charleston-Savannah railroad. While the battle at Coosawhatchie towards that purpose was successful, Major General O. M. Mitchel was taken down with yellow fever and died on October 30th, 1862. In January 1863 Major General Hunter assumed command of the Tenth Corp. In June 1863 General Quincy Gilmore took command of the 10th Corp, the forces under General Gillmore participated in the various operations about Charleston Harbor. The principal event was the bloody assault on Fort Wagner, July 18, 1863. This assault was made by a column of three brigades,--Strong's, Putnam's, and Stevenson's, the whole under command of General Truman H. Seymour. General Strong's brigade led the assault, with the 54th Massachusetts (Colored) at the head of his column. The attack was a failure, resulting in a loss of 246 killed, 880 wounded, and 389 missing; total, 1,515. The most of the missing were killed or wounded, but few of them ever returning. To this loss should be added 339 casualties, which occurred in an attack on Fort Wagner, July 11th, a week before, an attempt made by three regiments only. Two of the three brigade commanders, General Strong and Colonel Putnam, were killed in the assault of the 18th, Putnam falling after he had effected an entrance into the fort. Stevenson's Brigade was held mainly in reserve. In February, 1864, Seymour's Division, of about 7,000 men, sailed for Florida, where it was engaged on the 20th in the battle of Olustee, a defeat in which some of the regiments suffered terribly. In April, 1864, the Tenth Corps was ordered to Virginia, where it was placed in General Butler's Army of the James, which was composed of the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps. The Tenth assembled at Yorktown, Va., where it was organized into the three divisions of Terry, Turner, and Ames, numbering, as present for duty, 16,812 infantry, and 1,114 artillerymen, with 46 guns. Afterwards the Tenth Corp was transferred to the Army of the James.

The Army of the James landed at Bermuda Hundred, May 6, 1864, and a month of active service and hard fighting immediately commenced, the Tenth Corps losing in its operations around Drewry's Bluff, 374 killed, 2,475 wounded, and 807 missing; total, 3,656. Butler's operations resulting in nothing but failures, General Grant ordered the greater part of his forces to the support of the Army of the Potomac. Accordingly, on the 29th of May, General W. F. Smith, commanding the Eighteenth Corps, took the First (Brooks') and Second (Martindale's) Divisions of his own corps, and the Second (Devens') and Third (Ames') Divisions of the Tenth Corps, and proceeded to Cold Harbor, where these divisions cooperated with the Army of the Potomac in the terrible fighting which commenced immediately upon their arrival. While at Cold Harbor, these two divisions of the Tenth Corps were known as part of the Eighteenth Corps, forming the Third Division, under command of General Devens.

Upon the close of the fighting at Cold Harbor, the two divisions returned by water transports to Bermuda Hundred, but consolidated as the Second Division, Tenth A. C.

On the 14th of August, the Tenth Corps, under command of General David B. Birney, crossed the James and became engaged with the enemy at Deep Bottom, General Terry's division taking a prominent part in this action. The casualties in the corps were: 213 killed, 1,154 wounded, 311 missing; total, 1,678. On September 29th, Birney crossed again with his corps, and fought at Chaffin's Farm, his command consisting of Terry's and Ames' divisions, together with a brigade of colored troops, under General William Birney. Loss: 74 killed, 587 wounded, 302 missing; total, 963. In the unsuccessful attack on Fort Gilmer, and at Newmarket heights, these colored troops displayed great gallantry. General David B. Birney died at Philadelphia, October 18, 1864, and was succeeded by General Terry, who was in command of the corps during the fighting on the Darbytown Road, and at the battle of Fair Oaks, October 27, 1864.

On December 3, 1864, the corps was discontinued, and its regiments were assigned to the newly formed Twenty-fourth Corps, which was composed of the white troops from the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps. But immediately after this transfer, Ames' Division, together with Abbott's Brigade of this new corps, were detached and ordered on the Fort Fisher expedition. After the brilliant capture of Fort Fisher by these troops, they remained in North Carolina, and, in March, 1865, the Tenth Corps was revived. As reorganized, it consisted of Birge's (1st) Division, composed of three brigades taken from Grover's Division of the Nineteenth Corps, then stationed at Savannah; of Ames' (2nd) Division, composed of the troops which fought at Fort Fisher; of Paine's (3d) Division, colored troops; and of Abbott's Separate Brigade, numbering in all 12,099 men. General Terry, who was in command at the victory of Fort Fisher, was placed at the head of the corps. But the war was then near its close, and in August, 1865, the organization was discontinued.

Editors Note: This article was submitted by Brother Mike Farrell, PDC.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Department of Florida Encampment

3101 17th Street St. Cloud, FL 34769

June 15th, 2013

The event website needs to be updated with info concerning registration, schedule, servings, and guest speaker. This will be available to all members soon.

