



The Haversack

Newsletter of the
7th Military District
Summer 2012



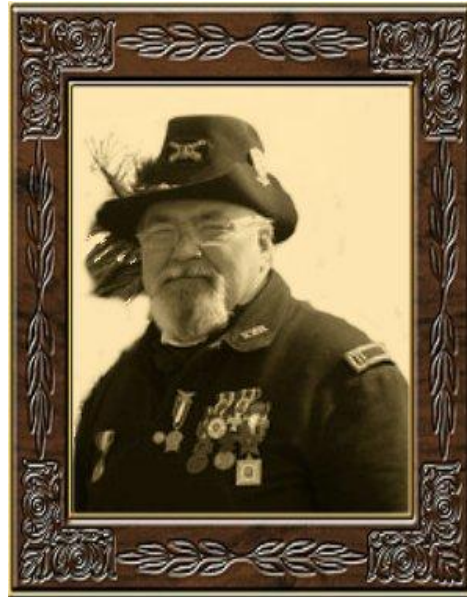
VII



MDMLXI - MDMLXV



Commander's Comments



Captain Eric Petersen, SVR
Commander, 7th Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve

Greetings Gentlemen,

I hope you are managing to stay cool this very hot summer. I have been to several events this summer where the temperatures and the humidity had to be in the high 90s, but we managed to show the flag for the Union cause. Nothing quite like the experience of taking off your sweat laden frock coat after an event and realizing that because it is saturated it now weighs 30 pounds! All I can say is drink plenty of water and I thank you for persevering through the heat. It gives one a real appreciation for a little thought of sacrifice that our forefathers made 150 years ago; that daily discomfort of unremitting southern heat as they did their duties including road marches and fighting battles in a hot climate that few of them were used to.

All of you know that we recently lost a dear friend and brother who answered the final muster this summer. Captain Phil Hinman was a dedicated member of the SVR and as a staff officer of the 7th Military District Phil and I had many opportunities for good and instructive fraternal conversations. Phil was a dear friend to many of us and he will be sorely missed.

Shortly I will be making a new appointment to the staff to fill the vacancy created by Captain Hinman's passing. I will notify the units when that selection occurs. I will be looking for a candidate who has not served on the staff yet, but understands the purpose and objectives of the SVR and may bring a fresh perspective.

I will close by saying that all the members of our organization should be looking for opportunities to grow the organization and ways that we can improve operations. Don't be afraid to speak up and bring these

ideas to your officers if you are in the lower ranks of the organization. We have many talented people in this organization with fresh ideas. Let's make sure we communicate those to the leaders who can translate these ideas into action.

I hope to see all of you at an SVR event soon.

In FC&L

Captain Eric Peterson
District Commander
7th Military District, SVR



Allatoona Pass

By Ray Wozniak

The membership of the Department of Georgia and South Carolina, along with support from national, brothers in other states, and the Amanda Stokes Tent of the Daughters of Union Veterans, during the past decade has been making the vision of landscape artist Gray Wehner become a reality. It was Gary's inspiration to erect a monument to the men of Cockrell's Missouri Brigade on the battlefield of Allatoona Pass, Georgia. Continuing on, he envisioned a monument garden in which each state that fielded troops in this contest would erect a monument to their sons. There were five Union states at this battle.

Thanks to the dedication and generosity of SUVCW members Illinois and Iowa dedicated their monuments in 2008, followed by Minnesota in 2010. This October 5th, at 11AM we will dedicate the Ohio monument, which leaves only Wisconsin unfinished. Five Confederate states have put up monuments, with only one remaining to be erected. We hope to have Wisconsin in place by the sesquicentennial anniversary of the battle, October 5th, 2014.



Allatoona Pass shortly after the 1864 Battle

The monuments are arranged in a horseshoe pattern symbolizing the coming back together of the Union. Most of them are constructed of polished granite, the hardest stone there is. With letters incised three quarters of an inch deep they should last longer than the ruins of imperial Rome. Each monument displays the shape of it's state, or the monument is actually carved in the shape of the state. Besides inscriptions and the state seal, period enamel flags of one side or the other identify which side the given state fought for. This makes these monuments educational as well as informative.

With a nod to modern technology, a QR code is planned for inclusion on the Wisconsin monument, by which any smart phone user may access a full account of the battle.

The Battle of Allatoona Pass is where Sherman allegedly issued his famous signal to "Hold the fort."

