

# The Haversack

Newsletter of the 7<sup>th</sup> Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve



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## Commander's Comments

Greetings,

We are now approaching the final chapter of sesquicentennial celebrations. That means that our companies are likely to be very busy in April & May. Reflecting upon how Americans still see the civil war and even being addressed in our SUCVW regulations I find it odd that we will be marking April 9th as the end of the war when, in fact, nothing could be further from the truth.

On April 9th when Lee surrendered to Grant there were still rebel armies in the field fighting. They would continue to do so until June 26th when the last organized rebel force surrendered out west. On April 9th of 1865 Joe Johnston still had a viable army facing Sherman, Kirby Smith was still on the loose, Stand Watie was still leading his Cherokees in Oklahoma and Jefferson Davis and his cabinet was still at large. There was the possibility that Davis and his cabinet would escape and attempt to direct the remaining rebel forces in the field.

The troops in the Western Theater knew there was still work to do. Like these forces of 1865 we still have a viable mission to carry forward. There will be commemorations, memorial services and the Annual Memorial Day Service for the SVR to perform. We will need troops to carry out those missions so, as always, we must focus on recruiting. I note that only a small fraction of our SUCVW membership is actually in the SVR. Sadly, there are more of our brothers in re-enacting units than are in the SVR. This should not be. We need to talk to those brothers that re-enact but do not serve in the SVR. I know that there are some who do not join because the SVR strictly regulates rank and some re-enactors jealously guard the rank that they purchased from the Sutler. This should not be. If we are dedicated to the mission of the SUCVW then the re-enacting brother should be willing to serve in the SVR ranks regardless of the rank assigned by SVR regulations.

This spring let us renew our efforts to tap into the resource of our re-enacting brothers. They already have the equipment and uniforms required so it should be much easier for them to join than it is for an SUCVW brother who has never re-enacted or served in the SVR.

My final suggestion on this matter is that when we are at events, especially SVR events, we should make clear that we are members of the SVR and not mention any affiliation we have with a re-enacting regiment. This will increase the visibility of the SVR and should help recruiting.

In FC&L

Major Eric Peterson  
7th Military District, SVR



# From around the 7<sup>th</sup> District...

## The American Volunteer

Lt. Col. William H. Armstrong of the 129th Pa Vol. Inf. a 9 month regiment mustered to defend Washington early in the war. He wrote a book with a damning view of many of the general officers of the Army of Potomac. In the book he gives a description of the American Volunteer after the Battle of Sharpsburg. After a two days forced march the regiment reached the battlefield where they immediately were placed in reserve with the one-third of the army that saw no action. The regiment then lost faith in the commanding general.

The American Regiments were unusually quiet. the thoughts of the night previous evidently lingered with them.

The American volunteer is no mere machine. Rigorous discipline will give him soldierly characteristics— teach him that unity of action with his comrades and implicit obedience of order are essential to success. But his independence of thought remains; he never forgets that he is a citizen soldier; he reads and reflects for himself.

Few observant officers of volunteers but have noticed that affairs of National polit, movement of military commanders, are not infrequently discussed by men in blouses, about the campfires and picket stations, with as much practical ability and certainly as courteously, as in the halls of where legislators canvass them at a nations costs. It has has been justly remarked that in no army in the world is the average standard of intelligence so high, as in the American volunteer force. The same observation might be extended to earnest of purpose and honesty of intention.

While the troops were en route, the Commander- Chief in his hack and four, followed by a staff imposing in numbers passed. The regular cheered vociferously. The applause from the volunteers was brief, faint, and a most uncertain sound, and yet many of these volunteers was rapturous in applause previous and during the battle.

A glance at the manner in which our volunteer regiments are most frequently formed, will, perhaps best illustrate this. A town meeting is called, speeches are made appealing to the patriotic, to respond to the necessities of the country; lists are opened and the names of tradesmen and professional , follow each other in strange succession, but with the earnestness of purpose. An intelligent soldiery gathered in this way , will not let attachments to certain generals blind then as to effect of measures.

