

Camp Three Reveille
A periodic publication of the Sons of the Union Veterans
Camp Nelson-Garfield Memorial Camp#3
(www.home.fuse.net/suvcw)

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*****April Camp Formal Meeting Notes

Camp Brothers gave a nice turnout for the April 24th visit of Tim Downey, State Commander.

Tim expressed hope that Camp members would show interest and support for the State Volunteer Regiment. Bernie O'Bryan, Camp Secretary, is our own contact for this effort. Please feel free to contact him (859-363-8608) for further information.

Doug Windle, Camp Commander for Camp 5 in Lexington, also attended. Doug spoke briefly and asked that Camp members keep track of contacts outside of normal membership boundaries. Combining contacts could help in the creation of a local camp for those people, plus help to create more camps in the state.

Camp Commander Jim Kiger also asked that we be more active and work closer with camps in the Cincinnati Area. This cooperation would benefit both sides of the river.

Steve Clifford, Camp Council member, commented on his work with locating the graves of Civil War soldiers in Linden Grove Cemetery. Steve has found a few more sites and has order stones for these soldiers. State Commander Downey commended Steve for this difficult task.

Martin Greene, Camp Treasurer, gave the financial report. The Camp gained one new member in the past year for a total of sixteen standing members. Camp monies are in good shape as we move through the present year.

*****June State Meeting Well Attended

Three Camp Nelson members went to the State Meeting at Camp Nelson on Saturday, June 2, this year. The meeting was well attended with all camps being represented except Paducah.

Three of our Camp members have been elected to State offices: Jim Kiger, Camp Commander, will be State Junior Vice Commander ? Bernie O'Bryan,

Camp Secretary, will be State Secretary ? Steve Clifford, Camp Council member, will be State Council member, Graves Registration Officer, and Monument Registration Officer

State Historian Don Hackel is working on histories of the various camps in the state. The National Commander Edward Krieser spoke briefly about activities at the national level. "Everybody had a good time," Steve Clifford reported.

The National Meeting will be in Springfield, Missouri on September 9-12. Those interested in attending or seeking ride share opportunities are invited to contact Jim Kiger at (859) 341-6235.

*****Lieutenant Colonel Earl Nichols Honored

LT Colonel Earl Nichols, one of the founding members of the Camp, was honored as Grand Master of this year's Covington Memorial Day parade. Earl, in a short speech at Linden Grove Cemetery, thanked the Mayor and the Judge Executive for honoring those who have lost their lives in the service of our country.

The Camp is very proud of Earl and his achievements. Here's some of the interesting highlights to his career:

- * Entered US Army on 29 Jan 1941, almost a year before Pearl Harbor
- * After basic training was stationed at Fort Thomas, KY, as a recruiter
- * Commissioned as an officer and served in 12th Armored Division in Europe, the force that led Patton's Army to the Rhein
- * Stayed in Europe as part of occupational forces until Dec 1945
- * Served in the Active Reserve upon his return to the States
- * Has worked as an Amateur Radio Operator with the American Red Cross since 1958
- * Has worked with the American Cancer Society since 1967, named "Volunteer of the Year for 1999"
- * Selected by local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution as "Volunteer of the Year for 2000"
- * Member of the Sons of the American Revolution
- * Member of the Sons of the Union Veterans (his grandfather Colegrove served in the 14th Kentucky Cavalry)
- * Awarded the Bronze Star Combat Award* Honored as both a Kentucky Colonel and a Kentucky Admiral

The Camp is very proud of Earl and wishes to express many thanks to him for both his contributions and his achievements.

***** John Fletcher Peel:

One of Morgan's Men Many interesting contacts are made manning the booth at NKU's Annual History Day. Steve Clifford and Bernie O'Bryan met a woman this past March who gave them documents relating to one of her ancestors, John F. Peel. Included among the documents are Peel's oath of allegiance to the United States following his capture in Cheshire, Ohio, on 20 July 1863.

The papers demonstrate the difficulty that can be discovered in tracing a military veteran. All of the documents squarely place Peel in Company E, 7th Regiment, Kentucky Cavalry. Despite this, a letter from the Kentucky Department of Military

Affairs states no John Peel is found on the roster of the 7th Regiment but rather is found on the roster of the 11th regiment.

Another oddity: Peel was granted a pension by the state of Kentucky Department of Confederate Pensions on 10 July 1914. The document states the pension will take effect on 5 November 1913! While it is possible that a pension was granted that allowed for backpay, this highlights the challenges of dealing with government records.

John Peel died from pneumonia on 21 Jun 1917.

>From the 3 Jun 1887 Boone County Recorder: Gen. John H. Morgan

The following reminisces of Gen. John H. Morgan, the dashing cavalry leader of the South, as related to the writer by Mr. John Peel, a member of his command, and now a reputable citizen of Carlton precinct, may be of interest to your readers.

