

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

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



Harriet Lane

Dec 2010

Volume 17

Number 4



From the Commander's Tent

Here it is - another December. Christmas is almost upon us. It seems like every year passes more swiftly than the previous. This past year was certainly a full one. Camp members participated in a variety of activities including:

- The annual observance at the gravesite of Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea in January. We were honored to have Bro. Keith Harrison (Past Nat'l Cmdr-in-Chief, SUVCW and current Cmdr of M.O.L.L.U.S.), as our guest, along with Dept. Cmdr. George Hansen, and PDC Blair Rudy. Brother Harrison installed our new officers later that afternoon.
- Joint Memorial Service with the *Auxiliary* and the *DUWCW* at the grave of Sarah Emma Edmundson Seelye in Washington cemetery in February.
- The re-introduction of the *SUVCW's* rituals and banners to our monthly meetings beginning in March.
- The awarding of five *Medals of Commendation* to various *JROTC* cadets in Bellaire, Dickinson, Leander, Jersey Village and Richmond at their respective awards ceremonies.
- The annual *Memorial Day* observance at the National Cemetery. Camp members manned one of the salute cannons along with members of the *Ike Turner SCV* camp. Our Color Guard paraded the colors. This year, we followed up by going to Glenwood and Washington cemeteries and reinstating the original *G.A.R Memorial Day* tradition of laying flowers on the graves of the *G.A.R. Post #9* members who are buried there. We also instituted a "Roll Call of Honor" whereby we held a short ceremony and called out the names of each of the Civil War ancestors of our Camp members. If present, his descendant answered in his place. Everyone in attendance agreed we should carry on this tradition.
- The annual *Veterans Day* parade participation with the *U.S. 13th Infantry* in downtown Houston.
- Our annual reenactment and very successful fundraising at Liendo Plantation in November. Our fundraising efforts resulted in raising some \$450 for camp activities. Thanks to Sister Linda LaBrot for the beautiful quilt that she made and donated to the camp for this year's raffle.

Saturday, December 11th will be the *Wreaths across America* event at 12 noon at the *Houston National Cemetery* on Veteran's Memorial drive. We urge every member to attend this very moving event. We will honor all America's veterans by laying Christmas wreaths on their graves in the cemetery. The Camp has purchased a number of wreaths and this is a very big part of what we do. Please make plans to take a couple of hours out of your weekend to honor our veterans.

On January 8, 2011, we will again hold our Memorial service honoring LCDR Edward Lea. It will be held at his gravesite in Galveston at 11:00 a.m., followed by our January meeting at the Golden Corral restaurant on Seawall Boulevard. The following morning, there will be a reenactment of the funeral of Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea at 9:00 a.m. at the Masonic Hall in Galveston, followed by a mock burial service at the cemetery where he was laid to rest. This should be a good event with which to base our plans for the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Galveston in 2013. We also hope to see you all at our next meeting on December 14th. May I close with the wish that this Holiday Season and the coming year will be the best yet for us all!

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

David LaBrot - Camp Commander

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Membership Muster

Camp Member

Mr. David K. LaBrot – Cmdr.

Mr. Samuel F. Hampton – Sr. Vice-Cmdr.
Dr. Stevenson T. Holmes – Jr. Vice-Cmdr.
Mr. Gary White – Secretary/Treasurer ~ *

Mr. Kenneth A. Agans
 Mr. Mark H. Andrus
 Mr. Robert Berry
 Mr. Michael Boyd
 Mr. William C. Boyd
 Mr. William E. Boyd ^
 Mr. William D. Burdette – *Color Bearer*
 Mr. William D. Campbell *
 Mr. Lawrence K. Casey Jr. &
 Mr. Clifford Dale Cates ^
 Mr. Philip M. Cavanaugh
 Capt. Chadwick E. Chester
 Mr. Thomas F. Coughlin
 Mr. David M. Daniels
 Mr. Thomas M. Eishen – *Signals Officer, Webmaster*
 Mr. Joseph M. Ferguson
 Mr. Stephen D. Forman *
 Mr. Maurice Foster
 Mr. James S. Hackett – *Patriotic Instructor* *
 Mr. Kenneth H. Harrington
 Mr. Steve M. Hart
 Mr. Gregory K. Helm
 Mr. Harrold Henck Jr. ~ *
 Mr. Henry G. Herford Jr.
 Mr. Berton W. Hoyt
 Mr. Thomas A. Jackson
 Mr. Thomas I. Jackson
 Mr. Robert Julian ~ *
 Mr. Michael L. Lance – *Historian, Newsletter Editor*
 Mr. Dale H. Leach – *Chaplain*
 Mr. Jared S. Lenes
 Mr. Jeffrey S. Lenes
 Mr. John P. Lenes – *Guide*
 Mr. Dean Letzring *
 Mr. Kurt A. Letzring
 Mr. Robert Lockwood
 Mr. Randall S. McDaniel
 Mr. Kelly P. McNamara
 Mr. Frank S. Moore ~
 Mr. Harrison G. Moore IV ~ * *Graves Registr. Officer*
 Mr. Gene P. Munson
 Mr. Thomas H. Penney
 Mr. James R. Perry
 Mr. Zachery K. Powers
 Mr. Joel D. Reed