Submitted by:  
Pvt. Charles Engle, PDC  
10<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Volunteer Infantry  
7<sup>th</sup> Military District  
Sons of Veterans Reserve

## Civil War Factoids

- By January of 1863 the strength of the Union Armies had reached 918,191. Of that number, the U.S. Regular Army consisted of 25,463. The remaining 915,645 were United States Volunteers from loyal states, the Colorado Territory and the District of Columbia.
- United States Colored Troops numbered 178,977. Louisiana, Kentucky and Tennessee provided over 20,000 volunteers each to the USCT.

## Chaplain's Pulpit



Brothers of the 7th Military District,

Wars and strife are everywhere in the news. No matter where you turn you can find all kinds of coverage on the bad things of life. People from all over the world are searching and hoping for some semblance of peace in their everyday existence. The question is where you can find the kind of peace that makes your life wonderful and worth living. As a Chaplain I think you know where I am going with this. True peace can only be found through God, his Son and his Word. Yes, we can try and make things better by buying stuff, going on vacations, getting lost in our hobbies and showing the appearance of happiness but, it will always seem we are missing something if we don't have God and his Word in our daily lives.

John 16:33 says;

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

I believe these words wholeheartedly and with God's help I will also find peace in my life. Won't you come to him today and invite him into your life?

May God bless you and keep you not matter where you go or what you do.

Kenneth Early  
Chaplain; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant  
7th Military District  
Sons of Veterans Reserve



Brothers of the 7th Military District,

After months of cajoling, pestering and emailing you, we had a fair number of articles for this newsletter. Then life got seriously in the way.

My deepest and humblest apologies in the delay in delivering this newsletter.

Best Regards,

George Andrew Huttick  
Public Information Officer; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant  
7th Military District  
Sons of Veterans Reserve

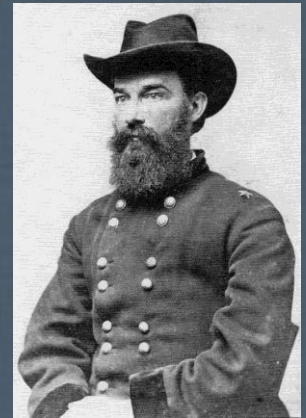
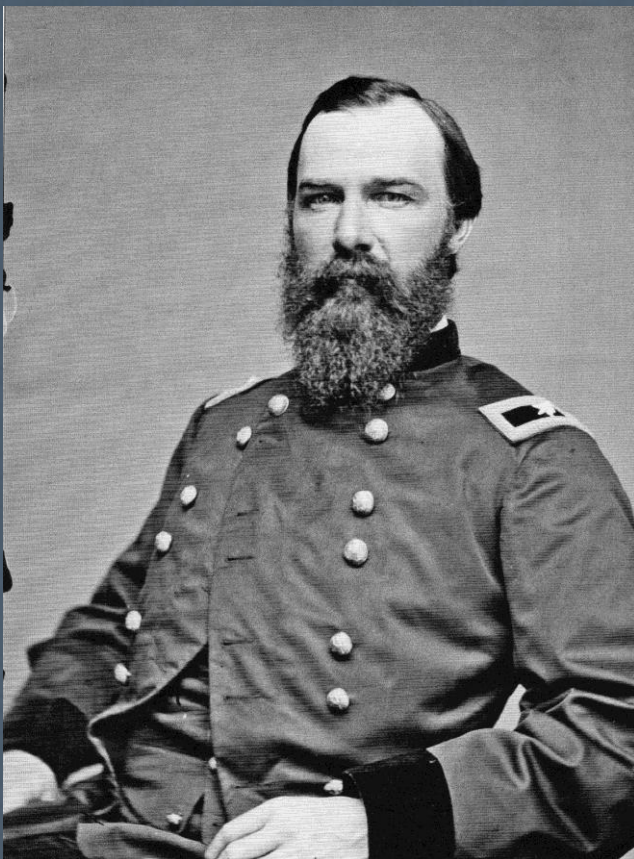


# Unit History – 10<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Volunteer Infantry U.S.

## **Major General Alvan Cullem Gillem First Commanding Officer of The 10th Regiment Tennessee U.S. Volunteer Infantry**

Major General Alvan Cullem Gillem was born in Gainesboro, Jackson County, Tennessee on July 29, 1830. Gillem received his early education in Nashville Tennessee and was later appointed to the United States Military Academy of West Point, Graduating 11th in his class in 1851. Gillem was assigned as a Second Lieutenant of Artillery and was soon sent to Florida to command a battery of Artillery in the Second Seminole War in 1852.

