

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

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



Harriet Lane

June 2009

Volume 17

Number 2

From the Commander's Tent

I feel that words are so inadequate to express my appreciation and gratitude to the members of this Camp for giving me the opportunity to serve them as Commander. I am both honored and humbled by your confidence in me. I have had the privilege and honor of serving as an officer under Past Camp Commanders Jim Hackett, and Stephen Schultze, and I'm grateful for their example of past leadership. I can only hope to live up to the example that they have set. Their accomplishments are a hard act to follow, but I will do my best to build on the foundation that both of these honorable Past Camp Commander have lain before me.

The Camp has started the year on a high note with our annual Memorial Service on January 9th, honoring our camp's namesake, Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea, USN, and his ultimate sacrifice on behalf of the Union. This year's event was certainly one of the coldest events we will probably ever endure. I could never have imagined that I would have to put on thermal underwear under these normally hot, wool uniforms, but this year's event certainly made that a necessity. Despite the incredibly cold weather, we had quite a few spectators this year. I feel that this year's annual Commemoration Ceremony was one of our better efforts. My thanks to all who helped organize and stage the event. We were especially honored to have our National Past Commander in Chief, Brother Keith Harrison, participate in our commemoration, and who also installed this year's officers. We were honored to have our Department of Texas Commander, George Hansen in attendance as well. I also want to thank Tom Whitesides and the members of Co. A, 13th U.S. Infantry, who along with members of the Camp made up our firing party. I would also like to thank Doug McBee and the members of the John Bell Hood Camp, SCV, for their participation as well.

On Feb. 13th, our camp participated as part of a joint effort with our camp's Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary and the Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4, DUVCW, to place a GAR marker on the grave of Sarah Emma Edmundson Seelye, who is buried in the GAR plot in Washington cemetery. Ms. Seelye served in the Army of the Potomac as a nurse and spy, and was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic George B. McClellan Post #9 here in Houston prior to her death. All who attended agreed that our memorial service honoring the only female member of the GAR, was one of the most moving ceremonies they had ever attended.

This year promises to be a busy one. Speaking of the Grand Army of the Republic, as Commander, I will be working to revive some of the ceremonial services and rituals of our illustrious predecessor organization, the GAR. You will begin to see evidence of these traditions as we slowly re-introduce our camp to our rich history and heritage. April will find us traveling to various high schools in the area to present a number of awards to deserving JROTC cadets. It is certainly gratifying to know that there are still young people in our schools who put service to our country ahead of their own personal desires. I am encouraged every time I attend one of these award ceremonies, and I would encourage each of our members to make it a point to try to attend one this April. It will certainly change your perspective about tomorrow's leaders.

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 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. David 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. 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. Thomas H. Penney

Mr. James R. Perry

Mr. Zachery K. Powers

Mr. Joel D. Reed +

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. Mark S. Shackelford +

Mr. Scott D. Shuster

Mr. James M. Sigler +

Mr. Bartley N. Stockton

Mr. Stephen W. Tanner

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

Cpl. Erzelon (Zeal) Russell Mason

Pvt. Andreas Pfothenhauer

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 Appfel

Master at Arms Edwd S. Herford

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

Cpl. Thomas Penney

Pvt. James R. Cook

Pvt. Wilson Keffer

Pvt. Alexander Reed

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. Andrew Stevenson

Pvt. John S. Darling

Pvt. William Henry Sigler

William R. Reck

Cpl. Jacob John Tanner

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 Reg. Missouri Infantry

Co. K, 44th U.S. Colored Infantry

Co. D, 1st New York Mounted Rifles

Co. E, 115th Reg. Indiana Infantry

Co. B, 52nd Reg. 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 Reg. Illinois Infantry

15th Regiment, Maine Infantry

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Co. F, 86th Reg. IL Vol. Infantry

Indep Co Trumbull Guards, Ohio Infantry

Co. I, 18th Reg. Michigan Infantry

Co. F, 4th Reg. Missouri Infantry

Co. C, 49th Regiment Illinois Infantry

Co. C, 20th Reg. Indiana Infantry

Co. C, 2nd Illinois Light Infantry

4th Kentucky Mounted Infantry

Co. C, 4th Reg. Tennessee Vol. Infantry

Co. K, 7th Reg. Illinois Infantry

Co. H, 11th Reg., West Virginia Inf.

Co. A, 46th Reg. Iowa Volunteer Infantry

U.S.N.

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 Reg. Indiana Infantry

Co. E, 121st Reg. New York Infantry

Co. K, 63rd Reg. Ohio Vol. Infantry

Co. K, 63rd Reg. Ohio Vol. Infantry

Co. G, 8th Illinois Cavalry

Co. C, 3rd Reg. Wisconsin Infantry

Co. B, 8th Reg. West Virginia Infantry

Co. E, 3rd Tennessee Mounted Inf.

184th Reg. Ohio Infantry

103rd Reg. New York Infantry

103rd Reg. New York Infantry

103rd Reg. New York Infantry

Co. D, 9th Reg. Illinois Volunteers

Shields' 19th Indep Batt Ohio Light Arty.

Co. D, 28th Reg. Massachusetts

Co. A. 88th Regiment Ohio Infantry

Co. F, 171st Reg. Pennsylvania Infantry

Co. M, 3rd Reg., New York Cavalry

Co. F, 74th NY Inf., Co H, 40th NY Infantry

1st Reg. Nebraska Infantry

Battery B, 1st Btn Tenn. Lt Artillery

Battery B, 1st Btn Tenn. Lt Artillery

Co. I, 3rd Reg., Kentucky Cavalry

Co. D, Bracketts Btn, Minn. Cavalry

30th Reg. Pennsylvania Militia

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Key: ~ Charter Member * Past Camp Commander & Life Member + New Member ^ Associate Member # Honorary Member

Editor's Message

This issue of the *Harriet Lane* covers a much larger time frame than usual – and comes complete with a regiment-sized apology! The previous issue was distributed way back in the Fall of 2009. The large gap in publishing time was due to several reasons, all personal. However, I am back at the presses and eager to catch up! So, please accept my apology for tardiness and allow me to present this extended issue which, naturally, will cover a lot of ground! I will do my best to illustrate the activities of the Camp during the last several months with efficient use of words and photos.