Mr. Jason Richards +

Mr. Randall D. Scallan – *Chaplain*
 Mr. John E. Schneider Sr. – *Counselor*
 Mr. John E. Schneider Jr.
 Mr. Michael Schneider
 Mr. Stephen D. Schulze *
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Schurwon
 Dr. Harold E. Secor
 Mr. Michael D. Seeber
 Mr. Mark S. Shackelford
 Mr. Scott D. Shuster
 Mr. James M. Sigler
 Mr. Bartley N. Stockton
 Mr. Stephen W. Tanner
 Mr. Hunter Thomas
 Mr. Chapman P. Traylor
 Mr. Nash S. Traylor
 Mr. Joseph M. Tucker
 Mr. Robert E. Wickman
 Mr. Patrick M. Young
 Mr. Edward Cotham # *Author*
 Mr. Charles Mitchell #

Civil War Ancestor

Hosp. Steward Louis Laborot
 Pvt. Charles Edward 'Austin' Laborot
 Pvt. Samuel Pate Hampton
 Pvt. Warren W. White
 Commissary Sgt. William Judson
 Pvt. Franklin Lowe
 Pvt. Matthew Barth
 Pvt. William Martin Berry
 Pvt. Thomas Howey
 Pvt. Lyndon Boyd
 **
 Pvt. Nathan R. Price
 Cpl. William Moore Campbell
 Chaplain Josiah Brown
 **
 Cpl. John Francis Pattee
 Pvt. John A. Watts
 2nd Cpl. Henry A. Sauter
 Cpl. Erzelon (Zeal) Russell Mason
 Pvt. Andreas Pfofenhauer
 Pvt. Edward Ebling
 Pvt. John Henry Arnold
 Pvt. Xavier Henkel
 Cpl. Thadeus Hendrickson
 Pvt. James Morfed Aston
 Pvt. Robert Milton Hart
 Pvt. Robert R. Campbell
 Pvt. Philip Jacob Apffel
 Master at Arms Edwd S. Herford
 Pvt. Charles S. Hoyt
 Sgt. Isaac Newton Stubblefield
 Sgt. Isaac Newton Stubblefield
 Pvt. John Walter Stoker
 Pvt. Finas Euen Lance
 Pvt. Sylvester Leach
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer
 Pvt. Alexander McLain
 Pvt. Alexander McLain
 Pvt. Chauncey A. Lockwood
 Pvt. Fernando Cortez Nichols
 Pvt. Henry Hilton Wood
 Pvt. William Moore
 Pvt. William Moore
 Pvt. Joseph Stoner
 Cpl. Thomas Penney
 Pvt. James R. Cook
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer
 Pvt. Alexander Reed
Pvt. Samuel Bacon
 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. Lorenzo Seeber
 Pvt. Andrew Stevenson
 Pvt. John S. Darling
 Pvt. William Henry Sigler
 William R. Reck
 Cpl. Jacob John Tanner
 Cpl. Valetine Brillhart
 Cpl. John Anderson Laws
 Cpl. John Anderson Laws
 Pvt. Joseph Henry Wells
 Pvt. Hugh Alexander Hoy
 Pvt. William Young
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Service Unit

Co E, 12th-Co L, 5th MO State Milit. Cav.
 Co E, 12th-Co L, 5th MO State Milit. Cav.
 Co. G, 47th Regiment Missouri Infantry
 Co. K, 44th U.S. Colored Infantry
 Co. D, 1st New York Mounted Rifles
 Co. E, 115th Regiment Indiana Infantry
 Co. B, 52nd Regiment Illinois Infantry
 Co. A, 76th Enrolled MO Military Reg.
 Co. A, 38th Reg. Illinois Infantry
 Co. F, 144th Reg., Indiana Vol. Infantry
 **
 Co. H, 122nd New York Volunteer Infantry
 Co. I, 12th Regiment Illinois Infantry
 15th Regiment, Maine Infantry
 **
 Co. F, 86th Reg. Illinois Vol. Infantry
 Indep Co Trumbull Guards, Ohio Infantry
 Co. A, 8th Battalion, DC Infantry
 Co. I, 18th Reg. Michigan Infantry
 Co. F, 4th Regiment Missouri Infantry
 Co. C, 49th Regiment Illinois Infantry
 Co. C, 20th Regiment Indiana Infantry
 Co. C, 2nd Illinois Light Infantry
 4th Kentucky Mounted Infantry
 Co. C, 4th Reg. Tennessee Vol. Infantry
 Co. K, 7th Regiment Illinois Infantry
 Co. H, 11th Regiment, West Virginia Inf.
 Co. A, 46th Reg. Iowa Volunteer Infantry
 U.S.N.
 Co. B, 3rd Reg. Minnesota Infantry
 2nd Reg. Texas Cavalry
 2nd Reg. Texas Cavalry
 54th Reg. Indiana Infantry
 Co. F, 12th IN Inf. - Co. E, 59th IN Inf.
 23rd Reg. Ohio Volunteer Infantry
 Co. B, 8th Reg. West Virginia Infantry
 Co. B, 8th Reg. West Virginia Infantry
 Co. B, 8th Reg. West Virginia Infantry
 Co. E, 7th Michigan Cavalry
 Co. E, 7th Michigan Cavalry
 Co. H, 14th Reg. Wisconsin Infantry
 Co. A, 7th Regiment Indiana Infantry
 Co. E, 121st Reg. New York Infantry
 Co. K, 63rd Reg. Ohio Vol. Infantry
 Co. K, 63rd Reg. Ohio Vol. Infantry
 Co. K, 126th Reg. Pennsylvania Inf.
 Co. G, 8th Illinois Cavalry
 Co. C, 3rd Regiment Wisconsin Infantry
 Co. B, 8th Reg. West Virginia Infantry
 Co. E, 3rd Tennessee Mounted Infantry
Co. H, 91st Regiment, Indiana Inf.
 184th Regiment Ohio Infantry
 103rd Regiment New York Infantry
 103rd Regiment New York Infantry
 103rd Regiment New York Infantry
 Co. D, 9th Regiment Illinois Volunteers
 Shields' 19th Indep Batt Ohio Light Arty.
 Co. D, 28th Regiment Massachusetts
 Co. C, 10th Regiment Illinois Infantry
 Co. A, 88th Regiment Ohio Infantry
 Co. F, 171st Reg. Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. M, 3rd Regiment, New York Cavalry
 Co. F, 74th NY Inf., Co H, 40th NY Infantry
 1st Reg. Nebraska Infantry
 Co. D, 4th Kansas Vol. Infantry
 Battery B, 1st Btn Tenn. Light Artillery
 Battery B, 1st Btn Tenn. Light Artillery
 Co. I, 3rd Regiment, Kentucky Cavalry
 Co. D, Bracketts Btn, Minn. Cavalry
 30th Regiment Pennsylvania Militia
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Key: ~ *Charter Member* * *Past Camp Commander* & *Life Member* + *New Member* ^ *Associate Member* # *Honorary Member*