National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Brookfield, Wisconsin

August 08-11, 2013

[Encampment Website](#)

DEPARTMENT INTERIM REPORT

James Ward, Commander, Department of Florida

To: (1) Commander-in-Chief Mellor
(2) National Chief of Staff Norris
(3) Council of Administration

Subject: Department of Florida Report from
Los Angeles National Encampment to Springfield Council of Administration Meeting

Date: March 31, 2013

Summary:

1. The Department of Florida remains viable, with worthy progress and achievements in some areas, and challenges in others
2. National Treasurer Orr received the Department of Florida report due March 2013
3. IRS November filing deadlines were met; May deadlines are being met
4. Department Encampment is Saturday June 15, 2013 in St. Cloud. C-in-C Mellor is scheduled to attend
5. A new Camp is being organized in the Jacksonville area
6. A Sesquicentennial Signature Event is being planned for October 2013 in the Tampa area
7. A Sesquicentennial Signature Event has been approved by the National Sesquicentennial Committee for February 2014 at Olustee
 - A. President Monroe (Monument Commission, DoFL) and Department Commander Ward met with Representative Porter (Florida House) advancing the creation of a first Olustee monument recognizing Union Veterans at Olustee
8. The March annual Battle at Narcoossee Mill is an event multiple Department of Florida Camps participate in
9. The December Department Mid-year Conference (Officers Call) in St. Cloud was well attended and effective
10. The Concord Cemetery restoration project was completed with the installation of a remembrance bench
11. There is a Department website
12. The "Dispatch" is the Department newsletter
13. Since June 2012, I attended meetings at all Camps at least once, and participated in Camp activities, including the reenactment at Webster
14. I participated in C-in-C Mellor's testimonial dinner in Massachusetts
15. Implementation of the 10th Army Corps insignia as a Department insignia is advancing
16. I completed the 2012 Department Graves Registration Officer course and examination
17. Opposition to the Fort Concord Project surfaced in municipal divisions. This delayed the original schedule, and likely will down-size the concept
18. Wooden nickels distributed at NE'12 were delivered to Camps
19. I was commissioned to serve as 7MD Adjutant, SVR, and continue as Amzi D. Harmon Company Commander.

20. The one Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War tent (Tent 10) in Florida achieved sufficient growth to create a second tent (Tent 11). The Department attends meetings and activities of both.
21. Regarding relations with fraternal orders:
 - A. MOLLUS- I received a request to establish contact with Zellwood Museum. In addition, establishing (re-establishing) a Florida Commandery is progressing.
 - B. The Department participated in an annual March Sons of the American Revolution event observing the last naval battle of the American Revolution off Cape Canaveral
 - C. An American Legion rifle squad provided honor volleys at the Private King gravestone dedication ceremony at Punta Gorda November 10, 2012.
22. Regarding history in general, Ponce de Leon arrived and named Florida 500 years ago April 2. "Viva Florida" is a yearlong observance.

Recommendations: none, because I know recommendations are required to be resolved.

I encourage the transition to IRS 501(c)(3) recognition going forward and retroactively.

I also encourage life membership (1) fee being 20 times annual dues, (2) amount separately invested to return an annual amount equal to annual dues, (3) distributions to Departments and through them to Camps of an amount equal to Department and Camp annual dues, (4) suspension of acceptance of new life memberships until 1 through 3 are promulgated.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

James Ward
Commander
Department of Florida



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR 1861-1865

DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER



Department Order #5 Series 2012-2013 13 February 2013

1. The Battle of Olustee had a substantial impact on the Union Servicemen involved. The Department of Florida therefore has invested a presence at the Olustee re-enactment for several years
2. I appoint Brother Farrell as 2013 Olustee Quartermaster
 - A. I invite Lucius L. Mitchell Camp 4 Commander Custer to temporarily transfer custody of the Camp 4 tent, tarp, and related implements to Quartermaster Farrell.
 - B. I authorize temporary transfer of the Department and American flags, flagpoles, eagle, and sheaths to Quartermaster Farrell February 12, 2013. Brother Farrell reports he holds personal flag stakes, display tables, displays, and appropriate overnight camping items.
3. Department Council Member Farrell reports he intends to depart Palm Bay 4:00 am Thursday February 14, 2013. He intends to arrive by noon, and be set up by evening. Friday 8:00 am school field trip groups are expected as part of education day, perhaps winding down by 3:00 pm. Saturday and Sunday are re-enactment and public access days. DJVC Slavin also plans to arrive Thursday evening and participate with the Liberty Guards Mess portraying the 48th New York. The LGM marches 1:00 pm and 5:00 PM Friday. Brother Mike is Olustee Coordinator. Otherwise, when I am not present, DJVC Slavin represents the Department. When neither of us are present, Department Council Farrell, PDC represents the Department. In all of our absence, DS Monroe represents the Department.
4. A meeting with State Representative Elizabeth Porter 4:00 pm Friday February 15, 2013 at her 678 Southeast Baya Drive, Lake City, Florida 32025-6038 office (386-719-4600) is planned. Department of Florida Monument Commission President Monroe, Council Member Farrell, PDC, JVC Slavin, and I are authorized delegates. This means our Olustee campsite may be unattended for a time Friday. Aside from that meeting, Brother Monroe and I intend to be at Olustee Friday.
5. Navigation: north on I-95 to Jacksonville, then west on I-10, then southwest on SR-90. For the turnpike, exit to SR-90 east to Lake City, then further east to Olustee. Either way, look for an Olustee Battlefield sign.

6. Fees: we anticipate fees will be waived for SUVCW participants. Please be courteous if a waiver is not granted.
7. Shelter: Camp onsite. Hotels are at Lake City (45 minutes west), or Jacksonville (45 minutes east).
8. Communications:

Monroe (813) 787-0169 (cell)
Ward (321) 987-8747 (cell)
9. I direct all Brothers to recognize the importance of this event. If your circumstances permit, please participate. If you have a Civil War uniform please wear it. Otherwise wear camp attire, or business casual attire (polo shirt, slacks, and covered shoes, or equivalent).

Ordered this 13th day of February 2013:

James Ward
Commander

Attest:

Lloyd Monroe
Secretary