

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

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



Harriet Lane

Dec 2011

Volume 18

Number 4

From the Commander's Tent



It has been my highest honor to serve as Camp Commander of the *Lt. Commander Edward Lea, USN, Camp #2*. We have a truly inspiring group of brothers.

I wish to thank each of you who have given of your time and assets to support me in furthering the objectives of the *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*, and in honoring our collective Civil War Ancestors. The harmony you have consistently shown and your continuous willingness to work for the Good of the Order, has been truly wonderful!

Here are some of the highlights of the year that stand out and will always remain fondly in my memory.

- The Flag Day Observance Honoring Private William Sheldon Robinson on Saturday, June 11, 2011 at Hypolite Cemetery in Hitchcock, Texas. Who could ever forget that extremely warm day and the beautiful ceremony organized so well, of course, by President Vali Reyes and the ladies of the *Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary #1*?
- The record drought conditions which caused an extreme danger of fire, and kept us from our annual event and fundraiser at Liendo Plantation. But that loss was certainly made up with the successful and enjoyable events that took place: at the National Cemetery on Memorial Day and during the Wreaths Across America ceremonies; at City Hall on Veterans Day – and the parade through downtown that followed; and all the interesting and enjoyable presentations that were given by guest speakers at our monthly meetings.
- Department Commander LaBrot organized and led us, putting in a maximum effort, in an unforgettable headstone dedication ceremony on Oct 22, 2011 for Civil War Soldiers buried in the historic Palacios Cemetery in Matagorda County, Texas.

It was a wonderful year indeed and I thank you all for the support you have given me!

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Samuel Hampton - Camp Commander

[Contents](#)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1... From the Commander's Tent | 6... Veteran's Day 2011 |
| 2... Membership Muster | 7... Tribute to Our Past Camp Commanders |
| 3... Editor's Message | 8... Wreaths Across America – Houston 2011 |
| 3... Camp Calendar | 9... Sarah's Sidelines |
| 4... Contact Information | 10... DUVCW News – Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4 |
| 4... New Members – Allerton and Colley | 10... At the "Death Angle" |
| 5... New Member – Conrad Schneider | 12... Wreaths Across America (continued) |
| 5... Upcoming Event – Battle of Galveston Commem. | 12... Quote by Abraham Lincoln |

Membership Muster

Camp Member

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

Mr. William Allerton III +

Mr. Mark H. Andrus
 Mr. Curtiss Mitchell Beinhorn
 Mr. Robert A. Berry
 Mr. Michael T. Boyd
 Mr. William C. Boyd
 Mr. William E. Boyd ^
 Mr. William C. Buell
 Mr. William D. Burdette – Color Bearer
 Mr. William D. Campbell *
 Mr. Lawrence K. Casey Jr. &
 Mr. Clifford Dale Cates ^
 Mr. Philip M. Cavanaugh
 Mr. Thor Eric Chester

Mr. Richard S. Colley +

Mr. Thomas F. Coughlin
 Mr. Charles L. Duke
 Mr. Stephen F. Duncan
 Mr. Thomas M. Eishen – Signals Officer, Webmaster
 Mr. Joseph M. Ferguson
 Mr. James Maurice Foster
 Mr. James S. Hackett - Patriotic Instructor *
 Mr. Kenneth H. Harrington
 Mr. Steve M. Hart
 Mr. Gregory K. Helm
 Mr. Harrold K. Henck Jr. ~ *
 Mr. Henry G. Herford Jr.
 Mr. Berton W. Hoyt
 Mr. Thomas A. Jackson
 Mr. Thomas I. Jackson
 Mr. Robert L. Julian ~ *
 Mr. George Garrett Keast
 Mr. James Brian Keast
 Mr. Larry George Keast
 Mr. David K. LaBrot * - Dept Commander

Mr. Michael L. Lance - Historian, Newsletter, Council
 Mr. Dale H. Leach – Chaplain
 Mr. John P. Lenes - Guide
 Mr. James R. Lesmeister
 Mr. John L. Lesmeister
 Mr. Mark J. Lesmeister
 Mr. Dean Letzring *
 Mr. Kurt A. Letzring
 Mr. Robert L. Lockwood - Council
 Mr. Randall S. McDaniel
 Mr. Faber F. McMullen III
 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. Timothy Phillips
 Mr. Joel D. Reed
 Mr. Jason L. Richards
 Mr. Randall D. Scallan – Past Chaplain