Since the last issue of the *Harriet Lane* was distributed, nine new Brothers were inducted into the Camp (see the "Membership Muster" on page 2 and "New Members" on page 4-5)! Our Order continues to flourish and grow! Please join me in welcoming our new members!

I also want to extend a belated congratulations and a tip of the Kepi to our newly elected slate of Camp officers! Once again, we are fortunate to have a talented corps of Brothers step forward to fill the vital Camp positions. Brother LaBrot moves from serving as *Sr. Vice-Comdr.* to *Camp Comdr.*; Brother Hampton steps up from *Jr. Vice-Comdr.* to *Sr. Vice-Comdr.*; and Brother Holmes stepped forward to serve as *Jr. Vice-Comdr.* Brother Gary White continues once again to offer his expertise as *Secretary/Treasurer.* Brother Dale Leach has volunteered to serve as *Chaplain*, PCC James Hackett will lend his talents to the *Patriotic Instructor* position, Brother Tom Eishen will serve as *Signals Officer*, Brother John Schneider as *Counselor*, Brother John Lenas as *Guide*, Brother Harrison Moore as *Graves Registration Officer*; Brother Lance as *Historian*, and Brother Dave Burdette as *Color Bearer*. I encourage all Brothers to offer their support and assistance to these men as they work to advance the mission of the Camp. Without doubt, this should prove to be another outstanding year!

In F. C. & L,

Michael L. Lance

Editor

Camp Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
5 Jun 2010	Depart. of TX Encampment – 12:00 p.m. Note: Please RSVP to Comdr. LaBrot at: David.K.Labrot@wellsfargo.com	Carriage House - Clayton Genealogical Lib. 5300 Caroline, Houston, TX
8 Jun 2010	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Comdr. David LaBrot Topic: <i>Traditions of the GAR and SUVCW</i>	Spaghetti Warehouse Houston, TX
13 Jul 2010	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: TBA Topic: TBA	Spaghetti Warehouse Houston, TX
9 Aug 2010	No Monthly Meeting	--
14 Sep 2010	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: TBA Topic: TBA	Spaghetti Warehouse Houston, TX

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Senior Vice-Commander – Mr. Samuel F. Hampton	713-477-9609	Samham2@yahoo.com
Junior Vice-Commander – Steve Holmes	713-436-9741	stholmes@aol.com
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: **Kenneth A. Agans**

New member Kenneth A. Agans of LaVernia, Texas joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his gr-grandfather, Franklin Lowe, who served as a Private with Company E, 115th Regiment Indiana Infantry. Welcome, Brother Agans!

Introducing: **Joel Reed**

New member Joel Reed of Houston, Texas joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his gr-grandfather, Alexander Reed, who served as a Private with Company E, 3rd Tennessee Mounted Infantry. Welcome, Brother Reed!



Introducing: **Robert Berry**

New member Robert Berry joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his gr-gr-grandfather William Martin Berry who served as a Private with Company A, 76th Enrolled Missouri Military Regiment. Welcome, Brother Berry!



Introducing: **Joseph M. Ferguson**

New member Joseph Ferguson joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his great-great-grandfather, Edward Ebling, who served as a Private with Company C, 49th Regiment, Illinois Infantry. In addition to now being a member of the SUVCW, Joe is a member of the *Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States*, *Sons of the American Revolution*, and *Sons of Confederate Veterans*. Welcome, Brother Ferguson!

Introducing: **Mark S. Shackelford**

New member Mark Shackelford joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his great-great-grandfather, Andrew Stevenson, who served as a Private with Company A, 88th Regiment, Ohio Infantry. Welcome, Brother Shackelford!

Introducing: **Gregory Kent Helm**

New member Gregory Helm joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his gr-gr-grandfather Robert R. Campbell who served as a Private with Company H, 11th Regiment, West Virginia Infantry. Welcome, Brother Helm!

Introducing: **James M. Sigler**

New member James Sigler joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his gr-grandfather, William Henry Sigler, who served as a Private with Company M, 3rd Regiment, New York Cavalry. Welcome, Brother Sigler!

Introducing: **Joseph M. Tucker**

"My name is Joe Tucker and I am excited about being a new member of SUV and the camp. I have been very interested in American history all my life, with my favorite period of study being the Civil War era. I have been researching genealogy for the past 20 years and have enjoyed documenting my family's contributions to the creation of the Country as we now know it. Although I live in Texas now, I grew up in Illinois and have a northern background. I hope to be able to attend a meeting to meet everyone."



Brother Tucker joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his gr-gr-grandfather, Joseph Henry Wells, who served as a Private with Company I, 3rd Regiment, Kentucky Cavalry. Welcome, Brother Tucker!

Introducing: David Daniels

Being raised near the Gettysburg battlefield instilled in me the reverence for those who fought and died there. I first visited the Battlefield when I was 6-years old, and well remember attending the 100th Centennial Anniversary Reenactment. I remember when the "new" visitors center was built in 1962 that housed the Cyclorama, and the nearby famous Electric Map – been in both many, many times. I also remember standing on Devil's Den peering west into a deep, tangled woods and trying to figure out just how Longstreet's men managed to charge through it to take Smith's Battery atop Devil's Den.



Well, we can all take pride in knowing the National Park Service has quietly worked to restore the Battlefield to its original – or nearly so – condition. Now, when standing atop Smith's Battery you look upon an open field with – low and behold – a stone wall a third of the way into what used to be a dense woods. Clearly, Longstreet's men swarmed right up this field and onto Devil's Den. Gone now, too, is the original Visitor's Center and the Electric Map – both built smack dab on the line of Meade's line of defense on Cemetery Ridge – and that portion of the final onslaught is being restored as we speak. So, yes, I frequent Gettysburg at least once every year or two, and I like the changes.

