

# SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Lt. Commander Edward Lea U.S.N. – Camp Number 2



## Harriet Lane

\*\*\*\*\*  
Fall 2009 Volume 16 Number 3  
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### *From the Commander's Tent*



I am very glad the month of August is over. It seems that everything piles up during the time that we have no meeting and there is no way to really handle things until the September meeting. Brother LaBrot has notified the *Camp* of the purchase of a period tent for our future fundraising and recruitment efforts. Thanks to him and the committee for all their due diligence in procuring the best product available.

It looks as though Tom Shuster is progressing well at home. We all appreciated the many updates from the various stages of his treatments, etc. We hope to see Scott at a future meeting. We miss his insightful comments.

We are all saddened by the passing of Vali Reyes' mom. She was a great lady and our thoughts and prayers go out to Vali and her family.

The *Jefferson County Historical Society* had planned a ceremony at Sabine Pass for Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup>. It was to be a rededication of our monument and reopening of the park. But the weather turned on them and it was canceled. Our delegation made up of Brothers Schulze, Lance, Holmes, Letzring, Mr. & Mrs. Hampton, Tom Eishen and your commander was not notified of the change and made the trip. Vali and others from the *Auxiliary* were on the way but were turned around at the last moment. We took time to look over the park and monuments and take some pictures.

We are looking forward to great things at *Liendo Plantation* this year and encourage all members to attend if possible. Our new tent will be ready for its debut on this occasion!

Yours in F. C. & L.

*James S. Hackett*

Camp Commander

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## Membership Muster

### Camp Member

**Mr. James S. Hackett – Commander**  
**Mr. David K. LaBrot – Sr. Vice-Commander**  
**Mr. Samuel F. Hampton – Jr. Vice-Commander**  
**Mr. Gary White – Secretary/Treasurer ~ \*\***  
**Mr. Robert Lockwood – Patriotic Instructor**  
**Mr. Clifford Dale Cates – Chaplain ^^**  
**Mr. Dale H. Leach – Camp Historian**  
 Mr. Mark H. Andrus  
 Mr. Patrick W. Anthony  
 Mr. Michael Boyd  
 Mr. William C. Boyd  
 Mr. William D. Burdette  
 Mr. William D. Campbell \*\*  
 Mr. Philip M. Cavanaugh  
 Capt. Chadwick E. Chester  
 Mr. Patrick R. Conley  
 Mr. Thomas M. Eishen  
 Mr. Stephen D. Forman \*\*  
 Mr. Maurice Foster  
 Mr. David M. Garrett  
 Mr. Daniel A. Gillaspia  
 Mr. Glenn C. Gillaspia III  
 Dr. Albert E. Gunn  
 Mr. Rick L. Hammer  
 Mr. Kenneth H. Harrington  
 Mr. Steve M. Hart  
 Mr. Harrold Henck Jr. ~ \*\*  
 Mr. Henry G. Herford Jr.  
 Dr. Stevenson T. Holmes  
 Mr. Thomas A. Jackson  
 Mr. Thomas I. Jackson  
 Mr. Robert Julian ~ \*\*  
 Mr. Michael L. Lance  
 Mr. Jared S. Lenes  
 Mr. Jeffrey S. Lenes  
 Mr. John P. Lenes  
 Mr. Dean Letzring \*\*  
 Mr. Kurt A. Letzring  
 Mr. Randall S. McDaniel  
 Mr. Kelly P. McNamara  
 Mr. Harrison G. Moore IV ~ \*\*  
 Mr. Thomas H. Penney  
 Mr. James R. Perry  
 Mr. Peter V. Pederson  
 Mr. Jay M. Peterson  
 Mr. Zachery K. Powers  
 Mr. Randall D. Scallan - Chaplain  
 Mr. John E. Schneider Sr.  
 Mr. John E. Schneider Jr.  
 Mr. Michael Schneider - Web Master  
 Mr. Stephen D. Schulze \*\*  
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Schurwon  
 Dr. Harold E. Secor  
 Mr. Scott D. Shuster  
 Mr. Bartley N. Stockton  
 Mr. Stephen W. Tanner  
 Mr. Chapman P. Traylor  
 Mr. Nash S. Traylor  
 Mr. Kenneth W. Vaughn  
 Mr. Glenn A. Webber  
 Mr. Charles B. White  
 Mr. Robert E. Wickman  
 Mr. Edward D. Yoakum  
 Mr. Patrick M. Young  
 Mr. Edward Cotham - Author ##  
 Mr. Charles Mitchell ##