Mr. Conrad T. Schneider +

Mr. John E. Schneider Sr. - Counselor
 Mr. John E. Schneider Jr.
 Mr. Michael Schneider
 Mr. Stephen D. Schulze * - Council
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Schurwon
 Dr. Harold E. Secor
 Mr. Michael D. Seeber

Civil War Ancestor

Pvt. Samuel Pate Hampton
 Pvt. Warren W. White
 Cpl. Erzelon (Zeal) Russell Mason
 Commissary Sgt. William Judson
 Pvt. Andrew Wilson White

Pvt. John Allerton

Pvt. Matthew Barth
 Pvt. John Lancaster
 Pvt. William Martin Berry
 Pvt. Thomas Howey
 Pvt. Lyndon Boyd
 **

Pvt. Mathias Stonebrook
 Pvt. Nathan R. Price
 Cpl. William Moore Campbell
 Chaplain Josiah Brown
 **

Cpl. John Francis Pattee
 Pvt. John A. Watts

Pvt. David Winn

2nd Cpl. Henry A. Sauter
 Pvt. Joseph Allen
 Pvt. Isaac Duncan
 Pvt. Andreas Pfothenhauer
 Pvt. Edward Ebling
 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
 Pvt. Charles S. Hoyt
 Sgt. Isaac Newton Stubblefield
 Sgt. Isaac Newton Stubblefield
 Pvt. John Walter Stoker
 Pvt. James Fernsides Hildrith
 Pvt. James Fernsides Hildrith
 Pvt. James Fernsides Hildrith
 Hosp. Steward Louis Laborot
 Pvt. Charles Edward 'Austin' Laborot
 Pvt. Finas Euen Lance
 Pvt. Sylvester Leach
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer
 Pvt. Peter Klein
 Pvt. Peter Klein
 Pvt. Peter Klein
 Pvt. Alexander McLain
 Pvt. Alexander McLain
 Pvt. Chauncey A. Lockwood
 Pvt. Fernando Cortez Nichols
 Pvt. Michael Lewis McMullen
 Pvt. William Moore
 Pvt. William Moore
 Pvt. Joseph Stoner
 Cpl. Thomas Penney
 Pvt. James R. Cook
 Pvt. William R. Phillips
 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
 Lt. Col. Casper Carl Schneider
 Pvt. Henry Ludwig Schulze
 Pvt. Martin V. B. Leonard
 Pvt. Isaac Secor
 Pvt. Lorenzo Seeber

Service Unit

Co. G, 47th Regiment Missouri Infantry
 Co. K, 44th U.S. Colored Infantry
 Co. I, 18th Regt. Michigan Infantry
 Co. D, 1st New York Mounted Rifles
 Co. L, 4th Regt. New York Heavy Artillery

Co. F, 47th Regt., Indiana Infantry

Co. B, 52nd Regiment Illinois Infantry
 Co. F, 50th Regiment Illinois Infantry
 Co. A, 76th Enrolled MO Military Regt.
 Co. A, 38th Regt. Illinois Infantry
 Co. F, 144th Regt., Indiana Vol. Infantry
 **

Co. F, 142nd Regiment, Ohio Infantry
 Co. H, 122nd New York Volunteer Infantry
 Co. I, 12th Regiment Illinois Infantry
 15th Regiment, Maine Infantry
 **

Co. F, 86th Regt. Illinois Vol. Infantry
 Indep Co Trumbull Guards, Ohio Inf.

Co. K, 59th Regt., Indiana Infantry

Co. A, 8th Battalion, DC Infantry
 Co. D, 48th Regt. Illinois Vol. Infantry
 Co. M, 4th Missouri State Militia, Cav.
 Co. F, 4th Regiment Missouri Infantry
 Co. C, 49th Regiment Illinois Infantry
 Co. C, 2nd Illinois Light Infantry
 4th Kentucky Mounted Infantry
 Co. C, 4th Regt. Tennessee Vol. Infantry
 Co. K, 7th Regiment Illinois Infantry
 Co. H, 11th Regiment, West Virginia Inf.
 Co. A, 46th Regt. Iowa Volunteer Infantry
 U.S.N.