Editor's Message

Wow! The *Veteran's Day* ceremonies at City Hall followed by the parade downtown on November 11th and then the re-enactment battle action at *Liendo Plantation* on November 20th were all awesome! Those of you who were on hand for these activities know what I mean! If you were unable to attend this year, make sure to mark your calendars to reserve time to join us next November. Both events were experiences to long remember! After-action reports and photos follow in this issue of the *Harriet Lane*. Remember, the *Battle of Galveston Ceremony* on January 8, 2011 is quickly approaching - another event you don't want to miss!



I am in need of volunteers to submit profiles of their Civil War ancestors for the newsletter. For some time, I had been including an ancestor story in each issue. But lately, volunteer writers have been scarce. Featured in past issues of the *Harriet Lane* are the Civil War ancestors of Brothers Shuster (Spring 2003 & Summer 2007), Henck (Summer 2003), Moore (Winter 2003), Forman (Spring 2004), Lance (Winter 2004 & Winter 2008), White (Spring 2005), Schneider (Winter 2005), Hampton (Fall 2007), Cates (Winter 2007), Hackett (Fall 2008), and Casey (Summer 2009). If your name is not listed here, please step forward and give your ancestor his due! Tell us what you know about his family, his military service, his occupation, marriage, children, etc. First come - first-served - one ancestor profile per newsletter!

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

Camp Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
11 Dec 2010	Wreaths Across America	Houston National Cemetery 10410 Veterans Memorial Dr., Houston, TX
14 Dec 2010	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: David LaBrot	Spaghetti Warehouse 901 Commerce St., Houston, TX
8 Jan 2011	<i>Battle of Galveston Commemoration</i> : 10:00 a.m. Monthly Meeting: 1:00 p.m. Installation of 2011 Camp Officers	Episcopal Cemetery, Galveston, TX The Golden Corral Restaurant 6200 Seawall Blvd., Galveston, TX
9 Jan 2011	Funeral Re-Enactment	Galveston, TX
14 Feb 2011	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Glen Rogers Topic: TBA	Spaghetti Warehouse 901 Commerce St., Houston, TX

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Secretary/Treasurer - Mr. Gary E. White	281-890-7823	gankintx@comcast.net
SUVCW Edward Lea Camp #2 website		http://www.camplea-suv.org
SUVCW Department of Texas website		http://www.txsv.org
SUVCW National website		http://www.suvcw.org
Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4 - DUVCW		http://www.rootsweb.com/~txseeduv
National Auxiliary to the SUVCW		http://www.asuvcw.org
Sons of Veterans Reserve		http://www.suvcw.org/svr/svr.htm

Introducing: Jason Richards

New member Jason Richards joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his grandfather, Samuel Bacon, who served as a Private with Company H, 91st Regiment, Indiana Infantry. Welcome, Brother Richards!

Introducing: Michael D. Seeber *(continued from previous newsletter)*



My name is Mike Seeber and I am originally from a small Kansas town called El Dorado. After getting college degrees at Kansas State University and the University of Kansas, I became employed in the oil industry. I currently work for Anadarko Petroleum - The Woodlands. I am married and have two daughters.

My interests revolve around military history and genealogy. I first got hooked when researching my uncle, who was a B-17 tail-gunner and died during a mission in World War II. Further research into my family history showed I had relatives that served in most of the major conflicts in U.S. history, including my grandfather, who was in the Signal Corps during WWI.

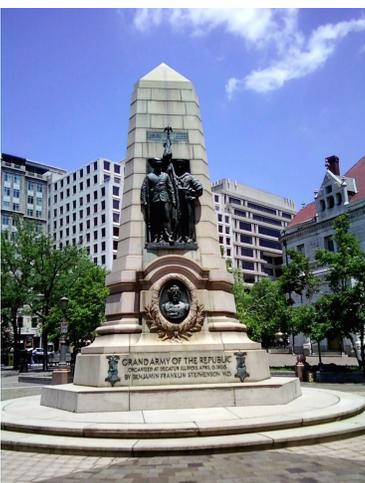
In addition to Lorenzo Seeber (Company C, 10th Illinois Infantry, Illinois; 19 April 1861 to 29 July 1861), I also have five other direct ancestors who served in the Civil War (and a handful of 2nd great-grand uncles and first cousins, several times removed). Civil War service for my ancestors ranged from 90 days of garrison duty (Lorenzo Seeber) to several years of campaigning and a stint in Andersonville (Wilber Sinkhorn). I have been blessed with an abundance of information taken from Pension Records and Compiled Military Records from the National Archives. I have also been blessed with a spouse who tolerates my obsession with family history!