This has come down to us both as a common catch phrase, as well as in the hymn of that name. We invite all brothers, and allied sister orders, to attend the Ohio monument dedication this upcoming

October 5th, and entreat any loyal sons of the Badger State to step up to the plate and honor their state, and the heroes that fell there so long ago, with a tax-deductable donation.



Allatoona Pass Today

Further details can be gained from Brother Ray Wozniak of Elias Moon Camp #2, Allatoona Federal Monuments Coordinator, at (770) 822-3004 or bigheadxray@yahoo.com.



Atlanta Cyclorama

By Ray Wozniak

Federal re-enactors from the 54th Massachusetts Infantry and the 104th Illinois Infantry under the command of Brother Ray Wozniak have been visiting the Atlanta Cyclorama to educate the public about the Union cause for the past eighteen years. Programs have varied over the years, but most appearances have been for Black History Month and to honor the anniversary of the Battle of Atlanta, subject of the Cyclorama's epic painting. During this time the SUVCW appeared in town and we happily have supported these programs. A particularly successful appearance occurred on July 14th, evincing good interdepartmental teamwork.

A representative of East Atlanta's Battle of Atlanta anniversary program attended a Camp #1 meeting some months ago to solicit support. Noting that their program would culminate on July 21st (the actual battle date is July 18th) Jr. Vice Commander Marvin Greer of Camp #1 insured that the Cyclorama would host their event the preceding Saturday in order to avoid conflict. Brother Greer is also a veteran 54th Massachusetts member.

Junior Vice Commander Ray Wozniak of Camp #2 worked the telephone lines to insure a large Federal attendance from the 104th Illinois, 54th Massachusetts, and the 3rd Tennessee Federals.

A member of the 125th Ohio attended, and both Junior Vice Commanders worked to bring members of their respective camps to the program. The Federal network in Atlanta came together nicely to insure that we had an attendance of twenty participants. Among the SUV participants were Camp #2 member Colonel Ted Hackney who manned a recruiting booth, and Eric Peterson who did his usual striking portrayal of General George Thomas. SUV literature was distributed and several membership applications were taken.

Although the Cyclorama's air conditioning was not working the troops manfully did their duty with lobby demonstration tables and always some troops outside on guard duty to attract patrons to the Cyclorama and keep the SUV recruiting booth and General Thomas company. Some of our associates in the 3rd Tennessee Federals were asked by Brother Wozniak to attend as Confederates, which they kindly did, in order to round out the exhibition.

A large crowd was attracted by our presence to visit the Cyclorama and interacted very well with the re-enactors and SUV members. Very positive feedback about the event was received from the Cyclorama staff and the event participants, and it is anticipated that continued cooperation between SUCVW camps and various reenactment units that have SUV members in their ranks can continue.

By way of notification, it should be known by all camps that there is a new living history coordinator at the Southern Railway Museum in Kennesaw who has considerable plans that involve a Union presence. Brother Wozniak will lead a contingent of some of the same re-enactors who attended the Cyclorama to a living history program at the Kennesaw museum on July 28th. It is anticipated that there will be opportunities for both the SUCVW and Federal re-enactors from our informal network to show the colors and stand tall for Lincoln and Liberty in downtown Kennesaw in the future.



Atlanta Cyclorama



Civil War Living History Weekend
Helen, GA
Nov. 10 11, 2012

A Civil War Living History weekend with President Abraham Lincoln, (Bob Costello of NJ), General George Thomas, (Eric Peterson of the SUCVW), Rebecca Wright, a Unionist spy from Winchester, VA (Suzanne Herskowitz of Winchester, VA) and hopefully General Grant (need one) as well as General Sherman. On the other side, we would like to get Lee, Davis Longstreet, etc.

Members of the Department of GA & SC SUCVW are assisting me in getting this event together. We have artillery units from both sides, 1st TN (Union) Cavalry, infantry, Confederate Engineers, with original instruments, and still trying for others.

Help is needed for a General Grant, Sherman, and any others that wish to speak to the public and be willing to educate them about the Civil War. We need drill teams (SVR), others to explain the basic equipment found in tents and on the common soldier.

My Camp (Kennesaw Mountain Camp #3) will be setting a recruiting booth for use by other Camps.

Helen, GA is a quaint Bavarian village in the mountains of Northeast GA. The Best Western Hotel is the headquarters for registration on Friday, Nov. 9th. They are also offering a great rate for those that will not be sleeping under the stars. Interested parties can contact me for further information.