Co. B, 3rd Regt. Minnesota Infantry
 2nd Regt. Texas Cavalry
 2nd Regt. Texas Cavalry
 54th Regt. Indiana Infantry
 Co. B, 135th Regt. Pennsylvania Inf.
 Co. B, 135th Regt. Pennsylvania Inf.
 Co. B, 135th Regt. Pennsylvania Inf.
 Co. E, 12th-Co L, 5th MO State Milit. Cav.
 Co. E, 12th-Co L, 5th MO State Milit. Cav.
 Co. F, 12th Regt IN Inf.-Co. E, 59th IN Inf.

23rd Regt. Ohio Volunteer Infantry
 Co. B, 8th Regt. West Virginia Infantry
 6th Indep. Batty Lt. Artillery, IN Vols
 6th Indep. Batty Lt. Artillery, IN Vols
 6th Indep. Batty Lt. Artillery, IN Vols
 Co. E, 7th Michigan Cavalry
 Co. E, 7th Michigan Cavalry
 Co. H, 14th Reg. Wisconsin Infantry
 Co. A, 7th Regiment Indiana Infantry
 Co. M, 13th Indiana Cavalry
 Co. K, 63rd Regt. Ohio Vol. Infantry
 Co. K, 63rd Regt. Ohio Vol. Infantry
 Co. K, 126th Regt. Pennsylvania Inf.
 Co. G, 8th Illinois Cavalry
 Co. C, 3rd Regiment Wisconsin Infantry
 Co. B, 6th Tennessee Cavalry
 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
 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

(Muster continued on next page)

Membership Muster (Continued)

Camp Member

Mr. Mark S. Shackelford
 Mr. Scott D. Shuster
 Mr. James M. Sigler

Mr. Neil Patrick Staley
 Mr. Bartley N. Stockton
 Mr. Terry T. Sutton
 Mr. Stephen W. Tanner
 Mr. Walter I. Torres
 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

Pvt. Andrew Stevenson
 Pvt. John S. Darling
 Pvt. William Henry Sigler

Sgt. Leonard Darling
 William R. Reck
 Pvt. Isaac Cherry Sutton
 Cpl. Jacob John Tanner
 Asst. Eng. Robert Inglis
 Cpl. John Anderson Laws
 Cpl. John Anderson Laws
 Pvt. Joseph Henry Wells
 Pvt. Hugh Alexander Hoy
 Pvt. William Young
 --
 --

Service Unit

Co. A, 88th Regiment Ohio Infantry
 Co. F, 171st Regt. Pennsylvania Infantry
 Co. M, 3rd Regiment, New York Cavalry
 Co. F, 5th Regt. Excelsior Brigade
 Co. H, 44th Regt. New York Infantry
 Co. F, 74th Regt. NY Inf., Co. H, 40th NY
 Co. G, 8th Regiment, Indiana Infantry
 1st Regt. Nebraska Infantry
 USS *Glasgow*, U.S. Navy
 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
 --
 --

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

Editor's Message

Wow! Another year comes to a close! And what a great year it was. The Camp saw phenomenal growth in membership, each of our Camp business meetings had interesting guest speakers, and our outside events were all well conducted and memorable. In addition, we saw our Camp Commander promoted to Department Commander and had the privilege of having his shoes ably filled by SVC Samuel Hampton. What else could we have possibly asked for?



As 2012 dawns, my wishes for the new year are threefold: 1) for good health, peace, happiness, and success for all our Brothers, all our Ladies of the *Auxiliary*, and their families; 2) to have our Camp continue its steady course of progress and improvement in all areas; and 3) to have a handful of Brothers answer my call for articles profiling their Civil War ancestors for this newsletter.

This issue will feature photos of two events that took place this Fall – Veterans Day and Wreaths Across America. I hope you enjoy this visual recap of these activities. Hopefully, the photos will entice all of you to join us at these events in 2012.

In F. C. & L,

Michael L. Lance

Editor

Camp Calendar

<u>/Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
7 Jan 2012	<i>Battle of Galveston Commemoration</i> : 10:00 a.m. Monthly Meeting: 1:00 p.m. Installation of 2012 Camp Officers	Episcopal Cemetery, Galveston, TX The Golden Corral Restaurant 6200 Seawall Blvd., Galveston, TX
14 Feb 2012	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Dept. Cmdr. David LaBrot Topic: The Gettysburg Cyclorama	Spaghetti Warehouse 901 Commerce St., Houston, TX
13 Mar 2012	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Brother Dave Burdett Topic: TBA	Spaghetti Warehouse 901 Commerce St., Houston, TX
24 Mar 2012	Ladies Auxiliary Presidents Tea	1 st Baptist Church Dickinson, TX
10 Apr 2012	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: TBA	Spaghetti Warehouse 901 Commerce St., Houston, TX

The *Harriet Lane* newsletter is published quarterly (*March, June, September, and December*). Please send questions, letters, suggestions or corrections concerning the newsletter to: Michael L. Lance, 13107 Raven Roost Dr., Cypress, Texas 77429. E-mail ArrowTexUSA@gmail.com . Publishing deadlines are: March issue – Feb 15; June issue - May 15; September issue – Aug 15; December issue – Nov 15.