Grand Army of the Republic Memorial – Washington, D.C.

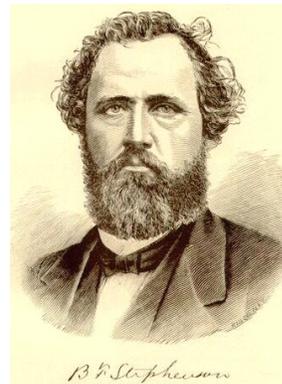
Recently, Bro. John Schneider visited Washington, D.C. and had the opportunity to pass by the *Grand Army of the Republic Memorial*. Below is one of the photos he shot of the impressive bronze monument.

The memorial, also known as the *Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson Memorial*, is located near the *Navy Memorial* at the intersection of 7th St., C St., and Pennsylvania Ave, in the Penn Quarter neighborhood of Washington, D.C. It was sculpted by John Massey Rhind, and dedicated July 3, 1909. It honors Benjamin F. Stephenson, M.D., founder of the *Grand Army of the Republic*.

Dr. Benjamin Stephenson was born in Wayne County, Illinois on October 3, 1823. On the organization of the 14th Illinois Infantry during the Civil War, he was elected surgeon of the regiment by the officers and enlisted men, but another doctor was commissioned.



However, on April 7, 1862, he was mustered in as surgeon of the 14th Illinois Infantry at Pittsburg Landing. He served with the regiment through all its campaigns as part of the Army of the Tennessee. As a result of his action at Shiloh, he was commissioned Major by Governor Yates. The 3-year term of the 14th Illinois expired June 24, 1864, and it was mustered out of service. Dr. Stephenson then returned to Springfield, Illinois to resume his medical practice. He went on to serve as provisional Commander-In-Chief of the fledgling G.A.R. from April 6, 1866 to November 21, 1866.



The G.A.R. Memorial is one of 17 Civil War monuments in Washington, D.C., that were collectively listed on the National Register of Historic Places on September 20, 1978.

Grand Army of the Republic Memorial

...Memorial photo submitted by Bro. John Schneider



Veterans Day 2010



On November 11th, uniformed volunteers were on hand once again at City Hall to represent the *Edward Lea Camp* at the *Veterans Day* event in downtown Houston. Commander LaBrot was joined by Brothers Hackett (PCC), Schulze (PPC), Lockwood, Leach, and Lance. Emma Valdes of the *Ladies Auxiliary* also attended. These volunteers joined with elements of the 13th U.S. Infantry Regiment, including: Tom Whitesides, Lanny Low, and Howard Rose. Together, they formed a Color Guard to participate in the ceremonies and parade.

The Color Guard assembles for instructions, L-R: Unit Cmdr. Tom Whitesides, David LaBrot, James Hackett, Lanny Low, Bob Lockwood, Stephen Schulze, Michael Lance, Howard Rose, and Dale Leach. They stand in front of the Colors and stacked arms.



The unit assembled on the grounds beside the reflecting pool. It waited patiently as the formal speeches took place on the steps of City Hall. Many spectators took the opportunity to take photos of the uniformed group.

Invocation - L-R: Emma Valdes, David LaBrot, Lanny Low, Bob Lockwood, Stephen Schulze, Michael Lance, Howard Rose, and Dale Leach.

When the speeches were finished, the Color guard was primed and ready to offer a musket salute to the veterans – past and present. The guns were double-charged and the load was augmented with colored chalk to give additional effect. First, the *VFW District 4 Ceremonial Detail* fired a salute. Then, on command, the blue-clad unit raised their muskets and fired. The resulting report was dramatic and thunderous. At least one child among the assembled spectators was frightened to tears - despite being consoled by a parent. The *VFW* unit then answered with another volley to end the salute.

The Color Guard fires a salute as the *VFW* unit waits beyond to follow with the final volley.



The Federal Color Guard then marched through the empty downtown streets to reach the parade staging area. All vehicle traffic had been previously rerouted and the curbs were lined with people anticipating the arrival of the extensive *Veterans Day* parade. The unit drew a lot of attention as it passed along the streets – seemingly a parade of its own – with marching boots clicking the pavement and accoutrements clanking!

The Color Guard marches in the *Veterans Day* parade with Colors flying. The *Ladies Auxiliary*, represented by Emma Valdes, trails behind escorted by Officer James Hackett.



The contingent marched smartly in the parade and saluted the reviewing stand while passing by. Spectators clapped and many cheered as the men (and one lady) advanced past.

After the parade, most of the Color Guard re-assembled at the Spaghetti Warehouse restaurant for food and camaraderie.

...After-action report submitted by Michael Lance,
Photos by Ed Kremple and Emma Valdes

(Additional photos on page 13)

The Western Outpost Travels to the Mountains of West Texas

On Saturday, November 6, Chap Traylor and his 9 year old nephew, Hunter Wheeler, traveled to the Prude Ranch in the Fort Davis area. They spent the day at the camp working with visually impaired and blind students. The students ranged from elementary through high school age and were from the Midland-Odessa to Fort Stockton area. The students were very attentive and curious about the life of soldiers of both the Union and Confederate Armies.



As Chap and Hunter went through their program, they had short discussions about aspects of the soldier's life. They then allowed the students to get hands-on time with the equipment, uniforms and weapons. The students were also told about the flags and symbols of the war. They then spent time getting to feel what the flags 'looked' like for both armies. Many of the students had never had the opportunity to touch a U.S. Flag. They could actually distinguish the changes in color, stripes and stars.

