



The Dispatch

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Department of Florida S.U.V.C.W.
Editor – DSVC John Vaughn III Co-Editor/Publisher – Paul Pardee
Spring 2012



New Symrna Beach Sesquicentennial

March 17th, 2012

Page 10

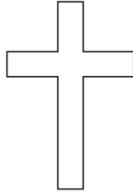


 **Commander's Corner** 

Greetings Brothers,

I must say that it has been very busy for the Dept. of Florida this Sesquicentennial year. We has quite a success at the 150th anniversary observance at the Civil War Monument in New Smyrna Beach. I wish to thank all those who have attended the Sesquicentennial Events and other Dept. events so far this year. I wish to especially recognize the effort of Brother Roger Heiple who is our Sesquicentennial Chairman. His constant work in putting these events together is appreciated by all of the membership. I am working feverishly with Brother Custer and Commander of Camp 7 Brother Shaffer to put together the next Department Encampment on June 16th in Pembroke Pines. Please schedule this day and come, we will have Resolutions and Amendments (not to mention Dept. Officers) to vote on. This will be one you'll not forget. Remember Dr. Barbara Gannon will be there to sign her book "The Won Cause". The Dept. has attended both Olustee and Narcoossee Mill events. At these events we educate the public about the GAR and the Civil War. I think we are pushing back the wall of misinformation and ignorance when it comes to the participation of African American Union Soldiers and their cause of freedom for our people. The Civil War gave our nation a new rebirth of freedom. I would like to Thank Re-enactor Melvin Turner of the 54th Massachusetts for coming to Narcoossee Mill and helping us emphasis in the mind of the public the contribution of the African American Union Soldier. Of course Roger Heiple was there the full three days and taught over 500 children while displaying various Civil War artifacts and answering questions. The recruiting efforts did well also. The Dept. took 13 applications at Olustee and 11 applications at Narcoossee Mill. We need more member participation please help us; Thanks again to those who have!

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,
M Farrell



Department Chaplain's Word for April

Carl Sandburg quotes Abraham Lincoln making a statement to his friend, Joshua Speed in 1864, testifies that Abraham Lincoln was a man of profound faith: "Take all of this book [Bible] upon reason that you can, and the balance on faith, and you will live and die a better man."

Lincoln's daily devotional for the Month of April,
DUTIES OF THE BELIEVER -- PERSONAL

As we go through the month of April following President Lincoln's daily devotional, let us try and visualize just how President Lincoln took those words of Holy writ and applied them in his activities for that day in his life.

I would encourage Camp Chaplain's to keep me advised of members of their camps that are in need of our corporate prayers and assistance as part of our duties as Christian Brothers that we might join them in agreement in our requests sent on high.

I would also encourage them to keep in mind our Department Encampment coming up in June and begin to compile information that you Camp Commander will need in making the annual reports at that Encampment.

Sustained by the Grace of God!
 C. D. "Skip" Whitlam

Officers of the Department of Florida S.U.V.C.W. 2011-2012



Department Commander: Michael Farrell Camp 04

SVC: PCC John Vaughn III Camp 08

JVC: PCC David Hoover Camp 08

Secretary/Treasurer: PDC Charles Custer Camp 04

Council No.01: PDC Daniel Hans Camp 05

Council No.02: PDC Harvey Linscott Camp 05

Council No.03: PDC Robert Jones Camp 0

Patriotic Instructor: PCC Richard Hardesty Camp 0

Chaplain: CC Charles "Skip" Whitlam Camp 04

G.R.O: PCC David Hoover Camp 08

Historian: Donald E. Buriss II Camp 0

Civil War Memorials: Vacant

Eagle Scout Coordinator: SVC John Vaughn III

JROTC Coordinator: CC Richard Shaffer Camp

Counselor: Lloyd B. Monroe

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

Signals Officer: Paul Pardee Camp 05

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Scheduled Meetings and Events:

The Sesquicentennial of the Siege at Fort
Pulaski. Chatham Co. Georgia

April 10th-11th, 2012

Emancipation Day

May 20th, 2012

Memorial Day

May 30th, 2012

Department Encampment

June 16th, 2012

Pembroke Pines, Florida.