I have been a closet Civil War-aholic my entire life thus far. My dear wife of 20-years had encouraged me to become a re-enactor, and only within the last year or so took the plunge. To my ever-lasting delight, a friend told me he spotted some Civil War guys at the Houston Gun Show this past October. Though not a gun enthusiast, I drove down and met Tom Gibson of the 11th Texas. After being assured a Yankee would be welcome, I joined up and started helping to prep for the *Liendo Plantation* event that took place the week before Thanksgiving last November. It was at that event that I "found" the 13th Federals, and was welcomed immediately by Dale Leach, Tom Whitesides, Steve Corey, Lanny and Pam Low, Howard Rose and Howard Story. The next morning I presented myself to Wil Gibson of the 11th Texas and thanked him for his kindness but that I would now be joining the 13th Federal.

Dale introduced me to David and Linda LaBrot at the S.U.V.C.W. tent. It turns out that David and Linda both worked on a Wells Fargo Habitat home – several over the years – while I worked at the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate. They were good workers with a cheery spirit to boot, as I recall. I was then directed to Mike Lance, who kindly talked me through the application process. Shortly thereafter a distant relation reconnected with me and I soon discovered my direct link to Erzelon "Zeal" Russell Mason who entered the war in 1862 as a private from Michigan, mustering out a corporal in 1865. Armed with this wonderful revelation, I happily and appreciatively accepted Dale Leach's invitation to be a guest visitor. At every turn, I have met with truly remarkable and embracing folks, and I will always cherish how Jim (Camp Commander Jim Hackett) took me under his wing at my first meeting. I look forward to supporting the best traditions of the S.U.V.C.W.

Note: Dave Daniels joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his ancestor, Erzelon (Zeal) Russell Mason. Mr. Mason served as a Corporal with Company I, 18th Michigan Infantry.

Message from PCC James Hackett

It's hard to believe that two years have passed since I took the helm of our camp. I feel a sense of sadness at stepping down but have full confidence in our new leader, Brother LaBrot. I am looking forward to the coming years with many new innovations and ideas to make the camp even more meaningful in the future. As I reflect on the past, there are certain aspects that stand out in my memory as milestones during my term in office, including: the acquisition and installation of the marker on Edward Lea's grave with all its voluminous paperwork and the help provided by Ed Cotham in making it happen; the many interesting and informative programs given by our members and others which added so much to our meetings; the outstanding work of the Auxiliary, led by Vali Reyes, in helping our troops and disabled vets have a better life; and the on-going faithful service of our Secretary/Treasurer Gary White in keeping on the right path in regard to proper procedures. In addition, there are many other things that I could mention, including: our outstanding newsletter *Harriet Lane*; the JROTC program; the Eagle Scout recognition events, etc. As I move on to my new post as *Patriotic Instructor* and PCC, I thank you all for your support and urge you to be as loyal to your new officers as you have been to me.

Yours in F. C. & L.

James S Hackett

Camp Meeting – 13 Oct 2009

The Camp meeting in October was held once again at the Spaghetti Warehouse restaurant in downtown Houston. It was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Cmdr. James Hackett. Eleven Brothers, 2 members of the *Ladies Auxiliary*, 2 guests, and 1 prospective member were in attendance. After the *Pledge of Allegiance*, an invocation was given by Brother Dale Leach. After the guests were recognized and welcomed, the minutes and financial report were reviewed and approved, and the committee reports given, discussion turned to planning for upcoming events: namely the *Lineage Fair* at the Clayton Genealogical Library; the *Civil War Weekend* at Liendo Plantation near Hempstead; and the annual *Battle of Galveston Commemoration*.



Commander James Hackett

Two new member applications were then reviewed, discussed and ultimately approved by a voice vote. The Camp continues to grow! Kenneth Agans and Joel Reed are now our newest members.

Brother Tom Eishen, representing the nominating committee, announced the recommended slate of Camp officers for 2010. They are: SVC David LaBrot – for Camp Commander; JVC Samuel Hampton – for SVC; Steve Holmes – for JVC; and Gary White – to repeat as Secretary/Treasurer.

As new business, Brother White recommended that the Camp participate in the *Wreaths Across America* event scheduled to take place at the Houston National Cemetery in December. The response was favorable to the idea. After a few additional announcements and comments, the benediction was offered by Brother Leach at 7:55 p.m. Cmdr. Hackett adjourned the meeting, calling for a short break before reassembling for a presentation from guest speaker, Brother Dave Burdette. His topic: *Prisoners of War During the War Between the States*.

During his presentation, Brother Burdette explained that ample written evidence is available graphically describing the ill treatment of prisoners and horrible prison camp conditions allowed by both the North and South during the war. Much was written because many veterans described the poor conditions to use them as a basis for their various illnesses when attempting to later obtain military pensions.

Although a prisoner exchange system was attempted early in the war, President Lincoln apparently did not favor it. He was reluctant to recognize the Confederacy as a sovereign state. Some prisoners were at extreme risk after Confederate President Jefferson Davis issued *Letters of Marque* to counter the North's Anaconda Plan – the attempt to blockade the Southern coastlines. Participating Rebel sailors were considered as pirates and were subject to be sentenced to hang if caught. The Confederacy responded by threatening to treat high-ranking Northern POW's the same way. Northern public opinion went against Lincoln's anti-POW exchange policy and finally moved Congress to act. The definition and conditions of parole were defined and actual procedures for the exchanges were hammered out (ie. 1 Lt. General equaled 40 Privates and 1 Major equaled 8 Privates). Even though both sides had problems putting the procedures in place, approximately 20,000 Confederates and 12,000 Union POW's were exchanged between July 1862 to May 1863.