### Civil War Ancestor

Cpl. Thadeus Hendrickson  
 Hosp. Steward Louis LaBoret  
 Pvt. Samuel Pate Hampton  
 Commissary Sgt. William Judson  
 Pvt. Chauncey A. Lockwood  
 \*\*  
 Pvt. Sylvester Leach  
 Pvt. Matthew Barth  
 Pvt. Jesse Landrum  
 Pvt. Thomas Howey  
 Pvt. Lyndon Boyd  
 Pvt. Nathan R. Price  
 Cpl. William Moore Campbell  
 Cpl. John Francis Pattee  
 Pvt. John A. Watts  
 Pvt. Ethan Allen Holcomb  
 Pvt. Andreas Pfothenhauer  
 Pvt. John Henry Arnold  
 Pvt. Xavier Henkel  
 Pvt. David Montgomery  
 Pvt. Martin V. B. Leonard  
 Pvt. Martin V. B. Leonard  
 Pvt. Edward Gunn  
 Pvt. Thomas M. Hammer  
 Pvt. James Morfed Aston  
 Pvt. Robert Milton Hart  
 Pvt. Philip Jacob Appfel  
 Master at Arms Edwd S. Herford  
 Pvt. Warren W. White  
 Sgt. Isaac Newton Stubblefield  
 Sgt. Isaac Newton Stubblefield  
 Pvt. John Walter Stoker  
 Pvt. Finas Euen Lance  
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer  
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer  
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer  
 Pvt. Alexander McLain  
 Pvt. Alexander McLain  
 Pvt. Fernando Cortez Nichols  
 Pvt. Henry Hilton Wood  
 Pvt. William Moore  
 Cpl. Thomas Penney  
 Pvt. James R. Cook  
 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Royal B. Decker  
 Pvt. William Herbert Trull  
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer  
 Chaplain Francis M. Byrd  
 Lt. Col. Casper Carl Schneider  
 Lt. Col. Casper Carl Schneider  
 Lt. Col. Casper Carl Schneider  
 Pvt. Henry Ludwig Schulze  
 Pvt. Martin V. B. Leonard  
 Pvt. Isaac Secor  
 Pvt. John S. Darling  
 William R. Reck  
 Cpl. Jacob John Tanner  
 Cpl. John Anderson Laws  
 Cpl. John Anderson Laws  
 Cpl. Newton B. W. Vaughan  
 Pvt. George D. Webber  
 Cpl. John Henry White  
 Pvt. Hugh Alexander Hoy  
 Sgt. Perry Webb  
 Pvt. William Young

### Service Unit

4<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Mounted Infantry  
 Co E, 12<sup>th</sup>-Co L, 5<sup>th</sup> MO State Milit. Cav  
 Co. G, 47<sup>th</sup> Missouri Infantry  
 Co. D, 1<sup>st</sup> New York Mounted Rifles  
 Co. H, 14<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry  
 \*\*  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry  
 Co. B, 52<sup>nd</sup> Illinois Infantry  
 Co. D, 118<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry  
 Co. A, 38<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry  
 Co. F, 144<sup>th</sup> Reg., Indiana Vol. Inf.  
 Co. H, 122<sup>nd</sup> New York Volunteer Inf.  
 Co. I, 12<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry  
 Co. F, 86<sup>th</sup> Reg. IL Vol. Infantry  
 Indep Co Trumbull Guards, Ohio Inf.  
 Co. A, 126<sup>th</sup> West Virginia Militia  
 Co. F, 4<sup>th</sup> Missouri Infantry  
 Co. C, 20<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry  
 Co. C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Illinois Light Infantry  
 Co. K, 83<sup>rd</sup> Indiana Vol. Infantry  
 Shields' 19<sup>th</sup> Indep Batt Ohio Lt Arty.  
 Shields' 19<sup>th</sup> Indep Batt Ohio Lt Arty.  
 Co. C, 74<sup>th</sup> NY Inf & Co. G, 40<sup>th</sup> NY Inf.  
 Co. K, 2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri Light Artillery  
 Co. C, 4<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Volunteer Inf.  
 Co. K, 7<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry  
 Co. A, 46<sup>th</sup> Iowa Volunteer Inf.  
 U.S.N.  
 Co. K, 44<sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Texas Cavalry  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Texas Cavalry  
 54<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry  
 Co. F, 12<sup>th</sup> IN Inf. - Co. E, 59<sup>th</sup> IN Inf.  
 Co. B, 8<sup>th</sup> West Virginia Infantry  
 Co. B, 8<sup>th</sup> West Virginia Infantry  
 Co. B, 8<sup>th</sup> West Virginia Infantry  
 Co. E, 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry  
 Co. E, 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry  
 Co. A, 7<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry  
 Co. E, 121<sup>st</sup> New York Infantry  
 Co. K, 63<sup>rd</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry  
 Co. G, 8<sup>th</sup> Illinois Cavalry  
 Co. C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wisconsin Infantry  
 Co. B, 20<sup>th</sup> Maine Infantry  
 Co. D, 26<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Infantry  
 Co. B, 8<sup>th</sup> West Virginia Infantry  
 184<sup>th</sup> Ohio Infantry  
 103<sup>rd</sup> New York Infantry  
 103<sup>rd</sup> New York Infantry  
 103<sup>rd</sup> New York Infantry  
 Co. D, 9<sup>th</sup> Illinois Volunteers  
 Shields' 19<sup>th</sup> Indep Batt Ohio Lt Arty.  
 Co. D, 28<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts  
 Co. F, 171<sup>st</sup> Pennsylvania Infantry  
 Co F, 74<sup>th</sup> NY Inf., Co H, 40<sup>th</sup> NY Inf.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Nebraska Infantry  
 Battery B, 1<sup>st</sup> Btn Tenn. Lt Artillery  
 Battery B, 1<sup>st</sup> Btn Tenn. Lt Artillery  
 Co. E, 3<sup>rd</sup> MN Inf. & Trp K, 2<sup>nd</sup> MN Cav.  
 Co. E, 133<sup>rd</sup> Illinois Vol. Infantry  
 Co. G, 47<sup>th</sup> Missouri Volunteers  
 Co. D, Bracketts Btn, Minn. Cavalry  
 Co. K, 9<sup>th</sup> Reg. Tennessee Cavalry  
 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment Pennsylvania Militia