National Encampment

August 09th - 11th, 2012

Los Angeles, California

(More info in The Banner)

Department Brothers' Birthdays January-March

Best Wishes and Happy Birthday to:

Danny R. Hooper,
Roger E. Quackenbush,
John F. Farrell,
Vincent A. Seibold,
Richard L. Sumner II,
Guy P. Bachmann,
George R. Dennis,
Terry Friend,
James R. Hipp,
Richard J. Horgan,
Harvey E. Oyer Jr.,
Woodrow W. Everett III,
Michael E. Farrell DC,
Donald C. Hackley,
Shawn P. Hinman,
Raymond H. Lehman,
Bruce Looper,
Ronnie G. McCracken,
Herman J. Miller,
Robert E. Danneman,
Stanley W. Harvey,
Harvey K. Linscott,
Donald C. A. Green,
Robert W. Kerr,
Hugh M. Wharton,
Robert V. Chandler PDC,
John A. Weatherwax

Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Medal of Honor

First and foremost, I am indebted to Mrs. Elaine B. Rogers, President of the USO, who entrusted me to create a piece grand enough to commemorate the Medal of Honor. Paying tribute to the bravest of the braves, is a unique privilege and, for an artist, grounds for divine inspiration. Thank you Elaine.

I warmly extend my thanks to Mr. Kim Bernard Holien, Historian extraordinaire without whom I could not have imagined the series of events which gave birth to the necessary dispositions to recognize acts of utmost bravery. Not only did Kim open new venues of research for this piece with very wise suggestions, he led me to David Joswick, and the Andrews great locomotive chase. Listening to David narrate this incredible 8-hour mission of April 12, 1862, I was propelled in that stormy weather amidst 22 men who believed in a cause and were ready to risk all, and risking all, they did. Thank you both, for truly giving history, through your passion and expertise, the gild it deserves.

I am immensely grateful to Harris Corporation for its generous donations that support our armed forces, especially ensuring that this art piece was delivered in safe fashion to the USO, in Washington, DC.

In creating this artwork, my intent was to follow my heart and express my profound gratitude towards each of our soldiers who selflessly serve and defend. From the layout stage, the piece presented its challenges. One hundred fifty years of history needed to be properly narrated into one landscape, expressing the core values of the Medal of Honor and how great acts of heroism change the course of our history. For me, as an artist, it was a month-long journey, which brought me from awe moments to tearful episodes while I read the stories of many such heroes.

The left-hand side of the artwork represents today's three versions of the Medal of Honor. They rest on a blue ribbon, which anchors the piece. The background of the canvas, its texture, can be read from left to right, from present to past. The flag serves as the background as it represents the founding values of our nation.

The opposite right upper corner represents the starting point of the Medal of Honor history. The great wild locomotive, or Andrews Raid, a military action so daring, it would become a feature movie in 1956. During the Civil War, 22 volunteers boarded a locomotive (The General), with the intent to make the most damage possible, cut telegraph wires on their path while being chased by other locomotives. This 8-hour ordeal played out through incessant rain, from Atlanta to Chattanooga. The raiders were all captured and many of them were executed as spies. Jacob Wilson Parrott was the first recipient of the Medal of Honor.

This historical paragraph rests into the background, treated with broad strokes. The Congressional Resolution, signed by Abraham Lincoln, December 2nd, 1861, was added to close this Civil War chapter.

I included a few vignettes in the flag, to relate events from the Civil war, World War I, World War II, and at the bottom, excerpts from a 1945 newspaper reporting on the Iwo Jima battle. These are time capsules, which were necessary witnesses of war times. The war illustration at the bottom tier of the piece ties these war events together.



The center of the artwork represents its spiritual strength. From heroic ashes rises freedom.

Under the flag as one united force, one must admire and bow in the face of pure bravery, helmet, rifle and boots grounded as one memory of a soldier, molded by courage and sacrifice, standing for all. In each of these unspoken heroes rises the shadow of the Statue of Liberty, as to each of them, we owe our free nation.

May this piece inspire. May this piece be a reminder to praise and honor all those who went “Beyond The Call Of Duty” to shape the United States. I am forever grateful and humbled for the opportunity given to me, to pay tribute to this elite circle. THANK YOU.