Students feel how the flags 'look'

Both boys and girls were interested in handling the weapons. A pistol, rifle and saber, all made the rounds. One of the favorite activities was getting to sample hard tack. After being given hard tack, and before there were any broken teeth, they were also given a little molasses in their tin plates. They thought it made it more appetizing but did not think having to wash their plates with sand rather than water a healthy practice. After a drink of water and washing up, all headed to the parade grounds.



Washing with sand



Even after a great deal of practice, the students still did not have much success keeping a straight line while marching. Finally, after locking arms, a slightly better job was done. Being sight impaired or totally blind, they could not tell their line looked sloppy and not straight. However, fun was had by all!

Marching in a straight line proved difficult

After the marching, Hunter handed out wooden guns. A better job was done mastering proper techniques of handling a rifle. Since we were short one wooden rifle, a real rifle was issued to a lucky student. The real rifle was then rotated through the older students. Each time they had to trade, the youngster giving up the rifle did so with protest but did so with a smile! When all was done, several of the older boys had to be pulled away by their teachers so that they could head to supper. The good time was not restricted just to the students. The teachers participated and expressed their appreciation for themselves and their students. This was truly a great fun and learning experience for students, teachers and presenters.



Handling the guns – both wooden and real versions

...After-action report and photos submitted by Brother Chap Traylor

Civil War Weekend at Liendo Plantation

Saturday, Nov 20th: Good weather and dry ground helped us see a larger crowd than in the past few years. The sutlers were out enmasse as were the food vendors and miscellaneous trinket and flag sales booths. The Edward Lea Camp tent, expanded to nearly double the original size with the new tent fly, had very good traffic. The exhibits provided by Brothers Lance, Hackett, LaBrot and White enhanced the recruiting and raffle tickets sales efforts and we also had several inquiries regarding membership. Brother LaBrot kept his laptop humming with



queries to both *Ancestry.com* and the *National Park Service* database. The Saturday battle re-enactment saw many more blue uniforms on the field than in past years. According to one knowledgeable observer, there were more Union forces at Liendo than usually attend at places like Pleasant Hill, Louisiana. The battle scenario also allowed the artillery and the infantry much more latitude in shifting positions than in years past and that kept the participants motivated and gave the audience a more realistic battle scene. The Union carried the field on Saturday. The camp closed down operations at five p.m. and removed all display materials from the tent overnight.

Traffic is brisk at the Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp #2 recruiting tent

Sunday, Nov 21st: The weather continued to cooperate on Sunday and the crowds responded in kind. This is the first year in several that activities could be held for the entire day. The Camp continued to get good traffic through the exhibits and raffle sales were steady. Only Commander LaBrot, Mrs. LaBrot and I handled the operation on Sunday. The two armies again took the field and I'm told the battle was again well attended. I remained with the tent during the Sunday battle scenario. After the completion of the re-enactment, a young lady with no connection to the Camp drew a raffle ticket for both the custom made quilt donated by Linda LaBrot and the cavalry sword



purchased by the camp for the raffle. Both winners were contacted by phone and for the first time since the Camp began the raffle, both winners were still at the event.

Shortly after the drawing, we broke camp, boxed up all the exhibits, re-packed the tent and accessories and departed from another successful event.



Above Left: Quilt winner Ms. Penny Nelson (a demonstrator at the Liendo event, who showed her skills at weaving and spinning, is flanked by Cmdr. David LaBrot (left) and Secretary/Treasurer Gary White (right).

Above Right: The sword raffle winner was Randy Thole, a student at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. He was attending the reenactment to gain credit for a history assignment. His companions, kneeling in front, were Kelsey Fisher (in the red top) and Sarah Faulkner. Brother Gary White stands on the left and Cmdr. David LaBrot stands on the right.

...After-action report submitted by Brother Gary White, photos by Linda LaBrot

It was cloudy but pleasant on Saturday, November 20, 2010 when I arrived at Liendo Plantation to participate in the various activities during the Civil War Weekend event. The trek from my arrival point to the *Edward Lea Camp* recruiting tent took me through a large Rebel camp. I felt a bit uncomfortable and could feel piercing Rebel stares as I briskly passed through! I was relieved to finally enter a street of sutlers tents. The sutlers were doing a brisk business catering to persons dressed in Gray, Blue, and civilian – both current and historic. On arriving at our recruiting tent, I found it to be well appointed with interesting displays and memorabilia. I added a few items to the tables before venturing off to explore the grounds around the plantation.

As I approached the historic mansion, I was nearly swept up in the action as a Federal company descended on it looking for Rebels. Unfortunately, the boys in blue were soon counter-attacked by a larger Rebel force that swept

(Continued on next page)



in from the far side of the home. Only a few Union soldiers survived and they quickly became prisoners. Meanwhile, I melted off into the crowd in order to fight another day!

Rebels search for survivors after overwhelming the Federal force in front of the plantation

About 1:00 p.m., I fell in with the 13th U.S. Infantry Regiment, commanded by Tom Whitesides. It was a seven-man unit (4 muskets – Howard Rose, Howard Story, Dale Leach, and Michael Lance; 2 color bearers – Bob Lockwood and (name unknown); and the commanding officer). Our small unit was one of many such units assembling in the immediate area to form the Federal 'army'. The 'army' was an impressive sight to behold as it finally advanced to bring the battle to the Rebels.