~ Charter Member    \*\* Past Camp Commander    ++ New Member    ^^ Associate Member    ## Honorary Camp Member

## Editor's Message

This issue of the *Harriet Lane* can either be considered a "bonus" issue due to its covering four months instead of the usual three months, or simply as a very tardy newsletter. I prefer to call it a "bonus" issue! One of the highlights of this edition is the detailed and extensive reporting by the *Ladies Auxiliary*. Their willingness to document and then share the story about their various activities is to be commended. Thank You Ladies!

The men of the *Camp* are probably involved in an even greater number of activities and events - as a group (small or large), or as individuals, including: award/certificate presentations to students, Scouts, Cadets, etc.; guest speaking on historical topics for other organizations; and memorials and dedications. I often have a generous supply of photos submitted to document these events. A special "Tip of the Kepi" goes to the Hamptons and the LaBrots for their reliable contributions!

However, and even greater number of activities are not reported on at all - with words or with photos. In many cases, the photos I do receive are devoid of a story line or even a simple descriptive caption. This is not intended to be a criticism, but a simple observation. I would prefer photos with no captions over no photos at all! But remember, I am always available to assist with story lines and/or editing.

I write these comments as a challenge to all Brothers to step up to the plate and take a swing at providing the materials with which the diverse activities of the *Camp* can be properly documented. By doing so, non-participating members and non-SUVCW readers might see something they like, thus possibly enhancing membership retention and recruiting. This newsletter, along with the new website, offers us an excellent opportunity to show the world what our *Order* is about and the ideals we stand for. Let's use it to maximum advantage!

In F. C. & L,  
*Michael L. Lance*  
Editor

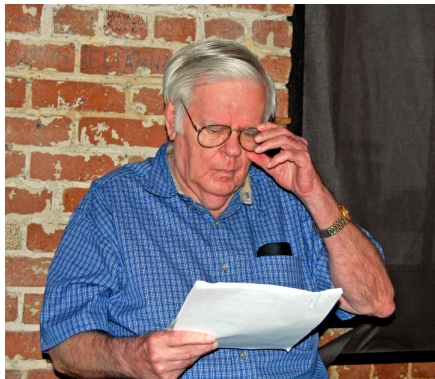
### Camp Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
13 Oct 2009	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Brother Dave Burdett Topic: "Prison Camp Comparison"	Spaghetti Warehouse, Houston, TX
10 Nov 2009	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: TBA	Spaghetti Warehouse, Houston, TX
20-22 Nov 2009	Civil War Weekend	Liendo Plantation, Hempstead, TX
14 Dec 2009	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Feature: <i>Year in Review Slide Show</i>	Spaghetti Warehouse, Houston, TX

The ***Harriet Lane*** newsletter is published quarterly (*Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter*). Please send questions, letters, suggestions or corrections concerning the newsletter to: Michael L. Lance, 6303 Craigway Rd., Spring, TX 77389. E-mail [mlance1963@charter.net](mailto:mlance1963@charter.net). Publishing deadlines are: Spring issue - Feb 15; Summer issue - May 15; Fall issue - Aug 15; Winter issue - Nov 15.

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Junior Vice-Commander - Mr. Samuel F. Hampton	713-477-9609	<a href="mailto:Samham2@yahoo.com">Samham2@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary/Treasurer - Mr. Gary E. White	281-890-7823	<a href="mailto:gankintx@comcast.net">gankintx@comcast.net</a>
SUVCW Edward Lea Camp #2 website		<a href="http://www.camplea-suv.org">http://www.camplea-suv.org</a>
SUVCW Department of Texas website		<a href="http://www.txsuv.org">http://www.txsuv.org</a>
SUVCW National website		<a href="http://www.suvcw.org">http://www.suvcw.org</a>
Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4 - DUVCW		<a href="http://www.rootsweb.com/~txseeduv">http://www.rootsweb.com/~txseeduv</a>
National Auxiliary to the SUVCW		<a href="http://www.asuvcw.org">http://www.asuvcw.org</a>
Sons of Veterans Reserve		<a href="http://www.suvcw.org/svr/svr.htm">http://www.suvcw.org/svr/svr.htm</a>

The Camp meeting for June was conducted yet again at the *Spaghetti Warehouse Restaurant* in downtown Houston. The business portion of the program was conducted in a fairly routine fashion. The following is a photo montage of some of the attendees:



PCC Dean Letzring reviews a document.



Secretary/Treas. Gary White listens intently.