Cat. Wicks

Details of the Vignettes: (within the red stripe)

Three War Victory Bell – A dinner bell used by her great-great-grandmother Hannah Auld to inform soldiers of Brighton, Iowa that the Civil war had ended – was rung Tuesday by Pauline Auld, who also celebrated her ninth birthday. Her great-grandfather, James Ross Auld, rang it in Keokuk, Iowa, on Armistice Day, 1918. Pauline, daughter of Lincoln M. of Sioux City, Iowa, was visiting her grandfather J. H. Auld, 3227 Newton Avenue N, who played the chimes to the Courthouse tower when victory was announced. The bell Pauline holds is over 100 years old.

End of World War II – This is how Nicollet Avenue looked shortly after 6:00pm, when President Truman announced the war with Japan was over. The crowd increased rapidly and within a few hours, the loop was jammed with merry-makers letting off steam pent up during four years of war.

End of World War I – The same scene taken Armistice Day, 1918, shows Minneapolitans taking part in the biggest celebration which had taken place in the city’s history. Until Tuesday night, the news that ended World War I came at 1:47am and by 3:00am, the loop was a bedlam that continued throughout the day.



Camp News

Winfield Scott Whitehurst Camp No. 01

The election of Camp # Officers for the year 2012 was held at our 12/13/11 Meeting. Dave Palmer was reelected as Camp commander, Richard Hardesty reelected Senior Vice Commander, Larry Oppenheimer reelected as Junior Vice Commander, Larry Peck Sr. was elected as Secretary/Treasurer (Jim Hayward decided not to seek an Office this year), and Council Members Richard Beyer Sr. and Gerald Leonard were reelected. CC Palmer appointed Richard Beyer Sr. as Camp Chaplin. Brother Richard Beyer Sr. (authorized by Brother Mike Farrell (FL SUVCW Dept. Commander) installed the elected Officers.

A Civil War Roundtable Organizational Meeting is scheduled for 7 PM at Tampa Historical Museum 1/25/12 and several Brothers plan on attending.

We have planned an outing to Fort Brooke and Ballest Point Site locations as well as to Gamble CW Era Antebellum Mansion/Plantation and a CW Reenactment this Spring.

On March 11, the Camp attended the Open House at the Gamble Plantation as our March Meeting /Outing. The Open House was hosted by the United Daughters of the Confederacy--Judah P. Benjamin Chapter. They were dressed in period costume and acted as Site Guides. The Brothers, their Wife's and Children enjoyed a tour of both the Gamble Plantation and the Patten Houses and the State of Florida Museum located at the Site (Gamble Plantation Historic State Park). Judah P. Benjamin Secretary of State--Confederate States stayed at the Gamble Plantation during his escape from the Federal Government. He stayed there until he could secure passage to London. Besides the home tours there was a typical Confederate Camp setup, period crafters and a very interesting display of flags (primarily Confederate flags).

Our next planned Meeting/Outing is scheduled for 4/25 at the Tampa bay Historical Museum. We plan to tour the Fort Brooke Site, tour the Spy/Intelligence Special Exhibit on loan from the Washington War Museum and then drive to the Ballast Point Site (Fort Brooke and Ballast Point are

the CW Sites within Tampa). We would welcome Brothers and their Wife's/Friends to join us on this planned Camp # 1 Outing. We plan lunch at the Columbia Cafe (located within the Tampa Bay Historical Museum). Please contact me if interested for specific information.

Respectively submitted,
Dave Palmer, Camp # 1 Commander

General Thomas J. Mckean Camp No. 03

Members of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War General Thomas McKean Camp 3 attended the Loxahatchee Battlefield Seminole Memorial Ceremony that was held on January 15, 2012 at Loxahatchee River Battlefield Park in Jupiter, Florida. Camp 3 members erected a tent and displayed weapons and maps that showed how the two battles of Loxahatchee took place in 1838. Many of the soldiers and sailors in these battles also fought in union forces during the Civil War.

The first battle on January 15, 1838, called Powell's Battle, was an assault by a small United States Naval Force of sailors and a few marines, led by Lieutenant Levin Powell. They came in the Jupiter Inlet and headed up the southwest fork of the Loxahatchee River in small boats. When they encountered the Seminole Indians, the United States forces had to retreat to avoid a massacre.

