

**NELSON GARFIELD CAMP # 3**  
**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**  
**JUNE 2006 NEWSLETTER**

Item 1: The Kentucky Department of the Sons Of Union Veterans Of The Civil War held their 9th annual Encampment at West Point, KY, on June 3, 2006. Representing the Nelson Garfield Camp were Commander Jeffrey Hampton, Sr. Vice Commander Steve Clifford, and James Kiger.

As Department Graves Registration Officer, Steve Clifford gave his report on the progress in registering the graves of Union soldiers buried in the state of Kentucky and as Camp Commander, Jeffrey Hampton reported on Nelson Garfield camp activities over the past year. That report is included in this newsletter.

The Department flag approved at last year's Department meeting was presented at a Departmental meeting for the first time this year. The flag was very striking and beautiful with it's red background, yellow fringe, and SUVCW logo in the center. It will be on display at the Dr. James A. Ramage Civil War Museum in Fort Wright along with the Department Charter until the 2007 Departmental meeting which will be held at the Ramage Museum.

Tim Downey, who had agreed to co-ordinate the drafting of a Departmental history for the upcoming 10th anniversary of the Kentucky Department expressed disappointment at the response of the camps in presenting their camp histories. Many camp officers agreed that the Departmental history was a worthwhile project and agreed to make completion of their camp histories a priority for the coming year. Camp Commander Jeffrey Hampton agreed to oversee the drafting of the Nelson Garfield camp history.

The Department Treasurer was able to report on approximate balance of \$508.00 on hand when deposits on hand but not in the Department bank account are added and outstanding expenses are subtracted.

There was much discussion of the Department's plans to host the 2009 National Encampment in Louisville, KY. Jim Kiger reported that initial contacts had been made with hotels in Louisville being considered as possible venues as well with the Louisville Convention and Business Bureau. Departmental Commander Karcher expressed concern about the level of commitment on the part of the camps, and the willingness of the membership to follow through with things, in light of problems with past projects, such as getting a Departmental flag, and the Departmental history projects.

Ohio Department Commander Jim Houston, who directed the preparations for the 2003 National Encampment held at the Drawbridge Inn in Fort Mitchell, KY, spoke about the requirements for being chosen to host such an event. Among items considered to be chosen were:

- 1) Are the personnel available to organize the event and do they have the necessary skills and experience?
- 2) Is there an appropriate venue? Is there adequate transportation means to this venue? (Airports, expressways, etc.)
- 3) Are there adequate hotel accommodations? Are there sufficient activities in the area appropriate to the Encampment and available before, during, and after the Encampment?
- 4) Can the venue and the personnel provide for Encampment Medals, Program Production, and Banquet and Entertainment?

Bucky Larson and Tim Downey agreed to Co-Chair a 2009 National Encampment Committee to oversee the drafting of a proposal to present to the National SUVCW. It was emphasized that the help of everyone would be required to pull this off and that the work would not fall to the co-chairs to do by themselves.

A motion was approved that the Kentucky Department buy a full page ad at the cost of \$40.00 in the National Encampment Program booklet for the 2006 Encampment to be held in August at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Department delegates to that Encampment were also chosen.

SUVCW Commander In Chief Donald Darby spoke regarding his experiences over the past year in his capacity as Commander In Chief and he also swore in the Kentucky Department Officers for the coming year. We are both pleased and proud that Nelson Garfield Camp # 3 Sr. Vice Commander Steve Clifford was chosen as Kentucky Department Commander for the coming year. Congratulations and we wish you much success.

**"LIBERTY AND UNION, NOW AND FOREVER, ONE AND INSEPARABLE!"**

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**ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR JUNE 2005--JUNE 2006**

Our camp lost two of its members this past year. Nicholas Funken passed away on May 25, 2005, at age 82, and Lt. Col. Earl Nichols passed away on November 27, 2005, at age 87. Our camp has over the past year added about a half dozen new members and we currently have 23 dues paying members, which is a net increase of three over last year.

We have also gained a more permanent base of operations for our meetings and activities. With the co-operation of one of our members, Mr. Bob Clement, who also serves on the Board of Directors for the James Ramage Civil War Museum in Fort Wright, KY, the museum also serves as a location for our meetings and several of our activities.

In December, 2005, the Nelson Garfield Camp participated in the Museum's program, A Civil War Christmas. This involved setting up an encampment at Battery Bates that would demonstrate what a Civil War encampment at Christmas might look like. Also in conjunction with the Museum, we participated, in March 2006, in a program called The School Of The Gun. This program demonstrated the use of Civil War cannons and weaponry with actual firings of the weapons.

Other Camp activities over the past year included hosting the annual Lincoln Day Dinner. This event occurred at the Down Under Restaurant in Covington, KY. It was well attended and a good time was had by all. We also manned an exhibit table at the NKU History Day events at the end of February, 2006. History Day is an annual event at NKU which our camp uses for recruiting new members and raising some funds through the raffle of books and pictures with a Civil War theme. This past Memorial Day, Nelson Garfield Camp participated in the dedication of new markers for Civil War soldiers at the Linden Grove Cemetery in Covington, KY. And members also helped place flags on the graves of veterans at Highland Cemetery in Fort Mitchell, KY.

Overall, our membership seems to be growing and there is more participation in our activities and meetings since the Department Meeting in 2005.

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Item 2: Revised Nelson Garfield Camp # 3 Calendar for the remainder of 2006:

- July/August : No camp meeting. National Encampment at Harrisburg, PA, in August. Contact Jim Kiger or Steve Clifford if you plan to attend.
- September: Civil War Re-enactment at Dr. James A. Ramage Civil War Museum in Fort Wright.
- October 26: Droge Family history. Regular meeting at Ramage Museum.
- November 16: A New Nation Forged: Muscum Center Program, Part One.
- December 7: Election of Camp Officers for 2007. Adoption of 2007 Calendar of Events.

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