With the outbreak of the Civil War, Gillem became a captain on May 14, 1861, initially serving under George H. Thomas. Gillem was chief quartermaster of the Army of Ohio in the several Tennessee campaigns and was brevetted as a major for gallantry in the Battle of Mill Springs. The 10th Regiment, Tennessee U.S. Volunteer Infantry was organized at Nashville, Tennessee and drew from volunteers in surrounding counties from May until August 1862, and mustered in for a three year enlistment with Colonel Alvan Cullem Gillem serving as the regiment's first Commanding Officer.



In this image, General Gillem appears in his field uniform which bears a simple star on the shoulder as opposed to the more formal shoulder straps. Many officers adopted this simplified and subdued insignia so they were less conspicuous on the battlefield.

The 10th Regiment was assigned to Garrison the city of Nashville and combat Confederate Guerrillas operating in Middle Tennessee. In September of 1863, the regiment was ordered south to Alabama.

Gillem also served for a time as the Provost Marshal of Nashville during the Federal occupation of the city.

From June 1, 1863, until the close of the war, with rank of Brigadier General of volunteers, he was active in Tennessee, where he served as Adjutant General and commanded He commanded the troops guarding the Nashville and Northwestern railroad from June 1863, until August 1864. In a campaign to protect the loyal mountaineers in eastern Tennessee, his troops surprised and killed Confederate General John Hunt Morgan in Greenville, on September 4, 1864.

In 1864, Gillem commanded a brigade known as the Governor's Guard, consisting of the 8th, 9th and 10th Tennessee and the 13th Tennessee Cavalry.

Following the war, in January 1866, Gillem was assigned command of the Fourth Military District headquartered in Vicksburg, Mississippi and composed of the Federal occupation forces in Mississippi and Arkansas. He was mustered out of the volunteer army and commissioned as a Colonel in the Regular Army on July 28, 1866. Gillem supervised the district until 1868.

Gillem later commanded troops in Texas and California and fought in the Modoc Indian Wars.

General Gillem is the grandfather of Lt. General Alan C. Gillem, U.S. Army of WWII and the Great Grandfather of Lt General Alvan C. Gillem, USAF.

General Gillem died at Soldiers Rest in Nashville on December 2nd, 1875 at the relatively young age of 45. He is buried at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Nashville.

Submitted by:  
Captain Dave Dubrucq  
10<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Volunteer Infantry  
Chief of Staff  
7<sup>th</sup> Military District  
Sons of Veterans Reserve

# Amzi D. Harmon Company



## Boy Scout Camporee

Private Bob Nay visited the Civil War Chaplains Museum as well as Appomattox Courthouse March 19, 2015. Captain Jim Ward visited Appomattox March 20.

Appomattox Courthouse National Historic Park is 18 miles east of Lynchburg, Virginia. The approach to the court has viewing lots to read placards (shown in image 1 and 2) about the Battle of Appomattox Courthouse hours before the April 9, 1865 surrender, and to view the field from Lieutenant General Grant's headquarters (images 3 and 4). The message of peace (image 5) led to a meeting at McLean House, a private residence, since the courthouse was closed for Palm Sunday observances and in any case such meetings often were conducted in private homes. Reproductions of the wooden table used by General Grant and larger white table used by General Lee grace the upstairs parlor (images 6 and 7).

Several days of sesquicentennial observances begin April 8, 2015. Details can be found on the websites of the National Park Service, as well as at [appomattox150th.com](http://appomattox150th.com).

Submitted by:  
Corporal Richard Schaffer  
Amzi D. Harmon Company  
7<sup>th</sup> Military District  
Sons of Veterans Reserve



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Submitted by:

Captain James Ward

Amzi D. Harmon Company

District Adjutant

7<sup>th</sup> Military District

Sons of Veterans Reserve



To left: Figure 1.

Below: Figure 2.