The second battle on January 24, 1838, called Jesup's Battle, was an assault led by Major General Thomas Jesup. A force of fifteen hundred soldiers had marched south down the Florida peninsula between Lake Okeechobee and the east coast. Heading east, General Jesup's force ran into swamps and sawgrass that made marching very difficult for the soldiers and their horses and wagons.

As they approached the Seminole Indians, they were attacked. Some of the Seminole Indians had positioned themselves on a dry hammock and had hidden in the trees that gave them a distinct advantage. However, the Seminole Indians were hopelessly outnumbered and they soon fled to the south into the everglades.

General Jesup marched his army to the Loxahatchee River and established a fort on Pennock Point. He named it Fort Jupiter.

The Seminole Indians and their families, being without food and nearly starving, eventually surrendered and came to Fort Jupiter. General Jesup sent a letter to Washington, DC, stating that the Seminole Indians were no longer a threat and he suggested that we should let them live in the Everglades. General Jesup was ordered to gather the whole tribe and send them to Tampa so they could be relocated to a reservation in Oklahoma. This relocation was called Florida's "Trail of Tears." We have our Camp 3 meeting tonight, the meeting was rescheduled from March 7. I will send you an e-mail concerning additional activities that we discussed tonight.

At our March 12, 2012 meeting, SUVCW General Thomas McKean Camp 3 voted to donate \$ 250 to the Department of Florida for the construction of the Union Veterans Memorial at the Olustee Battlefield Cemetery. On March 14, 2012, Camp 3 members will attend a lecture from Marshall D. Krolick, author of *Riding for the Union: Members of the 8th Illinois Cavalry*. On May 28, 2012, Camp 3 members will present a Union Veterans wreath during Memorial Day services at Palm Beach Memorial Park.

CC Edward J. Manak

Lucius L. Mitchell Camp No. 04

Camp #4 was once again invited to participate with the Sons of the American Revolution in their annual remembrance of the last Naval battle of the Revolutionary War at Cape Canaveral, this year held at the Veterans Center on Merritt Island, Florida. Camp #4 members in attendance were Dept. Cmdr. Farrell, Sec./Trea. Custer, Camp # 4 Cmdr. Whitlam, SVC Cmdr. Humker, JVC Chandler, Patriotic Instructor Manaci, Graves and Memorial Officer Polston, PCC Ward and Council Heiple, guests included Mrs. Charles Custer and Mrs. Polston, thank you all for attending.

After the short parade and ceremony members enjoyed touring the Museum at the Veterans Center, there were many artifacts from all our wars including the Civil War.

Afterward we held our regular camp meeting at Kay's Real Pit Barbeque in Cocoa Beach. Business at the meeting included a report from Cmdr. Whitlam regarding progress made in verifying and searching for family descendants of Wellington J. Kingsbury a Union Veteran buried at Mt. Peace Cemetery in St. Cloud in an unmarked grave. Sec./Trea. Farrell reported on Camp Bylaws Amendments progress and the Dept. event planed for Fort Pulaski on April 10th and 11th. PCC Ward represented Camp #4 at the memorial service for Brother Daniel Spellman, held by the widow Spellman.



(Picture above) Brother Polston our Graves and Memorials Officer gave a good report on the progress on the Department project on the Concord Cemetery Restoration, great job Marshall.

Council Heiple, gave a report on the March 17th Sesquicentennial Signature Event to be held at New Smyrna Beach



March 24th /Narcoossee Mill Recruiting Team.

Team Left to Right behind display table:
Seated, Camp 4 Roger Heiple; Standing, Camp 4 Mike Urell; Seated, 54th Mass. Nelson Turner; Standing, Camp 4 Michael Farrell; Team member extreme right Camp 7 Bill Slavins. I wish to Thank Camp 7 Commander Richard Shaffer (Not shown in picture) for also setting up a tent at the Narcoossee event. Visitors out front of table: left, John Holmes, Sutler; and Union Re-enactor center.

General Eugene A. Carr Camp No.05

On December 8th we had our Camp meeting with the swearing in of the new camp officers by our visiting Dept Commander Mike Farrell.