The *Lieber Code* was written to provide rules to ensure that Confederate POWs were treated with humanity and as legitimate POWs. The Code was ultimately adopted around the world. After signing an oath of loyalty, some POWs were sent to Minnesota to fight Indians rather than to the front lines in order to avoid being caught and considered as traitors by the Confederates.



Guest speaker David Burdette

Circumstances got uglier after the North began enlisting Blacks. Out of fear of slave rebellion, the Confederates allowed no quarter to Black POWs or to the White officers leading them. The exchanges ended. The number of POWs began to grow. Shortages of provisions for them became acute. The North believed the Confederates deliberately tortured their POWs. They began to withhold provisions from Southern POWs, withdrew sutlers from prisons, and stopped building barracks. However, the Confederates had scarce resources. The Union POWs were moved to remote sites where there was little lumber to build with, rotten rations, and no supply lines. The prisons became overcrowded and miserable. Many died (ie. 28% at Andersonville – or 12,912 out of 45,000). A band of "Raiders" robbed and killed fellow POWs for loot and food. Some were caught and hanged. However, 33,000 survivors went home from Andersonville to tell their sad stories. Someone had to pay! The death rate at the Union prison Camp Elmira in New York, was 24% - from poor food and conditions, and sickness from poor sanitation. At Camp Douglas in Chicago, torture was sometimes employed (ie. "Hanging by the Thumbs", "Riding the Horse", etc.). 6,000 Rebel POWs died there – or 15%.

The November Camp meeting was called to order at the *Spaghetti Warehouse Restaurant* at 7:12 p.m. by Cmdr. James Hackett. After the *Pledge of Allegiance*, led by Brother Scott Shuster, the invocation was offered by JVC Samuel Hampton. Cmdr. Hackett then welcomed the attending members and guests. After the minutes from the previous meeting were approved, Secretary/Treasurer Gary White reported on the financial condition of the Camp. He reported that the major expected expenses for the year had been paid and the Camp still has sufficient funds in the bank to cover operating expenses. The financial statement was subsequently approved. The guest speakers for the next several months were then announced, including: December, Brother Lance; January, no speaker; February, Brother White; March, Brother Eishen; April, SVC David LaBrot.

SVC LaBrot, representing the *Recruiting Committee*, announced that the new recruiting tent had at last arrived. He has also assembled a new set of recruiting tools, including: a storyboard; computer internet access; a Civil War music CD for background sound; photo albums; and other literature, in order to make a major impression at the *Civil War Weekend* event at Liendo Plantation later in the month. Fundraising items have been procured and a new recruiting banner will be revealed at Liendo. Brother Eishen will be manning the recruiting tent at Liendo to autograph his book, *Courage of Little Round Top*, and give away posters.

The Camp was represented at the *Lineage Fair* held at the *Clayton Library Center for Genealogy Research* on Saturday, October 17, 2009 by Cmdr. Hackett and Brother Eishen. They reported the emphasis was on recruiting and they shared a table with the local DUVCW Tent. They also reported that the SCV was represented in force and recommended that our Camp put more effort into this event next year.

Volunteers were noted for the downtown Houston *Veterans Day* parade. The vols. will be joining *Co. A, 13th U.S. Regiment* in the parade. Plans to attend a *Veterans Day* event at Sea Wolf Park were tabled due to the unfavorable timing of the ceremonies there.

Planning for *Civil War Weekend* at Liendo Plantation near Hempstead, Texas was finalized. Volunteers were lined up for all three days (November 20-22, 2009). Participation is expected to be high. The *Ladies Auxiliary* will be selling homemade cookies and cockades in addition to supporting the Brothers.

On December 12, 2009, the Camp will send representatives to participate in the *Wreaths Across America* event at Houston National Cemetery.

New Camp member, Joel Reed was then sworn-in by Cmdr. Hackett after relating the interesting story of his Civil War ancestor. The Cmdr. then presented Brother Reed with a membership medal, membership card and certificate.

Planning continued for the annual *Battle of Galveston Commemoration* scheduled for January 9, 2010. *Auxiliary* President, Vali Reyes, volunteered to secure a restaurant meeting room for the Camp meeting scheduled to follow the activities at the cemetery.

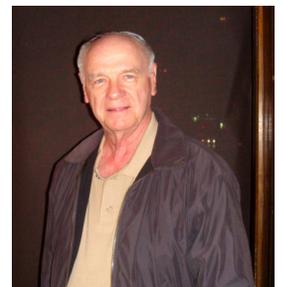
It was announced that Brother John Schneider has been entrusted with the position of Commander of the Texas Commandary - *Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States* (MOLLUS). He encouraged other qualified Brothers to join the organization.

Brother Dale Leach, representing the SVR, announced that the Texas delegation would muster on November 21st at Liendo Plantation. He also sought volunteers to serve as Adjutant and Commander.

Vali Reyes, President of the *Ladies Auxiliary*, then reported on their recent activities and plans. In addition to their recent Sock Drive to provide socks for the veterans at the Houston VA Hospital, the ladies sent patriotic gift bags to deployed service personnel. They have a Presidential Tea scheduled for February 2010 which will be attended by the Auxiliary National President from Virginia. They will also be raffling a bicycle for Christmas and will produce colorful hand-make cockades.

An invocation was offered by Brother Hampton at 9:00 p.m. and the meeting was then adjourned by Cmdr. Hackett.

After a short break, Brother John Lenes, retired Air Force, acted a guest speaker. He spoke of his life as a young man and his family working around the lumber industry in Washington State. A rare vintage video highlighted his presentation. The video was created from old reel-to-reel footage filmed in the early 1900's. It showed the logging industry up close at work utilizing equipment and techniques long since abandoned – many for safety reasons! The fascinating video gave a glimpse into the living and working conditions of those hearty, brave, and sometimes reckless souls who ventured to the wild far Northwest to provide the lumber for the 'civilized' world – the likes of which will never be seen again!