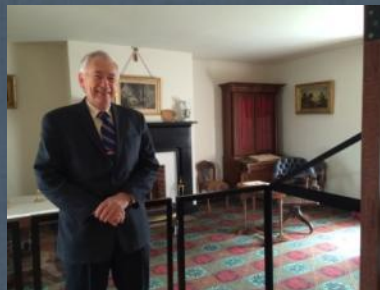


Above: Figure 3.

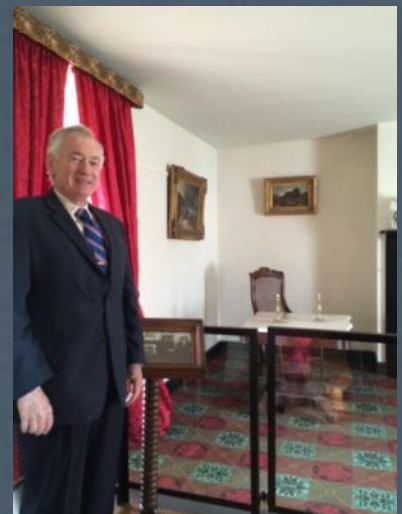
Below: Figure 4.



Above: Figure 5.



Above: Figure 6.



Above: Figure 7.



McLean House

# Other activities...



## "The Drummer Boy "

Brothers William Radcliffe (Sergeant 13 U.S.C.T.) , Dennis Boggs (Abraham Lincoln) and Gary Burke (Corporal 13 U.S.C.T. presented at the reception for "The Drummer Boy"...a poem about a USCT Drummer Boy, which was turned into a musical piece for the Nashville Symphony. Br. Burke had the honor of reading the poem, and had the others join him. (Ed. Note: The Brothers are all Privates in the 10<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Volunteer Infantry U.S.)

Submitted by:  
Pvt. Gary Burke  
10th Tennessee Volunteer Infantry  
7th Military District  
Sons of Veterans Reserve

### FROM CASEY'S INFANTRY TACTICS

#### Article I.

#### FORMATION OF INFANTRY IN ORDER OF BATTLE

6. In a regiment composed of ten companies, eight will habitually be posted from right to left in the following order: *first, fifth, fourth, eighth, third, seventh, sixth, second*, according to the rank of the captains. These will be called *battalion companies*.
7. With a less number of battalion companies, the same principle will be observed, viz.: the first captain will command the right company, the second captain the left company, the third captain the right centre company, and so on.
8. The companies thus posted will be designated from right to left, first company, second company, &c. This designation will be observed in the manœuvres.
- 9-9. The other two companies, to be designated from time to time by the colonel, will be called the companies of skirmishers. The first company will habitually be posted thirty paces in rear of the file closers of the first, and the second thirty paces in rear of the file closers of the last battalion company.
- 10-10. Should the number of the regimental companies present, other than the companies of skirmishers, be less than eight, but one will be designated as skirmishers, to be in rear of the first or last battalion company, or divided into platoons, the first platoon in rear of the first, and the second in rear of the last battalion company, as the colonel may direct.
11. The first two battalion companies on the right, whatever their denomination, will form the first division; the next two companies the second division, and so on to the left.
12. Each company will be divided into two equal parts, which will be designated as the first and second platoon, counting from the right; and each platoon, in like manner, will be subdivided into two sections.
13. In all exercises and manœuvres, every regiment, or part of a regiment, composed of two or more companies, will be designated as a battalion.
14. The color, with a guard to be hereinafter designated, will be posted on the left of the right centre battalion company. That company, and all on its right, will be denominated the right wing of the battalion; the remaining companies the left wing.
15. The formation of a regiment is in two ranks; and each company will be formed into two ranks, in the following manner: the corporals will be posted in the front-rank, and on the right and left of platoons, according to height; the tallest corporal and the tallest man will form the first file, the next two tallest men will form the second file, and so on to the last file, which will be composed of the shortest corporal and the shortest man.
16. The odd and even files, numbered as one, two, in the company, from right to left, will form groups of four men, who will be designated comrades in battle.
17. The distance from one rank to another will be thirteen inches, measured from the breasts of the rear-rank men to the backs or knapsacks of the front-rank men.
18. For manœuvres, the companies of a battalion will always be equalized, by transferring men from the strongest to the weakest companies.