The 13th U.S. Infantry Color Guard marches forward with Colors flying

The large Federal force slowly deployed across the battlefield. The regular infantry was enhanced with several artillery pieces, cavalry, dismounted cavalry units, and a drum & fife company. Orders were passed between the various company commanders by bugle or horsemen. From my vantage point near the center of the Federal line, it was difficult to know exactly what was transpiring at any given time. I could see distant movement of forces and hear a nearly continuous report of cannon and the crackle of gunfire. A horse-drawn ambulance raced past behind us parallel to our line. Thick white smoke wafted across the grounds. We observed a number of clashes between opposing cavalry squads. The portion of the army in which our Color-guard manned was apparently held in reserve as we did not advance for quite a while. Finally, orders were shouted for us to advance and attack.

Federal troops waiting for orders to attack



Our forward movement tended to be sporadic, and at times chaotic, as the opposing armies shifted their forces here-and-there, maneuvering for an offensive advantage. The barrel of my musket soon became very hot from continuous firing - necessitated by the aggressiveness of our attack.

Our men eventually forced the Rebels to hastily retreat due to our overwhelming numbers and the masterful work of our officers in positioning our infantry units and supporting artillery.

The Rebel-held redoubt was soon stormed and their army smashed. Unfortunately, I was not able to participate to the very end of the final charge due to taking a ball in the shoulder just short of the captured redoubt.

The volleys of this solid line of Federal infantry proved to be devastating to the defending Rebels.



(Continued on next page)



Federal infantry company advances for the final assault



Union artillery softens the defenses

Just minutes after the guns were silenced; the battlefield became alive again as friends, family, and spectators searched for fallen loved ones and mementos. I was fortunate to spend my last few moments in the arms of a beautiful lady who found me and tried in vain to give comfort (no photo).



Federals storm the Rebel redoubt and push beyond.



In the aftermath, a fallen Rebel soldier is found on the battlefield by his family

.... Report respectfully submitted by Michael L. Lance

.... Photos by Linda LaBrot, Emma Valdes, and Ed Kremple



(Additional Ed Kremple photo on back page)

This year's Liendo event was an improvement on last year's event, and probably our best endeavor in quite a while. While we were actively engaged in fundraising at this event, our biggest surprises came from things that we have tried before, but didn't seem to generate much interest.

One of the biggest surprises was the ability to do instant research on a laptop computer with wireless capability and to look up genealogy requests from folks interested in the Civil War - and their ancestor in particular. We had such a lackluster response at the last three events that we thought about abandoning it this year. However, we went forward and set it up. And to our surprise, we received greater interest than ever before! We filled numerous requests for assistance in tracing records. We were also instrumental in pointing folks in the right direction to finding their Civil War records by utilizing *Ancestry.com* and the *Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Database* at the National Park Service website.

We also purchased 500 small American flags to give away to children at this event. It is amazing what you can do and the conversations you can get into when you hand a small child something as simple as the proud symbol of our country. It was also great PR for the *Camp*, since the only folks who, prior to this, gave out flags were our brethren in the *Sons of Confederate Veterans*. It definitely made an impression, especially on the children, and it's one we should continue in order to tell our story and the history of the Civil War.

We also utilized the new tent fly that we purchased for the tent last year. This open-area fly allowed us to cover another 12' X 14" feet in area, thus expanding our ability to engage the general public and allowed them more access to view our exhibits of G.A.R. memorabilia, Camp history, model ships of the Civil War, and various other items on display. Our total area under canvas has expanded to 12' x 28'. This allowed us to better tell the proud history of our organization and its illustrious predecessor, the *Grand Army of the Republic*.

The biggest surprise that came out of this year's event was recruiting. We gave out no less than 15 new applications to prospective members. Hopefully, we will shortly see another increase in membership as the result of this effort. The 150th anniversary of the Civil War is no doubt driving part of this, but our recruiting efforts at these events are starting to pay off as we have seen real growth in the camp this year. This kind of success cannot be possible without the willingness of many people who sacrificed their time to be a part of it's success, I would be remiss if I did not thank the following camp members, *Auxiliary* members, and others who helped make this event one of our most successful events and fundraising efforts. It was all possible because of their willingness to be involved at a greater level.

Bro. Gary White: who assisted both in the setting up of our tent as well as assisting in taking it down after the event was over. He also spent two days assisting with manning the booth talking to prospective members. Bro. Tom Coughlin and Bro. Joel Reed also assisted in setting the tent up, as well assisting us in manning the booth

Bro. Michael Lance: who willingly allowed us to exhibit his G.A.R. memorabilia, Bro. Jim Hackett, who brought his collection of model Civil War ships for exhibition, and Bro. Gary White, who made the story boards that hung on the walls of the tent to tell the story of the *Lt. Edward Lea Camp*, as well as the story of Edward Lea. These items were a great help in drawing the crowd into our booth.



Ms. Linda LaBrot: of the *Sarah Emma Seeyle Auxiliary #1*, who not only donated the beautiful quilt that was raffled off, but who also appeared in Civil War garb the entire three days, assisted us in selling raffle tickets, and also assisted us in setting up the booth each day and closing it up each day as well.

Hospital Steward LaBrot works feverishly to save a wounded Rebel while concerned spectators watch.

Ms. Emma Valdes: also with the *Auxiliary*, showed up on Saturday in a stunning Civil War period dress, and spent her time talking to the crowds about the women's role in the Civil War. Ms. Valdes also brought her lovely niece, Jasmine Flores, with her, who delighted each of us with her curiosity about our uniforms and gear. I'm sure that Jasmine learned a lot more than she counted on about the Civil War,

Bro. Philip Cavanaugh: who tirelessly assisted us in the booth on Saturday, and was kind enough to man the booth, along with Linda LaBrot, while many of us went out onto the reenactment field.