* Commander - Mr. Samuel F. Hampton	713-477-9609	sam.suvtx@gmail.com
* Senior Vice-Commander – Steve Holmes	713-436-9741	stholmes@aol.com
* Junior Vice-Commander – David Daniels	832-364-5969	ddaniels@habitat.org
* 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

New Members

Introducing: **William Allerton III**

New member William Allerton joins the Camp based on the Civil War service of his gr-gr-grandfather, John Allerton, who served as a Private with Company F, 47th Regiment, Indiana Infantry. Welcome, Brother Allerton!

Introducing: **Richard S. Colley**

My name is Richard Starr Colley and I hail from Corpus Christi, Texas. In 2008, I graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a bachelor's degree in Asian Studies and a minor in Chinese. Following graduation, I found a job teaching English at a private school in Beijing's Central Business District (CBD). I did this for two years until I finally decided to return home to pursue a career in the States and, as my girlfriend always says, to be an American again.



I spent over half a year doing things I couldn't do in China: breathing clean air, taking a road trip through the American West where population density is extremely low and our most beautiful scenic spots have been preserved, and making up for lost time with family I hadn't seen for two years.

Richard Colley – Great Wall of China

Since this summer, however, I've been sending out applications to positions in Texas and across the country trying to find a job. In terms of the economy, it's been a tough time in which to return, but it's also been a blessing because I've been able to use my spare time to attempt to fully document my family history. This is how I came to discover that, in a tree full of Confederate

ancestors, I could also claim descent from a Union veteran.

Although I realize that in many ways my life is only just beginning, growing older has given me a better understanding of the things on which I've placed importance. Of the things I consider important, paramount among them is family. Through my genealogical research, I've rediscovered so many different elements of my family history that have served to reaffirm certain aspects of my identity, but have also caused me to question and redefine certain others. No matter how many times I revisit my family tree, I'm continually awed by how many hundreds of people were born, lived, and died, so that one day I too could be given the chance to be born, to experience existence, and in death, experience the transcendent.

So, discovering that my 3rd great-grandfather, David Winn, and his two brothers, William and Thomas, fought to preserve and defend the Union fills me with unimaginable pride. By joining this organization, I hope to honor the

(Continued on next page)

service of my Union ancestors and ensure that my children and future generations understand the part these people played in holding together the country they will call home. I'm honored to join your ranks and thank you so much for the warm welcome you've extended to me as a new member. I look forward to getting to know all of you in the future!

..... Richard Starr Colley

Note: New member Richard Colley's his gr-gr-gr-grandfather, David Winn, served as a Private with Company K, 59th Regiment, Indiana Infantry. Welcome, Brother Colley!

Introducing: **Conrad T. Schneider**

Conrad Schneider, son of Brother John Schneider, Sr. and brother of Brothers John Schneider, Jr. and Michael Schneider, is a student at Clear lake High School. When not in school, Conrad enjoys participating in Special Olympics where he has earned awards in swimming, track, bowling, volleyball, basketball, and sailing.

Conrad also enjoys traveling and skiing. His membership arises from the service of his gr-gr-grandfather, Lt. Col. Casper Schneider of the 103rd New York Infantry.

Welcome, Brother Schneider!

Brother Conrad Schneider – Summer Games 2010



Upcoming Event – Battle of Galveston Commemoration

Brothers,



We are holding our annual *Battle of Galveston Commemoration* ceremony next Saturday, January 7, 2012. The ceremony will be held at the Edward Lea gravesite in the Trinity Episcopal Cemetery, 40th and Broadway. The ceremony will start at 11:00 a.m. I ask that all Brothers attending the ceremony arrive between 10:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. so we have time to get organized and give everyone the necessary instructions.

The prescribed dress is the camp uniform (blue blazer with SUVCW tie) and your membership medal. If you don't have a blazer, wear whatever you feel is appropriate. Do wear your Membership Medal in any case. If you have a period uniform, please wear it. And if you have a musket and bayonet, please bring them, along with 3 or 4 rounds of powder and caps.