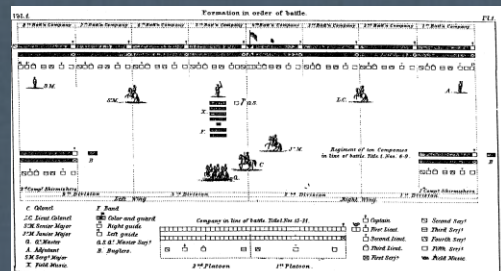
### Civil War Factoids

- The chief occupation of union volunteers was farming. 48% of those enlisted were farmers, 24% were mechanics and 16% were laborers. only 5% were engaged in commercial enterprises, 3% were professionals and the remaining 4% were listed as "miscellaneous".
- The average Height of the union soldier was 5 feet 8 inches and the average weight was 143 1/2 pounds. The most common hair color was brown and the most common eye color was blue.
- The largest number of foreign born troops came from Germany at 175,000 followed by Ireland at 150,000. English and Canadian born troops came in at 50,000 each. The 39th New York, also called the "Garibaldi Guard" had men of 15 different nationalities. Seven languages were in common use: English, French, Italian, German, Hungarian, Spanish and Portuguese.

### FROM CASEY'S INFANTRY TACTICS

The System of Infantry Tactics, prepared by Brigadier General SILAS CASEY, U.S.A., having been approved by the President, is adopted for the instruction of the Infantry of the Armies of the United States, whether Regular, Volunteer, or Militia, with the following modifications viz:—

- First. — That portion which requires that two companies shall be permanently detached from the battalion as skirmishers, will be suspended.
- Second. — In Title First, Article First, the following will be substituted for paragraph 6, viz:—  
"A regiment is composed of ten companies, which will be habitually posted from right to left in the following order: first, sixth, fourth, ninth, third, eighth, fifth, tenth, seventh, second, according to the rank of Captains."





## Upcoming Unit Events

### XIV Corps HQ Guard

- Forthcoming!

### Amzi D. Harmon Company

- Forthcoming!

### 10<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Volunteer Infantry

- Forthcoming!

### Department / National Events

- August 2015 – NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

### Sesquicentennial Events

- Time is running out...

Something must be coming up!... Let us know so we can let all the units know!

### On Facebook...

#### SVR

- [2nd Military District, SVR](#)
- [3<sup>rd</sup> Military District SVR](#)
- [4<sup>th</sup> Military District, SVR](#)
- [6<sup>th</sup> Military District, SVR](#)
- [7<sup>th</sup> Military District, SVR](#)

#### Departments in our District

- [Department of Tennessee](#)  
(includes MS and AL)
- [Department of Georgia and South Carolina](#)

### Camps in our District

- [Gen. John A. Logan #4 \(NC\)](#)
- [Gen. James B. Mcpherson #1 \(GA\)](#)
- [Elias Moon #2 \(GA\)](#)
- [Kennesaw Mountain #3 \(GA\)](#)
- [Charles Devens Jr. #10 \(SC\)](#)
- [Maj. Gen James H Wilson #1 \(AL\)](#)
- [Maj. Wm. A. McTeer #39 \(TN\)](#)
- [Fort Donelson #62 \(TN\)](#)

- [National SUVCW](#)

Click the link, and “Like” them!

(you'll get lots of updates of what is going on!)

## We want articles (with pictures!)

**Thanks to all the contributors of this edition!**

### *So... What's needed...?*

Articles for the Spring 2015 Edition of the Haversack!

- Unit Activities
- Biographical Sketches of your Unit or your Ancestor, Biographical Sketches of other Civil War units or persons
- Research methods
- Civil War era jokes / cartoons

Some editing may be done to long articles to fit in the space available

Email updates and articles (with pictures!) to [GAHuttick@netscape.net](mailto:GAHuttick@netscape.net)!

NEXT ISSUE: JUNE 2014

### Special Thanks!

To Captain DuBrucq for providing the “Civil War Factoids” found throughout this edition. His information source: The Civil War Book of Lists

The Haversack is published quarterly as the newsletter of the 7th Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve.

The Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) is the ceremonial uniformed military component of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW).

The 7th Military District the states of Arkansas, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and South Carolina.

Any letters, articles, etc., published in The Haversack do not necessarily represent the views and/or opinions of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, officers, membership, guests, or the editor/publisher.

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