Brother John Lenes

Passing of an Old Soldier

It is my sad duty to inform the Camp that I have been notified of Brother Kenneth Vaughn's passing last September 6th, 2009. He was just a few weeks short of 90 years old at the time of his death. Brother Vaughn joined the Camp in 2001 on the service of his grandfather who served with the 3rd Minnesota Infantry. The Camp and the National Organization honored Brother Vaughn for his service in World War II with a presentation of a National Service plaque in 2006. He was the Camp's last remaining veteran of WW II. Brother Vaughn attended several Camp functions over the years including the *Memorial Day* ceremony at Houston National Cemetery and the annual *Battle of Galveston* ceremonies on numerous occasions in his period uniform of a medical orderly. The Camp has extended its sincerest condolences to Brother Vaughn's daughter and family.

In F, C & L,
Gary White, PCC

Wreaths Across America – Houston

It was a foggy, soggy day Saturday morning December 12, 2009. However, there was an important mission to accomplish that day. The Houston National Cemetery was the scene of a *Wreaths Across America* event. Over 15,000 people assembled at the cemetery to hear and observe a memorial service to honor our fallen heroes buried there. Many had come to volunteer with the wreath laying. This was reportedly the largest wreath laying ceremony in the country. Wreaths had been purchased by donors from all walks of Houston for \$15 each. Trucks donated by Wal-mart delivered the wreaths from Maine to Houston the day before. A procession of over 500 motorcycle riders accompanied the trucks that morning from the Wal-mart store on Shaver Street in Pasadena to the cemetery. In addition, over 100 Corvettes followed the trucks.



The Edward Lea Camp also had volunteers show up to participate in the activities. Brothers David LaBrot (Camp Cmdr.), Gary White (Secr./Treas.), Michael Lance, and Tom Eishen added a touch of color to the event. The *Ladies Auxilliary* was represented by Sister Linda LaBrot.

L-R: Michael Lance, David LaBrot, and Gary White stand near the Traveling Liberty Bell*.



After the speeches, prayers, and other tributes ended at the amphitheater, the huge crowd dispersed across the expansive cemetery to lay wreaths next to the gravestones. The SUV unit gathered up several handfuls of wreaths and assembled near a section of upright grave markers. As Brother White loudly called out the name, rank, and branch of service of each interred veteran, one at a time, Brother Eishen and Sister LaBrot laid the wreaths. Brothers LaBrot and Lance stood near at "Present Arms". After laying the wreaths, the unit reassembled at a wreath distribution point to hand out more wreaths to other volunteers.

L-R: Brothers White and LaBrot unpack and hand out wreaths.



A portion of the over 22,000 wreaths that were laid at the veteran's graves.

* The D.A.R. commissioned 70 exact replica Liberty Bells to be made to supply the need for bells for the bicentennial of the *Declaration of Independence*. This Bell was purchased by the Fort Worth Vietnam veterans for a war memorial for those who gave their last full measure of devotion for liberty in Vietnam. The Tarrant county fathers failed to uphold their promise to place the bell in downtown Fort Worth until the veterans agreed to render the bell mute suggesting it be filled with concrete. The veterans refused to be party to silencing the Liberty Bell. They decided to allow the bell to be used where the freedom for which they fought would be honored. The Associated Conservatives of Texas purchased the Bell in 2002 after displaying the bell for ten years. The Liberty Bell is of the same size and weight so the sound produced will be the same as that heard by our founding fathers. The same sound that called every meeting to order at the Pennsylvania State House, and inspired the men who wrote the *Articles of Confederation*, the *Declaration of Independence*, and the *Constitution of the United States* can be heard today by ringing this bell.

...source: http://www.proclaimliberty.us/wordpress/?page_id=9

Reserve Sailor of the Year



HOUSTON (NNS) -- Former President George H.W. Bush congratulated a Sailor from Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Houston, for his selection as Navy Region Southeast Reserve Component Command's Reserve Sailor of the Year (SOY).

Bush, a World War II veteran who was at one point the youngest naval aviator in the U.S. Navy, was on hand for the dedication of the Navy and Marine Corps wing of the Joint Forces Reserve Center at Ellington Field. The wing was named in honor of Bush. The former president also set aside time to personally recognize Legalman 1st Class Harrold Henck for the milestone achievement in his career.

"You're a true example of the citizen Sailor who gives freely of his time to serve our great nation," said Bush to Henck. "This award really shows your dedication. Keep up the good work."

"It was an honor to meet the president... but I felt like I should be thanking him... He's a real war hero," Henck said.

Henck, leading petty officer of Operational Support Unit 0823, was named NOSC SOY in a command of 1,100 selected Reservists before being selected as SOY in the U.S. Navy's largest Reserve region. The region encompasses seven states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. He will now compete with four other regional SOYs for the title of Commander, Navy Reserve Force SOY.source: Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Charles White, Navy Region Southeast Reserve Component Command Public Affairs, www.Navy.mil)

Note: Brother Harrold Henck is a Charter Member of the Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp #2 and is also a Past Camp Commander. Congratulations and a tip of the kepi to Brother Henck!

Camp Meeting – 11 May 2010

The monthly Camp meeting was conducted at the *Buffalo Soldiers National Museum* on Southmore Street in Houston on May 11th. The business portion of the meeting was relatively brief due to the interesting venue and it being held in conjunction with the 6th annual memorial program honoring the life of Warren W. White – the Civil War ancestor of Brother Steve Holmes. The program was also a celebration of *U. S. C. T. Freedom Fighters Founders Day* (May 22, 1863). That is the day that the *Bureau of the United States Colored Troops* was established authorizing Negro's to serve in the armed forces of the United States.