A week or ten days before Gen. M's memorable escape from his dreary and irksome confinement as a prisoner of war, in Camp Chase, he addressed a note to his [illegible] and fellow prisoners in which he exhorted them to read carefully the third chapter of Second Thessalonians. This was the last communication ever received by many of his men from their adored commander and they all now cherish that chapter as a striking memorial of their gallant leader, and also as a vivid description of their then deplorable condition, and of the dangers, hardships, and vicissitudes through which they had passed.

The second incident referred to, occurred during Morgan's raid, and soon after his forces had crossed the Ohio river. The command had halted about noon for much needed rest and refreshment, and a squad, of which Mr. P. was one of the number, had stopped near a fine residence situated on rising ground, a few [illegible] away. One member of this squad was a camp preacher or exhorter, and seemingly very pious. Soon after halting, Mr. P. concluded to go up to that house and investigate the prospects for a grab, of which his empty inwardness admonished he stood in great need. When he reached the place, he found it

deserted by the owner and his family who had departed in great haste, panic-stricken by the sudden and unlooked for invasion of the terrible rebel forces. As Mr. P. passed around the house he saw through a window that at least one hungry rebel was ahead of him. The preacher was sitting by a center table with an open bible before him, and apparently very deeply absorbed in its contents. Soon after Mr. P.'s return to camp an old man made his appearance and tremblingly inquired for the officer in command. It happened that Gen. M. had just arrived and he was pointed out to the old gentleman. He told the General that as soon as the troops began to make their appearance, being in great fear of them, he hastily collected his family and made a hurried departure. In his great haste to get away he forgot the matter of three hundred dollars in bills which he had placed between the pages of the bible. Remembering this money after the first fearful tremors of his fright had passed, he decided for the sake of his money to risk the perils of encounter with the terrible rebels. When he got home and looked for his money, behold it was gone, and gave it as his opinion that some of Morgan's men had taken it. The General, after patiently listening to the old man's agitated statement, seemed to think so himself, and he immediately ordered every man present to fall into line. When this was done, and just as the search was about to begin, Mr. Peel stepped out the ranks and told the particulars of his peep through the window, as above referred to. At the conclusion of his statement, the preacher stepped forward acknowledging the truthfulness of Peel's statement, and running his hand in his pocket drew forth a roll of bills, which he handed to the old man, saying: "I found them in the bible; the temptation was too strong to resist, and I took it. here it is." This incident is only of a thousand showing John Morgan's love of honor and justice.

The last incident to which I shall refer at this time occurred but a few years ago. A peripatetic fruit tree dealer called in the way of business on Mr. Peel, and at once began the wordy clamor of his calling. During the one-sided debate it somehow irrelevantly came out that Mr. P. had campaigned with Morgan. Instantly the tree peddler became interested, and as he was bound to do all the talking anyhow, narrated to his listener's great edification an incident which he (the talker) knew to be the fact. When the rebels were passing through Ohio, it so happened that his (the talker's) father lived on the road over which they were retreating. On that day all of the family were away from home except his sister. As she stood in the doorway looking on at the passing troops, a fine looking soldier elegantly mounted, rode up to the gate and asked her for a drink of water. She took a pitcher and glass out to him, and as she drank she noticed that he carried on one arm a lot of ladies' hats. After quenching his thirst and politely thanking her for kindness, he handed her one of the hats, saying he would make her a present of it. The young lady did not know to whom she was indebted for so handsome a present, and would doubtless have remained in that tantalizing ignorance, but that a short time after Gen. Morgan's death his photograph was sold all over the country and a copy coming in to her possession, she knew as

soon as she saw it that it was Gen. Morgan who had given her the bonnet. Comrades of Morgan, how do you think the Ohio tree peddler will pass for a first class liar? W.H.N.

The Camp thanks Steve and Bernie for making this contact and sharing this information.

*****Upcoming Events

14-17 June Ohio Chautauguas at Sharonville's Heritage Village. Featured chautauguas are George Armstrong Custer, William Tecumseh Sherman, Sarah Emma Edwards (enlisted in Union Army disguised as a man), and Ulysses S. Grant. Contact Heritage Village at (513) 563-9484 for details.

9-12 Aug National Encampment at Springfield, MO. Contact Camp Commander Jim Kiger (859) 341-6235 for shared ride opportunities

25 Sep Camp meeting at the Independence Branch Library.

*****Civil War at the Library

The Kenton County Public Library has recently acquired a new Maps of the Civil: The Roads They Took that you might want to check out. Inside are color copies of original maps made by engineers from both armies. Many of the maps were made as part of the reconnaissance done just prior to battle. The book also includes a nice overview of the war, highlighting many of the battles and strategies of the commanders. Full color paintings of events and figures complete the package. (Maps of the Civil War: The Roads They Took by David L. Phillips, 973.7 P5578m)