Camp Historian Dale Leach observes the proceedings.



Cmdr. James Hackett conducted the meeting.



Newsletter Editor Michael Lance takes notes



L-R: Ladies of the Auxiliary, Sue Lenes, Jana Marsh, Vali Reyes, and Betty Hampton.



Brother John Lenes makes a point.

After the business meeting and dinner, the Camp was treated to an excellent presentation by two distinguished guests: Colonel Donald W. Outler and Colonel Van Skiles of the *Commemorative Air Force – Gulf Coast Wing*.

The Colonels presented information about their organization which consisted of 2 parts; the 1<sup>st</sup> part about the *Commemorative Air force*; and the 2<sup>nd</sup> part about the *Gulf Coast Wing* located here in Houston. We are familiar with the *Commemorative Air Force* mostly for the annual *Wings Over Houston Air Show* – the next being scheduled for this October 31<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>. The organization was formerly known as the *Confederate Air Force*, but they changed their name to *Commemorative Air Force* in 2002. They are the world's 8<sup>th</sup> largest Air Force. We note that they maintain their aircraft in *flying* condition. There is a significant difference between an aircraft that is a static display and one where you can see and hear it fly.



Colonel Donald W. Outler

The presentation began with a video clip of some of the *Commemorative Air Force (CAF)* aircraft taking off. There was a short scene demonstrating how difficult and quick air-to-air combat was and highlighted two of their most popular aircraft: the CAF's first airplane "Red Nose" (a *P-51 Mustang*), and their WWII B-29. The CAF has over 8,000 members in 28 states and 4 foreign countries. The *Gulf Coast Wing* here in Houston has 167 members. The CAF owns 172 aircraft in over 60 types, so there is very little duplication. Here in Houston, the *Gulf Coast Wing (GCW)* is responsible for the "Texas Raiders", a B-17G, and 11 reproductions of Japanese fighter aircraft.

*(Continued on next page)*

The CAF has the only flying B-29 Super Fortress left in the world! Her name is *FIFI*. They also maintain other rare aircraft which are either one or two copies left in flying condition. Several video clips of CAF aircraft in flight were shown during the presentation. The CAF has U.S. manufactured military aircraft and also maintains aircraft manufactured by foreign countries during WWII. The WWII German Tri-Motor, for example, is one of their exotic aircraft.

Colonel Outler took a moment to call members of the *Camp* who are military service veterans to stand and be recognized for their service to their country.

A video clip showing the acquisition and restoration process of their B-29 was very interesting. There were also video clips of their *Tora, Tora, Tora* flight routine utilizing their Japanese fighter aircraft reproductions portraying the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. A video clip showing their fighter and bomber aircraft moving in review at the annual Midland, Texas air show was also presented.

The CAF is a 501c3 organization, and by act of the *Legislature of the State of Texas* is the "Official" Air Force of the State of Texas. The emphasis of the *Commemorative Air Force* is to honor the men and women who built, serviced, and flew those historic aircraft in order to preserve our freedoms. Their primary objective is education about the sacrifices made for our freedoms, and the contributions made by their aircraft.

The presentation then moved into information about the WWII B-17G "*Texas Raiders*", an aircraft currently undergoing a 3<sup>rd</sup> restoration process at *Hobby Airport* in Houston. *Texas Raiders* was built in 1945. It was grounded in 2001 by a *FAA Airworthiness Directive* (along with all other B-17's in the U.S.) for cracks and corrosion in the wing spars and the wing roots that connect the wings to the fuselage. The CAF determined that they would do a complete and deep restoration so when *Texas Raiders* is returned to flight, she would be able to continue to fly for several years without additional extensive maintenance. There was a short discussion about the aircraft being all electric, with the only hydraulic components being the brakes and cowl flaps.

An amazing video clip was presented which showed Colonel Van Skiles flying *Texas Raiders* down the runway with only one wheel down and trailing smoke during an air show. It was a spectacular example of flying skill! This particular air routine is no longer flown due to being simply too dangerous for the spectators, air crew and airplane.

Colonel Skiles spent some time discussing his experiences as a CAF pilot. He learned to fly in his family flying business and went on to serve as a pilot in the *Army Air Corps* during WWII. He has flown over 19 different types of aircraft, including balloons and gliders. He has flown over 30,000 hours as a pilot which, in the aviation world, is a high time and experience level very few pilots achieve. He discussed his career as an airline captain, and his exploits in flying *Texas Raiders* over the Pentagon and up the Potomac in Washington D.C. Since that particular exhibition was so unusual, the *Dulles Air Traffic Control* parked all the incoming aircraft in a holding pattern – including the commercial flights – so the staff in the tower could go outside and watch the flying. Also, the Colonel's flying was so unusual that at the big annual Fly-In in Oshkosh, they shut down all of the flying just to let him show how to fly a B-17. His fellow pilots gave him the honor.



Col. Van Skiles

Many photos of *Texas Raiders* was shown as she was about a year ago, and a photograph as she appears today. The *Gulf Coast Wing* is on schedule to have *Texas Raiders* back in the air in September 2009. The final video clips were views of the B-17G cockpit in flight showing pilot and co-pilot coordination, and a takeoff and landing through the clear nose bubble – which is the most spectacular seat in the airplane!