After the ceremony we will go to the Golden Corral Restaurant located at 6200 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77551 (409) 744-1080, for our annual Department meeting and installation of Officers for 2012.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

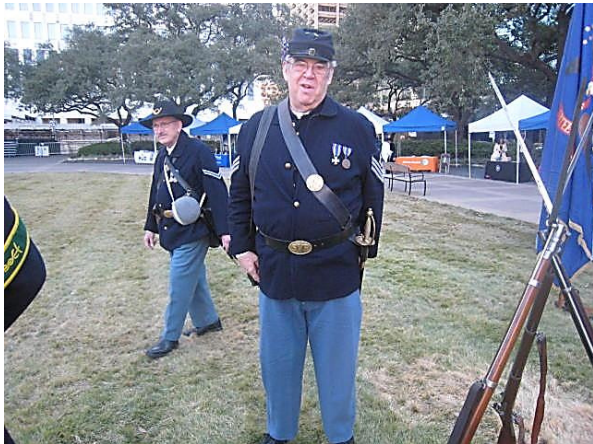
Samuel F. Hampton Jr.

Camp Commander

November 11, 2011

Several Brothers of the *Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea USN Camp #2* linked up with *Company A, 13th U.S. Infantry* in front of City Hall in Houston on this day. Together the units formed an impressive Color Guard to honor the U.S. Veteran's – past and present – who sacrificed so much in the defense of our country.

Right: Dept. of Texas Cmdr. David LaBrot and Brother Bob Lockwood share a laugh as members of the Color Guard arrive and assemble



A huge American flag was draped down the front of City Hall behind the speaker's podium. In addition to speeches given by several dignitaries and politicians, a moment of silence was observed, followed by the 11th hour ceremony in memory of the WWI signing of the Armistice. In numerous booths just beyond the seating area - and surrounding the reflection pond - was the AT&T Veterans Job Fair and the Walgreens Veterans Health Fair.

Left: Brother James Hackett (PCC) is soon to be joined by Camp Cmdr. Samuel Hampton in the assembly area.

Following the ceremonies, the Color Guard formed up to offer a musket salute. They fired the second of 3 volleys (the first and last volleys were fired by a later-era firing party).

Right: The Color Guard forms up with PCC James Hackett anchoring the left

Color Guard Roster

Edward Lea Camp: Samuel Hampton (Cmdr.), David LaBrot (PCC), James Hackett (PCC), Bob Lockwood, and Michael Lance.
13th U.S. Infantry: Thomas Whitesides, Lanny Low, Howard Rose, (and Bob Lockwood – dual membership).

The six men with muskets were positioned between the two officers. The later-era firing party was positioned off to the left.



Both Color Guards are in position for their volleys – including from left to right: David LaBrot, Thomas Whitesides, Samuel Hampton, Bob Lockwood, Lanny Low, Howard Rose, Michael Lance, and James Hackett.

(Continued on next page)



"FIRE"

Six muskets blazed away as one at the command to "Fire". The deafening blast echoed around the tall buildings. The spent weapons were held aloft for a few moments, until the order to "Recover" was given.

At the conclusion of the official ceremonies and rifle volleys, the crowd dispersed towards the parade route. Some, such as the combined *SUVCW/13th U.S. Infantry Color Guard*, marched towards the parade staging area in order to get into their parade positions. The long walk along the downtown Houston streets with muskets, flags, and accoutrements clanking drew much attention from the spectators lining the parade route.



The Color guard then marched smartly in parade position #17, drawing spectator clapping and cheering (and a few friendly snide comments from Southern sympathizers) as they passed along the route. The Color Guard paused for a brief moment when passing before the reviewing stand as they were announced.

The *Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary* was represented by Betty Hampton and Emma Valdes who marched immediately behind the Color Guard. They proudly carried their new banner and were escorted by Brother Hackett. They also drew a LOT of attention!

Betty Hampton and Emma Valdes display the new Auxiliary banner.

.... Respectfully submitted by Michael Lance

Tribute to Our Past Camp Commanders

The following is a complete list of the Brothers who have served as Commanders of the *Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea* Camp. Please join with me in saluting them for their service and dedication in advancing the interests of our Order. Our organization is strong today because of their generous donation of time, effort and leadership.