On Dec 17th five members from our Camp attended the Mid-Year Department Conference. They were PDC Dan Hans, PDC Harvey Linscott, PCC David Acheson, CC John Pardee, JVC Ron Irons and Paul Pardee who was sworn in as new Dept. Signals Officer.



Brothers in attendance were Dave Acheson and his wife Noreen, Bob Gray, JVC Ron Irons, PDC Harvey Linscott, Don Johnson, CC John Pardee and Paul Pardee. We sworn in and welcomed Scott Kerns as a new Brother of the Camp at our recruitment tent.

At our February meeting, Camp 05 unanimously approved the Department Resolution No. 01 which use of the 10th army corps badge which was presented to those Brothers who attended the Mid-Year Conference. We think this is a creative and outstanding idea to identify members of the SUVCW coming from Florida with this symbol. Great Job Mike!

We will be sponsoring the 5th annual Civil War Day at the Freedom Library in Ocala on April 14th, 2012.
CC John Pardee

Sergeant Frederick R. Jackson Camp No. 07

We held elections in December and will swear in our new Vice Commander, William, (Bill) Slavin on January 17th. In addition planning continues for our hosting the Department Encampment in Pembroke Pines in June.

We also plan to participate in two Living History events in early February, The Boy Scout Camporee at Markham Park (Broward County) 2/17 - 19, and An American History event at the War Memorial Auditorium in Ft. Lauderdale, 2/10 - 12. If any brothers want to participate in these events, I suggest they contact me at this E address for details and to show up at the event ready to talk.
Richard Shaffer, Commander

General William S. Harney Camp No.08

The camp had a recruitment table at the Townsend Plantation Raid reenactment on Feb 4-5. They celebrated Lincoln's Birthday on the 12th at a potluck style dinner. This was at Bro. Will Cavin's and Bro. Gene Thompson's house. CC Sink attended the Olustee reenactment and was present at the Sesquicentennial Event at New Smyrna Beach.

At the beginning of the year, DC Farrell put forth Dept. Resolution 1. This referenced the adoption of the 10th Army Corps Insignia, as the insignia to be adopted by the Department of Florida. This insignia could be worn by all Dept. of FL members. The adoption of the symbol will be voted on at the Dept. Encampment on June 16, 2012.

The Department of Florida on Jan 15, 2012, awarded Dr. Barbara Gannon Phd., a GAR Sesquicentennial coin and a recognition award. This was for her book, 'The Won Cause'. This book showed the true race relations between the members of the GAR.

The DSVC and DC came up with the ByLaws changes needed for our Department. These changes were sent to the CinC for his review.

In early February, DC Farrell, proposed that the schedule of the Dept. Newsletter printing be changed. The proposal would change the newsletter from a bi-monthly, to a quarterly publication. This proposal was approved and published as Dept. Order # 4. In addition to the publishing schedule change, Bro. Paul Pardee was made the newsletter's co-editor/publisher, upon his volunteering to take on the job. This appointment was made official with Dept. Order # 5.

Department of Florida Sesquicentennial Signature Event



Placed by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1940; This Monument Commemorates the Civil War Action between the U.S Naval Forces and the CSA Infantry on March 22, 1862.



Color Guard "Post Colors!" Sgt. Harvey Linscott to left and Ron Irons to Right Observe SVR Cmdr. James Ward (Nat'l Flag) and Camp 7 Bill Slavin (Dept. Flag) post Colors.



Left to Right: Fran Heiple; Sesquicentennial Committee Chairman Roger Heiple; Dept. Commander Michael Farrell; Dept. Chaplain Skip Whitlam; perform re-dedication of Civil War monument.



Chaplain Skip Whitlam gives prayer at monument re-dedication.



Rifle Detail waits for the order to “Salute the Dead”. Left to Right: PDC Harvey Linscott; PDC Buck Custer; Bro. Ron Irons; Mr. Mike Griffin.