Thank you, Colonels Outler and Skiles! Jobs well done – then and now!

"First, I would like to ask if you would express our appreciation for being able to visit with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Tuesday night. Colonel Van Skiles and I really appreciated your time, support, and we thank you for our meals. Would you let your membership know that we really had a great time meeting with you and your organization, and our appreciation for all that your organization does in reminding and educating about our history." ... Colonel Donald W. Outler, Development Officer, Commemorative Air Force Gulf Coast Wing.

The July 2009 *Camp* meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the *Spaghetti Warehouse* restaurant in Houston by Commander Jim Hackett. After an opening prayer by Brother Dale Leach, the *Pledge of Allegiance* was led by Brother Dave Burdette. In addition to Brothers Hackett, Leach, and Burdette, SVC David LaBrot, JVC Sam Hampton, Secretary/Treasurer Gary White, Steve Holmes, Tom Eishen, Michael Lance, and William Boyd were in attendance. Guests on hand included Joel Reed and Lee Edwards. The meeting was further enhanced by the presence of Betty Hampton, representing the *Sarah Emma Seelye SUVCW Auxiliary*, and Martha Class, representing the *Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4 DUVCW*.



Brother Dave Burdette

After the Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved, likewise was accomplished with the Financial Report. Treasurer White concluded the report by stating that the *Camp* is in good shape 'monywise' and he is still working on collecting some overdue membership dues.

SVC LaBrot, representing the *Recruiting Committee*, reported that a new period-correct recruiting tent will be purchased this month. The new tent will be a wall tent with 7 foot high walls.

Cmdr. Hackett, representing the *Speaker's Committee*, reported that he will make the featured speaking presentation in September and Brother Burdette will be the featured speaker in October. Both men are accomplished presenters and their talks are always interesting.

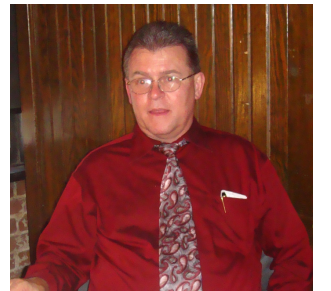


Brother Holmes expressed his regrets for being unable to attend the upcoming memorial service for his Civil War ancestor due to a scheduling conflict. He also updated the *Camp* on his efforts with selling personalized paving bricks designed to raise the needed \$4 million for the *Buffalo Soldiers National Museum* in Houston. He thanked the *Camp* for their support for the project. A motion to purchase a \$100 brick in the name of the *Camp* was raised and passed.

Brother Steve Holmes

The *Edward Lea Camp* was recently invited by the *Dick Dowling Camp 1295, SCVCW* of Beaumont, Texas, to participate in the re-enactment and dedication ceremonies planned for the September 11-13 reopening of *Sabine Pass Battleground Park* at Sabine Pass. Interest for attending the event was high.

Our presence was deemed extremely important since the monument honoring the Union casualties is one of the few memorials still standing in the park following the destruction caused by hurricanes *Rita* and *Ike*. Our *Camp* had originally dedicated the 6-foot tall granite monument on September 8, 2007 (see '*Sabine Pass Monument Dedication*', Vol. 14, No. 4, pg. 5, Winter 2007, *Harriet Lane newsletter*).



SVC LaBrot announced the creation of a new *Department of Texas* newsletter. The newsletter will be edited by Dept. JVC Brian Glass. Among other *Department* news, it was mentioned that each *Camp* is required to provide a volunteer to act as a *Department Consultant*. PCC Stephen Schulze volunteered to serve in that capacity.

SVC David LaBrot

Brother Eishen, who recently volunteered to act as webmaster, reported that our current website has inadequate space to handle our needs properly. Our current website is free – but limited. After outlining his ideas to improve the look of our website and the additional features necessary to meet our needs, Brother Eishen recommended upgrading to a 'paid' site. He volunteered to search for a suitable site and then manage the upgrade. A motion to approve Brother Eishen's recommendations was offered and approved. An enhanced on-line presence for the *Camp* will most likely be the result.

Following a moment of silence for the recovery of Thomas Shuster, son of Brother Scott Shuster, an invocation was offered by Brother Leach. The meeting was then adjourned by Cmdr. Hackett at 7:45. After a short intermission, the *Camp* reassembled for a presentation by guest speaker, Brother Tom Eishen (*recap on pg 7*).

## Changes at Gettysburg Battlefield

At 8:03 p.m. on July 14, 2009, Brother Tom Eishen assumed the role of guest speaker. As usual, he gave an interesting presentation. His focus was on the changes at *Gettysburg National Military Park*. He has conducted extensive study and research of the battleground area, including several personal visits. Brother Eishen described the ongoing 20-year plan to restore the battlefield grounds to as it once was. He showed slides depicting numerous well-known landmarks, including: *Little Round Top*, *Devil's Den*, *Pitzer's Woods*, *Cemetery Ridge*, *Warfield Ridge*, the *Rose Farm*, the *Triangle Field*, the *Slyder Farm*, the *Peach Orchard*, the *Wheat Field*, the *Trostle Farm*, *Power's Hill*, and several statues and regimental monuments.