Danial F. P. Lisarelli	1995-1997
Harrison G. Moore IV	1997-1998
Robert Julian	1998-1999
Harrold Henck Jr.	1999-2000
William D. Campbell	2000-2001
Stephen D. Forman	2001-2002
Dean Letzring	2002-2003
Stephen D. Schulze	2003-2008
James S. Hackett	2008-2009
David K. LaBrot	2009-2011
Samuel Hampton	2011-current
Gary E. White	10+ years as Camp Secretary

Wreaths Across America - Houston 2011



On a chilly Saturday morning in early December, 400+ motorcycles escorted six *Wreaths Across America* semi-trucks into the Houston National Cemetery. After a respectful ceremony, complete with a 21 gun salute, echo Taps, a bagpipe troop, and Coast Guard fly over; nearly 15,000 participants paid their respects to our fallen heroes.

L: The opening ceremony begins with a full honor guard flanked by a column of American flags.

Auxiliary, and Linda Gamel, a neighbor of Brother White, joined various military personnel, Jr. ROTC units, local *Boy Scout* and *Girl Scout* troops, families of deceased veterans, as well as thousands of individuals who wanted to pay their respects.

R: Brothers White and LaBrot stand vigil while Linda Gamel places a wreath upon a grave marker



Participants were encouraged to read out loud the name of the deceased in the annual wreath laying ceremony. Ms. Gamel's parents, both veterans, received the first *SUVCW* tribute.



L: Brothers Gary White and David LaBrot help open wreath filled boxes to distribute them to waiting volunteers

The laying of wreaths started in 1992. The organization's mission, "Remember - Honor - Teach", is carried out in part by coordinating wreath laying ceremonies at Houston as well as veterans cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond.

R: Brother White assists in handing wreaths to volunteers to be placed on graves



Leading up to the wreath laying, an organized week of events took place which included international veteran's tributes, ceremonies at State Houses and a week-long "Veteran's Parade" between Maine and Virginia where *Wreaths Across America* volunteers stopped along the way to spread the message about the importance of remembering our fallen heroes, honoring those who serve, and teaching our children about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedoms.

L: A family's special Christmas tribute among a vast field of laid wreaths.



Over 31,000 wreaths were laid in Houston this year. Each year the event moves closer to its goal of laying wreaths on all 59,000+ headstones at the cemetery.

R: Young volunteers gather around Brothers White and LaBrot, all eager to learn more about the Civil War.



...Story and photos by Linda LaBrot - Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary (Additional photo on back cover page)

Sarah's Sidelines

On Saturday, December 3, 2011, the military veterans of Ward 2-A of the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center in Houston received a visit from the Ladies of the *Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary*. This was the 4th consecutive year the veterans received the Ladies. President Vali Reyes, Betty Hampton, Emma Valdes, and Paige Anderson were joined by Brothers Samuel Hampton and Michael Lance. Guest Alicia Lang also joined the group.

In addition to smiles and holiday cheer, the Ladies brought a gift bag filled with a Christmas blanket, stocking cap, playing cards, comb, writing tablet and puzzle books, for each of the veterans of the Ward. Refreshments, including cookies, cupcakes, and hot chocolate were attractively laid out on the long tables in the assembly room. Christmas music provided by Miss Paige Anderson's 7th grade Christmas Concert program played softly in the background.



Each veteran who entered the room was warmly greeted and engaged in conversation by one of the Ladies. The veterans were very appreciative of the gifts, refreshments, and holiday cheer...but especially with the personal conversations they had with the beautiful Ladies of the *Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary*!

L-R: Samuel Hampton, Alicia Lang, Michael Lance, Emma Valdes, Paige Anderson, Vali Reyes, and Betty Hampton

Also, this Holiday Season, the *Auxiliary* joined the Hitchcock Public library in sending a Christmas Care Package to a deployed soldier to help brighten his Christmas away from his home and family during this time.

The *Auxiliary* is now beginning work on their 2012 Fundraiser President's Tea. The fifth annual Tea and Civil War Presentations will be held on March 24, 2012 in Dickinson, Texas. The ladies of the *Auxiliary* will welcome honored guest, *National Auxiliary* President, Anne Jaster, to Texas to attend the event. Tickets, flyers and more information will be available in January for the Tea.

Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary Membership Roster – December 2011

<u>Member</u>	<u>Civil War Ancestor</u>	<u>Service Unit</u>
Valencia Reyes - President	Pvt. Martin V.B. Leonard	Shields Battery, 19 th Ohio Vol. Light Artillery
Diana L. Campbell - Vice President	--	--
Jana Marsh - Secretary/Treasurer	--	--
Betty S. Hampton - Chaplain/Patriotic Inst.	--	--
Emma Valdes - Historian, Nat. Aide, Pers. Aide	--	--
Paige Anderson - Guide	--	--
Cindy Mayes - Guide	--	--
Heather Clark	--	--
Mary Gillaspia,	Pvt. Martin V.B. Leonard	Shields Battery, 19 th Ohio Vol. Light Artillery
Linda LaBrot	Pvt. Thomas Valentine Bailey	Battery C, 5 th Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery
Kristen Renee Lenes	--	--
Sue Lenes	--	--
Laurie Marshall	--	--
Norma Pollard	Pvt. William Sheldon Robinson	Co. E, 3 rd Regiment Cavalry, Missouri Volunteers and Co. A, 11 th Cavalry, Missouri Volunteers
Karlie Denis Powers	--	--
Kellie Gayle Powers	--	--
Terri Spencer	Pvt. Martin V.B. Leonard	Shields Battery, 19 th Ohio Vol. Light Artillery

Tent Meeting Report

The Tent business meeting was held Saturday, October 29, 2011 at the Payne Education Center at St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Houston, TX.

In attendance were: Martha Class (President/Registrar/Webmaster); Patricia Wood (Chaplain/Pro-Tem Secretary for the meeting); prospective members April Bass and Charity Zemzoum; guests Gloria Bain, Joan Evans, and Waunita Gibbons; and special guest speaker James Hackett (PCC - Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea, USN Camp #2, SUVCW).

Due to the fact that we did not have a Quorum, the vote to accept a new Tent member was postponed to a later meeting. The meeting also included a "For the Good of the Order" report by James Hackett.



After a short break, guest speaker Jim Hackett gave a presentation about his great-grandfather and Civil War patriot, Thaddeus N. Hendrickson.

On March 25, 1864, Thaddeus Hendrickson, who was known as T. N. Hendrickson, enlisted as a Private with Company H of the 4th Regiment, Kentucky Mounted Infantry Volunteers. He mustered-out as a Corporal on August 17, 1865 from Company I of the same Regiment.

L-R: Martha Class, James Hackett, and Patricia Wood

Brother Hackett talked about his growing up hearing stories about his great-grandfather from his grandmother, who was a Real Daughter – and a member of the *Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865*. He gave everyone a handout which included a photo of his great-grandfather and a letter from a fellow Civil War veteran who later served with the U.S. Army in the West. The veteran's letter from June 1876 spoke of his thoughts about why General Custer and his Army were massacred at the *Battle of Little Bighorn*.

Immediately following Brother Hackett's presentation, everyone enjoyed sampling all the various salads that were brought for our Pot Luck Salad lunch.

Our next Tent meeting will be held Saturday, February 11, 2012 and it will be a special meeting to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the chartering of our Tent. The meeting will be followed by a trip to Washington Cemetery to pay tribute to our Civil War Heroine, Sarah Emma Edmonds Seelye. An invitation has been extended to the Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea, USN Camp #2 and the Sarah Emma Seelye Auxiliary #1 to join us in the tribute to Sarah Emma Edmonds Seelye and her fellow GAR comrades.

.... Respectfully Submitted by Martha A. Class
President/Registrar/Webmaster
Sarah Emma Edmonds Detached Tent #4-TX DUVCW

At The "Death Angle" by Charles A. Patch

The movement across the Rapidan had been successfully accomplished; the Army of the Potomac, 120,000 strong, with its immense trains of artillery and supplies, had advanced in the face of an active and ably-commanded foe, and had reached the southerly side of the river without a mishap or delay. In their front was the dreaded Wilderness, and, while entangled in its forest roads, Lee had forced terrible battle upon them, and two days of bitter strife seemed to have made no impression upon his stronghold. But Grant, with that grim determination and push so lamentably lacking in previous commanders, proposed to flank what he was unable to break through, and the astonished Federal Army was ordered *forward* instead of backward.