ROLL CALL OF HONOR:

USS Penguin

Killed
Acting Lieutenant T.A.Budd

Commanding

Ordinary Seaman Walter Burch
Ordinary Seaman James Marlow

USS Henry Andrew

Killed
Acting Master S. W. Mather
Seaman Samuel Arnold
Seaman John Bates
Ordinary Seaman William Brown
Ordinary Seaman Lewis Deloris

During the battle a Negro pilot helping the Union forces navigate the Indian River was wounded and taken prisoner. Unfortunately, he was later hung, for helping Union forces. It is believed that Confederate Captain Houston; who also commanded Confederate guerrilla forces in the local area conducted the hanging. None of the records mention the name of the Negro pilot.

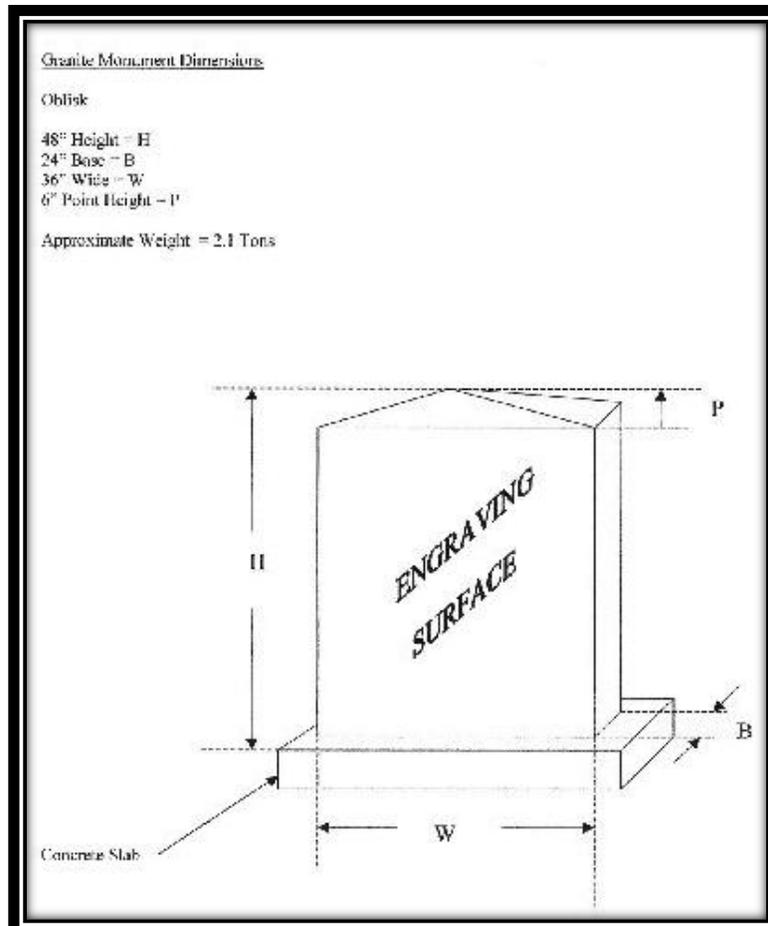
No Confederate Losses Reported in this fight.

Concord Cemetery Project Update

The City of Casselberry has agreed to fund the Concord Cemetery Project that is headed by Brothers' Marshall Polston of Camp No. 04 and PCC David Hoover of Camp No. 08. This along with Home Depot's grant puts the project's fund to \$20,000. This is a great success for the people of Casselberry. Luis Cruz deserves a great deal of credit. Luis Cruz Park Development /Facility Manager and Mark Gisclar Public Works Director have been great supporters of this project from the Get-Go.

A monument will be placed in the cemetery; shown below is a blueprint of a possible design for it. The SUVCW has submitted a plan for the dedication ceremony of those Pioneers, Settlers, Seminoles, Soldiers & Veterans buried in Concord Cemetery.

Marshall continues to give 100% and he has done a very fine job managing this project. His name will certainly be remembered in Casselberry.