Of special interest was a sequence of slides showing before and after views of the removal of trees and brush to clear some fields – while in other areas, planting native species. The tearing down of the old visitor's center, the replanting of the *Peach Orchard*, the clearing of the fields, and strategic replanting efforts, have all helped to return the area to more closely resemble how it looked in the 1860's.

Brother Eishen then reviewed the placement and movement of the various units during the historic battle. He displayed slides showing the view from both the Union and Confederate lines. He also related the story about Stephen Brown and: his arrest for getting his men water; his going into battle with a hatchet; his capture of a sword from a Confederate officer to replace the hatchet; and his monument showing him holding the sword with the hatchet at his feet.



Tom Eishen

Brother Eishen used a computer and projection screen to describe and show the battlefield as it looks today and how it looked several years ago. He used several of his own panoramic photos which he seamlessly joined together by computer to be able to pan back and forth across nearly the entire battlefield – from different angles and distances. An interesting and valuable learning use of technology, for sure! Thank you Brother Eishen, for an impressive and informative presentation!

## Camp Meeting – 8 Sep 2009

The September 8, 2009 Camp meeting was once again held at the *Spaghetti Warehouse* restaurant in Houston. The following images from the meeting were submitted by Brother Sam Hampton.



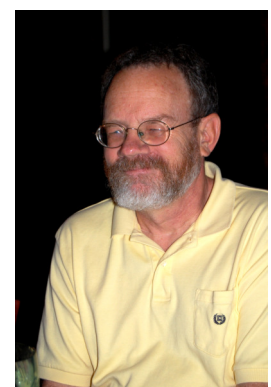
Cmdr. James Hackett



Bob Lockwood



Steve Holmes



Tom Eishen

(Continued on next page)



SVC David LaBrot



Secr./Treas. Gary White



PCC Dean Letzring and son, Kurt Letzring



Cmdr. James Hackett chats with a prospective member



Auxiliary: President Vali Reyes and Betty Hampton

### Camp Acquires New Recruitment Tent

SVC David LaBrot, representing the *Recruiting Committee*, has recently ordered a new Civil War period appropriate "Trader Tent" from *Panther Primitives*. After much discussion and research by the Committee, a 12' x 14" sized tent with 7' walls was chosen. The tent comes complete with poles and storm ropes with 18" stakes. The storm ropes option was chosen in order to keep the new tent stable in the event of inclement weather. Purchasing a stronger and larger tent having heavy-duty tie down gear was a priority this time since rain and/or gusty winds destroyed our two previous lighter-weight recruiting tents. The new tent will be shipped to us October 15<sup>th</sup>. It should arrive in Houston the following week. The *Camp* should have plenty of time to practice setting it up before our major recruiting effort takes place during the *Civil War Weekend* event at Liendo Plantation in November.

### Sabine Pass Ceremony Washout

*Early morning September 12, 2009:* Gray clouds and a serious threat of rain dampened the spirits of several members of the *Edward Lea Camp* as they assembled in Houston to carpool to *Sabine Pass Battleground Park*. Cmdr. James Hackett, Michael Lance, and Steve Holmes joined PCC Stephen Schulze to ride to the park. JVC Sam Hampton and his wife Betty, fell in to follow just beyond Port Arthur. The closer we came to Sabine Pass, the darker the clouds became. A light rain began to fall. To the surprise of all, the park, which was scheduled to have re-opening ceremonies and a large battle re-enactment with participants from many historical and heritage groups on hand was....deserted – except for a few overflying pelicans, a few surprised fishermen, a VERY large latrine-dwelling spider, and some other water-loving birds. Brothers Tom Eishen and Dean Letzring also soon arrived. Since the events of the day were obviously washed out, we decided to make the best of the situation. Lance, Hackett, Holmes, Schulze, and Hampton put on their Federal gear and slogged through standing water to assemble before the Union monument – one of only two obvious surviving markers on the grounds. Brother Eishen and Mrs. Hampton took photos of the group. A few spectators also arrived. After the photos and a brief educational visit with the spectators, the rain began to fall harder. Everyone packed up and departed for Houston.

... Respectfully submitted by Michael L. Lance



The Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary held an "Old Fashioned Lemonade Social" on July 18, 2009. It was sponsored by the Genevieve Miller, Hitchcock Public Library in Hitchcock, TX. Director Joyce Kleimann and library technician, Sandra Goodson, worked closely with our organization in ensuring an entertaining and interesting time was had by all. The event promoted our Civil War heritage and patriotism with speakers and a Living History Camp Site set up by the 19<sup>th</sup> Living History Association, First Texas Infantry.

L-R: Auxiliary President Vali Reyes, Library Director Joyce Keimann, Auxiliary Secretary, Jana Marsh



Dale Leach, Edward Lea Camp Historian, SUVCW, spoke on his moving experience as a participant at the 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg in 2008. Larry Johnson of the 15<sup>th</sup> Texas Infantry presented "A Civil War Soldier".