Camp Cmdr. David LaBrot presides

Immediately following the official Camp business, a short historical video was presented which recognized the contributions made by Blacks in the U.S. armed services over the years. Following the video, Brother Holmes, the organizer of the *1st Texas Sons and Daughters United States Colored Troops – Warren W. White Chapter*, gave an entertaining and interesting talk about the life and times of his Civil War ancestor, Pvt. Warren White, *Co. K, 44th U.S. Colored Infantry* – who later continued to serve as a *Buffalo Solder*. Besides many Brothers and Ladies Auxiliary members of the *Edward Lea* camp, several members of Brother Holmes' family were also present for the memorial tribute.



Brother Holmes entertains while informing



Brother Holmes conducts the museum tour

A tour of the artifact-laden museum was enjoyed by all following the presentations. Brother Holmes held everyone's attention as he described the history and uses of many of the objects in the collection.

I sincerely trust that your Memorial Day was memorable. I wanted to take the opportunity to thank every camp member who participated in Memorial Day ceremonies yesterday, wherever they might have been held. The *Edward Lea Camp* had one of the biggest turnouts ever for the events honoring our nation's dead at the Houston National Cemetery. Despite the heat, our members gave a good account for themselves, either in the *Parade of Flags*, as part of the musket firing party, or as part of the artillery crew firing a Civil War cannon in salute to our honored dead. Gov. Rick Perry was the keynote speaker at this year's event, and a good-sized crowd showed up.



Federal cannon crew seen operating beside 1 of 3 Rebel artillery units. Blue uniforms L-R: Brothers White, Schulze, Hackett, and Hampton.



Brothers Leach and Lockwood participate with Co. A, 13th U.S. Infantry Reg. for the salute volley.



Parade of Flags queue. L-R: Brothers Hackett, LaBrot, White, Eishen, Shuster, Lance, and Daniels (mostly hidden behind U.S. flag).



Parade of Flags queue. L-R: Brothers White, Hampton, Eishen, Aux. Sister Emma Valdes, and Brothers Leach (mostly hidden), Shuster and Daniels.

After a quick lunch at the Spaghetti Warehouse, we joined the *Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War*, as well as our own *Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary #1*, for the tradition of laying flowers on the graves of the GAR members, including Sara Emma Seelye, who are interred in Glenwood and Washington Cemeteries.



Lunch at the Spaghetti Warehouse restaurant. L-R: Brothers James Hackett (PCC), Scott Shuster, Gary White (Secr/Treas), Stephen Schulze (PCC), David LaBrot (Cmdr.), Samuel Hampton (SVC), Auxiliary Sisters Betty Hampton and Emma Valdes, and Brother Michael Lance.

(Continued on next page)

At this short service, in addition to placing flowers and American flags on each of these 19 graves, we established a "Roll Call of Honor" to be read each Memorial Day. As Camp Commander, I read the name of each of our camp members' ancestor, and when called, his descendant, if present, called out "Present". While the idea for this honor roll came from another camp, it gave us, as a camp, a chance to publicly recognize those, whose service to our country in it's most desperate hour, gave us our rights to membership in the SUVCW. After the services, many commented that this is a tradition that we should continue. I sincerely trust that your Memorial Day was memorable.



Left: Cmdr. David LaBrot conducting the ceremonial service. L-R: Jim Hackett (PCC), David LaBrot, Gary White (Secr/Treas), Jamie Reed (DUVCW), and Emma Valdes (SUVCW Auxiliary).

Right: Auxiliary Sister Valdes lays a red rose at the grave of Sarah Emma Seelye.



Left: Brothers Samuel Hampton (SVC) and Michael Lance at "Present Arms" during "Roll Call of Honor".

Right: Showing respect during the playing of Taps. L-R: Jim Hackett, David LaBrot, Gary White, Jamie Reed (DUVCW), Joel Reed, Scott Shuster, Emma Valdes (Auxiliary), and Martha Class (DUVCW)



L-R: Brothers Michael Lance, Joel Reed, David LaBrot (Cmdr.), Gary White (Secretary/Treasurer), Scott Shuster, and Samuel Hampton (SVC) pose behind grave marker of Sarah Emma Seelye (with red rose on top and larger flag).



Left: Auxiliary Sisters Emma Valdes and Betty Hampton behind grave marker of Sarah Emma Seelye.

Right: DUVCW Sisters Sheryl Parker, Martha Class (President), and Jamie Reed (Sr. Vice-President) behind grave marker of Sarah Emma Seelye.



.....Event recap submitted by David LaBrot, Photos and captions by Michael Lance

Announcement - Upcoming Event

I regret that I will not be able to take part this Memorial Day. My uniform is currently on loan to the *Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History* in Bryan, Texas as part of a display announcing the opening of the Lee and Grant exhibition from the *National Endowment for the Humanities*. The exhibit will open on June 16 and continue to August, but the formal opening will take place on June 26th. This will be a day long event, including the following:

- 3:00 p.m. - Dr. Charles Greer, will give a talk on "*Why Texans Fought in the Civil War*", his new book.
- 4:00 p.m. - A Black Powder demonstration. The Camp is invited to come in uniform and take part in the presentation.
- 5:00 p.m. - A play entitled "*The Resurrection of General Harriet Tubman, For Literacy*" will be presented by Melissa Waddy-Thibodeaux,
- 6:00 p.m. - There will be a reception and vocal performance of period music by Maureen Broy, an opera singer.