All night long the forest arches resounded with the clatter of cavalry and the tramp of infantry, the heavy rumble of artillery trains and the rattling of baggage wagons, as the weary columns pressed on toward Richmond. But the indomitable Lee, divining the purpose of the movement, kept equal pace upon the shorter line, and at Spottsylvania [sic], on chosen ground, threw his cavalry in front of the Federal advance and once more hurled

(Continued on the next page)

down the gauntlet. The topography of the country, surrounding this second battle-ground of the campaign, differed from that of the Wilderness in that it was more open and undulating; the forests, although dense, were broken here and there by open fields, giving better opportunities for attack or defense and allowing the use of artillery, but, still, it was a position extremely difficult for combined operations. The Confederate lines were upon high ground in somewhat the shape of the letter V, and were protected, in front, by heavy slashings and formidable abatis, and in the rear a strong second line of entrenchments gave added protection and support.

Behind these formidable defenses was the undaunted *Army of Northern Virginia*, less than half the Federal numbers, but exceedingly tough-grained and filled with all the *esprit de corps* which ever inspired that remarkable body of troops. Grant could easily have flanked this position, rendering it untenable and forcing Lee from his vantage-ground, but, unwilling to believe that the inferior force in his front could withstand the onslaught of his powerful battalions; he undertook to annihilate Lee by breaking his center.

From May 8th to the 11th the fighting was more or less continuous and spirited as the Federals endeavored to find the vulnerable point of the Confederate position, the charge of May 10th, commanded by Colonel Upton, being the most brilliant operation, although productive of no real benefit. On the afternoon of May 11th, General Hancock was ordered to prepare the Second Corps for an assault upon the apex of the angle, finally considered to be the key to the position, and in the storm and intense darkness of the night he withdrew his command, without the knowledge of the enemy, from the right to the center and formed for the attack. The assailing column was Barlow's Division, with the First and Fourth Brigades in the front line and the Second and Third Brigades in the second, the other divisions under Birney, Mott, and Gibbon supporting to right and left.

Early on the morning of the 12th, under cover of a dense fog, they started up the slope with silent, rapid tread; they surprised and captured the Confederate pickets, and, with cheers, broke into double-quick. The frowning works were instantly lined with startled infantry, but nothing could stop the impetus of the charge, and the Second Corps rushed through and over the abatis to the top of the parapets; the places of the fallen were filled at once, and the excited lines surged over the works carrying all before them. Four thousand men, thirty stands of colors, and over twenty pieces of artillery were captured and sent to the rear, and onward swept the mass, with yells and shouts of victory, toward Spottsylvania Court House.

Now was the golden opportunity, Lee's center was broken, the famous "last ditch" was close at hand, but, as in so many other critical moments, supports which could have followed, in plenty, failed to receive the orders to advance, and the Second Corps, with its lines confused and demoralized by the wild excitement of the charge, was left alone to bear the brunt of Lee's blows.

The Confederates were in their path, massed on the second line, and deadly musketry and raking artillery fire checked all further advance. The victorious, but disorganized Federal lines, were driven steadily back, till, at last, they formed outside the works so gloriously won in the early dawn. The veteran brigades of Ewell's Corps were hurriedly thrown forward to retake the "salient" and western line of the angle, and Longstreet and Hill poured in all the men they could spare. The fiery Mahone pushed his famous troops into the breach, followed by the fighting division of Gordon and Wilcox. All that a commander could do Lee tried to do to retrieve the disaster of the morning.

Warren and Burnside were powerless to draw his attention from the captured angle. It was a Gettysburg reversed, and Lee from his concentrated position easily brushed aside every attempt of Grant's lines to relieve the pressure upon the Second Corps.

On the Federal side divisions and brigades of the Sixth Corps were moved in to reinforce, and began attack close up to the angle. Batteries were posted which kept up incessant fire upon the advancing foe; other batteries were run up close to the works and poured in an enfilading fire of grape and canister, but suffered terribly in men and horses. All day long and far into the night the deadly struggle continued around the spot to be forever known in history as the "death angle".

...to be continued

(Source: "At the Death Angle", by Charles A. Patch, published in *Magazine of American History Illustrated*, pages 176-179, edited by Mrs. Martha J. Lamb, 30 Lafayette Place, New York, August 1886).



Gary White (Secretary/Treasurer, PCC) and David LaBrot (Cmdr. Dept. of Texas, PCC) offer a salute to a veteran interred at the National Cemetery in Houston – one of several graves on which they personally laid wreaths. Overall, more than 31,000 graves at the cemetery were adorned with wreaths during this 2011 *Wreaths Across America* event.

“With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations.”

Abraham Lincoln

From his 2nd inaugural address.
March 4, 1865.