Secretary, Jana Marsh read her great-great grandfather's (Pvt. William Reynolds) poetry and also spoke on women's roles during the Civil War.

President, Vali Reyes read her ancestor's (Pvt. John E. Davis) Letters from the Front.

Larry and Cathi Johnson

Dale Leach



Outside on the grounds, the 19<sup>th</sup> Living History Association, First Texas Infantry presented a demonstration of "Arms and Drill" which the children eagerly watched and were surprised to hear how loud the rifles were! The Living History Encampment was a big hit. In addition, wonderful period music was provided by violinist, Hallie Reeves, which also delighted the guests, young and old!



The First Texas Infantry fires a volley



Violinist Hallie Reeves with young recruits

(Continued on next page)



Carole Leach with cookies & lemonade



Charlotte Leach – official cookie tester

The ladies of the *Auxiliary*, along with Carole Leach, served lemonade and homemade cookies. Carole was assisted by her beautiful granddaughter, Miss Charlotte Leach, an expert cookie tester! Norma Pollard made delicious red, white and blue cookies which were made a colorful table setting. Hmmmmm...how about the recipe, Norma?

There was a Civil War coloring contest for the children, along with other games that may have been played by children during the times.



R: Vali Reyes with Coloring Contest winners

L-R: Dale Leach (*Edward Lea Camp SUVCW*), Charlotte Leach, Carole Leach, Vali Reyes (*Auxiliary President*), Jana Marsh (*Auxiliary Secretary*), Betty Hampton (*Auxiliary*), Samuel Hampton (*Edward Lea Camp SUVCW*), Hallie Reeves (*Violinist*).



On July 23, 2009, the *Auxiliary* participated in the *Children's Reading Program* at the Hitchcock Library. Guest speaker, Dr. Steve Holmes of the *Edward Lea Camp, SUVCW*, spoke to the children about his gr-gr-grandfather, Private Warren W. White, *U.S.C Infantry*. The children looked on as he also explained pictures of his family and their history.



Steve Holmes entralls the children with his story.



Alan Prather & Jim Richards demonstrate the life of the Civil War soldier.

(Continued on next page)



Alan Prather explained to the children the contents of a Civil War soldier's haversack and talked about the life of the soldier. The children had many questions concerning the Civil War soldier's life that they were learning about. Frank Wood shared his Civil War coin collection with an explanation of the different types of coins and currency.

*L-R: Jana Marsh, Vali Reyes, Steve Holmes passing out American flags.*

The children and their parents had a wonderful time learning about the Civil War. Afterwards, the *Auxiliary* and Brother Holmes presented the children and parents with an American flag and a pencil as a memento. The children were then treated to cookies and tea.



*L-R: Vali Reyes, PCC Dean Letzring (Special guest to the Reading Program), Larry Johnson and wife, Cathi.*

**Other news:** We would like to welcome new member Christy Leach (wife of Sam Leach) to the *Auxiliary*. Sam is the son of Dale Leach (Edward Lea Camp, *SUVCW*). Her common ancestor was Pvt. Sylvester Leach

The *Auxiliary* participated in the National *Auxiliary Girl Scout Gold Award Program*, recognizing 151 *Gold Award* recipients from South Texas in 2009. Each Girl Scout will receive a certificate from *National* signed by Barbara Mayberry, PNP, honoring them for their *Gold Award* achievement.

August 14, 2009: The Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary #1 was recognized for their *Outstanding Patriotic Works* and promoting the *Auxiliary* in the State of Texas. A beautiful certificate was received from and signed by National *Auxiliary* President, Janice L. Harding. The certificate was shown to the *Camp* at the September 8, 2009 meeting at the *Spaghetti Warehouse* restaurant.

*L-R: Jana Marsh, Vali Reyes, Cmdr. James Hackett, Betty Hampton, and Sue Lenes.*



The *Auxiliary* is currently collecting socks for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 'Stars and Stripes' Sock Drive for the residents of the *Michael DeBakey Medical Center* in Houston, Texas. The *Auxiliary* will deliver the socks on Saturday, October 3 and violinist, Hallie Reeves, will provide entertainment. We will be visiting several Wards. Volunteers are welcome to come with us! We are also working on collecting items (and accepting donations) for care packages for the troops – and Christmas gifts for the VA Hospital.

*Vali Reyes reads the Auxiliary's new Outstanding Patriotic Works certificate.*

The *Auxiliary* will have a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lemonade Social on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. held at the *Hitchcock Library*, Hitchcock, Texas. Our special guest speaker will be Cmdr. James C. Hackett of the *Edward Lea Camp, SUVCW*. Come and hear his wonderful presentation on the "Last Bugler of Appomattox". This event is free to the public.

We would like to thank the Brothers of the *Edward Lea Camp* and friends for all the support given to us for our events.



Dear Brothers,

Our Tent will be participating in the *Lineage Day* at Clayton Library this year. If you will be unable to participate, if you give me some information I will be more than happy to put out some info for you at our table.