Please put this event on your calendar and make plans to attend. It should be an enjoyable event and the 2,000 square foot exhibit will be worth the trip. The Museum would also like to invite each member of the Camp who might be interested in visiting on any day the Lee and Grant exhibition is open to the public to attend, in uniform if you like, to act as a docent to greet visitors and share your knowledge of the War. Those who volunteer will, of course, not be charged the normal admission and your presence will be very greatly appreciated. I plan on spending several days doing this. By the way, my friend and yours, Bill Boyd who frequently attends camp meetings with me in Houston (my guard when I am in my "prisoner of war" status) is now a trustee of the museum, as I am also. Please contact me if you would like additional information.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Dave Burdett

Sarah's Sidelines - SUVCW Auxiliary

Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary #1 held their 3rd Annual President's Tea on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at First Baptist Church in Dickinson, Texas. The *Auxiliary* anxiously awaited the arrival of the *National Auxiliary* President, Nancy Greenwalt Hilton, to come to "Take Tea in Texas". All were excited to have her as their honored guest. However, due to inclement weather, she was unable to attend. All guests in attendance were disappointed by her unexpected absence but were pleased with the extensive program: which included:



The Tea beginning with a procession by *Auxiliary* Sisters and Camp Brothers, to the hymn, "He Leadeth Me." The Colors were then posted by the 11 girl Scouts and Brownies of the *New Faith Church Flag Corp.*

Left: Brother Dale Leach then offered the opening invocation.

Right: Brother Tom Eishen spoke on "Women of Gettysburg: Before, During and After the Battle."



J'Neen Henderson, *The Victorian Lady*," delighted the crowd with her presentation of "The Language of Parasol and Fan."



Left: Cmdr. David LaBrot then gave a moving account of "The Sultana Disaster."

Paige Anderson, *Auxiliary* Junior Member, recited, "O Flag of Our Union."

Right: Brother Steve Holmes spoke on the Civil War Colored Troops (USCT) and his ancestor Warren W. White.

Larry Johnson of the 15th *Texas Infantry* spoke on his Confederate ancestor Allen White. Jana Marsh, *Auxiliary* Secretary, gave a brief biography of Sarah Emma Seelye. Brother Dale Leach gave an historical account of *The Battle of Galveston*. And a Manual of Arms demonstration was given by the 19th *Living History Association First Texas Infantry*.



Sarah's Sidelines - SUVCW Auxiliary

David Williford exhibited a Civil War Battlefield Diorama. Cindy Gernand, representing the *Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council*, presented the *Auxiliary* with a Certificate of Recognition for its work with the Girl Scouts. Music was provided by Bonnie Karger, pianist, who played patriotic and many other pieces, including "The Maple Leaf Rag," by Scott Joplin. Brother Leach offered the closing Benediction and then the Colors were retired by the Girl Scouts Flag Corp.



Left: The Auxiliary was assisted once again by volunteer Carole Leach who prepared her delicious tea sandwiches and savory morsels which were enjoyed by guests.

The *Auxiliary* sisters worked tirelessly preparing for the Tea along with volunteers: Beverly McLawchlin, Paulette Roeder, and Carole Leach. Thank you to all those who attended and helped support our President's Tea 2010.

...submitted by Vali Reyes - Auxiliary President

Note: Additional photo on back page

DUVCW News - Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4

The Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4 met on Saturday, November 14 at the Heritage Museum of Montgomery County - Grogan/Cochran Home in Conroe, Texas. In attendance were: Martha Class (President); Jamie Reed (SV President); Jean Barnhill (Patriotic Instructor); Stacey Brown (Secretary); Claire Mahaffey; and Marilyn Sigler. *Lt. Cmdr Edward Lea USN Camp #2* Cmdr. David LaBrot and retired Colonel James Sigler were our guests. Everyone present was treated to a wonderful lunch prepared by Mrs. Barnhill, who also gave a presentation about "The Saga of Unknown Civil War Soldier & Rebel Park". It is the story about the grave of the unknown Confederate Soldier that is located in Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana. After her Rebel Park presentation, Mrs. Barnhill took us on a guided tour of the Heritage Museum and discussed her volunteer duties at the Museum.

During the meeting, Brother LaBrot gave a report for the *Good of the Order* which highlighted the Camp's upcoming activities and his desire to acquire an Historical Marker for Sarah Emma Edmonds Seelye who is buried at Washington Cemetery in Houston, TX.

February 13, 2010 Special Tent Meeting - Sarah Emma Edmonds Seelye Memorial & Grave Dedication:

To honor of the 3rd Anniversary of the chartering of the *Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4* that took place on February 11, 2010, our Tent had a special meeting on Saturday, February 13 at the home of Shari Muller, Tent Historian. In attendance were: Martha Class, President; Patricia Wood, Chaplain; Susan Trovillion Salm, PTP; Marilyn Sigler; and retired Col. James Sigler, husband of Marilyn.

After a wonderful lunch prepared by Ms. Muller, the meeting was adjourned. The attendees then traveled to Washington Cemetery for the *Sarah Emma Edmonds Seelye Memorial & Grave Dedication*. Joining the Tent at the Memorial were several members of the *Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea USN Camp #2*, including: Cmdr. David LaBrot; SVC Sam Hampton; Michael Lance; Secr./Treas. Gary White; and PCC James Hackett. The *Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary #1* was represented by: President Vali Reyes; Secr. Jana Marsh; Betty Hampton, Linda LaBrot, and Paige Anderson. Gus and Bernice Mistrot, members of the *Harris County Historical Commission*, local affiliate of the Texas Historical Commission, were also present during the ceremony as observers for the Washington Cemetery.



Jana Marsh (Aux.) places a wreath on the grave. Guard - Michael Lance.

The graveside ceremony, conducted by Cmdr. LaBrot, closely followed a 1917 GAR grave dedication service. The Brothers of the Lea Camp laid a wreath on Sarah Emma Edmonds Seelye's grave and placed a small flag beside it. The tools of the soldier, a musket, canteen, and haversack, were also propped on the marker. A gun salute immediately followed.



Vali Reyes (Aux.) places a red rose in front of the headstone. Guard - Michael Lance.

Then members of the *Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary* laid a single red rose, grapevine wreath, and rose petals at her

(Continued on next page)

grave. The finale was the placement of a GAR marker by the Presidents of the *Sarah Emma Edmonds Tent* and the *Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary*. Before the GAR marker was placed in the ground, Ms. Class read a poem written by Patricia Mullenix, PNP, DUVCW, entitled, "The Knot of Blue and Gray".