Bro. Dale Leach, Bro. Bob Lockwood, Bro. Dave Burdette, and Bro. William Boyd: who participated with us on school day, and spent countless hours talking to school children and educating them on life during the Civil War. Their participation was invaluable and many of the children and teachers alike were impressed by the knowledge that they imparted to our next generation.



I certainly hope that I left no one out. Each individual who participated is worthy of recognition for their efforts in making this event such a success. I feel words cannot express how grateful I am for the opportunity to serve as Commander of this Camp. Each of our members brings a special and unique perspective to this Camp, and I am so proud to serve as the Commander of such a wonderful bunch of Civil War descendants and enthusiasts. Together, we have made great strides in membership, tradition, and success in garnishing more publicity for our organization than I can remember. I look forward to see what great things we can accomplish together in the coming year.

...After-action report submitted by Camp Cmdr. David LaBrot. Photo by Michael Lance

The Women's Relief Corp and Andersonville

Andersonville! The stockade-surrounded prison pen of twenty-four acres where, for fourteen months in the years of 1864 and 1865, when war between the North and the South was in progress, thirty-five thousand Union men were confined unsheltered from the burning rays of the Southern sun, drenched by the rain and deadly dews of the night! More than half their number died; fourteen thousand lie buried near the ground hallowed by their sufferings.

These prison grounds, bought by the *Grand Army of the Republic of Georgia*, were, to insure their preservation as a memorial, presented to the *National Woman's Relief Corps* in 1906. They were accepted by the Fourteenth National Convention and steps were at once taken to redeem the property from its desolate and barren condition.

During many years after its acquirement by the *Woman's Relief Corps*, the work of restoration was directed by Past National President Elizabeth A. Turner, under whose guidance grounds were cleared, trees planted, a caretaker's cottage built and a pavilion erected over the spring which, as "the prisoners cry of thirst rang up to Heaven," miraculously burst forth, as in answer to prayer. Monuments, dedicated to the sons who had there died amid scenes of suffering, were erected by several States.

Willingly did the noble women of our *Order* raise the funds to transform a barren waste into a "garden of blessed memory," visitors to which will for all time behold a memorial of men who proved themselves the highest type of patriots, - a garden of which it has been said:

"With its smiling skies and its blossoming flowers, with its velvet turf and its arching trees, with its fragrant air and its rippling stream, with roses, roses everywhere and peace and the Flag encompassing all, - this is the Andersonville of today!"

After the death of Mrs. Turner, which occurred at Andersonville in the spring of 1907, the mantle she had so royally worn fell fittingly upon the shoulders of Past National President Sarah D. Winans, who thereafter carried on the work. Deeming it best for the future of these historic grounds, the *Woman's Relief Corps* in 1908, upon recommendation of Kate E. Jones, National President, tendered them to the United States Government and, in pursuance of an Act of Congress approved March 2, 1910, the Secretary of War was "authorized and directed to accept the land so tended with all improvements thereon," the formal transfer being made September 20, 1910, at the Twenty-Eight National Convention. The Convention ordered that a bronze tablet be erected to memorialize the patriotic work of the *Woman's Relief Corps*, in preserving and beautifying this spot where thousands suffered martyrdom rather than forsake the Stars and Stripes. This memorial, beautiful in form and conception, was dedicated and presented to the United States Government on the Thirtieth of May, 1911, and its erection marks the culmination of the work of the *Woman's Relief Corps* for "Andersonville."

....[Source: Red Book, Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, 1934 - Containing the Constitution and Rules and Regulations of the National Woman's Relief Corps, Pgs 15-16, published by The Boehner Binder Company of Aurora, Illinois, 1934.](#)

Caring for the Men – Civil War Medicine (part 6 - final)

The staff, aside from the medical officers and hospital stewards, was mostly made up of the convalescents. They were frequently weak and weary, often snappish and irritable. They did not like the dirty work they performed. They wanted to go home. The surgeon-in-charge, as the hospital commander was titled, was often in a dilemma. If he returned the patient to his regiment too soon, the man might relapse or die on the road to his unit. If he tried to hold on to the man too long, he might be forcibly returned to his regiment; and if he prevailed upon an inspector to give a medical discharge, he would be losing an attendant who had learned something about his work, and would be forced to rely on a new man who knew nothing. Union and Confederate surgeons-in-charge faced the same problem, although occasionally in Southern hospitals there were hired blacks of both sexes. These people were considered only marginally successful. Some attempts in the North to use cheap male labor as hospital attendants proved unsatisfactory, the men being undisciplined, a "saucy lot" who even stole from the patients.

The brilliant results of Florence Nightingale in cleaning up the Crimean hospitals had been widely noted, with the result that early on it was decided that a corps of female nurses should be added to the army, with Dorothea Dix their superintendent. Miss Dix was widely known as a reformer of jails and as the "founder" of several state mental hospitals. Devoted and hard working, she was disorganized, unyielding in controversy, and deeply in the grip of Victorian ideals of propriety. Allowed to choose the nurses and to set the rules, she announced that her appointees must be at least thirty and plain in appearance, and must always dress in plain, drab dresses and never wear bright-colored ribbons. They could not associate with either surgeons or patients socially, and they must always insist upon their rights as the senior attendants in the wards.

It was not long before outraged surgeons virtually went to war with Miss Dix's nurses, frustrating them, insulting them, trying to drive them from the hospitals. These were strong-minded middle-class American women, accustomed to ruling within the home and to receiving the respectful attention of their husbands and male acquaintances. For the most part they had no nursing training. The surgeons complained that they often substituted their own nostrums for the drugs prescribed and that they sometimes were loud and interfering when attempting to prevent amputations.