If enough soldiers show up from both sides, Brothers Eric and Ray will set up a skirmish.

We also have some sutlers coming to offer their wares. If anyone has any questions, please contact me at aplatt0021@aol.com.

Brother Al Platt, SVC
Kennesaw Mountain Camp #3
Dept. of GA & SC
SUCVW



Operation Stand Down

Veterans Honored at Fort Negley

Members of the 10th Tennessee U.S.V.I., SVR joined with the staff of Fort Negley in a program for U.S. military veterans on August 4th, 2012. Generals U.S. Grant and George H, Thomas (portrayed by Dr. Curt Fields and Dan Hughes of the 10th Tennessee, SVR) were on hand to speak to veterans and firing demonstrations were conducted by members of the 10th who were joined by members of the Highland Brigade of Forrest's Division, SVC.

Several stations were set up around the fort to provide veterans with a history of the construction of the largest inland stone fort of the civil war, the role played by the fort in the federal defense of Nashville, the troops who occupied it, civil war soldier life and period weapons demonstrations. Veterans also participated in a question and answer program in the Fort's original interior.



Posing together in the Fort's original interior on St. Cloud Hill are R to L: Capt Dave DuBrucq, Pvt Randy Hart, Sgt Bill Heard (10th Tenn, SVR) Pvt Mike Williams (Highland Brigade, SCV) Pvt Tommy Phillips (Highland Brigade, SCV and 10th Tenn, SVR) Dan Hughes as General George Thomas, 1st Sgt Roger Tenney, Corporal George Huttick (all 10th Tenn, SVR) and Pvt Greg Wernke who demonstrated the Sharps Carbine and Henry Rifle.



Dr. Curt Fields, 10th Tennessee, SVR, portraying General Grant speaks to a group of Operation Stand Down veterans at Fort Negley.

The event was presented for Nashville's Operation Stand Down, a project that assists U.S. military veterans. The group represented veterans from the Viet Nam, Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. Fort Negley was the largest inland stone fort built during the Civil War was completed in December of 1862 and is celebrating its Sesquicentennial year.

The fort is home to Fort Donelson Camp 62, SUVCW, and the 10th Tennessee U.S.V.I., SVR, who use the Visitor Center as their headquarters.



Taps

I have the regretfully sad duty to inform you of the death of Captain Phil Hinman, Chief of Staff of the 7th Military District, SVR. Captain Hinman answered the final muster in Florida this past June. Captain Hinman had long served as the 7th Military District as it's Adjutant and more recently had been serving as District Chief of Staff. His years of dedication to the SUVCW and to our SVR were deeply appreciated. Phil served his country in the military and his community as a Law Enforcement Officer. He will be missed by all who knew him. Rest in peace, Brother.

Our deepest Sympathy is extended to the family of Captain Hinman and the members of Amzi D. Harmon Company, SVR.



Captain Phil Hinman, SVR

Chaplain's Words of Faith

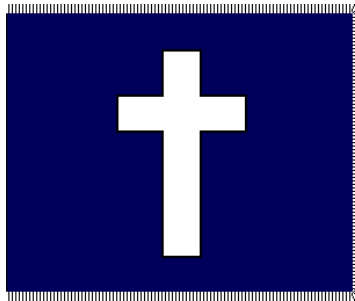
Greetings, Brothers of the 7th Military District,

I trust that you all are doing well and your summer has been a fun and safe one. As we all look forward to the beginning of fall let us never forget those who are no longer with us. It is with a heavy heart that I learned of the passing of our esteemed brother, Captain Phil Hinman, who had contributed much to the success of our order. I had worked with Phil many times in the past few years and had nothing but praise for his hard work and dedication in his appointed position of Adjutant. He was a brother who could be counted upon when needed and his tireless devotion to the cause far surpassed the average person. I know I speak for all when I say he will be sorely missed. May the peace that comes from God be poured out on his family during these hard times.

My comments for this issue will be brief but I wanted to let all of you know that in the future I will be bringing to you topics on Chaplains during the War and words of wisdom from our wonderful God who has given each of us smiles on our face and hope in our heart. Thank you for all you do to remember the sacrifices our ancestors have made in the great Civil War and may God bless each and every one of you.

In F, C & L

Chaplain Kenneth Early



**Help make The Haversack a success!
Please be sure to submit all articles and photographs of interest
for publication in your newsletter!**

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