IN MEMORIAM:

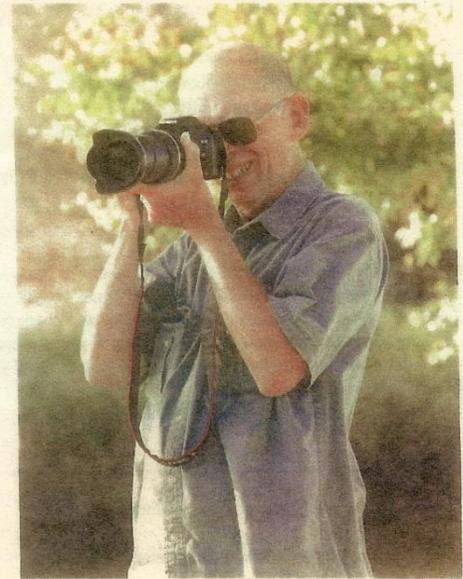
The Department Civil War Memorials Officer Brother Dan Spellman passed away on Nov. 9th 2011. February 24th, 2012 a memorial service was held to honor the life of Dan Spellman. In accordance with his wishes his wife Linda and daughter Valerie conducted the services in cooperation with Pastor Danof the Riverside Presbyterian Church located in Cocoa Beach, Florida.

Dan was an avid Shutterbug, Genealogist & Coin Collector; he was also an Elder of his Church. He was well known in the community of Cocoa Beach, Dan served on his condo association. Dan was a man who served his family, community and country. Before Danretired he was very successful in his career with the Army Corp of Engineers. In his own words Dan told a story of love given and received by family and friends throughout his life. Many people came to the service.

Dan's association with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was very important to him. He was also a member in the Department of Ohio. While a member in the Department of Florida Dan served as an officer at the Camp and Department levels. He will be remembered and missed by Camp 4. During the memorial service Brother James Ward spoke about Dan's dedication to helping others and doing the work of our Fraternal Order. Brother Ward finished by giving Brother Spellman the traditional final Salute.

Dan offered the following words in the poem as advice to his family, friends and fraternal brothers.

In Celebration of Life Dan Spellman



Before It's Too Late

*If you have a tender message,
Or a loving word to say,
Do not wait till you forget it,
But whisper it today.
The tender words unspoken,
The letter never sent,
The long forgotten messages,
The wealth of love unspent –
For these some hearts are breaking,
For those some loved ones wait;
So show them that you care for them
Before it's too late.*

OLUSTEE BATTLEFIELD 2012:

Despite reports that the Battle of Olustee might be cancelled due to rain, the three-day event was well attended with mild weather. The only rain was Friday night. Thursday I arrived representing the Department of Florida and setup the Tents courtesy of Camp #4. The Dept. of Florida, SUVCW is very grateful to Eric Hague who coordinates this event. The morning of the Feb. 17th buses loaded with children arrived to experience the period of the 1860's and learn about the Civil War. Living historians were walking and talking everywhere. My goal, for the entire three days from Feb. 17th to Feb. 19th, was to speak about the African American Union soldier and his contribution to the Civil War; Grand Army of the Republic; And encourage adults and children to research their family history. This was also an opportunity to recruit for our Fraternal Order. Thirteen men gave their contact information in hopes of possibly joining the SUVCW. As groups of children would arrive at our table they would pick up an 1861 Springfield musket. Often they would comment on its heaviness. Another artifact was a U.S. Naval officer's sword. Many people were impressed when I would rattle off facts about the involvement of African Americans in the Union army. I would quiz the crowd by asking if they knew how many Black soldiers served in the Union army during the Civil War. I was regaled with numbers from 16 to 2000. Informing them that 200,000 Black Union soldiers served was always met with surprise. I then would inform them that three regiments of Black Union soldiers fought at the battle of Olustee. One group of kids asked; "What was the Civil War about?" a little girl in front yelled "FREEDOM". The adult chaperone shouted her down with "STATES RIGHTS" the little girl undaunted yelled "Freedom and Slavery". Again came the retort; "STATES RIGHTS". Looking the little girl in the eye I said, "You are exactly right!" a big smile lit up the little girl's face. I then explained that it is true that at the beginning of the Civil War the Union soldiers fought to preserve the Old Republic as it was before the war. As the Union lost battle after battle the Union soldiers' moral dropped. By 1863 it was clear that the war was not about saving the Old Republic. The war was about setting men free and creating a New Republic where all were equal. This is what our GAR veterans believed after 1863, they took pride in fighting to set men free. As written in the words of the Battle Hymn.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea; With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me; As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free, While God is marching on

I wish to thank my dear friends Bonnie and Buck Custer for helping out.