As time passed, younger and less self-righteous nurses began to appear in the army, furnished by the *Western Sanitary Commission* or some other relief agency. Some surgeons learned to suppress their male-chauvinist behavior. In September 1863, the War Department approved a new nurse policy that, although ostensibly a victory for Miss Dix, really defeated her. Under this edict, hospital commanders could send away Dix appointed nurses but were forced to accept Dix appointed replacements unless the surgeon general authorized the appointment of someone the surgeon-in-charge preferred. The surgeon general was always willing. In fact, the female nurses were much liked by the patients and were not so much nurses as mother-substitutes. They wrote letters for their "boys," read to them, decorated the wards with handsome garlands, and sometimes sang. Both armies used small contingents of Catholic nuns in certain general hospitals. They came from the *Sisters of Charity*, the *Sisters of St. Joseph*, the *Sisters of Mercy*, and the *Sisters of the Holy Cross*. Having been teachers, some lacked previous hospital experience, but surgeons liked them because they had been bred to discipline. The patients liked them too, but called them all *Sisters of Charity*.

Hospital food improved perceptively when women matrons took over the supervision of kitchens. These women came from various sources, many supplied by the *United States Christian Commission*, a large organization that donated delicacies to hospitals but considered the saving of souls, by passing out religious tracts, its principal mission.

Because of the great fame of Clara Barton, and some women like her, an impression prevailed that women functioned in hospitals in the field. This was seldom the case. Miss Barton might best be described as a one-woman relief agency. However, the strong-minded but winning "Mother" Mary Ann Bickerdyke became so popular that in 1864, General W. T. Sherman officially appointed her to his own corps hospital. Women could be found serving in various ways in Confederate hospitals, too, but the bulk of them were hired black cooks and washerwomen. In the conservative South there was a wide spread feeling that a military hospital was no place for a lady. Only in Richmond were there significant numbers of women working in the city's many hospitals.

At the end of 1861, Washington had only 2,000 general hospital beds. The great slaughters of the *Peninsular Campaign*, with the *Second Battle of Bull Run* immediately after, followed shortly by *Antietam*, flooded the hospitals of the Washington area and Baltimore and Philadelphia as well. Adaptation went so far as converting the halls of the Pension Office, with cots among the exhibitions, the Georgetown jail, and the House and Senate in the Capitol. From August 31 to the end of 1862, 56,050 cases were treated in Washington. Many of these adaptations were closed in 1863, replaced by modern pavilion hospitals. At the end of 1864, the city contained sixteen hospitals, many of them large and fine. There were seven at nearby Alexandria and one each at Georgetown and Point Lookout, Maryland. Outstanding was Harewood, said to resemble an English nobleman's estate, with professionally landscaped grounds, flower gardens, and a large vegetable garden. Its building consisted of fifteen large pavilions with appropriate service buildings and some tents.

The Western showpiece was Jefferson Hospital at Jeffersonville, Indiana, just across the river from Louisville. Built in the winter of 1863-64 with 2,000 beds, later increased to 2,600, at war's end it had plans for 5,000 beds. Its most interesting architectural feature was a circular corridor 2,000 feet long from which projected twenty-four pavilions, each 175 feet long.

By the last year of the war, there were 204 Union general hospitals with beds for 136,894 patients. This proved to be the maximum. In February 1865, the United States began closing down its hospitals. The many men and women, North and South, who served in the hospital and sanitary service during the war were justly proud of their achievements. The morbidity and mortality rates of both armies showed marked improvement over those of other nineteenth-century wars, particularly America's last conflict, the war with Mexico. In that war, 90 percent of the deaths were from nonbattle causes. In contrast, in the Civil War, some 600,000 soldiers died, but in the Union Army 30.5 percent of them died in or from battle, and in the Confederate Army the percentage ran to 36.4. Clearly, the physicians and sanitarians had held down the disease mortalities to levels that their generation considered more than reasonable. Better, they made some few halting strides in treatment and medication, and considerable leaps in the organization of dealing with masses of wounded and ailing soldiers. It was a ghastly business for doctors and patients alike; yet without the medicos in blue and gray, much of the young manhood of America at mid-century might not have survived for the work of rebuilding.source: *Caring For the Men – The History of Civil War Medicine*, www.civilwarhome.com/medicinehistory.htm



Left: Politicians, guest speakers, dignitaries, veterans, and spectators salute



Right: Brother Dale Leach poses by a large patriotic poster



Left: A portion of the Color Guard poses at attention on one side of the tribute to the fallen veteran's memorial. City Hall stands in the background. The rest of the unit (not seen) stands on the opposite side of the memorial. Pictured here are, from right: Tom Whitesides, James Hackett, Stephen Schulze, Michael Lance, and Lanny Low.



Disabled veterans in the parade were appropriately given great applause.



A large number of very talented and attractive school and cadet bands entertained the parade spectators with their athleticism, originality, and musical skills.

....A tip of the kepi goes to Ed Krempel for these and his other fine photos submitted for this newsletter



*Liendo Plantation
Near Hempstead Texas
November 20, 2010*

One company of the soon-to-be victorious Federal force sends a greeting of lead toward the defending Rebel army

*“I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives.
I like to see a man live so that his place
will be proud of him.*

Abraham Lincoln

Flatboatman, Storekeeper, Postmaster,
Surveyor, Lawyer, State Legislator, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives,
And 16th President of the United States
(1809–1865)