

Nelson Garfield Camp # 3, Sons Of Union Veterans Of The Civil War Newsletter - June 15, 2007

by Mr. Andrew O. Lutes
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Item 1: The Kentucky Department of the Sons Of Union Veterans Of The Civil War held their annual encampment on Saturday, June 9, 2007, at the James A. Ramage Civil War Museum in Fort Wright. The SVR met at 10:00 AM and preceding the Department meeting. The election of Department officers was held and the results are as follows:

Department Council: Jim Kiger, Tim Donney, Doug Windle

Department Commander: John Witt

Vice Commander: John Burch

Jr. Vice Commander: Bernie O'Bryab

Secretary-Treasurer: Keith Kurcher

Chaplain: Don Colon

Patriotic Instructor: John Burch

Historian: Don Hackel

Grave Registrar: Steve Clifford

Signal Officer: Robert Baker

Memorial Officer: Tim Downey

Department Guard: Don Colon

Eagle Scout: Don Windel

A good deal of time was spent discussing the 2009 National Encampment which is to be hosted by the Kentucky Department in Louisville. Among items discussed necessary to this event were the development of the National Encampment Program Book, a planned bus tour to Hodgenville, KY, to visit the Lincoln birthplace and the casting of a national encampment medal. Former Ohio Department Commander Jim Houston was present to lend us the benefit of his knowledge and experience from managing the 2003 Encampment held at the Drawbridge in Fort Mitchell.

Plans are in the works of an on-site visit to Louisville before August 2007 to inspect possible venues.

Item 2: The Sons Of The Spanish American War camp in northern Kentucky is almost official. Jim Kiger handed out membership cards at the Department meeting on June 9th to SUV members who have joined. The Camp Charter is forthcoming, possibly later this summer when the National Organization meets in Sandusky, Ohio.

Item 3: There are no camp events scheduled for July and August. However, the Ramage museum will host Battery Hooper Days on August 18 and 19, 2007. Nelson Garfield Camp will have a recruitment table during this event. Anyone interested in working at the table, please contact Camp Commander Jeffrey Hampton at eltaeb4@aol.com or 859.351.2095.

Item 4: At the Department encampment, each Camp is expected to present a report of its activities over the past year. The report presented by Nelson Garfield # 3 is included below:

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NELSON GARFIELD CAMP OF THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS FOR THE 2006-2007 YEAR

by Jeffrey Hampton.

This has been a busy year for the Nelson Garfield camp filled with several activities which has kept our camp membership busy.

On July 9, 2006, we participated in the ceremony dedicating a stone for Enos Burlingame, Pvt. Co. E, 12 Maine Volunteer Infantry. Burlingame was an ancestor of Department Commander Steve Clifford. The ceremony was held at Kirby Graveyard, 340 Bradford Road, Boston Station in Pendleton County, Kentucky. The event was emceed by John Burch, Sr., Sr. Vice Commander of Camp 5 and featured a musket salute by the SVR and remarks by Bob Orbach.

Jim Kiger has been working toward establishing a camp for the Sons Of The Spanish American War in northern Kentucky which several Nelson Garfield members have joined as charter members. The fact that Nelson Garfield Camp would have members who belong to this new club as well as the SUV and the SCV represents a "trifecta" of which we are proud. We are still awaiting the Charter of the Sons Of The Spanish American War Camp.

Camp member Andrew O. Lutes has been actively petitioning both and federal officials regarding the preservation of Civil War battlefields listed by the Civil War Preservation Trust as endangered. He has written and received responses from President Bush, Vice President Cheney, Senators Bunning and McConnell and several members of the Kentucky General Assembly.

Nelson Garfield Camp has been active in events sponsored by the James A. Ramage Civil War Museum over the past year. We participated in Battery Hooper Days in August 2006. the Civil War Christmas held in December 2006 and the School of Artillery and School of the Piece held in March 2007. Bernie O'Bryan has served as a Union soldier re-enactor at these events and Camp Commander Jeff Hampton has attended and manned a recruitment and information table for the SUV and our camp. Our camp Sr. Vice President Bob Clement serves as President of the Museum Board.

Members Jim Kiger, Bernie O'Bryan, Bob Clement, Paul Schewene, Tom Giemeirer, and Steve Clifford braved very inhospitable weather conditions to participate in NKU's History Day events held in February 2007. Several camp members manned an exhibit and recruitment table for the Nelson Garfield Camp. Bob Clement presented a program at History Day on becoming a Civil War re-enactor that was well received. Similar weather conditions prevailed fro the Lincoln Day dinner hosted by the Cincinnati SUV camp, yet Steve Clifford, and James, Chuck, and Ruth Korzenborn attended the dinner.

Nelson Garfield Camp took an active role in the Patriot's Day Ceremony sponsored by the Cincinnati Chapter of the Sons Of The American Revolution help at the Newport Peace Ball on April 19, 2007. Camp Commander Jeff Hampton is a member of the Cincinnati SAR chapter and was in attendance. The program was based on having representatives from the SAR and DAR speak about patriotism during the Revolution. Nelson Garfield Camp Sr. Vice Commander Bob Clement spoke on behalf of Union soldiers and patriotism and an SCV representative spoke regarding Confederate patriotism during the Civil War. Soldiers who served in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and the Gulf War spoke regarding patriotism during those conflicts.

This past Memorial Day, our members were active in several different services and ceremonies. Camp Commander Jeff Hampton with member Paul Whalen put flags on the graves of Union soldiers buried in Evergreen Ceremony in Southgate, KY, and participated in

a memorial service there. Bob Clement, Steve Clifford, and Jim Kiger participated in services at Linden Grove Cemetery in Covington and the Memorial Day parade held in Covington. Several of our camp members also participated in an event sponsored by the Ramage Civil War Museum, a tour of Civil War graves in Highland Cemetery in Fort Mitchell, KY.

Submitted June 9, 2007, at the Department of Kentucky meeting held at the Ramage Museum in Fort Wright, Kentucky.