[Martha Class](#)

President/Registrar/Webmaster

Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4

***Lineage Day at the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research***

*Saturday, October 17, 2009*

*9am - 5pm*

October is Family History Month. To promote family history and foster a closer working relationship with the local lineage societies, *Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research* is sponsoring *Lineage Day* at the Library. The library is located in the Museum District of Houston at 5300 Caroline St.

Every lineage society is invited to participate. The south half of the first floor will be reserved for the use of participating Lineage societies. Societies will have a table with a sign announcing the society and chapter information on it.

Each society is encouraged to have one or two representatives available all day to talk to and work with prospective members. The library staff will be available to help in finding materials and in offering research and reference help.

There is a conference room that can seat approximately 10 people comfortably. This conference room will be available for 10 mini-seminars during the day that members from societies are welcome to present. Once our program is set, the library will have sign up sheets available at the information desk for people to pre-register. Attendees will have to sign up on a first come first served basis prior to the event.

The seminars are planned for 30 minutes with 10 minutes in between beginning at 9:30am ending at 4:30pm.

If your organization would like to hold a seminar please contact the seminar coordinator Susan Tillman at 281-587-8412 or email her at [tillmansue@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tillmansue@sbcglobal.net)

If your organization would like to participate by sending representatives for the day please contact the event coordinator Vanessa Burzynski at 832-247-1893 or email her at [vaburzynski@earthlink.net](mailto:vaburzynski@earthlink.net)

***Civil War Soldiers Finally Rest in Peace***

**Thursday, May 28, 2009**

Discovered two years ago in graves unearthed at a construction site, the remains of 61 Civil War-era veterans and three civilians were reinterred at *Southern Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery* in Sierra Vista, Ariz., May 16. The caskets were escorted along their route by *American Legion Riders*, the *Arizona Highway Patrol*, *U.S. Border Patrol* and other patriotic groups.

A memorial ceremony honored 22 California Volunteers who fought during the Civil War, and 39 regular Army troops who served at various times between 1866 and 1881. The remains included those of three Army Indian scouts and one unknown Civil War veteran from the *U.S. Colored Troops*.

Soldiers from nearby Fort Huachuca helped to carry the troops' remains - in small, U.S. flag-draped coffins - to a ceremonial staging area. Arizona's official balladeer, Dolan Ellis, sang "Amazing Grace," and Joe Joaquin said a prayer in his native Indian language. The *4<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regimental Band* provided music for the memorial ceremony, which was hosted by the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*.

*Source: The American Legion Online Update, Issue #64, 28 May 2009*

*... Submitted by Brother Harrold Henck Jr., PCC - and friend Ross Brigger*

Dorsetmouth Grove R D

April 11th 1863

My Dear Father and Mother your kind letter came to hand today and was very glad to hear from you and that father had got home I should like to know how he came. I'm well all Except my wound which has not quite healed up yet and Still makes me lame I am still working in the Mess Hall but I think I shall Return to my Regt my Division is laying at Minor Hill/Va about two miles from Alexandria you Say father is very distaste of Clothing I would send you ten or twenty dollars but we have no way of Sending money only by mail and there has So much Money ben lost that I am afraid to send money in a letter but I have a

Sute of Clothing at home that he can ware if he likes. I should have ben Very happy If I could have been with you when Edwin was at home but Such is the fortune of war that I can not come but I hope the war will soon be over and we Shall all meet again I wount to return to my Regt for I have no Discriptive list and can draw no pay the Government will owe me \$10.4 By the first of May when you write tell father to write to me himself and tell me how that he got away tell him that I was with in fore miles of Richmond last Summer and was at the Battle of Mccanicsville on the 26th of June I Expect that he has seen some hard times, Dear Father I shall not forget what you told me that a Soldiers life was a dog life but when the Rebellion broke out I thought the Country needed my

Service So I Enlisted into a Penn Regt which numbered one thousand men which has now only 143 men left we had 327 men in the battle of Fredericksburg and came out with 149 I have been in nine battles of which the Battle of Antetam was I beleave the hardest Battle that I ever Saw from the early dawn to the Set of Sun there was a continual Roar of Artillery which was defining to the Ear I counted on that field my Self over one thousand deat Rebles pleas write soon and tell father to give me an account of his suffering

Still direct to Dorsetmouth Grove R D

from your affectionate Son untill death  
John E. Davis

*This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> letter submitted by Auxiliary President Vali Reyes which was originally penned by Civil War soldier John Davis. It is one of several messages sent home from the front by Private Davis to his family. We are fortunate that Sister Reyes has offered to transcribe some of his letters for us for review in this and future issues of the Harriet Lane.*

*Private Davis was a brother of Julianna Davis Leonard, Vali's 2<sup>nd</sup> gr-grandmother. He was born about 1835 in Berkeley Springs, Bath County, Virginia (now WV). Pvt. Davis enlisted July 26, 1861 at Cumberland, Maryland. He served with the 5<sup>th</sup> PA Reserve Corps, Co. G - 34<sup>th</sup> Vols. and saw battle at Antietam, Fredericksburg and Gettysburg. He was wounded in his upper thigh at Fredericksburg which, when healed, left him with a permanent limp. Still, John dutifully went back to his regiment.*



Vali Reyes