After the ceremony, it was discovered that in addition to the GAR plot where Sarah Emma Edmonds Seelye is buried along with her comrades, there is another GAR plot located in Section H of Glenwood Cemetery.



Brothers of the *Edward Lea Camp #2* pose beside the grave of Sarah Emma Edmonds Seelye.
L-R: Samuel Hampton, David LaBrot, Gary White, James Hackett, and Michael Lance.



Ladies Auxiliary.
L-R: Paige Anderson, Vali Reyes, Jana Marsh, Betty Hampton, and Linda LaBrot.



SUV Auxiliary members stand on the left side of Sarah Emma Edmonds Seelye's grave and members of the *Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4 DUVCW* stand on the right side.
L-R: *Auxiliary* members - Linda LaBrot, Jana Marsh, Paige Anderson, Vali Reyes, Betty Hampton.
L-R: *Tent* members - Shari Muller, Historian; Martha Class, President; Susan Salm, Past Tent President; Marilyn Sigler, Charter member; Patricia Wood, Chaplain.

... Respectively Submitted by Martha Class, President/Registrar/Webmaster, Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4, DUVCW

As to technique, the amputating surgeons had a choice of the “flap” operation or the “circular,” both quite old. The former was quicker but enlarged the wound; the latter, when properly done, opened up a small area to infection. By the end of the war, a small majority preferred the flap. The frequency of amputations was much questioned at the time. Yet, considering the condition of the patients, the difficulties of transportation, and the septic condition of the hospitals, amputations probably saved lives rather than limbs.

Men wounded in the abdomen by gunshot frequently died of peritonitis if they had not already bled to death from serious arterial injuries. Wounds of the head and the neck were frequently mortal. Some surgeons in both armies experimented for a while in sealing chest wounds. They would plug the wound with collodion, (a flammable, syrupy solution of pyroxylin in ether and alcohol) relieving the dreadful dyspnea, breathlessness, of the patient, but sealing in such infections as entered with the bullet. These cases were likely to be mortal, but the operator seldom knew because the patient was soon evacuated to a general hospital. As for the frightful looking sabers and bayonets, they inflicted barely 2 percent of the wounds, most of which usually healed.

Surgical fevers disheartened the doctors. Four of five days after a wound operation, the patient would be recovering well, producing copious pus. Then suddenly the pus stopped, the wound dried, and the patient ran a terrific fever. Despite drugs, the patient would very likely be dead in three or four days. The diagnosis was blood poisoning. Erysipelas [*a skin infection*] also affected both armies. With a case mortality of 40 percent, it received serious attention. It was recognized by a characteristic rash, and it was thought by some to be airborne, with the result that both Unionists and Confederates took steps to isolate erysipelas patients in separated tents or wards. The surgeons were in the dark as to how to treat this affliction, but it was noted that if iodine was painted on the edges of a wound, its further extension was stopped.

Civil War surgeons had not only iodine but carbolic acid as well, and a long list of “disinfectants” such as bichloride of mercury, sodium hypochlorite, and other agents. The trouble was that the wound was allowed to become a raging inferno before disinfectants were tried. However, one of the good features of Civil War surgery was that anesthetics were almost always used in operations or the dressing of painful wounds. It was practically universal in the Union, and despite mythology, anesthetics were very seldom unavailable in the Confederacy. The almost universal favorite was chloroform, probably because ether’s explosive quality made it dangerous at a field hospital operating table, where there was always the possibility of enemy gunfire.

With the coming of the big battles of 1862, both armies more or less simultaneously evolved larger and better field hospitals. First, regimental hospitals clustered together as brigade hospitals with some differentiation of duty for the various medical officers and with the chief surgeon of the brigade in charge. Soon brigade hospitals clustered into division hospitals and by 1864 in most field armies there were corps hospitals. There the best surgeons would operate; one surgeon would be in charge of records, another of drugs, another of supplies, and yet another would direct and treat the sick and lightly wounded who were the nurses.

In time for Antietam, the *Army of the Potomac*, under its medical director Jonathan Letterman, developed the Letterman Ambulance Plan. In this system, the ambulances of a division moved together, under a mounted line sergeant, with two stretcher-bearers and one driver per ambulance, to collect the wounded from the field, bring them to the dressing stations, and then take them to the field hospital. It was a vast improvement over the earlier “system,” wherein bandsmen in the Union command, and men randomly specified in the Confederacy, were simply appointed to drive the ambulances and carry the litters. Frequently the most unfit soldiers were detailed, which often meant that, not being good fighters, they were little better as medical assistants. Often in the first year of the war, they got drunk on medicinal liquor and ignored their wounded comrades in order to hide themselves from enemy fire.

Such improved organization was copied or approximated in the other field armies despite loud opposition from the Quartermaster Corps, which wanted to keep control of ambulances and drivers, and from some field commanders, of whom Major General Don Carlos Buell of the Army of the Ohio was notable for non-cooperation.

....(to be continued).

....source: *Caring For the Men – The History of Civil War Medicine*, www.civilwarhome.com/medicinehistory.htm



The Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary #1 held their 3rd Annual President's Tea on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at the First Baptist Church in Dickinson, Texas. During the program, the Sarah E. Seelye Merit Award was presented by the Auxiliary Sisters to Alexandra Miller, for her accomplishments in earning the Girl Scout Gold Award.

L-R Front row: Heather Clark, Paige Anderson, recipient Alexandra Miller, Secretary Jana Marsh, and President Vali Reyes.

L-R Back row: Sue Lenes, Betty Hampton, Treasurer Norma Pollard (not shown in photo Terri Spencer).

Heroism is latent in every human soul - However humble or unknown, they (the veterans) have renounced what are accounted pleasures and cheerfully undertaken all the self-denials - privations, toils, dangers, sufferings, sicknesses, mutilations, life-long hurts and losses, death itself - for some great good, dimly seen but dearly held.

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain